YANGON, 14 Oct—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspected maintenance of roads from No. 5 Junction of Hlinethaya to Twantay-Kawmu-Kungyangon-Dadaye-Pyapon road and Panhline and Twantay bridges yesterday. He looked into repair of retaining walls of the approach road to Tawpale Bridge and maintenance of the bridge and gave necessary instructions.

The minister also viewed old and new Bailey bridges. He told the officials concerned to make arrangements for maintenance of the existing bridge before completion of the new one on Kungyangon-Letkhokgon road.—MNA

Archaeological edifices in Bagan fascinating tourists

Now the rainy season is going to say “goodbye” to Myanmar, and it is ushering in the cold season, and so the tourism season has set in. Myanmar is working hard to transform itself into a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Being blessed with natural resources of different sorts in abundance and possessing cultural and archaeological edifices, the nation captivates tourists from around the world. (See page 9)
**Preservation of national culture through arts skills**

Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions have been held for 16 years. This year the performing arts competitions will be held with four lofty objectives — Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character, uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation, keeping genuine patriotism based on national solidarity alive and dynamic and turning out younger generation who will continue to safeguard the national culture and character.

The performing arts competitions not only depict the essence of Myanmar traditional arts but promote Myanmar attributes that have deeply rooted in Myanmar traditional arts.

Traditional customs, way of life costumes and character and thoughts and arts have been existed as cultural structures among the Myanmar nationals in the course of history.

We urge the contestants to the performing arts competitions to make efforts to reveal their talented skills in arts and to enhance national character, customs and social norms of Myanmar people through preservation and promotion of national culture.

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**3rd Grand Royal Challenge Cup 2008 for storm victims’ fund**

**Yangon, 14 Oct**—The work coordination meeting for holding a friendly football tournament and the third Grand Royal Challenge Cup 2008, held with the intention of raising funds for storm victims, was held at meeting hall No. 1 in Aung San Stadium here yesterday morning. General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee-Deputy General U Thaug Haik of Sports and Physical Education Department delivered a speech on the occasion.

Afterwards, General Secretary of Myanmar Football Federation Deputy Director U Bunny Tin Aung of Sports and Physical Education Department and responsible persons explained the matters on holding tournament and departmental officials made suggestions.

Afterwards, Director-General U Thaug Haik gave a conclusion speech.—NLM

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**MCPA gives talks on Information & Network Security**

**Yangon, 14 Oct**—Talks on Information and Network Security, organized by Myanmar Computer Professionals Association and sponsored by Myanmar Computer Company Ltd (MCC) for the development of information and communication technology, was held at Room No 205 of Main hall of Myanmar Computer Company Ltd (MCC) for the development of information and communication technology, was held at Room No 205 of Main hall of Myanmar Information Technology Centre building in Hlaing Township here on 11 October. Secretary of MCPA U Nyein Oo and executive U Aung Zaw Myint (MCC) gave talks on Information & Network Security with the intention of the security of business information.—NLM

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**Devotees perform meritorious deeds on Abhidhamma Day**

**Shwedagon Pagoda packed with devotees on Abhidhamma Day.**—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Oct—Today is Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Abhidhamma) Day. Pagodas and monasteries in Nay Pyi Taw Pyimanna, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkun and Nay Pyi Taw Lawe were crowded with devotees.

In the early morning, devotees and wellwishers offered fruits, alms food, lights, flowers, water and incense sticks to Datudha Ya Datpaungzu pagoda in Bawga Theindi Ward in Nay Pyi Taw. Until evening, the pagoda was thronged with those who observed Sabbath, meditated, recited Abhidhamma and performed meritorious deeds. At night, the pagoda and the ministries were illuminated with lights.

At the Phaya Kozen Pagoda in Yanaung-2 Ward in Nay Pyi Taw Pyimanna, devotees offered alms food and fruits to the Buddha image. There were soon-offering, Abhidhamma Day, Pawarauna, sermon and donation ceremonies at Lawkamarazein, Kokhangyo and Lawkayanmin Pagodas in Nay Pyi Taw Pyimanna. Similarly, famous pagodas in Yangon were crowded with devotees. At the Shwedagon Pagoda, Abhidhamma Day was observed and 5,000 lights were offered to the Sule Pagoda by worshipers.

On Abhidhamma Day, devotees who performed meritorious deeds.

In the afternoon, T pitya dha r a Dhammabandagarika Agga Maha Pandita B h a d d a n t a Sirdabhiyavamsa (Yaw Sayadaw) delivered a sermon at the Dhammayangyi pagoda on the platform of Botataung Kyaikeyday-ut Pagoda. The 16th soon-offering ceremony was held at Maha Wizaya Pagoda, Botataung Kyaikday-ut Pagoda.

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**Myanmar get through semifinals**

**Yangon, 14 Oct**—Holders Myanmar made it through semifinals, crushing Indonesia 6-0 in Group-A of AFF Women’s Championship 2008 held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, at 5.30 pm.

Maing Nilar Htwe opened the scoring in the first minute and 30 second, and Thida Oo made it 2-0 in the 25th minute. Than Hwe and San San Aye Aye Mar and Naw Ar Lo Wah Phaw scored one goal each to help win victory over Indonesia 6-nil

In Group-A, Myanmar cruised into the semifinals as the second group leaders with 9 points from three wins and one loss.

Myanmar play against Australia, the leaders of Group-B, in the second semifinal match on 18 October afternoon.—MNA
Kidnappings spread in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 14 Oct—Five years ago, retired Air Force intelligence officer Kirk von Ackermann became the first of 39 Americans to be kidnapped in Iraq. He’s still missing, his wife fearing she’ll never see him again.

Besides the personal tragedy, his disappearance and those that have followed have taken on a larger significance. They mark a turning point in terrorist tactics that US intelligence officials say has produced a startling statistic: a 500 percent increase in foreigners taken hostage around the world as militants adopt the methods of the most violent figures in the Iraq insurgency.

Figures compiled by the Defence Intelligence Agency from classified and unclassified sources — provided exclusively to The Associated Press — show that in 2004, 342 foreign and US hostages were taken by terrorist and insurgent organizations.

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,182

WASHINGTON, 14 Oct—As of Monday, 13 Oct, 2008, at least 4,182 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,385 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

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

Coalition soldier killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 14 Oct—A soldier with US-led coalition forces in Afghanistan was killed and several others were wounded in a bomb blast in the troubled south of the country, the coalition said Tuesday.

The incident took place on Monday when their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device, the force said in a statement, without specifying the exact location of the blast.

The coalition did not release the nationality of the casualties pending notification of their next of kin.

The latest casualties bring the toll to 75 killed and 750 wounded in the air-backed coalition’s nearly five-year offensive against Taliban insurgents.

Bomb blasts kills three in southeast Nepal

KATHMANDU, 14 Oct—Three people were killed and five wounded by a powerful bomb that ripped through a market in a small town in southeast Nepal Tuesday, police said.

“We have information that three people were killed in Chandranigahapur but I have no details,” police official Ramesh Thapa said from Gaur, about 75 km (45 miles) southeast of Kathmandu.

The region has been the focus of protests over the last year from ethnic groups demanding more autonomy from Nepal’s highland cultures.

Local television channels said the victims were a woman and two children.

Unknown gunmen shot dead gov’t official in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 14 Oct—Two unknown gunmen Tuesday morning shot dead a senior government official on his way to work in southern Afghan province of Kandahar, a police official said.

Matwullah Khan, the provincial police chief said that it happened at 9 am local time (GMT0430) when two armed men came by a motorbike to the 6th district of Kandahar city, capital of Kandahar province, and opened fire at Dost Mohammad Arghastani, the provincial chief of work and public affairs department. “Arghastani and one of his bodyguards were killed on spot,” Matwullah Khan said, “their driver was also wounded in the clash.”

He added that attackers ran away after killing the target and police forces had cordoned off that area and started investigations. The ill-fated official Dost Mohammad Arghastani, according to local media reports, is also the provincial head of martyrs and the disabled department.

American man arrested in Pakistani border region

PESHAWAR, 14 Oct—A 20-year-old American man was arrested late Monday at a checkpoint near the Afghan border in a tribal region where Pakistani troops are fighting Taliban and al-Qaeda militants, police said.

Officers were investigating what was being done in the border area, said one officer, Pir Shahab. The frontier region has seen months of fighting between militants and security forces and is believed to be a possible hiding place for Osama bin Laden and other foreign extremists. Shahab said the man — identified on his passport as Judd Kenan — did not have permission to be in the region as is required by Pakistani law. He was arrested at a checkpoint trying to enter Mohmand agency, Shahab said.

“He is holding an American passport, which shows him as a resident of Florida,” Shahab said.

The US Embassy was in contact with Pakistani officials about the reported arrest, spokesman Louis Finton said. He declined further comment, citing US privacy laws.

Confirmed that the man, who shipped out Tuesday, will return to Australia to face the charges in court on 10 Nov. The Marine was one of 3,000 Marines and Navy personnel on shore leave in Sydney after the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu and guided missile destroyer USS Halsey arrived in the port on Friday. The ships departed Tuesday.

US Marine charged with assaulting Sydney woman

SYDNEY, 14 Oct—A US Marine has been charged with assaulting a prostitute while on shore leave in Sydney last weekend, police and the US Embassy said Tuesday.

The 25-year-old man, who was not identified, was charged late Monday with assault involving “bodily harm” following an incident at a Sydney brothel on Sunday, police said in a statement.

He was released on bail. The US Embassy in Canberra said the US Navy was cooperating with the investigation and
Cuban lawmakers request world’s support against US sanctions

HAVANA, 14 Oct— Cuban lawmakers on Monday requested their counterparts across the world to demand the US Congress and government lift the country’s economic sanctions imposed on Cuba almost 50 years ago.

In a statement on Monday, the parliament of Cuba said that in the last 16 consecutive years, the United Nations has approved resolutions against the US sanctions, but Washington “with its usual arrogance, has disclaimed the express mandate of the international community”.

The parliament said that recently, hurricanes Gustav and Ike cost Cuba 5 billion US dollars in damage, but the White House reiterated that it would lift the ban under no circumstances.

“That policy clearly typifies the international crime of genocide which soon will reach half century,” the statement said.

Also on Monday, US activist Pamela Ann Marti, member of the US Support Movement to Cuba, said in Havana that the policy of her country toward the island country is “a horror.”

In a declaration to local radio stations, Marti said that the government of Washington must respect the Cuban people and authorities.

Wildfires force frantic evacuations near LA; two die

LOS ANGELES, 14 Oct— Two huge wildfires driven by strong Santa Ana winds burned into neighborhood hoods near Los Angeles on Monday, forcing frantic evacuations on smoke-and traffic-choked highways, destroying homes and causing at least two deaths.

Around sunset, residents were warned to stay on alert during the night and winds more than 60 mph were forecast. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency in Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

More than 1,000 firefighters and nine water-dropping aircraft battled the 4,700-acre Marek Fire at the northeast end of the San Fernando Valley, and the 5,000-acre Susson Fire at the west end.

Winds blew up to 45 mph with gusts reaching 70 mph at midday. They were forecast to diminish in the evening before roaring over 60 mph after 11 pm. “This fire has the real potential of moving from where it is now ... as far as Pacific Coast (Highway),” said Los Angeles County Fire Chief P Mike Freeman.

Residents downwind were warned to remain alert into the night. “It can go from here to the ocean in a matter of two to three hours,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.

Authorities confirmed more than three-dozen mobile homes burned at the Marek Fire, and 19 structures — some of them homes — were either damaged or destroyed by the Susson Fire. Commercial sites burned in both fires.
China, Singapore pledge to work more closely

Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang (R) meets with visiting Singaporean Minister for Defence Teo Chee Hearn in Beijing, capital of China, on 13 Oct, 2008.—Xinhua

BEIJING, 14 Oct—China and Singapore on Monday vowed to share their respective experiences on development and collaboration in more areas.

Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang met with Singaporean Minister for Defence Teo Chee Hearn in the central government compound Zhongnanhai in downtown Beijing. Li reviewed the sound bilateral relations since the two nations forged diplomatic ties in 1990, citing their fruitful cooperation in trade, investment, urban construction and environmental protection, among others. Commenting on the global financial turmoil, Li said China would make great efforts to keep its economy on the right track, which would help stabilize the world economy.

“China will implement a flexible and prudent macro-economic policy, strive to expand domestic demand, particularly the demand for consumption, and ensure the stable and relatively fast growth of its economy.” On ties with Singapore, Li said China valued the bilateral friendly and mutually beneficial relation.—Xinhua

5Korea’s 3 major business groups bid for Daewoo Shipbuilding

SEOUL, 14 Oct—POSCO, Hanwha Group and Hyundai Heavy Industries, South Korea’s three major business groups, submitted their final bids Monday to acquire a controlling stake in Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering Co, the state-run Korea Development Bank (KDB) said.

GS group, which had formed a consortium with POSCO, suddenly declared its withdrawal after the final submission citing the differences in opinion between the two companies (GS and POSCO).

KDB, which holds 31 percent stake in Daewoo Shipbuilding and manages the sale, said it will select a priority negotiator for Daewoo Shipbuilding as early as 25 Oct after reviewing the proposals.

KDB CEO Min Eou-sung said the ability to help Daewoo grow into a global player is one of the major factors to be considered.

He said that Daewoo was worth 8 to 9 trillion won (6.5 to 7.5 billion US dollars) including the management premium.

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Chinese shares up 1.21% in morning session

BEIJING, 14 Oct—Chinese shares ended 1.21 percent higher in the morning session on Tuesday following rises in overseas markets sparked by global efforts to stem the financial crisis.

The Shanghai Composite Index closed at 2,098.66 points, up 25.09 points or 1.21 percent from the previous close.

The smaller Shenzhen Component Index ended at 6,684.34 points, up 112.76 points or 1.72 percent.—Xinhua

Strong earthquake jolts eastern Greece

ATHENS, 14 Oct—A strong earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter Scale jolted northeastern Greece early Tuesday morning, with no immediate report of damage and injuries. The quake, recorded at 5:06 am local time, struck in the sea region of the coastal town of Mantoudi, Evia Island. Two smaller earthquakes took place a few minutes later. People in the capital city of Athens felt the strong shocks. Seismologists predicted many more aftershocks would follow.—Xinhua

Danger persists despite terrorists arrest in North Lebanon

BEIRUT, 14 Oct—Lebanese Interior Minister Ziad Baroud has said that the breakthrough in arresting members of an extremist “terrorist cell” in North Lebanon, responsible for three attacks on the Lebanese army, “does not mean the threats have been eliminated”, As-Safir daily reported Tuesday.

“The security agencies remain on alert,” Baroud said after the meeting of the military’s security council, which convened to evaluate and discuss steps to be followed in tracking down all the cell members.

According to the report, six suspects were arrested Sunday in a joint operation between the Lebanese Army and internal security forces (ISF) in the northern city of Tripoli. But the mastermind of the operations and a leading figure in the group Abdul-Ghani Jawhar was able to escape from his sister’s house in Tripoli when the Army troops were entering the street to arrest him.—Xinhua

China starts building railway linking SW inland to south port city

 Guilin, 14 Oct—China on Monday began construction on a major regional railway to connect the less-developed southwestern inland Guilzhou Province with the southern Guangdong Province, one of the country’s economic powerhouses.

The 857-km line starts from Guizhou’s provincial capital, Guiyang, running southwards through Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and ending in the port city Guangzhou, Guangdong’s capital.

The new line is designed to be a double-track electrified railway and will allow trains to travel at 200 km an hour.

With an estimated cost of $8.5 billion yuan ($1.26 billion US dollars), the Guiyang-Guangzhou line is scheduled to be completed and operational in six years.

The line is expected to have a daily capacity of 100 passenger trains and an annual capacity for goods transportation of 35 million tons.
Israel seals off West Bank for holiday

JERUSALEM, 14 Oct—Israeli security forces on Monday sealed off the West Bank for the upcoming Sukkot festival, Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said in a statement.

The IDF said it regards the week-long holiday, which is also known as the festival of Tabernacles and starts Monday evening, as a highly sensitive time, during which it will be "on higher alert."

Till midnight 21 Oct, the West Bank will be closed, and "the passage of those in need of humanitarian and medical aid, as well as other specific requests" will be allowed with special permits, said the Army. The Jewish state routinely imposes a general closure upon the Palestinian territory during holidays and festivals, including Rosh Hashana, or the Jewish New Year's Day, two weeks ago and Yom Kippur, or the Day of Atonement, last week.

Sukkot is a festival that commemorates the 40 years Jews spent in the desert living in temporary huts in biblical times. Many Israelis build sukkahs, or huts, to live in to mark the holiday.

23 killed in bus crash in NE India

GAUHATI, 14 Oct—Police say an overcrowded, speeding bus has crashed into a stationary truck in northeastern India, killing 23 people and wounding 44 others. The bus was carrying labourers to work before dawn Tuesday in the Dhubri district of India's Assam state, some 185 miles west of the state capital, Gauhati.

Dhubri police chief Parthasarathi Mahanta says the bus was carrying 67 passengers when it hit the truck, which was hauling potatoes. Internet

Israelis warning against parade

JERUSALEM, 14 Oct—Israelis in the occupied West Bank were told not to participate in an upcoming land swap between Palestinians and Israeli settlers.

The Israeli army said people participating in "the illegal transfer of territory will be arrested immediately."

The army said it had received a letter from the Israeli Health Ministry warning against participating in the parade.

The parade was scheduled to take place on Oct. 15, the 20th anniversary of the 1993 land swap agreement between Israel and the PLO.

The Israeli government later reversed its decision to hold the parade.

Two US tourists killed in parachute accident in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 14 Oct—Two US female tourists were killed and another sustained a grave injury in a parachute accident on a beach in the Mexican Caribbean region, Mexican authorities said Monday.

According to a statement issued by the General Prosecutors Office of Justice (PJG) in the state of Quintana Roo, the accident occurred Sunday when the ropes used to lift the parachute on the boat broke in the area of Mayan Rivera.

The bodies were found on the beach of Akumal and another tourist was rescued in the sea before being sent to a hospital.

The victims were identified as Lisa Smith and Margaret Jake Beamans and the survivor was Soly Vingh.

They were aged between 35 and 40 and resided at the Pladium Kantina hotel.

Investigation revealed that the hotel staff ordered the parachute services for the tourists.

Internet

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Internet
More members from State/Division teams arrive

**YANGON, 14 Oct—** More managers and contestants from State/Division teams to the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performance Arts Competitions to be held in Nay Pyi Taw for the third time, arrived here by train today.

Judges, contestants and members from Kayah State led by U Sein Daing arrived at 6 am; from Kayin State led by U Saw Htar Lwin, at 8.30 am; from Sagaing Division led by U Tin Than Win at 8.40 am; and from Mandalay Division led by U Ye Aung Myint at 3.30 pm.

They were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw station by Police Lt-Cr Col Htun Ohn, Chairman of the Organizing, Reception and Accommodation Subcommittee and members, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township Peace and Development Council U Win Hlay and members, members of social organization and were accommodated at the guesthouse.

**Momauk gets digital auto exchange**

**YANGON, 14 Oct—** Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw visits the digital auto exchange of Momauk and looked into machines installed in the station.

At the office of Momauk Township Peace and Development Council, the minister met with townsenders and departmental personnel and gave necessary instructions.—MNA

**Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw visits the digital auto exchange of Momauk. —MNA**

**Programming Course (Java) to be opened**

**YANGON, 14 Oct—** With the sponsorship of British Software Engineer, the Yoma Technologies will conduct Programming Course (Java) and Java Professional Developer Course (Project) on 24 November.

Programming Course (Java) includes Computer Programming concepts, Introduction to Programming using Java, programming logic & control structures, Recursion and Algorithms and introduction to Object Oriented Programming (OOP).

Java Programmer Course covers Object Oriented Design and UML, core Java/2SE collections, IO, inner class, generics, etc, Java swing API for GUI, Exceptions and Exception Handling techniques, Introduction to Relational Databases and SQL and Java Databases Connectivity (JDBC).

Java Professional Developer Course (Project) includes Software Development Lifecycle, Object Oriented System Analysis and Design, Software Architectures, Component Based Development, Software Engineering Best Practices and a practical software development project to apply all of the above.

Those wishing to attend the courses are to contact Yoma Technologies, Myanmar Info-Tech, Hline University Campus, Yangon (Tel 652264 Ext-15 or 703230) or Web: www.yomatronics.com/training for further information.—MNA

**Talks on “The Best Brands in Myanmar” on 18 Oct**

**YANGON, 14 Oct—** Under the arrangements of Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Myanmar Prawn Entrepreneurs’ Association and with the sponsorship of Yangon Directory, U Moe Kyaw (MMRD) will give talks on “The Best Brands in Myanmar” at Thiri Annawa hall of MFF on 18 October. Those interested may attend the talks.

**New Crew, Space Tourist Arrive at Space Station**

**MONSOK, 14 Oct—** A Russian Soyuz spacecraft carrying American space tourist Richard Garriott and new crew for the International Space Station docked at orbiting laboratory early Tuesday, where three astronauts were eagerly awaiting their arrival inside.

The Soyuz TMA-13 spacecraft docked flawlessly at an Earth-facing port on the station’s Russian-built Zarya control module at 4:26 a.m. EDT (0826 GMT)—a few minutes earlier than planned—as both spacecraft flew high above Kazakhstan, where the Soyuz launched spacecraftward on Sunday.

“We have capture!” said Expedition 18 flight engineer Yury Lonchakov, who commanded the Soyuz docking under the call sign “Titan” and launched alongside Garriott and new station commander Michael Fincke.

Garriott is paying $50 million for a 10-day trek to the space station under a deal between Russia’s Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos) and the Vienna, Va.-based firm Space Adventures.
Holiday-makers enjoy Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw)

A clever dog jumping over hurdles at animal show—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Oct — The 612-acre Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw) lies near Yezin dam beside Yangon-Mandalay Highway. It is an open zoo formed with mountains and landscapes. Today, Abhidhamma Day, a public holiday, holiday-makers in group or in family fed the animals at the zoo and took a rest there. The visitors watched animal shows of wonderful zoo happily. At night, the zoo was illuminated with colourful lights.

Elephants entertaining the public at Nay Pyi Taw Zoo—MNA

was opened on 1 April 2008. Unlike Yangon Zoological Gardens and Yadana Kone Zoological Gardens (Mandalay), it

Girls dancing with snakes—MNA

Holiday-makers enjoying performances of clever animals—MNA

Anagarika Upasaka U Sein Tin to be honoured

YANGON, 14 Oct — A ceremony to mark the 52nd anniversary of conducting Buddhavamsa exhibitions staged in townships at home and abroad by Sanantana Dhamma Palaka Association will be held along with the honouring of Anagarika Upasaka U Sein Tin, who has played a leading role in the process, at Maha Santi Sukha Monastery in Tamway Township, here, at 3 pm on 22 November 2008.

Those who share duties with him in the exhibitions and those who have contributed their services at the association throughout successive periods are invited to the ceremony.

For further details, contact U Kyi Min (Ph: 515251, 526276), U Kyaw Khin Myint (372467, 246077), U San Myint (565292), Dr Hla Tun (09-5014040, 251489), U Aung Win (385,127), U Deva Muni (09-5123579, 380178), U Soe Win (242751), Sandi Press, U Maung Thein (09-5040733), U RK Arandar (09-500453, 200090).

MNA

Inter-State and Division U-18 Track and field Tournament concludes

YANGON 14 Oct — Final matches and prize presenting ceremony of Fourth Inter-State and Division U-18 Track and field Tournament 2008 took place at the Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) here this morning.

After the events, General-Secretary of Central Working Committee of Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation Daw L Khun Yi presented the prizes to each winner of first-placed Bago Division in women’s 400m relay, second-placed Yangon Division and third-placed Magway Division.

Afterward, on behalf of the Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee the Minister for Sport, Secretary-General of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sport and Physical education Department U Theing Hlaik presented the Championship Shield (women) to Bago division and Championship Shield (Men) to Mandalay division.—MNA
Archaeological edifices in Bagan fascinating tourists

Article, photos by Po Thaw Zin

Myanmar captivates tourists not only from Asia but also from Europe and Latin America.

Myanmar is worldwide well-known for its tourist attractions including Bagan Archaeological Region, a large repository of artistic architectural works, cultural heritage, along with scenic natural beauties; the lifestyle of local people of Inlay region who row boat with legs and build floating houses in Inlay Lake, a lake in a hilly region; archaeological edifices; and hospitality of its people.

Bagan is a major tourist attraction and tourists should visit Bagan without fail during their stay in Myanmar. It was established more than 1000 years ago, so tourists can observe a variety of ancient artistic works and archaeological buildings alongside pagodas, temples and stupas of successive periods in a single place of Bagan.

In Bagan, tourists from a pagoda, can enjoy breathtaking scenery of glittering pagodas, stupas and temples, scenic natural works of traditional designs.

From the Aureum Palace Hotel Resort, a visitor can enjoy a panoramic view of natural beauties, pagodas and green and lush mountain ranges on the banks of the Ayeyawady River in the background. Moreover, tourists can enjoy the beauty of the sunset from Mt. Tant-kyei. In the compound of the resort is an island-like bungalow in the lake.

The Nan Myint Tower enhances the reputation of the resort. Form the tower, visitors can enjoy scenic views of Bagan Archaeological Region and its surroundings. With the use of a pair of powerful binoculars, they also can enjoy the views of the four tooth relics pagodas: the Shweszigon, the Tant-kyei, the Turin Taung and the Lawka Nanda at the same time. The 198-foot-tall Nan Myint Tower was built on July 7, 2003 and the project was completed on April 8, 2005. It was inaugurated on April 10, the same year.

Myanmar draws the attention of tourists for its natural beauties and cultural heritage, which lure the tourists for the next visits. Visitors recognize the stability, peace and development of Myanmar. Therefore, all are duty-bound to improve the nation’s tourism industry to increase more arrivals of tourists.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin: 14-10-2008
Delta schools lively with activities

Maung Tin Hlaing (Hotel and Tourism)

Minister attends forest and environment affairs meetings in Vietnam

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 Oct.—A Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of National Commission for Environmental Affairs Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung arrived back here on 12 October after attending the fourth meeting of agreement on transnational haze among ASEAN nations, the 11th Informal Meeting of ASEAN Ministers of Environment Affairs, the 7th ASEAN+3 Meeting of Ministers of Environment Affairs and the 1st Meeting of East Asia Summit Ministers of Environment Affairs held in Hanoi, Vietnam on 8 and 9 October.

On 7 October morning, the minister and party visited wood-based furniture factory in Hanoi.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended the 11th Informal Meeting of ASEAN Ministers of Environment Affairs and discussed matters on reducing slash and burn practice and conservation of peat land areas.

In the afternoon, the minister attended the 11th ASEAN+3 Meeting of Ministers of Environment Affairs and discussed matters related to cooperation in forest and environmental affairs, especially in wood-based industries and exchange of technology in forest sector.

After that, the minister met with Vice-Chairman of Timber and Forest Products Association Dr Nguyen Ton Quen and party and discussed matters on forest development, flourishing of wood-based industries and marketing of timber with Myanmar.

On 8 October, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended the fourth meeting of agreement on transnational haze among ASEAN nations and discussed matters on reducing slash and burn practice and conservation of peat land areas.

At 8.30 pm on 8 October, the minister attended the 1st Meeting of East Asia Summit Ministers of Environment Affairs and made a speech on the occasion.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects a Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton field at Hnawbin Village in Apyauk village-tract in Thazi Township.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects a Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton field at Hnawbin Village in Apyauk village-tract in Thazi Township.

Ye Nwe generates 123 mln kwh...
More than 80% of urban Chinese minors are Internet users

BEIJING, 14 Oct—A sampling survey released on Tuesday revealed about 85.6 percent of Chinese minors between nine and 16 were Internet users.

Released by China Youth Social Service Centre (CYSSC), the survey found about 90 percent of minors living in cities had used the Internet, while the proportion in urban areas was 70 percent.

CYSSC, China Youth University for Political Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) jointly conducted the survey of 7,700 minors, as well as their parents and some teachers, in 10 major cities including Beijing, Shanghai and Chongqing from August to December 2007.

The survey was conducted amid reports that more and more Chinese minors were alleged Internet addicts which worried their parents and brought much problems to themselves.

According to the survey, 82.6 percent of minors had their own blogs and more than 80 percent had taken Internet courses. More than half enjoyed online chatting and 71.9 percent used the Internet as a method to acquire news.

About 58 percent regarded entertainment as the main purpose to use the Internet and only 6 percent specified using the Web for communication and making new friends.

In addition, the survey found the minors had different favourite places to use the Internet.

Roadside bombing kills nine, injures six civilians in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 14 Oct—A roadside bombing Tuesday morning hit one mini-bus in southern Afghan province of Uruzgan killing nine people and wounding six others, all civilians, said a provincial police official.

Juma Gul Humat, the provincial official, told Xinhua it happened at 9 am local time (0430 GMT) when a mini-bus carrying civilians from village to Dihrawud district was struck by roadside mines in the main road.

Nicaraguan police seize large amount of cocaine

MANAGUA, 14 Oct—Nicaraguan police seized 200,000 pills of cocaine and arrested four drug dealers in the capital city on Monday, police said.

The drug dealers hid the cocaine pills in the interlayers of two car’s gas tanks and tried to drive them north into Honduras.

Three of the drug dealers are Hondurans and the other one is a Nicaraguan.
Three dead, seven missing in S-W China coal mine accident

CHENGDU, 14 Oct—Rescuers recovered three bodies from Sunday’s coal mine explosion in southwestern China’s Sichuan Province, a provincial work safety bureau official said on Monday. Seven miners are still missing.

The accident happened at 12:50 pm at the Xingfu Coal Mine in Hongqiao Township, Yibin City, when 21 miners were working underground, the official said. Eleven miners escaped on their own. Rescue efforts to find the seven still missing, continue.

According to preliminary estimates, more than 230 tons of coal and 5,000 cubic metres of gas erupted in the explosion. No word yet on a cause...—MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam faces three major challenges to reduce poverty

HANOI, 14 Oct—Vietnam, who has made remarkable achievement in poverty reduction over the past decades, is facing three challenges to make further progress, the UNDP reported here on Monday. The report, from United Nations Development Programme in Vietnam, is presented to a Roundtable Meeting held by Vietnamese Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs on Monday, ahead of the International Day for the Poverty Eradication which falls on 17 October every year.

Firstly, extreme poverty remains heavily concentrated geographically and among ethnic minority groups in Vietnam, according to the report.

Secondly, widening economic and social disparities have started to hurt ordinary Vietnamese. According to preliminary estimates, more than 230 tons of coal and 5,000 cubic metres of gas erupted in the explosion. No word yet on a cause...—MNA/Xinhua

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According to preliminary estimates, more than 230 tons of coal and 5,000 cubic metres of gas erupted in the explosion. No word yet on a cause...—MNA/Xinhua
Software thwarts mobile phone chatting while driving

SAN FRANCISCO, 14 Oct — A Canadian company has unveiled software crafted to prevent people, particularly mobile device-loving teenagers, from making telephone calls or text-messaging while driving.

Aegis Mobility describes DriveAssist as “advanced call management technology” that essentially creates virtual personal secretaries to intercept calls or text messages intended for mobile telephones in moving cars.

DriveAssist software detects when phones are moving at automobile speeds and then tells callers that the person they are trying to reach is driving. Callers are invited to leave messages or call-back numbers.

The service will also tell callers, presumably parents or employers, where the person they are trying to reach is located by using satellite navigation technology in devices or orienting based on cell signal towers being used.

People can bypass the service and be connected to drivers by indicating calls are emergencies.

DriveAssist is negotiating with telecom carriers to make the service available on a monthly subscription fee basis.— Internet

Scientists identify virus causing three deaths in South Africa, Zambia

GENEVA, 14 Oct — Preliminary tests by scientists showed that the virus causing three deaths recently in South Africa and Zambia belongs to the same family as Lassa fever, according to a report released by the World Health Organization (WHO) on Monday.

Scientists in South Africa and the United States are still going on with their research so as to learn more about the virus, WHO said.

Investigation began after an office employee of a safari tour company in Zambia died on Sept. 14 in a hospital in Johannesburg, South Africa, two days after being transferred from Zambia. Two medical workers who had cared for the patient also died in early October after showing similar symptoms including fever, headaches, diarrhea and muscular pain, WHO reported.

The UN agency said a fourth case has now been confirmed, with a nurse who had close contact with one of the earlier cases becoming ill and being admitted to hospital in South Africa.— Internet

An attendee views an organism through a microscope during the 13th International Biotechnology Symposium and Exhibition kicked off on Monday in Dalian, northeast China’s Liaoning Province, on 13 Oct, 2008.— Internet

Drinking alcohol associated with smaller brain volume

WASHINGTON, 14 Oct — The more alcohol an individual drinks, the smaller his or her total brain volume, according to a report in the October issue of US journal Archives of Neurology.

Brain volume decreases with age at an estimated rate of 1.9 percent per decade, accompanied by an increase in white matter lesions, according to background information in the article. Lower brain volumes and larger white matter lesions also occur with the progression of dementia and problems with thinking, learning and memory.

Moderate alcohol consumption has been associated with a lower risk of cardiovascular disease; because the brain receives blood from this system, researchers have hypothesized that small amounts of alcohol may also attenuate age-related declines in brain volume.

Researchers from Wellesley College, Mass., and colleagues studied 1,839 adults (average age 60). Between 1999 and 2001, participants underwent magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and a health examination. They reported the number of alcoholic drinks they consumed per week, along with their age, education and other factors.— Internet

Therapy helps hard-to-transplant get a new kidney

WASHINGTON, 14 Oct — Nearly one in three patients who need a kidney transplant may never get one because their bodies are abnormally primed to attack a donated organ.

Now doctors are trying new ways to outwit the immune system and save more of those so-called “highly sensitized” patients — often with kidneys donated by living donors, considered the optimal kind.

“I feel very lucky. Our son saved my life,” said Cynthia Preloeh of Arlington, Va, after an unusual combination of blood cleansing and a cancer drug allowed her to receive a kidney from her son that her body otherwise would have destroyed.

It’s promising work that comes as the nation’s kidney distribution system is beginning a major overhaul. Together, the two efforts aim to make a long-needed dent in the years of waiting it can take to get a kidney transplant.

That’s crucial, because “your chance of getting successfully transplanted decreases with time,” says Dr Keith Melancon of Georgetown University Hospital, Preloeh’s surgeon and a leader in the small but growing field of incompatible kidney transplants.— Internet

Vietnam reports dengue fever cases in central province

HANOI, 14 Oct — Vietnam’s central Nghe An Province has reported about 687 cases of dengue fever so far and local health officials are worried the disease will spread further, the Vietnam News reported on Tuesday.

Mosquitoes are the main cause of the disease, which is dangerous for babies and overweight children. It can lead to respiratory and digestive problems, the provincial health department said.

The local weather and living conditions have created favourable breeding environment for mosquitoes, according to the department.— Internet

Picture taken in 2007 shows a crane lifting a Hapag-Lloyd container out of the river Rhine after a container ship lost its freight. Germany’s TUI decided on Sunday to sell its container shipping line Hapag-Lloyd for 4.5 billion euro (6.0 billion dollars), allowing it to focus solely on tourism, according to a statement.— Internet

Tibetan wild asses (or kiang) live beside the Qinghai-Tibet railway in Hol Xil, northwest China’s Qinghai Province, on 11 Oct, 2008.— Internet

Qinghai-Tibet railway Province, on 11 Oct, 2008.— Internet
Ballack injury doubt for Germany ahead of Wales clash

BERLIN, 14 Oct — German captain Michael Ballack is an injury doubt for Wednesday night’s World Cup qualifier against Wales after damaging a calf muscle, it was announced on Monday.

Ballack scored Germany’s second goal in their 2-1 win over Russia on Saturday in Dortmund during their Group Four qualifier, but picked up the injury to his right calf late in the game.

He informed the German Football Federation (DFB) medical staff at noon on Monday and sat out training in Duesseldorf on Monday as a precautionary measure.

A decision on whether Ballack plays will be taken in the run-up to kick-off in Moenchengladbach, but Germany coach Joachim Loew expects his team to pick up three more points with or without their captain.—INTERNET

Man Utd’s Park boosts S Korea against UAE

SEOUL, 14 Oct — In-form Manchester United midfielder Park Ji-Sung will return to boost South Korea against UAE on Wednesday as they seek their first win of the last Asian round of 2010 World Cup qualifying.

Park and Borussia Dortmund defender Lee Young-Pyo, who were unavailable for the opening 1-1 draw with North Korea, are both recalled as South Korea look to kickstart their campaign here.

The pair, who have combined for 170 caps, will anchor the Korean squad, which needs to beat the winless UAE to bolster its hopes of reaching their seventh consecutive World Cup.

The Koreans, who reached the 2002 World Cup semis, beat Uzbekistan 3-0 in a friendly on Saturday in a rare goal spree in front of their home fans.

South Korean head coach Huh Jung-Moo said the victory was encouraging but admitted his squad still has some work to do.—INTERNET

Cautious tennis ace Federer makes no promises in Madrid return

ROZSCHILD, 14 Oct — Roger Federer was making no promises Monday as to how long his sudden return to tennis would last this season, saying he’s only looking as far ahead as this week’s Madrid Masters.

Less than a fortnight after withdrawing from Stockholm to rest, the world number two faces a first-round clash on Wednesday night in Spain against Czech Radek Stepanek as the Swiss tests the waters on his fitness.

“The season was long and I felt very tired, I needed some rest,” he said by way of explanation for his break after the Davis Cup in September.

“But I’m still not sure how much I need. I took the time off, trained again (in Dubai) and looked at how I felt.”

The 27-year-old with 13 grand slam titles evidently liked what he saw after the pause: “I’m feeling good enough now to win this event, so I came here and will play.—INTERNET

Romania revival will earn Domenech reprieve - media

PARIS, 14 Oct — Raymond Domenech, who is set to have talks with French football authorities over his future, will keep his post after France’s draw against Romania, according to sports daily L’Equipe on Monday.

The coach, under heavy pre-match scrutiny in light of France’s dismal showing at Euro 2008 and a poor start to World Cup qualifiers, looked all but out of a job after the first 20 minutes against Romania on Saturday.

Two early goals from Florentin Petre and Dorin Goian starting the match and one played no part in Saturday’s 5-1 hammering of Kazakhstan, with James Carleson, for the tricky trip to Minsk.

The Hammers number one played no part in Saturday’s 5-1 hammering of Kazakhstan, with James Carleson, for the tricky trip to Minsk.

England sit top of Group Six and are hoping to maintain a 100 percent winning streak against Belarus, after also beating Croatia and Andorra.—INTERNET

France national football team coach Raymond Domenech, seen here during a training session in Clairefontaine and who is set to have talks with French football authorities over his future, will keep his post after France’s draw against Romania, according to sports daily L’Equipe on Monday.—INTERNET

West Ham keeper Green pulls out of England squad

LONDON, 14 Oct — West Ham United stopper Robert Green on Monday pulled out of England’s squad for Wednesday’s World Cup qualifier against Belarus.

Green’s withdrawal means that England will have only two keepers, David James of Portsmouth and West Brom’s Scott Carson, for the tricky trip to Minsk.

The Hammers number one played no part in Saturday’s 5-1 hammering of Kazakhstan, with James starting the match and Carson named as the substitute goalkeeper.

England sit top of Group Six and are hoping to maintain a 100 percent winning streak against Belarus, after also beating Croatia and Andorra.—INTERNET

Hantuchova and Mauresmo clash out of Zurich Open tennis

ZURICH, 14 Oct — Russia’s Maria Kirilenko upset eighth-seeded Slovak Daniela Hantuchova 7-5, 6-2 on the opening day of the Zurich Open here Monday, as former world number one Amelie Mauresmo crashed out.

There was little to separate Kirilenko and Hantuchova in the first set of a match that rarely rose above the ordinary, as many of the games were closely fought and play went to deuce 16 times.

After breaks in the first two games, Hantuchova fought off five more break points until, with the Slovak leading 5-4, both players called for a medical time-out.

When play resumed, Kirilenko claimed the next five games to take the opening set and lead 2-0 in the second. Hantuchova then broke to level at 2-2, but the more aggressive Kirilenko swept the final four games to clinch her one hour 50-minute victory.—INTERNET

Injured Viduka keen for Australia return

BRISBANE, 14 Oct — Injury-hit Newcastle United striker Mark Viduka says he still wants to help Australia reach the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, reports said here Tuesday.

The 33-year-old target man, who is here for treatment on his troublesome Achilles tendon injury, has not played club football this season and last appeared for Australia at the 2007 Asian Cup.

“Of course I want to play for Australia again— it’s something that’s never out of my mind,” Viduka told the Daily Telegraph.

“But it’s a step-by-step process and the first stage is to get back playing for my club again. I don’t want to rush anything.—INTERNET
China, Russia to boost trade investment

Moscow, 14 Oct—China and Russia will further promote trade and economic cooperation while bilateral trade volume is expected to exceed 50 billion US dollars this year, senior officials of the two countries said here Tuesday.

China and Russia will carry out a series of big projects in fields such as civil aviation, space exploration, energy machinery, said a statement issued after talks between visiting Chinese Minister of Commerce Chen Deming and his Russian counterpart Elvira Neboutchina.

The two countries will also expand trade in machinery and electronic products sectors, encourage two-way investment, push forward regional cooperation, speed up cooperation in infrastructure construction, timber and resources processing industries as well as in logistics.

The top trade officials also pledged to enhance coordination in solving problems raised in market access and trade, and create a sound climate for increasing two-way investment, said the statement.

China proposed the two sides to strengthen cooperation in regard to customs in a bid to facilitate trade, which Russia welcomed.

According to Chen, closer cooperation between China and Russia bears even more extraordinary significance at the moment when the world’s financial markets are troubled by the credit crunch.

Two trams crash in Milan


A so-called “jumbo” tram went the wrong way, apparently because of an error, and crashed head-on into a smaller, older tram, according to Italian television reports.

Both vehicles were severely damaged in the accident but none of the injured—the two drivers and 23 passengers— was seriously hurt.

Cargo flow to Gaza reduced in 4th month of ceasefire

Gaza, 14 Oct—Israel decreased flow of cargo into the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip this month after a relative improvement shows since an Egyptian-brokered ceasefire took effect in Gaza in June, according to the Palestinian Trade Centre (PalTrade) on Tuesday.

The amounts of goods allowed into Gaza have shrunk due to the frequent closure of the crossings since the beginning of October, PalTrade said in a report.

WEATHER

Tuesday, 14 October, 2008
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin State, fairly widespread in Yangon Division, scattered in Shan State and Mandalay Division, isolated in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Bago, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Taunggyi (2.2) inches, Ye (1.49) inches, Kengtung (0.95) inch and Pyinma (0.82) inch.

Maximum temperature on 14-10-2008 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 14-10-2008 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 14-10-2008 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 13-10-2008 was (7.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 14-10-2008 was (0.52) inch at Mingaladon, (0.47) inch at Kabar-Aye and Nil at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-10-2008 was (108.07) inches at Mingaladon, (111.93) inches at Kabar-Aye and (130.43) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kabar-Aye) was (4) mph from West at (15:30) hours MST on 13-10-2008.

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

Special feature: According to the observation at (09:30) hr MST today, tropical depression over South China Sea is centred at about 200 miles North wards of Danang (Vietnam). It is forecast to move Northwest direction.

Forecast valid until evening of 15th October 2008: Rain or thunder showers likely to be scattered in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Mon States, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and isolated in Rakhine and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 15-10-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-10-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-10-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (40%).
Ye Nwe generates 123 mln kwh per year

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 Oct—Minister for Electric Power No. (1) Col Zaw Min inspected inflow of water to Ye Nwe dam at the main embankment of Ye Nwe hydro power station, about 2.5 miles west of Myochaung village in Kyaukdaga Township this morning. The minister gave instructions on maintenance of sluice gate.

The minister inspected running of No. 1 and No. 2 machines,  
(See page 10)

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

Minister for Electric Power No. (1) Col Zaw Min at Ye Nwe hydro power station, about 2.5 miles west of Myochaung village in Kyaukdaga Township.—MNA

Delta schools lively with activities
Maung Tin Hlaing (Hotel and Tourism)

Human resource development lies in the centre of equitable development of all sectors essential for national development. It is very heartening to note that today plans are well under way in various fields for raising the education standard of the nation.

The recent storm hit hard seven townships in Ayeyawady Division; Ngapadaw, Mawlamyinegyun, Labutta, Pyapon, Kyaiktat, Dedaye and Bogale, levelling a large number of school buildings.

Reconstruction work is ongoing in the division to better the living conditions of local people before the storm occurrence, and the plan has begun to yield fruitful results in a short time. The plan focuses on expediting the regeneration of the ravaged areas, rehabilitating the school activities, and elevating the social and economic standards of local.

(See page 10)

10th MGC Junior Golf Open Championships 2008 on 30, 31 Oct

Yangon, 14 Oct—The 10th MGC Junior Golf Open Championships 2008, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, will be held at Myanmar Golf Club (9th mile) on Pyay Rood here on 30 and 31 October.

The contests are categorized into (10-12) aged class, (13-15) aged class, (16-20) aged class and (10-18) aged class in women’ contest.

Prizes will be sponsored by Myanmar Golf Association, companies, associations and donors.

Those wishing to participate in the contests are to register at MGC (9th Mile) no later than 28 October.

Registration needs to be done in advance. For more information, contact MGC Ph-661702 and 665531.—MNA

In the meanwhile, Fabregas has blossomed into a fine central-midfielder playing for Inter Milan, is convinced that England star Gerrard is the best player in world football despite the 28-year-old’s growing concerns over his international performances.

“The best midfielder I would say is Steven Gerrard. I really rate him as a player and as a man. I think he is still one of the best,” Vieira told skysports.com.

Vieira claims Fabregas can challenge ‘World’s Best’ Gerrard

Liverpool 14 Oct—Former Arsenal captain Patrick Vieira has rated Liverpool midfielder Steven Gerrard as the world’s best and Gunners’ Cesc Fabregas as the Reds’ captain’s challenger.

France international midfielder Vieira, who plays for Inter Milan, is convinced that England star Gerrard is the best player in world football despite the 28-year-old’s growing concerns over his international performances.

“The best midfielder I would say is Steven Gerrard. I really rate him as a player and as a man. I think he is still one of the best,” Vieira told skysports.com.

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