Prime Minister receives Indian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein received Indian Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra who had completed his tour of duty in Myanmar at the Government Office here at 10 am today.

Present also at the call were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Director-General Col Thant Shin of the Government Office and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department. The Indian Ambassador was accompanied by Minister-Counselor Mr Manoj Kumar Bharti and First Secretary Mr Raj K Sinastava of the Indian Embassy. —MNA

Saha home debut likely

EVERTON, 26 Sept—David Moyes’ Everton clash with Rafa Benitez’s Liverpool in the first Merseyside derby of the season and 208th overall, at Goodison Park on Saturday.

The fierce local rivalry between these two sides makes the contest a hard-fought affair with the players looking forward to the fixtures, which often have turned ill-tempered as evident from the fact that 16 red cards have been brandished in 32 Premier League matches.

As such, Moyes’ side will be eager to show their response and wipe the memories of the defeat with a positive result against the Reds. In the process, Everton, who are placed ninth with seven points from five games, will also be aware that they are yet to score a point in front of their own fans.

Former Manchester United striker Louis Saha could make his home debut after impressing last time out in substitute appearance at Hull City. The game comes too soon for Tony Hibbert, who is in full training following a cruciate ligament injury.—INTERNET

Was Stonehenge a health spa?

STONEHENGE, 26 Sept—After an excavation earlier this year, two British archaeologists are suggesting a solution to the mystery of Stonehenge’s purpose. They theorize it was a destination for pilgrims going to the prehistoric equivalent of Lourdes — or, if you prefer, a health spa.

The archaeologists, Timothy Darvill and Geoffrey Wainwright, conducted the first dig in more than 40 years of Stonehenge’s inner circle, where builders more than 3,000 years ago had placed a double circle of rounded rocks called bluestones. These bluestones came from Carn Menyn, a site in the mountains 140 miles away — about seven times more distant than the source of Stonehenge’s most famous rocks, the enormous flat ones arranged like pillars outside the inner circle. Why, instead of quarrying nearby, did the ancient builders go so far to get the round bluestones?

Because Carn Menyn’s bluestones were believed to have mystical properties that healed the sick, according to the archaeologists, whose research is reported in Smithsonian magazine. The ancient tradition of the medicinal properties of the bluestones at Stonehenge was noted in the 13th century AD by a British poet named Layamon.
Maintain and preserve Myanmar’s cultural heritage

Myanmar’s culture has been flourishing from time immemorial. The fact that Myanmar has stood firm with her own territory and culture has been proved by the unearthed ancient cultural objects. A great number of ancient pagodas and stupas can be seen in Bagan Archaeological Region in Myanmar. Moreover, there are lots of frescos and ancient cultural edifices with eye-catching artistic works in the region.

Measures are being taken to maintain and preserve those ancient cultural objects as they can go into ruin with the passage of time. Such measures include renovating religious buildings, excavating the palaces and moats of ancient Myanmar kings, unearthing ancient cities and doing research and finding and keeping ancient historical objects and stone and palm-leaf inscriptions.

Besides, the palaces of ancient Myanmar kings were excavated according to the historical evidence and inscriptions. So far, Kanbawzathadi Palace in Bago, Shweboonyadana Palace in Shwebo and Myanmarkyaung Golden Palace in Mandalay and Bagan Golden Palace have been rebuilt with their original styles.

The State has regarded the preservation and maintenance of national cultural heritages as a national duty. As the State is focusing on maintaining and preserving ancient cultural heritage, all the people are to preserve the existing cultural edifices and objects. Only then, will Myanmar’s priceless cultural heritage be long-lasting.

YANGON Tourist Map (12-2008) distributed free of charge

The YANGON Tourist Map (12-2008) distributed free of charge by Design Printing Services Co Ltd (D.P.S) has been publishing different kinds of tourist guide maps since 1995 and now it has published over 1.5 million copies. The Company has now published free YANGON Tourist Map (12-2008).

YANGON Tourist Map (12-2008) includes detailed maps of the whole city and location of many business centers. It also comprises maps of Nargis-hit regions and documentary photos of travel agencies’ assistance to the victims. The map provides clear description of the location and phone numbers of International Airlines, embassies, hotels, inns, restaurants, travel & tour agencies, golf courses, medical centers, courier services, language schools, beauty spas, taxi & transport services and is particularly designed for convenience of the tourists to find markets, international shopping mall, museums, pagodas and stupas, gems and souvenir shops without difficulty.

Hole-in-One at Bagan Golf Course

YANGON, 26 Sept—Head of Magway Division Fisheries Department U Paw Lwin playing together with Head of Magway Division Internal Revenue Department U Aung Min, Head of Magway Division Agricultural Mechanization Department U Lu Myint, Division Manager of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading U Myint Lwin and Manager of Central Sesame Research Farm U Thein Htay Oo scored hole-in-one at the hole No.7 at Bagan Golf Course in NyaungU Township on 23 September.—MNA
US and Pakistani troops exchange fire

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — US and Pakistani ground forces exchanged fire across the Afghanistan-Pakistan border on Thursday, the latest in a string of incidents that has ratcheted up diplomatic tension between the two allies. No casualties or injuries were reported after Pakistani forces shot at two US helicopters from a Pakistan border post.

US and Pakistani officials clashed over whether the American helicopters had entered Pakistan. The incident follows a US campaign of attacks on militant targets inside Pakistan, including a September raid on a village compound in South Waziristan. Islamabad has protested those strikes and warned it would defend itself. “Just as we will not let Pakistan’s territory be used by terrorists for attacks against our people and our neighbours, we cannot allow our territory and our sovereignty to be violated by our friends,” Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari said in New York on Thursday. Internet

Pakistan warns US troops after exchange of fire on border

ISLAMABAD, 26 Sept — Pakistan warned US troops not to intrude on its territory Friday after the two anti-terror allies traded fire along the Afghan border, straining already tense ties.

Pakistan government spokesman Akram Shaeedi urged US-led coalition forces “not to violate territorial sovereignty of Pakistan as it is counterproductive to the war on terror.” Internet

Two suicide bombers blow themselves up

KARACHI, 26 Sept — Two suicide bombers blew themselves up on Friday during a raid on their hideout in southern Pakistan, and the bodies of two others, including a prisoner held in handcuffs, were found after the blast, police said. Police seized at least 22 pounds of explosives, two suicide jackets, seven pistols and 12 hand grenades from the Karachi house, which was badly damaged by the explosions.

The prisoner whose body was discovered in the rubble was identified as a wealthy supplier of fuel and goods to US and NATO forces in Afghanistan, senior police official Aleem Jaffry told The Associated Press.

The raid took place just hours before Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani was due to arrive in Karachi, internet

Two terrorist suspects arrested on KLM flight

BERLIN, 26 Sept — German police commandos grabbed two terrorist suspects from an Amsterdam-bound flight early Friday before the plane took off from Cologne, police said.

A 23-year-old Somali man and a 24-year-old German born in Somalia were arrested before the KLM flight left the airport, North Rhine-Westphalia state police said. A KLM spokeswoman said on NOS news in the Netherlands that police boarded the plane when it was at its “point of departure” and grabbed the two suspects.

Everyone was then forced to leave the plane, and there was a “baggage parade” to see whose bags belonged to whom, she said.

No further details were immediately available. Germany’s top-selling Bild newspaper, citing police sources, said the two had been under observation for months and a suicide note was found in their apartment saying that they wanted to die for the “jihad” or “holy war.” Internet

Suicide bomber kills five in Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 Sept — A police chief says a suicide bomber has killed five people, and wounded seven others in eastern Afghanistan.

Khosh province’s police chief, Abdul Qayum Bakozy, says the bomber targeted a military commander working for the US forces in the province.

Bakozy says the commander was wounded in the Friday blast. Five people, including two intelligence agents, were killed.

Militants launch suicide attacks against Afghan and foreign troops. More than 4,600 people — have died in insurgency related violence this year. Internet

Three al-Qaida militants killed in Iraq

MOOSUL, 26 Sept — Iraqi security forces on Thursday killed three al-Qaida militants planning suicide attacks in the northern city of Mosul during the Muslim holidays which follow Ramadan, the Defense Ministry said. Mohammed Humud Abtan, a Yemeni, and an unnamed Saudi were killed along with Iraqi militant Malik al-Jubouri, Defense Ministry spokesman Major Gen Mohammed al-Askari told AFP.

“According to our preliminary information, this cell was intending to carry out suicide attacks in Mosul during the days of Eid. But their plan failed,” he said, referring to the holidays which follow the fasting month of Ramadan.

Askari said the clashes took place when Iraqi forces launched a raid in western Mosul targeting the fighters. Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,173

BAGHDAD, 26 Sept — As of Thursday, 25 Sept, 2008, at least 4,173 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,379 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each. Internet
Oil falls below $107 on doubts over rescue plan

PERTH, 26 Sept—Oil fell more than $1 to below $107 a barrel on Friday, reversing the previous session’s gains of more than $2, as investors took profit on uncertainty over the US government’s $700 billion rescue plan.

Traders said oil’s gains on Thursday were largely driven by news that US lawmakers appeared close to a final agreement on the massive bailout plan, a deal that could help the world’s largest energy-consuming nation avoid a deep recession that would cut deeply into fuel demand.

But the deal to rescue the faltering US financial system stalled on Thursday amid bickering between Democrats and Republicans. —Internet

Oracle teams with HP in hardware market

LOS ANGELES, 26 Sept—Oracle, the second-largest software maker, is entering the hardware market for the first time, teaming with Hewlett-Packard (HP) on a pair of new storage server products, the San Francisco Chronicle said on Thursday.

The HP Oracle Exadata Storage Server will help the Oracle expand into the growing market of data warehousing, the paper said.

The server, which HP will produce, also will work with another joint hardware product called the HP Oracle Database Machine, an optimized hardware pack that will combine the Exadata Storage Servers with database computers running Oracle’s software, according to the report.

This integration of hardware and software in the Database Machine will help address the growing problem for companies that must analyze terabytes of data from data warehouses, large storage arrays from which companies pull data, the paper quoted Oracle CEO Larry Ellison as saying. —Internet

India’s Tata vows Nano car on schedule

NEW DELHI, 26 Sept—India’s Tata Motors insisted Thursday it would stick to its planned schedule for the high-profile rollout of the world’s cheapest car despite months of protests over a land dispute.

The vehicle giant began moving machinery and equipment from a nearly completed factory in West Bengal state Wednesday after violent demonstrations halted construction on the site slated to produce the Nano.

The firm, part of the sprawling tea-to-steelt Tata Group, has said it will try to launch the car, slated to cost 100,000 rupees (2,150 dollars) as near to next month’s big-spending Hindu festival season as possible.

The official would not say where the Nano — dubbed the “People’s Car” and aimed at making automobile transport affordable to ordinary Indians — would be built except it would be at “one of our existing manufacturing facilities”. —Internet

Global banking giant HSBC to cut 1,100 jobs worldwide

HONG KONG, 26 Sept—Global banking giant HSBC is to cut 1,100 jobs worldwide because of the volatile global financial environment, a spokesman said Friday.

The cuts will be made in the bank’s global banking and markets divisions, with around half of those losing their jobs in HSBC’s British operations, Hong Kong-based spokesman Gareth Hewett said.

“The steps we have taken today are in the light of the current global business and economic environment and our cautious outlook for 2009,” he said in a statement.

“Markets continue to be challenging and difficult but our strategy leaves us well positioned for the next wave of global growth, when it comes.”

Around 100 jobs will go in Hong Kong. The jobs would be cut in both front and back office operations, Hewett said.

World Bank announces fund for anti-malaria programmes in Africa

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept—World Bank President Robert Zoellick announced on Thursday an extra funding of 1.1 billion US dollars for the anti-malaria programmes in Africa.

In a statement at the UN General Assembly’s one-day High-Level Event on the Millennium Development Goals, Zoellick said that the additional funding would help sharply reduce the numbers of malaria-related deaths and illness in the next three years.

“Malaria is a crushing development burden for poor people and developing countries which the World Bank is committed to fighting for as long as it takes to get it under control,” Zoellick said.

Priority will be given to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria, two African countries that have been hard hit by malaria, Zoellick said.

Dollar mixed against major currencies

NEW YORK, 26 Sept—The dollar was mixed against major currencies on Thursday after US lawmakers reported an agreement in principle on a bailout of the financial industry.

Christopher Dodd, chairman of the US Senate Banking Committee, said House of Representatives and Senate negotiators had reached “fundamental agreement” on a set of principles guiding a bailout bill. Lawmakers declined to provide details of the plan, but it is expected to include limits on executive pay and strong oversight provisions.

The breakthrough lifted stock markets and sent dollar up against the euro and the pound. But the greenback was still under some pressure, as investors worried about the effectiveness of the bailout plan.

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Oldest rocks on Earth found in Quebec

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — Canadian bedrock more than four billion years old may be the oldest known section of the Earth's early crust, according to a study published Thursday by journal Science.

A team of scientists from the United States and Canada used geochemical methods to obtain an age of 4.28 billion years for samples of the rock, making it 250 million years more ancient than any previously discovered rocks. The findings offer scientists clues to the earliest stages of our planet's evolution.

The Nuvvuagittuq greenstone belt is an expanse of bedrock exposed on the eastern shore of Hudson Bay in northern Quebec in Canada and was first recognized in 2001 as a potential site of very old rocks.

Samples of the Nuvvuagittuq rocks were collected by geologists from Canada's McGill University and analyzed by researchers from McGill and the US Carnegie Institution.

US new-home sales drop to lowest level in 17 years

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — New-home sales in the United States dropped by 11.5 percent in August to the lowest level since January 1991, the Commerce Department reported Thursday.

The 11.5 percent drop was much bigger than the one percent decline that analysts had been expecting for last month’s new-home sales.

By region, new-home sales gained 7.2 percent last month in the Midwest. However, all other regions posted decreases.

Dark chocolate helps heart stay healthy

BEIJING, 26 Sept — A small square of dark chocolate daily protects the heart from inflammation and subsequent heart disease, a new study of Italians suggests. Milk chocolate might not do the job.

However, this guilty pleasure has a limit. Specifically, only 6.7 grams of chocolate per day (or 0.23 ounces) represents the ideal amount, according to results from the MoIsam Project, one of the largest health studies ever conducted in Europe.

For comparison, a standard-sized Hershey's kiss is about 4.5 grams (though they are not made of dark chocolate) and one Hershey's dark chocolate bar is about 41 grams (so a recommendation might be one of those weekly).

White Rabbit candy halts sales, as products under scrutiny for melamine contamination

SHANGHAI, 26 Sept — The producer of China’s White Rabbit brand candy on Friday announced the suspension of domestic sales of its products, which are suspected of melamine contamination.

The Guangshenyuan company had previously recalled all exports, some of which tested positive for melamine in Singapore earlier this week.

Ge Junjie, vice manager of the Shanghai Guangming (Bright) Dairy and Food Company, which owns Guangshenyuan, said the suspension of sales of White Rabbit candy reflected “the company’s conscientious decision to protect consumers”.

Mexico expected to reach Millennium Development Goals before 2015

MEXICO CITY, 26 Sept — Mexico is expected to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) before 2015, the United Nations (UN) Office in Mexico said on Thursday.

At the Workshop on the Millennium Development Goals for Social Organizations held here, UN-Mexico Coordination Officer Muriel Obon told Xinhua that Mexico is a medium income country responding to the Millennium Development Goals initiated in 2000.

The goals are being fulfilled and need more efforts to be fulfilled, she said.

The Millennium Development Goals are outlined in eight respects, including eradication of poverty and hunger; universal elementary education; gender equity and women’s autonomy; reduction of child mortality; reduction of women’s mortality; and the fight against the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), paludism (malaria) and other diseases.

Obon said Mexico promised in 2005 to go further on the Millennium Development Goals.

“All there are more ambitious goals that Mexico has proposed itself,” she said.

All items from Xinhua News Agency
Pakistan airports on high alert after bomb threat

ISLAMABAD, 26 Sept — Pakistan placed all airports on high alert Thursday after a telephone caller warned of a suicide bomb threat to Islamabad’s international airport, officials said, days after a huge blast in the city.

Separately Pakistani troops fired warning shots at NATO helicopters near the Afghan border, underscoring tensions between Islamabad and Washington over US military incursions. NATO said the choppers were in Afghan air space.

Passengers were briefly evacuated from the capital’s Benazir Bhutto airport while security officials searched the area, but all flights were operating as normal, they said.

The security boost comes after a massive suicide truck bombing at Islamabad’s Marriott Hotel on Saturday left 60 people dead and more than 260 wounded.

14 dead from heavy rain in southwest China

BEIJING, 26 Sept — Flash floods and landslides unleashed by heavy rains have killed 14 people in one of the areas hit hardest by the massive May 12 earthquake in China’s Sichuan province, the official Xinhua news agency said.

The flooding and landslides since Wednesday also have left 40 people missing in Sichuan’s Mianyang city, Xinhua said late Thursday.

Over 42,000 houses have been destroyed, Xinhua said. Rescuers are repairing damaged roads and cables and trying to restore water and electricity supply, Xinhua said.

Sichuan province is still recovering from the May 12 quake that left nearly 70,000 dead.—Internet

‘Vacuum salesman’ sucked up $25K in jewelry

Police said a man pretending to be a door-to-door vacuum salesman stole $25,000 in jewelry after a widow let him into her Cypress home.

Sgt Tom Bruce said the woman called police Wednesday after discovering the jewelry missing.

The woman suspected the would-be Dutch on edge as ‘horror dentists’ go on trial

Just thinking about it is enough to rattle your teeth.

The Dutch media are enthralled by the trials of two men dubbed the “horror dentists,” who were caught separately filling as a crown, improperly placed multiple bridges in the mouth of one patient, and used dirty tools.

Meerkats, which are burrowing, highly social mammals generally found in southern Africa, play with a sculpted pumpkin on their first Halloween at London Zoo.

Stroms kill five Mexicans; thousands of homes flooded

VERACRUZ (MEXICO), 26 Sept — Storms flooded hundreds of people out of their homes in southeastern Mexico and caused the death of a woman and four children whose car plunged into a swollen irrigation ditch.

More than two dozen rivers have overflowed in the coastal states of Veracruz and Tabasco, flooding thousands of homes, damaging bridges and cutting off some villages, according to Civil Protection officials.

More than 1,100 people were in shelters in Veracruz, where the floods also forced state-owned oil company Petroleos Mexicanos to close five wells.

In Villahermosa, the capital of Tabasco, some neighborhoods were under three feet of water. Furniture and other personal belongings floated in the streets.—Internet

McCain blamed as US economic rescue deal staggers

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — Top Democrats angrily accused Republican White House contender John McCain of sabotaging an astronomically expensive deal to bail out Wall Street and shore up the US economy.

The 700-billion-dollar package stalled at talks convened by President George W Bush with top lawmakers and both the men vying to succeed him — McCain and Democrat Barack Obama.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Federal Reserve chief Ben Bernanke were joining a new round of late-night discussions Thursday in a bid to get the deal back on track.

“John McCain did nothing to help. He only hurt the process,” the senior Democrat said at a joint news conference with Senate banking committee chairman Christopher Dodd. Barney Frank, the Democratic chair of the House of Representatives financial services committee, said: “I think this was a campaign ploy for Senator McCain.”

Poland not worried about fund cuts for US anti-missile shield

WARSAW, 26 Sept — Poland’s Defence Minister Bogdan Klich said Thursday he was not worried about the decision of the US House of Representatives that passed on Wednesday a bill on reducing the funding of an anti-missile shield in Poland and the Czech Republic.

According to local media, the bill “sharply reduced” funds for the deployment of missile defense interceptors in Poland but granted full funds for a radar site in the Czech Republic.

“This is the US that must implement its obligations included in the agreement signed by the US and Poland,” Polish news agency PAP quoted Klich as saying. — Internet

Mom allegedly uses daughter’s ID to be cheerleader

A 33-year-old woman was charged with stealing her daughter’s identity to attend high school and join the cheerleading team.

Wendy Brown, of Green Bay, is charged with felony identity theft after enrolling in Ashwaubenon High School as her daughter, who lives in Nevada with Brown’s mother.

The criminal complaint said Brown admitted to telling school officials she was 15 because she wanted to get her high school diploma and join the cheerleading squad.

Julian Danner, 10, rides his “devils-broom”, a motor-assisted gear for inline skaters and skateboarders.
If you help others, you also help yourself

Chit Naing (Psychology)

Napoleon Hill (1883-1970) said, “If you do not believe in cooperation, look what happens to a wagon that loses a wheel.”

There is a saying in Pali “Panna Sama Abhanatthi” that means “nothing can be compared to wisdom.” If wisdom is compared to the sun that removes the darkness of a day, we can compare compassion to the dawn of a day. The sun rises only after dawn breaks. Wisdom with no compassion attached to it does not grow into perfection, because compassion is the initial requirement in that regard.

There needs two steps for wisdom to grow into perfection of wisdom; goal and way. From the military point of view, wisdom at the first level is strategy, and wisdom at the second level, tactic.

A goal, the first step, is a must in carrying out a task. In the first step of wisdom, it is required to keep in touch with the goal of accomplishing the task. Lokaththa Cariya: for the well-being of all living beings. Any plots, attempts and acts to destroy the well-being of others are against wisdom. Everyone has to give priority to the interests of others rather than to that of their own. And all the deeds are to focus on the well-being of others.

After a wave moving ashore touches the coast, it returns to the sea. Likewise, the fruit of work done for the well-being of others goes to others, and then to the performer. Therefore, all the work done in the interests of others yields fruitful results to others, then to the performer. So, work that is done selflessly brings reward to the performer.

This concept was reflected by the events that took place around the world. It is still reflected at present, and the process of reflection will be taking place in the future. There are numerous tactics to achieve a goal.

One who acts for economic sanctions against the motherland with the ill intention of making the people impoverished and hungry, getting them into hardships, arousing public outrage, inciting riots and anarchic acts, and making a public panic will not be in a position to feel compassion as long as one does so. Due to one’s selfishness and self-righteousness, one lacks loving-kindness. Then, one’s heartless attitude will be far away from the path of perfection, and away from wisdom.

The compassionless efforts of a person without moral conduct, righteousness and wisdom will never yield fruitful results. Disrupting others’ interests means disrupting own interests, and such efforts are not based on wisdom. So, we the people call for withdrawal of sanctions and disruptions to public interests. Only with loving-kindness will everything go smoothly. Clean yourself of your hostility and self-righteousness, and you will be offered a warm welcome. I would like to remind you that you adopt positive attitude.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) said, “I early found that when I worked for myself alone, myself worked for me, but when I worked also for others, others worked also for me.”

If one wants to fulfill perfection of wisdom, one is required to cultivate a sense of altruistic spirit; one has to give priority to others’ interests instead of one’s own interests. If you help others, that means you also help yourself. Disrupting others’ interests, one will undermine one’s prosperous future. Therefore, I would like to emphasize that such a person will meet his or her tragic end.

Translation: MS

All the work done in the interests of others yields fruitful results to others, then to the performer. So, work that is done selflessly brings reward to the performer.

Work proficiency for IRD officials

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept — The conclusion ceremony of Work Proficiency Course No. 35 for Heads of Township Internal Revenue Department organized by Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue was held at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, this morning.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered an address and presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion of certificates. Altogether 50 trainees took the four-week course. — MNA

Nutrition Week 2008 marked

YANGON, 26 Sept — The Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association organized the ceremony to mark the Nutrition Promotion Week 2008 at its meeting hall on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township here, this morning.

After delivering an address, Vice-President of the MWA F Daw Khin Lay Myint presented the first prize for outstanding performances in nutrition development activities to Yangon South District WAO, the third prize to Yangon East District WAO, the third prize to Yangon North District WAO, and the consolation prize to Yangon West District WAO.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay, CEC members, Patron of Yangon Division WAO Daw Kyin Myaing and members, responsible persons of UN agencies, officials of the Ministry of Health and guests.

To award the winners, the scrutiny committee made assessments on activities of the MWA F members in taking part in nutrition promotion activities.

Translation: MS

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivers an address at conclusion ceremony of Work Proficiency Course No. 35 for Heads of Township IRD. — F&R

MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Myint presents prize to a responsible person of Yangon South District WAO.

— MNA
**31st Tatmadaw Chess Championship commences**

YANGON, 26 Sept—The 31st Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Shield Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Chess Championship began at the Gymnasium of North-West Command on 23 September, attended by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Myint Soe and wife Daw West Command Brig-Gen Commander of North Development Council Division Peace and Chairman of Sagaing September, attended by West Command on 23 the Gymnasium of North Championship began at Navy and Air) Chess Shield Tatmadaw (Army, Commander-in-Chief’s Defence Services st The 31

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**Prime Minister General Thein Sein receives Indian Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra at Government Office in Nay Pyi Taw.** (News on page 1)—MNA

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**USDA Secretariat Member Brig-Gen Thein Zaw awards an outstanding student at 14th prize presentation ceremony for outstanding students.—COMMUNICATIONS**

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**Weather report**

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—The Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced that according to the observation at 12.30 hrs MST today, a low pressure has formed at the North Bay of Bengal.—MNA

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**Roads upgraded in Tamway, Thingangyun townships**

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected road works in Tamway and Thingangyun townships today. Engineering Department (Road/Bridge) of YCDC has resurfaced East Race Course Road in Tamway Township and repaved the pavements along Thanthuma Road in Thingangyun Township.

The CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association went to No 1 Basic Education High School in Ashlon Township and attended to the needs for construction of a school building. — MNA

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**Indian gifts for storm-hit regions**

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra, Ambassador of the Republic of India to Myanmar, donated 250 solar lanterns and 250 solar torches for the storm-affected regions on behalf of Director-General Dr R K Pachauri of the Energy and Resources Institute (India); and 180,000 bottles of IV fluids on behalf of Mr Jagdip Singh of the Fresenius Kabi India Pte.

He presented exercise books to the village. At Pinhaw Basic Education High School in Mogau Township, the secretariat member met local authorities and people. Next, he inspected the site for construction of 300 lines auto-telephone exchange. The minister looked into functions of Hopin Auto-exchange and installation of D AMPS cellular system machinery. He heard reports of local people from Myothitgale Village and attended to the needs. The Kachin State USDA Secretary accepted 1,704 membership applications from the village and the secretariat member handed exercise books to the village authorities. They visited the village library and donated a 23-inch TV to it. After inspecting tasks of Myothitgale Exchange, he gave necessary instructions.

At Seinle Yadana Hall in Mohinyin, the secretariat member attended the Annual General Meeting of Mohinyin Township USDA and presented prizes to outstanding students. — MNA

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**Secretariat Member tours Mogau, Hopin, Mohnyin**

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—USDA Secretary Member In-charge of Kachin State Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on 22 September inspected functions of Mogau Auto-exchange and fulfilled the requirements of the exchange for better trunk call lines. The secretariat member viewed thriving rubber plantations of Mogau Station and paddy plantations in Mogau and Mohnyin townships.

At Kanyinmyaung Village, he attended to the needs of local people and accepted 557 USDA membership applications presented by the Kachin State USDA Secretary. He presented exercise books to the village. At Pinhaw Basic Education High School in Mogau Township, the secretariat member met local authorities and people. Next, he inspected the site for construction of 300 lines auto-telephone exchange. The minister looked into functions of Hopin Auto-exchange and installation of D AMPS cellular system machinery. He heard reports of local people from Myothitgale Village and attended to the needs. The Kachin State USDA Secretary accepted 1,704 membership applications from the village and the secretariat member handed exercise books to the village authorities. They visited the village library and donated a 23-inch TV to it. After inspecting tasks of Myothitgale Exchange, he gave necessary instructions.

At Seinle Yadana Hall in Mohnyin, the secretariat member attended the Annual General Meeting of Mohnyin Township USDA and presented prizes to outstanding students. — MNA

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**Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu accepts 250 solar torches and 250 solar lanterns donated by Director-General Dr R K Pachauri of Energy and Resources Institute (India) through Indian Ambassador Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra.—MNA**
Regional development

tasks ...

(from page 16)

At Bhamo University, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint oversaw construction of school buildings and presented gifts and cash assistance to faculty members of the university.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint met with chairmen of PDCs in Bhamo District, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people at City Hall in Bhamo and presented cash assistance, needed equipment and medicines to Bhamo District People’s Hospital.

Next, Chairman of Htet Kaung Kyaw Mining Co Ltd U Yin Htwe presented cash donation for the hospital to Chairman of Bhamo District PDC U Khin Maung Myint.

At Bhamo Nursing Training School of Medical Science Department under the Ministry of Health, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and party met with trainees and presented clothes and cash assistance.

Next, they inspected construction of three-storey main building for University of Computer Studies (Bhamo) and viewed thriving monsoon paddy plantations at Khlayan village.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing views thriving paddy plantation at rice field No. 9 in Monghpyat. — MNA

Boost poultry production: Commander

YANGON, 26 Sept — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint accompanied by officials arrived at No.1 Breeding Camp of Yangon Command in Mingaladon Township, here, yesterday.

At the camp, a responsible person reported on breeding of chicken and production of poultry and profit to the Commander who later fulfilled the requirements. The Commander inspected the eight poultry farms.

Afterwards, the Commander and party inspected the special chicken farm in fish breeding camp and breeding of cows and pigs at No. 3 Breeding Camp. — MNA

Development tasks in Mongyawng, Monghpyat inspected

NAW PSI TAW, 26 Sept — Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of Ministry of Defence inspected the 100-acre rubber plantation in Mongyawng and condition of Mongyawng-Monghpyat Road yesterday.

Before the tour of inspection, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo, met with officers and other ranks of Mongyawng Station in Mongyawng, Shan State (East) yesterday.

At the meeting, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing presented foods to them.

During the tour of Monghpyat, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party met with departmental officials and townswelder and presented sports gear to the head of Monghpyat Township Sports and Physical Education Department.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and the commander also visited the rice field No. 9 in Monghpyat.

MNA

New hydropower project signed

NAW PSI TAW, 26 Sept — Hydropower Implementation Department of Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and Datang Yunnan United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd of People’s Republic of China signed MoU on implementation of Tapain (2) Hydropower Project in a ceremony at the ministry here yesterday.

Also present were Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, deputy ministers, deputy attorney general, directors-general, officials, Mr Wu Jing, president of Datang Yunnan United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd of People’s Republic of China and party.

A ceremony to sign MoU on the development of Tapain (2) hydropower project between Hydropower Implementation Department and Datang Yunnan United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd of the PRC in progress.

MNA
Inlay Lake located in Nyaungswe Township is one of the famous inland lakes not only in Myanmar but also in the world. Inlay Lake is the largest one in Myanmar apart from Indawgyi Lake. According to the geological survey, Inlay Lake naturally emerged 65 million years ago.

Similar to the nature diversities can be seen at Inlay Lake. A total of 12 fish species in the lake out of 16 are included in the family of Hamilton’s carp. Of them, Nga-phein (Cyprinus carpio) is the favorite for the consumers in Inlay region.

Researchers and bird-watchers have found that there are about 270 bird species in the world of living beings, and six of them become rare.

The houses and plantations on the floating islands are well-known in the nation as well as in the world. To enjoy the famous scenes, most of the tourists set Inlay Lake as one of their destinations to take relaxation. While in Inlay region, they observed the lovely customs and lifestyles of Intha, Pa-O, Taungyo, and migratory birds. All the tourists were satisfied with the scenic beauty. Inland hotels and floating hotels also served them with necessary facilities.

Out of the inland hotels, Myanmar Treasure Resort Inle located near Mongthauk and Kyantpon-nge Villages, four nautical miles from Nyaungswe, offers extra territory at Inlay Lake in front of the hotel built on the floating island. The tourists from the hotel may enjoy the dawn scenes with Shan mountain range in the foreground and scenic beauty of cumulus.

While passing through the wooden bridge linking 60 bungalows of Myanmar Treasure Resort Inle for tourist attraction at Inlay Lake.

National race female hotel staff members welcome the guests in front of Myanmar Treasure Resort Inle.

On arrival at the lobby, the guests may think they are in a new world. Traditional styles combined with European ones, especially in Inlay traditional arts, can be witnessed in the decorations of the hall.

While passing through the wooden bridge linking 60 bungalows around the hotel, the guests can take pleasure in observing rural lifestyles.

Beauty of water lily buds and flowers in the lake support the neat and tidy views of the bungalows. The scenes are similar to the fine work of an artist.

Practically, the guests who have visited the lake want to enjoy the scenes of Inlay region once more. Likewise, those who have visited the place relay their experiences to the other visitors. Indeed, the good news of Inlay Lake attracts old and new tourists to come and see again.

Translation: TTA
Russian President meets Venezuelan counterpart

MOSCOW, 26 Sept — Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and his visiting Venezuelan counterpart Hugo Chavez are expected to hold talks on Friday, focusing on military and economic cooperation, local media reported.

The fuel and energy sector and mining industry will top the agenda, as well as military-technology cooperation and joint projects on rail and air transport, the Itar-Tass news agency cited a Kremlin official, adding that they will watch together a military exercise following the talks.

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has told Chavez, who is here for a two-day working visit, that Moscow will consider cooperation with Venezuela on the peaceful use of nuclear energy. “We are ready to consider opportunities for cooperating on the use of atomic energy...which could be extended to a third market,” the Interfax news agency quoted Putin as saying at a meeting with Chavez late Thursday.

Energy, high technologies, engineering and petro chemistry are other promising areas of economic cooperation with Venezuela, Putin said, noting that Russian energy giant Gazprom will start drilling operations in the Gulf of Venezuela in late October.

Russia launches rocket with navigator satellites

MOSCOW, 26 Sept — A Russian carrier rocket blasted off on Thursday from Baikonur cosmodrome a Central Asian launching pad, with three navigator satellites atop, local media reported.

The Proton carrier rocket is expected to send into orbit the three satellites of the GLONASS network, a Russian version of the US Globle Positioning System (GPS), said a spokesman of the Russian Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos). The delivery will add up the number of the satellite cluster in orbit the official said.

The GLONASS satellite cluster now is composed of 16 satellites, including 14 in use, one under regular maintenance and one with an expired service life. It cannot even cover all the territory of Russian so far.

DPRK, Cuba sign goods exchange protocol

PYONGYANG, 26 Sept — A protocol on the exchange of goods for 2009 was signed between the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) and Cuba on Friday, the official KCNA news said.

The protocol was signed by the DPRK foreign trade ministry and a Cuban government economic delegation, the KCNA said, not elaborating the details of the deal.

The Cuban delegation, led by ambassador to the DPRK Jose Manuel Galego Montano, arrived at Pyongyang on Tuesday.

Turkish jets strike PKK targets in northern Iraq

ANKARA, 26 Sept — The Turkish military said Friday that its fighter jets hit the positions of the banned Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK) in northern Iraq late Thursday.

A statement of the Turkish General Staff posted on its website said the fighter jets bombed 16 PKK positions at Qandil Mountain in northern Iraq.

Turkey has conducted frequent air raids on suspected positions of the PKK in northern Iraq. In February, it also launched an eight-day ground incursion into Iraq.

The PKK, listed by the United States and Turkey as a terrorist group, took up arms in 1984 with the aim of creating an ethnic homeland in southeast Turkey. Some 40,000 people have been killed in the over-two-decade conflict.

Mexico seizes circus animals after elephant escape

MEXICO CITY, 26 Sept — Mexico has seized 12 animals from a circus a day after one of its elephants wandered onto a highway and was struck and killed by a bus.

Mexico’s Environmental Protection office says the two Asian elephants and 10 Siberian tigers were not properly contained and were at risk of escaping.

The office said Wednesday in a statement that inspectors found the elephants tied to the tire of a trailer. Dozens on several of the trailers also lacked proper locks.

On Tuesday, a five-ton elephant named Indra escaped the circus, wandered onto a highway outside Mexico City and was hit by a bus carrying 41 passengers. The driver and the pachyderm died.

Mexican media reported that the elephant escaped as its keeper arrived to feed it.

‘Human jet’ crosses the English Channel

LONDON, 26 Sept — Swiss adventurer Yves Rossy successfully crossed the English Channel using his homemade jet-propelled wing Friday, the first man to perform the feat.

Rossy leapt from a plane more than 8,800 feet or a mile and a half from the ground, before firing up his jets.

He made the 22-mile trip from Calais in France to Dover in England in a little under 15 minutes.

He began the Friday flight just before 12:07 GMT; by 12:15 GMT, Rossy was above British soil and looped over onlookers before opening his parachute, with his wings still strapped to his back.

He touched down in a field near the famous white cliffs of Dover.

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Mexico City, early on 23 Sept, 2008. The five-ton elephant escaped from a circus and wandered onto a highway, where it was hit by a bus and died on Tuesday. State officials said bus driver also was killed and at least four passengers were hospitalized.

A man stands next to a dead elephant after it was hit by a passenger bus on the outskirts of Mexico City, early on 23 Sept, 2008. The five-ton elephant escaped from a circus and wandered onto a highway, where it was hit by a bus and died on Tuesday. State officials said bus driver also was killed and at least four passengers were hospitalized.

Internet

Military supply goods are dropped from a C-130 cargo plane during a live fire demonstration held by South Korean defence ministry in Pocheon, about 70 km (43 miles) northeast of Seoul, on 26 Sept, 2008. —INTERNET

Internet

The Somali government appealed Thursday for help to solve a dispute with the ICRC over a proposed new building in the capital, Mogadishu, local media reported.

“There is a decision to build a new building...the ICRC refused that,” daily papers quoted a government official as saying.

The ICRC had been planning to move its office in the city of about 1 million people to a larger building owned by the government.

The Somali government wanted to use the site where the ICRC is planning to build its new office for a market.

The ICRC was founded in Geneva in 1917 and has 172 member states.

A representative of the ICRC, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the organization wanted to build a new office in the capital.

He said the ICRC has always worked with the Somali government.

But the Somali government had appealed Thursday to the international community for help to solve a dispute with the ICRC.

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Workshop helps parents and food-allergic kids

NEW YORK, 26 Sept — Workshops designed to provide support and coping skills to families with children allergic to nuts, eggs, milk, shellfish, or other foods, appear to benefit both parents and children alike, researchers report.

Post-workshop surveys indicated parents felt less burdened by and better able to handle their child’s food allergies than they were prior to attending the workshop, Dr Jennifer LeBovidge, from Children’s Hospital Boston, in Massachusetts, and colleagues note.

The children enjoyed meeting peers with food allergies, learning how to manage their allergies, and expressing their feelings through play, artwork, and other activities. Seventy-two percent of the children had experienced a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis), the investigators report in the Annals of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.

The workshops had a positive effect on the parents and advised them on food allergy risks and safety procedures; how to help their children to manage and cope with their allergy; how to inform peers of these allergies; and how not to pass their own risk anxieties to their children.—Internet

Global warming: pollution increases three percent

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — The world pumped up its pollution of the chief man-made global warming gas last year, setting a course that could push beyond leading scientists’ projected worst-case scenario, international researchers said Thursday.

The new numbers, called “scary” by some, were a surprise because scientists thought an economic downturn would slow energy use. Instead, carbon dioxide output jumped 3 percent from 2006 to 2007.

That’s an amount that exceeds the most dire outlook for emissions from burning coal and oil and related activities as projected by a Nobel Prize-winning group of international scientists in 2007.

Meanwhile, forests and oceans, which suck up carbon dioxide, are doing so at lower rates than in the 20th century, scientists said. If those trends continue, it puts the world on track for the highest predicted rises in temperature and sea level.

Microsoft confirms Windows 7 pre-beta launch

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — Microsoft has confirmed it will release the first pre-beta version of Windows 7 to developers next month. Windows 7 is the next major version of the Windows client operating system. Developers will get their first look at an alpha version of the operating system at the Professional Developers Conference (PDC) in October. Microsoft plans to demonstrate its progress on Windows 7 at the annual event.

But the operating system itself won’t debut in retail stores until 2010.

“With Windows 7 at PDC2008, you will see advances across the full range of Windows — including the kernel, networking, hardware and devices, and user interface,” wrote Denise Begley, a marketing manager for Microsoft, on the company blog. “Additionally, attendees will have the opportunity to attend 21 different sessions that drill down into the details of developing for Windows 7.”

The fact that Microsoft is putting a pre-beta into developers’ hands signals that Redmond is on track for its 2010 Windows 7 release, according to Charles King, principal analyst at Pund-IT.—Internet

China, Singapore eye stronger cooperation

BEIJING, 26 Sept—China and Singapore on Thursday reaffirmed their efforts to seek stronger bilateral cooperation.

Li Yuanchao, head of the Organization Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, met with Singapore’s Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong in the Great Hall of the People.

While hailing China-Singapore cooperation in foreign affairs, trade and other fields, Li said the Suzhou Industrial Park in eastern Jiangsu Province had become a model for bilateral cooperation in a new era. “It not only has an advanced industry but also brings new development to China,” Li said. Li said the Tianjin eco-city would be another showcase for China’s scientific development.—MNA/Xinhua

Don’t smoke
Flights were still landing and departing across the country, airline and airport officials said.

A computer glitch at Britain’s air traffic control center on Thursday led to delays and cancellations across the country, airline and airport officials said.

Airport operator BAA PLC said flights were still landing and departing at London’s Heathrow Airport but that the process was “slower than normal.”

British Airways PLC said that all airlines at Heathrow, Gatwick and other airports were suffering delays and that some of its flights had been canceled.

Fish in children’s diet cuts eczema risk

LONDON, 26 Sept —Feeding babies as little as one portion of fish before they are nine months old may cut their risk of developing eczema, Swedish researchers said on Thursday.

Introducing fish of any type into the diet curbed the risk of contracting the skin condition by 25 percent compared with children who never ate it, Bernt Alm, a pediatrician at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, and colleagues reported in the British Medical Journal.

The researchers found that genes played an important role in the development of eczema but breastfeeding and keeping a furry pet in the house had no effect.

Eating Pistachios helps reduce cardiovascular risk

LOS ANGELES, 26 Sept — Looking for a heart-healthy snack nut? Pistachios may be just what the cardiologist ordered. According to a new study published in the September issue of the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, researchers found that pistachios improve several markers for cardiovascular disease, including lowering harmful blood lipids and impacting enzymes involved in removing unhealthy cholesterol in the bloodstream.

“Our results clearly show two things: A small amount of pistachios that can be easily incorporated into most diets significantly improves biomarkers known to increase risk for heart disease, and they do so in a dose-dependent manner,” says the lead researcher of the study, Sarah Gebauer, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Associate at the USDA Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Centre, formerly of Pennsylvania State University.

The study further affirms the FDA’s first-ever qualified heart health claim, issued in July 2003, which states: “Scientific evidence suggests, but does not prove, that eating 1.5 ounces per day of most nuts, such as pistachios, as part of a diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol may reduce the risk of heart disease.”

High total blood cholesterol, high LDL cholesterol and low HDL cholesterol levels are major risk factors for coronary heart disease, the number one cause of death in the United States. One in every two American adults has high blood cholesterol levels, and one American dies from heart disease every 37 seconds.

Computer fault causes flight cancellations in UK

LONDON, 26 Sept — A computer glitch at Britain’s air traffic control center on Thursday led to delays and cancellations across the country, airline and airport officials said.

Airports were suffering delays and that some of its flights had been canceled.

WHO says Iraq cholera cases down sharply

BAGHDAD, 26 Sept—The World Health Organization said on Thursday that cholera cases in Iraq appear to have fallen sharply this year, though it warned against complacency and demanded accurate reporting to prevent any further spread of the disease.

The health watchdog has confirmed 306 cases in 10 of Iraq’s 18 provinces in 2008, “far below the 4,700 reported last year and even below Iraq’s annual average of 600,” according to a UN statement.

Iraqi children gather around a cistern delivering fresh drinking water to the Karada neighbourhood of Baghdad.—INTERNET

However, the UN added that cases are building up in rural areas where clean water and sanitation are not freely available. Iraq’s cities have been virtually unaffected so far, it said.

Scientists warn US Congress of mobile phone cancer risk

UNITED STATE, 26 Sept— Scientists today warned US legislators of the risks of brain cancer from mobile phone use, highlighting the potential risk for children who use them.

Ronald Herberman, director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, said that most studies “claiming that there is no link between mobile phones and brain tumours are outdated, had methodological concerns and did not include sufficient numbers of long-term mobile phone users.”

Many studies dening a link “defined regular cell (mobile) phones as ‘once a week’,” added Herberman.

Carpenter and Herber-man both told the committee the brain cancer risk from mobile phone use is far greater for children than for adults.

“Every child is using cell phones all of the time, and there are three billion cell phone users in the world,” said Herberman.

He added that, like the messages that warn of health risks on cigarette packs, mobile phones “need a precautionary message.” — Internet

Hypnosis cuts hot flashes for breast cancer survivors

THURSDAY, 25 Sept — Breast cancer survivors who suffer from hot flashes can reduce these attacks significantly with hypnosis, a new study finds.

Hot flashes are a problem for many women who survive breast cancer. Not only do they cause discomfort, but they interrupt sleep, cause anxiety and affect a woman’s quality of life.

“This is a very encouraging study of hypnosis as a treatment for hot flashes in breast cancer survivors,” said Dr Ted Gansler, director of Medical Conten at the American Cancer Society, who was not involved in the study. “This is an important topic because of the high prevalence of these symptoms in breast cancer survivors, and because few other treatment options are both safe and effective for this population,” he added.

There have been some other studies of hypnosis and cancer that indicate that the treatment is useful, but currently underutilized, Gansler noted.

The report was published in the September issue of the Journal of Clinical Oncology. For the study, researchers led by Gary Elkins, a professor of psychology at Baylor University School of Medicine, randomly assigned 60 breast cancer survivors who suffered from hot flashes to five weekly sessions of either hypnosis or no treatment.—Internet

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He added that, like the messages that warn of health risks on cigarette packs, mobile phones “need a precautionary message.” — Internet
**Sports**

**Croatia fined over racist abuse at England game**

*BORDEAUX (France), 26 Sept* — The Croatian FA has been fined 30,000 Swiss francs ($27,700) for the racist behaviour of fans during the World Cup qualifier against England earlier this month, FIFA said on Thursday.

“The Croatian Football Federation ... received a warning regarding its future conduct. Further infringements would lead to more severe sanctions by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee,” the world governing body said in a statement.

The English FA complained to FIFA after England players were racially abused by Croatian fans during their 4-1 victory in Zagreb on 10 Sept.

“Racism has no place in football,” a FIFA said.

“FIFA is determined to continue broadcasting this message around the globe and deploying all of the measures at its disposal to eliminate this form of discrimination.” —Internet

**Fabregas points to Arsenal success up north**

*LONDON, 26 Sept* — A wonderfully acerbic collection of soccer cliches entitled “Football Lexicon” cuts to the heart of the debate over London club Arsenal.

Under the entry Wednesday night in Rochdale the authors refer to a location (“usually northern”) and a date (“invariably midweek”) when foreign players of suspect temperament fall apart.

Arsenal, their critics argue, fall into this category, dazzling at the Emirates Stadium but failing against inferior but harder-edged northern teams in the depths of the English winter. Failure to win a trophy of any type after promising Premier League and Champions League campaigns in 2007-08 gives weight to the sceptics’ claims.—Internet

**McGill, Park, Jang share LPGA Tour lead**

*PRATTVILLE (Ala), 26 Sept* — Jill McGill, Jane Park and Jeong Jang shot 7-under 65s on Thursday for a share of the Navistar LPGA Classic lead, while top-ranked Lorena Ochoa was two strokes back in her first event in a month.

Ochoa played her first competitive round since tying for sixth in the Safeway Classic on Aug. 24, her fourth top-seven finish in a row, but seventh straight wire-to-wire start. She opened the year with six victories in nine starts, including four straight.

Sweden’s Maria Hjorth, the winner last year in the inaugural event, opened with a 76. Angela Stanford, coming off a victory Sept. 14 in the Bell Micro LPGA Classic in Mobile, withdrew before the round. No reason was given for her decision.—Internet

**D25 Top seed Ferrer dumped out of China tennis open**

*BEIJING, 26 Sept* — Top seed David Ferrer was dumped out of the China Open on Thursday, while on the women’s side home favourite Zheng Jie cruised through to the quarter-finals.

Elsewhere on day four of the tournament, defending women’s champion Agnes Szavay lost in straight sets, but second seed Ana Ivanovic and 2007 men’s champion Fernando Gonzalez advanced.

Ferrer, playing his first match here, lost to world number 92 Dudi Sela of Israel, 6-3, 6-3, in just 70 minutes.

“Maybe I was a little bit tired because I didn’t sleep very well for two nights,” added Ferrer, who helped Spain reach the Davis Cup final at the weekend with a win over Andy Roddick, the second seed here.—Internet

**Valencia’s David Villa celebrates after scoring against Malaga during their Spanish league football match at the La Rosaleda stadium in Malaga. Valencia won 2-0.—INTERNET**

**France’s Metsu named Qatar coach**

*Doha, 26 Sept*—France’s Bruno Metsu, who re­signed as United Arab Emirates coach at the weekend, was on Thursday named as boss of the Qatar national team. The two-year contract was signed by Metsu in the presence of Sheikh Hamad ben Khalifa ben Ahmed Al-Thani, the president of the Qatar football federation, during a press conference with other high-ranking Qatari sports officials.—Internet

**Valencia top but Emery wants more**

*MADRID, 26 Sept* — Valencia supplanted Villarreal at the summit of the Spanish first division with David Villa scoring both goals in a 2-0 win at promoted Malaga on Thursday.

Spanish international Villa continued his fabulous summer at the European championships scoring twice in the final 20 minutes to make it four goals in as many games as Valencia replaced Villarreal at the top courtesy of their superior goal difference.

“On one hand I am happy with the result but on the other hand we need to improve and create more chances in front of goal,” said hard-to-please Valencia coach Unai Emery. “We are top but it is a bit irrelevant as there are so many games to go.”

Malaga meanwhile have yet to win or score a goal on their return to the Spanish top-flight but Emery offered some kind words to the beaten opponents.—Internet

**Guillermo Ramirez, right, of Guatemala’s Municipal fights for the ball with Alberto Manota of Panama’s Tauro FC, during a CONCACAF soccer match in Panama City, on 25 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET**

**Top seed David Ferrer of Spain.—INTERNET**

**Andry Roddick of the United States returns a ball during the men’s singles second round match against his compatriot Brendan Evans at the 2008 China Open in Beijing, capital of China, on 25 Sept, 2008. Roddick won 2-0. —XINHUA**
tainted milk, bringing the total number of Hong Kong notification on the case from the Hospital Authority, Region (HKSAR) government, said it received of Health of the Hong Kong Special Administrative children affected by such illness to five.

5th Hong Kong child has kidney stone after drinking tainted milk

HONG KONG — A ten-year-old Hong Kong boy was confirmed on Thursday to have developed kidney stones after drinking melamine-tainted milk. The boy was confirmed with DNA,” Ismo Kopra, detective chief inspector at Finnish National Bureau of Investigation said on Friday.

More American kids urged to have flu shot

BEIJING, 26 Sept— Health experts endorsed in Washington, DC the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention’s latest recommendation that all children between the ages of 6 months and 18 receive a flu shot, according to media reports Thursday. This means the number of children targeted for flu vaccinations this season will increase by about 30 million. The expanded flu-shot project is supported by the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

School massacre victims have been identified

HEL SINI, 26 Sept — All 10 victims of the school shooting that took place in the Finnish town of Kauhajoki earlier this week have been identified, police said on Friday. “All of them have been identified. They were identified with dental records at first and that was confirmed with DNA,” Ismo Kopra, detective chief inspector at Finnish National Bureau of Investigation told AFP.

Minimum temperature on 26-9-2008 was 70ºF. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 26-9-2008 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 25-9-2008 was (4.1) hours (Approx). Rainfall on 26-9-2008 was (0.63) inch at Mingaladon, (1.06) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.11) inches at Central Yangon Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (96.38) inches at Mingaladon, (108.42) inches at Kaba-Aye and (125.75) inches at Central Yangon Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from South at (16:30) hours MST on 25-9-2008.

Forecast valid until evening of 27-9-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Sagain and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin, Kayin States, Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Taninthayi Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Mon State and isolated heavyfall in Kayin State and Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.24) inch, Kyekyaka (6.69) inches, Launglon (4.61) inches, Ye (4.02) inches and Patuoo (3.31) inches.

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Sagain and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin, Kayin States, Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Taninthayi Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Mon State and isolated heavyfall in Kayin State and Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.24) inch, Kyekyaka (6.69) inches, Launglon (4.61) inches, Ye (4.02) inches and Patuoo (3.31) inches.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-9-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 27-9-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather outlook for third week of september 2008: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Yangon Division, isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.
Regional development tasks gather momentum in Bhamo District

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept — Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win and officials yesterday met with servicemen and their families of the local battalion in Dawphonyan and provided them with assistance.

At the hall of Dawphonyan General Administration Department, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townswelders and presented medicines, clothes, exercise books and other requirement to the hospital, departments, schools and social organizations through officials.

Next, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint visited police station, Women’s Vocational Training School of Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs and Pharkay village Basic Education Middle School in Dawphonyan.

Next, he looked into the road section at Makhwe junction in Theinlton village and sanitation works being carried out by local people at Lonjakon village self-reliant school.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint also met with teachers, local people and social organization members of Theinphaya and Ahtetsakyun villages and presented cash assistance for the school and clothes for the teachers, townswelders and members of social organizations.

Afterwards, he gave instructions to officials of Public Works on repair of three-furlong long road from Makhwe to Moene creek.

He presented cash assistance to Naungkuam village BEPS and viewed thriving monsoon paddy plantations at Mongkhat village.

Next, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and party inspected 320-foot long Tapain cable suspension bridge that can withstand 13 tons of load at mile post 216/1 and flow of water in Tapain river. They then presented clothes and cash assistance to local people, teachers and members of social organizations. (See page 9)

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint inspects Tapain cable suspension bridge on Myitkyina-Bhamo Road and flow of water in Tapain river. MNA

Ways to construct safer shelters

YANGON, 26 Sept—Jointly organized by the Ministry of Energy and the Myanmar Engineering Society, five experts from SEEDS (Sustainable Environment Ecological Development Society (Asia) (India) and experts from MES held talks Safer Shelter Construction National Level Training Workshop at the hall in Kungyangon this morning.

It was attended by engineers and workers from Asia World Co and Thawtawin Construction Co that are participating in reconstruction of Kungyangon and Kawhmu township and local people.

The talks will continue tomorrow.—MNA

Cloud radar system to predict weather more accurately

To predict the weather more accurately scientists have developed a cloud radar system that measures the individual layers of clouds.

The Cloud Radar, which is been developed by Scientists at the Science and Technology Facilities Council in the UK will not only allow forecasters to predict the weather more precisely, the information gathered will also enable aircraft pilots to judge more accurately whether it is safe to take off and land in diverse weather conditions, offering a powerful safety capability for civil airports and military air bases.—Internet

Mahn Tha Sein (Papun) (Trs)

So foolish

Through confrontation and opposition
Towards utter devastation

Wasting time
Demanding validity of the expired results

Unrest and violence
And all destructive plots
You have a hand in

Ignoring public wish
Opposing public interest
Self-seeker crazed with power
Heading for the wrong way
O, look so foolish you are

Article & Photos: Soe Nyunt (Kyemon) (Byline on page 10)