Four economic objectives
* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Establishment of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

A bird’s eye view of 50-ton advanced Paper Mill (Thabaung).—MNA
Monday, 17 November, 2008

Enhance regional integration for economic cooperation of BIMSTEC

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein attended the Second Summit of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) held in New Delhi, India from 12 to 14 November and discussed regional cooperation.

The summit was attended by Presidents, Prime Ministers, Ministers for Foreign Affairs and senior officials from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Climate changes are directly associated with energy and food security and changes in energy prices and high food prices are a direct threat to the economic growth of developing countries.

There are a number of terrorist attacks in most of the nations of the world and such incidents threaten public security and the rule of law. The issues such as climate change, natural disasters, food and energy requirements and security can be solved through the cooperation of international communities.

With the establishment of BIMSTEC, efforts are being made for regional integration and economic cooperation among the member countries. During its existence of 11 years, six cooperation sectors have been extended to 13.

Myanmar being a sector-wise leading nation in energy and agricultural sectors, it is making efforts to achieve more progress.

We support the efforts for the emergence of BIMSTEC Free Trade Area for the development of trade and investment. It is believed that the establishment of FTA can enhance regional integration and economic cooperation and bring about economic, social and regional progress of the people in BIMSTEC member nations.

Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon) participates in the Air Bagan Open Golf Championships. — MGF

Air Bagan Open Golf Championships continues

YANGON, 16 Nov — Air Bagan Open Golf Championships of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009 organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA continued at Bagan Resort Golf Clug in Bagan yesterday. After the third round event, Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon) took first position with 212 in the Professional Golfers division, second place Thein Zaw Myint (KM) with 215, third place Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) with 219 and fourth Zaw Zin Win with 220. Nay Bala Win Myint is staying ahead with 209 strokes, kept close by Aung Win (Forest) with 214 and Bo Bo Lay with 216 in the men’s amateur level.

The main sponsor is Air Bagan Ltd and co-sponsors are Hotel Yangon, Ruby Dragon (Jade and Gems) Co Ltd, Alpine Purified Drinking Water, Dagon Brewery Co, MY Associates Co, Srixon, KM Golf Centre, ACCEL International Co Ltd (Canon) and Life line (DHEA-Plus) together with tour management of Han Event Management.

U Myo Thant and U Kyaw Shein present K 1 million to Chairman U Ohn Kyaw of the organizing committee. — MES

Cash donation for respect paying

YANGON, 16 Nov — Old engineering students (civil) of University of Technology made cash donations to hold third respect paying ceremony for teachers at home and abroad, at Myanmar Engineer Society in University of Hlme Campus on 8 November.

At the cash donation, U Myo Thant and U Kyaw Shein presented K 1 million to Chairman of organizing committee for respect paying U Ohn Kyaw. — NLM

Health Minister meets rectors and faculty members of Universities of Medicine

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov — Health Minister Dr Kyaw Myint met with the Rectors, the Professors, faculty members and officials of Medical Universities. — HEALTH

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint meeting with Rectors, Professors, faculty members and officials of Medical Universities. — HEALTH

Hole-in-one at Bagan Golf Resort

YANGON, 16 Nov — Executive U Tint Oo of Myanmar Golf Federation (Executive Director of IBTC) playing together with MGF Vice-President U Min Thein (Director of Air Bagan Ltd), General Secretary of MGF U Aung Kyi and Executive U Myint Soe scored hole-in-one at hole No.4 at Bagan Golf Resort on 13 November. — MNA

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint meeting with Rectors, Professors, faculty members and officials of Medical Universities. — HEALTH
Car bombing in Iraq kills 14

BAGHDAD, 16 Nov — A suicide car bombing killed 14 people and wounded 20 others on Sunday in the town of Jalawla, an official with Jalawla police said.

Six police officers were killed, and another five officers were among the wounded, the official said.

Iraq’s Interior Ministry confirmed the incident, which occurred at an Iraqi police checkpoint in Jalawla, about 43 miles north of Baquba. Jalawla is a mainly Kurdish town located in Diyala province and one of the disputed areas between the central government and the Kurdish Regional Government.

On Saturday, the Interior Ministry said a suicide car bombing near a car dealership killed 11 Iraqis and wounded 36 in the northern city of Tal Afar.

In Baghdad, at least three people were killed and 23 others were wounded when a parked car bomb detonated on Saturday evening in a busy area of central Baghdad’s Karrada district, a ministry official said.—Internet

An Iraqi man who was injured in Saturday’s bombing lies in a bed at a hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, on 16 Nov, 2008. A bomb in a parked car exploded near the National Theater in the mainly Shiite district of Karrada on Saturday evening, killing at least five and wounding 23, according to police and hospital officials. —Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,200

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — As of Saturday, 15 Nov, 2008, at least 4,200 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,390 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.—Internet

Iran wants US policy change before talks

TEHERAN, 16 Nov — Iran on Saturday called on the US to change its policy towards the Islamic country before holding any talks to ease tensions between the two sides, the official IRNA news agency reported.

“The next US administration should take the issue of changing its approach towards Iran seriously,” government spokesman Gholam Hossein Elham told reporters at his weekly press conference here.

Stressing that US policy change is more important than holding bilateral talks, Elham said: “Holding of the talks is not the main issue, what is important is the change of US policy towards Iran.”

Elham made the remarks in response to a speech last week by US President-elect Barack Obama that Iran’s development of nuclear weapon is “unacceptable”.

“If there is a change, then, there will be new prospects” for the two capitals, Elham said.—Internet

Iraq violence leaves 14 dead, government discusses security deal

BAGHDAD, 16 Nov — Two explosions in different parts of Iraq on Saturday killed 14 people and left scores injured.

In Baghdad, five people were killed and 20 were wounded when a car bomb went off near the National Theater in the al-Karada neighborhood, police said.

Earlier, a car bomb left at least nine people dead and 28 injured in the northern Iraqi town of Tall Afar, 60 km west of Mosul, police told the Voices of Iraq (VOI) news agency. On the political front, the 37-member Iraqi cabinet was scheduled to meet to review the final version of a security pact with the United States, al-Arabiya news network reported.

The pact, known as the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), would establish a legal basis for the presence of US soldiers in Iraq after a United Nations mandate expires at end of this year.

According to al-Arabiya, Iraqi Transport Minister Amir Abdul-Jabbar said the draft could be put to cabinet vote in an emergency meeting either Sunday or Monday.—Internet

Smoke rises over the Karrada area of central Baghdad, Iraq after a car bomb attack on 15 Nov, 2008.—Internet

An Afghan police man sits near a damaged building after a car bomb exploded next to an Afghan government office in an Afghanistan, on 12 Nov, 2008. A suicide bomber driving an oil tanker detonated his explosives next to an Afghan government office during a provincial council meeting on Wednesday, killing at least six people and wounding 42, officials said.—Internet

Iran, Algeria call for withdrawal of foreign forces from Iraq

TEHERAN, 16 Nov — Iran’s Vice President Parviz Davoudi and Algeria’s Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia underlined the necessity of withdrawal of occupying forces from Iraq and establishment of security and maintaining unity and territorial integrity there.

Davoudi and Ouyahia discussed current world situation and weaknesses of war-mongering powers and emergence of financial crisis in the west as an appropriate opportunity for developing ties and underlined that Tehran and Algiers cooperation in all fields should be increased more and more.—Internet

An Afghan police man sits near a damaged building after a car bomb exploded next to an Afghan government office in an Afghanistan, on 12 Nov, 2008. A suicide bomber driving an oil tanker detonated his explosives next to an Afghan government office during a provincial council meeting on Wednesday, killing at least six people and wounding 42, officials said.—Internet
Darfur refugees seek justice over peace

Kalma Camp, 16 Nov—Sudanese Refugees in this crowded camp — where mass graves hold the victims of one of the bloodiest Sudanese government attacks against them — see little hope in a new drive for peace aimed at ending the nearly six-year war in Darfur. What they want is justice.

For many of the refugees, that means putting Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir on trial for genocide.

Khalthoum Adam, a 50-year-old woman in Kalma Camp, says that peace deal or no, without a trial she won’t return to her home village not far from Kalma. She fears violence by Arab camel herders she says are still holding the land she and her family were driven out of by attacking planes and government militia five years ago. “They will be sending us to another danger” if camp residents are forced to return home as part of a peace agreement, she said. “If (al-Bashir) doesn’t go to trial, we will stay in the camps.”

Adam spoke as she emerged from Kalma with a group of women to collect grain from nearby fields, guarded by UN peacekeepers to prevent the frequent attacks on women who dare step out of the camps.

Distrust of al-Bashir and his Arab-led government is deep and bitter among the 2.7 million mostly ethnic Africans driven from their homes.

North Carolina storm kills two, destroys homes

His grim thought proved correct. State police said his neighbor, Maryland Gomez, who was in her 60s, was one of two people killed by tornadoes and severe weather that swept across central North Carolina early Saturday.

Gomez’s body was found amid the rubble that was once her home in Kenly, a community about 35 miles southeast of Raleigh, said state police spokeswoman Patty McQuillan.

Congo wounded war orphan in nightmarish limbo

Caretaker Peter Kasereka, 34, holds an orphaned two- or three-year-old boy named Eliya on 13 Nov, 2008.—Internet

Rutshuru (Congo), 16 Nov — Nobody knows what to do with him now. The small child with a bullet-shattered wrist was crying alone in a house full of corpses when he was found last week by a stranger fleeing a gunbattle between rebels and pro-government militias in eastern Congo.

The man carried the boy from the village of Kiwanja to a tiny hospital several miles away and the two- or three-year-old infant spent the night screaming and his days silent, medical staff said.

But Ebola now talks timidly to some to other children. “But he still won’t talk to us,” Bahuga said. “He is clearly traumatized. He’s having nightmares.”

The tragic story is just one of many being told here after Congo’s recent explosion of fighting began in August, displacing 250,000 people.

NATO says possible pirate attack prevented off Somalia

Rome, 15 Nov — NATO says an Italian naval destroyer responding to a merchant vessel’s distress signal prevented a likely pirate attack in the Gulf of Aden off Somalia. The military alliance says in a statement that the Panama-flagged merchant ship Kirti was sailing toward Suez on Saturday afternoon when it reported two skiffs attempting to approach it at high speed.

The Italian destroyer Luigi Durand de la Penne was patrolling nearby as part of NATO’s anti-piracy operation and immediately scrambled its helicopter.

NATO says the skiffs changed course and left after seeing the helicopter.

Russia’s Medvedev pins hopes on new US president

Washington, 16 Nov — Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said on Saturday he hoped US President-elect Barack Obama could help restore mutual trust soured by rows over missile defense and war in Georgia.

In a gesture of goodwill, he made clear Russia was ready for compromise over plans to deploy elements of a US missile shield in Eastern Europe and promised to hold off on a possible military response to the project. “US-Russian relations lack the needed mutual trust. We pin such hopes on the arrival of the new US administration.”

Medvedev, in Washington for a summit of the Group of 20 leading economies, told the Council on Foreign Relations in a speech. The personal friendship between Medvedev’s predecessor Vladimir Putin, who stepped down in May, and US President George W Bush, who steps down in January, helped to ease strains in Russian-US ties for nearly eight years.

But Russia’s August military operation to crush Georgia’s attempt to retake a separatist region plunged ties with Washington to a post-Cold War low.
Four Gaza militants killed in airstrike

Gaza City, 16 Nov — Palestinian officials say an Israeli airstrike has killed four militants.

The Israeli military confirms the airstrike but has given no details.

The militants were from a small Hamas-allied group known as the Popular Resistance Committees. A spokesman for the group who calls himself Abu Attaya says the four militants were firing mortars into Israel when they were killed.

S Korea says gunmen seize ship with 23 off Somalia

Seoul, 16 Nov — Armed gunmen have hijacked a cargo ship carrying 23 crew off the coast of Somalia, the latest attack near the lawless African country, South Korea’s Foreign Ministry said on Sunday.

The 20,000-ton-class ship, owned by a Japanese shipping company and registered in Panama, was seized by gunmen on Saturday evening in waters 96 miles east of Somalia’s port city of Aden, the ministry said.

Pakistan suspends trucks from using pass

Peshawar, 16 Nov — An official says Pakistan has temporarily suspended oil tankers and trucks with sealed containers from using a critical supply route to US and NATO troops.

Government official Bakhtiar Khan said the suspension is due to security concerns. He says it will end “as soon as possible.”

People watch a so-called ‘Candy Bomber’ DC-3 airplane before a take off from Tempelhof airport in Berlin.

Three planes stranded at shuttered Berlin airport

Three propeller aeroplanes have been left stranded at Tempelhof airport in the heart of Berlin two weeks after the Nazi-built landmark was closed down and may now have to be dismantled, city officials said on Tuesday.

One of the world’s oldest commercial airports dating to 1923, Tempelhof was shut down despite protests on 31 October as part of plans to consolidate all air traffic at a new Berlin Brandenburg International airport due to open in 2011.

It is unclear why the three planes failed to leave by the 31 October deadline — a bittersweet closing that featured hundreds of passengers taking nostalgic rides on what they thought were the final flights out of the airport.

“We have to see what the most efficient and safest method of removing the planes is,” said Marko Rosteck, a spokesman for the city government. The owners have asked for special permission to fly out but some city officials are opposed.

Armed bandits target man’s jug of loose change

Police say three armed thieves stormed into a Long Island apartment to steal a water jug full of loose change. Suffolk County police said the masked suspects descended on the East Patchogue home. Outside they came across the 51-year-old owner, who had gone out to buy milk for breakfast. Police said the burglars roughed him up before breaking in.

Detective Sgt Daniel Molloy said the bandits then went straight for an upstairs bedroom where the coins were kept in a big water bottle. He says they broke down the door, grabbed the heavy jug and fled. Six people were in the home at the time.

Molloy said the family wasn’t sure how much money was in the jar but had been saving the coins for some time.

Natural History Museum photo released, showing three of the four mockingbirds collected by Charles Darwin from the Galapagos Islands in 1835, during the voyage of the Beagle. These are type specimens, of left to right, Firecrea MB Nesominus trifasciatus, San Cristobal MB Nesominus melanotis and the Galapagos Mockingbird Nesominus parvulus. A Darwin Exhibition opens on Friday at London’s Natural History Museum to mark the 200th Anniversary of the naturalist’s birth.

Malaysian authorities rescue 7,000 monitor lizards

Malaysian authorities have seized more than 7,000 monitor lizards and the carcasses of 13 protected species destined to be sold to restaurants and medicine shops, reported by the state Bernama news agency.

He said the haul included 7,093 clouded monitor lizards, still alive and weighing 35 tonnes, as well as the meat of bears, snakes, owls and porcupines found in a refrigerator.

A large monitor lizard flicks its tongue at a sanctuary for the reptile species. Malaysian authorities have seized more than 7,000 of the creatures and the carcasses of 13 protected species destined to be sold to restaurants and medicine shops, reports have said.
Hu attends G-20 financial summit in Washington

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — Chinese President Hu Jintao and other leaders from the Group of 20 (G-20) members gathered in Washington on Saturday to attend a summit, which will address financial markets and the global economy.

President Hu and the other leaders have been invited by US President George W Bush to Saturday’s summit, in a series to mitigate what economists predict could be a long and deep economic downturn. The leaders are expected to discuss the causes of the global financial crisis, and a set of principles for reforming the regulatory and institutional systems of the world’s financial sectors.

In a telephone conversation with US president-elect Barack Obama last Saturday, President Hu said that the current global financial crisis is seriously impacting economic development and people’s livelihood in all countries around the world, and the international community should increase confidence, strengthen coordination and cooperation, to effectively deal with this global challenge. — Xinhua

US marine killed in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Nov — A US marine was killed by a roadside bomb attack in Iraq’s western province of Anbar, the US military said on Saturday.

The marine died on Friday as a result of wounds received when a roadside bomb attack struck his vehicle earlier in the day, the military said in a statement.

About 4,198 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures. —Xinhua

Turkish police seize 415 kilos of illicit drugs

ANKARA, 16 Nov — Turkish police has seized 415 kilos of illicit drugs and arrested 350 people in anti-drug operations in the country’s largest city of Istanbul in recent 20 days, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported on Saturday.

Police officials were quoted as saying that the drugs, including 222 kilos of heroin, 184 kilos of hashish, 2 kilos of cocaine and thousands of synthetic pills were confiscated in 141 operations in several parts of Istanbul.

In a separate operation, police also arrested a drug dealer and seized 2.5 kilos of heroin worth about 40,000 US dollars in the western province of Bilecik. —Xinhua

Brazil urges rich nations to solve their own problems first

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Saturday urged the developed countries to resolve their own problems, saying this is the best solution to preventing the current financial crisis from spreading.

“The best solution for the crisis not to spread is that rich countries resolve their problems. For the first time the problems are not in the poor countries, they are in the rich countries,” said President Lula, who was here attending the Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy.

“It doesn’t help to look for palliative measures if you don’t resolve chronic problems of the economic policy of America and economic policy of the EU,” he told reporters before joining other leaders of the Group of 20 (G-20) in a five-hour formal summit meeting in downtown Washington DC on Saturday. — Xinhua

Cristi and Lydia star in a new Animal Planet TV series to raise awareness of orphaned baby bears that are exploited as tourist attractions and pets in Romania. — Xinhua

Kim Jong II watches art performance by KPA soldiers

PYONGYANG, 16 Nov — Kim Jong II, top leader of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), has watched an art performance given by soldiers, the official daily Rodong Sinmun said on Sunday.

This is Kim’s fourth public appearance in November. But the report, with no photographs accompanied, did not say when and where Kim watched the performance, given by soldiers who participated in a military art festival.

Kim, at the end of the performance, waved to the cheering performers and congratulated them on their successful presentation, the report said.

Kim said he was pleased to see that the soldiers of the Korean People’s Army (KPA) have not only prepared themselves to be indomitable fighters in combat but also displayed a high level of cultural attainment. He also urged all units of the KPA to carry out more dynamic cultural and art activities.

Kim was accompanied by several senior officials including Kim Kyok Sik, chief of the KPA General Staff and Kim Jong Gak, first vice-director of the General Political Department of the KPA, said the report. — Xinhua

A visitor to the China International Jewellery Fair walks past a poster and gold jewellery display in Beijing recently. 2008.—INTERNET

An Afghan man look at a damaged vehicle after a car bomb exploded next to an Afghan government office in Kandahar, Afghanistan, on 12 Nov, 2008. —INTERNET

12 dead, 11 injured in mine blasts in western Romania

BUCHAREST, 16 Nov — At least 12 miners were killed and 11 others severely injured after two powerful explosions on Saturday at a coal mine in Petrita, Hunedoara county, western Romania.

The explosions were caused by an accumulation of methane gas, according to Petrita Mayor Ilie Paduca.

The accident is the fourth of this year in Romania’s coal industry and probably the most drastic since 29 November, 1980, when 53 miners were killed in a gas blast at the Livezi mine, in Jiu Valley of Hunedoara. — Xinhua
Low vitamin D linked with high blood pressure

NEW YORK, 16 Nov — Lower blood levels of 25-hydroxyvitamin D, a protein that provides an acquire measure of vitamin D in the blood, are independently associated with an increased risk of developing high blood pressure, according to findings published in Hypertension.

Studies have shown 25(OH)D levels and skin exposure to UVB radiation...are associated with lower blood pressure, but definitive studies are limited, Dr John P Foeman and colleagues from Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston wrote.

The researchers conducted a study with 1484 healthy women from the second Nurses’ Health Study. Cases were compared with a placebo group with a similar age, race and other features. The subjects’ average were compared with a placebo group with a similar age was 43 years. The case patients had a significantly higher average blood level of 25(OH)D than controls (25.6 ng/mL vs 27.3). Compared to women with the lowest average level of 25(OH)D than controls, women with the higher average level of 25(OH)D than controls had a 66 per cent increased risk of high blood pressure.

Bloodshed at Urban Music Awards

LONDON, 16 Nov — Three people were injured in ugly scenes at a British music awards ceremony, with one person seriously hurt, police said on Sunday.

Two others sustained minor injuries at the sixth annual Urban Music Awards at the O2 entertainment complex in southeast London on Saturday night. One person has been arrested.

“We were called at 2211 GMT on the 15th to a disturbance at the O2 Arena site,” a spokesman for London’s Metropolitan Police told AFP.

“We found three men suffering injuries. Two are not serious injuries, the other one is. They appeared to be stab or slash victims. There has been one arrest.”

A London Ambulance Service spokesman said the three casualties had been treated at the scene and taken to hospitals.

Police sources indicated that the most serious casualty may have been stabbed and the other two might have been hit by flying glass.

The show was being held in the indigO2, a 2,350-capacity venue inside the O2 former Millennium Dome.

Leona Lewis, Dizzee Rascal, Duffy and Estelle were among the performers nominated for awards.

Soul singer Mica Paris was to be presented with a lifetime achievement award.—INTERNET

Chavez says “rich” G-20 meeting waste of time

CARACAS, 16 Nov — Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez said an emergency economy meeting of world leaders in Washington was a “waste of time” that excluded the poor and was hosted by people responsible for the global financial meltdown.

Socialist Chavez is a fierce critic of the United States and avowed foe of outgoing US President George W Bush. He blames the world economic slowdown on unbridled capitalism run wild.

Leaders representing the G-20 group of countries descended on Washington on Friday at the start of a crisis meeting to discuss ways to stimulate the world economy.

“Really, I don’t know what they are going to do in Washington, the host is to blame,” Chavez said. “They are going waste their time.”—INTERNET

Eleven killed as bus overturns in China

BEIJING, 16 Nov — Eleven people were killed and 39 injured when a speeding bus overturned on an expressway in northeast China’s Heilongjiang province, state media reported.

Officials said the bus, carrying 50 passengers, was travelling at 130 kilometres (81 miles) per hour when it crashed on Saturday afternoon, according to Xinhua news agency.

“Patrolling traffic police and highway administration staff had asked the driver to slow down, but he didn’t listen,” said Wang Wenbo, of the Heilongjiang highway administration, according to the report.

China’s roads are among the most dangerous in the world and bus drivers routinely cram passengers into their vehicles to get as much business as they can in one trip.

There were more fatalities on roads in the country last year than anywhere else in the world, according to an earlier Xinhua report, with more than 81,000 people killed, an average of about 223 a day.—INTERNET

Air travel chaos continues in France

PARIS, 16 Nov — Air France pilots vote to continue their strike despite government concessions on plans to push back their retirement age.

Air France estimates the strike — which began on Friday and is due to last until Monday—will ground half its short- and medium-haul flights and 30 to 35 percent of its long-haul flights.

Transport Minister Dominique Bussera announced on Friday he had filed an amendment to the plan to push the retirement age for some pilots from the current 60 to 65 starting in 2010.

Lawmakers in the lower house of parliament adopted the change on 1 Nov as part of a broader Social Security finance law. Bussera said the text now states pilots can stop working before 65 without losing any of their benefits.—INTERNET

An overall view of world leaders attending the first Plenary Session at the G-20 Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy at the National Building Museum in Washington, on 15 November, 2008.—INTERNET

Panther family : Sri Lanka panther cubs with their mother in Burgers’ Zoo in Arnhem, The Netherlands.—INTERNET

The Oakridge Mobile Home Park in the Sylmar section of Los Angeles, California is burnt to the ground by a raging wildfire. More than 500 mobile homes were destroyed and 10,000 people fled as a wildfire described as the most devastating to hit Los Angeles in nearly half a century ripped through a city suburb on Saturday, officials said. —INTERNET
50-ton Paper Mill ...

(from page 1)

First, the Prime Minister and party took the positions in front of the mill where the opening ceremony was going to be held.

Next, Managing Director of Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries U Nyunt Aung, Vice President Mr Xu Xiangchun of China Metallurgical (Group) Corporation and Factory Manager U Yi Mon formally unveiled the archway of the paper mill.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein unveiled the signboard of the mill and sprinkled it with scented water.

(See page 9)

Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party inspect production process of the 50-ton paper mill.—MNA

Paper rolls produced by the paper mill.—MNA

The 50-Ton Paper Mill (Thabaung) seen from a distance.—MNA
50-ton Paper Mill …

(from page 8)

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe and Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung sprinkled scented water onto the signboard.

Next, the Prime Minister and party had a documentary photo taken together with officials of the mill in front of the facility.

Later, the Prime Minister and party inspected production process of the mill, samples of paper, quality testing, paper cutting and gluing.

The Prime Minister and party looked into functions of the 200-ton Paper and Pulp Factory and gave instructions.

Next, they viewed making raw materials, stockpiling of bamboo and shipping of containers with pulp inside in a motorcade.

At the briefing hall of the paper mill, Minister U Aung Thaung reported to the Prime Minister on the purpose of opening of the mill, local demand for paper per day and production, import of paper, requirement of raw materials and strength of staff while Managing Director U Nyunt Aung reported on production techniques of the factory and mill, functions of machinery, availability of raw materials, setting up of bamboo plantations and tree plantations.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister spoke of the need to run the factory and mill at full capacity, to ensure better operating ratio, to produce more new items, to reduce cost of production, to take remedial measures for customer satisfaction, to reduce levels of environmental pollution, to establish bamboo and tree plantations for raw materials and to take fire preventive and security measures.

Next, the Prime Minister presented fruit baskets and gifts to Chinese technicians and those from Chinese companies and cordially greeted those present on the occasion.

The modern paper mill was built under the agreement of China Metallurgical (Group) Corporation and Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Hlaygitet Village, Thabaung Township, Ayeyawady Division on 14 May 2005.—MNA

STI Education to run training course for certificate in teaching English to young learners and teenagers

YANGON, 16 Nov—In cooperation with London Teacher Training College (LTTC), STI Education will run a training course for certificate in teaching English to young learners (aged 4-11) and teenagers (aged 12-16).

The three-month training course will start by the mid-December and covers playing games, lesson planning, creating syllabus, writing style, singing song, rhymes, chants, listening skills, difficulties to be faced in teaching English as foreign language and techniques to overcome the difficulties. Moreover, the training course will teach learners to become conversationalists and good storytellers.

Trainees should be university graduates and the ones who are currently engaged in teaching kids and teenagers English. Outstanding trainees will be granted 50 per cent off the fees and will have a chance to work for STI but they need to have two year-experience in teaching. There will be written and oral tests for choosing outstanding trainees.

There will also be resource bank for trainees to study, and those interested are to contact STI Education, R-7, B-4, Myanmar Info-Tech, Hlaing Campus, Yangon (Tel 50704648, 50715152) or No. 377, Upper Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon (Tel 250056, 700274).

Employees working at the production line of 50-ton advanced Paper Mill (Thabaung).

Ulsan Hyundai beat Vietnam 4-1

YANGON, 16 Nov—3rd Grand Royal Challenge Cup-2008 Football Tournament continuing at Thuwanna Football Stadium at 3:30 p.m. today. In the group-A, Korean Ulsan Hyundai swept to a 4-1 win over Vietnam (Olympic team).

The 88th Anniversary National Day

10th Waning of Tazaungmon 1370 (22-11-2008)

The modern paper mill was built under the agreement of China Metallurgical (Group) Corporation and Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Hlaygitet Village, Thabaung Township, Ayeyawady Division on 14 May 2005.—MNA
Minister for Transport arrives back from 14th ASEAN
Transport Ministers’ Meeting in Philippines

Nay Pyi Taw, 16 Nov – Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe attended the 14th ASEAN Transport Ministers’ Meeting and 7th ASEAN-China Transport Ministers’ Meeting and 6th ASEAN-Japan Transport Ministers’ Meeting held in Manila, the Philippines from 6 to 7 November.

The meetings were also attended by Transport Ministers from ASEAN nations and the People’s Republic of China and Japan and officials from ASEAN Secretariat.

Director-General of Transport Department U Win Pe and officials attended the 26th ASEAN Transport Senior Officials’ Meeting held from 3 to 4 November, 7th ASEAN-China Transport Senior Officials’ Meeting and 7th ASEAN-Japan Transport Senior Officials’ Meeting held on 5 November.

The 14th ASEAN Transport Ministers’ Meeting was opened at Makati Shangri Hotel in Manila on 6 November. Executive Secretary Eduardo R Ermita the President’s Office of the Republic of the Philippines delivered an address and formally opened the meeting.

In the afternoon of 6 November, ASEAN Transport Ministers signed two agreements—ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on the Full Liberalization of Air Freight services and ASEAN Multilateral Agreement on Air Services in the presence of Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo at Malacanang Palace.

The Ministers discussed cooperation in ASEAN Transport Sector in the reports of 25th ASEAN Transport Senior Officials Meeting held in Cebu, Philippines from 27 to 29 May 2008, and 26th pilot meeting of 26th ASEAN Transport Senior Officials Meeting at the 14th ASEAN Transport Ministers’ Meeting and approved them.

The meeting approved the drafts of ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project between ASEAN and EU and ASEAN-India Aviation Cooperation Framework.

They also in principle approved the drafts of Strategic Plan for ASEAN-China Transport Cooperation and Terms of Reference for the ASEAN-China Senior Officials Meeting on Port Cooperation Mechanism.

They also approved the drafts of ASEAN-Japan Eco-Airport Guideline, ASEAN-Japan Seafarers Training Cooperative Programme and the 2008-09 tasks of Projects under ASEAN-Japan Transport sector cooperation programme.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and members arrived back here on 14 November.

MNA
Birdlike dinosaur eggs found

Canada, 16 Nov—It looks like a duck-billed dinosaur nest, it’s probably from a duck-bill—unless it’s a newly identified clutch of fossilized eggs from a private collection in Calgary, Canada. The eggs, originally from a private collection, are likely the work of a carnivorous dinosaur—either a creature related to the fearsome velociraptor (seen above, top left) or a birdlike, upright-walking dinosaur called a caenagnathid (top right), a new study says. Nests for neither of the predators have never been found, making the discovery a major one, according to University of Calgary paleontologist Darla Zelenitsky, who led the study in the journal Palaeontology.

When Zelenitsky and colleagues first examined the eggs, they noticed some irregularities that did not point to plant-eating duck-bills, which are not directly related to birds. For one, the ancient parents left their eggs open to the elements, probably so the creatures could brood their young as a bird would. The eggs were also pointed, like bird eggs.

Many drugs never get to market.

United Kingdom, 16 Nov—Cancer drug research is entering a new era which will mean more successful drugs for patients, says a charity. However, Cancer Research UK called for improved knowledge of cancer’s biology means cancers need better treatments, said the charity’s experts. Their research was published in the journal Nature Reviews Drug Discovery. The hunt for cancer drugs is carried out on a massive scale, but there is also a massive failure rate, as promising candidates fall by the wayside in clinical trials. This costs drug firms and charities like Cancer Research UK many millions, although scientists can learn lessons even from expensive failures.

Cancer drug success ‘on the rise’

Some studies have estimated that, in the past, just 5% of cancer drugs in the pipeline actually end up in the clinic being used day to day. Data on 974 drugs under development, gathered by Cancer Research UK experts, suggests that 18% of them will prove successful in clinical trials. It is hoped that many of them will be alternatives to conventional chemotherapy, which can have unpleasant and dangerous side-effects, targeting the mechanisms of cancer cells more directly, with less damage to healthy cells.

Iran pushes for further oil cut

Iran, 16 Nov—Iran is to urge the oil-exporters’ group Opec to agree another cut in production to boost the price of oil, a top Iranian oil official has said. It will call for a cut of between 1m and 1.5m barrels a day when Opec, which made a similar cut in October, meets in Cairo later this month.

The price of oil has fallen recently as demand declines amid the worsening global economic situation. Iran, the world’s fourth-largest oil producer, is viewed as a price hawk. Iran’s Opec governor, Mohammad Ali Khatibi, viewed as a price hawk.

Iran is one of Opec’s 13 members.

A tiny bird so rare and unusual that its scientific name means “strange owl” has been spotted for the first time in the wild pera.—INTERNET

A herd of sheep pass beneath the Eiffel Tower in Paris, during a protest by French farmers over falling incomes amid the global economic slowdown.

INTERNET

Iran’s Opec governor, Mohammad Ali Khatibi, views the situation as an economic slowdown.

INTERNET

Giant prehistoric fish rebounding in Canada

Canada, 16 Nov—When dozens of white sturgeon began washing up dead on the banks of British Columbia’s Fraser River in the mid-1990s, some feared that North America’s largest freshwater fish could be headed toward extinction. Once plentiful in the river, the sturgeon population had dropped below 40,000, and scientists were unable to explain the die-offs of mostly female fish.

That’s when an alliance of government agencies, environmentalists, aboriginal groups, and commercial and recreational fishers came together to save the sturgeon, spurring a robust recovery of the lower Fraser River population. Recent estimates show the population has increased to about 50,000 fish.

To Zeb Hogan, who leads National Geographic’s Megafishes Project and has studied the sturgeon, it’s a rare success story.

Cops use greasy fingerprints to nab Hungry burglar

Lynchburg, 16 Nov—A prosecutor says greasy fingerprints led police in Virginia to a suspect with sticky fingers. Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney Bethany Harrison said Lynchburg police matched prints on an orange juice bottle left at the scene of a breaking and entering to 33-year-old Bernard Wood.

He was sentenced on Friday to six years in prison after being found guilty of three counts of burglary and two counts of grand larceny.

Harrison said Wood stole appliances, jewelry and tools from several homes in June and raided his victims’ refrigerators.

At one crime scene, police found the juice bottle and remnants of a chicken

Harrison says police also recovered some of the 78 bags of popcorn also reported stolen when they went to Wood’s home to arrest him.

INTERNET
Clashes erupt as envoy due to meet east Congo rebel

KINSHASA, 16 Nov — Heavy fighting erupted in eastern Congo on Sunday, hours before former Nigerian President Obasanjo, a United Nations peace envoy, was due to meet rebel leader Laurent Nkunda, the UN and witnesses said.

It was not immediately clear who was involved in the clashes. Artillery, rocket and small arms fire have been heard since early morning near the village of Ndeko, 110 km (70 miles) north of Goma, the capital of North Kivu Province.

Obasanjo is due to meet Nkunda later on Sunday morning, some 66 km southeast of Ndeko, in his efforts to end weeks of clashes between Nkunda’s rebels and the army. The violence has sparked a displaced 250,000 some people, creating a humanitarian disaster.

“There is a lot of fighting going on. They are using heavy weapons — rockets and artillery — as well as small arms,” a witness told Reuters from the road just south of Ndeko.

The UN peacekeeping mission also confirmed the clashes.

Liver cancer patients have high diabetes prevalence

NEW YORK, 16 Nov — Patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) have a significantly higher prevalence of type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM) compared to the general population, according to findings from a case-control study conducted in Italy.

“The association of type (DM2)... with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) has been long suspected,” Dr Valter Donadon, at Pordenone Hospital, and co-authors note in the October 7 issue of the World Journal of Gastroenterology. “However, the temporal relationship between onset of diabetes and development of HCC, and the clinical and metabolic characteristics of patients with DM2 and HCC have not been well examined.”

Their study included 465 consecutive Caucasian HCC patients and 490 age-and-sex-matched controls.

Overall, 145 hepatocellular carcinoma patients (31 percent) and 62 control cases (13 percent) had type 2 diabetes (odds ratio 3.1). Moreover, the authors note, diabetes had been diagnosed at least 6 months prior to the diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma in 84 percent of cases, suggesting that diabetes may be a cause rather than a consequence of liver cancer.

Men with DM and HCC were more likely to be treated with insulin than male diabetics in the control group (38 percent vs 18 percent, p = 0.009), leading the researchers to recommend “close surveillance for HCC in patients with chronic liver disease and DM2, particularly (among) males and (those) treated with insulin.”

Guerrillas threaten gorillas in Africa’s oldest national park

GOMA, 16 Nov — The conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo has forced dozens of rangers to flee Africa’s oldest national park, leaving hundreds of threatened mountain gorillas at the mercy of rebel fighters and poachers.

Wildlife officers escaped into the forest when fighters loyal to renegade general Laurent Nkunda occupied part of the park as they launched their march on Goma, the main city in the east of DR Congo, which is now surrounded.

Set up in 1925, Virunga covers some 7,800 square kilometres (3,000 square miles). Its varied terrain includes two of Africa’s most active volcanoes, swamps and snow-capped mountains.

It is also home to more than half of the world’s 700 remaining mountain gorillas as well as 20,000 hippopotamus, according to the World Wildlife Fund. UNESCO named Virunga a World Heritage site in 1979 and placed it on the organisation’s endangered list in 1994 when a first civil war broke out in the country. DR Congo’s Environment Minister Jose Endundo Monong has said that the fighting between the army and Nkunda’s rebels poses a great threat to the park and would hit tourism income, while opening up worrying opportunities for poachers.

Chinese ‘living longer than ever’

BEIJING, 16 Nov — A UN report on China says the lives of its people have been vastly improved over the last three decades.

Poverty has fallen, adult literacy has climbed and development is due to more targeted “intelligent” drug development based on a better knowledge of the biology of cancer, according to Herbie Newell, the British cancer charity’s director of translational research.

Climber plumps for portable toilets for Everest

KATHMANDU, 16 Nov — A young Nepali climber is seeking to popularise a toilet fashioned from a plastic bucket with a lid to promote eco-friendly climbing on Mount Everest.

Hundreds of climbers flock to the world’s tallest peak at 8,850 metres (29,035 feet) every year, with many simply squatting in the open or hunching behind rocks as the Everest base camp has no proper toilet facilities.

Dawa Steven Sherpa, who led an eco-Everest expedition in May to collect trash as the Everest base camp has no proper toilet facilities.

File photo shows a mountain gorilla holding her newly born baby in the Democratic Republic of Congo’s Virunga Park. — Internet

Modern cancer drugs more likely to get to market

LONDON, 16 Nov — Nearly one in five cancer drugs entering development now reach the market, a remarkably good success rate given the high level of failures in other disease areas, British researchers said on Friday.

A study by Cancer Research UK, based on 974 cancer drugs starting initial Phase I clinical trials since 1995, calculated there was an 18 percent probability that those in human tests would make it to commercial registration.

The last time this was measured, in 2004, the figure was estimated at 5 percent.

The sharp improvement is due to more targeted “intelligent” drug development based on a better knowledge of the biology of cancer, according to Herbie Newell, the British cancer charity’s director of translational research.

“Chinese ‘living longer than ever’

BEIJING, 16 Nov — A UN report on China says the lives of its people have been vastly improved over the last three decades.

Poverty has fallen, adult literacy has climbed and development is due to more targeted “intelligent” drug development based on a better knowledge of the biology of cancer, according to Herbie Newell, the British cancer charity’s director of translational research.

Climber plumps for portable toilets for Everest

KATHMANDU, 16 Nov — A young Nepali climber is seeking to popularise a toilet fashioned from a plastic bucket with a lid to promote eco-friendly climbing on Mount Everest.

Hundreds of climbers flock to the world’s tallest peak at 8,850 metres (29,035 feet) every year, with many simply squatting in the open or hunching behind rocks as the Everest base camp has no proper toilet facilities.

Dawa Steven Sherpa, who led an eco-Everest expedition in May to collect trash dumped by previous climbers, said his team used a plastic bucket as well as a gas-impervious bag designed to safely contain and neutralise human waste and keep in odour.

Ancient Greeks pre-empted

DEAD PARROT SKETCH

ATHENS, 16 Nov — “I’ll tell you what’s wrong with it. It’s dead, that’s what’s wrong with it.”

For those who believe the ancient Greeks thought of everything first, proof has been found in a 4th century AD joke book featuring an ancestor of Monty Python’s Dead Parrot sketch where a man returns a parrot to a shop, complaining it is dead.

The 1,600-year-old miniature manuscript called “Philogelos: The Laugh Work” has been discovered in a monastery near the western Greek town of Missolonghi.

“However, the temporal relationship between onset of diabetes and development of HCC, and the clinical and metabolic characteristics of patients with DM2 and HCC have not been well examined.”

Their study included 465 consecutive Caucasian HCC patients and 490 age-and-sex-matched controls.

Overall, 145 hepatocellular carcinoma patients (31 percent) and 62 control cases (13 percent) had type 2 diabetes (odds ratio 3.1). Moreover, the authors note, diabetes had been diagnosed at least 6 months prior to the diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma in 84 percent of cases, suggesting that diabetes may be a cause rather than a consequence of liver cancer.

Men with DM and HCC were more likely to be treated with insulin than male diabetics in the control group (38 percent vs 18 percent, p = 0.009), leading the researchers to recommend “close surveillance for HCC in patients with chronic liver disease and DM2, particularly (among) males and (those) treated with insulin.”

The last time this was measured, in 2004, the figure was estimated at 5 percent.

The sharp improvement is due to more targeted “intelligent” drug development based on a better knowledge of the biology of cancer, according to Herbie Newell, the British cancer charity’s director of translational research.

“Chinese ‘living longer than ever’

BEIJING, 16 Nov — A UN report on China says the lives of its people have been vastly improved over the last three decades.

Poverty has fallen, adult literacy has climbed and development is due to more targeted “intelligent” drug development based on a better knowledge of the biology of cancer, according to Herbie Newell, the British cancer charity’s director of translational research.

Climber plumps for portable toilets for Everest

KATHMANDU, 16 Nov — A young Nepali climber is seeking to popularise a toilet fashioned from a plastic bucket with a lid to promote eco-friendly climbing on Mount Everest.

Hundreds of climbers flock to the world’s tallest peak at 8,850 metres (29,035 feet) every year, with many simply squatting in the open or hunching behind rocks as the Everest base camp has no proper toilet facilities.

Dawa Steven Sherpa, who led an eco-Everest expedition in May to collect trash dumped by previous climbers, said his team used a plastic bucket as well as a gas-impervious bag designed to safely contain and neutralise human waste and keep in odour.
Images captured of 4 planets outside solar system

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov—Earth seems to have its first fuzzy photos of alien planets outside our solar system, images captured by two teams of astronomers.

The pictures show four likely planets that appear as specks of white, nearly indecipherable except to the most eagle-eyed experts. All are trillions of miles away 6 three of them orbiting the same star, and the fourth circling a different star. None of the four giant gaseous planets are remotely habitable or remotely like Earth. But they raise the possibility of others more hospitable.

It’s only a matter of time before “we get a dot that’s blue and Earthlike,” said astronomer Bruce Macintosh of the Lawrence Livermore National Lab. He led one of the two teams of photographers. “It Macintosh’s team used two ground-based telescopes, while the second team relied on photos from the 18-year-old Hubble Space Telescope to gather images of the exoplanets planets that don’t circle our sun.

The research from both teams was published in Thursday’s online edition of the journal Science.

Cigarette smoking may worsen premenstrual woes

NEW YORK, 16 Nov—Women 27 to 44 years old who smoke are twice as likely to develop premenstrual syndrome over the next two to four years, especially hormonally-related symptoms like backaches, bloating, breast tenderness, and acne, Dr Elizabeth R Bertone-Johnson of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and her colleagues found.

“Our findings lend further support to the idea that smoking increases the risk of moderate to severe PMS, and provides another reason for women, especially adolescents and young women, not to smoke,” Bertone-Johnson said.

Up to 20% of women have PMS severe enough to affect their relationships and interfere with their normal activities, Bertone-Johnson and her team note in the American Journal of Epidemiology. Smoking has been shown to affect levels of several different hormones, and the handful of studies looking into PMS and smoking have suggested that women with the syndrome are more likely to be smokers, the researchers add.

To investigate the relationship further, they analyzed data from the Nurses’ Health Study II, which has been following 116,678 US registered nurses since 1989. The researchers looked at a subset of women who were PMS-free during the first two years of the study, comparing 1,057 who did go on to develop PMS to 1,968 who did not.

Pregnant rural women more at risk

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov—Living in a rural area may increase a woman’s chance of developing preeclampsia and other pregnancy-related blood pressure disorders by 56 percent, a new study says.

The six-year study on women who gave birth in Colorado also found that those with some college education had a 19 percent great chance of having preeclampsia and pregnancy-induced hypertension (PIH) than with only a high school education. The rate was also higher, but not statistically significant, for women with more than a college education.

The findings were presented at the American Society of Nephrology’s recent annual meeting in Philadelphia.

Several factors, such as older age, giving birth to multiple babies and excessive weight gain, are known risk factors for preeclampsia and PIH and were validated in this new study.

Gulf War vet health research lacking

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov—Even as possibly hundreds of thousands of veterans suffer from a collection of symptoms commonly called Gulf War illness, the government has done too little to find treatments for their health problems nearly two decades after the war ended, a panel commissioned by Congress said.

The advisory panel of medical experts and veterans wants at least $60 million spent annually for research, calling it a “national obligation,” according to its report, obtained by The Associated Press.

The report, which goes to the Veterans Affairs Secretary James Peake on Monday, said the Defence Department cut research money from $30 million in 2001 to less than $5 million in 2006.

Both departments have identified some of their research as “Gulf War research” even when it did not entirely focus on the issue.

Sri Lanka steps up air strikes after capturing town

COLOMBO, 16 Nov — Sri Lanka stepped up air attacks against suspected rebel targets in the island’s north Sunday, a day after ground troops re-captured a highly strategic town, the defence ministry said.

Mi-24 helicopter gunships and fighter jets were deployed to pound defence lines of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) on the Jaffna peninsula and on the mainland, the defence ministry said.

“Sri Lanka air force has launched a series of air strikes in support of ground troops in the Muhamalai area,” the ministry said in a statement.

A melted washer and dryer is seen among the burned remains of a home after a wildfire burned through in the Montecito area of Santa Barbara County, California, on 14 Nov, 2008.

A man who was wounded in a bomb attack lies in a hospital in Baghdad recently 2008. A car bomb and roadside bomb exploding in quick succession killed 12 people and wounded 60 on Wednesday in the Iraqi capital’s western New Baghdad district, police said.
Novak Djokovic to meet Djokovic in Masters Cup final

Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a shot to Gilles Simon of France during their Masters Cup semi-final tennis match in Shanghai on 15 Nov, 2008. — Internet

Novak Djokovic on Saturday, Briton Murray, who would have won $1.34 million if he had gone through to reach his first final in four appearances at the tournament undefeated, was clearly feeling the effects of Friday's three-hour epic victory over Roger Federer — a match he did not need to win.

Davydenko, the world number five, took full advantage to reach his first final in four appearances at the season finale and will play against Serb Djokovic, who earlier beat Frenchman Gilles Simon 4-6, 6-3, 7-5. — Internet

Napoli’s Lavezzi not interested in joining Chelsea

Milan, 16 Nov — Chelsea are interested in Napoli forward Ezequiel Lavezzi but the Argentine has said he does not want to leave.

The 23-year-old has been inspirational in Napoli’s rise to the upper reaches of Serie A this season and won a call-up to coach Diego Maradona’s first Argentina squad for Wednesday’s friendly in Scotland.

“I want to stay. I know Chelsea have looked at me but this issue is for my agent and the club,” he told Saturday’s Gazzetta dello Sport.

“I don’t believe there is any intention to let me go and I am pleased about that. I’m really happy at Napoli.”

Lavezzi hopes staying at Napoli, where Maradona won two Italian titles, will allow him to become a key Argentina player. — Internet

Chapchais stumbles in Singapore, Harrington closes

Singapore, 16 Nov — Ireland’s Padraig Harrington moved ominously up the $5 million Singapore Open leaderboard to close the gap on Thailand’s Chapchai Nirat to one stroke during Sunday’s final round.

Three-times major winner Harrington started the day five strokes adrift of the stocky Thai but three birdies in his first four holes brought him to within striking distance at eight-under-par.

Ibrahimovic double sends Inter clear at top

Palermo, 16 Nov — Inter Milan surged three points clear at the top of Serie A after a sublime double from Zlatan Ibrahimovic sealed a 2-0 win at Palermo on Saturday.

The champions again failed to find their best form and relied on two moments of brilliance from the Swede, who first netted off the post with a swerving 20-metre shot just after halftime.

He then blasted in an unstoppable free kick after 62 minutes to stun the Sicilians, who had been livelier in attack than the defence-minded visitors in the first half. — Internet

Careless Bayern lose ground as rivals march on

Berlin, 16 Nov — Bayern Munich’s revival faltered after a costly 2-2 draw at Borussia Moenchengladbach on Saturday while top two Bayer Leverkusen and Hoffenheim clinched narrow wins.

Bayern were on course for a sixth successive Bundesliga victory when they took a 2-0 lead with a Luca Toni tap-in and a Franck Ribery penalty, only for Gladbach to score twice in two second-half minutes to secure an unlikely point.

Leverkusen, who threw away a three-goal lead against Karlsruhe last weekend, showed more ruthlessness as they held on for a 2-1 win at home to Schalke 04. — Internet

Fleeble Real lose 1-0 at strugglers Valladolid

Madrid, 16 Nov — Real Madrid’s poor run of form continued on Saturday when the Primera Liga champions were held 0-0 at struggling Valladolid and missed the chance to take over at the top of the table. Valladolid were thrashed 6-0 by Barca at the Nou Camp last weekend but shocked a sluggish-looking Real by taking the lead shortly after the break.

They have 25 points, one ahead of unbeaten Villarreal, who play at Malaga on Sunday. — Internet
Earthquake rattles El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, 16 Nov.—A magnitude-5.9 earthquake has struck in El Salvador, with no immediate reports of injuries or damages. Government experts say the quake occurred at 5:03 p.m. (11:03 GMT) on Saturday and was centered just off the country’s Pacific coast.

The US Geological Service’s National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colorado, lists the quake’s magnitude as 5.9. The temblor was felt in San Salvador, the nation’s capital.

Boy allegedly hits mom with saw, offers her $5

FORT PIERCE, 16 Nov.—Authorities say an 11-year-old boy hit his mother in the head with a saw and then offered her $5 not to call police. The St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office reported that the boy and his 41-year-old mother got into an argument on Wednesday when she was trying to get him to take his medication.

The boy left and went to another home, where he began hitting a tree with a saw. When the mother finally caught up with the boy, authorities say he hit her in the head with the saw, causing a minor laceration. A sheriff’s report said that’s when the boy began pleading with his mother not to call police and offered her a $5 bill. The boy is facing an aggravated battery charge.

Bereavement

Our Heartfelt Sympathy and Deepest Condolences go to the family of U Nyein (Arthur Jone In), Retired University Sports Officer, Former Coach of Myanmar National Football Team, Former Warden of Mandalay Hall, Yangon University, who passed away peacefully at 3:40 pm on 16-11-2008. Former University Athletes.

Weather

Sunday, 16 November, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Shan, Chin, Kayah, Kayin and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Magway, Bago and Yangon Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures was Hakha (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 15-11-2008 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 16-11-2008 was 64°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 16-11-2008 was 73%. Total sunshine hours on 15-11-2008 was (9.1) hrs.

Rainfall on 16-11-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kabá-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (110.31) inches at Mingaladon,(120.95) inches at Kabá-Aye and (140.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Northeast at (15:30) hours MST on 15-11-2008.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in East Central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 17th November 2008: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 60%.

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 17-11-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-11-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-11-2008: Generally fair weather.

R 489  Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 222/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon, Cable Newslight, PO Box No. 43. Telephones: Editors 392308, Manager 392226, Circulation 392304, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 392369

17-11-08 NL 15 02/18, 11:07 PM
Inlay Lake, located in Nyaungshwe Township of Shan State (South), is a nationally and internationally famous inland lake. The lake has been located naturally among Shan mountain ranges for millions of years. In Myanmar, Inlay Lake is the second largest inland lake after Inawgyi Lake.

Natural scenic beauty and misty mountain ranges can be seen around Inlay Lake. Moreover, distinctive traditions of Intha nationals and floating plantations charm the visitors. There are plenty of aquatic plants and species of bio-diversities. According to the studies of researchers and bird watchers, a total of 270 species of birds including six endangered bird species inhabit the lake.

Every year the lake attracts tourists and researchers. Inlay Lake, located in Nyaungshwe Township of Shan State and famous inland lake is the second largest inland lake in Myanmar. It is located about 30 miles southwest of Kaba Aye Seismological Observatory.

Mourinho claims Ibrahimovic won’t win the Ballon d’Or

MILAN, 16 Nov — Anyone who saw Zlatan Ibrahimovic’s incredible brace in Palermo will know those clips are bound to find their way into a compilation of this season’s greatest goals scored anywhere in the world. The talk of whether he deserves the Ballon d’Or had already been raging, so it was no surprise post-match comments in Palermo were dominated by this subject.

“Why won’t Ibra win it? Because in Italy, unlike in Spain and England, the players are not hyped up enough,” mused Jose Mourinho.

“It’s not enough to simply be talented, you also need a good election campaign. I hope Italian football can do that for him.” — Internet

Chelsea and England Captain Terry set for a scan

LONDON, 16 Nov — Chelsea and England captain John Terry is set to have a scan on his foot injury that he picked up in Saturday’s 3-0 win over West Bromwich Albion in the Premier League.

The 27-year-old central defender was taken off in the closing stages by Blues boss Luiz Felipe Scolari and was then seen with ice pack around his foot.

Terry’s participation in Fabio Capello’s side for Wednesday’s friendly international with Germany in Berlin, is now in doubt pending the scan.

“I got shoved when in the air and landed awkwardly. It felt like a sharp pain in the bottom of my foot which is throbbing at the moment,” he said.

“But I will have a scan on Sunday and hopefully it will give me the all clear.” — Internet

Liverpool’s Kuyt: We are really happy

LIVERPOOL, 16 Nov — Liverpool striker Dirk Kuyt has said that the Reds are really happy with Saturday’s 2-0 victory over Bolton Wanderers in the Premiership.

Rafa Benitez’s side are neck and neck, equal on points with Chelsea, who are at the top of the table due to their better goal-difference.

Dutch international Kuyt took his league goals tally to five this season, scoring with a top class header.

“It was really important to win today and we are really happy with the result,” Kuyt is quoted as saying on the club’s official website.

“It’s always tough to come to Bolton and beat them but we did well. They worked really hard but I think we deserved to win.” — Internet

Earthquake report

(20 Nov 2008)

MID-NIGHT OCTOBER 2008. (Issued at 20:00 hours MST today)

A Moderate earthquake of intensity (5.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter about (500) miles southwest of Kaba Aye Seismological Observatory outside of Myanmar was recorded at (18) hrs (50) min (35) sec MST on 16th November 2008.