Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to King of Spain

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty King Juan Carlos I of the Kingdom of Spain, on the occasion of the National Day of Spain, which falls on 12 October, 2008.

True patriotism

* It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party on tour of Chittagong

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Oct — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San together with Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Thaha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife, SPDC member Li-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Li-Gen Ye Myint and Maj-Gen Khan Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, 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 Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Myanmar Embassy to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh U Phae Thann Oo, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win and officials arrived at Tejgaon heliport to continue the goodwill visit to Chittagong region on 9 October.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party, accompanied by Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh General Moeen U Ahmed and wife, left by helicopter and reached No. 305 Infantry Brigade in Rangamarti in Chittagong mountain region at 10am.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party were welcomed by Commander of No. 24 Infantry Division Maj-Gen Shamin Chowdhury and wife and Commander of No. 305 Infantry Brigade Brig-Gen Abu So He and wife. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party proceeded to Kaptai Lake and went on cruise and enjoyed the scenic beauty of the lake and its environs.

Commander of No. 305 Infantry Brigade Brig-Gen Abu So He and wife hosted a luncheon in honour of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and party.

They were entertained with a variety of traditional dances of the national races during the luncheon. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye signed in the visitor’s book. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife and the commander of No. 24 Infantry Division and wife and the commander of No. 305 Infantry Brigade and wife exchanged gifts.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife presented a flower basket to members of traditional dance troupe and had photos taken with them.

At 2.30 pm, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived at Shah Amanat International Airport by helicopter.

At 3 pm, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and members of the goodwill delegation went back home by special flight.

They were seen off at the airport by Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh General Moeen U Ahmed and officials, officials of local administrative bodies, Myanmar Ambassador U Phae Thann Oo and Military Attache Col Thein Lwin. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived in Nay Pyi Taw in the evening.

MNA
Breastfeed newborn babies to be fit and healthy

Breastfeeding is the simplest way for newborn babies to live and develop. The traditional practice of breastfeeding was found good according to modern science. Therefore, mothers of the entire global nations are now placing emphasis on breastfeeding.

Breast milk includes such valuable items as protein, carbohydrate, vitamin, mineral, water, etc. Thus, breastfeeding contributes a lot to health, fitness and development of newborn babies.

Mothers are required to properly breastfeed their babies during the first hour after giving birth to them. Breastfeeding alone is to be introduced to newborn babies from birth to six months old. Milk plus supplementary food can be given to children of over six months.

Some mothers often use milk powder that can be easily available in stead of breast milk in feeding their children. If they happen to use tainted milk children could suffer from diarrhea and develop complications, thereby resulting in health problems.

At present, children in some countries including China are suffering from kidney stones after consuming the tainted milk contaminated with melamine, and some children died.

The relevant ministry tested 16 brands of milk powder imported, distributed and processed in Myanmar and the result showed that nine brands were found contaminated with melamine. As regards, an order was issued to prohibit the distribution and sale of the tainted milk.

Therefore, each and every mother is urged to systematically breastfeed their babies and people are urged not to use milk powder and milk product in line with the announcement of the authorities concerned.

Hsinyadana strain paddy thrives in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin visited the 30-acre model monsoon paddy of the local battalion of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Station on 8 October.

Major Min Hein, in-charge of the field, gave an account of the 10-acre model field of Hsinyadana strain high-yield paddy. The commander inspected the 89-day-old mature paddy plots, sample seeds of Hsinyadana strain paddy, sample rice grains, and sample rice.

The commander and party observed the two-acre Hsinyadana strain high-yield paddy field of two farmers of Thittakon Village. Farmer U Bo Nyunt presented some points about the field. The commander dealt with the report and cordially greeted local farmers.

This monsoon season, pilot fields of Hsinyadana strain high-yield paddy are thriving in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, and they will be harvested this October. The harvested paddy seeds will be distributed to local farmers to grow summer paddy extensively.—MNA

Press conference on Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009

The press conference on Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009 took place at the Espace Avenir Hotel on Pyay Road, here, yesterday afternoon.

The tour will be held under the arrangements of the Myanmar Golf Federation and the Myanmar Professional Golfers Association and with the main sponsors of Air Bagan Ltd and International Beverages Trading Co Ltd.

Chairman of the MGF and MPGA U Teza made an introductory speech. MPGA Vice-Chairman U Chan Han (CEO-Han Golf Masters Pte Ltd) presented facts about the tour.

Those responsible answered the questions by the attendees.

Air Bagan Open Golf Championships, the first round event of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009, will take place Bagan Resort Golf from 13 to 16 November; the second round event, at Pyin Oo Lwin Golf Club from 27 to 30 November; and the third round event, at Pun Hlaing Golf Club (Yangon), from 24 to 27 February 2009.

The first round event of IBTC Open Golf Championships is to be held at Lashio Golf Club in Lashio, Shan State, from 7 to 10 December; the second round event, at Yedagun Taung Golf Resort in Mandalay from 11 to 14 January 2009; the third round event, at Ayeyarwary Golf Resort in Taunggyi, Shan State, from 25 to 28 January; and the fourth round event, at City Golf Resort (Pondy), Yangon from 15 to 18 February.

Also present on the occasion were MGF and MPGA Patron Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), Secretary U Aung Kyi and executives, MPGA executives, guests and journalists.

Winners of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009 will be awarded handsome cash prizes.
Soldiers.
The border that killed 17 since last week’s rebel attack against Kurdish rebels tensified Turkish attacks the latest of a series of incidents since their deployment here nearly seven years ago and claimed many civilian lives.

Conflicts and spiraling insurgency so far this year have claimed the lives of over 4,000 people with around 1,500 civilians despite over 70,000 foreign troops in the war-torn Afghanistan.—Internet

A boy removes debris from a burnt shop after a car bomb attack in Baghdad on 11 Oct, 2008. A car bomb exploded in a busy commercial area in southern Baghdad on Friday.—INTERNET

Top military chief says no end to Afghan fight

LONDON, 11 Oct— The international military mission in Afghanistan has “no end point”, the head of Britain’s armed forces told a newspaper on Saturday. Sir Jock Stirrup’s comments come a week after Brigadier Mark Carleton-Smith, the nation’s top military commander in Afghanistan, said the public should not expect a “decisive military victory” in the war-torn country.

Stirrup, chief of the defence staff, told The Times that in both Iraq and Afghanistan, British troops were on a “journey that never finishes”. The 58-year-old air chief marshal said the mission in Afghanistan, where Britain has 7,800 troops fighting Taliban insurgents, was not a win or lose battle. Britain’s 4,100 troops in Iraq are likely to leave within a year, Stirrup said, with Iraqi forces “very close” to being able to handle the security situation alone. However, Afghanistan would be a longer operation, he warned.—INTERNET

Four people killed in violence in northern Iraq

MOGUL, IRAQ, 11 Oct— Four people were killed and three others injured in two attacks on Saturday in the northern city of Mogul, capital of Nineveh province, a provincial police source said.

“Unknown gunmen opened fire in the afternoon on two off-duty policemen in a marketplace in central Mogul, killing one of them and a civilian and wounding two people,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

A policeman happened to be at the scene traded fire with the attackers and killed one of them before they wounded him, the source said.—INTERNET

A Pakistani boy, wounded during a suicide attack in Hadeezai area of Orakzai tribal agency, is attended by doctors in a hospital in Peshawar, Pakistan, on 10 Oct, 2008.—INTERNET

Turkey’s military attacks rebels in northern Iraq

ANKARA, 11 Oct— Turkey’s military says its warplanes and artillery units have bombed dozens of Kurdish rebel targets in northern Iraq.

It says in a statement that the attack took place around midnight Friday.

The offensive, announced on Saturday, is the latest of a series of intensified Turkish attacks against Kurdish rebels since last week’s rebel attack on a military unit on the border that killed 17 soldiers.

Internet

NATO fire wounds three civilians in Afghan capital

KABUL, 11 Oct— Three civilians were wounded by an “accidental fire” of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) on Friday in Kabul, said an ISAF statement released here.

“An ISAF patrol was traveling to a base in Kabul city when a machine gun on one of the vehicles accidentally discharged, slightly wounding three civilians,” the statement said.

Policemen took the wounded civilians to a local hospital, it added.

Both ISAF and the US-led Coalition forces have committed such “mistakes” during operations since their deployment here nearly seven years ago and claimed many civilian lives.

Internet

Internet

Baghdad’s mentally ill remain neglected despite promises

BAGHDAD, 11 Oct— Baghdad’s mentally ill people, their numbers swollen by the trauma of living under Saddam Hussein, remain sadly neglected despite many promises of help by US representatives.

“They originally said they would help us, but they do no more than to search for rebels,” said Sarsan Baghad, a doctor at Al-Rashad, Iraq’s only psychiatric hospital.

“They even arrested our director for two months, saying that a mentally disabled suicide bomber was treated here. It was wrong, and he was released,” Baghad said.

The Al-Rashad hospital sits on a huge dusty plain in northeast Baghdad, between two of the war-torn city’s chaotic urban slums that in early 2008 saw fierce street battles between Shiite militias and US forces.

Internet

Internet

Patients at the Al-Rashad mental asylum in Baghdad.—INTERNET

Men try to put fire out after a car bomb blast in Abu Dhabi in Baghdad, Iraq, on 10 Oct, 2008. A parked car bomb killed 13 people in a market in Abu Dhabi on Friday. At least 27 people were wounded.—INTERNET

Internet

Internet

Internet

Pakistan tribes raze Talibin houses after bombing

KOHAT (PAKISTAN), 11 Oct— Angry Pakistani tribesmen traded fire with Taliban militants and demolished their houses in a northwestern tribal region after a car suicide attack killed at least 40 people, residents and officials said on Saturday.

Television channels put the death toll at as high as 70.

The bomber drove his explosive-laden car into the middle of a tribal council meeting in Orakzai tribal region on Friday where hundreds of tribesmen were discussing a government-backed plan to raise a lashkar or tribal militia to evict militants.

Pakistan’s tribal areas on the Afghan border are regarded as safe havens for al Qaeda and Taliban militants, and the government is under tremendous pressure from the United States to take stern action to stem the flow of insurgents to Afghanistan.

“Everyone is angry and upset here. The tribesmen attacked houses of the Talibin in Khadizai after the bombing.

Two houses have been demolished,” Noorzad Orakzai, a resident of the Khadizai area where attack took place, told Reuters by telephone.—INTERNET

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet
Man dies after balloon crashes in flames in NM

BERNALILLO (NM), 11 Oct—A hot air balloon crashed into power lines and burst into flames Friday during Albuquerque's annual balloon fiesta, throwing both men on board to the ground and killing one of them. Witnesses said that winds had picked up a bit and that many of the balloons were flying low right before the Wings of Wind balloon crashed in Bernalillo, just north of Albuquerque.

Stephen Lachendorf Butler, 50, was killed and Keith Sproul of North Brunswick, N.J., was critically injured. Kathie Leyendecker, a spokeswoman for the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, said she did not know who was piloting the balloon.

Lachendorf was found dead at the scene on the side of a ditch; Sproul was unconscious and taken to the hospital. Rio Rancho Fire Battalion Chief Paul Bearce said.

"The National Transportation Safety Board will investigate the crash," said National Guard Lt Col John Fishburn. The yellow, brown and orange triangle-shaped balloon was among hundreds participating in Friday's events at the balloon fiesta, which runs through Sunday. —INTERNET

Fuel tanks catch fire after the hot air balloon Wings of Wind hits power lines during the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta in Bernalillo, NM on 10 Oct, 2008. —INTERNET

Libya cuts Swiss oil and economic ties in protest

TRIPOLI, 11 Oct — Libya said on Friday it would withdraw $7 billion of assets in Swiss banks, cut economic ties with Switzerland and stop supplying it with oil to protest against poor treatment of Libyan diplomats and businessmen.

The decision followed a diplomatic row that was sparked three months ago when a son of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi was arrested in Geneva on 15 July and charged with mistreating two domestic employees.

Hamhba Gaddafi denied the charges and was freed on bail, but the case caused uproar in Tripoli and led to the detention of two Swiss nationals, who were later released.

Geneva's chief prosecutor dropped the case against Gaddafi last month after the plaintiffs, a Tunisian woman and a Moroccan man, withdrew their formal complaint. It was unclear which events prompted Lib- ya's latest move. —INTERNET

Unknown disease kills three in South Africa

GENEVA, 11 Oct — An unknown disease has killed three persons in the South African capital of Johannesburg, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday.

The first person who caught the disease was a woman living and working in Zambia. She was evacuated to South Africa and died in a Johannesburg hospital on 14 Sept, the UN agency said in a statement.

A paramedic and a nurse who cared for the patient also got infected and died in Johannesburg on Oct. 2 and Oct. 5 respectively. Up to now there have been no further known symptomatic cases, either in Zambia or in South Africa. But 121 known contacts of the fatal cases are being traced in South Africa and 23 in Zambia.

Clinical features common to the three patients initially include fever, headache, diarrhea and myalgia developing into rash and hepatic dysfunction, followed by rapid deterioration and death, WHO said. —INTERNET

Hijackers of ship off Somalia issue ultimatum

NAIROBI (Kenya), 11 Oct — The pirates who hijacked an arms-laden Ukrainian tanker off Somalia issued an ultimatum Friday and threatened to destroy the ship if no ransom is paid, a spokesman for the bandits said.

The MV Faina is surrounded by US warships, and a Russian frigate is heading toward the scene, raising the stakes for a possible commando-style raid on the ship. Pirates have seized more than two dozen ships this year off the Horn of Africa, but the hijacking of the Faina has drawn the most international concern because of its dangerous cargo.

The vessel is carrying 33 tanks and other heavy weapons.

Friday's threat was very unusual. Pirates operating off Somalia rarely harm their hostages, instead holding out for a ransom that often exceeds $1 million. But international pressure was mounting regarding the Faina hijacking, with NATO forces planning to deploy. —INTERNET

Gunmen kill 11 in northern Mexican bar

CUIAJU (Mexico), 11 Oct—Gunmen opened fire in a bar in northern Mexico, killing 11 people, and the body of a newspaper editor was found shot dead on the side of a highway in two separate attacks, police said Friday.

Police had not uncovered a motive or detained sus-pects in either shooting.

The body of 40-year-old Miguel Angel Villagomez, owner and editor of La Noticia newspaper in the western state of Michoacan, was found late Thursday near a highway in the neighbouring state of Guerrero, police said. He had been shot three times, including once in the head.

Shortly before midnight Thursday, unidentified assailants walked into the Rio Rosas bar in the northern city of Chihuahua and began shooting indiscriminately, said Eduardo Esparza, a spokesman for the prosecu- tor's office in Chihuahua state. —INTERNET

An oil worker extracts oil from a layer of sub-salt on platform P-34 of Petrobras, Brazil's state-run oil company Petroleo Brasileiro SA, near Vitoria, Brazil, Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2008. Four miles under the ocean's surface off Brazil's lush coast lie billions of barrels of recently discovered light crude, a treasure set to transform the country into an oil superpower. —INTERNET
UN official lauds China’s achievements in environmental protection

Paris, 11 Oct — China has reconciled environmental protection with economic development in recent years and achieved a great deal in this regard, a UN environmental official said Friday.

The Chinese government has attached great importance to environmental protection and taken drastic measures to eliminate pollution, said Bakary Kante, director of the Division of Environmental Conventions of the UN Environment Program, on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in the city of Lille.

He told reporters that he had noted during his three visits to China that the Asian country has long realized the importance of a good environment and committed itself to preserving the environment in its drive to build a booming economy.

Kante maintains that members of the international community should accept “common but differentiated” responsibilities in environmental protection.

Developed countries, which started industrialization in the 17th century, are responsible for the accumulated pollution dating back to the period. Meanwhile, developing countries should try their best not to harm the environment in their pursuit of economic benefits as environmental damage is always irreparable, he said.

Local villagers talk to their relatives through free telephone service in Gedar Township in Damxung County, an outer county of Lhasa, capital of southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, on 10 Oct, 2008.—Xinhua

China to launch FY-4 weather satellite around 2013

Beijing, 11 Oct — China plans to launch the first satellite of the Fengyun-4 (FY-4) series, the country’s second-generation geostationary meteorological satellites, around 2013, according to the China Meteorological Administration (CMA).

The FY-4 project has entered the proposal stage, revealed the first coordination meeting of the FY-4 project on Friday.

After listening to proposals of five major systems of the project at the meeting, leading scientists and engineers believed the FY-4 could be “paralleled to world’s most advanced geostationary meteorological satellites” when it was launched.

“It can meet extensive needs in fields such as weather, climate, environment and natural disasters monitoring and forecast.”

Xinhua

Brazillian President: no budget cuts for infrastructure despite financial crisis

RIO DE JANEIRO, 11 Oct — Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said Friday that the country will not cut budgets allocated for infrastructure programs despite the current financial crisis.

Lula told a press conference that Brazil will stick to its plans to spend hundreds of billions of dollars on infrastructure in the coming years, on projects including hydroelectric dams, highway improvement and railways.

He claimed Brazil is “well prepared” to deal with the ongoing global financial crisis.

“We have a solid economy and consistent fiscal policies. Meanwhile, we have accumulated more than 200 billion US dollars in foreign reserves,” he said.

He blamed lax lending practices in major economies for the crisis, saying that it is unreasonable for the US banks to lend as much as 35 times what people could pay.

He recommended that the upper limit of loans should come down to eight, nine times at most, of borrowers’ assets.—Xinhua

China tests micro-insurance for rural poor

Beijing, 11 Oct — Dai Yongheng never imagined he would make this history. But he did just that on 3 Sept, 2008. The middle-aged farmer from north China’s Shanxi Province procured a fixed-term life insurance for all five members of his family. He paid 150 yuan (21.90 US dollars), becoming the first micro-insurance deal in rural China.

The insurance policy pays 75,000 yuan if something happens to Dai’s family in Dongpao Village, Qixian County, China Life Insurance, operator of the policy, said.

One day later, all 1,017 residents from Xishantou, Macha and Haushu villages of neighbouring Qixian County took out a group insurance policy for accidental injury. If anyone in the village gets hurt, there is a total of 50 million yuan to cover expenses. For example, every villager put 10 yuan into the pot. The insurance company guarantees each of them a 5,000 yuan payment. The total is higher because the villagers bought the policy together, the first group policy of its kind in the country.

“The moves are significant because they strengthen our confidence to supply rural areas with group insurance,” said Wang Tongchao, county insurance department general manager of China Life Insurance. “They also give us an opportunity to experiment with the micro-insurance mode in rural areas.”

Xinhua

Japan opens exhibition showcasing world’s frontline robots

YOKOHAMA, 11 Oct — Japan opened an exhibition Saturday to showcase the world’s frontline technology in making robots, including the world’s smallest walking robot.

The human-shaped toy, dubbed “Robo-Q,” is only 3.4 centimeters tall and was unveiled by Japanese toymaker Tokyo Tomi Co at the three-day Robo Japan 2008 show in Yokohama.

The thumb-sized, two-legged robot can detect obstacles and navigate through a maze using built-in infrared sensors. Using a controller, it can also play games like soccer.

The toy will be put into domestic market next spring, said producers, adding that it is expected to be sold in other Asian countries soon afterwards and in the United States and Europe at an unspecified date. The exhibition in Yokohama brings together more than 100 different types of robots by a total of 43 companies, universities and organizations, including Honda Motor Co and Fujitsu Ltd.

Xinhua
Number of sick in S China water poisoning rises to 450

NANNING, 11 Oct — The number of people sickened after drinking contaminated water in south China has risen to 450 as of Friday, including four with arsenic poisoning.

A preliminary police investigation attributed the accident to poor safety measures, said Gu Xianmin, head of the Hechi health bureau.

There were about 100 children in the kindergarten at the time of the accident, Xinhua said.

Crane collapses on Chinese kindergarten, killing five

BEIJING, 11 Oct — A crane at a construction site next to a Chinese kindergarten collapsed Friday, killing five children, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The children were playing outside and were killed by falling bricks as the crane crashed onto the kindergarten in Zibo city in Shandong province and damaged its roof, Xinhua said.

Two children and the crane operator were injured and taken to a hospital, it said.

A preliminary police investigation attributed the accident to poor safety measures, Xinhua said. Managers of the construction company were detained, it said.

More than 20 medical experts have been sent by the regional government to Hechi to help treat the sick.

The villagers began to show symptoms of swelling around the face and eyes, vomiting and blurred vision on 3 Oct.

“The villagers were slightly poisoned. They can be cured in nine to 15 days with timely treatment,” said Gu Xianmin, head of Guangxi regional occupational disease prevention and control institute.

Environmental monitoring measures indicated the villagers’ water source was polluted by industrial waste from Jinhai Metallurgy Chemical, a branch of the state-owned Liuzhou China Tin Co. Ltd. based in Liuzhou City, Guangxi. The plant has been closed since the contamination was discovered.

Spanish Bourse registers biggest drop in history

Madrid, 11 Oct — The Spanish Bourse registered Friday the biggest drop in its history amid spreading panic on the world financial markets.

Spain’s benchmark stock index, the IBEX-35, plummeted 9.14 percent and finished the session under 9,000 points, losing more than 900 points in a single day.

Overall, the Spanish Bourse lost more than 20 percent of its value in one week given the losses on previous trading days.

Leaping Dolphin Knocks Woman Unconscious In Fla.

A woman was hospitalized in Florida after a dolphin leaped aboard the boat she was in, knocking her unconscious.

The Coast Guard says witnesses called 911 Thursday after seeing the dolphin jump from the Intracoastal Waterway and hit Barbara Howard of Mansfield, Ohio. Howard was sitting in an 18-foot boat with her husband, their daughter and her daughter’s boyfriend.

The Howards say the dolphin jumped about six feet high and landed on the bow. They say it slid in their laps and its thrashing tail knocked them to the deck.

World’s tallest hardwood tree found in Tasmania

The world’s tallest hardwood tree has been discovered in Australia’s southern island state Tasmania. Forestry Tasmania managing director Bob Gordon announced on Friday.

Gordon said in Hobart, the state capital, the swamp gum (eucalyptus regnans), dubbed Centurion, stands between 100 and 110 meters tall, and it was the tallest known tree in Australia.

It was discovered recently in a state forest near the Tahune Airwalk tourist attraction, 80 km south-west of Hobart.

“It is the only known standing hardwood tree in the world to be over 100 meters tall,” Australian Associated Press quoted Gordon as saying.

Hurricane Norbert nears Mexico’s Baja California

PUERTO SAN CARLOS (Mexico), 11 Oct — Fishermen pulled in their boats and hotels warned tourists away from beaches Friday as Category 2 Hurricane Norbert bore down on Mexico’s southern Baja California peninsula.

Norbert, with winds of near 105 mph, was expected to hit land early Saturday along a relatively unpopulated stretch north of the resort of Cabo San Lucas.

Paula Llerena Aviles set out with six children and four other adults in a small fishing boat Friday when they got a cell phone call warning them to return to the port of San Carlos, where the skies had already turned dark with the hurricane’s approach.

“We turned back because they warned us bad weather was coming,” Aviles said. “We would have been risking our lives. It is coming on strong.”

Dog dies after saving man in Trinidad from fire

A man whose dog rescued him from a house fire in Trinidad said the animal died after running back into the burning building.

Trinidad & Tobago Express newspaper quoted Anderson Marcano as saying that he woke up because the dog kept barking and tugging at his pants.

Marcano said he smelled the smoke and was shocked to find his house on fire.

The story published Friday did not say why the dog ran back in. Marcano said no one else was inside the house at the time.

Thieves steal hood from ice cream delivery truck

Dave Tracy said he can understand thieves snatching ice cream from one of the Hershey’s delivery trucks he manages. But stealing a hood off the truck? The branch manager at Hershey’s Augusta warehouse said “nothing like this has ever happened.”

Tracy said the fiberglass hood, at 7 1/2 by 6 feet and 4 feet deep, is “not exactly small.” He said that even if the thieves had a pickup truck, the hood wouldn’t be easy to carry off.

Tracy, who’s worked for Hershey’s for 23 years, discovered the theft when he got to work Monday morning. Augusta police said the thieves probably needed a hood identical to the one on the ice cream truck.
Pyapon-Bogale Road facilitates better transport to local people

(from page 16)

Pyapon-Bogale road in Ayeyawady Division is one of the motor roads built to help ensure smooth transport. It was constructed in 1990 as a gravelled facility only and, due to overflow of seawater and heavy rains, there were many difficulties for vehicles to run on the road in the rainy season.

With the assistance of Executive Officer U Kyaw Naing of Bogale Township Development Affairs Committee, we had the opportunity to visit Pyapon-Bogale road on 25 September.

We left Bogale at 10 am. During the visit, we stopped over at Zinbaung Agriculture Camp of Pyapon Township. We were welcomed by Director (Engineer) U Htay Nyunt of Development Affairs Department, and Deputy Superintendent Engineer U Soe Than groups of the Development Affairs Department with the use of heavy machinery. Within three weeks, vehicles could drive from Pyapon to Bogale in regular runs similar to the conditions before the rainy season. We made concerted efforts for ensuring smooth transportation for the people. Beginning 14 September, buses, various kinds of vehicles and motorcycles can use the road.”

At 12 noon, we left Zinbaung Camp. The TV crew of Myanmar Television together with our news team and the Director (Engineer) of DAD and party viewed progress in maintenance of the road from Zinbaung Camp to Pyapon by car. We witnessed smooth transport facility for the vehicles along the road.

From Bogale to Pyapon, we passed through 12 villages. Apyaung Creek is paralleled with the road on its right side. While undertaking maintenance of the road, gravel was carried from Hingetauk Village of Ngapudaw Township and Hnbo Village of Padaung Township along the creek. Gravel was stockpiled at Natchaung, Kalagyi and Poshwelen villages of Bogale Township. Through Apyaung Creek, the gravel was carried to the construction site by boat.

After the half an hour drive, we saw houses and trees of Pyapon. Indeed, Pyapon is a gateway to the sea and it is a venue for trading marine products. Economy of the township is booming significantly. I visited Pyapon five years ago. Remarkable progress can be seen in Pyapon more than I have witnessed during my previous visit. After viewing development of Pyapon, we left for Bogale. On our return trip, we saw maintenance of the road by workers.

In an interview, Deputy Superintendent Engineer U Soe Than of Ayeyawady Division DAC said, “Our group focus on maintenance work on Pyapon-Bogale Road. Now, the road was put into service similar to the facilities before the rainy season. Private cars drive along the road one hour and buses, about two hours. It is necessary to continue maintenance for the road up to the dry season. Despite tiredness, we are pleased with convenient travelling of the people.”

Meanwhile, we saw a Maubin University-Bogale-Pyapon-Kyaiklat-Maubin ferry. We witnessed convenience and happiness of 15 passengers on the ferry.

Driver Ko Han Win Zaw said, “We resume the run of ferry beginning 14 September. We leave Bogale at 7 am, Pyapon at 9 am, Bogale at 10 am, Pyapon at 12 noon, Bogale at 1 pm, Pyapon at 2 pm and Pyapon at 4 pm. The bus plies from the football ground in Bogale to the highway bus terminal in Pyapon.”

We held an interview with passenger U Tun Kyi, 65 years old. He said, “I live in Lamugyi Laywyn of Pyapon Township. When I learned that the road is better, I was pleased with the news. Now, I travel from Pyapon to Bogale to view the road. All the passengers are happy with the better transport facility. I am also happy along my trip.”

At 4.30 pm, we arrived back Bogale. I was pleased with the efforts for ensuring better transportation of regular runs of the vehicles along Pyapon-Bogale road.

Flower Arrangement Course concludes


The CEC member gave consolation prizes to the winners and presented completion certificates to the trainees.—MNA

Colour photo contest winners announced

Yangon, 10 Oct—Colour photo contest titled “Peaceful and Developed Myanmar” was held to mark the 61st Anniversary Independence Day 2009. Fifty photographers competed in the contest with 175 photos. The prize winners are Aung Kyaw Tun (Pathingyi), the first, Them Oo (Mya Nandar), the second and Kyaw Win Hlaing (University of Culture), the third. Consolation prize winners are Ko Ko San Ni (Theingyi) Shwe Yi, Saw Aung Min (New Asia Photo Studio), U Nyunt Kyi, Wai Kyi Moe (Yangon University), Naung Oo Pho Choe, Kyaw Win Hlaing (University of Culture), A K Moe (Botany) and Sai Khan Lin (Hawk Eyes).—MNA
Myanmar Ministers, Bangladesh Advisers hold discussions on mutual cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Oct—Delegation members of the Union of Myanmar who paid goodwill visit to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh met the Advisers to the Ministries of Bangladesh in Dhaka.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win met Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Itfehkar Ahmed Chowdhury at the latter’s office in Dhaka on 8 October and they held discussions on supervising immigration between the two countries.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun met Adviser to the Ministry of Construction, Housing and Public Works Retired Maj-Gen Ghulan Quader at the latter’s office in Dhaka on 8 October and they held discussions on supervising immigration between the two countries.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lunt Thi met Adviser to the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Mr M Tamin at the latter’s office on 8 October and held comprehensive discussions on energy and power matters. He also met Chairman of Petrobangla Mr Jalal Ahmed, Managing Director Mr Muhammad Imaduddin of BAPEX and Managing Director Mr KB Ahmed of Mohana Holding Ltd and they discussed matters related to energy sector.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein together with President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and entrepreneurs visited Tangi Beximco Pharmaceutical Factory in Dhaka and Shinpepuk Ceramic Factory in Savar on 8 October.

MNA

Myanmar, Bangladeshi entrepreneurs exchange views on boosting bilateral trade

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Oct — The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry held discussions at the head office of FBCCI in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 8 October.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Adviser to the Ministry of Commerce and Education of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh Dr Hossain Zulfikar Rahman and Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce Mr Feroz Ahmed attended the meeting.

At the meeting, Myanmar entrepreneurs led by President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and Bangladeshi entrepreneurs led by President of FBCCI Mr Annisul Huq exchanged views on expanding of trade and investments between the two nations.

Bangladeshi Ambassador to Myanmar Major-General Abu Rushide Konoiuddin put forward a suggestion on expanding bilateral trade.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein said that Myanmar is exporting agricultural produce including beans and pulses, forest products, fisheries, mineral. He expressed the intention of increasing the amount of bilateral trade by US$500 million as there is better opportunity in bilateral trade.

Next, Minister U Soe Tha explained facts about economic development in Myanmar, prospect of expanding bilateral trade and investments and, the need for greater coordination of regular development in the trade sector.

Later, Adviser to the Ministry of Commerce and Education of the PRB Dr Rahman noted that there are a lot of opportunities for bilateral trade between the two nations. He spoke of the need to redouble efforts for rapid flow of trade and resolve the hurdles through understanding and friendship. He also said that arrangements are being made for organizing trade exposition in Myanmar in 2009 aiming at increasing bilateral trade from over US$100 million to 500 million.

Afterwards, the ministers and entrepreneurs of Myanmar answered queries on organizing of trade expo, smooth flow of export goods, running of direct flight and other mutual work between the two sides, raised by those present.

On 9 October, Ministers U Soe Tha and Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and UMFFCCI members held talks on bilateral trade with the entrepreneurs of Chittagong Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The Myanmar delegation attended a trade exposition organized by Chittagong Women Entrepreneurs’ Association.

MNA

Animal shows resume Full-moon Day

YANGON, 11 Oct—Yangon Zoological Gardens will resume its animal shows on Weekends and gazetted holidays commencing Thadingyut Fullmoon Day.

Other programmes are amusement games for children, free Ferris wheel rides and lucky draw.

MNA

Talks on fisheries given

YANGON, 11 Oct—The Fisheries Department (Mawlamyine District branch) organized talks on fisheries at the Basic Education Middle School in Nyaungbinseik Village-tract, Kayin-maraow Township, on 9 October.

Head of the branch U Thet Oo and member of District Organization for Conservation of Fish Resources U Htwe Than gave talks on conservation of fish resources, facts for development of fish resources in the region, and rules and regulations.

Fishery entrepreneurs, fishermen, and officials from Nyaungbinseik, Sint-oh-po, Htau-kay, and Taunggyaza villages in Kyaiarmaraw Township attended the ceremony.

Talks will also be given in the villages in Mawlamyine and Mudon Townships in Mawlamyine District.

MNA

An elephant being trained for animal show at Yangon Zoological Gardens.——FORESTRY
Myanmar Agro-based Foodstuff Exporters Association holds first meeting

YANGON, 11 OCT—The first annual meeting of Myanmar Agro-based Foodstuff Exporters Association was held in conjunction with foodstuff fair at the hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lannadaw Township this afternoon, with an address by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party viewed weeding, hoeing at the 200-acre model plantations in Yundalingon Village, Bilin Township, and they were given necessary instructions.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party arrived in Kyaukhto and left there and arrived back here in the evening.

Cash and kind donated to 11 monasteries, two nunneries

YANGON, 11 OCT—A ceremony to donate rice, edible oil, salt, medicines, gram and cash of Tatmadaw families (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers to 11 monasteries and two nunneries in five Townships in west of Yangon South District was held at Mibagon Hall of Mibagon Home for the Aged in Twantay Township this afternoon. Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony and donated robes and provisions to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.—MNA

New town built in Thaton Township

NAY PYI TAW, 11 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 departmental officials, on 5 October morning inspected buildings already constructed and buildings under construction at Tha Mar Wa Myothit in Thaton, Mon State.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye proceeded to Kyakaww Village, Thaton Township, Mon State where he looked into thriving Hsinthwelatt strain paddy on the 90-acre monsoon paddy field and viewed Shwebo-1 strain paddy on the 110-acre monsoon paddy field and Shwebo-1 strain paddy on 4 acre-paddy field of Daw May Win.

They visited the school building and documented photos of the building. The school building, 60 feet long, 30 feet wide and 12 feet high, can accommodate 73 students and it was built at a cost of K 35 million.

A similar ceremony was held at Patok BEPPS in Phayalan Ward. Director-General U Aye Kyu, Chairman of Township PDC U Myint Swe and wellwisher Managing Director U Tar Wai of Wai Family formally cut the ribbon to open the school building.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe formally unveiled the signboard of the school building.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party posed for documentary photo together with wellwishers, teachers and students.

They visited the school building and reviewed the documentary photos of the building. Next, they looked into thriving vegetable plantations in the compound of the school.

At the ceremony to mark the handing over of the school, Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint delivered an address.

Member of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee (in-charge of Kawhmu Township) Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min delivered speeches.

The minister presented exercise books and sports gear to schools through school heads. The school heads accepted K 35 million for the Zigon BEPS donated by U Tar Wai of Wai Family and K 130 million for Patok BEPPS by Managing Director U Nay Win Kyaw of Thawtawin Co.

The headmistress accepted furniture and school uniforms worth K 6 million by Horizontal International Education Centre.

The wellwishers handed over documents related to the school buildings to the director-general.

The new two-storey building of Patok BEPPS is 112 feet long, 30 feet wide and 20 feet high, with five classrooms. The school building can accommodate 277 students and it was built at a cost of K 130 million.—MNA

Village primary schools in Kawhmu …

(from page 16)

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NAY PYI TAW, 11 Oct—Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min received President Mr Premchai Karnasuta of Italian-Thai Development Public Co Ltd of Thailand and Director Mr Chua Chay Jin and party of Windfall Energy Services Limited from British Virgin Island of Singapore at the ministry, here, on 9 October.

Next, the signing ceremony of Taninthayi Thai, S'pore companies to cooperate in 600-megawatt project Hydropower Project of Hydropower Implementation Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and Italian-Thai Development Public Co Ltd of Thailand and Windfall Energy Services Limited from British Virgin Island of Singapore was held.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Ministers, Directors-General, the Managing Director and officials, responsible persons of Italian-Thai Development Public Co Ltd of Thailand and Windfall Energy Services Limited from British Virgin Island of Singapore was held.

First, Minister Col Zaw Min extended greetings. Afterwards, President Mr Premchai Karnasuta of Italian-Thai Development Public Co Ltd explained matters related to the hydropower project.

Next, the Director-General of Hydropower Implementation Department and President Mr Premchai Karnasuta signed the MoU. The Taninthayi Hydropower Project will generate 600 megawatts.

STI to conduct Logistics and Supply Chain Management YANGON, 11 Oct—STI education in collaboration with Singapore Institute of Materials Management (SIMM) will be conducting a course of Executive Diploma in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. The program lasts five months including one week training in Singapore.

STI is affiliated with SIMM, Curtin University and Edith Cowan University in Australia. The trainees must have any degree, three-year work experience and good command of English to apply for the diploma.

SIIMM and STI will present completion certificates to those who pass the course. Moreover, the eligible trainees have the opportunity to make further studies for MBA from Curtin University, Australia.

Registration starts now for November batch and those interested may contact Building-4, Room-7, Myanmar Info-Tech, Hline Campus and No. 377, Upper Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon (Tel: 250056, 700273, 507046, 507048, 507151 and 507152).—MNA
Over 65 percent of Yeywa hydropower project completed

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Oct — Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence and officials met Principal Daw Khin Mya Thet, faculty members and students at Meiktila Education College, Rector Dr Maung Thin, professors and faculty members at Meiktila University, Rector Dr Aung Zaw Tun, faculty members and students at the Technological University (Meikhtila) and Rector Dr Daw Than Nwe Aung and faculty members at the University of Computer Studies (Meiktila) in Meiktila, Mandalay Division, yesterday morning.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint inspected water storage of Nyaungyan Lake and Minhla Lake in Thazi Township, Meikhtila District and met Professor Dr San Lwin, professors and faculty members at Meiktila University of Economics.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and party next proceeded to Hanmyinthmo Village in Kyaukse Township where they were welcomed by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe and officials. Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, the commander and party looked into condition of the road section of district-to-district road No. 2 and the chosen site for construction of Dokhtawady Bridge to link Meethwayboke Village in Singaing Township, Mandalay Division, and Shwesayan in Patheingyi Township, PyinOoLwin District.

Afterwards, they visited the Yeywa hydropower project site on Myitnge River, 31 miles from Mandalay, being undertaken by Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and inspected progress in construction of the main dam, the power plant and the approach tunnel of the main dam. The construction of the main dam (RCC type) has been completed by 96 percent and 65.52 percent of the whole project has been completed. Upon completion, 3,550 million kilowatt hours will be generated. Maj-Gen Ohn Myint also inspected Shwesayan sub-power plant. The sub-power plant distributes electricity to Takhuntaing sub-power station in Mandalay through 132 KV powerline, Mandalay North sub-power station through 33 KV powerline, and the sub-power station in PyinOoLwin through 132 KV powerline.

Later, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw in the evening.—MNA

Maj-Gen Ko Ko inspect progress of district-to-district road in Bago Division

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Oct — Together with Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min and departmental officials, Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence on 9 October gave instructions to officials at the No. 2 district-to-district road (Thitkyein-Htonbogyi) road construction project being implemented by Bago Division Development Affairs Committee.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko viewed the site for construction of a creek crossing bridge on the road, growing of sugarcane in Phayagon Village, maintenance of 150 feet long Binye Creek Bridge, Nayagat Creek Bridge and Kayin Creek Bridge with the use of heavy machinery. He instructed officials to supervise water supply from Kayinchaung Dam to summer paddy fields. They looked into road sections of Thitkyein-Htonbogyi district-to-district road and maintenance of the bridges, thriving paddy, groundnut, banana and teak plantations.

At Toungoo University, they inspected the 300-student-capacity lecture halls and staff quarters. While in Toungoo, they visited Toungoo Education College of Education Planning and Training Department, University of Computer Studies (Toungoo) of Ministry of Science and Technology and Technological University (Toungoo) and left for Nay Pyi Taw in the evening.—MNA

Foreign Minister sends message of felicitations to Spain

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Miguel Angel Moratinos, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Spain, on the occasion of the National Day of Spain, which falls on 12 October, 2008.—MNA

SAY NO TO DRUGS

Yeywa hydropower project site on Myitnge River, 31 miles from Mandalay, is the largest facility of its kind in Myanmar.—MNA
**Israeli hospital hosts cancer-stricken Iranian boy**

**JERUSALEM, 11 Oct** — The head of an Israeli hospital where an Iranian boy is being treated for a brain tumor said on Friday he hoped the gesture will help improve understanding between the bitterly divided countries.

The 12-year-old boy — who was identified only as Roy, to protect his privacy — was wheeled on a stretcher into the Sheba Medical Center near Tel Aviv, after treatments in Iran and Turkey failed.

Israel granted the child a special permit to enter the country and he arrived at Ben Gurion Airport on Friday. The rare arrangement was mediated by an Israeli businessman of Iranian origin. The boy was accompanied to the hospital by his father and veiled mother, who were also granted special entry permits into Israel. “We hope that with the love and affection we give these kids we are paving the way for at least some understanding between people,” he said. “We can’t change the politics. We are not politicians. We do it because we feel it is our job.”

Israel is home to more than 150,000 Iranian Jews, but very few couples have dared to marry in the last decade as marriage is strictly regulated and the government has imposed sanctions on trade and tourism.

“We gave him the only cure he needed,” Roy’s father said when he arrived in Israel. “Very strange, but this is what my husband wanted,” she said by phone from a village about 62 miles east of Cambodia’s capital, Phnom Penh. She said they ended their marriage last month.

“He brought his relatives and used saws to cut the house in half,” she said, adding that she now owns the other half that is still standing. The house is made from wood with a tile roof and propped up on wooden pillars, a typical style for a Cambodian country home.

She said her estranged husband and his relatives, after ripping apart half of the house, carried all the debris to his parents’ house nearby.

**Cambodian couple saw house in half in divorce**

**PHNOM PENH, 11 Oct** — A couple in rural Cambodia has terminated their 18-year marriage with a divorce settlement that entailed sawing in two the wooden house they once shared, villagers said Friday. The husband, 42-year-old Moecn Sarim, has taken away with him all the bits and pieces of his half a house, said his 35-year-old wife, Vat Navy.

“This is a dream come true,” said Jin Zhu Li, 27, dressed in frilly white dresses, smiling brides held hands with grooms in dark grey suits during a wedding ceremony on Friday in an opulent room of Tours city hall, in France’s Loire valley.

“The city draws scores of Chinese tourists by offering a “romantic wedding” tour package, complete with ceremony, photo session and honeymoon, in a bid to tap into the Chinese tourism boom.”

“This is a dream come true,” said Jin Zhu Li, 27, from Tianjin, one of the 40 brides who got married on Friday.

“When I was little I saw a film on television on French romance and Paris and I always wanted to travel to France, to experience such a moment.”

In all, some 140 Chinese couples have exchanged vows during five such ceremonies organised in Tours over the past year.

**Saudi-owned TV website hit by cyber attack**

**DUBAI, 11 Oct** — Computer hackers claiming to be Shiite shut down the website of Saudi-owned satellite channel Al-Arabiya on Friday, a month after Iran reported similar attacks on many of its websites by hardline Sunnis.

The website of the Dubai-based channel was taken over by the hackers who displayed a message which warned that “if attacks on Shiite websites continue, none of your websites will be safe”. The page also displayed a picture of an Israeli flag on fire.

Al-Arabiya issued a statement saying that its website had “come under organised cyber piracy performed by extremists”.

The statement said that Al-Arabiya will continue to adhere to its policy of being “moderate, balanced and objective”.

Iran’s Fars news agency reported last month that Wahhabi hackers had attacked 300 Shiite websites, including Shia Islam’s most popular site linked to the faith’s Iraq-based spiritual leader, Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani.

**Visit China’s Forbidden City as a virtual eunuch**

**BEIJING, 11 Oct** — Culture fans thousands of miles from Beijing can now visit its famous Forbidden City, through a three dimensional recreation of the vast palace that also allows them to dress up as an imperial eunuch and meet a courtesan.

One of the jewels in China’s cultural crown, the sprawling complex in the heart of the capital already gets tens of thousands of real-life visitors each day. But now online tourists can also watch the Qing dynasty emperor feast at dinner, train fighting crickets and feed them with blood-fattened mosquitoes, or practice archery with the help of a courtisan.

At the virtual palace, unveiled on Friday, they can also dress up as part of the huge imperial entourage, shaped in part by the legions of your websites will be safe”.

**Internet**

**Claims Day Notice**

**MV KOTA TAMAN VOY NO (213)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMAN VOY NO (213) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.10.2008 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.

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

**Internet**
**NASA presses ahead for Mars rover launch in 2009**

**Los Angeles, 11 Oct —** NASA said Friday it will press ahead with plans to launch a supersized rover to Mars next year despite spiraling costs and schedule pressures.

The decision to maintain the status quo — at least for now — came after the space agency’s top managers met to mull over the progress of the Mars Science Laboratory, a souped-up, nuclear-powered rover. Concerns have been raised about how to pay for the project’s escalating costs and whether engineers can ready the rover in time for a safe launch next fall. NASA has poured $1.5 billion into the project, but the final price tag is expected to be close to $2 billion.

Doug McCuistion, who heads the Mars exploration program at NASA headquarters, said significant work lies ahead and the space agency will revisit the mission’s progress in January.

Meanwhile, “our intent is to keep our eye on the ball and keep pressing” for a 2009 liftoff, McCuistion told reporters in a conference call.

The Mars Science Lab is designed to roam the Martian plains and study rocks to determine whether the environment could support microbial life.

**Older diabetics with depression face higher death rate**

**Washington, 11 Oct. —** In a group of Medicare beneficiaries who have diabetes, being depressed was associated with a higher death rate, according to a new study.

Publishing in the October issue of the Journal of General Internal Medicine, researchers from the University of Washington tracked 10,704 Medicare beneficiaries (average age of 75.6 years) who had diabetes and were enrolled in a disease management program in Florida.

The participants’ depression status was assessed by physician diagnosis, patient reports of antidepressant use, and answers to a brief screening test.

The researchers followed the participants for two years and recorded any deaths and causes of death that took place during that time.

The participants who had both diabetes and depression had an approximately 36 percent to 38 percent increased risk of dying from any cause. A total of 12.1 percent of these participants died during the study, compared with 10.4 percent of the participants without depression.

Participants who were treated with antidepressant medications in the year prior to the study had a 24 percent increased risk of death, compared to the participants who were not depressed.

4 die of diarrhea in central Nepal

**Kathmandu, 11 Oct. —** At least four people have died of diarrhea in some villages of Dhading district in central Nepal, where about 60 people are suffering from the ailment in the past days, the national news agency RSS reported on Saturday.

According to the news agency RSS Saturday’s report, District Health Office, Dhading has sent a medical team to the villages, some 50 km south of Kathmandu, that could be reached after two-day’s walk from the office. Diarrhea can cause dehydration, which means the body lacks enough fluid to function properly. Dehydration is particularly dangerous in children and older people, and it must be treated promptly to avoid serious health problems.

**Pregnancy does not cloud the brain, says Australian study**

**Sydney, 11 Oct —** Pregnancy has long been blamed for adding women’s minds but new work by Australian researchers finds this idea may be nothing more than an old wives’ tale.

A study by the Australian National University’s centre for mental health research found that there is no evidence to suggest that impending motherhood affects a woman’s cognitive ability.

The research is based on analysis of interviews with 2,500 women aged between 20 and 24 first undertaken in 1999 and again later in 2003 and 2007.

It found that the 76 women who were pregnant during the second or third interviews scored no differently on logic and memory tests than previously.

“And there were no differences between them and control women,” Ida Helen Christensen, who led the research, told AFP.

“It really leaves the question open as to why (pregnant) women think they have poor memories when the best evidence we have is that they don’t.”

Christensen said while it was possible the tests were unable to pick up subtle changes in the brain, it seemed more likely that women blamed pregnancy for minor lapses because it was foremost in their mind at the time.

“It makes it very easy to attribute what might be just normal lapses in memory to pregnancy,” she said.

**Obesity-cancer link unknown to many women**

**New York, 11 Oct —** Many women don’t know that obesity increases their risk of several types of cancer, a new survey published in the journal Obstetrics & Gynecology shows.

Women’s lack of knowledge about excess weight and the most common gynecologic malignancy, endometrial cancer, is particularly worrying, Dr Pamela T Soliman of MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and her colleagues say.

“We need to be doing a better job of educating our patients,” Soliman told Reuters Health.

Women who were overweight or obese twice as likely to develop cancer of the uterine lining, Soliman and her team note in their report, while obesity boosts the risk by six-fold. Obese women also are at greater risk of breast and colon cancer. Excess weight also increases mortality from many cancers, with the strongest association seen for endometrial cancer: heavy women are 6.25 times more likely to die from the disease.

To investigate awareness of the obesity-cancer link, Soliman and her colleagues surveyed 1,345 women, 28 percent of whom were normal weight. Another 24 percent were overweight, while 45 percent were obese. Ninety-one percent of the study participants had health insurance.

Just 42 percent knew that obesity increased their risk of endometrial cancer, while 53 percent knew that colon cancer is associated with obesity and 54 percent were aware that excess weight increases breast cancer risk.

**Farmers harvest soybeans in Castrolanda, Brazil, 14 March, 2008. The booming prices for Brazilian soy beans, Venezuelan oil and Chilean copper that brought prosperity to Latin America are heading for a bust that threatens to erode the hard-won gains of its poor and newly emerging middle class.**
Sydney bids to host Australian Open

Sydney, 11 Oct — Sydney is bidding to take the Australian Open tennis away from its long-time Melbourne home, reports said on Saturday. Melbourne has staged the year’s opening grand slam at its Melbourne Park complex since 1988 and drew a record number of 605,735 fans to the fortnight tournament last January. But Melbourne is being challenged for its grand slam status by Shanghai, Dubai and now Sydney where its contract expires in 2016, according to reports. The Sydney Morning Herald said Sydney’s pitch for the Open tournament included a plan to build a multi-million-dollar stadium at a inner-city harbour site. Events NSW’s chief executive Geoff Parmenter has confirmed Sydney’s interest in the event, which is worth more than 100 million dollars (69 million US) to the economy of the state of Victoria. — Internet

Chelsea seek return of Mikel Obi transfer fee

London, 11 Oct — Chelsea on Friday began proceedings in England’s High Court aimed at recovering 16 million pounds they paid for John Mikel Obi. The Nigerian midfielder joined Chelsea in June 2006 with the London club paying four million pounds to Norwegian club FC Lyn Oslo and a further 12 million to Manchester United, who had a prior agreement to sign the player. Chelsea are claiming all of the money back from Lyn and their former chief executive Morgan Andersson as they now believe that the player was not under contract to the Norwegian club at the time. The claim is based on details that emerged in a recent court case which resulted in Andersson being convicted for fraud. Chelsea are claiming 16 million pounds they paid for John Mikel Obi. — Internet

Capello lays down the law to Gerrard

London, 11 Oct — Fabio Capello has warned Steven Gerrard that he will have to sacrifice his ambition to be England’s main man if he wants to keep his place in the national side. Gerrard recently claimed he had only played in his favoured central midfield role in five of his 68 England appearances. The 28-year-old often found himself deployed on the right wing during Steve McClaren’s reign and Capello has also used him in a variety of positions. — Internet

Safin stuns Davydenko in Moscow tennis

Moscow, 11 Oct — Former world number one Marat Safin defeated Russian compatriot and three-time champion Nikolay Davydenko 7-6 (7/5), 4-6, 6-4 to reach the Kremlin Cup semi-finals on Friday. Seventh seed Safin struck 17 aces to knock out the world number five and will now tackle Germany’s Mischa Zverev for a place in Sunday’s final where he will be hoping to win his first title since lifting the Australian Open in 2005. Zverev reached his first career semi-final with a 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 win over Viktor Troicki of Serbia after trailing 5-1 in the deciding set and then having to save two match points. — Internet

Monfils shocks Gonzalez to reach Vienna semis

Vienna, 11 Oct — Gael Monfils produced a scintillating performance to reach the semi-finals of the Austrian Open on Friday, upsetting second seed Fernando Gonzalez of Chile 6-3, 7-6 (2). Hitting the ball with a flourish and chasing down every half-chance and converting many of them for winners, the eighth-seeded Frenchman was the more impressive player. But there was some spectacular tennis from both competitors as Gonzalez also played a full part in a highly entertaining battle. While Monfils impressed with his speed to the ball and excellent defence, Gonzalez used his immense strength to keep his opponent under pressure throughout the match. — Internet

INTERNET

Capello, seen here, has warned Steven Gerrard that he will have to sacrifice his ambition to be England’s main man if he wants to keep his place in the national side. — Internet

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WASHINGTON, 11 Oct— Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin abused her power as Alaska’s Governor by trying to get her ex-brother-in-law fired from the state police, a state investigator’s report concluded Friday.

“Governor Palin knowingly permitted a situation to continue where impermissible pressure was placed on several subordinates in order to advance a personal agenda,” the report states.

Public Safety Commissioner Walt Monegan’s refusal to fire State Trooper Mike Wooten from the state police force was “likely a contributing factor” to Monegan’s July dismissal, but Palin had the authority as governor to fire him, the report by former Anchorage prosecutor Stephen Branchflower states.

Deadly bird flu virus found at German farm

BRUSSELS, 11 Oct— German authorities were culling poultry at a farm in Germany after the discovery of a case of the deadly H5N1 bird flu virus, the European Commission announced on Friday.

Coalition forces kill al-Qaeda, Taliban commanders in central Afghanistan

KABUL, 11 Oct— The US-led Coalition forces on Friday killed four militants, including an Al-Qaeda commander and a Taliban commander, during an operation in Ghanzi province of central Afghanistan, said a Coalition statement released here on Saturday.

The Al-Qaeda and Taliban commanders were known as weapons and foreign fighter facilitators in Andar district of Ghanzi province, both of whom were also believed to have coordinated and directed militant activities against interests of Afghan government and international troops, the statement said.

Afghan intel says attack on Afghan prison thwarted

KABUL, 11 Oct — Afghan intelligence service said Saturday it broke up a Taliban plot to attack the country’s most notorious prison with a wave of suicide bombers.

The thwarted attack on the Policharki prison on the outskirts of the capital, Kabul, was meant to free Taliban and criminal prisoners, the Afghan intelligence service said in a statement.

The attack would have mirrored a massive assault in June on a prison in Kandahar — the country’s second largest city and the spiritual home of the Taliban — that freed almost 900 prisoners, including about 400 Taliban fighters.

Three police who worked at Policharki were arrested, the intelligence service said. They were allegedly paid off by militants to help carry out the attack.

Uganda to host Africa’s first ever honey trade expo

KAMPALA, 11 Oct— Africa’s honey traders are to meet here in their first ever trade expo that will focus on exploiting regional markets instead of the restrictive European Union (EU) market, where they sell most of their products.

Gagawala Wambuzi, Uganda’s Minister of State for Trade told reporter here on Friday that despite the continent’s large production potential, its bee products represent less than 1 per cent of the total world trade, which is dominated by Asian and South American countries.

“In most African countries, beekeepers are often unable to sell enough honey beyond local markets and African honey traders working with beekeepers face barriers to entry into export markets,” he said.

A new-generation short haul passenger aircraft solely developed in China has completed a successful trial flight, paving the way for commercial production next year, the manufacturer announced on Friday.

Weather

Saturday, 12 October, 2008
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

- Rainfall on Saturday in 10-10-2008 was 0.63 inches at Mingaladon, (0.83) inch at Kaba-Aye, and (NA) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall in the remaining areas was 0.9 inches.
- Maximum temperature on 10-10-2008 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 11-10-2008 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours on 11-10-2008 was (51) hours approx.
- The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Thaypyayge) (0.47) inches, Myeik (1.06) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (0.83) inches and Pakokka (0.71) inches.
- Total sunshine hours on 10-10-2008 was (5.1) hours approx.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecasts:
- For Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 12-10-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
- For Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-10-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
- For Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-10-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).
Prime Minister sends message of felicitations to Spanish counterpart

Nay Pyi Taw, 12 Oct – General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Spain, on the occasion of the National Day of Spain, which falls on 12 October, 2008. – MNA

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

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

Village primary schools in Kawhmu Township get new buildings

YANGON, 11 Oct— Ceremonies to hand over new school buildings for Zigon Village Basic Education Primary School and Patok Basic Education Post Primary School of Phayalan Ward of Kawhmu Township were held at the respective schools this morning, attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

(See page 9)

Pyapon-Bogale Road facilitates better transport to local people

Smooth transportation reflects the speedy flow of commodities. Trading commodities from one place to another helps develop economy of the respective regions.

With the aim of ensuring secure and better transport, roads and bridges have been built.

Article: Mawgyun Myint Aung (IPRD)

For the health of babies
- Mother’s milk the best
- If mother’s milk is not sufficient
- Cow or goat’s milk can be used
- Always boil the milk
- The best for health

YANGON-BGale Road seen after being maintained.