MoU on economic and trade cooperation signed

UMFCCI and China Chamber of International Commerce, Tianjin Chamber of Commerce holding Economic & Trade Cooperation Signing Ceremony.—MNA

YANGON, 20 Nov — A ceremony to sign an MoU on cooperation in economic and trade sectors between the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and China Chamber of International Commerce, Tianjin Chamber of Commerce was held at the Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here on 18 November.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and Vice-Mayor Mr Wang Zhi Ping of Tianjin Municipal Government extended greetings.

Next, UMFCCI President U Win Myint and President Mr Zhao Xiaoming of China Chamber of International Commerce, Tianjin Chamber of Commerce signed an MoU and exchanged the notes.—MNA

Build peaceful, developed new nation in accordance with democratic practice

Domenech quells Ribery concerns

Paris, 20 Nov — France coach Raymond Domenech played down injury fears surrounding Franck Ribery after the winger hobbled off during the international friendly against Uruguay.

The Bayern Munich star was helped off the pitch by two members of Les Bleus’ medical staff after feeling the full force of a robust 56th-minute tackle by Alvaro Pereira. It initially appeared Ribery had sustained a serious ankle injury but he got off lightly, according to Domenech.

“He had a narrow escape,” said the France boss. “Ribery has a ripped sock and shinpad, but it stops there.” Domenech was incensed by Pereira’s tackle, adding: “I find it a shame that certain referees in friendly matches don’t apply the rules. Normally with an attack like that, it is a red card. But because it is a friendly match, people say, “it isn’t a problem, just be careful.”

Ribery should be fit for Bayern Munich’s Bundesliga match against Energie Cottbus on Saturday.—Internet

Man United’s Berbatov ‘Ready to quit’, could miss Aston Villa game

Manchester, 20 Nov—Dimitar Berbatov has emerged an early injury doubt for Manchester United’s weekend trip to Aston Villa.

The 27-year-old striker picked up a leg injury while featuring for Bulgaria in the international against Serbia last night and was replaced in the first half.

In case the former Tottenham Hotspur star, who has failed to show his prolific form so far this season either for the Red Devils or his country, is not fit for Sir Alex Ferguson’s side at the weekend, Wayne Rooney will partner Carlos Tevez up front in the Premiership clash against the Villans, who beat Arsenal last weekend. So frustrated has been Berbatov with his criticism in his country for what the Bulgaria FA and coach feel stems from lack of desire on field, that the former Bayer Leverkusen star is ready to retire from international action.

Internet
**PERSPECTIVES**

Friday, 21 November, 2008

Grow crops extensively for better socio-economic life

Total sown acreage of monsoon and summer paddy is over 20 million acres in Myanmar. The agricultural sector serves as the dominant contributor to the economic growth of the nation. So, effective measures are being taken constantly for boosting production of crops especially paddy.

So far, the government has constructed 216 dams and 322 river water pumping stations across the nation for adequate supply of irrigation water, the major requirement of the agricultural farming. Simultaneously, it is encouraging farmers to choose high-yielding paddy strains, apply advanced agricultural methods, and use farm machinery, thereby making a boom in the agricultural sector.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is implementing dam projects, sluice gate projects and underground water pumping station projects throughout the country, particularly in arid regions: Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay divisions.

Plans are under way to launch Daungmyu Dam Project, Kandaunt Dam Project, North Yamar irrigation system, Kyaukchat Dam Project and Yaybokkyi Dam Project in central Myanmar.

In addition, more sluice gates are due to be built in Mon State and Bago Division to protect the regions from being flooded in the rainy season and irrigate farmlands in summer. Similarly, small dams and lakes are under maintenance in Mandalay Division to increase the acreage of irrigated arable lands.

At a time when the government is working hard to construct more irrigation facilities, it is obligatory for farmers to grow crops on a wider scale through mixed- and multiple-cropping patterns for food sufficiency of the regions concerned and improving their living conditions.

**Ministry of EP-1 holds coord meeting**

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Nov—The coordination meeting of the Ministry of Electric Power No.1 was held at the ministry on 17 and 18 November.

At the meeting, Minister for Electric Power No.1 Col Zaw Min delivered speeches and heard reports of directors on completion of Hydro Power projects and future tasks. Responsible officials of power plants explained matters related to supplying power and production.

Deputy Minister U Myo Myint, Director-General U Win Kyi of Hydropower Projects Implementation Department, Managing Director U Kyi Thar of Hydropower Generation Enterprise and Acting Director-General U Phone Myint gave reports. After giving the necessary instructions, the minister made closing remarks.

**AMRI International Hospital introduced**

YANGON, 20 Nov—Organized by Vertex Co Ltd, a press meet to introduce International Health Care Center of AMRI Hospitals (Advanced Medicare and Research Institute Ltd) was held at the ballroom of Traders Hotel here on 16 November, attended by guests, medical experts and media men.

First, Dr U Saw Naing introduced those present to specialists of the center.

Next, the specialists gave talks and answered the queries raised by those present. After the ceremony, those present were served with dinner.

Every one may contact Vertex Co Ltd at No (F-28), second floor of Pearl Condominium, Block B on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Bahan Township, Yangon (Ph: 09 5173671, 09-5109748, 01-541312 and 01-554291), Fax 545983, E-mail:amrihospital.man@gmail.com.

**Donation invited for self-reliant libraries**

YANGON, 20 Nov—A ceremony to donate plot, building, cash, media equipment and publications to self-reliant libraries in Yangon Division will be held on 1 December. Those wishing to donate cash and kind may contact Yangon Division Information and Public Relations Department at No (22/240, Pansodan Street, Yangon (Ph: 01-254270 and 01-371339).

**Air Bagan Open Golf Championships on 27 November**

YANGON, 20 Nov—Air Bagan Open Golf Championships, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA and mainly sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd, will be held at Pym Oo Lwin Golf Club in PymOoLwin of Mandalay Division from 27 to 30 November for the second round of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009.

Only Professional and armature level golfers who have (Handicap 0-12) are allowed to participate in the competitions.

The competition will be held in line with St Andrews laws and regional regulations. And those who score a hole-in-one will be awarded by sponsors.

Those wishing to participate in the competitions are requested to enroll name at 9th Mile Myanmar Golf Club Ph (01-651374, 09-2037671 and 09-5017049) and PymOoLwin Golf Club no later than 25 November.

**Minister Col Zaw Min delivers an address at coordination meeting of the Ministry.**—MNA

**Specialist Dr Pronab Dasgupta gives talks at the press meeting.**—MNA
US ‘dark side’ raised in Pakistani scientist case


The New York federal judge in the case of Aafia Siddiqui highlighted defence allegations that Siddiqui was abducted and tortured by US or allied forces prior to extradition from Afghanistan on attempted-murder charges in August.

Siddiqui, 36, is undergoing psychiatric treatment at a government centre in Texas and, according to her lawyer, suffers hallucinations featuring her dead or missing children. Judge Richard Berman on Monday said the preliminary evaluation showed Siddiqui unfit to stand trial.

On Wednesday, he called for more information regarding allegations that the accused, once a high-flying, US-trained neuroscientist, vanished in 2003 and was held in secret captivity for five years.

The allegations, which the US government rejects, are not part of the court case, but still need to be addressed, Berman told prosecution and defence teams.

“Certainly it has a bearing on the clinical treatment ... and the issue of competence,” he said.

The US government says Siddiqui had Al-Qaeda links and that if she went missing between 2003 and this year, that’s simply because she was in hiding.—Internet

Pakistan general calls for halt to missile strikes

Islamabad, 20 Nov—Pakistan’s army chief called for a halt to missile attacks on Pakistani territory by pilotless drone aircraft operated by Western forces in Afghanistan.

General Ashfaq Kayani delivered the message during an address to NATO’s military committee in Brussels on Wednesday, just hours after a suspected US missile strike killed five militants, possibly including an Arab al-Qaeda operative.

A statement issued by the Pakistani military said Kayani had urged a halt to the use of unmanned “combat aerial vehicles within Pakistani territory.”

Pakistan says the attacks violate its sovereignty, make it harder to justify the alliance with the United States in a country rife with anti-American sentiment, and undermine efforts to win public support for the fight against militancy.

Kayani also met with NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, and held individual meetings with Admiral Michael Mullen, US chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, and a French defence chief.

The restatement of opposition to the air strikes followed hard on the heels of a denial by the foreign ministry that Pakistan had a secret agreement with Washington to publicly protest the attacks, while privately acquiescing.

Missile armed drones are primarily used by US forces in the region. The United States seldom confirms drone attacks. Pakistan does not have any combat drones.—Internet

Iraqis inspect the damage to a store after two simultaneous roadside bombs in downtown Baghdad, Iraq on 19 Nov, 2008. Four civilians were injured in the attack, police said.

Japanese missile defence test fails off Hawaii

Washington, 20 Nov—A Japanese naval destroyer failed to intercept a dummy ballistic missile in a test aimed at mimicking an intermediate-range North Korean ballistic missile attack, the United States and Japan announced on Wednesday.

“There is no immediate explanation for the failed intercept attempt,” military officials from both countries said in a joint statement.

The test took place in Hawaiian waters and involved the Chokai, the second Japanese Kongo-class ship to be outfitted for missile defence.

North Korea’s test-firing of a ballistic missile over Japan in August 1998 spurred Tokyo to become the most active US ally in building a layered shield against missiles that could be tipped with chemical, biological or nuclear warheads.

The drill off Kauai, Hawaii, used the ship-borne Aegis ballistic missile defence system made by Lockheed Martin Corp and a Standard Missile-3 Block 1A missile, built by Raytheon Co.—Internet

Europeans seeking ways to protect Congo aid

United Nations, 20 Nov—Some European nations are pushing to send teams to Congo to help secure humanitarian aid until more UN peacekeepers can be deployed, French Ambassador Jean-Maurice Ripert said Wednesday.

France, Belgium and Sweden are considering how to give Congo added help by arriving ahead of the Security Council’s expected addition of 3,100 troops to augment its beleaguered peacekeeping mission, he said.

The teams presumably would be armed but there was no immediate word on that as the nations were still discussing the proposal and details haven’t been worked out. But Ripert stressed that they would not be linked to the EU’s rapid reaction military force.—Internet
Isuzu to shed 1,400 contract workers this year

TOKYO, 20 Nov—Isuzu Motors Ltd will shed all temporary and part-time manufacturing workers, a spokeswoman said on Thursday, the latest of Japan’s automakers to scale back production as overseas demand fades.

The elimination of the 1,400 contract workers will happen in the remaining two months of this year as the Japanese truck maker cuts output, according to the spokeswoman, Ai Ito. The company has 7,700 full-time employees with 7,000 working in manufacturing.

Isuzu, like its domestic peers, is grappling with lower sales abroad. The company, which gets about 65 percent of its revenue outside of Japan, earlier this month cut forecasts for the fiscal year through March 2009.

US condemns Al-Qaeda Obama insult

WASHINGTON, 20 Nov—The United States on Wednesday condemned Al-Qaeda number two Ayman Zawahiri for calling US president-elect Barack Obama a “house negro,” saying it exposes his terrorist group’s anti-democratic values.

“It’s just, you know, more despicable comments from a terrorist,” State Department spokesman Sean McCormack told reporters when asked to comment on the remarks.

“And if anybody needed ... more of a contrast between what ... the West and the United States stand for, in terms of democracy and what these terrorists stand for, I don’t think you need to go any further than those comments,” he said.

China to overhaul battered dairy industry

BEIJING, 20 Nov—China’s dairy industry — at the centre of the country’s latest food safety scandal — will be overhauled to improve every step from cow breeding to milk sales, the government said.

The major shake-up will cover all aspects of the dairy supply chain, including production, purchase, processing and sales within the next year, the official Xinhua News Agency reported Thursday.

“The crisis has put China’s dairy industry in peril and exposed major problems existing in the quality control and supervision of the industry,” an official with the National Development and Reform Commission, China’s top economic planning body, was quoted as saying by Xinhua.

Somali pirates transform villages into boomtowns

MOGADISHU, 20 Nov—Somalia’s increasingly brazen pirates are building sprawling stone houses, cruising in luxury cars, marrying beautiful women — even hiring caterers to prepare Western-style food for their hostages.

And in an impoverished country where every public institution has crumbled, they have become heroes in the steamy coastal dens they operate from because they are the only real business in town.

“The pirates depend on us, and we benefit from them,” said Sahra Sheik Dahir, a shop owner in Haradhere, the nearest village to where a hijacked Saudi Arabian supertanker carrying $100 million in crude was anchored Wednesday.

These boomtowns are all the more shocking in light of Somalia’s violence and poverty. Radical Islamists control most of the country’s south, meting out lashings and stonings for accused criminals. There has been no effective central government in nearly 20 years, plunging this arid African country into chaos.

Life expectancy is just 46 years; a quarter of children die before they reach 5.

But in northern coastal towns like Haradhere, Eyl and Bossaso, the pirate economy is thriving thanks to the money pouring in from pirate ransoms that have reached $30 million this year alone.

Attorney says US woman posed as teen online and teased girl

LOS ANGELES, 20 Nov — A Missouri woman established a fake identity online to torment a vulnerable teenage girl who later committed suicide, federal prosecutors said Wednesday in a trial that is being closely watched by the burgeoning social networking industry.

Prosecutors say Lori Drew, 49, posed as a teenage boy named Josh Evans on the social networking website MySpace.com and exchanged messages with 13-year-old Megan Meier.

Drew’s daughter and Meier had been friends but had a falling out, attorneys said.

US Attorney Thomas O’Brien said Drew, her daughter and Meier had been friends but had a falling out, attorneys said.

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JERUSALEM, 20 Nov—

Timepieces from a priceless collection stolen from a Jerusalem museum were discovered in French bank vaults, police said Wednesday, more than two decades after the theft.

The 43 watches and clocks will return to Israel, where they will join dozens of others from the collection found two years ago, police said Wednesday, reuniting most of the collection of 106 rare artifacts. The 1983 theft from the LA Mayer Museum for Islamic Art was the costliest heist in Israel’s history. Included in the original collection was an 18th-century watch made for French queen Marie Antoinette by famed watchmaker Abraham-Louis Breguet, valued at $30 million by museum officials.

According to Israeli investigators, the first break in the case came two years ago when officials told them the museum paid about $40,000 to an anonymous American woman to buy back 40 items, including the Marie Antoinette watch.

Museum director Rachel Hasson told The Associated Press that the watch is “the Mona Lisa of the clock world.” She said that find included another piece by Breguet known as the “Sympathiques.”

Police forensics experts then examined the clocks, and detectives questioned the lawyer who dealt with the sale.

Economic crisis boosts e-learning

ScienceDaily, 20 Nov—The present world’s economic woes are opening up new opportunities for innovative forms of education and training such as informal learning, e-learning and blended learning. Faced with shrinking budgets, the use of learning technologies is becoming increasingly attractive for businesses. This was the appraisal articulated by the consultants and training professionals who responded to an impromptu survey undertaken by the international e-learning conference Online Educa Berlin. Many enterprises definitely intend to drive down training costs, according to Sue Martin, Global Certification Portfolio Manager at SAP, but employee qualification nevertheless remains a key factor in enhancing the ability to compete. “Against this background, e-learning could see its greatest upswing in years,” the SAP manager asserts. “In times of tight or zero travel budgets and increasing environmental awareness, the importance of learning technologies has to be given a second look.”

Archaeologists unearth 8th century church in Syria

Archaeologists in central Syria have unearthed the remnants of an 8th century church, an antiquities official said Thursday. A Syrian-Polish archaeological team recently discovered the church in the ancient city of Palmyra, said Walid al-Assad, the head of the Palmyra Antiquities and Museums Department. He did not specify when the church was discovered or the exact date the church was built.

He said the church is the fourth and largest discovered so far in Palmyra — an ancient trade centre that is now an archaeological treasure trove.

The church’s base measures 51-by-30 yards, and archaeologists estimate its columns stood 20 feet tall and its wooden ceiling would have been about 50 feet high, al-Assad said.

A small amphitheater also was found in the church’s courtyard where experts believe Christian rituals were practiced, al-Assad said.

A woman gets jail for using kids in volleyball scam

A woman will have to spend up to 90 days in jail and make restitution for sending her 21-year-old daughter to do fundraising donations for a trip to a volleyball camp.

Carley Torres will have to pay back more than $3,000 over pleading guilty to theft charges.

The 35-year-old Torres and her 33-year-old husband, Laramie Torres, sent the children that they agreed

Fast-food ad ban could cut child obesity

WASHINGTON, 20 Nov—Banning fast-food advertising on television in the United States could reduce the number of overweight children by as much as 18 percent, researchers said on Wednesday.

But the team at the National Bureau of Economic Research questioned whether it would be practical to impose that kind of government regulation — something only Sweden, Norway and Finland have done.

“We have known for some time that childhood obesity has gripped our culture, but little empirical research has been done that identifies television advertising as a possible cause,” said economist Shin Yi Chou of Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. “Hopefully, this line of research can lead to a serious discussion about the type of policies that can curb America’s obesity epidemic.”

For their study, funded in part by the federal government, Chou and colleagues used data on nearly 13,000 children from the 1979 Child-Young Adult National Longitudinal Survey of Youth and the 1997 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, both issued by the US Department of Labour.

Explosion kills Hamas man in Gaza

Gaza, 20 Nov — An explosion in the Gaza Strip killed a member of the Hamas Islamist group on Thursday, hospital staff and witnesses said. It was not immediately clear whether the man was killed by an Israeli strike or an accidental explosion.

The Israeli army had no immediate comment.

Gunmen from Gaza have fired dozens of rockets at Israel in the past two weeks after Israel launched raids that have killed about a dozen gunmen, and closed crossing points with Gaza, choking off some food supplies to the coastal territory.

Kangaroo genes close to humans

Graves said, according to AAP.

Humans and kangaroos last shared an ancestor at least 150 million years ago, the researchers found, while mice and humans diverged from one another only 70 million years ago.

Kangaroos first evolved in China, but migrated across the Americas to Australia and Antarctica, they said.

Two juvenile kangaroos dance around each other as they fight in Namagi National Park near Australia’s capital city Canberra in this file photo.

Australia’s kangaroos are genetically similar to humans and may have first evolved in China, Australian researchers said Tuesday.

Scientists said they had for the first time mapped the genetic code of the Australian marsupials and found much of it was similar to the genome for humans, the government-backed Centre of Excellence for Kangaroo Genomics said. “There are a few differences, we have a few more of this, a few less of that, but they are the same genes and a lot of them are in the same order,” centre Director Jenny Graves told reporters in Melbourne.

“We thought they’d be completely scrambled, but they’re not. There is great chunks of the human genome which is sitting right there in the kangaroo genome.”
Iran’s FM says Obama should be given time

TEHRAN, 20 Nov — Iran’s Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said here on Wednesday that US President-elect Barack Obama should be given time for direct talks with Iran, the semi-official Fars news agency reported.

In a response to Obama adviser’s stress on the direct talks with Iran, Mottaki said that “We are considering the words of Americans, but we are waiting for their stance after 21 Jan, 2009 (after Obama officially enters the White House)”.

Dennis Ross Obama’s Middle East adviser said in Denver on Tuesday that “We need to engage them (Iranian officials) directly.

Barack Obama made it clear he was prepared to engage Iran directly, but he also said we have to prepare”, The Denver Post said. “Now that Obama himself asks for time (for direct talks with Iran), he should be given with that,” Mottaki added. Iran’s Government spokesman Gholam Hossein Elham said last Saturday that the talks between Iran and the United States is not the main issue and the US policy change towards Iran is required, according to Iran’s official IRNA news agency. — Xinhua

No sufficient evidence for Syria’s n-weapons Development

VIENNA, 20 Nov — The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) do not find sufficient evidence to prove Syria is developing nuclear weapons, said a report circulated by IAEA Director General Mohammed ElBaradie to the agency’s Board of Governors on Wednesday.

The four-page report introduces the latest verification and assessment on Syrian nuclear issues, but IAEA refuses to release the report to public, saying that this report is only submitted to the 35-member of the IAEA council, and will be discussed at next IAEA council meeting on 27 November.

Last September, Israeli troops blew down an establishment in a remote desert in eastern Syria.

This May, the United States provided IAEA intelligence that the destroyed establishment is for developing nuclear explosive material and will be put into operation shortly.

However, Syria keeps denying of secretly developing any nuclear weapons, on which IAEA has carried out investigations. — Xinhua

Chinese, Peruvian leaders discuss bilateral relations

LIMA, 20 Nov — Visiting Chinese President Hu Jintao met his Peruvian counterpart Alan Garcia Wednesday in Lima for talks on how to deepen comprehensive cooperative partnership between China and the Latin American nation.

The meeting took place soon after the Chinese leader’s arrival in the Peruvian capital from Havana.

In a written statement issued upon his arrival here, the Chinese President said he will exchange views with Garcia and other Peruvian leaders on ways to deepen bilateral ties.

Following their talks, the two leaders will attend a signing ceremony of documents on cooperation in trade, customs, quality control and poverty reduction.

Peru is one of China’s major trading partners in Latin America, with two-way trade totalling six billion US dollars in 2007, a 53-percent increase over the previous year. — Xinhua

Brazil, South Korea sign cooperation agreements

BRASILIA, 20 November — The presidents of Brazil and South Korea on Wednesday signed a series of cooperation agreements to reinforce bilateral ties.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and visiting South Korean President Lee Myung-bak said they were satisfied with the progress of bilateral relations in the fields of politics, commerce, investment, science and technology, society and culture. — Xinhua

A construction worker checks a panel while hanging from a platform on a new building in the financial district of Beijing on 20 Nov, 2008. —INTERNET

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Japan’s toy giant Bandai employee demonstrates “Tuttuki bako”, or poking box, a palm-sized plastic box with a simple digital display on the front, a coin-size hole on the side and a motion sensor inside. When you stick your finger in the hole, a virtual finger appears on the screen for petting or even lobbing any nuclear weapons, on which IAEA has carried out investigations.

A 1932 Ford Victoria is on display together with other modern cars during a motor show on 20 Nov, 2008, in Manila, Philippines. —INTERNET
A reliable force is necessary for development of a nation. The Union Solidarity and Development Association, a strong national force, was formed on 15 September 1993, and so it has turned its 15th anniversary. Now, the association has made both quantitative and qualitative progress, and members have got ready to do their bit in building a new nation hand in hand with the people.

After regaining independence in 1948, Myanmar remained in a state of a general downturn, thus hovering on the edge of its collapse three times: in 1949, 1958 and 1962.

In 1949, both the Parliamentary Democracy Government and the Parliament were not capable enough of addressing a variety of issues confronting the nation. Their incompetent discharge of national duties provoked internal armed revolt. The Tatmadaw at that time was the only force that stood firmly by the nation and managed to protect the motherland from falling into the abyss. The nation went through the hell of dire straits in the 1950s. The Tatmadaw played a pivotal role in ensuring perpetuation of sovereignty and defending the nation from alien invasion. Political parties then were too power-craving and showed total disregard for national interests.

It was the last moment to reconstruct the nation, which badly needed to deal with economic crisis, build economic infrastructures, ward off alien intrusion, restore stability and peace, and ensure the rule of law. Nonetheless, the then political parties gave only lip service and failed to put their words into deeds. Personality cult, sectarianism, dogmatism and arrogance reigning in the political parties triggered the split of the AFPFL. Government into many factions. Taking good advantages of the disintegration of the ruling government, national race armed groups with extreme policies, those exercising racialism and feudalists desperate to prolong their rule rose against the government. The split of the AFPFL pushed the nation towards collapse.

Being engaged in the conflicts, the factions in the ruling party came to misuse the State power in order to have upper hand. Moreover, they breached the ruling party came to misuse the State power in order to have upper hand. Moreover, they breached the ruling party's bounds.

The nation values high calibres, active performances and duty-conscious sense of younger generations. That was the reason why the government had mobilized reliable and responsible youths into the Union Solidarity and Development Association. Younger generations will have gained a lot of experiences of restoration of stability and peace of the State, work programmes for national development, organizing measures, and cooperation. Now, the Association remains mature and consolidated, and its members have made quantitative and qualitative progress considerably.

The youth of today are by nature brave, dynamic and active and they inherit knowledge of tasks for national development from older generations. They try to expand their horizons. In that way, the youth gain vast knowledge and awareness and become courageous and capable.

Today, reliable Myanmar youths remain cohesive, inheriting their older generations’ fine tradition of cherishing the motherland. Since millions of young people became united, the flag of the Association has been flying proudly the length and breadth of the nation. Over 20 million patriotic Myanmar youths have joined the Association with the aim of discharging national duties to their utmost.

The drive for building a new nation is the concern of the entire people, so this lofty work programme must touch the sense of duty and harmonious cooperation of the people.

The Seven-step Road Map laid down for building a new nation is to be implemented steadily. So far, the fourth step has been completed and the fifth one is ongoing. Young generations who are skilled and capable of transforming the nation from the old system into a new one have been in unison under the banner of the USDA. Younger generations will have to organize the entire people with the democratic practice that the minority of the people have to prioritize the wishes of the majority, and the majority have to respect the wishes of the minority.

Translation: MS
Myanmar Alin: 20-11-2008
Students in Moneko, Kyugok (Pangsang) receive stationery

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Nov — Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut on 7 November visited the Basic Education High School in Moneko, Muse District, and presented stationery and food to students.

During the visit, the commander inspected progress of construction of a school building and provided cash to students who will sit for the matriculation exam for this academic year.

He also visited the people’s hospital in Moneko and presented cash assistance and food to patients receiving treatment there. During the visit, he inspected the X-ray room and the operation room.

Afterwards, the commander went to the basic education primary school in Kyugok (Pangsang) in Muse District, and presented stationery and food to the students.

During the inspection tour of Kyugok (Pangsang) Station Hospital, Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut presented cash and food to the patients receiving treatment there. He also inspected the operation room of the hospital and presented food to staff of the hospital.

Deputy Foreign Minister back from PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Nov — Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu arrived back here by air today after paying an official visit to Kunming, Yunnan Province of the People’s Republic of China from 16 to 20 November at the invitation of Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province Mr. Gu Zhaoxi.

On 17 November, he met with the vice-governor for discussions about promotion of bilateral cooperation in the economic and other sectors between Myanmar and Yunnan Province.

At the Diplomatic Consultation Meeting between Ministries on 19 November, the deputy minister exchanged views on relations and cooperation between PRC and Myanmar and international and regional issues with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr. Wu Dawei.

Anti-Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever campaigns launched in five townships

YANGON, 20 Nov — Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa visited anti-Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever campaign launched in Mayangon Township under the arrangement of Health Department of the Ministry of Health and Health Department of Yangon City Development Committee yesterday morning.

The vice-mayor inspected preventive measures for DHF and educative talks undertaken by members of social organizations and local people at Ward 5 in Mayangon Township.

Similar anti-DHF campaigns were launched in Kyauktada, Pabedan, Pazundaung and Hline Townships.

CPT Ministry holds coord meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Nov — A coordination meeting of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs 2008 was held at the meeting hall of the ministry here on 17 November with an address by Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw.

Managers of states and divisions reported on arrangements being made for their respective tasks and works to be done to the minister.

Next, heads of departments also reported on works being carried out and matters related to future tasks.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Thein Tun, the director-general and managing director made supplementary reports and the minister gave necessary instructions.

Respect paying ceremony on 22 Nov

YANGON, 20 Nov — A ceremony to pay respects to Sayagyi U Sein Tun will be held at Maha Thantithukha Monastery in Tamway Township here at 3 p.m. on 22 November. Those who took part in organizing Life of Buddha Show together with him and served the interest of Thamantana Dhamma Pala Federation in successive periods are invited to attend the ceremony. For further information, contact U Kyi Min (Ph: 352521 and 526276), U Kyaw Khin Myint (Ph: 372467 and 246077), U San Myint (Ph: 565292), Dr Hla Tun (Ph: 09 5014040 and 251489), U Aung Win (385127 and 380178), U Daewa Muni (Ph: 095123579 and 380178) and U R K Armanda (Ph: 09 5000453 and 200090).

MNA
**The 88th Anniversary National Day**

10th Waning of Tazaungmon 1370

(22-11-2008)

**Objectives of the 88th Anniversary National Day**

- To strengthen nationalistic spirit and uplift national prestige and integrity
- To promote national education
- Perpetuity of independence and sovereignty of the State
- To achieve success in implementing the seven-step Road Map

**Training of Trainers on Respiratory Infection Control Course opens**

**Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo extends greetings at opening ceremony of Respiratory Infection Control Course.**

**Special sale of Ministry of Industry-1 opens**

**Workshop for Facilitation of ASEAN-Japan Common Transport Statistics held**

**Law graduates to hold third respects paying ceremony**

**239th Aungbarlay Lottery to be opened on 1 Dec**

**21-11-08 NL 8/6/18, 10:45 PM**
Border region equipped with modern communication facilities

(from page 16)

Recently, a news crew of the Kyemon Daily made a field trip to Bhamo region for observing the communication facilities. In an interview, Junior Engineer U Zaw Lwin Oo of Bhamo District explained progress in communications sector of the district to the news crew.

In the past, Bhamo had one telegraph office to connect with Myitkyina, Shwegu, Mansi, Momauk and Mandalay. At that time, the telegraph office was the only communication facility of the local people.

Nowadays, as peace and tranquility has been restored, the people of the region enjoy fruits of development including the communication sector. The urban and rural areas in the region have been equipped with computerized communication devices and fax machines, telephone booths, microwave stations, post offices and TV relay stations. At present, there are 17 post offices in the region. One 600-line-capacity auto-telephone exchange was built in 2001. Moreover, the auto-exchange was extended with 200 telephone lines in 2002. In 2006, the old auto-exchange was equipped with new and modern telecommunication devices including 920 telephone lines.

Furthermore, telephone exchanges installed with 70 manual dials were built in Mansi and Momauk townships in 2002. Through a new microwave link, the people of Dawphonyan can connect with other regions by dialing the numbers of Bhamo exchange. Likewise, Momauk Township and Lwejel can communicate with other regions by dialing the numbers of Muse exchange.

As part of undertaking rural development tasks, cordless auto-telephones were installed in 15 villages of Bhamo District. The plan is under way to install more cordless auto-telephones in the remaining villages. As modern communications technology is developing across the nation, the mobile telephone system was launched in March 2008. So far, the region has been installed with 562 cellular telephones.

To have easy access to areas not only in the country but also overseas, the computer ADSL system is being employed in the region. Therefore, the border trade becomes bustling and active. Thanks to the goodwill and ardent efforts of the government, local people in all regions of Bhamo District are enjoying fruits of the communications sector.

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 3-11-2008

Coord meeting on organizing sports activities in December held

YANGON, 20 Nov — A coordination meeting on organizing sports activities in December, 2008 was held at the meeting hall (1) in Aung San Stadium here yesterday with an address by Deputy Director-General U Thein Aung of Sports and Physical Education Department.

Deputy Director U Than Kyaw Nyunt of SPED presented arrangements for organizing mass sports activities and those present took part in discussions. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the deputy director-general.

Next, the deputy director-general met with athletes of Myanmar Rowing Federation who will participate in the 8th Royal Highness Princess’s Cup Traditional Boat Race to be held in Pattaya, Thailand, from 21 to 23 November at the meeting hall of Youth Training Center (Thuwunna). — MNA

Members of Dawnabwa Ward Maternal and Child Welfare Association in Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay Division, carrying out anti-dengue activities. — MNA

New digital auto-exchange in Momauk of Kachin State.

A responsible person of Tamil-Hindu Foundation (Central) lights oil lamp to mark Depavali Day at Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon on 15 November, 2008. — NLM

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased
consumption if the melamine content does not exceed 2.5 PPM.

is fit for consumption if the content of melamine is not more than 1 PPM (1 part per million) distributed. In accord with the international standards that have been set temporally, it has 3. The Committee is conducting safety checks on milk powder and dairy products


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No human mad cow case in Texas panhandle

CHICAGO, 20 Nov—There has been no human case of mad cow disease in the Texas panhandle area in the past month, the Texas Department of State Health Services said on Wednesday in response to rumors that Chicago markets of a woman patient there had the disease.

Cattle futures plummeted at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange amid a variety of mad cow-related rumors, one of which was that a woman was being treated for the disease in an Amarillo hospital.

“We do not have any confirmed cases of CJD or variant CJD in that area in the last month,” a health department spokesman said referring to the Panhandle area of Texas.

Mad cow is a fatal brain disease in cattle and it is believed humans can contract a fatal variation of it by eating infected parts of animals with the disease.

The United States has had three cases of mad cow disease in cattle.
Macedonia plants six million trees to revive fire-ravaged forests

**SKOPJE, 20 Nov** — Macedonians took a day off work on Wednesday to plant six million trees in an action launched back in March to revive forests after fires ravaged an estimated 35,000 hectares of greenery.

“The main goal of the ‘Day of The Tree — Plant your future’ initiative is to protect the environment and increase ecological awareness among citizens,” the government said in a statement.

Along with human rights activists and artists, many citizens took the opportunity of a day off work as volunteers to plant the trees. Participants also included 1,800 soldiers who alone planted 200,000. Wildfires destroyed thousands of hectares of forests in the region around the southern town of Bitola during last summer.

Organizers hope Macedonians in the Balkans would follow suit with similar actions, proposing they plant millions of trees throughout the region.

Internet

Herod may have been buried among lavish artwork

**HERODIUM, 20 Nov** — King Herod may have been buried in a crypt with lavish Roman-style wall paintings of a kind previously unseen in the Middle East.

Israeli archaeologists said Wednesday. The scientists found such paintings and signs of a regal two-story mausoleum, bolstering their conviction that the ancient Jewish monarch was buried there. Ehud Netzer, head of Jerusalem’s Hebrew University excavation team, which uncovered the site of the king’s winter palace in the Judean desert in 2007, said the latest finds show work and funding fit for a king.

“What we found here, spread all around, are architectural fragments that enable us to restore a monument of 25 meters high, 75 feet high, very elegant, which fits Herod’s taste and status,” he told The Associated Press in an interview at the hillside dig in an Israeli-controlled part of the West Bank, south of Jerusalem.

Internet

Cleveland Museum of Art to return art to Italy

**ROME, 20 Nov** — The Cleveland Museum of Art agreed Wednesday to return 14 ancient treasures ranging from Etruscan jewelry to a Medieval cross that authorities say were looted or stolen from Italy. Italian Culture Ministry officials and the director of the Cleveland museum signed a deal in Rome to transfer the artifacts within three months in exchange for long-term loans of other treasures.

The agreement is the latest success in an Italian campaign to recover artifacts that survived for centuries only to be dug up by looters, smuggled out of the country and sold to prestigious museums across the world.

Similar deals have yielded the return of scores of pieces from museums, including the Paul Getty Museum in California and the Metropolel Museum of Art in New York.

Director Timothy Rub stressed that the Cleveland museum had not knowingly acquired or received looted items. He said they were bought or donated to the museum in the 1970s and 1980s. The treasures to be returned from Cleveland are mostly a sampling of art produced by the Etruscans and by Greek-influenced cultures that dominated central and southern Italy before the rise of Rome.

The objects are “of great historical, artistic and archaeological interest,” Italian Culture Minister Sandro Bondi said. Among them are a pair of Etruscan silver bracelets from the 6th century BC and a bronze statue of a horned warrior, dated to the 9th-8th century BC, which experts said is one of the finest remaining from a civilization that populated the island of Sar- dinia.

Internet

Doctors transplant windpipe with stem cells

**LONDON, 20 Nov** — Doctors have given a woman a new windpipe with tissue grown from her own stem cells, eliminating the need for anti-rejection drugs. “This technique has great promise,” said Dr Eric Genden, who did a similar transplant in 2005 at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. That operation used both donor and recipient tissue. Only a handful of windpipe, or trachea, transplants have ever been done.

If successful, the procedure could become a new standard of treatment, said Genden, who was not involved in the research. The results were published online Wednesday in the medical journal, The Lancet.

The transplant was given to Claudia Castillo, a 30-year-old Colombian mother of two living in Barcelona, suffered from tuberculosis for years. After a severe collapse of her left lung in March, Castillo needed regular hospital visits to clear her airways and was unable to take care of her children.

Doctors initially thought the only solution was to remove the entire left lung. But Dr Paolo Macchiarini, head of thoracic surgery at Barcelona’s Hospital Clinic, proposed a windpipe transplant instead.

Internet

Two dead, 1,500 ill from suspected cholera in Philippines

**MANILA, 20 Nov** — At least two people have died and more than 1,500 are in hospital following a suspected outbreak of cholera in the southern Philippines, health officials said Wednesday. National Epidemiology Centre chief Eric Tayag said patients were suffering severe stomach pains and diarrhoea but added that field doctors were trying to verify if all the cases were due to cholera.

Tayag said the patients “were showing cholera symptoms” and most came from the settlement of Tagoloan in southern Misamis Oriental, where heavy rain has caused minor flooding which could have contaminated the drinking water supply.

The Red Cross said water samples taken from the area were being tested.

Internet

In this image provided by NASA, astronaut Steve Bowen participates in the mission’s first session of extravehicular activity on 18 Nov, 2008 as construction and maintenance continues on the International Space Station.—INTERNET

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Internet
Terry atones to give England win over Germany

England's Matthew Upson celebrates with captain John Terry after scoring England's first goal during their friendly match against Germany in Berlin. England won 2–1.—INTERNET

Three fewer events on 2009 LPGA Tour schedule

Miami, 20 Nov — Next year's LPGA Tour will feature three events fewer than 2008, largely due to the global financial crisis. Although the average tournament purse will remain roughly the same at $1.767 million, total prize money will drop from just over $60 million to almost $55 million. LPGA commissioner Carolyn Bivens told a news conference on Wednesday:

"Each year the schedule evolves with a natural ebb and flow of events, but, like many businesses and individuals, the state of the global economy has resulted in a slightly different tournament landscape for 2009," said Bivens.—INTERNET

Ukraine government dissolves Euro 2012 agency

Kiev, 20 Nov — Ukraine's government is dissolving an agency overseeing preparations for Euro 2012 after European soccer body UEFA complained that it was inefficient, deputy Prime Minister Ivan Vasyunyk said on Wednesday. Vasyunyk, quoted by local news agencies after a cabinet meeting, said the agency headed by a former cabinet minister would be replaced by a 50-strong "coordinating bureau" responsible to the government. Ukraine, which is co-hosting the championship with Poland, has repeatedly come under fire for being slow to tackle the mammoth tasks required to modernise stadiums, hotels and transport networks.—INTERNET

Brandt Snedeker of the US watches his tee shot at the 10th hole during the first round of the 2008 Dunlop Phoenix golf tournament in Miyazaki, southern Japan, on 20 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET

LTA plans to sell back its stake in home of Wimbledon

London, 20 Nov — Britain's Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) plans to sell back its 50 percent stake in the site of the Wimbledon championships to The All England Club (AELTC), the organisations said in a joint statement on Wednesday.

The deal, subject to approval by both parties, is part of the extension of their co-operation agreement until 2033. The AELTC originally gave the 50 percent shareholding to the LTA in 1934 and the new arrangement will release capital for the LTA to invest in the development of British tennis. Also, the LTA will receive 90 percent of any distributable financial surplus from the Wimbledon Championships.

"This benefits both the Championships and the development of tennis in Britain for the next 40 years," Tim Phillips, chairman of the All England Club, said in a statement.—INTERNET
New Planet discovered orbiting dangerously close to Giant Star

WARSAW, 21 NOV—A team of astronomers from Penn State and Nicolaus Copernicus University in Poland has discovered a new planet that is closely orbiting a red-giant star, HD 102272, which is much older than our own Sun. The planet has a mass that is nearly six times that of Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system.

Scientists already know that stars expand as they age and that they eventually may gobble up adjacent planets. In fact, scientists expect our own adjacent planets. In fact, eventually may gobble up they age and that they known planet.

The team used the Hobby-Eberly Telescope of McDonald Observatory in south-western Texas to make its discovery.

Through the telescope, which is equipped with a precise spectrograph, the scientists observed a pattern of alternating shifts of spectral lines in the light coming from the star, which is located 1,200 light-years from the Earth in the constellation Leo.

Funerary Monument reveals Iron Age belief that the Soul lived in the Stone

ANKARA, 21 NOV — Archaeologists in south-eastern Turkey have discovered an Iron Age chiseled stone slab that provides the first written evidence in the region that people believed the soul was separate from the body.

The Neubauer Expedition of the Oriental Institute of the University Chicago found the 800-pound basalt stele, 3 feet tall and 2 feet wide, at Zinciri, the site of the ancient city of Sam'al, once the capital of a prosperous kingdom, it is now one of the most important Iron Age sites under excavation.

The stele is the first of its kind to be found intact in its original location, enabling scholars to learn about funerary customs and life in the eighth century B.C. The man featured on the stele was probably cremated, a practice that Jewish and other cultures shun because of a belief in the unity of body and soul.

According to the inscription, the soul of the deceased resided in the stele. The finding sheds a striking new light on Iron Age beliefs about the afterlife. In this case, it was the belief that the enduring identity or “soul” of the deceased inhabited the monument on which his image was carved and on which his final words were recorded.

WEATHER

Thursday, 20 November, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Bago, Yangon, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (4°C) below November average temperatures in Upper Sagain, (3°C) to (4°C) above November average temperatures in Kachin, Shan, Chin, Kayah and Mon States, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures was Hakha (5°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall was Taungu (0.07) inch.

Maximum temperature on 19-11-2008 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 20-11-2008 was 74°F. Relative humidity at (09 :30) hours MST on 20-11-2008 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 19-11-2008 was (5.7) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 20-11-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (110.51) inches at Mingaladon (120.95) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from South at (13:50) hours MST on 19-11-2008, approx.

Weather will be partly cloudy in Chin and Kayah States, Sagaing and Magway Divisions and isolated light rain or thunder-showers are possible in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in strong winds may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated in light rain or thunder-showers in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 21-11-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thunder-showers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-11-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thunder-showers. Degree of certainty is (40%).
Border region equipped with modern communication facilities

With utmost efforts, the government has been implementing 24-region development plan for narrowing the gap between urban and rural areas and for ensuring equitable development of all regions of the country, and remarkable progress can be witnessed in all aspects.

In this regard, the communications sector is a case in point. The requirements are fulfilled in the communications sector throughout the nation. The local people in Bhamo region have enjoyed fruits of developing communication facilities.

(See page 10)

Photo shows Bhamo auto-exchange equipped with tower and satellite dishes.

Peru pair ready for tasty battle

Guerrero and Claudio Pizarro are good friends but will set all pleasanties aside this weekend for a few hours at least.

“The loser has to pay for a meal out,” Hamburg striker Guerrero told the Hamburger Morgenpost newspaper.

And Pizarro, who joined Bremen on loan from Chelsea this summer, is adamant he will not be delving deep into his pockets come Sunday evening.

“One thing is for certain - we will win,” he stated. Sunday’s clash is an important one for both sides with Hamburg seeking to build on their flawless home record and Bremen knowing a win will take them level on points with this weekend’s fifth-placed opponents.

Adler: I was fouled by SWP

The Bayer Leverkusen custodian appeared to flap at a Stewart Downing corner before the ball fell to Matthew Upson to tap home and set the visitors on their way to a deserved 2-1 win.

On first viewing Adler seemed to have misjudged the flight of the ball, but replays suggested his left arm had been blocked by Wright-Phillips as he moved to intercept the cross.

“I have not seen the situation again, but I believe that I was a foul,” Adler told Germany’s ZDF television. “Having said that, I am the last person to admit an error.”—Internet

Ranieri: What I think of Jose

Juventus boss Claudio Ranieri has discussed his relationship with Inter counterpart Jose Mourinho. “We have nothing in common.”

It didn’t take long for the Special One to fall out with the Bianconeri tactician with the pair exchanging barbed comments just weeks after Mourinho arrived in Italy.

Now the two men are preparing to square off in the biggest rivalry in Italian football as Inter host Juventus this weekend. “Do I like anything about Mourinho? Yes, the fact that all his players speak highly of him means that he has forged a great rapport with them,” Ranieri told La Gazzetta dello Sport.

“But I don’t like the way he stirs up controversy from time to time. The friction between us has nothing to do with the fact he replaced me at Chelsea.”

“I knew I was on borrowed time, but I still believe I had a superb season because I took the Blues to fourth place without spending any money.”—Internet