Established 1914
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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

Prime Minister facilitates regional development tasks in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 6 Oct—Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the Director-General of Government Office and departmental officials, this morning left here by helicopter and arrived in Pyapon, Ayeyawady Division.

The Prime Minister and party, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe and Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, left Pyapon by helicopter and arrived Daw Nyein village, Pyapon township at 7.50 am and they were welcomed there by departmental officials and local people.

The Prime Minister asked about matters related to economy, education and health and attended to the needs.

Along the route from Pyapon to Daw Nyein village, the Prime Minister viewed the condition of Pyapon-Thameinhaw-Kyonkadon-Daw Nyein road and thriving paddy fields.

Priority is being given to implementing the five rural development tasks namely promotion of health care services, ensuring better transport, supply of purified drinking water, supply of irrigated water for agricultural purpose and development of rural economy.
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Produce students equipped with high morale**

Today global nations are in the process of building solidarity of their peoples, the might of economy and wealth as well as the might of technology. At such a time, teachers are to train and nurture their students to be equipped with a sense of patriotism and to be morally upright.

The government has laid down and is implementing the 30-year long-term education promotion programme, and as a result, all the regions are now enjoying more opportunities to pursue education. Meanwhile, students are being trained and nurtured to become qualified human resources.

In creating a better education environment the government is building more schools while placing emphasis on producing more teachers and striving for them to be well-versed in their fields.

Teachers play an important role in producing human resources capable of facing and overcoming the challenges of Knowledge Age in the 21st Century. This being the case, efforts are being made to appoint enough teachers in every region including border areas and to conduct more teachership and management courses.

High morale is primary in striving for all-round development of youths. Hence, teachers are to train and inculcate the students with knowledge, education and skills as well as with the habit of helping and understanding others and of observing ethics and morality.

Therefore, bearing in mind the national education promotion, all the teachers are to teach, train and nurture the students like their own children. Only then, will intellectuals and technocrats capable of serving the national interest emerge more and more.

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**Outstanding students honoured in Kani**

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct — A ceremony to honour students who passed the matriculation examination for the 2007-2008 Academic Year with distinctions was held at Basic Education High School in Kani Township, Monywa District, on 4 October. The ceremony was attended by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn view thriving paddy plantations in Kani.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents cash award and certificate to a two-distinction winner.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn visited thriving rice field in Kani and encouraged the local farmers. MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents cash award and certificate to a two-distinction winner.—MNA

Myanmar Women Football Team seen at Yangon International Airport before their departure for Vietnam to participate in the 4th ASEAN Women Football Tournament 2008.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Commander Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn and Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan with Myanmar Women Football Team.—MNA

**Peoples’ 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

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**Myanmar Women Football team leaves for Vietnam**

YANGON, 6 Oct — Myanmar Women Football team that will take part in the 4th ASEAN Women Football Tournament-2008 to be held in Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam left for Vietnam by air this morning.

The team was seen off by Secretary-General of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Hlaik and officials, Chairperson of Central Working Committee of Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye and in-charge patrons, executive members of Myanmar Football Federation and their families at Yangon International Airport.

Myanmar Women Football team will play against Vietnam team on 8 October.—MNA
Afghans disillusioned seven years after invasion

KABUL, 6 Oct — Seven years after the US-led invasion of Afghanistan, many Afghans have grown increasingly jaded with the changes brought by the removal of the Taliban.

Abdul Latif, selling blocks of ice from a wooden cart on a ragged Kabul street, says he cherishes the “freedom” brought by the ouster of the extremist Taliban regime on 7 October, 2001. But today, “everything is so expensive,” laments the 46-year-old who has spent half his life as a fighter in Afghanistan’s nearly three decades of war.

Under a dusty umbrella, Latif sells blocks of ice for between 50 and 100 afghani ($1.4 million) for where most people get electricity a day and 10 cents) in a city that only has a few hours of water from wells.

AIDS pioneers and cancer researcher win Nobel prize

Stockholm, 6 Oct — Two French scientists who discovered the AIDS virus and a German who found the virus that causes cervical cancer were awarded the 2008 Nobel prize for medicine or physiology on Monday.

Professor Luc Montagnier and German Professor Harald zur Hausen. Internet

Luc Montagnier, director of the World Foundation for AIDS Research and Prevention, and Francoise Barre-Sinoussi of the Institut Pasteur won half the prize of 10 million Swedish crowns ($1.4 million) for discovering the deadly virus that has killed millions of people since it was identified in the 1980s.

Strong earthquake hits Xingjiang in China

BEIJING, 6 Oct—An earthquake of magnitude 6.8 on the Richter scale shook the Xingjiang province in northwestern China Sunday night, the US Geological Survey reports said. No casualties were reported after the quake.

The epicenter of the quake was in a mountainous area about 100 km away from the county of Wuqia, located in the Pamir mountain range, and the source of the quake was 33 km below the ground. Four aftershocks with magnitudes ranging from 3 to 5.7 were recorded following the quake.

Strong Tibet quake kills at least 30: report

LHASA, 6 Oct—A magnitude 6.6 earthquake killed at least 30 people in Tibet on Monday with a number of people buried in debris, Xinhua news agency said.

The victims were found near the epicenter in Gedar township of Damxung County, around 80 km (50 miles) west of the regional capital Lhasa, Xinhua reported.

Traffic and telecommunications were cut off in Gedar, while soldiers and medical staff were rushing to the site, it said.

Deaths and injuries were also reported in neighboring county, but the exact number was unclear. The Qinghai-Tibet railway and Lhasa airport were reporting normal services.

Some schools in Lhasa were let out early, Xinhua said.

“I lasted for around one minute and there was an aftershock about 15 minutes later,” said Zhang Dong, who works in the office of the director of Qushui County Hospital.

China dispatches 5,000 inspectors over milk scandal

BEIJING, 6 Oct—China has ordered more than 5,000 inspectors to be posted at dairy factories, state media said Monday, as the tainted milk scandal continued to impact countries as far away as South America.

Sri Lanka suicide bomb kills 23 including politician

COLOMBO, 6 Oct—A Sri Lankan suicide bomber killed 23 people at a historic tourist town on Monday, including a retired army general who was an opposition party provincial leader.

The blast, immediately blamed on the rebel Tamil Tigers, also injured at least 80 people, the military said.

The bomber struck during the opening of a new office for the opposition United National Party (UNP) in the north central town of Anuradhapura, 124 miles north of the capital Colombo, attended by retired Major-General Janaka Perera.

“A suicide bomber went inside and exploded. My senior officer there said 22 people were killed, and among the dead were Janaka Perera and his wife,” Deputy Inspector General K.P.P. Pathirana told Reuters.

The toll was later raised to 23. Internet

SAY NO TO DRUGS

South Korean health officials inspect cakes made by a Korean plant in China. Internet
**Basic science, technology development fundamental to China’s success story**

**Lagos, 6 Oct—** Besides adoption of reform and opening-up policy, basic science and technology development provided solid foundation for China’s economic growth, Osita Agbou, an expert of Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), has said during an interview with Xinhua recently in Lagos, Nigeria.

“Most of people in China have been lifted out of poverty since the adoption of reform and opening-up policy, it has too much positive to say about the achievements,” said the expert.

He praised Chinese leaders’ determination for adopting such a policy 30 years ago, saying that the decision not only changed Chinese people’s life but also changed the world, for instance, Nigeria and China could share an increasing closer business ties since then.

Before China’s reform and opening-up to the outside world in 1978, the country had built up its industrial framework, based on well-developed basic science and technology, he said.

More than 20 years of close-up since 1949 had prevented China’s infant national industries from exposing to foreign competition and considerably scaled up before its opening-up, said Agbou.

**Greece’s first biogas plant inaugurated in N city**

**ATHENS, 6 Oct —** Greece’s first biogas plant was inaugurated in northern city Kavala this weekend, which will produce biogas and organic fertilizer through a state-of-the-art integrated animal waste management system, Athens News Agency reported on Sunday. The new, ultra-modern plant, with the investment of 3.5 million euros is unique in Greece.

According to the report, the animal waste management system comprises a furnace where dead animals, for instance, Nigeria and China could share an increasing closer business ties since then.

**Egypt’s daily oil output reaches 700,000 barrels**

**CAIRO, 6 Oct —** Egypt has increased its oil output by 55,000 barrels per day (bpd), bringing the country’s daily oil production to 700,000 barrels for the first time in 14 years, the official MENA news agency reported Sunday.

The announcement was in a report of the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC) presented to Petroleum Minister Sameh Fahmi.

The increase is attributed to the discoveries of new oil fields in the Gulf of Suez, the Nile Delta, the Western Desert and the Mediterranean Sea in the 2007-2008 fiscal year between 1 July last year and June 30 this year, said the report.

**Argentine police seize over 500 kilos of cocaine**

**BUENOS AIRES, 6 Oct —** Argentina’s national police seized more than 500 kilos of cocaine and detained two alleged drug traffickers on Sunday.

Police spokesman said the two were arrested while travelling on a van with the drug on the national route 12 near Ituzaingo, Corrientes Province, some 1,270 kilometres northwest to Buenos Aires. The cocaine, hidden on the vehicle in some 680 packs, was estimated at 500,000 U.S dollars on the black market.

**Reading helps obese kids shed pounds**

**BEIJING, 6 Oct —** A new study suggested that reading certain books concerning healthy lifestyle and weight management guidance can be useful in helping obese kids shed the extra pounds, according to news reports Monday.

For the study, researchers at Duke University School of Medicine.

The research is the first “to show a relationship between reading and making positive, healthy lifestyle changes,” said study author Alexandra C. Russell, a fourth-year medical student at Duke University School of Medicine.

For the study, researchers at Duke University asked obese female ages 9 to 13 who participated in a weight loss program to read a novel called Lake Rescue to see what would happen to their body mass index.

The book deals with an overweight girl who wishes to improve her self-esteem and learning about appropriate levels of physical activity, Russell said.

**Dubai real estate developer to build world’s tallest building**

**ABU DHABI, 6 Oct —** The Dubai-based real estate developer Nakheel announced Sunday that it plans to build a one-kilometer-high tower in the commercial and financial hub of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), (Emirates News Agency) reported.

The tower is part of Nakheel’s new community project named “Harbor & Tower” which will include the world’s first inner city harbor, according to the report. The tower will have four individual towers within a single structure. A distinctive crescent-shaped podium will encircle its base.

Situated in the center of the emirate of Dubai on the highway linking Dubai and the UAE capital Abu Dhabi, the Harbor & Tower will cover an area of more than 270 hectares and become home to more than 55,000 people and a workplace for 45,000 more.

Once completed, the tower will replace Burj Dubai, or Dubai Tower in Arabic, a skyscraper built by another Dubai-based real estate developer Emaar, as the tallest man-made structure in the world.

**Chinese Premier visits Growth**

**ZHANGJIAOU, 5 Oct, 2008. —XINHUA**

China’s economic growth is unique in Greece.

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**Colombian army seizes 1 kilos of explosives**

Bogota, 6 Oct — The Colombian Army has seized one kilo of powerful explosives in the country’s south after receiving a tip-off, it said in a communiqué released recently.

The Army also seized shredded with an electric detonator in the municipality of Puerto Leguazamo, the communiqué said.

The explosives belonged to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), which is carrying out a campaign of intimidation with explosives attacks, the Army alleged.

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Escobar not to run for next presidency

SANTIAGO, 6 Oct — Former Chilean President Ricardo Lagos Escobar has said that he will not compete in next year’s presidential election. “I’m not going to be a candidate,” Lagos said in an interview with the El Mercurio newspaper published Sunday. Lagos said he will support any candidate chosen by the centre-left ruling coalition for the presidency. He added his current priority is to help candidates from the ruling coalition win the municipal elections slated for late October. Lagos served as president from 2000-2006. When he left office in March 2006, he saw approval ratings of over 70 per cent. Since May 2007, he has acted as a special UN envoy on climate change.

Mexico plans to build two new railway systems

HANOI, 6 Oct — The Vietnamese government says it is planning to build two new railway systems in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City at the cost of nearly $15 billion. It says it hopes to help ease the overloaded traffic system in the country’s two booming cities. A report on the government’s Web site says half of the amount will be spent on building tramways for sky trains and subways in Hanoi. The other half will be invested in constructing urban railways and metro in Ho Chi Minh City. Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung recently approved the project and instructed officials to begin looking for funds for the project. The projects are expected to be completed in 2020. The Web site said.

State removes first checkpoint from Georgia

MOSCOW, 6 Oct — Russian troops have dismantled a key checkpoint in Georgia, near the breakaway province of South Ossetia. European Union observers said the checkpoint near the town of Gori is the first to have been taken down since Colombo and Tiger rebels negotiated their Norwegian brokered peace process, which finally collapsed earlier this year. —INTERNET

Strong quake hits Afghanistan

KABUL, 6 Oct — A strong 6.0-magnitude earthquake hit central Afghanistan Monday, seismologists said, but there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties. The quake struck about 68 kilometers (42 miles) southeast of the capital Kabul at 3:26am local time (2256 GMT), the US Geological Survey said. It was 35 kilometers deep, the center said.

Afghanistan is often hit by earthquakes, especially around the Hindu Kush mountain range that is near the collision of the Eurasian and Indian tectonic plates, where seismic activity is high. In neighboring Pakistan, a 7.6-magnitude earthquake in October 2005 killed more than 73,000 people. —INTERNET

People take part in the car-free day event by riding bicycles in Madrid, capital of Spain, on 5 Oct, 2008. —INPHOTO

Australian dollar falls below 76 US cents in two years’ low

CANBERRA, 6 Oct — The Australian dollar currency on Monday morning dropped below 76 cents, the lowest in two years, as financial markets contemplated a bigger than usual interest rate cut on Tuesday from the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA). A majority of economists expect the RBA to cut interest rates by 50 basis points for the first time in seven years.

The Australian dollar has shed 23 percent since reaching a 25-year high of 98.49 US cents in mid-July, and has lost 8.4 per cent of its value in the past week alone. The Australian dollar sank to 0.7585 US dollar at 11:25 am (AEDT), its lowest level since October 2006 and its weakest point since the onset of the global credit crunch. —INTERNET

Ike environmental toll apparent

WASHINGTON, 6 Oct — Hurricane Ike’s winds and massive waves destroyed oil platforms, tossed storage tanks and punctured pipelines. The environmental damage only now is becoming apparent. At least a half million gallons of crude oil spilled into the Gulf of Mexico and the marshes, bayous and bays of Louisiana and Texas, according to an analysis of federal data by The Associated Press.

In the days before and after the deadly storm, companies and residents reported at least 448 releases of oil, gasoline and dozens of other substances into the air and water and onto the ground in Louisiana and Texas. The hardest hit places were industrial centers near Houston and Port Arthur, Texas, as well as oil production facilities off Louisiana’s coast, according to the AP’s analysis. —INTERNET

Salmonella sickens people in 12 states

WASHINGTON, 6 Oct — The government is urging consumers to thoroughly cook frozen chicken dinners after 32 people in 12 states were sickened with salmonella poisoning.

The health warning by the US Department of Agriculture cited frozen dishes in which the chicken is raw, but breaded or pre-browned, giving the appearance of being cooked. They include “chicken cordon bleu,” “chicken Kiev,” or chicken breasts stuffed with cheese, vegetables or other items. —INTERNET

Thousand of lit jack-o-lanterns are shown during the Camp Sunshine Maine Pumpkins Festival, on 4 Oct, 2008 in Cumberland, Maine. —INTERNET

A silverback male mountain gorilla is pictured in the dense jungle canopy of Uganda’s Bwindi National Park. The Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) has told AFP that a new family of mountain gorillas, one of the world’s most endangered species, is ready for interaction with tourists. —INTERNET

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Afghanistan is often hit by earthquakes, especially around the Hindu Kush mountain range that is near the collision of the Eurasian and Indian tectonic plates, where seismic activity is high.

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Japan PM says no snap elections now

Tokyo, 6 Oct—Japan’s new Prime Minister Taro Aso said Monday he had no immediate plans for snap elections, vowing to concentrate on reviving the ailing economy. “Our priority is to let the supplementary budget pass. Therefore, I don’t have dissolution (of parliament) in mind at this stage,” Aso said.

Aso was speaking to a parliamentary committee that was looking at an extra 1.81 trillion yen (17 billion dollars) budget he has proposed to help the world’s second largest economy cope with rising prices. Aso, an advocate of spending to boost the economy, has said he is studying more supplementary spending to defend Japan against the effects of the global financial crisis.

“The US financial crisis has steadily spread to Europe,” Aso said. “I presume that what people are concerned about right now is fears about the prospect for the economy,” he said.—Internet

Palin’s words may backfire on McCain

WASHINGTON, 6 Oct—By claiming that Democrat Barack Obama is “palling around with terrorists” and doesn’t see the US like other Americans, vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin targeted key goals for a faltering campaign.

And though she may have scored a political hit each time, her attack was unsubstantiated and carried a racially tinged subtext that John McCain himself may come to regret.

First, Palin’s attack shows that her energetic debate with rival Joe Biden may be just the beginning, not the end, of a sharpened role in the battle to win the presidency.—Internet

Man died after eating red-chilli sauce as a dare

A British aspiring chef died after eating a super-hot chilli sauce as part of an endurance competition with a friend, according to media reports Tuesday.

Andrew Lee, 33, challenged his girlfriend’s brother to a contest to see who could eat the spiciest sauce that he could create. The fork-lift truck driver, who wanted to establish if he suffered a reaction to red chillies grown on his father’s allotment. After eating it, however, he suffered intense discomfort and ritchening. The following morning he was found dead, possibly after suffering a heart attack.

Toxicology tests are being conducted to try to establish if he suffered a reaction to the food.

NewsALBUM

In this photo released by the Wildlife Conservation Society, a sunbittern is photographed at the Bronx Zoo in New York. The colorful bird can be found in the wild in areas that include most of the southern part of Central America south to western Ecuador, and South America east of the Andes Mountains through the Amazonian portions of Colombia, Venezuela, and Guineas, as well as portions of Brazil, Ecuador, and Peru.

Calif high school’s main rivals are fire ants

They’re a relentless force on the gridiron, with a stinging defense. But don’t expect anyone to cheer for the Rialto High School fire ants.

Discovered by a groundskeeper last week, the venemous red pests have set up several mound-like colonies on the football and baseball fields. The Southern California school canceled a freshman football game, moved practices and called the state Department of Agriculture.

“They’re from South America,” said Syeda Jafri, spokesperson for the Rialto Unified School District. “How they got here, we have no idea.”

The school called in exterminators, and Jafri said the fields are expected to be clear of the unwanted guests by Friday, ready for next week’s football game.

The infestation is not to be taken lightly, said Les Greenberg, an entomologist at the University of California, Riverside.

Japanese man arrested for stealing women’s knickers

A Japanese man was arrested for stealing women’s underwear, according to a Tokyo police spokesman on Tuesday. Akira Himo, 51, with a passion for women’s underwear, was caught when he tried to steal a pair of knickers from a laundry pole on a second-floor balcony, the spokesman said.

A Hino, according to local news paper Mainichi Shimbun, stretched out a 3-meter rod and caught the underwear on a hook, then reeled knickers in.

The local police found more than 500 pairs of women’s underwear inside of his house. As he told investigators, he had got into the habit of stealing undergarments since he was 18.

Cups, 77,000 of them, are placed in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Germany. The German TV production “The Human Footprint” placed the cups in front of the Brandenburg Gate to illustrate how many cups of coffee the average German drinks during his lifetime.

Elderly Md woman fends off burglar with reacher

Police said an elderly woman fended off a man who broke into her Annapolis-area home using a reacher device used to grasp objects.

Police say two elderly women were in their home on Cedar Lane in the Hillsmere community about 3:20 am Monday when the man kicked in the door. He demanded money, but they said they had none.

Police said after the man started going through a purse, one of the women grabbed the reacher and used it to repel him. Police said the man fled with the purse.

Tujia people build longest wind-rain bridge

BEIJING, 6 Oct—The world’s longest wind-rain bridge had been completed in central China’s Hunan Province, China News Service reports. The Laoche Reba wind-rain bridge was built by the Tujia ethnic minority in Xiangxi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture. The wind-rain bridge, so named because it shelters people from the wind and rain, spans 288.8 meters, 41.1 meters longer than the previous recordholder, the roofed Longjin Bridge by Dong ethnic minority in Zhijiang of the same province. The bridge is Y-shaped and connects three ancient Tujia villages - Laoche, Liangzhizhai and Reba in Longshan County.

The architecture consists of corridors and pavilions. Wooden boards line the corridor and both sides are inlaid with railings. Flying eaves and painted beams also add a touch of unique ethnic flavor.—Internet

Pakistani politician’s family home escapes rockets

ISLAMABAD, 6 Oct —Rockets landed near a family home of a top politician in Pakistan’s northwestern Sunday, while elsewhere in the volatile region Taliban anger over a suspected US missile strike indicated a fresh effort to establish if he suffered a reaction to red-hot chilli sauce as a dare.

Several politicians in the North West Frontier Province have been targeted by insurgents. Hoti was in the nearby provincial capital, Peshawar, at the time of the attack, according to the province’s information minister.—Internet

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The local police found more than 500 pairs of women’s underwear inside of his house. As he told investigators, he had got into the habit of stealing undergarments since he was 18.

Cups, 77,000 of them, are placed in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Germany. The German TV production “The Human Footprint” placed the cups in front of the Brandenburg Gate to illustrate how many cups of coffee the average German drinks during his lifetime.

Elderly Md woman fends off burglar with reacher

Police said an elderly woman fended off a man who broke into her Annapolis-area home using a reacher device used to grasp objects.

Police say two elderly women were in their home on Cedar Lane in the Hillsmere community about 3:20 am Monday when the man kicked in the door. He demanded money, but they said they had none.

Police said after the man started going through a purse, one of the women grabbed the reacher and used it to repel him. Police said the man fled with the purse.

Tujia people build longest wind-rain bridge

BEIJING, 6 Oct—The world’s longest wind-rain bridge had been completed in central China’s Hunan Province, China News Service reports. The Laoche Reba wind-rain bridge was built by the Tujia ethnic minority in Xiangxi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture. The wind-rain bridge, so named because it shelters people from the wind and rain, spans 288.8 meters, 41.1 meters longer than the previous recordholder, the roofed Longjin Bridge by Dong ethnic minority in Zhijiang of the same province. The bridge is Y-shaped and connects three ancient Tujia villages - Laoche, Liangzhizhai and Reba in Longshan County. The architecture consists of corridors and pavilions. Wooden boards line the corridor and both sides are inlaid with railings. Flying eaves and painted beams also add a touch of unique ethnic flavor.—Internet

Pakistani politician’s family home escapes rockets

ISLAMABAD, 6 Oct —Rockets landed near a family home of a top politician in Pakistan’s northwest Sunday, while elsewhere in the volatile region Taliban anger over a suspected US missile strike indicated a fresh effort to establish if he suffered a reaction to red-hot chilli sauce as a dare.

Several politicians in the North West Frontier Province have been targeted by insurgents. Hoti was in the nearby provincial capital, Peshawar, at the time of the attack, according to the province’s information minister.—Internet

Man died after eating red-chilli sauce as a dare

A British aspiring chef died after eating a super-hot chilli sauce as part of an endurance competition with a friend, according to media reports Tuesday.

Andrew Lee, 33, challenged his girlfriend’s brother to a contest to see who could eat the spiciest sauce that he could create. The fork-lift truck driver, who wanted to establish if he suffered a reaction to red chillies grown on his father’s allotment. After eating it, however, he suffered intense discomfort and ritchening. The following morning he was found dead, possibly after suffering a heart attack.

Toxicology tests are being conducted to try to establish if he suffered a reaction to the food.

NewsALBUM

In this photo released by the Wildlife Conservation Society, a sunbittern is photographed at the Bronx Zoo in New York. The colorful bird can be found in the wild in areas that include most of the southern part of Central America south to western Ecuador, and South America east of the Andes Mountains through the Amazonian portions of Colombia, Venezuela, and Guineas, as well as portions of Brazil, Ecuador, and Peru.

Calif high school’s main rivals are fire ants

They’re a relentless force on the gridiron, with a stinging defense. But don’t expect anyone to cheer for the Rialto High School fire ants.

Discovered by a groundskeeper last week, the venemous red pests have set up several mound-like colonies on the football and baseball fields. The Southern California school canceled a freshman football game, moved practices and called the state Department of Agriculture.

“They’re from South America,” said Syeda Jafri, spokesperson for the Rialto Unified School District. “How they got here, we have no idea.”

The school called in exterminators, and Jafri said the fields are expected to be clear of the unwanted guests by Friday, ready for next week’s football game.

The infestation is not to be taken lightly, said Les Greenberg, an entomologist at the University of California, Riverside.

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 Tagsun Dam in Seikpyu Township for greenery and greening purposes

By: Kyaw Sein; Photos: Aung Than (Mingla Taungnyunt)

News by Tagun Dam built in Seikpyu Township. At 6 am on 24 September, we arrived at Letpanchepaw jetty of Bagan-NyaungU. We proceeded to Pakokku.

We stayed at the guest house of the Irrigation Department (Pakokku). On 25 September, we went to Seikpyu Township, near Thabye Village of Tagun Dam constructed in September, we went to Pakokku District. As the dam is located over 60 miles from Pakokku, it took four hours to cover the route.

U Ye Htut Aung
Staff Officer, Irrigation Department, Magway Division.

We continued an interview with a local farmer.
Q: What is your name and what do you do?
A: I am U Pu Sein and I am a farmer. Our region is arid. I thank the government for construction of the dam to enable the local people to use the water from the dam for agricultural purposes in summer as well. In the past, we built the temporary dams to store water in the rainy season. Due to completion of this dam, we can now grow double crops.

Daw Aye San (Farmer)
Thabye Village.

A: “I am from Post-Primary School in Thabye Village and I am a JAT. As the region is located in the arid zone, local people rely on the rain water in growing of crops. Thanks to construction of the dam, local people can undertake cultivation work at any time without waiting for the rains. Development of agricultural tasks will help the economic growth of the people. After the dam project, there is better transport in the region. Children of the village primary school will have the opportunity to pursue education at the high school of other regions. Thanks to building of the dam, the local people will get the water supply facilities not only for agricultural purpose but also for the potable water.”

We continued an interview with a local farmer.
Q: “What is your name and what do you do?”
A: “I am U Pu Sein and I am a farmer. Our region is arid. I thank the government for its efforts in building the dam.”

Daw Aye San (Farmer)
Thabye Village.

Q: “Please tell me your occupation.”
A: “I am helping farm work for my parents. I am an economics graduate. In the past, the local youth missed the chances to continue their studies at the universities due to poor transport in the area. Now, the dam contributes to the region with better transport and the youth will have the opportunity to further their studies. Two years after obtaining the degree, I have helped my parents carry out farming. Construction of the dam will reflect development of economic and health education sectors of the region. I thank the leaders of the State for their efforts. All the local people are to maintain the dam for its durability as a large sum of funds was spent on construction of the dam.”

Tagun Dam in Seikpyu Township will contribute to boosting production in the agricultural sector. The increasing incomes of the local farmers will improve the living standard of the local people. As such, Tagun Dam will be a project to serve the interest of the State and the people.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
1-10-2008

Tagsun Dam with 41 feet high and 2000 feet long embankment stores water to irrigate 150 acres of farmlands in Thabye Village.
Prime Minister General Thein Sein presents stationery to the headmistress of affiliated BEHS of Daw Nyein village in Pyapon.

**Prime Minister facilitates regional development...**

After that, Maj-Gen Ko Ko presented stationery to the headmistress of affiliated BEHS of Daw Nyein village in Pyapon.

On arrival at Bogale, 43 miles from Pyapon, the Prime Minister heard a report presented by Kyaw Swe, Commander of the Commando. In his address, Prime Minister General Thein Sein reported on arrangement for donations for Daw Nyein village, presented confectionery for Daw Nyein village primary school, presented exercise books and stationery for secondary school, and gave instructions on rural development of Daw Nyein village.

Normally, the region is rich in natural resources, said the Prime Minister, and therefore priority is being given to implementation of effective but beneficial development tasks. The Prime Minister proceeded to Daw Nyein village. After that, he inspected development of Daw Nyein village, inspected village-to-village roads, education, health, etc., and arrived back here in the evening.

Minister for Human Resources and Social Development Mr. Ko Ko, Minister for Transport Mr. Myint Thein, and Regional Development Minister Mr. Aung Kyaw Myint, and other officials concerned arrived there along the road. At the briefing hall, the Prime Minister and party left there and arrived back here in the evening.

Minister for Human Resources and Social Development Mr. Ko Ko presented stationery to the headmistress of affiliated BEHS of Daw Nyein village in Pyapon.

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Mon State sees progress in transport, agriculture sectors

Maj-Gen Tha Aye inspects road works of Sintwin-Wingan road section in Kyaikhto.

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct—Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win, and officials inspected 200 feet long Bailey bridge across Kyongmagu creek on No. 2 district-to-district road in Wigan village of Kyaikhto Township on 30 September.

At the briefing hall, Maj-Gen Tha Aye heard reports on construction of 53 miles long No. 2 district-to-district road at Wiyaw-Wingan road section, construction of 59 bridges out of 71 bridges, 7 bridges under construction and the five remaining bridges to be built. Maj-Gen Tha Aye and the Commander met with local people and fulfilled the requirements for BEPPS of Wigan village and presented stationery and sports equipment to the school.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party looked into the condition of Sintwin-Wingan road section. They looked into the road works and presented cash assistance to machinery handling group. Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye looked into the rubber plantation of U Wan Sein in Beikka village of Hlelangu village tract in Kyaikhto Township near mile post 103 on Yangon-Mawlamyine Road. Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met with those engaged in the rubber cultivation industry and stressed the need for production of high quality rubber sheets and extension of rubber cultivation.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party proceeded to the monsoon paddy model farm of Kawhtin village in Kyaikhto township near mile post (100/2) where they inspected the thriving Shwebo 1 paddy farm, test cultivation of paddy strains. They later viewed fertilizers, and cultivation of rubber in the 5000-acre patch of Max Myanmar Co Ltd near Awingyi village in Bilin. At the briefing hall of No. 2 district-to-district road at Kyarpan-Wiyaw road section near Nyardhawe village, U Myint Swe, district engineer of Public Works, presented reports on building of Kyarpan-Wiyaw road section and U Ko Gyi, chief engineer of Mon State Development Affairs Department, on construction of No. 2 district-to-district road in Paung and Thahtoung to Maj-Gen Tha Aye.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party left for Mawlamyine along No. 2 district-to-district road in a motorcade.

MWAF members visit National Museum

YANGON, 6 Oct—Members of the Organizing Department of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation visited the National Museum, Department of Archaeology under the Ministry of Culture on Pyay road, here on 4 October.

The members of the Organizing Department and Yangon Division MWAF, headed by Head of the department Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, visited booths of the museum. Director Daw Nu Mra Zan of the museum conducted them round the museum.—MNA

Earthquake report

YANGON, 6 Oct—Hydrology and Meteorology Department announced that a strong earthquake of intensity (6.5) Richter scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Eastern Xizang, China) about (1000) miles North-West of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (15) hour (03) min (20) sec MST on 6 October.—MNA
Hsindie school producing human resources for industrial sector

NAY P TAW, 6 Oct — Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein went to Industrial Training School (Hsindie) in Padaung Township on 5 October and met with trainees of the course No. 28 of the school.

Before meeting with the trainees, the minister urged officials concerned of the training school to use effective equipment, to produce skilful workers, to give priority to physical and mental fitness of the trainees and to upgrade the training school.

He met with 183 trainees attending the course No. 28 and visited lecture rooms and training workshops.


The minister also visited No 2 Auto Factory in Homebo and viewed assembling of Myanmar Double Cabs there.

Open Cup Tennis tourney on 15-19 Oct

YANGON, 6 Oct — Open Cup Tennis Tournament organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation will take place from 15 to 19 October at the Sedona hotel here this afternoon.

Press meet on Grand Royal products

YANGON, 6 Oct — A press meet on lucky draw programme for customers of Grand Royal products manufactured by IBTC took place at the Sedona Hotel here this afternoon.

Managing-Director U Aung Moe Kyaw of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd extended greetings and Brand Manager U Myo Yaza explained the lucky draw programme. Next, the lucky draw programme for this present followed. The programme period is from 8 October to 8 December and winners will be awarded until 31 January 2009.

For further information about the lucky draw programme, contact Brand Manager (IBTC) of No. 18 Pyay Road, 7th mile, Mayangon Township, Yangon (Ph: 662512, 667603, 652370, 651762).

Bi-lingual book by Saya Mya comes out

Saya Mya was published as Myanmar-English World Knowledge Book - Three under English for You series.

The book under the title of Traffic in human being, hijacking, danger of methamphetamine and UEFA European Football Championship was released in October 2008.

The book is for students, junior staff and those wishing to study with keen interest.

The author served at various capacities in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and he retired as Deputy Director. The books are available at Pannwityaung Publishing House No. 9, Room 203/204, Pazundaung Garden Housing, Pazundaung Township.

Managing-Director of Setra digital scale Co U Zaw Min Thant presents Setra digital scales to secretary of UMFCCI U Sein Win Hlaing on 2 Oct.

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
Earthquake kills 58 in Kyrgyzstan

BISHKEK, 6 Oct.—A powerful earthquake struck the mountains of Central Asia, killing 58 people and destroying more than 100 buildings in a village in southern Kyrgyzstan, emergency officials said Monday. The quake near the border between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in the remote village of Nura hard, injuring about 50 people in addition to the deaths, said Emergency Situations Ministry spokesman Abdusamat Payazov. There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties elsewhere.

Nearly 1.7 MLN tourists visit Cuba in first 8 months of year

HAVANA, 6 Oct – Nearly 1.7 million foreign travellers visited Cuba between January and August this year, a 13.5-per-cent increase over the same period of last year, the Cuban National Office of Statistics (ONE) said on its website Sunday.

The number of foreign tourist arrivals in the Caribbean island state hit a record high of 1.693,054 in the first eight months of 2008, according to the office. Canada remained the country with the highest arrivals, with nearly 140,000, followed by Italy with 85,700 and Germany with 68,500.

Canada’s Conservatives sliding in support

OTTAWA, 6 Oct — Voter support for the Conservative Party has fallen for the first time since Canada’s election campaign started, said a new Harris-Decima poll released Sunday.

The Conservatives’ current support of 34 per cent suffered a 5-per-cent fall in the last four weeks, dragging the party further from the hope of winning a majority in the October 14 election. By contrast, the Liberals gained 1 percentage point and got 24 per cent, according to the four-day running poll.

The poll put the support for the leftist New Democratic Party (NDP) at 20 per cent, the Green Party at 13 per cent and the separatist Bloc Quebecois at 8 per cent.

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King Abdullah of Saudia Arabia hosted meetings between the Afghan government and the Taliban

LONDON, 6 Oct— Taliban leaders are holding Saudi-brokered talks with the Afghan government to end the country’s bloody conflict — and are severing their ties with al Qaeda, sources close to the historic discussions said.

The militia, which has been intensifying its attacks on the U.S.-led coalition that toppled it from power in 2001 for harboring Osama bin Laden’s terrorist network, has been involved four days of talks hosted by Saudi Arabia’s King Abdullah, says the source.

The talks — the first of their kind aimed at resolving the lengthy conflict in Afghanistan — mark a significant move by the Saudi leadership to take a direct role in Afghanistan, hosting delegates who have until recently been its enemies.

Brazil not at risk despite global financial crisis

BRASILIA, 6 Oct – Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said Sunday Brazil was not at risk despite the global financial crisis, but it should still “pay attention” to it.

The spreading US crisis “has already consumed 850 billion US dollars … We should pay attention to the development of the crisis,” Lula said after casting ballots in municipal elections in the country.

The Brazilian economy is functioning properly, said the President, adding that state-owned oil firm Petrobras, and projects on housing and infrastructure construction and urbanization of the poor districts all remained unaffected.

“‘We know how to deal with the crisis, because we have taken preventive measures… We made the homework at home when it was necessary and now we have reserves for this and other crises,” he said. “What we should do is to supervise the financial system in Brazil and avoid any possible crisis in the future,” he added. — MNA/Xinhua

Fatah operation against Hamas in West Bank close

JERUSALEM, 6 Oct — Evidence showed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas’ Fatah movement is preparing to launch a major operation against Hamas in the West Bank in the coming weeks ahead of any turmoil when Abbas’ term ends in January, local daily The Jerusalem Post reported Sunday.

“There are signs that Fatah is preparing something,” the report quoted a senior officer of Israel Defence Forces (IDF) as saying, adding that the Israeli Army had yet to decide what it would do under such circumstances — interfere or stay on the sidelines.

“There is no doubt, however, that we are in favor of Fatah taking responsibility for law and order in the West Bank, and that naturally includes cracking down on Hamas,” he said. “The idea is to strengthen Fatah in a city where Hamas is believed to be strong to be able to counter the potential threat,” the senior IDF officer said.

Taliban split with al Qaeda, seek peace

They also mark a sideshopping of key “war on terror” ally — Pakistan, frequently accused of not doing enough to tackle militants sheltering on its territory, which has previously been a conduit for talks between the Sandis and Afghanistan.

According to the source, fugitive Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar — highhon the U.S. military’s most-wanted list — was not present, but his representatives were keen to stress the reclusive cleric is no longer allied to al Qaeda. During the talks, described as an ice breaker, all parties agreed that the only solution to Afghanistan’s conflict is through dialogue, not fighting. Another source said the Taliban are expected in Saudi Arabia involving this core group and others.

King Abdullah of Saudia Arabia hosted meetings between the Afghan government and the Taliban — Internet

MNA/Xinhua

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Arranging payment for the supply of presents and any good or service by issuing, distributing and compensating purchase vouchers, ticket, coupons, stubs, prepaid cards, credit or debit cards or any other means of payment in particular via a computer network; financial services relating to loyalty cards; payment by loyalty cards; financial services relating to promotional fidelity coupons; payment by promotional fidelity coupons; issuing and financial management of means of payment notably of purchase vouchers; issuing of traveller's checks, value vouchers. (International Class 36.) Any unauthorized use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above mark will be dealt with according to law.

Tin Ohnmar Tun B.A. (LAW) LLB, LLM (UK) P.O.Box 109, Ph: 723043 (For Patrick Mirandah Co. P.O.Box 109, Ph: 723043) Dated. 7 October 2008

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (249)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (249) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.10.2008 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.

Claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Cambodian foreign minister to visit Vietnam

Phnom Penh, 6 Oct—Hoe Nam Hong, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, will visit Vietnam on 6-7 Oct, a press release said Monday. This visit is at the invitation of Pham Gia Khiem, Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, the press release from the Cambodian foreign ministry said.—Internet

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is seeking applications from dynamic and highly motivated Myanmar nationals for the following vacancies with UNDP Yangon:

Detailed terms of reference are available at the bulletin board at No. 8, Natmark Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon.

1. Administrative Analyst—(ICS-9)
Requirements: Master’s Degree or equivalent in Business Administration, Public Administration, Finance, Economics, Business Administration, Accounting and experience in legal and contracting services and procurement essential. Minimum 12 years of experience in operations with emphasis in tender management and contracting.

Excellent communications skills in English.

2. Travel Assistant—(ICS-6)
Requirements: Bachelor degree, specialized training in procurement and travel related matters.

Minimum 5 years of experience in the travel industry. ITiterate; Good communications skills in English.

3. Administrative Clerk—(ICS-3)
Requirements: Bachelor’s degree, 3-5 years of administrative experience. Experience in travel related area an asset. ITiterate; Good communications skills in English.

4. Human Resources (HR) Associate—(ICS-7)
Requirements: Advanced university degree with minimum 8-10 years of progressively responsible experience preferably in HR field. ITiterate; Good communications skills in English.

5. Business Analyst—(ICS-7)
Requirements: Bachelor’s degree; minimum 6 years of progressively responsible HR experience ITiterate; Good communications skills in English.

6. Finance Associate—(ICS-7)
Requirements: Masters Degree in Business or Public Administration with specialization in Accounting and Budgeting or equivalent. Minimum 10 years of progressively responsible finance experience. ITiterate. Excellent communications skills in English.

7. Financial Assistant—(ICS-6)
Requirements: Bachelor’s degree with specialized certification in Accounting and Finance. ITiterate; Good communications skills in English.

8. Administrative Assistant (Common Services)—(ICS-7)
Requirements: Advanced university degree in Business or Public Administration/General Social Science. Masters desirable. 10 years of progressively responsible experience in administration, with emphasis in tender management and contracting.

Very good communications skills in English.

9. Administrative Clerk (Common Services)—(ICS-4)
Requirements: Bachelor degree in public or private administration. Minimum 3 years of relevant administrative experience preferably in international organizations. ITiterate. Good communications skills in English.

10. Procurement Assistant—(ICS-6)
Requirements: Bachelor degree with specialized training in procurement. Minimum 3 to 5 years of relevant administrative experience and international organizations. ITiterate. Very good communications skills in English.

11. Information Technology Clerk—(ICS-4)
Requirements: Bachelor degree with IT specialization. Minimum 3 years of experience in IT related work. Good web-based knowledge. Good communications skills in English.

Candidates should clearly indicate the Post Title in their applications, and should submit them together with complete bio-data stating personal details, academic qualification, work experience and a recent passport sized photograph. Candidates applying for more than one post should submit separate applications. Applications should be addressed to Deputy Resident Representative (Operations) Attention: Human Resource Unit, No. 6, Natmark Road, UNDP, Yangon.

Only those candidates in whose qualifications and experience the Organization has further interest will be contacted for subsequent interview(s).

UNDP practice relating to recruitment prohibits hiring of personnel currently engaged by Government services or who left Government service during the past 6 months.

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer.

UNDP regrets its inability to reply individually or attend to telephone queries on the advertised posts.

Closing Date: Monday, 20 October 2008 (COB)

Record number of tourists, retail sales during Golden Week

BEIJING, 6 Oct—Retail sales and the number of tourists throughout the Golden Week holiday broke records in China’s tourism industry. This year’s National Day holiday, which marks the 1949 founding of the People’s Republic of China, ran from 29 Sept through 5 Oct.

Figures released by the National Tourism Administration (NATA) on its website showed the country’s 119 major tourist destinations received more than 18.29 million visitors. That’s an increase of 13.2 percent from a year earlier. Without giving an exact number, the NATA also said ticket sales rose by 16.4 percent from last year.—Internet

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(For Dornnir Sonntag & Boonna Attorneys at Law, Thailand)

China discovers oil, gas well in Bohai Bay

BEIJING, 6 Oct—China National Offshore Oil Company Limited (CNOOC Ltd) announced Monday it had found a new oil and gas well in east China’s Bohai Bay. The well, named Bozhong (BZ) 35-2-2, is located to the east of the Yellow River mouth. The well was drilled to a total depth of 3,235 meters. During the drill stem test, the well flowed at an average rate of 560 barrels of oil per day.

The CNOOC Ltd has made several oil and gas discoveries in the Bohai Bay area this year, including wells named BZ 35-2-2, KL 3-2 and KL10-1. CNOOC Ltd holds 100 percent interests of the new discovery, and has successfully completed the drilling process, according to the company.

Drive with care
US scientists find oldest fossil tracks of legged animal

WASHINGTON, 6 Oct — US scientists have found the oldest fossilized tracks of a tiny legged animal, from 570 million years ago, that push back the advent of more complex creatures on Earth by some 30 million years, a report said Sunday.

The fossilized trails, thought to belong to a centipede or a leg-bearing worm that lived in the water, were found in sedimentary rocks in the US state of Nevada, said Ohio State University geology professor and the study’s chief author Loren Babcock.

The finding, as reported to the Geological Society of America meeting Sunday in Houston, Texas, shattered the belief that pre-Cambrian life on Earth was restricted to microbes and simple multicellular organisms.

The tracks, two parallel rows of small dots, each about two millimeters in diameter, date back some 570 million years, to the Ediacaran period (543-490 million years ago) saw an evolutionary explosion that produced most of the major animal groups we know today.

“We keep talking about the possibility of more complex animals in the Ediacaran — soft corals, some arthropods, and flatworms — but the evidence has not been totally convincing,” Babcock said. — Internet

Central Gov’t investigates deadly N China landslide

BEIJING, 6 Oct — The State Council, China’s Cabinet, is launching an investigation into a landslide that killed 44 people in the northern Shanxi Province in August.

A 49-member team, headed by State Administration of Work Safety (SAWS) deputy director Wang Dexue, consists of senior officials from the Ministry of Supervision, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and the Shanxi provincial government.

The landslide toppled a waste dump of a local iron mine and buried Sigou Village on 1 Aug. Its severity is launching an investigation into a landslide that killed 44 people in the northern Shanxi Province in August.

Families complained at least 30 others had been trapped under the waste, were found in sedimentary rocks in the US state of Nevada, said Ohio State University geology professor and the study’s chief author Loren Babcock.

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“We keep talking about the possibility of more complex animals in the Ediacaran — soft corals, some arthropods, and flatworms — but the evidence has not been totally convincing,” Babcock said. — Internet

Mexico seizes pseudoephedrine shipment at airport

MEXICO CITY, 6 Oct — Mexican authorities say they have seized 7 million pills of pseudoephedrine, the main ingredient used to make methamphetamine, at the Guadalajara airport.

The Attorney General’s Office says more than 1,100 pounds (500 kilograms) of the pills were found packed in 24 boxes on a shipment from Calcutta, India.

Mexico has banned imports of pseudoephedrine to thwart methamphetamine production. — Internet

A Chinese Shih tzu dog takes part in the European dog show in Budapest, on 5 Oct, 2008. Around 20,000 dogs gathered at the show, the biggest event of its kind in Europe. — Internet

No hamsters or exotic pets for young kids

CHICAGO, 6 Oct — “Warning: young children should not keep hedgehogs as pets — or hamsters, baby chicks, lizards and turtles, for that matter — because of risks for disease.”

That’s according to the nation’s leading pediatricians’ group in a new report about dangers from exotic animals.

Besides evidence that they can carry dangerous and sometimes potentially deadly germs, exotic pets may be more prone than cats and dogs to bite, scratch or claw — putting children younger than 5 particularly at risk, the report says.

Young children are vulnerable because of developing immune systems plus they often put their hands in their mouths. That means families with children younger than 5 should avoid owning “nontraditional” pets. Also, kids should not pet hamsters or exotic pets for young kids.

Obesity, insulin level impact prostate cancer survival

SUNDAY, 6 Oct — Men who are overweight and who have high insulin levels when they are diagnosed with prostate cancer may be more likely to die from the disease, research shows.

This striking finding, published early online and expected to be in the November issue of The Lancet Oncology, is yet more reason to continue fighting the battle of the bulge, experts say.

“I don’t want to be sensationalist, but obesity effects and the insulin effects are huge,” said lead author Babcock.

The findings also have scientific import, giving researchers a clue that could lead to new pre-vension and treatment strategies.

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Nigerian militants release 19 hostages

LAGOS, October 6 — Nigerian militants on Sunday released 19 hostages who were abducted two years ago, reports from news agencies said.

AFP reported that the militants in the Nigeria’s oil-rich Delta region free the hostages.

The hostages were Nigerian oil workers who were kidnapped by the main military group Movement for Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND).

Meanwhile, the MEND said in an e-mailed statement to the media “At about 1055 Hours on Sunday, October 05, 2008, the Nigerian hostages rescued from pirates by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta have been released in Rivers State.”

“Due to the location where the expatriates were kept for their safety, they cannot be released at this time because of security concern,” the statement said.

INTERNET
Raul double fails to lift faltering Real

BARCELONA, 6 Oct — Veteran striker Raul Gonzalez scored twice but Real Madrid still lost ground in the Spanish title race after they were held at home 2-2 by Espanyol on Sunday.

A below-par Madrid went behind from the penalty spot after 21 minutes with Raul Tamudo firing home after he was felled by Gabriel Heinze.

Raul, returning to the side after being rested for the Champions League clash against Zenit St. Petersburg, equalised with a header four minutes later. On the half-hour, Luis Garcia restored Espanyol’s advantage, scoring from close range after good build up play from Roman Martinez, Tamudo and Ivan de la Pena.

But then Raul was on hand to bring Real back level at the end of the first half. There were chances for both sides after the break notably for Luis Garcia and Nene for Espanyol, while Real’s Ruud van Nistelrooy also had a shot saved by keeper Carlos Kameni.

The result brought Real’s six-match winning streak to an end and left them in fifth place, three points behind leaders Valencia who beat Valladolid 1-0.

Real coach Bernd Schuster felt his team missed a chance to go top after their last three league games.

“The result is not very positive,” said Schuster.

“Valencia are having a fantastic season and we have to think about that.”

AS Roma and Juve reeling as minnows fly high

ROME, 6 Oct — AS Roma plunged further into crisis after suffering a 1-0 defeat at Siena on Sunday and having both their centre-backs dismissed.

Luciano Spalletti’s team had already had a poor start to the season before this, their third defeat in as many away games that leaves them in the bottom half and with just points from six games.

They are already six points off city-rivals Lazio and champions Inter Milan at the top.

Liechtenstein forward Marco Frick scored the winner in the first half stoppage time as he reached Massimo Maccarone’s cross just ahead of France defender Philippe Mexes. Any hopes Roma had of salvaging something from the game disappeared after the break as first Mexes and then Cristian Panucci received their marching orders.

One of Roma’s main problems this season has been the number of injuries they’ve had, depriving them of top players such as Mexes, Juan and Francesco Totti and now the subsequent suspensions Mexes and Panucci will serve could hit them even harder than the loss of three points in points.

Paula Creamer wins Samsung in native Bay Area

HALF MOON BAY, 6 Oct — Paula Creamer could finally look to all those supporters who have seen her through every stage of her young golf career and know she’d made them proud while playing right in her backyard.

Creamer calmly won her biggest LPGA Tour title yet, holding off a large pack to win the Samsung World Championship on Sunday about 1 1/2 hours west of where she grew up in Pleasanton.

“This really does mean a lot. I put so much pressure on myself every time I come here,” said Creamer, dressed in one of her custom pink outfits. “It’s hard coming to your hometown. People watch you play all the time, but it’s a different feeling when you’re at home. You are constantly hearing, ‘Go Pleasanton!’ I want to win so badly, especially for everybody.”

The 22-year-old Creamer beat Song-Hee Kim by a stroke, closing with a bogey-free 3-under 69 for a 9-under 279 total. Creamer earned $250,000 for her fourth title of the year and eighth overall, going the final 37 holes without a bogey.

Owen overlooked again for England World Cup duty

Michael Owen

LONDON, 6 Oct — Michael Owen was overlooked once again by England manager Fabio Capello when the squad for the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers against Kazakhstan and Belarus was announced on Sunday.

Capello admitted the Newcastle striker had given him a decision to make by scoring three goals in his last four matches.

But the Italian boss over looked him for the second round of qualifiers for the 2010 tournament in South Africa, opting to stick with Wayne Rooney, Emile Heskey and Jermain Defoe and bring in the latter’s Portsmouth team-mate Peter Crouch, who has scored four in his last three games.

In their opening fixtures in qualifying Group Six, England beat Andorra away in Barcelona 2-0 on September 6 before vanquishing group favourites Croatia 4-1 away in Zagreb four days later.

In changes from the squad selected for those games, Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard, back from a groin injury, returned to the England midfield ranks, while Joe Cole, injured in Chelsea’s 2-0 defeat of Aston Villa on Sunday, misses out.

In their opening matches against Kazakhstan and Belarus the Three Lions go into the world Cup qualifiers as the Chelsea defender struggles to shake off a back injury.

England captain Terry played in Sunday’s 2-0 win over Aston Villa despite feeling pain from the back problem he suffered in Chelsea’s Champions League draw with CFR Cluj in midweek.

He completed 90 minutes at Stamford Bridge and will meet England’s doctors before joining up with Fabio Capello’s squad, but Scolari has no doubts that he will meet England’s doctors before joining up with Fabio Capello’s squad, but Scolari has no doubts that.

Nicolas Anelka is a doubt for France’s upcoming World Cup 2010 match with Romania after the striker was taken off at half-time with a leg problem.

Scolari expects Terry to play through pain barrier for England

LONDON, 6 Oct — Luiz Felipe Scolari expects John Terry to play through the pain barrier in England’s World Cup qualifiers as the Chelsea defender struggles to shake off a back injury.

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Second straight tennis win puts Jankovic number one

STUTTGART, 6 Oct — Jelena Jankovic will regain her world number one ranking on Monday less than 24 hours after winning Stuttgart’s WTA event with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Nadia Petrova in Sunday’s final.

With world number one Serena Williams losing in the second round here last week, Jankovic will reclaim top spot after capturing her second consecutive WTA title after taking the China Open title in Beijing.

“I am really excited about winning here, it’s my second win in two weeks and my confidence is high,” said Jankovic.

“I played some good tennis this week and I am proud of myself.”

Jankovic must now choose between the prize of a brand-new Porsche 911 Carrera 4S Cabrio or 98,500 dollars of prize money.

She joked: “I already have a Turbo, so why not the Carrera as well?”

The 23-year-old Serb started with a hiss and a roar as she raced into a 2-0 lead after breaking Petrova in the first game and it proved to be enough to take the first set 6-4 after 46 minutes.
Forty-two face trial over French ‘Angolagate’

PARIS, 6 Oct — Forty-two people including the son of late French president François Mitterrand and dozens of businessman, politicians and public figures go on trial Monday over a vast “arms-to-Angola” scandal.

Dubbed “Angolagate” by the French press, the long-running affair has cast a shadow over a raft of senior government officials, including many who served during Mitterrand’s two-term Socialist presidency from 1981 to 1995.

It revolves around the trafficking of 790 million dollars (590 million euros) in arms to the southern African country from 1993 to 1998, at the height of a bloody civil war that left half a million dead.

Two businessman, Frenchman Pierre Falcone, 54, and the Russian-born Israeli billionaire Arcady Gaydamak, 56, are at the heart of the case, accused of acting as go-betweens for illegal arms deliveries from eastern Europe.

Air passenger stabs himself with toothbrush

DARWIN, 6 Oct — A Jetstar flight had to turn back after take-off after a passenger stabbed himself with a toothbrush.

Another traveller, who identified himself only as Adam, told the Northern Territory News the bloodied man had to be restrained by cabin crew in the incident aboard the Darwin to Sydney flight on Friday.

When the plane landed, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) interviewed some passengers and took the man away. It is understood the man would be dealt with by mental health authorities.

Jetstar spokeswoman Simone Pregelli said she understood the passenger had made a weapon out of the base of a toothbrush. “It was a serious situation,” she said. “Our crew are trained to prepare for all sorts of different situations.”—Internet

Baby found alive after days in pool of mud

ALGARRO, 6 Oct — A BABY has been found alive after four days in a pool of mud following flash-flooding in Algeria, local media reports.

The four-month-old was in good health after being rescued from the mud in the province of Ghardaia, 600 km south of Algiers, sources told Algerie Presse Service (APS). The baby, found late on Saturday following a search, would stay with another family until its parents were identified, the APS quoted the sources as saying.

“It’s a miracle, really a miracle to find it alive after all this time,” Ghardaia town governor Yahirah Fahrim said on national radio.—Internet

WEATHER

Monday, 6 October, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30h MIST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in upper Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in lower Sagar Division, scattered in Kachin and Shan States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, isolated in Magway and Ayeawady Divisions with isolated heavyfally in Mandalay Division and partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaukse (3.30 inches), Pyinoolwin (2.99 inches), Bhamo (2.33 inches), Lollen (1.89 inches) and Kalay (1.58 inches).

Maximum temperature on 5-10-2008 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 6-10-2008 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MIST on 6-10-2008 was 85%.

Rainfall on 6-10-2008 was (Nil) at Mandalay, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (98.70) inches at Mingaladon, (109.64) inches at Kaba-Aye and (126.85) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Northwest at (14:30) hours MIST on 5-10-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 7-10-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Shan States and upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Mon and Kayin States, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeawady and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated 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 rain in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 7-10-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-10-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-10-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct – Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min attended an opening ceremony of the special paediatric ward of Thayethamein Station Hospital in Waw Township on 4 October morning.

First, the commander and ministers formally opened the ward and Maj-Gen Ko Ko formally unveiled the signboard of the ward. Next, they looked round the ward. Maj-Gen Ko Ko then comforted the patients and presented cash assistance to them.

The ward was built at a cost of K 30 million donated by traditional medical practitioner U Aye Myint.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko and party also attended the opening of new school building of Thayethamein Basic Education Middle School (Branch). Afterwards, a ceremony to hand over the new school building and the paediatric ward of the station hospital took place at the school. The school building was built at a cost of K 80 million donated by the Ministry of Education and wellwishers.

Later, Maj-Gen Ko Ko and party visited the site of Bago River-crossing bridge construction and inspected the site chosen for construction of a toll gate of Max Myanmar Co Ltd at Mile Post No. 43/7.

ICT entrance exam 17 Oct

YANGON, 6 Oct — The date set for the entrance examination for Advanced ICT Engineer Training Courses jointly sponsored by India and Myanmar to be held at the University of Computer Studies (Hline Campus) under the Advanced Science and Technology Department, Ministry of Science and Technology was postponed to 17 October instead of 10 October.

The entrance examination will be held through online at IMCEITS training center on the campus. Detailed information can be obtained from the campus starting on 10 October.—MNA

Tagun Dam in Seikpyu Township for greening and agricultural purposes

Myanmar is rich in natural resources. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State to exploit the natural resources for the State, the Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has built dams to utilize water resources. Especially, dams and reservoirs are being built in the arid regions with a view to controlling the water of creeks and rivers in the rainy season and supplying it to the farmlands. In Pakokku District, small-scale dams are being built for drinking and agricultural purposes.

The news crew of the Myanmar Alin Daily left for Pakokku by express bus on 23 September to cover the

(See page 7)