

Four political objectives

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

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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe opens 23rd Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy U-21 Tatmadaw Football Tournament 2007

Myanmar used to be an Asian football power, and many of Myanmar footballers at that time were Tatmadaw members



Lt-Gen Myint Swe addresses opening of 23rd Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy U-21 Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) Football Tournament 2007.—MNA

YANGON, 20 Sept — On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence opened the 23rd Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy U-21 Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament 2007 at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna, here, this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, senior military officers, foreign military attachés, officials of the Ministry of Sports, servicemen and family members, members of Myanmar Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade and spectators.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe in his speech said that of the three major tasks of the Tatmadaw, the most important one is to defend the motherland. In this regard, every serviceman needs to be strong and healthy. Fitness is designated as one of the ten strengths of the Tatmadaw. So, Defence Services sports tournaments and events are held yearly in order that Tatmadaw members will keep fit and healthy.

"Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation" is one of the 12 objectives laid down for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Such objective plays a key role in discharging duties of national defence and national development, he said.

Now, townships and state and division level sports

events are held with the motto "Myanmar sports the world to conquer", he added.

High sports levels indicate national development. So, the Ministry of Sports was formed to help the nation keep abreast of other countries in sports. In addition, the government has formed various sports committees and federations to produce new generation athletes, he said.

He said that in olden days, Myanmar used to be an Asian football power, and many of the Myanmar footballers at that time were Tatmadaw members.

He said, Myanmar football teams (women) and (men) have lifted trophies many times recently, urging the serviceman footballers to try to become selected Myanmar footballers and to be able to bring honour to the mother country.

In conclusion, he urged them to help promote the nation's sports standard as a national duty, to participate in the tournament with good morale and follow the rules and regulations, to respect the directives of team managers, coaches and referees, and to try their best to be able to bring honour to the nation.

(See page 8)

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Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 21 September, 2007

Speed up work to wipe out polio

The government is stepping up health care services for all national people to be able to enjoy life span fully and to be free from diseases.

In particular, it is taking steps for nutritional development of women and children, organizing immunization days, and carrying out tasks of disease control, sanitation and school health and giving educative talks on health of mothers and children.

Myanmar is working hard to control the seven common diseases, one of which is polio. Since 1996, the government has held national immunization days across the nation to be free from polio. Due to large-scale implementation of these tasks in states and divisions, polio was eradicated between 2000 and 2006 in the nation.

However, early this year Maungtau Township in Rakhine State faced the disease due to wild polio virus spread from a neighbouring country. Now, plans are under way to organize national immunization days throughout the country to control the spread of polio virus and strengthen the children's resistance to polio.

The first phase of national immunization days will be held from 3 to 5 November 2007, and the second phase, from 2 to 4 December to feed polio vaccine to the children with momentum. In Myanmar, children under five constitute more than seven million. Therefore, it is believed that polio will be eradicated soon in Myanmar with voluntary services to be contributed by health staff, local people and social organizations in giving vaccines to the children.



To mark the birthday of their daughters, U Tun Tun-Daw Khin Thu Zar Win of Pantanaw Street in Sangyoung Township recently donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of the Home.— H

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions of Mon State opened

YANGON, 19 Sept — The opening ceremony of the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2007 of Mon State was held at State Hall in Mawlamyine on 1 September.

Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win delivered an address and opened the competitions.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Soe and guests enjoyed the dance contests.

The commander and wife extended greetings to members of panel of judges and artistes and then presented cash to the participants.

Next, the commander together with officials visited the music contest at Education College, the song composing contest at Mon Cultural Museum, the singing contest at Yin Mar Hall of No 8 Basic Education High School and they greeted the artistes.—MNA

Myanmar Volleyball Team leaves for China

YANGON, 20 Sept — The Myanmar Men's Volleyball Team led by Vice-President of Myanmar Volleyball Federation U Thein Win left here for the People's Republic of China by air this afternoon.

The team was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Director U Maung Win of Sports and Physical Education Department, executives of MVF and relatives.

Coaches U Myo Myint and U Nyi Nyi Lwin, players Ye Min Aung, Kyaw Swa Win, Kyaw Soe Aung, San Shwe Maung, Sai Nyi Lay, Kyaw Kyaw Htwe, Saw Hein Thu, Zaw Lin

Oo, Myat Kyaw Tun, Ye Yint Tun and Win Tun Oo were included in the team. While in China, they will play friendly matches against Sichuan Province Team on 21, 24, 26 and 27 September.

NLM



Myanmar Volleyball Team seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for PRC.— NLM

Cash donated to organizing ceremony to pay respects to the aged

YANGON, 19 Sept — In memory of late film director Academy Maung Nanda, actor and vocalist Than Pe Lay, film directors Maung Ni Lwin (Thabyu), U De Ni and U Ba Shin, U Win Naing (Myetchei Video Industry) recently donated K 500,000 to the funds of holding the ceremony to pay respects to the aged of the motion picture world. Likewise, film directors Zaw Myint Oo, Aye Kyaw, Kyaw Za and Aung Aw Ba donated K 200,000 in memory of late film director Maung Nanda. Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon U Myint Thein Pe and executives accepted the cash donations at the office of the Asiayon. The 44th ceremony to pay respects to the aged of the motion picture world will be held on 13 October. — MNA

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept — The State Peace and Development Council has transferred Rector Dr U Win of Yangon East University of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) under the Ministry of Education to Hinthada University of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

The State Peace and Development Council has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Paw Lwin Sein	Director-General
Deputy Director-General	Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department
Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	
(b) U Maung Myint	Director-General
Director	Population Department
Social Welfare Department	Ministry of Immigration and Population
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement	
(c) U Khin Maung Zaw	Rector
Pro-Rector	University of Forestry
University of Forestry	Forest Department
Forest Department	Ministry of Forestry
Ministry of Forestry	

MNA

Prevention against HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and infectious diseases discussed

YANGON, 19 Sept — The workshop on prevention against HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria and infectious diseases was opened at ParkRoyal Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road, here, this morning.

Thai Ambassador Mr Bansarn Bunnag, Director-General Dr Thawat Suntrajarn of Disease Control Department of Thai Public Health Ministry and Director-General Dr Tin Win Maung of Health Department gave speeches. Director-General Dr Thawat Suntrajarn handed over ARV medicines for HIV patients and condoms to Director-General Dr Tin Win Maung.

Participants discussed the control of HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria and infection of diseases along Myanmar-Thai border area. The workshop continues up to 21 September. — MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

IAEA to help Bangladesh install N-power plant

DHAKA, 19 Sept—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) assured assistance in establishing a nuclear power plant in Bangladesh for generating electricity following an appeal from Dhaka, UNB news agency reported Monday.

The assurance came when Adviser for Science and ICT Tapan Chowdhury met with Deputy Director General and Head of Nuclear Energy of the IAEA Yuri Sokolov in Vienna Monday.

During the meeting, Tapan Chowdhury asked for IAEA help in formu-

lating an action plan for the proposed nuclear power plant project, Rooppur Power Plant in western Pabna District, 125 kilometres southwest of capital Dhaka.

The IAEA was also asked to provide support for preparatory works and technical support for building the plant.

Yuri Sokolov appreciated the role of Bangladesh in campaigning for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. He was impressed with the steps taken by Bangladesh in ensuring nuclear safety standards and assured IAEA as-

sistance in the efforts to set up nuclear power plant for generating electricity.

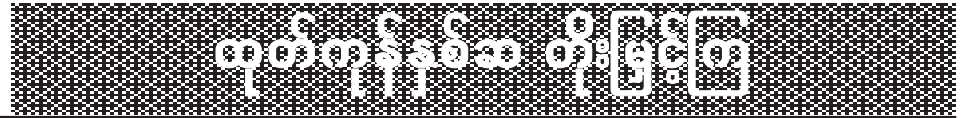
Tapan Chowdhury is in Vienna leading the Bangladesh delegation to the 51st General Conference of IAEA, an organization responsible for peaceful use of nuclear energy.—MNA/Xinhua

Five coral reef zones in Maluku badly damaged

JAKARTA, 19 Sept— At least five of Indonesian Maluku's 17 coral reef zones have been badly damaged due to the use of fish bombs and toxic substances like potassium cyanide by local fishermen, an environment official said Monday.

"Six other coral reef zones are slightly damaged and intersectoral handling is needed to repair the damage," the head of the environmental affairs section of Maluku's forestry and plantations office, John Nahusona, was quoted as saying by Antara news agency.

Local fishermen's awareness about the impact of the use of potassium cyanide and fish bombs on the environment and marine biota has remained low, he added.



In this photo distributed by China's official Xinhua news agency, Chinese Long March-4B carrier rocket with satellite 02B blasts off from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in north China's Shanxi Province on 19 Sept, 2007.
INTERNET



China needs 3,400 airplanes by 2026

BEIJING, 19 Sept—China will require 3,400 new airplanes worth about 340 billion US dollars over the next 20 years, US aircraft giant Boeing said on Tuesday.

Continued strong growth in passenger and cargo transport, China's fleet will nearly quadruple to 4,460 airplanes by the end of 2026, making it the largest market outside of the US for new commercial airplanes, it said. Following the anticipated surge in passenger traffic for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, China's domestic market will grow to nearly a five-fold size by 2026 to become slightly larger than today's intra-North American market, it said.—MNA/Xinhua

Guangzhou culls 150,000 poultry in response to bird flu outbreak

GUANGZHOU, 19 Sept— China's southern city of Guangzhou has destroyed 153,320 domestic fowls in the wake of an outbreak of bird flu, local authorities said on Tuesday.

The extermination of 134,384 ducks, 18,786 chickens and 150 doves was carried out in nine villages within a radius of three kilometres from the

site of the outbreak, an official with the Panyu District government said.

A total of 68 poultry farmers in Panyu district who have had close contact with ducks killed by bird flu have taken blood tests and medical checkups, and were found to be in good condition.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the

National Avian Influenza Reference Laboratory have confirmed a subtype H5N1 bird flu strain killed 9,830 ducks raised in Sixian Village of Panyu District in Guangzhou City since 5 September.

The Panyu District government announced on Tuesday the suspension of all poultry markets within a 13-kilometre-radius surveillance zone. Tan Yinghua, Party chief of the district, told Xinhua the district would put more pork, beef and fish on the market to meet the needs of local consumers.

MNA/Xinhua

A giant bronze bell is loaded onto a truck in Wuhan in central Hubei Province on 19 Sept, 2007. The bronze bell weighs 108,000 kg (238,099 pounds) and measures 8.5 metres (27.88 feet) in height and 5.188 metres (17.02 feet) in diameter. —INTERNET



US actress Jane Fonda receives the Save the Children Award "Friend of the Children" from Spain's Princess Letizia (L) during a ceremony in downtown Madrid, on 19 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

Two dead, four missing in Slovenia floods

LJUBLJANA, 20 Sept—Two people died in floods and landslides caused by heavy rain which started in Slovenia on Tuesday while four are missing, the country's Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief said on Wednesday.

"What we know now is that two are dead and four are missing but rescue teams have not yet made it to villages high in the hills because the roads are blocked so we do not know what happened there," spokesman Bojan Kuntaric told Reuters. He said that conditions in the northwest and northeast parts of the country that were affected were now improving.—MNA/Reuters



A miniature model of the China-developed Flying Leopard fighter-bomber FBC-1 is on display at the 12th Aviation Expo in Beijing, which opened on 19 Sept, 2007. —INTERNET

China confirms bird flu outbreak in Guangzhou

BEIJING, 19 Sept—China’s Ministry of Agriculture on Monday confirmed a bird flu outbreak in South China’s Guangzhou, which began with the mass deaths of ducks on 5 September. The outbreak was confirmed as a sub-type of H5N1 bird flu by the National Avian Influenza Reference Laboratory, according to the ministry. It said 36,130 ducks had been culled as of 17

September, after farmers in Sixian Village and Xinzao Township in the Panyu District of Guangzhou reported the deaths of their ducks on 5 September. The Agriculture Ministry and the Guangdong provincial government immediately implemented an emergency plan to deal with the outbreak and the ministry said the outbreak has been brought under control. It also said no further

deaths of fowl have been reported in the Panyu District or nearby areas. The last reported case of H5N1 bird flu in China occurred on 19 May at Shijiping Village in Yiyang City of Hunan Province, which killed more than 11,000 poultry with another 52,800 birds culled. China has reported a total of 25 human cases of bird flu since 2003, which have resulted in 16 deaths. MNA/Xinhua

Singapore reports eight death from dengue disease

SINGAPORE, 19 Sept—Singapore’s Health Ministry on Tuesday confirmed a 60-year-old woman died from dengue disease last week, the eighth death from the disease in the country this year. According to the Health Ministry, the housewife had fever and body ache on 9 September, then consulted a general practitioner and was given medication. After her fever subsided for two days, she became unwell again on 12 September and was admitted to National University Hospital for giddiness and abdominal discomfort. Tests showed that she had dengue, then her condition deteriorated rapidly and she died on last Saturday from Dengue

Shock Syndrome. Dengue is caused by four closely related viruses and is spread by the Aedes mosquito, which breeds in

still water. Its symptoms include high fever, nausea, rashes, backache and headache. MNA/Xinhua



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British all-business class airline to launch London-Dubai service

ABU DHABI, 19 Sept—Silverjet, a British all-business class airline, will launch a new service linking London and Dubai on a daily basis from 19 November, local newspaper *Gulf News* reported on Tuesday. The service will be operated by a converted *Boeing 767* aircraft with 100 business class seats instead of its usual 300 seats, and passengers will be offered 30-minute

check-ins at private terminals, pre-ordered gourmet meals and chauffeur services, according to the report. Dubai is the second international destination of Silverjet, which launched its first route to New York in January. “We chose Dubai because this region is growing very rapidly, with growth at about 20 per cent per annum,” the airline’s CEO Lawrence Hunt was quoted as saying.

“We also think the region is perfect for our market with a mix of business and leisure travellers who will be attracted to our private jet experience,” he said. Silverjet was also keen to set up a second hub in Dubai, which would allow it to continue on to further destinations including South Africa, India, Southeast Asia and even the United States, he added.—MNA/Xinhua



Women, dressed as maids, hand out flyers for video games on the opening day of the Tokyo Game Show in Chiba, Japan on 20 Sept, 2007. —INTERNET

Antibiotic, drug mix shortens TB treatment time

BEIJING, 19 Sept—Researchers have discovered that adding an antibiotic to the usual tuberculosis drugs produced results that could lead to successfully treating the contagious lung disease in a few months rather than the six months currently needed. Adding the antibiotic moxifloxacin shortened the time to cure to an estimated four months in a study in Brazil, Johns Hopkins University scientists reported Tuesday at an American Society for Microbiology conference in Chicago. A second study by Hopkins researchers cured mice of TB in 10 weeks instead of the usual six months with moxifloxacin plus the TB drug rifampentine at higher doses. “It sounds fantastic,” said Dr Melvin Spigelman, research and development

director for the nonprofit Global Alliance for TB Drug Development in New York. “The science is there” and just needs to be verified in larger studies, he said. Also on Tuesday, the Seattle-based Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced its largest grants ever to fight TB — 280 million US dollars for research on vaccines, diagnostics and drugs. “If everything goes well, it should be feasible to shorten treatment time,” possibly even to ultra-short regimens of two weeks to a month, said Ken Duncan, the foundation’s program director.

Internet

Wardah, a female leopard, holds up her one-month-old cub in a cage at Jordan Zoo, near Amman, in 27 Aug file photo. INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

British investors interested in pig rearing, bio-fuel in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 19 Sept — A group of British investors have expressed interest in cooperative investment in pig-rearing and jatropha growing in Cambodia, local media reported on Tuesday.

The investors showed their interest after visiting some agro-industrial farms in Sihanoukville Municipality and Koh Kong Province on Sunday, reported Cambodian-language newspaper the *Kampuchea Thmey*.

British Ambassador

David Reader said during the visit that he had brought two important British companies to observe the sites, operated by the Cambodian Mong Reththy Group. In the future many other UK firms will arrive in the kingdom to cooperate with the group for the development of the nation's agricultural and agro-industrial sectors.

Stephen J Curtis, the executive chairman of APMC, an East Yorkshire-based pig breeding

and pig genetics company, said that his company was interested in cooperating with the Mong Reththy Group as Cambodia has strong potential to provide favourable conditions for industrial-scale pig-rearing. Mong Reththy, director of the Mong Reththy Group, said that foreign investors seemed very keen on pig rearing and jatropha planting in Cambodia, and his company is ready to work with the foreign investors.

MNA/Xinhua



The Apple iPhone is displayed at the Apple store in central London, on 18 Sept, 2007. Deutsche Telekom's mobile phone division, T-Mobile, said on Wednesday it won a deal to sell Apple's iPhone and said the price would be 399 euros (\$558), as reported last week by Reuters. — INTERNET

Beijing Olympic "Bird's Nest" model on sale

BEIJING, 20 Sept — Nearly a hundred medium-sized metal scale models of the Olympic centerpiece were sold at an Olympic-licensed flag-store, as the products were launched on the market.

It all looked like collector's fiesta. A long queue of customers awaited the opening of the store on Wangfujing Street, the busiest commercial street of downtown Beijing.

One person said he had waited here all night since 11 pm Tuesday night.

Within no more than

one hour after the product was presented to the public, the products at the store were sold out.

"I am glad now that I have managed to lay hold of the first 'Bird' Nest' model. This model is very beautiful and of very high value for collectors," said a customer at the store,

who admits he's not a professional.

With a limited issue of 99,999, the models are gold- and tin-plated, outlining the detailed structures of the stadium, including the entrances and stairways, as well as the surrounding landscape.—Internet

Vietnam to invest \$7b in expanding Hanoi

HANOI, 19 Sept — Vietnam has planned to invest nearly 7.1 billion US dollars in expanding its capital city by building a large residential and administrative area at the Red River's banks in 2008, local newspaper *Pioneer* reported Tuesday.

Of the investment, over 3.6 billion dollars will be poured into housing development, more than 1.9 billion dollars into infrastructure construction, and nearly 1.6 billion dollars into compensation and resettlement.

The construction is expected to be completed in 2020. Vietnam is seeking funds, both at home and abroad for the project. — MNA/Xinhua

Britain pledges \$8m for peace process in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 20 Sept— Britain has pledged eight million US dollars to support Nepal's fragile peace process.

The visiting International Development Minister for Asian Affairs Shahid Malik extended the assistance during his meeting with Nepali Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala Wednesday morning.

After the meeting, Koirala's foreign affairs adviser Suresh Raj Chalise said the pledged amount will be mobilized through the Peace Fund set up by the government to support the peace process.

According to the advisor, Malik had dubbed the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) move to quit the eight-party government as "unfortunate" and hoped that the political parties would soon reach a new agreement in a few days. Malik said that he was disappointed by the Maoists' move. — MNA/Xinhua



Chinese team stand on the podium during the awarding ceremony of the women's team at the 18th Asian Table Tennis Championships in Yangzhou, a city of east China's Jiangsu Province on 19 Sept, 2007. China won by 3-0 against Singapore and claimed the title of the event. —XINHUA

S Korea, India agree to conclude talks on trade within 2007

SEOUL, 19 Sept — South Korea and India agreed on Monday to conclude negotiations for a trade agreement within this year, the South Korean Foreign Ministry announced.

The ministry made the announcement after a meeting between South Korean Foreign Minister Song Min-soon and visiting Indian Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee.

The ministers expressed "their desire to conclude the negotiations by the end of 2007," the ministry said in a news release.

"The two ministers noted with satisfaction that bilateral relations have gained new momentum following the establishment of a Long-term Cooperative Partnership for Peace and Prosperity," the ministry said.

The two ministers also expressed confidence that a trade target of 10 billion US dollars could be achieved before 2008, it said. Seoul and New Delhi have been working to sign a comprehensive economic partnership agreement, which is roughly the equivalent of a free trade agreement, local media said.— MNA/Xinhua



Residents watch a oil pipeline as it burns after a bomb attack in Baiji, 180 km (112 miles) north of Baghdad on 18 Sept, 2007. —INTERNET



Photo shows a lake in Kumutage desert on 18 Sept, 2007, in the adjacent region of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region of China. It is rare to see lake and sand coexist in a drought-stricken area like Kumutage.—INTERNET

Beijing starts compulsory urine tests to keep drug addicts clean

BEIJING, 19 Sept—Convicted drug takers in Beijing are to be subjected to compulsory urine tests to ensure they remain clean of illegal narcotics, the municipal drug control committee has announced.

Those who test positive will be ordered to seek treatment at community-based rehabilitation centres and assigned to a social worker who will monitor their progress in kicking their habits, said committee deputy director Shi Dawei.

The new stricter measures are part of a campaign, running till the end of the year, to stop the spread of illicit drugs in the city.

“Drug takers who voluntarily decide to kick the habit should register their real names with the police if they wish to have

methadone treatment, and new treatment centres are to be built,” said Shi, who declined to give exact figures for drug users in the capital or for new methadone clinics to be added.

Beijing has been striving since last year to progressively rid entertainment venues, such as karaoke rooms, public places and all communities of drugs, but with limited success.

In late May, city police launched a drive titled “Wind and Thunder Sweeping Narcotics”.

MNA/Xinhua



Russia’s Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov (R) walks with his French counterpart Bernard Kouchner during their meeting in Moscow, on 18 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

Giant panda twins born in southwest China

CHENGDU, 19 Sept—A new pair of giant pandas have been born in southwest China’s Sichuan Province, a local panda research centre said on Monday.

The cubs, born on Friday, had survived the critical first three days after birth, said Li Desheng, deputy director of the Research Centre of the Sichuan-based Wolong Nature Reserve for Giant Pandas.

Eight-year-old “Ye Ye” first gave birth to a female cub weighing 150 grammes at the research centre and then a male

weighing 146 grammes, said Li.

Researchers were giving “Ye Ye” breaks in caring for the cubs, and mother and cubs were in good health.

China has seen 24 giant panda births in captivity in 15 deliveries so far this year, including nine twins, and 23 have survived.

“It was a pleasant surprise to see so many pandas born this year,” said Zhang Zhihe, director with the China Committee of Breeding Technique for Giant Pandas.

“That’s due to the hard work of Chinese re-

searchers, who have developed quite mature skills in artificial insemination.”

Experts say both artificial insemination and natural mating are usually used at the same time to help female pandas become pregnant, as the endangered animal only gives birth once a year, each time to one or two cubs, while pandas bred in captivity are even less sexually active.

China has been breeding giant pandas artificially since the 1960s.

Last year, the country saw 33 born in captivity in

21 deliveries, 30 of which survived, setting a record.

MNA/Xinhua

US Air Force sets up provisional command for cyberspace war

WASHINGTON, 19 Sept—US Air Force announced Tuesday the establishment of a cyber command to prepare for war in cyberspace.

Air Force Secretary Michael Wynne made the announcement at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana, where the provisional headquarters of the cyber command lies.

“Another threat we must manage centres on our newest threat: cyberspace,” he also briefly talked about the new command when

attending the Air Force’s 60-anniversary ceremony at the Pentagon on Tuesday, “we are standing up a new command”.

Air Force officials said that within a year after the provisional command is set up, the first major command for cyber-warfare operations will be created.

The US 8th Air Force, whose headquarters is at Barksdale base in Bossier city, currently conducts

day-to-day cyber operations.

Despite the competition with some other Air Force bases for the permanent headquarters of the cyber command, Bossier City Mayor and a retired Air Force officer Lo Walker expressed his confidence in an interview with a local TV, saying that it is unusual for the military to change a provisional command.

MNA/Xinhua

Indian telecom regulator urges subsidy for broadband services

NEW DELHI, 19 Sept—Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Monday called for subsidizing broadband services, saying the present policy has failed to spur growth.

The telecom regulator sought the industry’s response to its new draft suggestions on broadband, saying a universal service obligation (USO) fund should be offered as subsidy for providing high speed Internet services through satellite in remote and hilly areas, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Monday.

The USO fund is made up of contribution from telecom firms and is used for supporting companies that provide services in less lucrative rural markets, said the report.

Until July, India has 2.47 million broadband connections, but the country targets the 20-million mark by 2010.

In a statement, TRAI said growth has remained below expectations despite a range of initiatives in India’s telecom sector. — MNA/Xinhua

A model displays an outfit by Roberto Torretta during the Spring/Summer 2007-08 Pasarela Cibeles fashion show in Madrid on 18 Sept, 2007.

INTERNET



Bridges contribute to national economic growth

Ko Arkar

The government has been building roads and bridges the length and breadth of the country. Smooth transport serves as an engine for regional development. Building roads and bridges helps foster relations and unity of local people.

Owing to the transport facilities the government has constructed, the people now can travel directly from one region to another with comfort and convenience. In the past, Myanmar had the one and only river-crossing major bridge: the Sagaing Bridge spanning the Ayeyawady River. After 1988, the government built river-crossing bridges such as Bala Min Htin Bridge, Yadanabon Bridge, Anawrahta Bridge, Nawaday Bridge and Bo Myat Tun Bridge on the Ayeyawady River, and Hpa-an Bridge and Tarkaw-at Bridge on Thanlwin River.

In addition to such large bridges that make significant contribution towards the interest of the people, the government is building medium and small bridges wherever necessary across the country with the aims of ensuring smooth transport of the regions that are not easily accessible yet, swift commodity flow through better transport of local goods, raising the living standard of local people through extensive business, trade and productivity, and promotion of the education, health and social sectors.

The large bridges have linked the regions that are divided by Chindwin, Ayeyawady and Shweli rivers. Thanks to the seven Ayeyawady River-crossing bridges, two Chindwin River-crossing bridges and five Thanlwin River-crossing bridges, the regions on the eastern bank of Shweli River, on the western bank of Ayeyawady River, and on the western bank of Chindwin River that lagged behind other regions in development, are now enjoying unprecedented development. Moreover, such large bridges have helped restore stability and peace and create good foundations for national and regional development.

In order to link the Union highways between the southern part and northern part of Myanmar, the

Implementing one of the five rural development tasks “to improve transport” helps create a situation in which the people can travel and transport goods to any regions in the nation at any time with convenience.

government built a large number of river and creek-crossing bridges including Thanlwin River-spanning Mawlamyine Bridge that is the longest of its kind in Myanmar, and river and creek-spanning bridges in Taninthayi Division.

Although the government is dedicating itself to national development undertakings, internal and external saboteurs are blocking the nation-building tasks on purpose. Anyhow, with the capabilities of national engineers and experts, the government managed to build these river and creek-crossing bridges without any foreign assistance. That has depicted the national vigor of the people.

In this regard, the government invested heavily with a view to improving the living conditions of local people, and ensuring equitable development of all parts of the Union.

In its bid to improve the transport sector necessary for regional development, the government had to surmount natural barriers such as Ayeyawady, Chindwin, Thanlyin and Sittoung rivers and Rakhine Yoma, Bago Yoma and West Yoma mountain ranges. It completed the projects with tenacity for national and regional development in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State who said, **“We have to work hard to ensure equitable development of all regions of the Union and to reduce the development gap between one region and another as far as we can. We also have to apply all possible ways to develop the regions that still lag behind in development. It will be possible for our Union to be perpetual only**

if all parts of the Union enjoy parallel development”.

Between 1988 and July 2007, the government built 207 bridges, 180 feet and above long. These bridges include Dunban Bridge in Phakant Township in Kachin State, Maubin Bridge with more than 180 feet in length on Ayeyawady River, and 3612-foot Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge on Myeik-Dawei Road near Myeik in Taninthayi Division in lower part of Myanmar. Therefore, people can travel from one place to another throughout the nation with convenience in a short time and commodity flow has become swifter and local people have enjoyed social improvement and economic growth.

The number of 207 large bridges is exclusive of eleven bridges by Tatmadaw members, seven bridges by Myanma Railways and two bridges by the Ministry of Electric Power. The total number of bridges therefore stands at 227.

The government, in its drive to build a network of transport facilities covering the whole nation, constructed 1834 bridges between 20 feet and 100 feet long and 240 bridges between 100 feet and 180 feet long, thereby giving priority to regional development and raising the standard of living of local national races. In other words, it got rid of all natural barriers to dealings and relations between one region and another.

Now, many projects for building bridges, large, medium and small, are being implemented across the nation.

Previously, waterways were common means of transport in many regions. Unlike that, now local people in these regions can travel from one region to another by car. That is, indeed, a sign of rapid development of the nation.

Implementing one of the five rural development tasks “to improve transport” helps create a situation in which the people can travel and transport goods to any regions in the nation at any time with convenience. So, the government is working hard to ensure smooth transport to achieve national economic growth and social and economic development of the people.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin: 20-9-2007



Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge constructed by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.

Health care services provided, sanitation tasks carried out at monasteries

YANGON, 20 Sept — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa visited Chaukhtatkyi Phayakya-taik on Shwegondine Street in Bahan Township this morning.

At Chaukhtatkyi Phayakya-taik, they gave encouragement to those who were participating in health care services provided to members of the Sangha, sanitation and using insecticide, organized by Yangon West District and Bahan Township Union Solidarity and Development Association.

First, the Mayor and Vice-Mayor paid homage to Presiding Sayadaw of



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa view provision of health care for novices of Chaukhtatkyi monastery in Bahan Township.— YCDC

Chaukhtatkyi Phayakya-taik Monasteries Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Suriya and Sayadaws.

Next, the Mayor and party supervised health care services provided to members of the Sangha, sanitation and

using insecticide at the monasteries of Chaukhtatkyi Phayakya-taik.

MNA

Deputy Minister arrives back from DPRK

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept — Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar U Kyaw Thu arrived back here by air this morning after paying a goodwill visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from 13 to 18 September at the invitation of Mr Kim Yong Il, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Member of the delegation U San Lwin, Director of Political Department and U Kyaw Soe, Deputy Director of Minister's office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also arrived back together with the Deputy Minister.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu and party arrived at Pyongyang on 13 September and were welcomed by Vice-Minister Mr Kim Yong Il and responsible officials at Pyongyang International Airport.

On 14 September, the deputy minister held the first bilateral consultation meeting with Vice-Minister Mr Kim Yong Il



on matters related to bilateral relations and cooperation. After the meeting, the two deputy ministers signed the agreement on consultation between the ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and the DPRK.

On 17 September, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu called on President Mr Kim Yong Nam of the Supreme People's Assembly and also on Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Pak Ui Chun at Mansudae Assembly Hall during the visit.

MNA

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and President Mr Kim Yong Nam of the Supreme People's Assembly pose for a documentary photo.— FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Cash donated to construction of MANA (HO)

YANGON, 20 Sept — Wellwishers are donating cash to the funds for construction of Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (Head Office).

Managing Director of System Engineering Co Ltd U Kyaw Kyaw Soe donated K 25 million to the construction of MANA (HO) to Chairman U San Thein of MANA on 17 September.

About 50 per cent of the building has been completed. Those wishing to donate cash can contact MANA, Room No 101/102, Building-3 in Myaing Hay Wun Housing Complex on Kyaikwaing Pagoda road, Mayangon Township, Tel: 01- 667270.—MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe opens 23rd Defence Services...

(from page 1)

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe took the salute of the football teams.

After the opening ceremony, the Camp Commandant's Office of the Ministry of Defence team and Eastern Command team ended in a goalless draw.

The first round matches will be held for the group (A) in Mawlamyine, for the group (B) in Patheingyi, for the group (C) in Monywa, for the group (D) in Mandalay and for the group (E) in Tounghay from 24 September to 3 October. — MNA

No wish to stand as NLD members 23 members resign from NLD

YANGON, 20 Sept — Three members U Hlaing Kyu, U Myint Aung and U Maung Maung Aye of Thayetchaung village of Taikkyi Township National League for Democracy of Yangon Division and 20 members including U Kaung Oo, U Kyar Thaw, U Thein Zaw, U Win Naung and U Tun Tun Oo of Sagaing Township NLD of Sagaing Division resigned from the party of their own volition on 20 September, sending their resignation letters to NLD Headquarters and local authorities.

In their resignation letters sent to Taikkyi and Sagaing Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommissions, they said that they no longer wished to stand as members. That was why they resigned from the party of their own volition, they said. — MNA

MRCS opens Health Forum

YANGON, 20 Sept — The opening ceremony of the health forum of Myanmar Red Cross Society and its partners was held at Dusit Inya Lake Resort here today.

Also present on the occasion were officials of Health Department under the Ministry of Health, representatives of MRCS, IFRC, ICRC, DRCSRC, WHO, UNICEF, Burnet Institute and UNFPA.

First, President of MRCS Dr Tha Hla Shwe extended greetings and Head of Delegation of IFRC in Myanmar Ms Bridget Gardner urged the representatives to participate in the forum with frank discussions.

Afterwards, the representatives posed for documentary photos. At the forum, Dr Tun Aung Shwe of Development and Coordination Unit of MRCS explained Myanmar Red Cross Society's strategic plan 2007-2010 and Dr Saw Ni Tun, Head of Health Division of MRCS, project programme and experiences.

The representatives discussed preventive measures against HIV, AIDS, malaria, consumption of clean water, reproduction, fight against TB in the townships of states and divisions. The forum continues tomorrow.—MNA

Mine blast injures one in Htantabin Township

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept — U Tin Soe of Bomati Village of Htantabin Township in Bago Division had his right foot blown off on his way back to the village in Thandaung Township after stepping on a mine planted by insurgents on 18 September.

The injured was rushed to Zayetkyi Station Hospital. — MNA

MWAF marks Nutrition Week



Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay of MWAF speaking at ceremony to mark Nutrition Week 2007 of MWAF. — MNA

YANGON, 20 Sept—Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation organized a ceremony to mark Nutrition Week 2007 at MWAF on Thanlwin Street here today.

Vice-President of MWAF Daw Khin Thet Htay and executives, Vice-President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and executives, members of patron of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization, the officials of the

Health Department, representatives of UN agencies and others were present on the occasion.

First, Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay delivered an address. Assistant Director Dr Daw Aye Aye Thaw briefed on tasks of nutrition development.

Afterwards, the officials of the Health Department gave educative talks on nutrition development.—MNA

Clothes donated to MCD Maternal and Child Welfare Association

YANGON, 17 Sept—Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee donated clothes to the Maternal and Child Welfare Association of the Myanmar Correctional Department at the department in Insein Township this morning.

Chairperson of the committee Daw Mar Mar Wai made a speech and handed the clothes to the children of the female inmates and schoolchildren of the pre-primary school through Assistant Director of the department Daw Tin Tin Aye and schoolmistress Daw Khin Swe Win.

Chairperson of the association Daw Nwe Ni San submitted 87 permanent membership applications to Daw Mar Mar Wai.

After the ceremony, Daw Mar Mar Wai viewed the serving of nutritious cereals to the children and gave away clothes and gifts to them. She also presented food and gift to the schoolchildren at the pre-primary school.—MNA

Nations urge big powers to ratify atom test ban

VIENNA, 20 Sept—Nuclear test ban treaty members appealed to 10 major signatories including the United States and China on Tuesday to ratify the decade-old pact so it can take effect.

The 1996 Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty has been ratified by 140 countries in all, but 10 more must follow suit to transform the CTBT from an informal moratorium into a binding document.

"We strongly encourage such Annex 2 states to take individual initiatives to ratify the treaty," some 100 signatories attending a Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT said in a final declaration.

The CTBT lists in an annex 44 countries that have nuclear capabilities already. Of those, 34 have both signed and ratified the pact — including nuclear weapons powers Russia, Britain and France.

"Relevant international developments since the 2005 conference ... make entry into force of the treaty more urgent today than ever before," the declaration said.

Iran's nuclear energy programme is seen by the West as a disguised quest to build atom bombs, and North Korea has stealthily developed and tested nuclear devices after bolting from the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

MNA/Reuters

Prevention against DHF demonstrated at IE Practising High School

YANGON, 20 Sept — The Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Yangon City Development Committee jointly organized the demonstration on prevention against dengue hemorrhagic fever at Institute of Education Practising High School in Kamayut Township this morning.

It was attended by Head of Administration Department Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe of MWAF, Member of Secretariat Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin, Yangon Division Regional Organizer Daw Khin Nyunt Myaing, Bago Division Regional Organizer Daw Wai Wai Thin, Chairman of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization Daw Khin Myo Thu, Headmaster of



the school Dr Nanda Tun and officials.

Departmental officials reported on outbreak of DHF and a plan for sanitation.

The Head of Administration Department attended to the needs.

Later, Dr Daw Khin

Head of Administration Department Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe of MWAF puts fry fish into water tanks at Institute of Education Practising High School. — YCDC

Hsan Nwe and party viewed sanitation tasks being carried out in the compound of the school and distribution of pamphlets. — MNA

Ban urges implementation of work plan between Iran, IAEA

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Sept — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon encouraged Iran Tuesday to be fully cooperative and transparent to implement the work plan with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Addressing a Press

conference at the UN Headquarters in New York, Ban said "as a matter of principle, all the pending issues, whatever it may be, should be resolved through dialogue in a peaceful manner".

"That is a very important principle which

the United Nations is seeking," he emphasized. He encouraged Iran to be fully cooperative and transparent in dealing with the IAEA and to implement the work plan they have agreed with the IAEA.

MNA/Xinhua



Men in traditional costumes perform a flag dance before a buffalo fighting festival in Vietnam's northern Do Son resort town on 19 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

UN renews NATO troop mandate in Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Sept — The UN Security Council authorized NATO-led troops to stay in Afghanistan for another year on Wednesday and gave the Japanese Government support in its domestic dispute over refuelling American and other ships in the Indian Ocean.

The vote was 14-0 with Russia abstaining in the resolution that emphasized “the increased violent and terrorist activities by the Taleban, al-Qaeda, illegally armed groups and those involved in the narcotics trade.”

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) has close to 40,000 soldiers in Afghan to combat the country’s former Taleban rulers, toppled by US and Afghan forces in 2001.

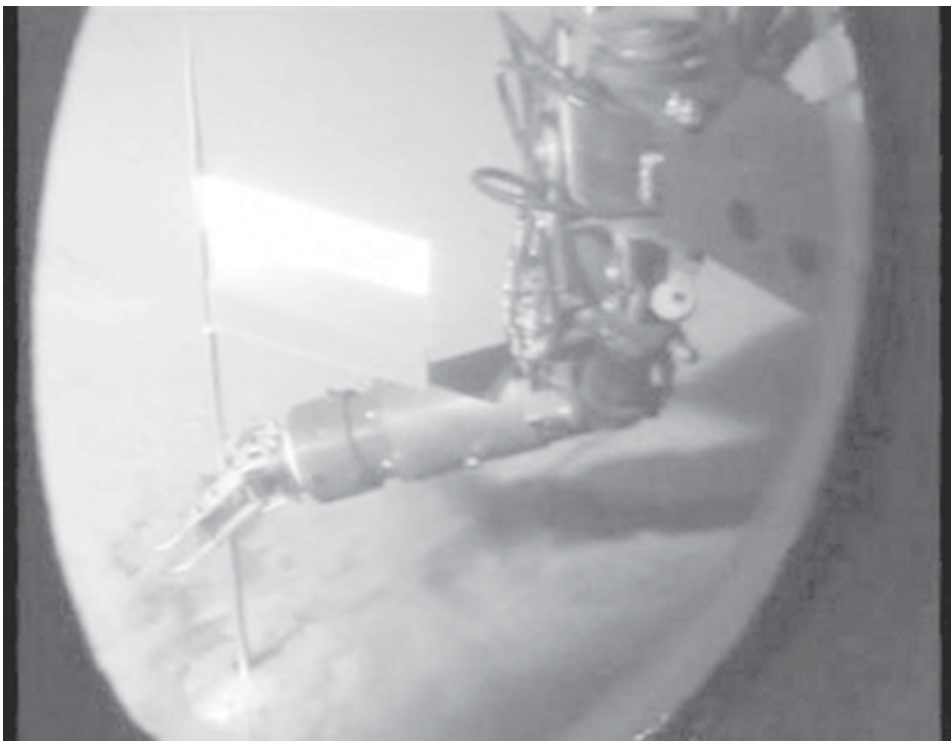
New in the resolution is a sentence expressing appreciation to NATO and contributions from many nations to ISAF, which includes Japan, “including its maritime interdiction component”.

The leader of Japan’s main opposition Democratic Party, Ichiro Ozawa, has opposed extending Japan’s mission to refuel coalition ships in the Indian Ocean, in part because he says the activities lack direct UN permission.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe abruptly announced his resignation last week after a troubled year in office, citing the confrontation over the naval mission as the main reason.

The Democrats and their opposition allies won control of Parliament’s Upper House in a July election and can delay legislation to extend the mission beyond a 1 November deadline.

MNA/Reuters



A video grab shows the view out of the porthole of a Russian miniature submarine as its robotic arm plants the Russian flag on the seabed 14,000 feet below the North Pole on 2 Aug, 2007.

INTERNET

Victims of Thailand’s plane crash to get \$130,000 compensation

BANGKOK, 20 Sept — The Victims of One-Two-Go flight that crashed at Thailand’s Phuket International Airport Sunday would receive compensation of 130,000 US dollars each.

The agreement was reached during Wednesday’s meeting between Thai Transport Minister Theera Haocharoen, Deputy Transport Minister Sansern Wongchaum, Transport Permanent Secretary Chaisawat Kittipornpaibul, Civil Aviation Department Director General Chaisak Angsuwan and One-Two-Go CEO Khajit Hapnanont.

Theera said at the Press conference after the meeting that the compensation figure was a result of One-Two-Go negotiation with the insurer.

He noted that for the injured passengers, the budget airline would initially handle compensations for all medical bills as well as expenses that their relatives shouldered while travelling down to Phuket.

Eighty-nine persons killed and 41 injured when One-Two-Go’s MD- 82 jet carrying 130 passengers and crew crashed at Phuket International Airport in bad weather late Sunday afternoon.

MNA/Xinhua

16 people appear in Dar-es-Salaam courts for banned plastic bags

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 20 Sept — Sixteen people have appeared in courts in Dar-es-Salaam for having violated Tanzania’s environmental regulations by importing or manufacturing banned plastic bags. The 16 people were detained last week during a government-led crackdown on people who were still defying the governmental ban on importing, manufacturing, selling and using plastic bags with a thickness of between 0.03 and 0.065 millimetres (30 and 65 microns).

Eight of the 16 detainees have already pleaded guilty to the

offense while the rest were remanded for further court hearings scheduled for later this week, Tuesday’s edition of the *ThisDay* newspaper reported.

The government of Tanzania announced in March last year the ban on plastic bags with a thickness between 0.03 and 0.065 millimetres and the ban was expected to take full effect by late October last year.

But local shops were found to be still using plastic bags of the banned thickness. The National Environment Management Council, a governmental agency, warned on Monday that it would conduct impromptu inspections around the country to nab producers and sellers of the banned plastic bags.

MNA/Xinhua



Members of the Australian circus ‘Circus Oz’ pose for photographers during a promotion event in Hong Kong on 18 Sept, 2007. The circus will start to perform in Hong Kong from 20 Sept. Circus Oz is credited with being the first contemporary circus in a now significant international industry. — INTERNET

Iraq sends first shipment of oil to Jordan

AMMAN, 20 Sept — Iraq has sent out the first shipment of oil to Jordan since the outbreak of the Iraqi war in 2003, Jordan’s official news agency *Petra* reported on Tuesday.

“The first shipment of Iraqi crude oil is currently on its way to Jordanian territory,” said *Petra*.

According to the report, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Al Maliki promised during a phone call with Jordanian Prime Minister Marouf Al Bakhit that Iraqi Government would provide Jordan with part of its oil needs in compliance with a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed

during the visit of Bakhit to Baghdad in August 2006.

Under the MoU, Iraq agreed to provide Jordan with between 10 and 30 per cent of its daily oil needs of around 100,000 barrels at preferential rates starting from September of last year.

MNA/Xinhua



On 15 September, locals investigate the carcass of a 75 foot long, approximately 75 ton blue whale which washed up on a Ventura, CA beach about a week after it died. Scientists suspect that its back was broken after an encounter with a cargo ship.— INTERNET

Iraqi PM urges US Embassy to hire new security company

BAGHDAD, 20 Sept — Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki on Wednesday urged the US Embassy to replace the private security company Blackwater with a new security company after its guards involved in a deadly shootout that killed nine Iraqis.

Maliki's remarks came a day after his Cabinet vowed to review the operations of the foreign and local security firms in Iraq after the US Embassy's security contractors opened fire in western Baghdad, killing nine civilians and wounding 15 others.

"This crime has

generated hatred and anger in the government and the people against the US company," Maliki said in a news conference.

"For the common interests, this company should freeze its activities and the US Embassy should hire a new company," he said.

The Prime Minister said, "This is not the first time for the company to commit such violation. The Interior Ministry has registered seven violations and these violations should be dealt with."

"We are not going to allow it to kill Iraqis in cold blood. Therefore, we have frozen all its activities and a joint committee has been formed to investigate the incident," he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Ten killed in ambush of ex-vice mayor in S Philippines

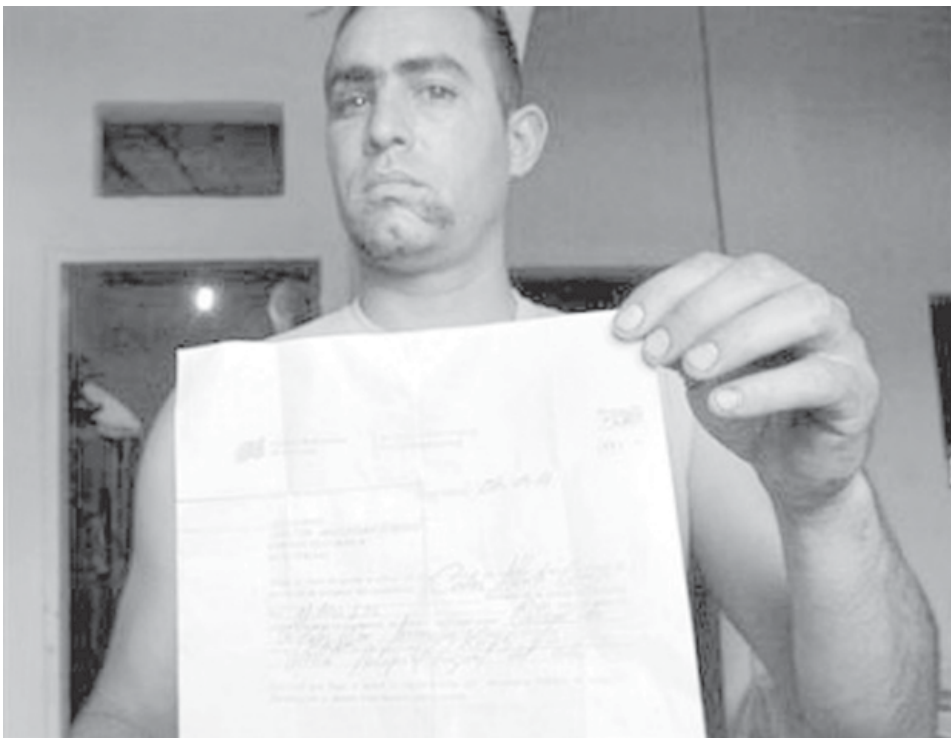
MANILA, 20 Sept — Ten people were killed when 10 gunmen ambushed and fired at the convoy of a former vice mayor in North Cotabato province in southern part of the Philippines at 10 am, Wednesday morning, local news network reported.

Norodin Matalam, former vice mayor in the neighbouring Maguindanao Province and his wife survived the ambush but the driver and two military escorts were killed, the website of the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* cited local official Colonel Pedro Soria as saying.

Seven of the attackers were also killed in the ensuing firefight with Matalam's other escorts, Soria said.

Soria, 602nd Infantry Brigade chief, said Matalam and his wife were in critical condition and were being treated at private hospital in North Cotabato.

MNA/Xinhua



Carlos Camejo, a Venezuelan man who had been declared dead but woke up in the morgue in excruciating pain after medical examiners began their autopsy, shows a document ordering the autopsy in La Victoria on 17 Sept, 2007. — INTERNET



Tomoji Tanabe, right, the world's oldest man, receives a bouquet of flowers from Miyakonojo Major Makoto Nagamine to celebrates his 112th birthday on 18 Sept, 2007 at his house in the southern Japanese city in Miyazaki prefecture, or state. Born on 18 Sept, 1895, Tanabe was named world's oldest male after the death of the Puerto Rican Emiliano Mercado Del Toro, who died aged 115 last January.

INTERNET

Sudan demands arrest of Amnesty chief

KHARTOUM, 20 Sept — Sudan has called for the arrest of the head of global rights watchdog Amnesty International, accusing it of spreading lies that several men accused of plotting a coup were tortured, state media reported.

Amnesty said in a report last week that eight men arrested on accusations of trying to overthrow the government had been beaten, suspended by their wrists and tortured in Khartoum's Kobar Prison. The government has denied reports of torture.

The state-controlled Sudanese Media Centre reported that the Sudanese

Justice Ministry had asked Interpol for an arrest warrant for the female "manager" of Amnesty. Other local media interpreted that to mean Amnesty Secretary-General Irene Khan.

Justice Minister Mohammed Ali al-Mardi told *Reuters* his ministry

was taking legal action against Amnesty. But he declined to go into details of specific charges or defendants.

"We are launching a criminal action against them. It is a criminal complaint against this organization for defamation of the judicial and

security organization of the country," he said.

"They are accused of influencing the course of justice and (spreading) untruthful information about the accused in this alleged coup. I cannot say any more," he added.

MNA/Reuters

Oil tanks explode in Durban, South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 20 Sept — Three oil tanks in South Africa's eastern port city of Durban exploded on Tuesday night, turning a coastal oil depot into a blazing inferno, South African media have reported.

There were no immediate reports of any injuries or fatalities after Durban's Island View oil depot on the south end of the harbour was rocked by the three explosions and subsequent fire at about 7 pm local time (1700 GMT).

National Ports Authority at Durban said it had received reports of a road tanker which had

caught alight at Island View 4, adjacent to the Bulk Connections site, the SAPA news agency reported.

An emergency response plan for the Island View Complex involving Durban Metro, National Ports Authority Fire and Emergency Services and Ambulance Services was immediately activated.

Despite the efforts to contain the blaze, the fire spread to three storage tanks in the Island View area.

These emergency services continued to fight the blaze on Tuesday night, public broadcaster

SABC reported.

Hundreds of nearby residents have gathered in the streets to get a view of the blaze lighting up the night sky. Key personnel in the immediate vicinity of the Island View area had been evacuated.

"At this stage it is not known whether there have been any injuries or casualties," the National Ports Authority said. "At the time of this release there were no casualties reported."

It was believed that two of the tanks that exploded contained solvent and the third lubricant oil.

MNA/Xinhua

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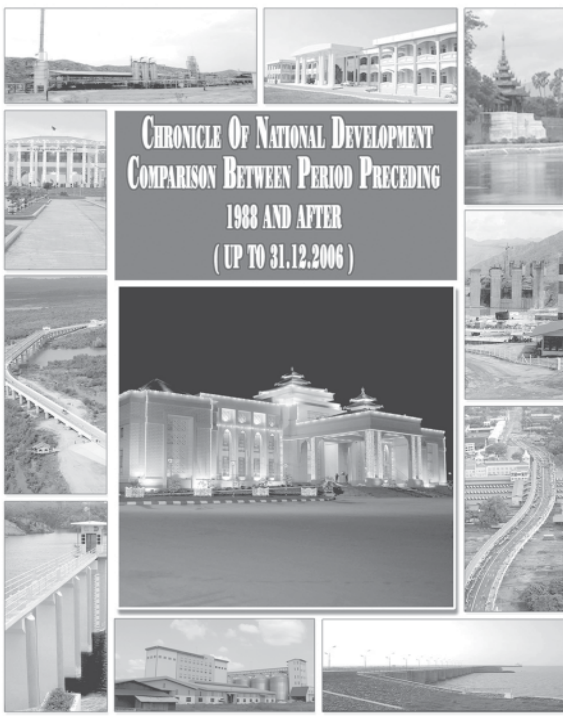
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Dated: 21 September 2007



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TENDER NO. (IFB No. CCS-04-07)

Sale of an estimated (4,000 metric tones) of copper cathode from MICCL S&K Mine site in Monywa, Myanmar.

CLOSING DATE:

15th October 2007

Tender documents are available at the following address or can be accessed at www.miccl.com.mm. Any queries can be done between 10 am to 4pm at MICCL Yangon office before the tender closing date.

Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper Company Limited

70(I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township

Yangon, Myanmar (Tel: (95) 1-514194 to 7/ Fax: (95) 1 514208/ Email: miccl@miccl.com.mm)

Singapore stops missile parts shipment to Iran

SINGAPORE, 19 Sept—A Singapore-based cargo forwarding company has been fined 22,000 Singapore dollars (14,500 US dollars) for trying to export missile parts to Iran

without permission, the *Straits Times* reported on Wednesday, quoting Singapore Customs.

A Singapore Customs spokesman Victor Seah told the paper that the parts, worth 13,599 Singapore dollars, had arrived in Singapore from Switzerland and were being shipped to a destination in Iran.

The spokesman said that the company, World Freight Pte Ltd, had pleaded guilty.

The paper said officers of the Singapore Customs intercepted a consignment of "controlled military electronic connectors"—electronic parts meant for missiles. Under the Strategic Goods (Control) Act, companies must get specific permission when they export or trans-ship certain types of "strategic goods", the paper said.

MNA/Reuters

DRIVE WITH CARE

53 of 89 Phuket air crash victims' bodies identified

BANGKOK, 19 Sept—Of the 89 bodies retrieved after a passenger plane crashed at Phuket international Airport Sunday, 53 have been identified while three persons injured in the accident remain in critical condition, local Press said.

The air crash killed 89 of the 130 persons listed onboard. Police forensic officials have so far identified all 32 bodies of Thai nationals, but only 21 of the 57 bodies believed to be foreign nationalities, said Police Major-General Sanyan Chayanon, deputy commissioner of the provincial police in southern region, according to *Thai News Agency*.

Police said they are awaiting evidence from the relatives of the remaining 36 corpses. Forensic officials have collected fingerprints, dental records, and DNA

samples from the bodies, which have been kept in refrigerated containers at Phuket Airport.

Relatives of the Thai victims had been allowed to reclaim the bodies of their beloved.

Meanwhile, Public Health Minister Mongkol Na Songkhla, after visiting the 41 injured victims at hospitals in Phuket, disclosed that out of 41 survivors in hospital, 38 people are in stable condition while three others remain in critical condition.

The minister expected most of the survivors would be able to return home within the next two weeks. He said public health staff are successfully providing medical treatment to all victims wounded in Sunday's disaster. There have been no further fatalities reported.

MNA/Xinhua

Police seize 400 kilos of caffeine in China's Inner Mongolia

HOHHOT, 19 Sept—Police have seized 400 kilos of caffeine and arrested a suspect in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

The drug-control police of Inner Mongolia's Urad Middle Banner were tipped off in late August that Liu Sanhuan, a resident from the banner's Shihah Town-ship, was selling caffeine, which is listed as a highly controlled narcotic in China, a police spokesman said on Monday.

Police arrested Liu and seized 400 kilos of caffeine on Sunday after an undercover investigation which lasted nearly a month, the spokesman said.

Liu confessed that he had bought 500 kilos of caffeine between the end of July and early August from a drug trafficker in neighbouring Shanxi Province, and he had sold 100 kilos before he was caught.—MNA/Xinhua

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Typhoon "Wipha" lands in east China

HANGZHOU, 20 Sept— One person was killed and three others injured in east China's Zhejiang Province as Typhoon Wipha made landfall on Wednesday morning, according to local sources.

Xiong Zhengjia, 29, a worker from central China's Hubei Province, was killed when his house in Jishi Village, of southern Zhejiang's Wenzhou City, collapsed at about 2:00 am on Wednesday.

Three people have been taken to hospital.

Wipha hit Cangnan County, Wenzhou, at 2:30 am, destroying 669 houses, disrupting power supplies to 1,867 villages, affecting about five million people and resulting in direct economic losses of 2.9 billion yuan (38 million US dollars).

Cangnan, where Typhoon Saomai left 153 people dead last year, saw a total of 129,978 people evacuated on the eve of Wipha's landfall.

Schools in eight of the Zhejiang's 11 cities closed on Wednesday.

Downpours continued in the province, which has received an average of 102.9 millimetres of rainfall by 6:00 am.

MNA/Xinhua

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IBM to offer free office software, targeting Microsoft

BEIJING, 19 Sept — IBM Corp is to start offering free programmes for word processing, spreadsheets and presentations, in another bid to upset the dominance of Microsoft's Office suite, media reported Tuesday.

The company was scheduled to announce the desktop software, called IBM Lotus Symphony, at an event Tuesday.

The name for the suite is the same name IBM used for its first integrated productivity suite, which

it offered in the 1980s but which never took off with customers.

Mike Rhodin, general manager of Lotus Software for the IBM Software Group, said the company brought back the name to "herald in a new age" of productivity software. The programs will be available as free down-loads from the IBM Web site.

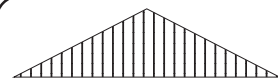
IBM's Lotus-branded proprietary programs already compete with Microsoft products for e-

mail, messaging and work group collaboration. But the Symphony software is a free alternative to Microsoft's mainstay Office programs -- Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

The Office business is huge and lucrative for Microsoft, second only to its Windows operating system as a profit maker.

Microsoft's Office suite of products already faces some competition from Google Inc's online tools, called Google Apps.

Internet



Ray Romano

presents the 59th

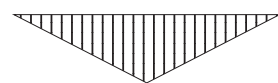
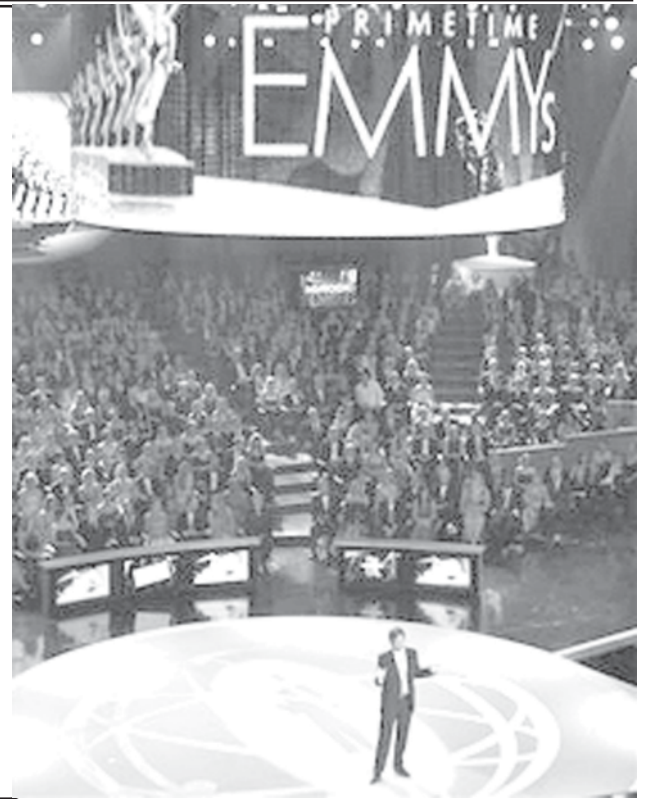
Primetime Emmy

Awards in Los

Angeles, California

on 16 Sept, 2007.

INTERNET



Deadly amoebas lurk in Florida lakes

BEIJING, 19 Sept—The Marion County Health Department and the Florida Department of Health are urging citizens to take extra precautions in and around lakes in Orlando, Florida, after a single cell amoeba claimed the lives of three boys this summer.

The amoeba, naegleria fowleri, which can expose to the human brain through the nose, is almost always

fatal.

It is commonly found in the bottom of freshwater in lakes and ponds.

The amoeba infection is very rare. The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, has documented only 24 cases in the United States since 1989. People exposed to the amoeba suffer from flu-like symptoms at the first period, including headache, fever, nausea,

vomiting and so on. Very quickly, in from one to 14 days, the symptoms worsen. Patients may experience stiff neck, seizures, hallucinations, and loss of balance and bodily control, all of which finally lead to the actual death of parts of the brain.

Exposure to the amoeba can be detected by an MRI and it can be treated with antibiotics if caught early enough, but most medical personnel are not in the habit of looking for the disease.

Internet



A model displays an outfit by Christopher Kane at London Fashion Week in the West End area of London, on 17 Sept. Running from the 15th until the 20th of September, this year's event has made the news due to concern over using models under the age of sixteen as well as the ongoing health issues surrounding "Size Zero" models.

INTERNET

China launches third Sino-Brazilian earth resources satellite

TAIYUAN, 19 Sept — China launched the third earth resources satellite jointly developed by China and Brazil to take high-definition photographs of the earth's surface on Wednesday morning.

The satellite, named 02B, was launched on a Chinese Long March-4B carrier rocket which blasted off at 11:26 am (Beijing Time) from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in north China's Shanxi Province.

The satellite separated from the rocket 12 minutes after lift-off, entering its preset sun-synchronous orbit, at a perigee of 738 kilometres and an apogee of 750 kilometres.

The 1,452-kilogramme satellite with a designed life span of two years, will gather resources information and send images to China, Brazil and other countries, for use in agricultural production, environmental protection, city planning and land resources surveys.—Internet



A decommissioned, formerly top-secret A-12 aircraft, sits in the parking lot of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Headquarters in Langley, Virginia, on 19 Sept, 2007 during the presentation ceremony of it to the CIA.

XINHUA

US to study heart risks of attention-deficit drugs

WASHINGTON, 19 Sept — Two US health agencies will conduct the largest-ever study of potential heart risks from medicines used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), officials said on Monday.

The US Food and Drug Administration said it will collaborate with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to examine clinical data of about 500,000 children and adults who have taken ADHD drugs, which include Novartis AG's Ritalin and Shire Plc's Adderall.

The analysis, expected

to take about two years, will include all drugs currently marketed for treating ADHD. Millions of people take the medicines.

Because the drugs can increase heart rate and blood pressure, there are concerns they may raise the risk of heart attacks, strokes or other cardiovascular problems.

"Case reports have described adverse cardiovascular events in adult and pediatric patients with certain underlying risk factors who receive drug treatment for ADHD, but it is unknown whether or not these events are causally

related to treatment. The goal of this study is to develop better information on this question," said Dr Gerald Dal Pan, director of the FDA's Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, in a statement.

In recent years, the FDA has been criticized as being slow to respond to signs of serious side effects with prescription drugs after they reach the market, most notably Merck & Co Inc's withdrawn arthritis drug Vioxx. Merck pulled Vioxx from the market in 2004 after research found it doubled heart attack and stroke risk.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Ronaldo heads Man Utd to 1-0 win at Sporting

LISBON, 20 Sept — Cristiano Ronaldo headed Manchester United to a 1-0 win against his former club Sporting Lisbon in their opening Champions League Group F match on Wednesday.

Closely marked in the first half, the Portuguese international wingershock off his former teammates in the 62nd minute to score with a diving header off a Wes Brown cross from the right. Ronaldo gestured to Sporting fans in a sign of forgiveness after his first goal in Alvalade stadium since he signed for United in 2003.

Sporting had two big chances to score but United goalkeeper Edwin Van der Sar made two spectacular saves for the English champions that prevented the Lisbon side

from equalizing.

"I think that both of Van der Sar's saves reflect Sporting's good offensive game, especially in the first half... but we finally managed to loosen our game and became dominant," said Fergur-son's assistant Carlos Queiroz, a former Sporting coach.

MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's Robin Van Persie (R) scores against Sevilla's Andres Palop during their Champions League Group H soccer match at the Emirates Stadium in London on 19 Sept, 2007. —INTERNET

Totti helps Roma to 2-0 win over Dynamo Kiev

ROME, 20 Sept — Goals from Simone Perrotta and Francesco Totti handed Serie A leaders AS Roma a confident start to their Champions League campaign with a 2-0 win over Group F rivals Dynamo Kiev on Wednesday.

Italy midfielder Perrotta sneaked in behind the Dynamo defence to head in a Max Tonetto cross and put the home side in front in the ninth minute.

Totti broke free from some tight marking 25 minutes into the second half to double the advantage with a diagonal right-footed shot.

Roma's 100th victory in European competition maintains their 100 per cent record, after they won their first three Serie A games and beat Inter Milan in the Italian Super Cup last month.

"My players did well all match. They were convinced they could win and controlled the game almost all the time," Roma coach Luciano Spalletti told a news conference.

"They did what they know how to do and played at pace. It was a beautiful match".

The home side played with authority after taking the lead and had few problems fending off the

Rosenborg ride luck to hold dominant Chelsea

LONDON, 19 Sept — Norwegians Rosenborg Trondheim escaped from Stamford Bridge with an unlikely point after battling to a 1-1 draw against a dominant Chelsea in Champions League Group B on Tuesday.

Rosenborg arrived with only one win from 19 Champions League matches but went ahead against the run of play after 24 minutes when Fin-

land defender Miika Koppinen got the final touch to an inswinging free kick.

Chelsea, without the injured Frank Lampard, Didier Drogba and Ricardo Carvalho, had more than 20 scoring chances but converted only one when Andriy Shevchenko headed home a Florent Malouda centre after 53 minutes. It was his 60th goal in European club competition, taking him within two of Gerd Mueller's all-time record.

The Londoners, beaten only by Barcelona in their last 21 home Champions League matches, pressed from the start as the match quickly settled into a pattern of Chelsea attacking and Rosenborg furiously defending. However, the visitors took the lead when Koppinen stole in ahead of captain John Terry to meet a free kick, acrobatically sticking a leg out to direct the ball into the back of Petr Cech's net.

MNA/Reuters



Chelsea's Andriy Shevchenko (L) challenges Rosenborg's Miika Koppinen during their Champions League Group B soccer match at Stamford Bridge in London on 18 Sept, 2007. — INTERNET

Rangers beat Stuttgart in Champions opener

GLASGOW (Scotland), 20 Sept — Rangers came from behind to open their Champions League campaign with a thrilling 2-1 win over Stuttgart in Group E on Wednesday.

After a goalless first half, Stuttgart went ahead in the 56th minute. Rangers were temporarily reduced to 10 men with Barry Ferguson receiving treatment to a head knock when Marion Gomez converted a Sami Khedira cross.

Charlie Adam levelled six minutes later when he curled a shot into the far corner following an enterprising run by Alan Hutton. — MNA/Reuters

Slavia beat Steaua on Champions League debut

PRAGUE, 20 Sept — Goals from Zdenek Senkerik and Tijani Belaid gave Slavia Prague a 2-1 victory over Steaua Bucharest in their Group H Champions League debut on Wednesday.

Senkerik put the home side ahead after 13 minutes, pouncing on the loose ball after forward Stanislav Vlcek's close-range shot was parried by goalkeeper Robinson Zapata.

Steaua levelled in the 33rd minute when defender Dorin Goian headed in from a corner but Belaid made it a winning start for Slavia in their first Champions League appearance with a shot from inside the box in the 63rd minute.

MNA/Reuters



Russia's Maria Kirilenko returns a shot to Russia's Ekaterina Ivanova during their second round match at the Sunfeast Open 2007 tennis tournament in Kolkata on 19 Sept, 2007. Kirilenko won the match 6-1 6-4. — INTERNET

DPRK qualify for quarterfinals despite losing to Sweden 2-1

TIANJIN (China), 19 Sept — Sweden struggled to edge North Korea 2-1 in their last group match at the Women's World Cup here on Tuesday but that was not enough for the European side to qualify from Group B.

North Korea, the former Asian champion, reached the quarterfinals by finishing second in the group following the United States, who defeated Nigeria 1-0 to top the group in the day's another match. — MNA/Xinhua

UN seeks aid to bolster health of displaced Iraqis

GENEVA, 20 Sept — Five United Nations agencies appealed to donors on Tuesday for 85 million US dollars to combat illness and malnutrition among more than two million Iraqis who have fled war and violence in their country.

The UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN children's agency UNICEF said the funds would be used to improve access to reproductive and child health care, as well as treatment for cancer patients, trauma victims and amputees.

Vaccination cover must also be reinforced in many cases, while unemployment and economic

woes among the displaced had caused rising malnutrition, the agencies said in a statement released in Geneva.

"The health needs of more than two million displaced Iraqis should not be ignored. Many are survivors of violence and have serious medical conditions," they said, stressing that Iraqis streaming into Syria, Jordan and other countries over the past year had "put an enormous strain" on host governments.

"The burden on their

health systems has become overwhelming and requires immediate and urgent support from the international community,"

their statement read. The 85 million US dollars would cover health assistance until the end of next year.

MNA/Reuters

Indian state sacks 4,000 more cops for graft

LUCKNOW (India), 20 Sept — India's most populous state, also one of its most lawless, fired nearly 4,000 policemen from their jobs on Tuesday on top of the 6,500 sacked last week saying they had bribed their way to the posts.

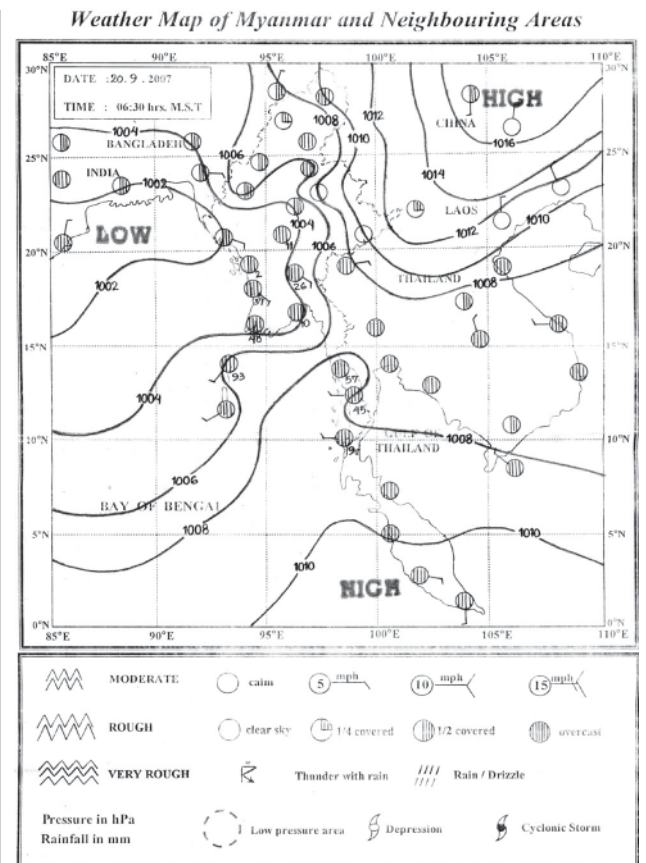
The government of the

northern state of Uttar Pradesh, ruled by fire-brand woman politician Mayawati, who uses only one name, said 3,964 policemen had been removed due to "irregularities" in the recruitment process.

More dismissals were likely as an inquiry into the recruitment of around 22,000 policemen by the previous government was not yet complete, officials said.

"A high-level inquiry found gross irregularities in the recruitment process and there were allegations of even play of money, corruption and nepotism," said JN Chamber, the State's Home secretary.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Thursday, 20 September, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Kachin and Kayah States, scattered in Kayin, Rakhine States and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Magway Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Mon State and isolated heavyfalls in Yangon and Bago Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.19) inch, Ye (9.45) inches, Thaton (4.57) inches, Co Co Island (3.67) inches, Thayawady (3.42) inches, Dawei (2.56) inches, Hinthada (2.24) inches, Minbu (1.46) inches and Chauk (1.18) inches.

Maximum temperature on 19-9-2007 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 20-9-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 20-9-2007 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 19-9-2007 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 20-9-2007 was (1.26) inches at Mingaladon, (0.51) inch at Kaba-Aye and (1.50) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (109.29) inches at Mingaladon, (112.40) inches at Kaba-Aye and (113.66) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 19-9-2007.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 21-9-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin, Shan and Kayah States and Sagaing Division, scattered in Rakhine and Chin States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kayin State and Bago Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon in the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 21-9-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 21-9-2007: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 21-9-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



A red panda looks down from high in a tree at the National Zoo in Washington recently. Red pandas are part of the "Asia Trail" exhibit which also features the zoo's star attraction, the giant pandas.—INTERNET



Friday, 21 September
View on today

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am**
5. လှုပ်ရှားပုံပြင်စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်
- 8:05 am**
6. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 8:20 am**
7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am**
8. International news
- 8:45 am**
9. English for Everyday Use

- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရပ်မြင်သကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဒဿနိကဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ဒဿနိကဗေဒ)
- 4:45 pm**
4. Song of national races
- 5:00 pm**
5. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:15 pm**
6. Song of yesteryears
- 5:30 pm**
7. "မီးမီးရဲ့ဆုံးဖြတ်ချက်" (နေအောင်၊ ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ ပြည့်ဖူးခိုင်၊ စာစာမင်းထက်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး-ဝဲရစ်)
- 5:40 pm**
8. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ် (၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များလေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန်

- (ကာလပေါ်တေးနှင့် ခေတ်ဟောင်းတေး)
(ဝါသနာရှင်(ပထမတန်း) အဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား)
- 5:45 pm**
9. (၂၄)ကြိမ်မြောက်အရှေ့တောင် အာရှအားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်မည့် မြန်မာအားကစားအဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ (တိုက်ကွမ်ဒို)
- 6:00 pm**
10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
12. သုတနိလင် ရွှေညက်ရှင်
- 7:10 pm**
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရေသူမလေးတတိယချစ်ပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၄)
- 8:00 pm**
14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်စိတ်ကူးလေး တစ်လည်လည်" (အပိုင်း-၁၈)
18. The next day's programme



Friday, 21 September
Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music:
-Super girls
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music:
-Why
- 8:50 am** National news/Solgan
- 9:00 am** Music:
-Book of love
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music:
-Here we are at last
- 1:30 pm** News /Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music
-If she only knew
-Words
- 9:00 pm** WOM
- 9:15 pm** Article
- 9:25 pm** Music at your request
-To be with you
-I remember you
- 9:45 pm** News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

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Minister inspects construction of bridges



Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspects construction of Bago bridge.— CONSTRUCTION

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and officials of Public Works inspected construction of Bago bridge yesterday.

The minister heard reports on completion of the bridge and work to be done, and gave in-

structions to the officials.

He proceeded to the construction project of Dagon bridge and heard reports on work being done. He called for timely completion of the bridge.

The bridge is reinforced concrete type and 4540 feet long with a 72-foot wide motorway. It is

flanked by two footpaths and can withstand 75 tons of load.

The minister

called on the officials to strive for meeting standards set and to undertake work systematically.—MNA

Chelsea confirm departure of manager Jose Mourinho

LONDON, 20 Sept — Chelsea have confirmed that they have sensation-

ally parted company with outspoken manager Jose Mourinho.

News of Mourinho's departure emerged last night after a number of players said they had received text messages from him informing them that he was leaving.

Chelsea say the departure was agreed by mutual consent.

It follows long-running rumours about major disagreements between Mourinho and club owner Roman Abramovich.

Avram Grant, who was recruited in the summer as director of football, is expected to take charge of the team for this weekend's clash with Manchester United.— Internet

Chelsea appoints Grant and Clarke to take charge after Mourinho's departure



Jose Mourinho

LONDON, 20 Sept — Chelsea appointed Avram Grant and Steve Clarke to take charge of the Premier League team

Thursday after manager Jose Mourinho's sudden departure.

Chelsea did not say how long the pair would be running the team or exactly what their roles would be. Chelsea's next game is at defending champion Manchester United on Sunday.

Clarke was assistant coach under Mourinho, while Grant was hired by billionaire owner Roman Abramovich to work alongside Mourinho this

season.

Mourinho, the self-proclaimed "Special One" who led the Blues to its first league title in 50 years, left a day after his team was held to a 1-1 draw by visiting Rosenborg on Tuesday in the Champions League.

"Chelsea Football Club and Jose Mourinho have agreed to part company today by mutual consent," the English team said on its website.

Internet

Objectives of the 15th Myanma Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

- To vitalize patriotism and nationalism that is based on strong Union Spirit.
- To ensure uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and integrity.
- To ensure flourishing of Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts.
- To nurture spiritual development of the youths.
- To prevent the influence of alien culture.



INSIDE

Bridges contribute to national economic growth



Between 1988 and July 2007, the government built 207 bridges, 180 feet and above long. These bridges include Dunban Bridge in Phakant Township in Kachin State, Maubin Bridge with more than 180 feet in length on Ayeyawady River, and 3612-foot Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge on Myeik-Dawei Road near Myeik in Taninthayi Division in lower part of Myanmar.

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KO ARKAR