Established 1914

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XVI, Number 145 | 11th Waxing of Tawthalin 1370 ME | Wednesday, 10 September, 2008

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

Tourism not only ensures international friendship but also brings benefits to national economy

Myanmar eyes tourism development

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept—A coordination meeting for Promotion of Myanmar Tourism was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism here this afternoon, attended by Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were the ministers, the deputy ministers, the directors-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office and the Government Office, heads of departments, chairmen of Myanmar Hoteliers Association, Myanmar Tour Operators Association Myanmar Tourism Market Promotion Committee and officials.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein made a speech on the occasion, saying that it is known to all that the government is making efforts for all round development in order to build sound economic foundations that will bring about sustainable economic development, while encouraging private sector in line with market oriented system. World nations consider that tourism is one of the most important businesses. The world nations big and small are trying to promote the tourism sector competitively. Tourism development ensures better economy for a country or a region. The living standards will improve due to increased income of individuals. Moreover, unemployment problems will also reduce. Tourism not only ensures friendship among the countries but also brings benefits to the country's economy.

(See page 8)

The government is placing emphasis on peace and stability of the State and prevalence of law and order and is creating a pleasant environment in the country.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses coordination meeting for Promotion of Myanmar Tourism.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 10 September, 2008

Keep nation's literacy rate higher

"Literacy for All" is a fundamental requirement for improving the economic and social standards of a nation. With this concept, global countries have come to put special emphasis on literacy campaigns.

Myanmar works hard constantly to raise the literacy rate of its people, while playing an active role in international literacy movements.

Having got good education foundations since years of yore, the Myanmar society is now implementing tasks for raising its education standard through formal education, non-formal education and informal education. As part of the plan, the government has opened many new schools throughout the nation, adding the number of the nation's schools to more than 40,000. Now, all school-age children have got access to primary education, and the youth have an easy access to middle and high school education.

Simultaneously, literacy campaigns are being launched on a wider scale across the Union including rural and border areas. As a result, over 800,000 illiterates in states and divisions have been literate in 2008. With the fruits of literacy rate getting high, the government is expediting constant learning plans for sustainable progress in the literacy movements.

The nation's literacy rate is on the increase year by year thanks to the assistance of regional organizations and active participation of well-wishers in the literacy campaigns. In 2008, Myanmar becomes one of the top-listed countries by means of literacy rate in the Asia and Pacific region with 94.83 per cent.

Nation-building tasks have showed more successful than in the past due to a growing literate population. Myanmar's literacy rate can be kept higher if the people continue to contribute towards post-literacy programmes, opening of learning and reading sessions, and establishment of community learning centres.

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**

Pyu hydropower project to produce 120 mln kwh

Minister Col Zaw Min inspects Pyu Chaung Hydropower Project in Pyu. — MNA

YANGON, 9 Sept— Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min inspected boring the tunnel sections at the entrance and exit to the water intake tunnel, construction of sluice gate of Pyu Chaung hydropower project built by Construction No. 3 of Hydropower Implementation Department in Pyu Township of Bago Division yesterday.

Afterwards, Project Director U Maw Tha Htway reported on progress of the construction tasks, and the minister stressed the need to give priority to worksite safety.

The damming work of Pyu hydropower project is being carried out by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the water intake tunnel and the power station of project by Ministry of Electric Power No. 1. On completion, the power plant equipped with 40 megawatts generating capacity can produce 120 million kwh yearly.— *MNA*

Myanmar League champion Kanbawza honoured

YANGON, 9 Sept— A ceremony to honour Kanbawza who had clinched Myanmar League trophy for 2008-2009 was held at Kanbawza Bank Limited (Head Office) at noon today.

Managing Director U Zaw Win Naing made a speech on the occasion and presented K 10 million to team captain Han Win Aung and striker Soe Min Oo. A gift was given to secretary of the team U Maung Maung Lauk. Next, manager U Thiha spoke words of thanks.

Kanbawza football squad was founded by Chairman of Kanbaza Bank Ltd U Aung Ko Win. Kanbawza sealed trophy in 2005-2006 opening cup, first prize in the 2008-2009 Myanmar League opening match and second prizes in 2006-07 and 2007-2008 Myanmar League Cup in two consecutive seasons. The team already called Aung Moe and Soe Min Oo from YCDC and goalkeeper Nay Hlaing and Htin Aung Kyaw from Eleven FC.—*MNA*

Secretary of Kanbawza Soccer Team U Maung Maung Lauk hands over trophy to Managing Director of Kanbawza Bank Co Ltd U Zaw Win Naing. —NLM

Clothes, cash donated to storm survivors

YANGON, 9 Sept — Wellwishers donated clothes and cash to storm-survivors in storm-hit areas on 5 September.

At the ceremony to donate clothes and cash held at the City Hall of Yangon City Development Committee here, CEC Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin accepted cloths worth over K 14.9 millions and cash amounting to K 5 million donated by President of Shwe Zin Aye Garment and Shwe Zin Aye Construction U San Yu and family. Afterwards, Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin spoke words of thanks. — *MNA*

New Zero art exhibition at Lawkanat Gallery

YANGON, 9 Sept— Artists of New Zero group have exhibited art works at Lawkanat Gallery on Pansodan Street in Kyauktada Township.

The exhibition will last until 13 September.

Altogether 29 artists are participating in the art exhibition, and there is no entrance fee to the exhibition.

MNA

Six killed in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD, 9 Sept— At least six people were killed in Iraq on Monday, including a woman caught in crossfire in an attack on a government minister's convoy in Baghdad, security officials said.

A Defence ministry official said the guards of Displaced People and Migrants Minister Abdel Samad Rahman Sultan were shot at near a former Air Force base in the capital, prompting them to return fire.

The minister was not in the convoy, an Interior Ministry official said.

"One woman has been killed and six other people wounded," the Interior Ministry official said, adding that the convoy was later stopped at a checkpoint.

"The minister was not in the convoy but the guards claimed they were members of the security team of the displaced people and migrants minister."—*Internet*

NATO bomb kills 2 Afghan civilians

KABUL, 9 Sept— A NATO bomb missed its target by more than 1 1/2 miles and hit a house Tuesday, killing two Afghan civilians and wounding 10 at a time of rising tension between the Afghan government and international troops over the use of airstrikes.

NATO said its weapon malfunctioned Tuesday in the eastern Khost province. The bomb's target was a spot used by insurgents to fire rockets.

The use of airstrikes in civilian areas have been blamed for a series of civilian deaths.

Afghan and UN officials say some 90 civilians were killed in a US special forces operation in the village of Azizabad on Aug. 22.

The bodies of at least 10 children and many more adults covered in blankets and white shrouds appeared on video on Monday.

More than 4,000 people have died in insurgency-related violence this year.

Internet

This video frame grab image taken from one of two undated videos obtained by the Associated Press on 8 Sept, 2008, shows a woman beside what appears to be bodies wrapped in blankets and shrouds in Azziabad, Afghanistan.—INTERNET

3 coalition troops killed in Afghan blast

KABUL,9 Sept,—A roadside bomb killed three US coalition soldiers Tuesday, while a NATO air strike missed its target and hit a house, killing two Afghan civilians and wounding 10, officials said.

The coalition said a roadside bomb in eastern Afghanistan killed the three soldiers and an Afghan contractor.

It did not release any other details of the attack, including the soldiers' nationalities, but the overwhelming majority of coalition soldiers in the east are American.—*Internet*

Four-year-old Muntazer Ahmed, who was wounded in a suicide bomb attack, is treated at a hospital in northwest of Baghdad, Iraq.—INTERNET

Six Afghan civilians killed in explosion

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan), 9 Sept—A roadside blast in southern Afghanistan killed six civilians Monday, and a Canadian soldier died in another explosion in the same region, officials said.

The six civilians, including a woman and a child, died when their private vehicle hit a roadside bomb in Naw Bahar district of Zabul province, said district chief Zarif Khan. Two other civilians were wounded in the explosion. Khan blamed Taliban militants for planting the device. Also in the south, a Canadian soldier was killed when another roadside blast hit a patrol on Sunday, the Canadian military said.

Internet

Iraq cholera outbreak kills six

BAGHDAD, 9 Sept— A state of emergency has been declared Monday in Iraq's Babil province after at least six people died from cholera. Cases have also been confirmed in two other parts of the country.

Babil appears to be the worst-affected area but cholera has also been confirmed in Maysan province and at Abu Ghraib to the west of Baghdad.

Last year there were more than 4,000 confirmed cholera cases in Iraq - the vast majority in the Kurdish-controlled northern region.

Internet

Unpopular Bush keeping Iraq troop levels largely intact

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept—President Bush an-nounced Tuesday that he will keep the US force strength in Iraq largely intact until the next president takes over, drawing rebukes from Democrats who want the war ended and a bigger boost of troops in troubled Afghanistan.

The president said he will pull home about 8,000 combat and support troops by February a drawdown not as strong or swift as long anticipated. No more Army combat brigades will withdraw in 2008, the final year of a Bush presidency that has come to be dominated by the war.

But he leaves office in January, so his successor will be making the wartime decisions. There are about 146,000 US troops in Iraq.

Announcement of Bush, an unpopular president managing an unpopular war, made at the National Defense University, is perhaps his last major move on troop strategy in Iraq.—*Internet*

Study: Houston police used Tasers more on blacks

HOUSTON, 9 Sept— Houston police officers have used Tasers more on black suspects than any other group of individuals, according to a city study released Monday.

Of 1,417 Taser deployments by officers between December 2004 and June 2007, nearly 67 percent were used on black suspects, according to an audit conducted for the city by a team of criminology, statistics and mathematics experts. About 25 percent of Houston's population is black.

The audit was requested by Houston Mayor Bill White in 2006, after several high-profile incidents.

That year, Houston Texans offensive lineman Fred Weary was shocked during a traffic stop, and an officer called to quiet a noisy music club shocked musicians and concertgoers.

The latter incident was videotaped and widely viewed on *YouTube*.

Minister Robert Muhammad, with the southwest regional headquarters for The Nation of Islam, said the study shows that police are more apt to use the weapons on black suspects than suspects of other races.

"Can we say it's racism? Yes, and some people would argue no," said Muhammad.

"The greater argument is abuse of authority. We give them authority to protect us.

But instead of using that authority to protect us, they abuse us with it."

Internet

Obama: McCain-Palin 'lying' about maverick claims

US Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama holds a young boy after speaking during a townhall discussion in Farmington Hills, Michigan. —INTERNET

MICHIGAN, 9 Sept— Barack Obama ripped into John McCain and Sarah Palin as never before, accusing his Republican White House foes of "shameless" dishonesty with their claim to be "mavericks" ready to shake up Washington.

McCain and Palin were "lying about their records," the Obama campaign said Monday after the Republican running mates advertised themselves in a television spot as the "original mavericks" who would stand up for hard-pressed voters.

Some of the White House race's most savage exchanges yet came as polls showed the contenders deadlocked or McCain pulling into a post-convention lead after he electrified the Republican base — and appeared to confound the Obama campaign — by adding Alaska Governor Palin to his ticket.—*Internet*

A TV grab taken in Islamabad shows Asif Ali Zardari (L) taking the oath of office as Pakistan's new president. Zardari was sworn in as the 14th president of Pakistan, succeeding the former Army General Pervez Musharraf who resigned under threat of impeachment last month.—INTERNET

Zardari sworn in as Pakistani president

ISLAMABAD, 9 Sept— The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari is sworn in as Pakistan president at a ceremony in Islamabad on Tuesday, embarking on a five-year term in the top office of the country.

Chief Justice Abdul Hameed Dogar administered the oath to the new president at Aiwan-i-Sadr, the presidential house, in Islamabad.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai also attended the oath-taking ceremony.

Xinhua

Students perform a song in sign language during a Teacher's Day celebration held at Daminghulu Primary School in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 8 Sept, 2008. More than 1400 students celebrated the forthcoming Chinese Teacher's Day for their teachers in this way here on 8 Sept, 2008. —XINHUA

All Items From Xinhua News Agency

China to top Asian consumer markets in 2009

XIAMEN, 9 Sept — By 2009 China will become the largest consumer market in Asia said Chinese Minister of Commerce Chen Deming.

Speaking at the 12th Xiamen International Trade and Investment Fair on Monday in the east Fujian Province, Chen predicted entertainment, housing and tourism will expand their shares in the domestic market. "As one of the world's fastest growing consumer markets, China is a world leader in mobile phone sales, domestic tourism, and broadband network penetration," said Chen. He also noted China is the second largest seller and buyer of gold and automobiles in the world. The country ranks third in consumption of luxury items and health care supplies.The average per capita GDP reached 2,456 US dollars last year, said Chen. He added that consumption had bigger shares than investment for the first time in the nation's economic growth.

For the past five years, China's annual consumption growth rate had been 13.1 percent. If the growth rate continues at just 10 percent, China's consumer market scale will exceed 30 trillion yuan (4.38 trillion US dollars) by 2020. *—Xinhua*

A model presents a creation from the Ports 1961 Spring/ Summer 2009 collection at New York Fashion Week on 8 Sept, 2008.—XINHUA

China's software industry jumps 30% in 1H

XIAMEN, 9 Sept — The revenue of China's software industry exceeded 345 billion yuan (50.8 billion US dollars) in the first half of 2008, a 30 percent increase over the same period last year, an official said here on Monday.

China's share in the global market had increased from 1.3 percent in 2000 to 8.7 percent last year, ranking fourth in the world, said Zhao Xiaofan, an official in charge of the software industry with the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology.

"The environment is favourable for the development of the software industry," Zhao said at the ongoing 12th Xiamen International Trade and Investment Fair in the southeast Fujian Province.

China's software industry growth rate had exceeded 30 percent in each of the last seven years.

Zhao said Chinese software enterprises were still weak against the global competition and more efforts needed to be made to promote innovation and personnel training to achieve a sustainable development of the industry.

Xinhua

Chinese currency up more than 10% against euro in one month

BEIJING, 9 Sept— China's currency has soared against the euro and the British pound since the beginning of August, and analysts believe it looks set to continue its dramatic appreciation in the fourth quarter, adversely affecting some Chinese exporters.

Data from the China Foreign Exchange Trading System shows that from the end of July to Monday, the Renminbi appreciated 10.79 percent against the euro and 8.39 percent against the pound.

This compared with only 7.75 percent against the euro and 0.13 percent against the pound from January to July.

Xinhua

Georgia says Russia pullout deal "step forward"

TBILISI, 9 Sept— Russia's pledge to withdraw all forces from Georgia except the two breakaway regions was "a step forward" towards the full implementation of the French-brokered ceasefire deal, Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili said on Tuesday.

Russian leader Dmitry Medvedev's agreement to pull back all troops within one month from buffer zones around Georgia's breakaway provinces of Abkhazia and South Ossetia came on Monday after talks with French President Nicolas Sarkozy in Moscow.

Xinhua

UN meets on helping poorest countries to boost industrial capacity

UNITED NATIONS, 9 Sept — Officials from the UN and donor countries assembled in Kigali, the Rwandan capital, on Monday to discuss how to help the world's least developed countries (LDCs) to build up their capacity in the fields of trade and industrial development.

The two-day workshop that began Monday was organized by the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), in close collaboration with the World Trade Organization (WTO), a UN Press release said.

Xinhua

A car drives through the Malecon in Havana while big waves caused by the approach of Hurricane Ike surge nearby on 8 Sept, 2008. Ike roared across Cuba on Monday, causing the evacuation of some 900,000 Cubans from its path, which forecasters said could take it to Louisiana or Texas later this week. —Xinhua

Deal aims to end violence in northern Lebanon

BEIRUT (Lebanon), 9 Sept — Rival groups signed an agreement on Monday to end sectarian violence that has killed and wounded scores in the past three months in the northern city of Tripoli.

Tripoli, about 50 miles north of Beirut, has been the scene of clashes between Sunnis and Alawites — an offshoot Shiite sect.

"Tripoli should be a city without weapons because weapons in the hands of individuals do not protect anyone," said Prime Minister Fuad Saniora who went to Tripoli to witness the signing ceremony on Monday night. "He who will undermine the city's security is an enemy to the city no matter to what group he belongs. No one will protect him."

The reconciliation comes after Arab officials warned that the situation in Lebanon could spin out of control in Lebanon. Last week, Syrian President Bashar Assad said Lebanon is still "fragile" as long as extremists groups remain active in northern Lebanon.

He was referring to the conservative Salafi branch of Islam, which has a presence in northern Lebanon.The leader of the militant group Hezbollah, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, said Sunday he supports the reconciliation in the north.

Internet

GM recalls nearly 300,000 HHR wagons for latch glitch

DETROIT, 9 Sept— General Motors Corp will recall almost 300,000 Chevrolet HHR wagons because of a problem with a storage bin latch, according to a notice filed by federal safety regulators on Monday.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said on its Web site the recall would cover 296,422 HHR's built for the 2006 through 2008 model years.

During testing, a storage bin in the top centre of the instrument panel failed to remain closed as required by federal safety standards.

GM said owners of the HHR wagons covered by the recall would be sent a latch reinforcement and instructions on how to install it. Owners also have the option of having their local Chevrolet dealer install the part, GM said.

GM said it would begin the recall in November. The automaker said owners with questions could contact Chevrolet at 1-800-630-2438 or via the Internet at *www.gm.com/recall.—Internet*

'Emissions-free' coal plant pilot fires up in Germany

BERLIN, 9 Sept—One of Europe's biggest power companies inaugurates on Tuesday a pilot project using a technology that it is presenting as a huge potential breakthrough in the fight against climate change.

But green campaigners have denounced the project as a cosmetic operation that does not really address the problem of global warming.

At the site of the massive "Schwarze Pumpe" ("Black Pump") power station in the old East Germany, Vattenfall wants to the new method to allow it continue burning coal — but with radically reduced emissions.

To do so, the Swedish firm is using Carbon Capture and Storage, or CCS for short, which captures the greenhouse gases produced when fossil fuels are combusted.

Internet

Vattenfall's CO2-free power plant in the eastern German town of Schwarze Pumpe. —INTERNET

Peru arrests 20 over ties to Mexican drug cartel

LIMA, 9 Sept— Peruvian police have arrested 20 people suspected of working for Mexico's Sinaloa drug cartel and seized 2.5 tonnes of cocaine hidden in boat bumpers, Peru's Interior Ministry said on Monday.

The seizure, valued at $125 million, included the arrest of four Mexicans, three Colombians and 13 Peruvians. The bust was the strongest sign yet the powerful Sinaloa cartel is making inroads in Peru, the world's No 2 grower of coca behind Colombia.

The cocaine was found over the weekend in a working-class neighbourhood of Lima, tucked inside some 200 bumpers that are put around boats for protection while docked. Over the last few years, traffickers leaving Peru have largely abandoned clandestine air travel for sea transport, which is harder to track.—*Internet*

Military: Sri Lankan jets shoot down rebel plane

COLOMBO (Sri Lanka), 9 Sept—Sri Lankan fighter jets shot down a plane used by the Tamil Tigers' rudimentary air wing for the first time Tuesday, giving the military a huge morale boost amid a major offensive against the rebels, the military said.

Though the rebel aircraft have rarely caused major damage, their repeated attacks — and the military's inability to stop them — have been a source of deep frustration and embarrassment for government forces.

The fighting began early Tuesday when the rebels launched an artillery barrage at a military base in the northern town of Vavuniya for more than one hour, military spokesman Brig Udaya Nanayakkara said.

The attack caused damages and injuries, but the extent of the destruction was not immediately known.

Amid the attack, two rebel aircraft flew over the base and dropped bombs on the base's airfield, he said.

It was a common tactic. The rebels often send their planes as back up during attacks on military targets. But this time, the Air Force sent MiG interceptors into the skies to chase the planes away, shooting one plane down over the rebel stronghold of Mullaitivu, Nanayakkara said.

Internet

Hurricane Ike smashes Cuba, killing at least four

A resident cycles near the ocean in Key West, Florida, as Hurricane Ike approaches, on 8 Sept, 2008.
INTERNET

HAVANA, 9 Sept—Hurricane Ike roared down Cuba's spine on Monday and toward the island's densely populated capital of fragile historic buildings after ravaging homes, forcing 1.2 million people to evacuate and killing at least four. US residents from Florida to Texas braced for Ike's next wallop.

Ike, which raked the Bahamas and worsened floods in Haiti that have killed at least 312 people, made landfall on eastern Cuba as a terrifying Category 3 hurricane, then weakened Monday as it ran along the length of the Caribbean's largest island.

It was a Category 1 storm Monday afternoon, but forecasters expected it to strengthen again before hitting Louisiana or Texas this weekend.

"This critter was angry, really angry," Delia Oliveras, 64, said in the central city of Camaguey. Winds tore the roof from the living room where her family was huddled, and they fled to a covered patio. "We have seen hurricanes, but never as big as this."

State television reported that Ike killed four people in Cuba — the first storm deaths on the island in the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season. —*Internet*

A worker, using a cloth and sunglasses to protect his face from the dust sunlight, at the construction site of a Saudi Arabian oil facility in late June. The oil market is fairly well balanced, Saudi Oil Minister Ali al-Nuaimi, has said as he arrived in Vienna for the OPEC meeting.—INTERNET

This undated photo released by Microsoft shows the Microsoft Zune portable media player. The three devices are photographed each to show the different steps to buying songs over the Zune's built-in FM radio that are available through the Zune Marketplace online music store. —INTERNET

Death toll from Egypt rockslide tops 50

CAIRO, 9 Sept — More than 50 people were killed in a massive rockslide which flattened homes in a Cairo shantytown, a security official said on Monday, with yet more bodies pulled from the rubble two days after the tragedy.

Many other bodies are feared entombed in the debris after giant boulders crushed dozens of homes in the shantytown of Manshiyet Nasser on Saturday, burying whole families.

Egyptians gather at the site of a massive rockslide off Moqattam hill in northern Cairo. More than 50 people have been killed in a massive rockslide which flattened homes in a Cairo shantytown, a security official has said, with yet more bodies pulled from the rubble two days after the tragedy.—INTERNET

As four more corpses were pulled out of the rubble, rising as high as 15 metres (yards), a security official told *AFP* that the casualty toll stood at 51 dead and 57 injured.

Egypt's mufti Sheikh Ali Gomaa — the leader of the nation's Sunni Muslim faithful — said all those who died in the Ramadan tragedy were "martyrs," *Al-Masri Al-Youm* newspaper reported.—*Internet*

Google to bring more old newspaper stories online

LOS ANGELES, 9 Sept — Google announced on Monday that it would expand a programme to bring more old newspaper stories online.

In a blog posting, the company said it is aiming to index billions of pages of newsprint.

Google launched its programme in 2006 with major newspapers like the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*.

Google did not immediately specify how many papers have now joined the initiative, but the company is hoping to include the archives of more small and medium-size papers.

Google has pledged to work with more newspapers to make digital copies of old news stories accessible through its search engine.

Internet

Cuba extends cyclone alert to western provinces

HAVANA, 8 Sept — Cuban authorities on Monday extended the cyclone alert to the western provinces of Pinar del Rio and Juventud Island (Isle of Youth) which were devastated by Hurricane Gustav just a week ago.

The authorities called upon people in Pinar del Rio and the Isle of Youth to stop reconstruction work in the face of the approaching Hurricane Ike, which has killed over 61 people in Haiti.

Hurricane Ike assaulted Cuba on Monday with torrential rains and high gusts, demolishing houses, blowing down telegraph poles and wireless signal towers.

The affected eastern areas of the Caribbean country were partially without power and experienced disruptions to the phone service.

After crossing the island, Ike turned on to an offshore track parallel to Cuba's south coast, putting it on a path to plow past the Isle of Youth and cross the country a second time in western Pinar del Rio province.

A man looks at waves pounding Havana's Malecon as Hurricane Ike approaches in Havana on 8 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

Though Ike had weakened to category 1 on the five-level Saffir Simpson scale as it travelled overland through Cuba, weather forecasters said it could pick up strength as it moved back over the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

Internet

Crude prices rise slightly as Hurricane Ike approaches

NEW YORK, 8 Sept — Crude prices rose slightly on Monday as the Hurricane Ike approaches the Gulf of Mexico's oil facilities.

The hurricane was downgraded after hitting Cuba, but is expected to regain its strength and enter the Gulf later this week.

The US dollar rose against major currencies after the US Treasury said it was taking over the mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries oil ministers will meet in Vienna, Austria to decide whether to cut production in a bid to stall oil's recent slide.

Light, sweet crude for October delivery rose 11 cents to settle at 106.34 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange after rising as high as 109.89 a barrel. —*Internet*

NEWSALBUM

A three storey Queen Anne Victorian manor house and cottage from Palmetto, Fla, is moved by barge under the Sunshine Skyway Bridge in St Petersburg, Fla. The home was being moved from the Manatee River in Palmetto to the Little Manatee River in Ruskin, Fla.

Man told to get a job accused of chair attack

A man was arrested after he allegedly responded to someone telling him to get a job by picking up a folding chair and striking another man with it three times.

Coralville police responded to a fight in progress around 5 pm on Sunday, and arrested the man and charged him with assault causing bodily injury.

According to police reports, the suspect was drinking beer with a friend when the victim, whose name police are not publishing, told the suspect to "get a job."

The man then allegedly picked up the folding chair and hit the victim.

The man was in custody as of Monday afternoon with a $2,000 cash bond.

People are buried to their neck in a sand bath at Beppu Seafront Sand Spa in Beppu, Oita, Japan. Customers are buried in naturally heated sand which encourages perspiration.

Cat survives 70-mile trip under owner's truck

A cat survived a 2 1/2-hour trip on a spare tire under her owner's truck. Gil Smith recently drove from his Gilbert home 70 miles away for a business meeting in Kearny. When he got out of the truck, he heard a cat in distress and realized it was his.

Smith said the cat, Bella, was hysterical, shaky and tired, but was smart enough to know not to jump off the tire as the truck was moving.

Smith and his wife have adopted three indoor cats, three goats and three chickens. But Smith said Bella, an outdoor cat the couple adopted years ago, has a special place in his wife's heart.

When Pigs Fly!A pig dives into a pool at the Royal Melbourne Show in Melbourne, Australia. The show brings the best of rural life to the city with wood chopping, show jumping, and the best cows, sheep, cattle, dogs, cats and poultry. Children are able to get up close to the animals.

NYC man charged with selling stolen bras on web

A New York man has been charged with selling $80,000 worth of stolen Victoria's Secret bras online. Prosecutors say 41-year-old George Tutaya was arraigned Tuesday on charges of possessing stolen property. He faces up to seven years in prison if convicted. A telephone call to his attorney hasn't been returned.

Prosecutors say Tutaya used eBay auction and PayPal payment accounts to sell the brassieres for about $25 each. The bras retail for $40 to $80. Prosecutors say records recovered at Tutaya's home in Queens link him to the sale of more than 2,000 bras. They say another 650 stolen bras were recovered in his home.

Iowa man accused of offering bribe with sandwich

Iowa City police said a man who was driving drunk tried to bribe a police officer — with a sandwich. Police said a 25-year-old man was charged with drunken driving early Sunday morning after an officer saw him driving with his headlights off.

Police said the man was riding with a police officer in a squad car when he offered the officer free sub sandwiches if he could go home. The officer declined.

Basic course on Police Procedure concluded

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept—A ceremony to conclude basic course on Police Procedure of the Ministry of Home Affairs was held at the hall of Central Training School in Pyin Oo Lwin Township on 6 September and with greetings by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Director-General U Ye Myint of Bureau of Special Investigation, Police Adjutant-General Police Brig-Gen Soe Win Myint of Myanmar Police Force, Principal Police Brig-Gen Thein Tint of Central Training School, officials of the departments under the ministry and guests. The course was attended by 50 trainees.

MNA

Objectives of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

1. **Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character**
2. **Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation**
3. **Keeping genuine patriotism based on national solidarity alive and dynamic**
4. **Turning out younger generation who will continue to safeguard the national culture and character**

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo delivers concluding address at basic course on Police Procedure.

MNA

5th Japan Cup Judo Competitions kick off

YANGON, 9 Sept — Organized by Myanmar Judo Federation, 5th Japan Cup Judo Competitions kicked off at Aung San Gymnasium here today.

First, Ambassador of Japan Mr Yasuaki Nogawa and President of Myanmar Judo Federation extended greetings.

Judo teams representing Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Sports, Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Industry-1, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Rail Transportation, Rakhine State and Sagaing Division are taking part in the competitions.

Before the single events, U Tun Tun presented a certificate of honour to Vice-President of Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) (Yangon) and athletes recited Four Oaths of Sports.

Also present at the opening ceremony were General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik and officials, Secretary of the Central Working Committee for Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw L Kun Yi, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar Mr Yasuaki Nogawa and guests.

MNA

Mingala Taungnyunt Township USDA holds AGM

YANGON, 9 Sept—The annual general meeting of Mingala Taungnyunt Township Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at No 3 Basic Education High School in the township this afternoon.

Secretary of Yangon Division USDA U Aye Myint delivered a speech. Secretary U Aye Myint, Joint Secretary U Tha Win, Division executives and officials presented prizes to those who participated in the community welfare services, schools that gained the high pass rate in the 2007-2008 academic year and those who should be honoured.

Next, Joint Secretary of East District USDA U Sein Myint presided over the second session. Reports were submitted to the meeting and Secretary of Township USDA U Zaw Lin replied to the queries. One approval and two resolutions were made and three matters were put on record.—*MNA*

August saw 24 fires

YANGON, 9 Sept — Fires broke out 24 times in the country in August leaving 1,105 persons homeless.

Among them, 16 fires started in the kitchen, five were due to short-circuit and two due to arson and 177 homes were destroyed by the fire.

Sixteen fires started in the kitchen show that 66% of them caused by negligence in August.

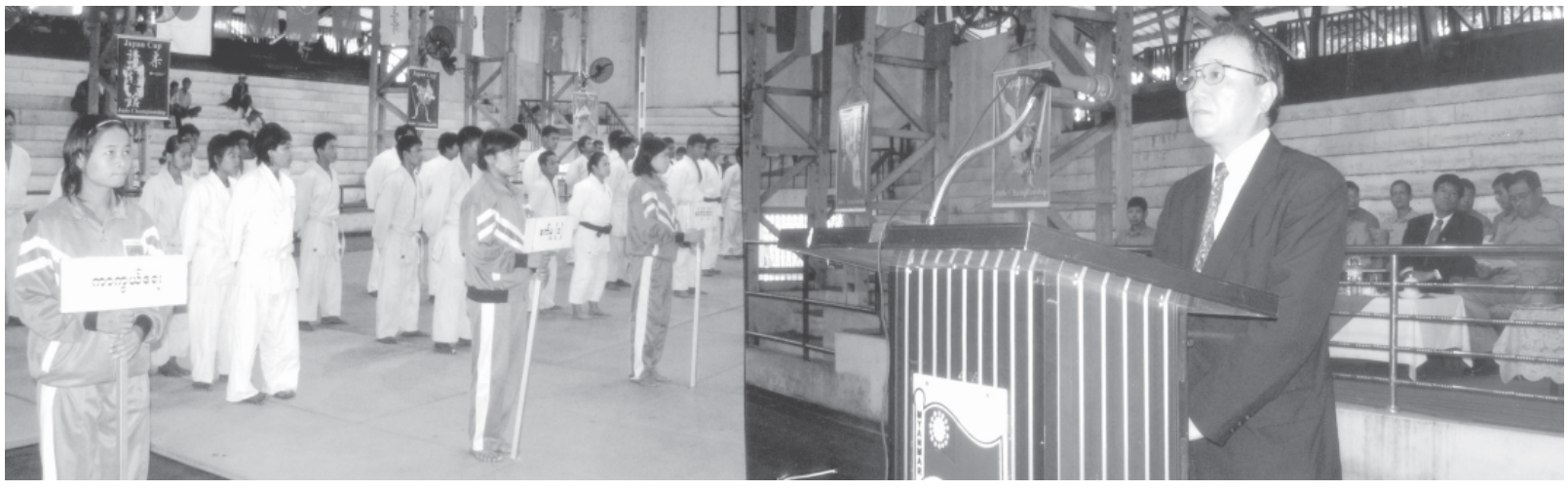
Fires broke out most in Yangon followed by Sagaing Division, Magway Division, Mandalay Division, Shan State and Nay Pyi Taw.

The loss of property due to fire in Taninthayi Division is higher than Shan State and Yangon Division.

Out of seven fire outbreaks in August in Yangon, six were due to negligence.

As fires broke out even in the rainy season, Fire Services Department stepped up efforts for fire prevention.

MNA



Mr Yasuaki Nogawa, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, extends greetings at opening of Japan Cup Judo Competitions.

MJF

Tourism not only ensures international friendship …

(from page 1)

Transportation, communication and industries are in good circumstances in most of the developed and developing countries and thus per capita income will increase and people travel more places in their leisure hours. The findings show that the population of world travelers was 846 millions with earning US$ 742 billions in 2006 and US$ 856 billions in 2007. A total of 653549 travellers entered our country including border gates in 2005-2006 and 654602 in 2006-2007.

He said tourism industry depends on political situations and natural disaster. Therefore, the government is placing emphasis on peace and stability of the State and prevalence of law and order and is creating pleasant environment in the country.

He said easy transport, sufficient hotel rooms, hospitality, exchange of money and beautiful views of nature much contribute towards the development of tourism. With the aim of developing tourism, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism was constituted in 1992 and Myanmar Tourism Law was enacted in 1993.

He said it is necessary for the ministry to make arrangements for increase of local and foreign investment, to create opportunities for wider participation of tour operators and to make Myanmar famous as a tourist destination and to cooperate with ASEAN, BIMSTEC and ACMECS, neighbouring countries and those countries who have positive attitudes towards Myanmar. These tasks are to be undertaken in the framework of law, he said.

He said tourism industry is wide and delicate for it is the business of providing services for tourists and the task of cooperation with other departments. Income earned from tourism goes to people from different walks of life, he said.

Earnings from tourism are in the hands of private entrepreneurs. With the development of tourism, there will be job opportunities among the local people. When the tourism is in decline, the income becomes less. So, the government, the respective ministries and tour operators are to make efforts for development of tourism in Myanmar, he added.

The government on its part will put emphasis on development of tourism. It is necessary for the private tour operators to serve not only their interest but also the State's.

Hoteliers Association, Myanmar Travels Association, Chefs Association and Myanmar Market Promotion Committee have now been formed. Continued efforts are to be made for promotion of tourism in Myanmar as there are over 600 hotels and 700 tour operators, he said.

It is necessary for the ministry to make arrangements for increase of local and foreign investment, to create opportunities for wider participation of tour operators.

***Lt-Gen Tin Aye is being welcomed by Mr Kim Sok Chol, Ambassador of Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Myanmar at the reception to mark the Day of the Foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Yangon on 9 September, 2008.* — MNA**

Next, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing reported on arrival of tourists, international flight schedule, arrival of international flight at Yangon International Airport and Mandalay International Airport, arrival of luxury liners, arrival of chartered flights, voyages of yachts traveling Kawthoung and Myeik inlands, national income from tourism industry, foreign investment, investment in hotels and business establishments, cooperation with foreign nations in tourism industry, and future work for development of tourism industry.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint reported on issue of visa on arrival for foreigners, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo on security measures taken for safety and convenience of visitors, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun on taxes to be paid by hotels and tourism industries and exchange of FEC, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung on assistance provided to tour companies for the convenience of pilgrims, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe on steps to be taken for convenience of voyages of flights, ships and yachts and Minister for Electric Power No. (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint on arrangements to be made for supply of electricity to hotels.

Next, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan reported on broadcast of TV programmes on promoting tourism industry, arrangements for publishing of journals in English version, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on arrangements for issue of e-Visa for promotion of tourism, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha on promotion of tourisms of neighbouring nations and ASEAN nations and international tourism, hotels constructed by Chairman of Myanmar Hoteliers Association Dr Khin Shwe for international tourists and efforts made for attracting tourists as Myanmar is blessed with natural beauty, cultural heritage, ancient pagods, stupas and religious edifices.

Earnings from tourism are in the hands of private entrepreneurs. With the development of tourism, there will be job opportunities among the local people.

Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing presents reports at coordination meeting on promotion of tourism.

MNA

In response, the Prime Minister attended to the needs through coordination, making concluding remarks that Myanmar people are capable of showing tenacity till they achieve success in the face of any forms of adversities. The government is rendering assistance for promotion of the tourism industry, he said, calling for harmonious cooperation of departments concerned, entrepreneurs and company proprietors to achieve the common goal.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister visited the exhibition staged in the Ministries' Office and observed documentary photos on the operations run by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism for promotion of tourism industry, documentary photos on activities of the Myanmar private hotels and travel agencies, documentary photos on tourism exports of Myanmar, and the records of voyages of cruise liners that have visited Myanmar.—*MNA*

Development drives never…

(from page 16)

At Bayintnaung Hall of the local battalion in Kawthoung, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met with entrepreneurs.

In meeting with officers and other ranks of the local battalion in Khamaukgyi, Maj-Gen Tha Aye provided them with exercise books and necessities.

At Khamaukgyi General Administration Department Office, he met service personnel, social organizations and local people.

On 5 September morning, Maj-Gen Tha Aye inspected drains of Khamaukgyi Market, Settlement and Land Record Office, Public Works Office and main road, and Aye Mya Thida Park, Electric Power Supply Office, the Union Solidarity and Development Association Office and office of supervisory committee for development of Khamaukgyi region.

On arrival at Khamaukgyi BEHS, he inspected multimedia classroom, computer classroom and learning of students.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye proceeded to Khamaukgyi Station Hospital where he provided cash assistance to warded patients and inspected operation theatre, medical store, male medical ward and female medical ward and gave necessary instructions.—*MNA*

Houses for storm survivors overviewed

YANGON, 9 Sept — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung encouraged the people of 124 houses built by Dagon International at Kadon Kani village in Bogale Township on 7 September. He also met with local people at Shwesayan Basic Education Post-Primary School and presented blackboards, text and exercises books and pencils for the school and foodstuff for the village.

At Setsan village Basic Education High School, the minister handed over a trishaw and a generator donated by Saudi Arabia for the village. Commander Col San Myint of No 66 LID presented text and exercise books and pencils for the school and the chairman of township PDC, foodstuff for the village.

Next, the minister and party met with the people of 108 houses built by Diamond Mercury Co and visited the library.

On 8 September, the minister met with local people, departments concerned and organizations at Myoma Dhammayon in Bogale and gave accounts of regional development tasks and reconstruction works being carried out by the government.— *MNA*

Cash donations for storm survivors

YANGON, 9 Sept— Chairman of financial sub-committee Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe accepted cash donated by wellwishers from abroad and at home at Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch) of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue in Yankin Township, here, today.

Economic Development Zone in Dagon Myothit (North) donated K 1.8 million for construction of three houses, Yangon Industrial Zone and U Kyi Than and Daw Ni Ni Khwin, Captain Kyaw Tun (Retd) and Dr Nan Htaik Aung and family, K 600,000 each for one house, Mr Peter Gautschi, Studer Trust Charity (Hong Kong), K 30 million for 50 houses, i Love Myanmar, K 300 million for 500 houses, Daw Nan Mya Than Htay and family of Mingala Taungnyunt Township, K 600,000 for one house and wellwishers,365915 bahts through Myanmar Embassy in Thailand to the committee.

A total of K 333.6 million and 365915 bahts have been accepted from 5 September to date.—*MNA*

Earthquake News

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept— The Meteorology and Hydrology Department issued an announcement today that a strong earthquake of intensity (7.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar about (5200) miles Southeast of Kaba Aye Seismological observatory was recorded at (01) hr (34) min (56) sec MST on 9th September, 2008.

MNA

***Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung meeting with departmental personnel and local people in Bogale. —* FORESTRY**

Three injured in explosion on bus

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept —An explosion took place on an air-conditioned Fuso bus from Private Bus Line No. 45 plying between Sule and Sawbwagyigon in Yangon this morning, injuring three people.

The bus with the number plate '4 Kha/ 5481' being steered by Zaw Naing San on its way from south to north on Pyay Road in Kamayut Township was blasted into flames in front of Espace Avenir building between Narnattaw St and Hledan Traffic Lights at about 10.45 am. The blast happened under the right seat in front of the last row. A fire engine from Sangyoung Township Fire Station put out the burning bus and the flames died out at 11.05 am.

In the case, two men and a woman were injured in the head, chin, right calf, right hip, left shoulder, and right ear. They are now receiving medial treaments as in-patients (not in serious conditions) in Yangon General Hospital. The rear roof of the bus was blown off, there was an about-one-foot-diameter hole in the rear part by the seat where the explosion occured.Moreover the engine cover, the water tank, the fan and the floor were destroyed.

Officials concerned in cooperation with the people who favour peace are conducting an investigation into the case to expose the offender.

MNA

Perennial crops farming disseminated

YANGON, 9 Sept—Member of Shan State (North) Agricultural Coordination Committee Manager of the Myanma Agriculture Service (Northern Shan State Branch) U Win Hlaing Oo and party held talks on perennial crops farming methods at Kaungkha Village, Meihan Village-tract, Lashio, on 4 September.—*MNA*

516 traffic accidents in August

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept —Ministry of Home Affairs said there were 516 traffic accidents in states and divisions in August 2008.

Due to the traffic accidents, 107 died and 924 wounded and the loss of property in August was K 125,859,000. The loss of property in July was K 65,151,900 in July.

Traffic accidents in states and divisions in August.

Sr	state/division	case	wounded	death	loss of property in kyat
1	Kachin	29	56	6	459,000
2	Kayah	2	5	-	170,000
3	Kayin	14	11	5	400,000
4	Chin	2	6	4	65,000,000
5	Sagaing	70	130	5	1,570,000
6	Taninthayi	14	19	2	395,000
7	Bago	53	73	7	3,515,000
8	Bago(West)	18	37	7	3,361,500
9	Magway	23	52	5	12,663,000
10	Mandalay	123	198	24	4,158,000
11	Mon	28	27	9	915,000
12	Rakhine	7	11	3	327,500
13	Yangon	66	189	18	30,505,000
14	Shan	18	30	4	133,000
15	Shan(North)	23	35	5	2,047,000
16	Shan(East)	9	22	2	70,000
17	Ayeyawady	17	23	1	160,000
	Total	516	924	107	125,859,000

MNA

Apple unveils new iPods but shares slip

SAN FRANCISCO, 9 Sept —Apple Inc. CEO Steve Jobs took the wraps off a revamped line of iPods on Tuesday and trumpeted a truce with NBC Universal that means the TV network will begin selling programs again on *iTunes.* The product announcements were largely expected, and investors were less than energized by the news, sending Apple's shares down $4.96, or 3.1 percent, to $152.96 in afternoon trading.

A redesigned iPod Nano is shown projected on a screen at Apple's 'Let's Rock' media event in San Francisco, California, on 9 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

The iPod upgrades Jobs revealed Tuesday in a theatre in San Francisco include two slick new Nano models, oval-shaped devices that Jobs said are the thinnest iPods Apple has ever made.

A $149 version comes with 8 gigabytes of memory; a 16-gigabyte version is $199.

The new models represent the incredible appetite for iPods — Jobs said Apple has sold 160 million iPods since their introduction. But Apple has to work hard to differentiate them from the iPhone, Apple's cell phone/iPod/Internet device that threatens to cannibalize some of the demand for iPods.

Jobs also showed off three new versions of the iPod Touch, the closest cousin to the iPhone.

An 8-gigabyte version of the new model will sell for $229; a 16-gigabyte version will be $299 and a 32 GB model will be $399.

Internet

China mudslide death toll rises, hundreds may be missing

BEIJING, 9 Sept—The death toll from a mud and rock slide in northern China has climbed to 34, state media said on Tuesday, but hundreds may be missing after the slip which triggered the collapse of a warehouse filled with mine waste.

A vehicle is seen after a rain-triggered mud-rock flow in Xiangfen county, Shanxi Province on 8 Sept, 2008. A mud and rock slide killed 26 people in northern China, after it triggered the collapse of a warehouse filled with mine waste early Monday morning, the official Xinhua News Agency said.—INTERNET

Monday's landslide, caused by torrential rain, injured 35 people. More than 1,100 police, fire fighters and villagers were hunting for survivors in the rubble, the official *Xinhua* news agency said.

State radio added in a report on its website that "several hundred" were missing, though it did not provide any additional information. *Xinhua* said the number of people missing had yet to be determined.

Top government officials have rushed to the Tashan mine, which is in northern Shanxi province, to direct rescue efforts. "The mud-rock flow also destroyed a three-story office building, a market and some villagers' houses in the valley," *Xinhua* said. "Witnesses said the flow roared down the valley and washed away the market and the houses in a few minutes."

Internet

Russia prepares to launch Iran's nuclear plant

MOSCOW, 9 Sept— The Russian state-run company building Iran's first nuclear plant said Monday that preparations for the reactor's launch had entered their final stage.

Atomstroiexport chief Leonid Reznikov said that by year's end the company will take steps that will make the launch of the Bushehr plant "irreversible."

Company spokeswoman Irina Yesipova said the launch date will be determined after talks between Russian and Iranian nuclear officials this month.

Iranian officials have said that Bushehr would be launched this fall.

The International Atomic Energy Agency declined comment.

Nonproliferation expert David Albright, whose Washington-based Institute for Science and International Security tracks countries under nuclear suspicion, suggested that the steps referred to by Russia probably involved the loading of fuel into the reactor.

Internet

Unidentified people walk around the perimeter of a crime scene as officers from the Killeen Police Department patrol the area in Killeen, Texas on 8 Sept, 2008. A Fort Hood soldier shot his commanding officer during a confrontation at his apartment early Monday, police said. The soldier then turned the gun on himself.—INTERNET

Six civilians killed in Philippine mily attacks against rebels

MANILA, 9 Sept— Six villagers, including three children, were killed in the southern Philippines on Monday when a bomb dropped by a military aircraft hit a pump boat loaded with evacuees, officials said.

"This is a very sad day for the town of Datu Piang," said Musib Uy Tan, spokesman for the Datu Piang town, located in the southern province of Maguindanao. All the evacuees from the town were on their way to an evacuation site when the tragedy took place on Monday morning, the *Philippine News Agency* reported.

Julieto Ando, an official of the Philippine Army, confirmed that there were civilians killed in Monday's bombing as government troops attacked some rogue members of the separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), according to the report.

"But we must be tactful in investigating reports of civilians being killed in encounters and in really digging into who could be responsible. We're investigating on that now," said the official.

MNA/Xinhua

Three Britons found guilty in liquid bomb plot

LONDON, 9 Sept— Three Britons were found guilty on Monday of conspiracy to kill using homemade liquid bombs, but a jury failed to agree that they intended to blow up transatlantic airliners in an al-Qaeda-style attack.

The verdicts came after a high-profile, five-month trial in which prosecutors had argued that eight co-conspirators planned to smuggle explosives onto half a dozen aircraft at London's Heathrow Airport and blow them up midway to North America.

After more than 50 hours of deliberation, the 12-person jury was unconvinced by the prosecution's description of a complex airline bomb plot, finding only three of the defendants — Abdulla Ahmed Ali, Assad Sarwar and Tanvir Hussain — guilty of a lesser charge of conspiracy to commit murder.

The jury failed to reach a verdict on four other defendants and the eighth was found not guilty on all charges. Sentencing is due to take place later. The trial had been closely watched in Britain, where police and secret services described the plot as potentially one of the deadliest ever hatched on British soil.

MNA/Reuters

Students show a drawing at Huanfeng Primary School in Hanshan County, east China's Anhui Province, on 9 Sept, 2008. —XINHUA

North Korea marked its 60th anniversary with a massive parade of its reserve military forces.—INTERNET

Brazil, Argentina to eliminate US dollar

RIO DE JANEIRO, 9 Sept— Brazil and Argentina agreed Monday that their bilateral trade will be settled by Brazilian reais and Argentine pesos, eliminating the US dollar as an intermedium.

Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and his Argentine counterpart Cristina Kirchner signed the agreement in Brazil's capital city Brasilia.

According to Brazil's Minister of Finance Guido Mantega, the new system will reduce the costs of intermediation, making trade easier for smaller companies of the two countries.

Mantega said the agreement represents the first step toward a common currency for Mercosur (Common Market of the South), which gathers Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

He added that the trade volume between Brazil and Argentina has reached 25 billion US dollars annually, and Argentina has become Brazil's third largest trading partner, after the United States and China.

Statistics show that some 19 per cent of Argentina's exportation heads to Brazil, and 32 per cent of Brazil's exportation goes to Argentina.

MNA/Xinhua

A performer in costume dances during the opening and media preview of the Singapore Biennale on 9 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

Greece charges Japan diplomat with killing daughter

ATHENS, 9 Sept— Greek prosecutors have charged a former Japanese ambassador to the Vatican and his wife with the murder of their 36-year-old daughter, police officials said on Monday.

The 77-year-old former diplomat, Masami Tanida, and his Greek wife, 65, were arrested on Saturday after police discovered the body of their daughter in the bathroom at their home on the island of Evia, said the officials.

The couple deny the murder charge and say their daughter committed suicide, their lawyer Thanassis Tartis told *Reuters.*

A coroner's report found the woman had been strangled to death and her wrist slit to make it appear that she took her own life, said the police officials, who asked not to be identified.

The couple have admitted to rowing with their daughter about the upbringing of their grandchild, police said.

Authorities were alerted after the diplomat's wife appeared at a local hospital on Saturday requesting a death certificate for their daughter, who was only reported missing on Thursday.

Police later searched their home and found the body, the police officials said.

MNA/Reuters

McCain, Obama tied in US opinion polls

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept— Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama are dead even in two public opinion polls released on Monday as they head into the final eight weeks of the race for the White House.

The polls were taken Friday through Sunday after last week's Republican convention, which ended on Thursday. A CNN/*Time* poll showed the race deadlocked at 48 per cent, and a Hotline/Diageo poll put the two candidates even at 44 per cent.

The CNN/*Time* poll was largely unchanged from the previous week, when Obama led McCain by 49 per cent to 48 per cent. The Hotline poll showed a significant convention bounce for McCain, who trailed Obama by 9 percentage points in a poll taken the week before.

Another poll released on Sunday, by USA Today/Gallup, gave McCain a 4-point edge among registered voters and a 10-point lead among likely voters. That was a big boost for McCain, who trailed Obama by 3 points among likely voters in the week before the Democratic convention.

MNA/Reuters

A portion of a sinking ship is seen at Tarragona's Port, on 9 Sept, 2008. The ship was carrying 900 tonnes of fuel when it sank, but there has not been a report of an oil spill as the fuel is still within the vessel, the Spanish Government said.—Internet

Russia says to sue British American Tobacco

MOSCOW, 9 Sept— Russia will sue cigarette maker British American Tobacco (BAT) for spreading misinformation and selling lower grade products than in Europe, state consumer watchdog Rospotrebnadzor said on Monday.

BAT, the maker of international brands Dunhill and Lucky Strike, denied the accusation.

"British American Tobacco maintains its activities in Russia are in full accordance with Russian law," BAT's director of corporate affairs in Russia, Alexander Lyuty, said.

The head of the watchdog, Gennady Onishchenko, told a Press briefing: "These gentlemen are satisfied with Russia as an uncivilised market where they can sell products not according to European legislation which are dangerous and poisonous."

He said he had already sent BAT the appropriate legal documents.

MNA/Reuters

A woman walks past the artwork "Address" during the opening and media preview of the Singapore Biennale in Singapore on 9 Sept, 2008. The work, by Filipino artist Alfredo Aquilizan and his wife Isabel, features a collection of household items arranged into a cube.—INTERNET

7.0 magnitude earthquake jolts off Vanuatu

WELLIGTION, 9 Sept— A strong earthquake measuring 7. 0 on the Richter Scale struck off the coast of the South Pacific island nation of Vanuatu early Tuesday, the US Geological Survey reported.

No tsunami warning was issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre and there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

The quake, which occurred at 05:52 am Tuesday Vanuatu local time (19:52 GMT Monday), was centred about 225 kilometres north of Luganville on the island of Santo, northern Vanuatu, at a depth of 121.8 kilometres.

Another quake of 6.6 magnitude was recorded on Monday.

MNA/Xinhua

TRADE MARK CAUTION

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Used in respect of:- "All goods in International Class 34, namely, cigarettes."

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Used in respect of:-"All goods in International Class 34, namely, tobacco whether manufactured or unmanufactured".

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VISTA
Reg. No.1585/2001

Used in respect of:-"All goods in International Class 34, namely, tobacco; smoking accessories; matches."

BASIC
Reg. No.1575/2001

Used in respect of:-"All goods in International Class 34, namely, tobacco whether manufactured or unmanufactured, cigarettes, cigars, smokers' articles and matches."

BOND STREET
Reg. No.1576/2001

Used in respect of:-"All goods in International Class 34, namely, tobacco products of all kinds. "

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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
(for **Eccles & Lee Patent Attorneys and Trademark Attorneys, Hong Kong**)
Dated: 10 September 2008

Iran says satellite launched with China, Thailand

TEHERAN, 9 Sept—A joint research satellite of China, Iran and Thailand was launched on a Chinese rocket on Sunday aimed at boosting cooperation on natural disasters such as earthquakes, an Iranian minister said on Sunday.

The announcement came just a few weeks after Iran said on 17 August it had put a dummy satellite into orbit on a domestically made rocket for the first time. US officials said the attempted launch was a failure.

Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Soleimani said the three countries had worked together on the satellite which he said was equipped with cameras.

"This morning it was launched successfully and it was placed into orbit," he told state television, without giving details. "Iran and China and regional countries are countries which have a lot of natural disasters," he said. "God willing, we can have good activities in the direction of aerospace research."

China is among six world powers seeking to convince Iran to halt nuclear work the West fears is aimed at making bombs, but it has been reluctant to consider steps that might hurt its energy ties with the world's fourth-largest oil exporter.

Iran caused international concern in February by testing a domestically made rocket as part of its satellite programme, the *Explorer 1*. It said it needed two more similar tests before putting a domestically made satellite into orbit.

MNA/Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KAIDO VOY NO (805 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KAIDO VOY NO (805 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.9.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S P.D.Z. CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Iran to hold presidential election in June 2009

TEHERAN, 9 Sept— Iran will hold its 2009 presidential election on 12 June, when conservative Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is widely expected to stand for a second four-year term despite mounting criticism over his economic policies.

Iranian media said on Sunday the Guardian Council, a constitutional watchdog, and the Interior Ministry had agreed on the date. The election was due in mid-2009 but the exact timing had not previously been announced.

"The 10th presidential election will be held on the 22nd of Khordad of next year," election headquarters head Alireza Afshar told the *Fars* news agency, referring to the number of such elections in Iran since its 1979 Islamic Revolution.

The Iranian month of Khordad ends on 21 June next year.

Under the Constitution, the president is Iran's second-highest official after its Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who is the ultimate authority in matters of state. — *MNA/Reuters*

Ozawa reelected chief of Japan's main opposition DPJ

TOKYO, 9 Sept—Ichiro Ozawa, current president of Japan's major opposition Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), was reelected Monday for a third term.

Ozawa's reelection came in the wake of Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda's surprise resignation announcement on 1 September, which has raised the possibility that the ruling bloc of the Liberal Democratic Party and the New Komeito party, may seek a snap election under a more popular leader.

Ozawa, 66, became the chief of the DPJ in April 2006 when Seiji Maehara stepped down over a faked e-mail message scandal. He was elected as president of the DPJ in September 2006 after serving out Maehara's term.

The DPJ, formed through the merger of four political parties in 1996, is now standing an increased chance of taking power as it assumed dominance in the House of Councillors last year.

MNA/Xinhua

Three China mine accidents kill 42, trap 18

BEIJING, 9 Sept—Three Chinese coal mine accidents in just four days killed at least 42 people, trapped 18, and left three missing, media reported on Monday.

China's mining industry remains the world's deadliest amid huge demand from a booming economy, despite a government drive to close thousands of small and unsafe mines. Accidents are reported on an almost daily basis.

Flood waters trapped 24 in a coal pit in central Henan province on Sunday, the official *Xinhua* news agency said. By Monday, only six had been rescued.

The death toll from a gas blast at a coal mine in southwest Sichuan on Friday had risen to 15, with three missing, according to a local report carried by the China News Service (chinanews.com.cn).

The accident happened just a day after an explosion at a colliery in northeastern Liaoning killed 27.

State media reported on Sunday that coal mine deaths dropped by almost a quarter in the first eight months of 2008, but did not mention the number of people killed.

MNA/Reuters

59-year-old in France gives birth to triplets

PARIS, 9 Sept—Hospital officials in France say a 59-year-old woman has given birth to triplets after going abroad to get donated eggs.

The Paris public hospital network says the two boys and a girl weighed between 2.09 and 2.4 kilogrammes (4 pounds 9 ounces and 5 pounds 5 ounces) and measured between 46 and 47 centimetres (18.1-18.5 inches).

An official at the Paris hospital network said on Monday that the woman gave birth this weekend by Caesarian section. The official was not authorized to be publicly named.—*Internet*

European science satellite launch is delayed

PARIS, 9 Sept —The launch of a satellite to monitor Earth's gravitational field, scheduled for Wednesday from a base in northern Russia, has been postponed to 5 October because of technical problems, the European Space Agency (ESA) announced on Monday.

Launch preparations at the Plesetsk cosmodrome 800 kilometres (500 miles) north of Moscow were stopped on Sunday "due to an anomaly in one of the units of the guidance and navigation subsystem of the launcher's upper stage," ESA said.Fixing the problem will mean separating the rocket's components to replace the unit, it said in a Press release.

The launch has been rescheduled to 5 October at 1421 GMT, ESA said, adding, "The satellite and its mission will not be affected by this launch delay."

The one-tonne satellite is called the Gravity field and state-steady Ocean Circulation Explorer, or GOCE.It is part of ESA's "Earth Explorer" programme, initiated in 1999, to deepen understanding about some of the fundamentals of the planet — its atmosphere, oceans, biosphere and interior.

GOCE's launcher is a Rockot, a derivative of a Russian intercontinental ballistic missile operated by a joint venture between EADS Astrium and the Khrunichev Space Centre.—*Internet*

A Rockot launch vehicle readies for blast off at the Plesetsk Cosmodrome in northern Russia. The launch of a satellite to monitor Earth's gravitational field, scheduled for Wednesday from the Plesetsk base has been postponed to 5 October because of technical problems, the European Space Agency (ESA) announced on Monday.
INTERNET

Hubble shuttle flight faces higher space junk risk

CAPE CANAVERAL, 9 Sept — Next month's shuttle flight to the Hubble Space Telescope faces an increased risk of a destructive hit by space junk because it will be in a higher, more littered orbit than usual, NASA said on Monday. Managers at NASA's highest levels will need to sign off on the mission because of the increased risk.

New number-crunching puts the odds of a catastrophic strike by orbital debris including bits of space junk at about 1-in-185 during *Atlantis*' upcoming mission to Hubble. That compares to 1-in-300 odds for a shuttle flight to the international space station, shuttle programme director John Shannon said on Monday.

Hubble is at a considerably higher and dirtier, so to speak, orbit than the space station — 350 miles versus just over 200 miles. That extra altitude will expose *Atlantis* to more pieces of space junk, any of which could slam into the shuttle.

Space debris, though, has not caused significant damage to Hubble since its launch in 1990, said Preston Burch, NASA's Hubble programme manager.— *Internet*

Study: Exercise blunts effects of obesity gene

BEIJING, 9 Sept — Regular physical activity can reduce the risk of obesity in people who have a genetic predisposition to being overweight, according to a study in Monday's issue of the Archives of Internal Medicine.

Variations of a particular gene, known as the fat mass and obesity associated (FTO) gene, are widely acknowledged to be linked with a high body mass index, but only for those on the lower end of a scale of physical activity.

On average, it takes an extra 900 kilocalories expended every day to overcome the effects of the gene, according to the study. In this study, researchers analyzed DNA samples from 704 healthy Amish adults of average age 43.6, and conducted a series of physiological tests on the participants, including recording their physical activity over a seven-day period.

Among the participants, fifty-four percent of the men were overweight and 10 percent obese. About 64 percent of the women were overweight and 31 percent obese.

The group was divided into people with high activity levels and low activity levels. The highly active group burned about 900 more calories per day than the lower activity group.

Internet

A street vendor rests in front of an car advertising hoarding in central Hanoi. Vietnam has posted its lowest monthly sales of locally assembled cars since the beginning of this year, a trade body has said.—INYRTNET

Among nonsmokers, lung cancer is deadlier for men

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept — Men who have never smoked are more likely to die from lung cancer than women nonsmokers, researchers reported on Monday.

They found that male nonsmokers were about 25 percent more likely to die from lung cancer than women nonsmokers even though they developed the disease at similar rates.

Men who had never smoked had a 1.1 percent risk of dying from lung cancer, compared to 0.8 percent for the women, the study found. This compares to about 22 percent among men who smoke and 12 percent of women who smoke.

The study in North America, Europe and Asia was the largest ever done on nonsmokers and lung cancer.

Internet

Sweden to take measures to prevent bluetongue disease

STOCKHOLM, 9 Sept — The Swedish National Board of Agriculture decided on Monday to inject bacterins for a half million livestock after the first bluetongue case.

A total of 81 municipalities are to be affected by restrictions. A total of 30 teams of veterinarians and defence force volunteers will test other livestock and inject bacterins for a half million livestock in the restrictive zone for signs of the disease and the areas nearby, the Board said in a statement.

All transport of cattle, goats, sheep, and deer from the restrictive zone has been banned.

Some of 20,000 livestock in the protective zone has been discovered bluetongue disease, it added. The first two cases of bluetongue disease was discovered in a farm in Halland in south-western Sweden on Saturday. —*Internet*

Low vitamin B12 level may cause brain shrinkage in old

BEIJING, 9 Sept — Lowvitamin B12level in old people may cause brain atrophy or shrinkage, according toa UK study in Tuesday's Neurology.

This study involved 107 volunteers aged 61 to 87 who were cognitively normal at the beginning of the study, and who underwent annual clinical exams, MRI scans, cognitive tests and had blood samples taken.

Individuals with lower vitamin B12 levels had a greater decrease in brain volume. Those with the lowest levels had a sixfold greater rate of brain volume loss compared with those who had the highest levels of the vitamin.

The researchers write that they were unable to investigate whether lower vitamin B12 could cause cognitive impairment by its effect on brain size.

Internet

SPORTS

Schiavone, Peng lead charge into Bali second round

NUSA DUA (Indonesia), 9 Sept — Italian fifth seed Francesca Schiavone and China's ninth seed Peng Shuai led the charge Monday into the second round of the Bali Open.

Schiavone, who made a major impact the last time she played here in 2005 when she reached the final before falling to Lindsay Davenport, enjoyed an easy return to the tropical island, crushing local hope Sandy Gumulya, 6-2, 6-0.

Peng outclassed Japan's Ayumi Morita 6-2, 6-1 while Chinese compatriot Meng Yuan, who often gets overshadowed by her more illustrious teammate, rallied from a set down to topple Kazakh wild card Yaroslava Shvedova, 5-7, 6-2, 7-5.

Her reward is a second round encounter with Swiss veteran and second seed Patty Schnyder.

In another first round match, Poland's Marta Domachowska ended the short-lived hopes of Indonesia's Lavinia Tananta, 6-2, 6-3.—*Internet*

Cole backs England to slay Croatia curse

***Chelsea's English Midfielder Joe Cole, seen here in August 2008, has warned his England team-mates not to underestimate Croatia for the second tournament in a row as they prepare for a World Cup qualifier in Zagreb on Wednesday.—*INTERNET**

BARCELONA, 9 Sept — Joe Cole has warned his England team-mates not to underestimate Croatia for the second tournament in a row as they prepare for a World Cup qualifier in Zagreb on Wednesday.

Cole, who came off the bench to score twice against Andorra on Saturday, hopes his decisive intervention in England's opening qualifier will result in him being promoted to the starting line-up for a match that could really set the tone in the battle for top spot in group six.

England lost 2-0 in Zagreb two years ago in a Euro 2008 qualifying match and went on to miss out on a place in the finals as Croatia topped the group ahead of Russia.—*Internet*

Zola in the frame for Hammers as Bilic sticks with Croatia

LONDON, 9 Sept — Gianfranco Zola emerged Monday as a strong favourite to become West Ham's new manager after Croatia boss Slaven Bilic was quoted as saying he does not want the job.

Bilic, a former Hammers defender, was seen as the leading candidate to take over at Upton Park following Alan Curbishley's resignation last week, but he appears committed to the task of leading his country to the 2010 World Cup finals.

"I'm not going anywhere," Bilic told *The Sun* newspaper. "Any club from England is a great opportunity. Not for money, honestly, for me it's about ambition. It's about working in England, a country you know I adore.

Internet

***Former Chelsea player Gianfranco Zola poses after receiving the Order of the British Empire in Rome, 2004. Zola emerged as a strong favourite to become West Ham's new manager after Croatia boss Slaven Bilic was quoted as saying he does not want the job.—*INTERNET**

Australia powers off China for third win of men's wheelchair basketball

BEIJING, 9 Sept — Australia dominated from start to finish to cruise past China 79-44 for their third win of the Beijing Paralympic wheelchair basketball preliminaries on Tuesday at the National Indoor Stadium.

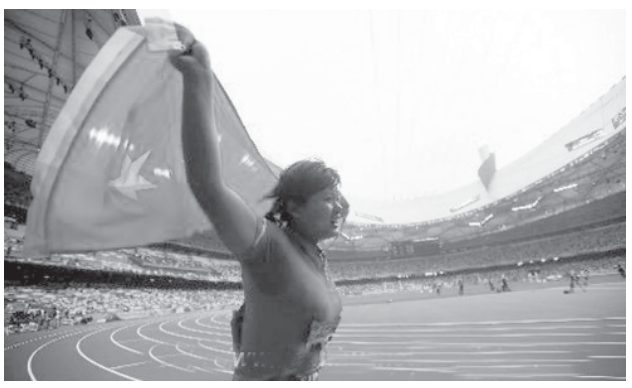
Although China trailed by only 10 points at the half, Australia pulled away with an aggressive defence that resulted in a game total of 12 steals and 23 Chinese turnovers.

Australia's strong offence registered 54 points in the paint and 21 assists. Centre Brad Ness was the game's highest scorer with 31 points.

"We're growing. The competition isn't won on the first day, it's won on the eighth day. We are just hoping to keep building. China threw everything at us today and made a couple of runs, but it's just about getting our processes right and going forward," said Ness.

Talking on the effects of playing professionally in Europe, Ness said:

"You look at Shaun Norris in our team, who spent two years in Europe, and he's just become a monster out on the court. It's just from playing year-in and year-out."—*Internet*



***China's Yao Juan jubilates after women's javelin F42-46 final at the National Stadium—also known as the Bird's Nest during the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing, China, on 8 Sept, 2008. Yao won the gold medal with 40.51 metres and set a new world record.—*XINHUA**

Federer wins fifth US Open in a row for 13th Slam crown

NEW YORK, 9 Sept — Roger Federer won his 13th Grand Slam crown and fifth consecutive US Open title on Monday, defeating British sixth seed Andy Murray 6-2, 7-5, 6-2 to move one Slam title shy of the all-time record. Federer's 56th career crown moved him into sole possession of second place on the all-time Slam title list, one more than Roy Emerson and one below the career record 14 won by Pete Sampras.

"One thing is for sure. I'm not going to stop at 13," Federer said. "That would be terrible." After losing this year's Wimbledon and French Open finals and his number one ranking to Spain's Rafael Nadal, Federer's aura of invincibility had dimmed but his US Open title served notice he still remains a force in tennis.—*Internet*

***Roger Federer of Switzerland returns the ball during his men's final match to Andy Murray of Britain at the US Open tennis tournament at the USTA National Tennis Centre in New York City. Federer won 6-2, 7-5, 6-2.—*INTERNET**

Napoli punished for fan violence

ROME, 9 Sept — Serie A side Napoli have been fined 10,000 euros (14,200 dollars) and ordered to close two parts of their stands for four league games after violent scenes during a match against AS Roma last month.

Parts of the A and B stands which are normally occupied by the club's notorious 'ultras' supporters, who threw objects including bottles, money and fireworks at stewarts and Roman supporters, will be closed. The games effected will be against Fiorentina and Palermo on 14 and 24, September and Juventus and Reggina 19 and 29 on October.

Italy's Interior Ministry have already banned Napoli fans from travelling to away matches all season after violence flared on the opening day of the season during the encounter with Roma.—*Internet*

***South African Oscar Pistorius, right, is followed by Christoph Bausch of Switzerland as they compete in the Men's 100m T44 during the Beijing Paralympic Games at the National Stadium, known as the Bird's Nest in Beijing, China on 8 Sept, 2008.—*INTERNET**

Pistorius runs 11.16 in 100, targets three golds

BEIJING, 9 Sept — Oscar Pistorius of South Africa began his bid for three gold medals at the Beijing Paralympics on Monday by finishing in 11.16 seconds for the fastest time in 100-metre heats.

Pistorius, a double amputee, races with prosthetic legs and is known as the "Blade Runner." He won a legal battle in May for the right to run in the Olympics but failed to meet the qualifying time standard.

On Monday, he ran a personal best and was followed by three Americans: Jerome Singleton (11.48), Brian Frasure (11.49) and Marlon Shirley (11.77). Pistorius will also run the 200 and 400, hoping to better his performance four years ago in the Athens Paralympics, where he won a gold and bronze.

Forty-one medals were awarded on the second day of the Paralympics. China leads with 28 medals, including eight gold. The United States also has eight gold and 17 overall.

South African swimmer Natalie Du Toit won her second gold in two days, winning the 100 freestyle after taking the 100 butterfly Sunday. She's attempting to win five gold medals.

The US took three of the 18 golds in swimming, the medals going to Jessica Long, Erin Popovich and Anna Eames.—*Internet*

64 illegal immigrants arrested in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 9 Sept— Mexican Federal agents detained 64 illegal immigrants from Ecuador and other Central American countries in the southeastern state of Chiapas, the Mexican National Migration Institute (INM) said on Monday.

The detainees included 10 Ecuadorean, 48 Guatemalans and six Salvadoreans who were travelling in a freight truck intercepted Sunday at the Ocozocuautla-Las Choapas highway in the state of Chiapas which borders Guatemala, the INM said in a statement.

The detainees, who boarded the truck in a ranch in Chiapas heading towards Mexico City, said they were trying to reach the United States in search of work.

At least 800 illegal immigrants from Latin America, most of them from Guatemala and El Salvador, have been detained in Mexico so far this year, according to official statistics.

MNA/Xinhua

Togo President names UN technocrat as premier

LOME, 9 Sept— Togo's President Faure Gnassingbe has named Gilbert Fossoun Houngbo, an accountant and senior United Nations official, to be prime minister of the small West African state, the government said on Monday.

Houngbo, who since late 2005 has directed the UN Development Programme (UNDP)'s regional bureau for Africa, replaced Komlan Mally who resigned on Friday as premier, the Togolese Government's website said.

Togo, a former French colony that is the world's fourth-largest producer of phosphate, has obtained debt cancellation accords this year from the World Bank and Western creditors and Houngbo's appointment was expected to further cement relations with foreign donors and lenders.

MNA/Reuters

Rice laments scarcity of Black US diplomats

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept — US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Monday lamented the scarcity of Black diplomats in the US foreign service, saying she can go through a day of meetings and seldom see anyone like herself.

Rice and her immediate predecessor, Colin Powell, are the first Blacks to have served as the United States' top diplomat.

"When I go around the world, I want very much to see Black Americans involved in the development and the promotion of our foreign policy," Rice told a conference of scholars from US historically black colleges and universities.

"I want to see a foreign service that looks as if Black Americans are a part of this great country," she added. "I have lamented that I can go into a meeting at the Department of State and, as a matter of fact, I can go into a whole day of meetings at the Department of State and actually rarely see somebody who looks like me," she said. "And that's just not acceptable".

MNA/Reuters

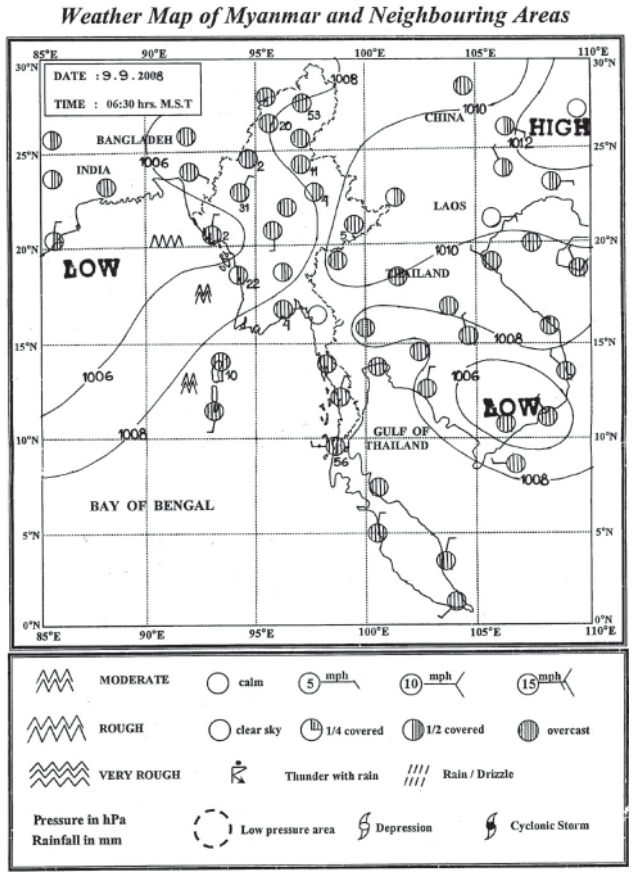
Obituary

Major Myint Thein (Retd) Navy-3202
(Paungde)
Marine Superintendent (Retd)
Age (68) years

Son of (U San Tin+Daw Mya Shin) of No. 106, Shwe Taung Street, Paungde, beloved husband of Daw Lwin Lwin Myint of No. 21, In Street, Say/Nyein Ward, Kyimyindine Township, Father of Major Zaw Min Thein (Retd)-Major Daw Khin Aung Thu (DSMA), Alan Ee-Ma Khin Myat Thu, Major Ye Mon Soe, Grand Father of Weing Kyi Phyu Thant and Pamela Ee, passed away on (7-9-2008) at (8:30) pm and funeral service will take place from No. 2, Military Hospital, to Yayway Cemetery on (11-9-2008) (Thursday) at (12:00) noon. (Transport will leave residence at 10:30 am and from No. 2, Military Hospital at (11:00) am.

Bereaved Family

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 9 September, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Magway Division, scattered in Rakhine, Kayah and Kayin States, Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State, lower Sagaing, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfall in lower Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (2.80) inches, Kawthoung (2.36) inches, Dawei (2.32) inches, Kalay (2.12) inches, Kalewa (2.01) inches and Shwebo (1.62) inches.

Maximum temperature on 8-9-2008 was 90˚F. Minimum temperature on 9-9-2008 was 72ºF. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 9-9-2008 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 8-9-2008 was (6.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 9-9-2008 was (0.12) inch at Mingaladon, (0.15) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.15) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (81.93) inches at Mingaladon, (92.33) inches at Kaba-Aye and (110.82) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (12:30) hours MST on 8-9-2008.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10-9-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Chin State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Rakhine State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Kachin, and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of thundery conditions in the Central Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 10-9-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-9-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-9-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

TV Myanmar

Wednesday, 10 September
View on today

7:00 am
1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြုဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am
5. "အဲဒီမှာစတွေ့တာပဲ" (မင်းအုပ်စိုး၊ဌက်ပျောကြော်၊ မြတ်ကောသီအောင်၊နှင်းဝတ်ရည်သောင်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–မင်းအုပ်စိုး)

8:00 am
6. Musical programme

8:10 am
7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am
8. ၂၀၀၈ခုနှစ် (၁၆) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (ကာလပေါ်တေး/ခေတ်ဟောင်းတေး) (အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာအဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား)

8:30 am
9. International news

8:45 am
10.Classical songs

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:10 pm
2. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

4:20 pm
3. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:30 pm
4. Dance of National races

4:40 pm
5. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:50 pm
6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:00 pm
7. The mirror images of the musical oldies

5:10 pm
8. ရွှေဖွယ်စုံလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

5:20 pm
9. ၂၀၀၈ခုနှစ် (၁၆) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (ကာလပေါ်တေး/ခေတ်ဟောင်းတေး) (အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာအဆင့်) (အမျိုးသမီး)

5:30 pm
10. ရာသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm
11. Evening news

6:30 pm
12. Weather report

6:35 pm
13. မြန်မာ့လေ့ ရိုးရာလက်ရေ့.

6:50 pm
14. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

7:00 pm
15. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:20 pm
16. လပွတ္တာမြို့နယ်၊ ညောင်လိန်ကျေးရွာ၊ မိုးစပါးစုပေါင်းထွန်ယက်ကောက်စိုက်ပွဲ

7:30 pm
17. ဆိုလိုက်ကြစို့.

8:00 pm
18. News.
19. International news
20. Weather report
21. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ် (၁၅) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ "သုဝဏ္ဏသာမဇာတ်တော်ကြီး ပြိုင်ပွဲ"(ဒုတိယဆု) (စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်း) (ပထမပိုင်း)

R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministpry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 392308, Manager 392226, Circulation 392304, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 392369

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

☆ **Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation**

☆ **BBC lying**
VOA deceiving
RFA setting up hostilities

☆ **Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers**

Tax free markets doing well in Yangon Div

YANGON, 9 Sept — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials inspected foodstuff and personal goods shops, chicken, egg, fish and vegetable shops, meat and dairy products shops, onion, rice and edible oil shops at tax free markets in Thakayta, Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (North), Shwepyitha and Hlinethaya Townships, here, this morning. —*MNA*

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects tax-free market in Dagon Myothit (North).
MNA

INSIDE

Simultaneously, literacy campaigns are being launched on a wider scale across the Union including rural and border areas. As a result, over 800,000 illiterates in states and divisions have been literate in 2008. With the fruits of literacy rate getting high, the government is expediting constant learning plans for sustainable progress in the literacy movements.

PAGE 2 **PERSPECTIVES**

Development drives never miss southernmost regions

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept —Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence on 4 September morning inspected Nos. 1 and 2 Pepper Plantations and sample algae grown by the local regiment in Zardatgyi Island, Kawthoung Township, Taninthayi Division and gave necessary instructions.

Accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Costal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and departmental officials, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met with officers and other ranks of the local regiment in Zardatgyi Island and provided them with necessities.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party proceeded to Zardatgyi Affiliated Basic Education Middle School and looked into computer classrooms and learning of students and met with departmental personnel, social organizations and local people.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye presented cash for the trust funds of the school and exercise books for students and Chairman of Yuzana Co Ltd U Htay Myint presented three computers for the school through the Headmistress.

After that, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party inspected the self-reliant library and sale of houses and shops in Zardatgyi Village.

After inspecting the cultivation of algae by the local regiment in the sea near the village by boat, they left the village for Kawthoung.

(See page 9)

Maj-Gen Tha Aye inspects sample of sea algae cultivated by local battalion at Zardatgyi Island.
MNA