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Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe welcomed back Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 4.50 pm today.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife arrived back here by special flight after paying their goodwill visit to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh at the invitation of Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh Dr Fakruddin Ahmed.

Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Maj-Gen Maung Shein, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Mm Aung Hlaing, Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Ministry of Defence and Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and their wives, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, senior military officers, Director-General Col Thant Shin of the Government Office, departmental heads, Charge d’ Affaires ai of Bangladesh Embassy Mr Golam Mostafa and wife, Defence Attaché Brig-Gen ANM Shawkat Jamal and wife and officials also welcomed back Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San at the airport.

Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thura Tha Tun Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, Member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-(See page 7)

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.—MNA

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

(MNA)
Environmental conservation calls for public participation

All living things including human beings are surrounded by airspace, water and land sources, trees and forests and natural resources of various kinds. The environment must be in good condition in order that all the world people can enjoy food security and are able to continue to survive.

Today, the whole world has come under changes of climate patterns caused by global warming. Scientists have warned that even icebergs in the Artic Ocean are disappearing at the unprecedented level. Many regions around the world have suffered natural disasters, stemming from environmental degradation such as strong winds, floods, drought, heat waves, and excessive falls of mist and fog.

Scientists have made a deduction that human activities account for 90 per cent of causes of global warming. According to the records on world meteorology and temperature, since 1990, global temperature has been on the gradual increase, and it is the hottest in 2008.

Accordingly, every country has placed emphasis on environmental conservation so as to prevent the environment from deteriorating.

Myanmar conserves the environment in a systematic way. In the process, it is conserving forest reserves, wildlife and natural forests in accordance with the Forest Law. The Ministry of Forest is establishing tree plantations for fire-wood, watershed forests and teak plantations in collaboration with local people.

Forests and trees such as teak and ironwood are important contributors to national economic growth and regional greening. Therefore, the government is now paying a serious attention to nurturing and conservation of the woodlands, biodiversity, wildlife and rare species of flora.

The people are, thus, to contribute towards the tasks the government is carrying out for environmental conservation to avert environmental deterioration resulting from air, water and land pollution and deforestation.

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PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 10 October, 2008

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint delivers a speech at opening ceremony of World Sight Day.

MNA
Iraq: Roadside bomb kills senior Shiite lawmaker

Baghdad, 9 Oct—An Iraqi lawmaker loyal to anti-US Shi'ite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr was killed Thursday when a bomb struck his convoy in Baghdad, officials said.

The explosion hit the convoy carrying Saleh al-Aqua'ai and other Shi'ite lawmakers from al-Sadr's parliament bloc as it passed about 200 yards from an Iraqi Army checkpoint in a heavily secured area near Baghdad's main Shiite district of Sadr City, according to one of his colleagues.

Al-Aqua'ai was taken to a hospital in Baghdad, where he later died of his wounds, according to Sadrist spokesman Ahmed al-Massoudi and a fellow lawmaker, Hassan al-Rubaie. At least one bystander was also killed in the bombing. Al-Aqua'ai was a senior member of al-Sadr's political bloc, which has 30 seats in the 275-member parliament. The Shi'ite cleric's cease-fire order to his militia has been a key factor in a sharp decline in violence over the past year.—Internet

Bombs aimed at police kill 10, hurt 14 in Pakistan

Islamabad, 9 Oct—Bombings killed 10 people and wounded at least four in Pakistan on Thursday, including an attack in a police complex in the capital the same day lawmakers huddled for a private briefing on the militant threat facing the country.

The deaths happened in the nation's volatile northwest, where al-Qaeda and Taliban militants have established bases near the Afghan border.

Four children, two police and four prisoners died when a roadside bomb exploded under a prison vehicle in the Dir region, government officials said. Initial reports indicated a school bus was caught in the blast, but others said the children were walking. Ten people were wounded.

In Islamabad, an apparent suicide car bombing severely damaged an anti-terror squad building and wounded at least four police in the heavily guarded Police Lines neighbourhood. The explosion occurred just moments after a man delivered candy to the facility and police were examining whether the events were linked.

Some body parts were found that might belong to a suicide bomber, Islamabad Police Chief Aqshar Gardazai said.

The latest incident in Islamabad happened amid tight security for the briefing of lawmakers at the Parliament building. No one immediately took responsibility.—Internet

US-Iraq security pact faces hurdles

Baghdad, 9 Oct—A US-Iraqi security agreement spelling out how American troops and contractors operate was supposed to be in place over the summer, but the thorniest issues remain unsettled and neither side is budging. Time is running out. The deal must be finished and ratified by Iraq's parliament before 31 Dec, when the UN mandate authorizing the US military mission expires. Otherwise, there will be no legal basis for the US presence in Iraq.

For President Bush, some of the pressure to get a fast deal has faded since Iraq is no longer a dominant issue in the presidential campaign. For the Iraqi leadership, however, political crosscurrents have grown more complicated because of upcoming provincial elections and strong Iranian opposition to any security agreement.

The scene of a bomb attack in Baquba, 65km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad on 8 Oct, 2008.

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The scene of a bomb attack in Baquba, 65km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad on 8 Oct, 2008.

Internet
Pakistan President to make 1st visit to China
BEIJING, 9 Oct — Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari will pay a state visit to China next week, his first trip abroad since assuming office in September.

As a guest of Chinese President Hu Jintao, Zardari will pay a state visit to China from 14 to 17 Oct, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said on Thursday. “China is looking forward to and welcomes Zardari’s visit,” Qin said.

During his stay, Zardari is expected to hold talks with Hu and meet with other Chinese leaders, including top legislator Wu Bangguo, Premier Wen Jiabao and top advisor Jia Qinglin. Qin said China expected Zardari’s visit to deepen bilateral strategic and cooperative partnership.—Xinhua

Brazil to have 7 mln more hectares of land for sugarcane production
RIO DE JANEIRO, 9 Oct — Brazil’s Environment Minister Carlos Minc announced an expansion project on Wednesday to have 7 million more hectares of land for planting sugarcane.

The expansion project aims to boost ethanol production without damaging food production or causing a hike in food prices, Minc said in Brasilia during a public hearing on agriculture and land reform.

The whole project is expected to finish by the end of the year. —Xinhua

Nepali Gov’t forms commission to investigate air crash accident
KATHMANDU, 9 Oct — The Nepali government has formed a five-member commission to investigate into the air crash accident of Twin-otter of Yeti Airlines in which 18 people were killed at Lukla Airport on Wednesday morning. According to the National News Agency RSS Thursday’s report, the commission will present its report within two months from the date of its formation.
A Yeti Airlines domestic plane made a crash-landing after catching fire on Wednesday morning while landing at Lukla Airport, east of the Nepali capital Kathmandu. Mohan Adhikari, general manager of Nepali Kathmandu Tribhuvan International Airport on behalf of the related Nepali aviation authority, said at a Press conference that 18 people died in the accident.

Mohan Adhikari said the 18 dead include two crew members, 12 German passengers, two Australian passengers and two Nepali passengers, while the only one still alive is a Nepali co-pilot. The injured is treated in Kathmandu hospital.

Lukla Airport is gateway to Mt Qomolangma (Mt Everest), some 140 km east of Kathmandu.

International tourists are coming to Nepal at the beginning of October, the end of Nepali monsoon season.—Xinhua
United Nations Secretary-General Message on World Mental Health Day 10 October, 2008

Mental disorders occur in all cultures and at all stages of life. They are risk factors for, or consequences of, many other health problems, and are too often associated with poverty, marginalization and social disadvantage. They also appear more frequently in the midst of conflict and disasters.

Health systems around the world face enormous challenges in delivering mental health care and protecting the human rights of people with severe disorders. The resources available are insufficient, inequitably distributed and inefficiently used. As a result, a large majority of people with mental disorders receive no care at all.

Scaling-up services should be a priority. The World Health Organization’s Mental Health Gap Action Programme, launched this month, identifies the strategies needed for scaling up mental health care using cost-effective interventions in resource-constrained settings. The programme calls on all partners—governments, multilateral agencies, donors, public health organizations, mental health professionals and consumer groups—to join together for advocacy and action to make this happen.

More broadly, we must do more to integrate mental health awareness into all aspects of health and social policy, health-system planning, and primary and secondary general health care. Mental health is of paramount importance for personal well-being, family relationships and an individual’s ability to contribute to society. On this World Mental Health Day, let us recognize that there can be no health without mental health.

China’s publishing industry revamped in 30 years

BEIJING, 9 Oct—China’s publishing industry is enjoying unparalleled growth, 30 years after the implementation of the Reform and Opening up policy. The numbers alone reflect the industry buoyancy. Twenty-four publishing groups have been reformed. And annual publication of new books has risen to 130,000.

Lu Jiande is a researcher fellow of the China Academy of Sciences. His study holds a 30 year old collection, “Walking to the World”. It’s a serial volume published by Yuelu Publishing House in 1980. The books gathered bits and pieces of China’s understanding of the outside world over 120 years. Eighty-year-old Zhong Shuhe was the editor of this 36-volume eight million word set.

Wu Shangzhi, general administrator of Press and Publication, said, “The books advanced an important idea - that the Chinese publishing industry should face the world. That idea was later incorporated into a government circular to strengthen and improve publishing in China.”—Internet

Egypt apartment building collapses, 11 killed

Alexandria, 9 Oct—An apartment building collapsed in the city of Alexandria on Egypt’s northern coast overnight, killing at least 11 people, Egyptian state media said on Wednesday.

Security sources said at least two more people were missing and feared dead.

The dead include a mother found clutching her baby, state news agency MENA reported. At least six others were injured, and rescue workers were combing the ruins of the five-storey building for more victims, MENA added.

Samim Nazmi, a 28-year-old storeman who lived on the ground floor with his parents, said the building made a sound like an exploding gas cylinder when it collapsed.

“Luckily the ground floor was mostly intact. My parents and I climbed out through a gap into the neighbouring house,” he told Reuters at the scene of the collapse.—Internet

16 killed in rough border state

Tijuana, 9 Oct—Mexican authorities said Wednesday that 16 people were killed in 24 hours in the northern state across the US border from California. State officials blamed warring cells of the Arellano-Felix drug cartel for the killings and other homicides plaguing the area in recent weeks.

The Baja California state prosecutor’s office said seven people were shot to death in the border city of Tijuana in four separate gunbattles. Another man was found handcuffed with a bag over his head, and two other bodies wrapped in blankets were dumped in a residential neighbourhood. Two state investigators were shot and killed at a street-side fruit stand in downtown Mexicali. And in the beach resort of Rosarito, four people died in two shootouts.—Internet

People stand among the rubble of a collapsed building in Alexandria, 230 km (140 miles) north of Cairo, on 8 Oct, 2008.—Internet

Somali pirates free 15 Filipino seamen, hold 67

MANILA, 9 Oct—Pirates in Somalia released 15 Filipino seamen and four other crewmen of a chemical tanker hijacked nearly two months ago, but were still holding 67 other Filipino sailors, officials said Thursday. A spokesman for the Philippines Foreign Affairs Department, Claro Cristobal, said the seaman from the MT Irene, a Japanese-operated vessel, were freed late Wednes-

day and expected in Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates.

“All crew members are safe and sound despite the ordeal they have undergone,” he said.

The Philippines, one of the largest suppliers of crewmen in the international shipping industry, has been hit hard by a sharp increase in the number of Somali pirate attacks in the Gulf of Aden.

Four ships with 67 Filipino sailors remained in the hands of Somali pirates, including the MV Stella Mars, a Japanese-owned bulk carrier that was seized July 20, Cristobal said.

One Filipino sailor was killed when pirates in speed boats climbed aboard one of two Malaysian tankers last month, which have since been released.

Forensics carry the body of a dead man at the crime scene where two men were shot in Tijuana, Mexico, on 8 Oct, 2008.—Internet

Moderate earthquake hits Luzon, Philippines

HONG KONG, 9 Oct—An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter Scale hit Philippines’ northeastern island of Luzon at 3:13 am Thursday (1913 GMT Wednesday), according to a bulletin released by the Hong Kong Observatory. The epicentre was initially determined to be 13.0 degrees north latitude and 124.4 degrees east longitude, about 80 km east of Legaspi. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damages.—Internet

Somali Islamist group says “ready for dialogue” over Mogadishu airport ban

MOGADISHU, 9 Oct—The Islamist group which last month ordered the closure of the main airport in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, said on Thursday it is ready to rescind its decision after negotiations about it.

The Al-Shabaab Islamist movement last month threatened to shoot down any aircraft using the airport which they said was being used to bring in military supplies for Ethiopian troops and African Union peacekeepers which they have been battling for nearly the past two years. 

INTERNET
Yosemite National Park rock slide destroys cabins

Chunks of granite crashed into a nearby cabin with her two children. “People were stumped everywhere and running, running like crazy. I felt like I was running ahead of a tsunami.”

The slide destroyed five cabins and partially damaged at least three others, according to a park statement. Three visitors were treated for minor injuries.

The volume of rocks cascading from the granite face was estimated at about 1,800 cubic yards, or about 180 truck loads, said Vickie Mates, a park spokeswoman. — Internet

Two American journalists missing in Lebanon since 30 Sept

BEIRUT, 9 Oct — Two American journalists, who are reportedly working for The Jordan Times, have been missing in Lebanon since 30 Sept, local Naharnet website reported Wednesday.

The two journalists identified as Taylor Luke, 23 (female), and Hollie Camella, 27 (male), arrived in Beirut on 29 Sept. Security sources said their last appearances were on 30 Sept when they left their hotel in Hamra in the western part of Beirut and their friends have been looking for them, but failed. — Internet

Half-ton Mexican man dies after pleading for help

A 450-kilogramme (990-pound), bedridden man who had appealed on Mexican television for help tackling his weight problem died Tuesday of heart failure, his family said.

Emergency officials had to knock down Jose Luis Garza’s bedroom wall and put him in the back of a friend’s pickup truck to take him to a hospital as he fought for his life. The 47-year-old was pronounced dead on arrival.

Garza followed in the footsteps of the world’s fattest man, fellow Mexican Manuel Uribe of Monterrey, by taking his weight problem public. Garza lived thunder and what felt like the Earth crumbling apart,” said Deanne Maschmeyer, 41, of Monterey, who was stay-

BlackBerry Storm has touch screen you can feel

Research in Motion Ltd, maker of the BlackBerry, is taking on Apple Inc with a touch-screen phone that puts a new twist on the technology.

RIM is known for its e-mail-oriented phones with large keyboards. With the new model being announced Wednesday, the Storm, RIM is for the first time giving up the physical keypad in favour of a large screen, just like the one on Apple’s iPhone.

But RIM has listened to users who find the iPhone’s glass screen awkward to type on because its virtual buttons provide no tactile feedback. The Storm’s whole screen is backed by springs, and when pressed, it gives under the finger.

The long-rumoured Storm will be available from Verizon Wireless in the US and from Vodafone Group PLC overseas before the holidays, the companies said. No price has been disclosed yet. — Internet

Man charged in Tennessee mall shooting that killed one

KNOXVILLE, 9 Oct — A customer opened fire in a crowded shopping mall Wednesday afternoon, killing a clothing store employee before he was shot and wounded by police, authorities said. Witnesses said the gunman sent people “stamping” for cover.

The employee was shot multiple times around 4:20 pm after a confrontation with the suspect at Knoxville Centre Mall, police spokesman Darrell DeBusk said. The store employee, 29-year-old Ahmed Nahi, died at the scene.

Two uniformed Knoxville Police Department officers confronted the customer as he left Reno Menswear store and exchanged gunfire, hitting him once in the arm and once in the leg, DeBusk said. No one else was hurt, and police recovered the suspect’s handgun.

William Johnson, 42, of Knoxville, was charged with murder, aggravated kidnapping and two counts of attempted murder in the shootings, police said.

He was taken to University of Tennessee Medical Centre and was in stable condition. — Internet

Hu raises “quake relief spirit” banner for nation

BEIJING, 9 Oct — President Hu Jintao on Wednesday urged China to carry on the spirit of unity, courage, “people first” and scientific thinking that characterized the May 12 earthquake relief effort.

At a ceremony in Beijing’s Great Hall of the People to honour outstanding organizations and individuals for their contributions to the rescue and relief work, Hu said the spirit should be promoted among the Communist Party of China (CPC) members and the public.

This would help advance the sound and rapid economic and social development.

“We organized the fastest quake relief work with the most people mobilized in China’s history, saved as many as possible lives and minimized the losses from the disaster,” Hu said.

Party committees, governments, grassroots cadres and the people in quake-hit regions had responded quickly to the devastating quake, making the utmost effort to help themselves and others.

Hu praised the 146,000 troops, armed police, reservists and police which had been mobilized for the anti-quake work, describing them as the “main force” and “commandoes.” — MNA/Xinhua

Man, 121, tops list of oldest people in China

A list of China’s oldest people was announced for the first time by the China Gerontology Association on Monday, ahead of the Seniors Day yesterday.

The 121-year-old Sadiq Sawut from the Xinjiang Uygar autonomous region topped the list as the oldest man, while Maheiufu Zhan, from the same region, was the oldest woman at 118.

Xinjiang has the highest proportion of centenarians in the country, with 1,413 people aged 100 years or older, or 73 in every 1 million people.

The national average is around 23 in 1 million.

The Metropolitan Morning Post based in Urumqi, Xinjiang reported that when Zhan heard the news, she stopped eating her dumplings to give the thumbs up.

Her son, Maierdan, said she liked talking, even with her 18-month-old great granddaughter.

Her favourite food includes beef, mutton, bananas and sunflower seeds, the newspaper said.

With an average age of 117, China’s 10 most venerable citizens have lived through the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, making them the most telling witnesses of China’s changes, the organizers of the ranking said.


José Luis Garza, 47, lies on his bed in the town of Juarez, near Monterrey, Mexico.

About an hour away from Urbe in the northern town of Juarez, Garza said he had always struggled with his weight but fell into a cycle of depression and overeating nine months with his weight but fell into a cycle of depression and overeating nine months ago after his parents died of natural causes within two weeks of each other. He had been bedridden for four months.

BlackBerry Storm has touch screen you can feel

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Senior General Than Shwe welcomes…

(from page 1)

NAY PYI TAW, 9 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, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Zaw Min and departmental officials, went by car along Chaungnehkwa-Kya-in-Seikkyi road from Chaungnehkwa village in Kayakmaraw Township, Mon State, on 3 October. On arrival at the briefing hall of Darli Police Station, Mon State, Maj-Gen Tha Aye inspected the senior officials and departmental heads and officials also arrived back on the same flight.— MNA

Maj-Gen Tha Aye on inspection tour of Kya-in-Seikkyi, Kayin State

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct—Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence visited the 15-acre farm of farmer U Tun Kyi in Kya-in-Seikkyi Township and viewed the broadcasting of fertilizers and thriving Manawthukha paddy plantations.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye met military officers and other ranks and their family members of the local battalion and presented gifts to them. Then, he and party visited Kya-in-Seikkyi Basic Education High School, Maj-Gen Tha Aye looked into the language lab and computer room and presented cash assistance for the school funds, 100 exercise books and school uniforms and sports gear. He also visited the townships police station and presented cash assistance to the staff family members.

After inspecting two bored piles and two approach structures, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party visited the 15-acre farm of farmer U Maw Tar in Kya-in-Seikkyi Township and viewed the paddy plantation of farmer U Tun Kyi and rubber plantations in Myoma Ward-2 where sesame, corn, tapioca, beans and pulses are grown. They then left Kya-in-Seikkyi and arrived back in Mawlamyine in the evening.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye inspects 15-acre farm of farmer U Maw Tar in Kya-in-Seikkyi Township.— MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe accepts K 18.6 million donated by Mr Charles Mang Lian Thang of i Love Myanmar. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya Sun at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.— MNA

i Love Myanmar contributes cash to construction of houses in Bogale, Labutta Tps

YANGON, 8 Oct—Secretary of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Chairman of Cash and Kind Accepting and Supervisory Committee Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and officials accepted K 18.6 million for construction of 31 houses at Htawpainglay village in Bogale Township donated by Mr Charles Mang Lian Thang (i Lover Myanmar) at the hall of Fire Services Department here yesterday morning.

The minister presented certificate of honour and spoke words of thanks.

So far, i Love Myanmar has donated K 171.6 million for the construction of 286 houses at Daunkgyi village and Thechaung village in Bogale Township for the first time, FEC 138,000 for 230 houses at Amatkyi, Amatkyikalay, Einme and Thayagon villages in Labutta Township for the second time and K 300 million for 500 houses at Theikhangongyi, Padaukgun, Thaluphataw and Hsarchat villages in Labutta Township for the third time.— MNA

DONATE BLOOD

Post Nargis Seminar 12 Oct

YANGON, 9 Oct—Post Nargis Seminar on Nargis relief works, undertaken by Myanmar Medicals Association (Central) will be held at the hall (A) of MMA, Theinbyu road, Mingalar Taungnyunt Township here on 12 October. Doctors and wellwishers participated in the relief works are invited to attend the seminar.

MNA

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 10 October, 2008
Countries stepping up efforts to promote regional cooperation: Vice-Senior General Maung Aye

Challenges will have to be overcome through mutual cooperation: Chief Adviser Dr Fakruddin Ahmed

Chief Adviser to Bangladesh Caretaker Government and wife host dinner to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka.

After the Myanmar delegation had taken position at the hall, national anthems of both countries were played by the State band. Chief Adviser Dr Fakruddin Ahmed made an introductory speech, saying that he was pleased with the visit paid by the Myanmar delegation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San. Traditionally, the two countries have coexisted with amity. The two countries share natural disasters, so the two neighbours have to cooperate with each other to deal with natural disasters. They have discussed matters on mutual interests that evening. An agreement on avoidance of double taxation between the two countries has been signed. Plans are under way to sign other agreements. The two countries are developing countries facing same economic challenges. These challenges will have to be overcome through mutual cooperation. As for Bangladesh, Myanmar is a gateway to ASEAN, and Bangladesh serves as a bridge between South Asia and South East Asia. The two countries are members of ARF, BIMSTEC and ACD. He said he firmly believes that the visit of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye will enhance bilateral relations.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeting Adviser to Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka. —MNA

Bilateral trade has increased gradually, and the two neighbouring countries have helped each other when one is hit by a natural disaster. He thanks Bangladesh for its relief supplies to Myanmar after the Storm Nargis.

In the globalization age, countries are stepping up efforts for promotion of regional cooperation with other nations in their respective region. In particular, developing countries require to further cooperate with each other (See page 10).
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San arrive in Bangladesh

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party, left Myanmar by special flight for Dhaka of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh at 10.10 am on 7 October at the invitation of Chief Adviser to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh Dr Fakruddin Ahmed.

At 11 am Bangladesh Standard Time, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San were accorded the 19-gun salute.

Chief Adviser to the Caretaker Government Dr Fakruddin Ahmed and wife Mrs Neena Ahmed welcomed Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Two Bangladeshi children presented a bouquet to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party were welcomed by Myanmar embassy staff and their families.

In honour of visiting Myanmar delegation led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, flags of two nations were flown and banners saying bilateral friendship were hanged along the main road to Zeira International Airport, junctions, roundabouts and hotel where they would stay.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party were welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh U Phae Thann Oo and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San arrived at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye received Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Lt-Gen Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh Dr Fakruddin Ahmed.

At 10.10 am on 7 October at the invitation of Chief Adviser to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh Dr Fakruddin Ahmed, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San were accorded the 19-gun salute.

Chief Adviser to the Caretaker Government Dr Fakruddin Ahmed and wife Mrs Neena Ahmed welcomed Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Two Bangladeshi children presented a bouquet to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Chief Adviser to the Caretaker Government Dr Fakruddin Ahmed took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government Dr Fakruddin Ahmed introduced Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San to Adviser to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Commerce Dr A B Mirza Matin, Adviser to the Ministry of Home, Shipping and Liberation Affairs Maj-Gen MA Matin, Adviser to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry Mr Raja Desh Roy, senior military officers and senior officials.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife greeted Dean of the Diplomatic Corps of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh Dr Dora Rapold.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and Chief Adviser to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh Dr Fakruddin Ahmed took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

The State Band played the national anthems of two countries.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected the Guard of Honour.

Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government Dr Fakruddin Ahmed introduced Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San to Adviser to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Commerce Dr A B Mirza Matin, Adviser to the Ministry of Home, Shipping and Liberation Affairs Maj-Gen MA Matin, Adviser to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry Mr Raja Desh Roy, senior military officers and senior officials.

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The State Band played the national anthems of two countries.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected the Guard of Honour.
Chief Adviser to the Caretaker Government Dr Fakruddin Ahmed making speech at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka. — MNA

Countries stepping up efforts...
(from page 8)
as they are experiencing undesirable challenges. Therefore, the cooperation between Bangladesh and Myanmar has extended to BIMSTEC, ACD and ARF.

He expressed thanks to SAARC which supported Myanmar to extend the cooperation. He then expressed belief that his visit would help strengthen friendship of the governments as well as the armed forces of the two countries. Afterwards, Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Vice Senior General Maung Aye enjoyed dinner together with Chief Adviser of the Care Taker Government of Bangladesh and wife. Also present at the dinner were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thaha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye, senior military officers of Ministry of Defence, ministers, directors-general, the ambassador and military attache of Myanmar to Bangladesh and staff of Myanmar Embassy, members of the Care Taker Government of Bangladesh, high-ranking officials and ambassadors of ASEAN countries and invited guests. — MNA

Signing of Agreement between the Governments of the Union of Myanmar and the People’s Republic of Bangladesh for the avoidance of the double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.—MNA

Vice-Senior General…
(from page 16)

After the meeting, a ceremony to sign an agreement between the two countries took place. Minister U Soe Tha and Adviser to Ministry of Finance, Planning and Commerce Dr AB Mirza Md Azizul Islam signed the Agreement between the Governments of the Union of Myanmar and the People’s Republic of Bangladesh for the avoidance of the double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with the respect to taxes on income and exchanged the documents.

Later, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye signed in the visitors’ book at the Chief Adviser’s Office and left for the hotel. — MNA

253 drug-related cases exposed in September
Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Oct — The Tatmadaw members, Myanmar Police Force and the Customs Department exposed 253 drug-related cases in September.

They seized 404,5617 kilos of opium in 43 cases, 7,7367 kilos of heroin in 87 cases, 118,1633 kilos of morphine in two cases, 2.8428 kilos of opium oil in 16 cases, 292,7395 kilos of low-grade opium in 20 cases, 25,5114 kilos of marijuana in 19 cases, 87,789 tablets of stimulant tablets in 41 cases, 33,37 kilos of opium speciosa in 10 cases, 1.8120 kilos of Ice in one case, 322 capsules of tramadol in two cases, 350 tablets of flunitrazepam in one case, 20 litre of chemical liquid in one case, 18 kilos of chemical powder, four cases in failure to register and 6 other cases.

Action was taken against 398 persons — 300 men and 98 women — in 253 cases. — MNA

Insein No. 1 BEHS alumni get-together
Yangon, 9 Oct — Old students of Insein No. 1 Basic Education High School held a coordination meeting to hold respect paying ceremony at the school on 14 September.

Students who had been present at the meeting scheduled to hold the respect paying ceremony on 21 December 2008.

All old students have been invited to attend the meetings for successful realization of the respect paying ceremony at 1 am every Sunday. For further information, contact U Ba Htay (Tel-640094), U Tint Sein Phu (Tel-643974), U Saw Pyay Thein (Tel-643763) and Daw Khin Hla Thein and Daw Aye Aye Than of Insein No 1 BEHS.—MNA
Objectives of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects NIBBAN Electric & Electronics Factory at Dagon Myothit (East) Industrial Zone in Dagon Myothit (East) Township. — MNA

Crab breeding course opens

YANGON, 8 Oct—A ceremony to open crab breeding course, jointly organized by the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and the SEAFDEC, was held at Thiriannawa Hall of Myanma Fisheries Federation in Insein Township this morning, with an address by Director-General U Khin Maung Aye of Fisheries Department.

Dr Cmilia T Quinitio of SEAFDEC explained the purpose of opening the course.

A total of 50 trainees from the Fisheries Department and entrepreneurs from states and divisions are attending the two-day course. — MNA

MTS arranges domestic travel services

YANGON, 9 Oct—Myanma Travel Service is making arrangement for the public to provide domestic travel services with peace of mind at reasonable price.

Arrangements will be made for individuals and groups. Services will be provided for Bagan, Mandalay, Pintaya, Kalay, Inlay, Chaungtha, Ngwehsaung and Ngapali. Special trips will also be provided. Services will be made for those who wishing to pay pilgrimage visit to Thanlwin, Bago and Twantay during the short vacation. Arrangements will be made for students to gain knowledge.

For further information, contact Myanma Travel Service (Tel-252859, 378376 and 374281).—MNA

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Tin Ohnmar Tun
B.A (Law)  L.L.B  LLM (UK)
P.O. Box, 109; Ph: 723043
(For. Patrick Mirandah Co. (Singapore)
Dated: 10 October, 2008.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV XIANG DA VOY NO (8007)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOY NO (8007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.10.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the disposal of the consignee for claims under the terms and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 5 pm from the date of arrival. Damaged cargo will be delivered at the expense of the consignee.

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

WASHINGTON
SEPT. 10—The United States will allow the embargo on importing oil from Sudan to expire later this month, a senior administration official said Thursday.

The diplomat said the Randolph Darnell Group of Washington had been given until Wednesday to come up with a more detailed plan for implementing the embargo.

BISHKEK, 8 Oct—Russia and Kazakhstan should increase oil export to the East, especially China, Chairman of Russian Federation’s Council for CIS Affairs Vadim Gustov said Wednesday. Russia and Kazakhstan had cooperated very well in export of oil and natural gas to the West. And now as the market in the region is growing fast, both countries should step up energy exports to the East, especially China, Gustov said at the International Oil and Gas Exhibition and Conference (KIOGE-2008) in Almaty, Kazakhstan, according to Kazakhstan Telegraph Agency.

Dubai records 30.4% growth in non-oil trade with ASEAN
ABU DHABI, 9 Oct—The non-oil trade between Dubai and the member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) reached 23 billion dirhams (6.3 billion US dollars) in the first half of 2008, up 30.4 percent over the 2007 period, local newspaper Khaleej Times reported on Thursday.

The figures were released by the statistics department of the Dubai World, a holding company that manages a portfolio of businesses and projects for the government of Dubai, the second largest emirate of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

In the first half of 2008, Dubai’s imports from ASEAN countries reached 20.015 billion dirhams, representing a growth of 28.4 percent compared with the corresponding period of 2007.

Russian official advises Russia, Kazakhstan to increase oil export to the East

The successful air strike demonstrated the heavy casualties and the vast area of the Swat valley, a former tourist area now dubbed the ‘‘Switzerland of Pakistan’’, said the official.

The successful air strike on the Taliban base in the Matta district of Swat during clashes between troops and insurgents, another security official told AFP.

It was not clear which side fired the fatal shell.

The mountainous Swat valley was until last year where many Pakistani city dwellers went for their annual holidays and it featured Pakistan’s only ski resort.

S Korea, Japan agree on co-op on nuclear issues
SEOUL, 9 Oct—South Korea and Japan agreed on Thursday that the two sides will closely cooperate in resolving the nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula and promoting bilateral relations, South Korean Foreign Ministry Spokesman Moon Tae-young said.

According to the spokesman, the two sides made the agreement when new Japanese Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone made an introductory phone call to his South Korean counterpart Yu Myung-hwan.

Moon said Yu plans to hold one-on-one foreign ministerial talks with other member states on the sidelines of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue in Kazakhstan next week.

N Korea prepares mass missile launches
SEOUL, 9 Oct—North Korea is preparing up to 10 more short-range missiles for a mass test-launch, South Korean news reports said Thursday, two days after the North fired at least one missile into the sea.

Chosun Ilbo newspaper, quoting a government source, said a US satellite had spotted the North reading about 10 short-range missiles for launch from Chodo, an island not far from the west coast.

The source said the military is preparing KN-01 surface-to-ship and Styx ship-to-ship missiles for launching from Chodo and its surroundings into the Yellow Sea.

A container crane loads a cargo ship at the harbour of the northern German city of Hamburg. Germany’s trade surplus has contracted in August as the pace of exports fell faster than that of imports, figures released have shown.

German trade surplus falls to 10.6 billion euros in August
FRANKFURT, 9 Oct—Germany’s trade surplus contracted in August as the pace of exports fell faster than that of imports, figures released on Thursday by the national statistics office showed.

The biggest European economy and the world’s leading exporter posted a surplus of 10.6 billion euros (14.4 billion dollars), compared with 13.8 billion in July, the Destatis service said. Exports declined by 13 percent while imports were 11 percent lower, it added.
German doing well after 1st double arm transplant

MUNICH

9 Oct—A German farmer who received the world’s first complete double arm transplant said Wednesday that incredulity gave way to joy when he woke from surgery to discover he had arms again.

Karl Merk, who lost his arms in a farming accident six years ago, said he would not believe that the transplant appeared to have been successful.

“It was really overwhelming when I saw that I had arms again,” said the 54-year-old, who wore a sleeveless black shirt showing clearly where his new arms had been grafted.

“These are my arms, and I’m not giving them away again,” he told reporters at the Munich University Clinic where he remains nearly three months after the 15-hour operation.

Merk is recovering well and can perform simple tasks such as opening doors and turning lights on and off. His ultimate goals are to eat and dress himself — and ride a motorcycle.

“All in all, our wildest expectations have pretty much been fulfilled,” said Christoph Hoehnke, one of the lead doctors.

A total of 40 surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses and other support staff carried out the 15-hour operation on 25-26 July to graft the donor’s arms on to the body of Merk, who lost his own just below the shoulder in a combine harvester accident.

Scientists find key protein helps people hear

LONDON, 9 Oct—A protein in the inner ear helps people differentiate between sounds and understand speech.

French researchers reported on Wednesday in a finding that could help treat the hard of hearing.

The study also helps explain why some people have difficulty hearing in crowded restaurants or other noisy places, said Paul Avan, a researcher at the University of Auvergne in Clermont-Ferrand, France.

“This won’t help deafness but will help diagnose why some people have hearing problems, especially in noisy places,” Avan, who worked on the study, said in a telephone interview.

The study, which used genetically engineered mice, looked at the part of the inner ear called the cochlea, which contains two types of sensory cells to detect sounds.

Scientists often study mice because of the biological similarities between the animals and humans.—Internet

Eating dark chocolate may keep heart healthy

NEW YORK, 9 Oct—Eating dark chocolate regularly may help lower levels of inflammation, which is strongly associated with heart and blood vessel disease, Italian researchers report.

The presence of inflammation was determined by measuring levels of C-reactive protein (CRP), a biomarker for coronary artery disease, the researchers explain in their report. Dr Giuseppe and her team hypothesized that people who eat more dark chocolate, which is rich in several types of antioxidants, might have lower CRP levels.

To investigate, they looked at 4,894 healthy men and women participating in the Moli-sani Project, an ongoing study of adults 35 and older living in southern Italy. They included 1,317 people who had eaten any chocolate at all in the past year, and 824 who consumed dark chocolate regularly. Most people who ate dark chocolate consumed 5.7 grams per day.

CRP levels averaged 1.32 mg/L in people who did not eat dark chocolate, compared to 1.10 mg/L in dark chocolate consumers. Individuals who ate dark chocolate had healthier diets overall than those who didn’t; they were also younger and of higher social status, but less likely to exercise.

But once the researchers adjusted for these and other relevant factors, the relationship between eating dark chocolate and lower CRP remained.

China to build first pilot national park

BEIJING, 9 Oct — The Ministry of Environmental Protection and the National Tourism Administration say they have approved the establishment of China’s first pilot national park.

Tangwanghe national park is located at the south of Lesser Hinggan Mountains in Yichun City, Heilongjiang Province, in the northeast of China. The park is composed of primeval forests and geological relics. The vegetation coverage of the park is above 99.8 percent. The area is most famous for its virgin forests of Korean pines.

The mixed broadleaved Korean pine forest here is the most well-preserved in Asia. And the geological relics are unique in China. A national park is a reserve of land declared and owned by government, protected from human development and pollution. But the government says the park will have other benefits.

Wan Bentai, chief engineer of Ministry of Environmental Protection, said, “The construction of national parks upgrades the use of natural resources. It also enriches tourism, and promotes the tourism industry. To standardize the creation of national parks will benefit the protection of reserves. It will also boost China’s tourism economy.”

Japan’s ‘Cyberdyne’ robot suit ready for hospital

TSUKUBA, 9 Oct — A Japanese professor announced Tuesday he was introducing robot suits for paralysed people, helping them to walk again by detecting their next move and lifting their muscles. “The time has come to introduce this technology to the world,” Yoshiyuki Sankai, a professor at Tsukuba University near Tokyo, announced at a news conference.

Sankai’s company producing the robot suits is named Cyberdyne Inc, the same as the sci-fi office in the “Terminator” films. But there is no risk of Arnold Schwarzenegger’s character coming to blow it up, “I believe technology becomes useful only when it works for people,” he said at Cyberdyne’s new office. “I refuse any possible military use of my robot suits.”

Cyberdyne will start leasing this week 500 units of the battery-powered robot suit to assist paralysed patients at hospitals and rehabilitation centres. Sankai showed video footage of a man paralysed from the waist down standing and walking as he wore the robotic limbs. The robot suits — dubbed HAL or “Hybrid Assistive Limb” — detect natural electrical currents that pass over the surface of the skin anticipating muscle movement.—Internet

Products display Cyberdyne Inc robot suits in Tsukuba, near Tokyo. A Japanese professor has announced he is introducing the robot suits for paralysed people, helping them to walk again by detecting their next move and lifting their muscles.—Internet
**SPORTS**

**Benzema snubbed Barca summer move-media**

Barcelona director of football Txiki Begiristain, seen here in August 2008, revealed on Wednesday that French starlet Karim Benzema turned down a summer move to the Spanish giants.

“We’ve tried to sign him several times but it’s never been possible,” Begiristain told www.frenchleague.com.

Benzema, at 20, is one of France’s biggest hopes for the future. He was top goalscorer last year in the French first division, and heads the scoring chart so far this season with six.

Benzema has become a regular fixture in Raymond Domenech’s national team, making 16 appearances and netting four times. Begiristain insisted that he intended to keep tabs on the striker, despite growing interest from other top clubs such as Manchester United and Inter.

“In the end it will be his decision. We have excellent relations with both him and his club and we’ll definitely keep in contact so that he knows we want him, and that he wants to come to us,” he said.

**Cannavaro closes in on Maldini**

Rome, 9 Oct—Italian skipper Fabio Cannavaro said Wednesday that the international appearances record of Paolo Maldini, who played 126 times for the world champions, is coming into reach.

“I’ve not really thought about it, to be honest—but records are there to be broken,” said 35-year-old defender Cannavaro who is eight games away from levelling Maldini’s mark.

“The years go by but I’ve no intention of packing it in yet,” said the Real Madrid star in the national squad’s get-together at Florence ahead of Saturday’s World Cup qualifier with Bulgaria in Sofia.

“As long as I am called up I’ll always arrive full of enthusiasm. For me it is an honour to pull on the Italian shirt.”

Maldini, five years Cannavaro’s senior, is still in action with AC Milan.

**Gonzalez saves five match points to beat Gulbis at Austrian Open tennis**

Fernando Gonzalez, seen here in September 2008, fought off five match points before defeating Latvia’s Ernests Gulbis 4-6, 7-6 (13/11), 6-1 to reach the quarter-finals of the Austrian Open on 8 Oct.——INTERNET

**Iwelumo in the frame for Scotland**

Glasgow, 9 Oct—Wolves striker Chris Iwelumo is in the frame for a first Scotland start in Saturday’s World Cup qualifier against Norway.

With Kenny Miller sidelined by injury, the 30-year-old has emerged as an unlikely candidate to partner James McFadden in a match that is likely to be pivotal to the Scots’ chances of reaching South Africa 2010.

Manager George Burley also has the option of starting Rangers’ Kris Boyd, but Iwelumo is determined to seize his chance to be at the heart of the action after years spent watching Scotland in pub bars.

“I’m glad to be here but I want to be involved,” he said. “It’s a massive game and these are games all players want to play.

“We all know what the game means. We all want to go to the World Cup. It’s do or die.”——INTERNET

**Slumping tennis ace Ivanovic feels Moscow chill**

Bucharest, 9 Oct—Serbian golden girl Ana Ivanovic, who rose to the world number one spot after her triumph at Roland Garros in June, has seen her career plunge into freefall and she arrived here having won just five matches in five events since her Grand Slam breakthrough.——INTERNET

Roma star Adrian Mutu, seen here in September 2008, says he has the backing of two players’ unions in his bid to overturn the 17.2 million fine FIFA ordered him to pay to Chelsea over his failed drugs test.

Mutu was hit with the massive fine, which relates to his positive cocaine test in 2004 while playing for the Premier League club, in August.——INTERNET

**UEFA official suggests debt-laden clubs facing red card**

London, 9 Oct—A top UEFA official has suggested that clubs with excessive debt could be excluded from the Champions League and UEFA.

David Taylor, the general secretary of European football’s governing body, told a conference in London that the organization would next week begin discussions on possible changes to the way clubs are licensed with a view to introducing stricter guidelines on how they run their finances.

In comments that reflect concern about English clubs’ current domination of European competitions and a perception that their higher debt levels are creating an uneven playing field, Taylor said: “We cannot let things stay as they are.”——INTERNET

**UEFA general secretary David Taylor, seen here in 2007, has suggested that clubs with excessive debt could be excluded from the Champions League and UEFA.**

**Unions back Mutu over collossal Chelsea fine**

Bucharest, 9 Oct—Serbian golden girl Ana Ivanovic has been hit with the massive fine for failing to report two sets with his more varied game keeping his opponent guessing.——INTERNET

**Iverson goes airborne**

Philadelphia, 9 Oct—Charles Barkley and Allen Iverson were ejected from Wednesday night’s 90-88 loss to the Chicago Bulls, 50 seconds apart, after both received technical fouls for the same foul.

The former free agents are getting along just fine now.——INTERNET

**Ferdinand sees echoes of Owen in Walcott**

London, 9 Oct—Theo Walcott has been giving his England team-mate Rio Ferdinand a sense of deja-vu ahead of Saturday’s World Cup qualifier against Kazakhstan and the Manchester United defender has only just worked out why.

Walcott has an inner confidence that seems eerily familiar and Ferdinand traces it back to the World Cup Finals in 1998 when Michael Owen first burst onto the international scene as a raw and exciting 18-year-old.——INTERNET
Scientists genetically enhance scent of flowers

JERUSALEM, 8 Oct—A team of scientists at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has found a way to genetically enhance the scent of flowers and implant a scent in those that don’t have one.

Scent in flowers and plants is used to attract pollinating insects like bees and beetles that pass on the pollen and help in the reproduction and creation of fruit. The intensity of the scent that the flower emanates is influenced by the time of day, depending on weather, age of the flower and the species.

In research that was published recently in the Plant Biotechnology Journal, Prof. Vainstein and his research assistant Michal Moyal Ben-Zvi succeeded, together with other researchers, to find a way of enhancing the scent of a flower by ten-fold and cause it to emit a scent during day and night irrespectively of the natural rhythm of scent production.

The development, which has been patented by Yissum, the Hebrew University’s technology transfer company, is intended to be applied to other agricultural produce. The flower industry will also be interested in this development, explains Prof. Vainstein. “Many flowers lost their scent over many years of breeding. Recent developments will help to create flowers with increased scent as well as producing new scent components in the flowers.”

Internet

Chinese police arrest 14 more people in milk scandal

SHEZHAOUG, 9 Oct—Police in north China’s Hebei Province arrested 14 more people in connection with the country’s tainted milk scandal, putting the total arrests in the province at 27.

Cao Aiping, Hebei Provincial Public Security Department’s deputy director told Xinhua that police had questioned 91 people which generated 27 arrests, since the first 13 arrests on 29 September. The suspects were alleged to have produced, sold or added the chemical melamine into fresh milk to deceive protein tests.

The chemical, which could lead to urinary tract problems such as kidney stones, was first found in powdered baby milk produced by dairy giant Sanlu Group, based in the provincial capital of Shijiazhuang.

In a 10-day crackdown on dairy products in late September, police confiscated more than 380 kilogrammes of melamine, the department said.

Melamine was later found in other milk products from Chinese companies such as Yili and Mengniu.

Four injured as US mily vehicle hits car in Kabul

KABUL, 9 Oct—Four civilians were injured while two of them in critical condition as one US military vehicle hit a civilian car in the Afghan capital Kabul on Wednesday. “It occurred in the rush hour in the morning when a US bullet-proof vehicle possibly from the Special Force hit a civilian car in Bagh-e-Bala area winding four on board and two of them were in serious condition,” Xinhua’s reporter said after visiting the site.

Eye witnesses at the site, he added, blamed the reckless driving of the soldiers for the incident. Police at the site, in talks with Xinhua’s reporter, blamed the US vehicle’s driver for the mess adding the wounded had been taken to hospital. — MNA/Xinhua

WEATHER

Thursday, 9 October, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State, scattered in Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing and Magway Divisions, isolated in Shan and Kayah States, Mandalay Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mogok (1.14) inches, Kanbu (0.63) inch, Kalay (0.43) inch and An (0.35) inch.

Maximum temperature on 8-10-2008 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 9-10-2008 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 9-10-2008 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 8-10-2008 was (7.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 9-10-2008 was (N/A) at Mingaladon, Kab-a-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (98.70) inches at Mingaladon, (109.64) inches at Kab-Aye and (127.16) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from South at (17.30) hours MST on 8-10-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 10-10-2008: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing Division and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continued of rain or thundershowers in the extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 10-10-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-10-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).
NAY PYI TAW, 9 Oct — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and members of the Myanmar delegation arrived at the Chief Adviser’s Office from the hotel they were staying at 3.30 pm on 7 October to meet Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh Dr Fakruddin Ahmed.

Before the meeting, they privately met and cordially greeted each other in the guesthouse of the Chief Adviser’s Office.

Also present at the meeting were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thaung, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Myanmar Ambassador to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh U Phae Thann Oo and departmental officials. Together with Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh Dr Fakruddin Ahmed were Adviser to Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Adviser to Ministry of Finance and Planning and Commerce Dr AB Mirza Md Azizul Islam, Adviser to Ministry of Home, Shipping and Liberation War Affairs Maj-Gen MA Matin, Adviser to Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources Dr Chowdhury Sazzadul Karim, Adviser to Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Mr AFM Hassan Ariff, Adviser to Ministry of Communication, Housing and Public Works Retired Maj-Gen Ghulam Quader, Adviser to Ministry of Commerce and Education Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman and high-ranking officials.

At the meeting, the two countries’ leaders discussed matters related to further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, expanding of bilateral border trade and investments and making coordination at regional and international organizations. They next explained developments of the two countries.

(See page 10)

1. The 5-10-2008 issues of the newspapers stated that children in some countries including China are suffering from kidney stones after consuming the tainted milk powder contaminated with melamine, and some children died. Authorities concerned in Myanmar are making systematic arrangements to prevent danger stemming from the tainted milk powder contaminated with melamine; that a company from Myanmar imported 460 25-kilo bags of milk powder and it is found that the milk powder is contaminated with melamine; that the Food and Drug Administration of the Ministry of Health destroyed the milk powder and is confiscating the rest of the milk powder in the markets; that other eight brands of milk powder in Yangon and Mandalay markets imported by eight companies are being tested; and that import of other milk powder is temporarily suspended while safety checks are being carried out.

2. The Ministry of Health, and the Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries, Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Yangon) and the Development Centre for Pharmaceutical Technology under the Ministry of Industry-1 tested 16 brands of milk powder imported, distributed and processed in Myanmar with the use of Melamine Assay Test Kit. The results said that seven kinds were free from melamine and nine brands were found contaminated with melamine. The brands of milk powder found contaminated with melamine are as follows: (See page 2)