

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov — On the occasion of the National Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which falls on 1 November 2008, 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 Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov — General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Ouyahia, Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, on the occasion of the National Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which falls on 1 November 2008. — MNA

Prizes presented to winners in 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct — Patron for Organizing the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivered an address and presented prizes to the winners in the competitions at the City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw on 29 October morning.



Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing presents first prize to Ma Khine Zar Win of Yangon Division in amateur level (first class) women's orchestra (troupe) contest. — MNA



Maj-Gen Ohn Myint presents first prize to Maung Zaw Win Naing of Bago Division in basic education level (aged 10-15) boys' orchestra (troupe) contest. — MNA

The Secretary-1 presented prizes to the winners in the Maha Buddhavamsa marionette contest, the Lunge Ahman Moeyan Hsithoh drama contest and the Bhuridat Drama.

Next, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Electric Power No. 2 (See page 7)

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Kuwait billionaire to table £300 million Newcastle bid?

NEWCASTLE, 31 Oct — A Kuwaiti billionaire is ready to offer Newcastle United owner Mike Ashley a way out of his nightmare at the North East club, with a reported £300 million offer for the Magpies, according to The Sun.

Despite the deadline for bids for the troubled Premier League club expiring a week ago on the 17th it is claimed that Kuwait businessman Nasser Al-Kharafi is in discussions with Ashley about a proposed takeover at the Toon and is ready to table a bid for Newcastle. — Internet



PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 1 November, 2008

Equip more nationalities youths with technical and vocational skills

The government has launched the project for development of border areas and national races since 1989. In that regard, it is fulfilling a series of infrastructures in communications, education, health and economic sectors, while striving for development of human resources.

The Nationalities Youths Resources Development Degree College (Yangon) and the Nationalities Youths Resources Development Degree College (Manadalay) have been opened since 2000 for the emergence of intellectuals and technocrats out of nationalities youths. At present, nationalities youths holding arts and science degrees and those holding Diplomas in Engineering are discharging duties in the respective states and divisions.

In the meantime, the nationalities youths technical training schools were opened for the emergence of those who are equipped with technical skills as well as skilled workers in border area development projects.

The Nationalities Youths Technical Training Schools in which carpenter, mason, mechanics and welding are taught were opened in Sittway, Laukkai, Panghsan and Mongla.

Likewise, altogether 34 women's vocational training schools were opened for the development of border areas and national races. Basic domestic science training course, advanced tailoring training course, vocational training course (cane) and vocational training course (bamboo) are being conducted at those training schools.

We firmly believe that with the opening of more technical training schools and women's vocational training schools, the nationalities youths in border areas will be more equipped with vocational and technical skills all the more.

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Vinaya oral examinations 14 Nov

YANGON, 31 Oct—The 138th five-township Vinaya (codes of conduct for Buddhist monks) oral examinations of Bago Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Sarthintaik established by Bago Tawya Sayadaw U Sila will be held on 14 November.

The examinations will last till 17 November.

MNA

Foreign Minister felicitates Algerian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Mourad Medelci, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, on the occasion of the National Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which falls on 1 November, 2008. — MNA

Construction of Pyawbwe-Phaya Ngasu railroad section overviewed

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct — Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min together with Deputy Minister U Pe Than on 25 October arrived at the briefing hall of Pyawbwe-Phaya Ngasu railroad construction project in Lintzingon village of Pyawbwe Township.

Project Engineer U Lwan Thu and Project Director U Kyaw Wai reported on progress of construction of Pyawbwe-Phaya Ngasu railroad section to the minister and the deputy minister made a supplementary report. The minister gave instructions on timely completion of work.

Next, the minister and party went to Phaya Ngasu



Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min inspects extended building of Phaya Ngasu station yard. — RAILWAY

station and inspected passenger lounge and expansion of station yard.

At Aungban station, the minister gave instructions on matters relating to running of

passenger trains and looked into the station yard.

MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for India to attend ASEAN traditional medicine conference

YANGON, 30 Oct — Vice-President of the Myanmar Medical Association Prof Dr S Kyaw Hla and Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Pharmaceuticals and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs' Association U Thant Zin left here by air today to attend the Conference on Corporation in Traditional Medicine with ASEAN Countries to be held in New Delhi, the Republic of India, from 31 October to 1 November.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by MPMEEA Chairman Dr Win Sithu,

Joint Secretary Dr Thin Nwe Win and CEC members.

MNA

Kayan to honour old teachers

YANGON, 31 Oct — A ceremony to honour retired teachers of No.1 and No.2 Basic Education High Schools, Kayan, will be held in Kayan on 28 December.

Those wishing to donate cash and kind to the ceremony may contact

U Saw Win Ph 0986 45331; U Naing Lin Ph 0986 45636; U Aung Kyaw Swe Ph 0986 45707; U Aye Ko Ph 056 30145; U Maung Shwe Ph 095007162; U Thaung Tin Ph 0986 45216 and U Win Zaw Moe Ph 0986 01252.

MNA



MMA Vice-President Prof Dr S Kyaw Hla and MPMEEA Vice-Chairman U Thant Zin seen before departure for India at Yangon International Airport. — NLM

Police detain suspects after India blasts

GUWAHATI, 31 Oct—Police on Friday were interrogating about a dozen people over suspected links to serial bombings that killed at least 71 people in India's insurgency-hit state of Assam.

A total of 12 explosions within an hour shook the northeastern state on Thursday, six of them ripping through the main city of Guwahati.

No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks, which state officials said may have been the work of the rebel United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA), which has been fighting for an independent homeland since 1979. Police were also investigating whether Islamist fundamentalist groups active in Assam — such as the Bangladesh-based Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami — could have been to blame.

Soon after the blasts, Assam government spokesman Himanta Biswa Sarma said “the needle of suspicion” pointed to the ULFA. However, the group denied it was involved.

A senior official said Friday detectives were making headway in their investigation.—*Internet*



Police on Friday were interrogating about a dozen people over suspected links to serial bombings that killed at least 71 people in India's insurgency-hit state of Assam.—INTERNET

Pakistan, Afghanistan reaffirm commitment to regional peace

ANKARA, 31 Oct—Pakistan and Afghanistan on Thursday reaffirmed commitment to peace, security and stability in their region, said a joint declaration released at the end of a trilateral summit with Turkey on Thursday.

Pakistani Prime Minister Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani, Afghan President Hamid Karzai and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan met Thursday in the largest Turkish city of Istanbul on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum's “Europe and Central Asia” meeting. The declaration said that Karzai and Gillani also agreed to maintain dialogue and boost their cooperation.—*Internet*

Car bomb injures 21 in Spanish University



A column of smoke rises above the University of Navarre building following a car bomb blast in Pamplona, on 30 Oct, 2008. —XINHUA

MADRID, 31 Oct — A car bomb exploded Thursday in the parking lot of the University of Navarre in northern Spain, injuring 21 and setting many vehicles ablaze.

Spanish officials blamed the Basque separatist organization ETA for the attack.

Spanish Interior Minister Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba said a telephone call in the name of ETA an hour before the blast had warned of a car bomb left in the university, but “the one who put the bomb did not warn correctly or wanted to mislead,” making it impossible to deactivate the device.—*Xinhua*



Indian forensic officials collect evidence from wreckage at Pan Bazaar, one of the blast sites in Guwahati. Police on Friday were interrogating about a dozen people over suspected links to serial bombings that killed at least 71 people in India's insurgency-hit state of Assam.—INTERNET

Iraq gov't wants all US troops gone by end of 2011

BAGHDAD, 31 Oct—Iraq wants to eliminate any chance US forces will stay here after 2011 under a proposed security pact and to expand Iraqi legal jurisdiction over US troops until then, a close ally of the prime minister said Thursday.

Those demands, which were presented to US officials this week, could derail the deal—delivering a diplomatic blow to Washington in the final weeks of the Bush administration. Failure to reach an agreement before year's end could force a suspension of American military operations, and US commanders have been warning Iraqi officials that could endanger security improvements.—*Internet*

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,189

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct—As of Thursday, 30 Oct, 2008, at least 4,189 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,388 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

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

Ecuador says CIA infiltrated its military

QUITO, 31 Oct—Ecuador charged on Thursday the CIA infiltrated its military and knew of a Colombian military raid against rebels in Ecuadorean territory — accusations that could fray ties with Washington.

A US embassy spokeswoman in Quito declined to comment on the charges. Defence Minister Javier Ponce said the CIA knew of the Colombian attack before the Ecuadorean government from agents inside its military.

“The CIA had full knowledge of what was happening in Angostura,” Ponce told reporters, referring to the border hamlet where Colombia troops killed a top leftist rebel leader in March.—*Internet*

Gunmen kill S African peacekeeper in Sudan's Darfur

KHARTOUM, 31 Oct—Gunmen have killed a South African peacekeeper and wounded another in Sudan's western Darfur region, the United Nations/African Union force (UNAMID) said on Thursday.

The killing brings to 11 the number of peacekeepers who have been killed in action since the beginning of this year when the joint mission took over from the African Union force.

Violence against the under-staffed force has surged in the last three months, during which 10 peacekeepers were killed, underlying the difficulty of securing the vast region.—*Internet*

Mexico border violence leaves 13 dead

CICUDAD JUAREZ, 31 Oct—Suspected drug-related violence left 13 dead, including two women, in separate incidents in Mexico's violent northern Chihuahua state, local authorities said. Heavily-armed men attacked a man and a woman as they got out of a car in the border city of Ciudad Juarez, forcing them up against a wall and shooting them at least 15 times, including a coup de grace typically used by drug gangs, local police said. In a separate incident, police found a young woman's body, also in the city across from El Paso, Texas, in which more than 1,000 have been killed so far this year.—*Internet*



A sign reading “We come to help you”, in allusion to the Mexican Army reinforcement operation, hangs in Ciudad Juarez, state of Chihuahua, north Mexico. INTERNET

An Iraqi policeman walks in front of a damaged car from a roadside bomb in Palestine Street east-ern Baghdad, Iraq, on 30 Oct, 2008. INTERNET



Venezuela condemns US air attack on Syria

CARACAS, 31 Oct — Venezuela on Thursday strongly condemned a US air attack against the Syrian border region of al-Bukamal on 26 Oct.

In a statement, the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry urged the interna-

tional community to “strongly reject those actions that violate law and demand an immediate stop of operations which are a mock of the peaceful coexistence principles.”

The statement also re-

affirmed the Venezuelan stance to “support the initiatives of the Syrian government and its President Bashar al-Assad to seek justice within the framework of international law due to this barbaric act of the US government.”

US helicopters reportedly launched an attack on a building in Al-Sukkariah village in Abu Kamal town near the Syrian border with Iraq on 26 Oct, killing eight civilians. —Xinhua



File photo shows an Israeli army vehicle driving near the cement fence separating Israel and the Gaza Strip. Militants in the Gaza Strip on Friday fired two anti-tank rockets at an Israeli army patrol along Gaza’s security fence, causing no damage, the army said, but again shaking a fragile truce.—INTERNET

Three dead, 26 still missing in China colliery gas blast

CHENGCHENG, 31 Oct — Three are confirmed dead and 26 others remain missing 36 hours after a colliery gas explosion in northwest China’s Shaanxi Province, rescue officials said on Friday.

As of 9 am on Friday, rescuers had retrieved three bodies and were continuing to search for the other trapped miners.

Xinhua



Children present fashion creations during an environment-friendly fashion show in Wuhu, east China’s Anhui Province, on 30 Oct, 2008. Fashion creations made of newspapers, packaging bags, plastic bottles and leaves designed by 280 students were displayed here on 30 Oct. —XINHUA



Dai ethnic girls and tourists play during a water-splashing festival in Dai Autonomous Prefecture of Xishuangbanna, southwest China’s Yunnan Province on 30 Oct, 2008.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency



Diplomats of Chinese Embassy to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) and local farmers work together at a farm in DPRK on 30 Oct, 2008. About 20 diplomats and personnel of Chinese Embassy participated in harvest work with local farmers at a farm in DPRK on Thursday. —XINHUA

Indonesia operates first power plant fuelled by palm oil

JAKARTA, 31 Oct — Indonesian state-owned electricity company Perusahaan Listrik Negara (PLN) has started to operate a power plant fuelled by crude palm oil (CPO), the first one in the Asia Pacific Region, a newspaper said here Thursday.

The move follows a government regulation mandating the use of biofuel in all sectors. The firm director Murtaqi Syamsuddin quoted by the *Jakarta Post* as saying that the power plant had a capacity of 10 megawatts and was located in Dumai, Riau Province.

“This is a pilot project. The power plant has been operated, but is still at the commissioning stage,” Murtaqi said. The directors said that the power plant was initially fueled with diesel but was later converted to a crude palm oil (CPO)-fuelled power plant by installing converter equipment at the plant.

Xinhua

25 feared dead in landslide in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 31 Oct — At least 25 sand miners were feared dead in a landslide Thursday in Sulawesi Island, east of Indonesia, Health Ministry said Friday.

Head of crisis centre of the ministry Rustam Pakaya said the mishap occurred when the miners were collecting sand in a local sand mine.

“A huge amount of sand fell down and buried the 25 people yesterday afternoon,” he told *Xinhua*.

Rescue operation was underway as none of the bodies had yet found so far, said Pakaya.

Lack of safety regulations and measures has been blamed for the common mining accidents in Indonesia. —Xinhua

New York-based American Express to cut thousands of jobs

NEW YORK, 31 Oct — American Express announced Thursday that it will cut 7,000 jobs worldwide as part of a cost-cutting initiative.

The cuts represent about 10 percent of the company’s workforce, according to a report available on www.ny1.com.

American Express, sometimes known as “AmEx” or “Amex”, is a diversified global financial services company,

headquartered in New York City.

The company is best known for its credit card, charge card, and traveler’s cheque businesses.

It is not clear how many of those lost jobs are from the company’s New York headquarters, the report said.

The move is part of a plan announced in July by the credit card issuer to slash 1.8 billion dollars in

spending next year.

A hiring freeze will also be put in effect, no upper-level salary increases will be given, and the company will scale back technology and marketing investments, according to the report.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg has said that sales tax revenues in the city will slow as AmEx’s business slows.

Xinhua

China, Switzerland economic ties developing well

BERNE, 31 Oct—Economic and trade relations between China and Switzerland have maintained a good development trend, with bilateral trade volume expected to reach 10 billion US dollars this year, Chinese Ambassador to Switzerland Dong Jinyi said here Thursday. Briefing a visiting delegation of Chinese entrepreneurs, Dong said bilateral trade between the two countries had registered an annual increase of almost 40 percent, reaching 9.4 billion dollars in 2007, while the first nine months of this year saw a 25.6 percent increase year-on-year.

Switzerland is the largest investor in China among non-EU European countries, with 3 billion US dollars and 1,128 projects, said Dong.

He said China's economic development had expanded the potential for economic cooperation between the two nations, and more and more Chinese entrepreneurs are now seeking investment opportunities in Switzerland.

Internet



In this photo provided by Rome's Bioparco zoo, Mimi', left, and Carlo, two hippos in their thirties, approach carved pumpkins for Halloween, fed to them as a Halloween treat, on 30 Oct, 2008.—INTERNET

IMF says Turkish economy more resilient

ANKARA, 31 Oct—The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in a statement on Thursday Turkish economy was more resilient than that in the past.

But the statement also warned that it would unavoidably be affected by the retrenchment of inflows to emerging markets. An IMF staff team, led by Turkey Desk Chief Lorenzo Giorgianni, held talks with Turkish officials and private sector representatives over the past two weeks in the context of post-program monitoring following the completion of a stand-by deal, according to the IMF.

"Buffers in bank and public balance sheets, the flexible exchange rate and greater diversification of export markets have increased Turkey's ability to cope with shocks. However, its dependence on external financing exposes the economy to the effects of the global credit crunch," Giorgianni was quoted as saying by the semi-official Anatolia news agency.—*Internet*



Tourists trek on the Perito Moreno Glacier at the Los Glaciares National Park in the Patagonia region, Southern Argentina, on 30 Oct, 2008. The park was declared by the UNESCO as a Natural World Heritage Site.—INTERNET

OPEC likely to cut output again

CARACAS, 31 Oct—The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will consider a second output cut of one million barrels per day as of December, Venezuela's Energy and Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez said Thursday.

The world oil market is currently unstable and there has been a big decline in demand by around 900,000 barrels per day, Ramirez told state-owned TV, adding that the accumulated over-production must be reduced.

He said OPEC members are ready to

hold an emergency meeting at any moment if necessary.

OPEC Secretary-General Abdalla Salem El-Badri said Tuesday in London that the organization could hold a new emergency meeting before its next scheduled session in December if the price slide continued.

Meanwhile, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said during a recent visit to Ecuador that his country would support any additional OPEC production cut to stabilize crude oil prices.

Internet

New Zealand businesses fear worse times ahead

WELLINGTON, 31 Oct—Many New Zealand businesses are warning of their bleakest year in terms of plans to hire staff, Radio New Zealand reported Friday. The National Bank's business confidence figures for October have shown a plunge in confidence, with the largest one-month fall since the survey began in 1988.

The figures show pessimists outnumber optimists, with a net 42 percent of firms expecting economic conditions to deteriorate in the coming year.

Expectations businesses will hire more staff also fell to a historical low, with a net 21 percent expecting they'll have fewer staff in a year's time.

The National Bank's chief economist Cameron Bagrie said the results were a direct fallout from extraordinary activity in the global financial sector.

He said businesses might find it difficult to keep perspective until the financial turmoil has fully played out.—*Internet*

Russia's China-bound branch pipeline may start paving next year

MOSCOW, 31 Oct—The paving of a China-bound branch line of the Eastern Siberia-Pacific oil pipeline may start at the end of the first quarter next year, Nikolai Tokarev, president of Russia's state-run pipeline company Transneft said in a TV interview on Thursday.

The designing work of the pipeline has been completed after the coordination between Transneft and the China National Petroleum Corp, and the construction project has been presented to related department in Russia for appraisal, said Tokarev, adding that the result is expected soon. According to last year's cost evaluation, the budget of the project was about 600 million US dollars, he said.

The construction is expected to encounter a series of technical difficulties, including the paving of the pipeline going through the bottom of the Amur (Heilong Jiang) River, but the current technologies can ensure the smooth running of the project, he said.—*Internet*



Japanese actress Aya Ueto displays Japanese mobile operator Softbank's "Tiffany mobile phone", studded with 537-piece, a total of 18.34 carats diamonds, produced by US jeweller Tiffany and Japanese electronics giant Sharp as Softbank announced the new line up. Tiffany mobile phones will go on sale only ten pieces with a price of 12.98 million yen (130,000 USD).

INTERNET

Iraq to pump more oil next year

AMMAN, 31 Oct—Iraq plans to pump more oil next year, an Iraqi official said here Thursday in Jordan's capital of Amman.

Iraq is expected to increase its daily oil output by some 200,000 barrels next year as new oil wells will be put into operation, Iraqi Oil Minister Hussain al-Shahristani said. According to Shahristani, the daily oil output in 2008 stands at 2.3 to 2.4 million barrels. Meanwhile, Iraqi Finance Minister Bayan Jabor announced here that the country will trim down the 2009 budget spending from previous 80 billion US dollars to 67 billion dollars due to the slump of oil prices.—*Internet*

Programme for parents improves kids' lifestyle

NEW YORK, 31 Oct—Educating parents on healthy lifestyle may help get their overweight children off the couch and moving more, a small study suggests.

In a pilot study testing a program called Families for Health, UK researchers found benefits for both children and their parents. The children, who were all overweight or obese at the study's start, became less sedentary and managed to lose some weight.

Their parents, meanwhile, reported improvements in their relationships with their children, and in their own mental well-being.

The success suggests that the programme should now be tested in a larger study, the researchers report in the journal Archives of Disease in Childhood.

The findings also highlight the importance of the parent-child relationship in combating childhood obesity, according to the researchers, led by Wendy Robertson of Warwick Medical School in Coventry.

Internet

Giant bat makes comeback in Tanzania

OSLO, 31 Oct—A giant bat with a wingspan up to 5.5 feet has made a comeback from the brink of extinction in Tanzania in a rare conservation success, an environmental group said on Friday.

Numbers of the Pemba flying fox, a type of fruit bat, have risen to 22,000 since it was rated critically endangered two decades ago when "only a scant few individual fruit bats could be observed," British-based Fauna and Flora International said. In a release coinciding with Halloween, it said that the bat's maximum wingspan was "greater than the height of the average British woman." A conservation drive helped the species recover, an exception to mounting losses of animals and plant species caused by destruction of habitats linked to rising human populations.—Internet



File photo of an iceberg in North Bay, Rothera Point, Adelaide Island, Antarctica. Antarctica, which seemed to have largely escaped the global warming affecting the rest of the planet, is melting too, according to a study.

INTERNET

Obama retains 7-point lead on McCain



US Democratic presidential nominee Senator Barack Obama is pictured alongside an image of a ghost as he tries to purchase a pumpkin for Halloween at the United Methodist Church Pumpkin Patch in Sarasota, Florida, on 30 Oct, 2008.

INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct—Democrat Barack Obama's lead over Republican rival John McCain held steady at 7 points as the race for the White House entered its final four days, according to a Reuters/C-SPAN/Zogby poll released on Friday.

Obama leads McCain by 50 percent to 43 percent among

likely voters in the three-day national tracking poll, virtually unchanged from Thursday. The telephone poll has a margin of error of 2.9 percentage points.

Mite-borne infectious disease confirmed in China

FUYANG, 31 Oct—Nearly 60 people in east China's Anhui Province have been confirmed as having tropical typhus, an infectious disease caused by mite larva bites, health authorities said on Friday.

A statement on the provincial health department website on Friday said 58 cases had been confirmed since 1 Oct, including 47 in Fuyang City, eight in Bengbu and three in Bozhou.

"All the patients received timely treatment and no deaths were reported. Some of them have recovered and been discharged from hospital," it said.—Internet

"Essentially there is no difference in today's tracking," pollster John Zogby said. "Obama is holding firm and McCain is not making any gains."

It was the second consecutive day Obama's support has hit the 50 percent mark, and the eighth day out of the last 11.

McCain's support has not surpassed 45 percent in more than three weeks of polling.

Internet

Air ticket for Russian cat costs three times more than human fare



One of Russia's leading air carriers recently sold a ticket to a cat for three times the price it charged its owners, the Zapolyarniy Vestnik paper reported on Wednesday.

The owners of Zhora the cat told the paper that they had bought tickets with the S7 airline from the city of Zheleznogorsk, where they had been visiting relatives, to

their hometown of Norilsk, in north Siberia.

"We told the sales assistant that we would be travelling with our cat," one of Zhora's owners, Svetlana Yefimova, told the paper, "and that she should indicate this on our ticket."

"Don't worry," she told us, 'you don't need anything except a certificate from the vet,'" Yefimova went on, adding that she had often taken her cat with her on plane journeys.

Svetlana and her husband, Alexander, duly purchased their special offer tickets home for 4915 rubles a head (\$183).

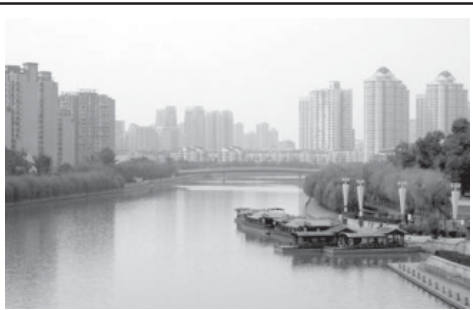
Billionaire Abramovich elected to head Chukotka legislature

Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich was approved unanimously on Wednesday to chair the legislature of Chukotka in Russia's Far East, the local government said on its website.

Abramovich, 42, who formerly served as the province's governor, was not present at the legislature's vote.

The Chelsea FC owner was elected a Chukotka Duma member on 12 October, when a by-election was held to replace the chairman of the assembly, Vasily Nazarenko, who stepped down due to health reasons.

Reelected lawmakers and former deputy governors, Andrei Gorodilov and Aramais Dallakyan, were elected deputy Duma chairmen. Valentina Rudchenko was reelected deputy Duma chairperson.



The photo taken shows the Qinghuai River in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province. The Habitat Scroll of Honour Special Citation was awarded to Nanjing, the UN-HABITAT announced in Nairobi, capital of Kenya.

Indonesian institute documents 746 languages

The Indonesian National Language Centre has since the 1970s researched and documented a total of 746 different languages across Indonesia, an official with the language department said.

The number represents 12 percent of the number of lan-

guages existing in the world, Antara news agency on Friday quoted Dendy Sugono, head of the center at the National Education Ministry, as saying.

NEWSALBUM



Wintuk preview : A performer flies through the air during a preview of Cirque du Soleil's Wintuk at Madison Square Garden in New York.



Peanut, a pet chihuahua, poses after winning the Dog Day Masquerade, an annual costume contest, in Times Square, New York.

Prizes presented to winners in 16th Myanmar Traditional ...

(from page 1)

Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population Brig-Gen Win Sein, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe and Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun awarded prizes to the winners in the harp, xylophone, piano, guitar and mandolin contests respectively.

Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut presented prizes to the winners in the donmin contests: U Kyaw Htay of Magway Division who stood first in the amateur level (first class) men's contest, U Maung Han of Ayeyawady Division, second and U Tint Khaing of Yangon Division, third; U Than Tun of Magway Division and U Maung Wan of Yangon Division, joint first in the amateur level (second class) men's contest, U Tin Maung of Bago Division, second and U Thaumg Myint Tun of Rakhine State, third; Maung Moe Wai of Ayeyawady Division, first in the higher education level men's contest, Maung Thura of Bago Division and Maung Hlaing One Two and Maung Zaw Myo Tun of Mandalay Division, joint third; Maung Aung Si Min Htet of Yangon Division, first in the basic education level (aged 15-20) boys' contest, Maung Thet Lwin Aung Tun of Ayeyawady Division, second and Maung Zeyar Soe Oo of Yangon Division, third; Maung Sithu Htet Aung of Yangon Division, first in the (aged 10-15) boys' contest, Maung Thant Zaw Aung of Bago Division and Maung Po Thingyan of Yangon Division, joint second, Maung Banyar Oo of Yangon Division, first in the (aged 5-10) boys' contest, Maung Wai Yan Phyo of Yangon Division, second and Maung Thar Htet San of Bago Division, third; Ma Lwin Lwin Cho Tun of Ayeyawady Division, first in the amateur level (first class) women's donmin contest, Daw Sein Sein Yin of Mandalay Division, second and Ma Yi Phone Swe of Yangon Division, third; Ma Khaing Thanda Soe of Bago Division, first in the amateur level (second class) women's contest, Ma Htet Lay Shwe Bo of Yangon

Division, second and Daw Nilar of Magway Division, third; Ma Sein Moe of Bago Division, first in the higher education level women's contest, Ma Su Pyae Phyo Mon of Yangon Division, second and Ma Zin Mar Wai of Mandalay Division, third; Ma Nang Kyar Nyo Kyawt of Yangon Division, first in the basic education level (aged 15-20) girls' contest, Ma Thin Thin Han of Bago Division, second and Ma Khin Myint Myat Maung of Yangon Division, third; Ma Su Myat Phyo of Yangon Division, first in the (aged 10-15) girls' contest, Ma Phyu Phway Thant of Mandalay Division, second and Ma Hsu Pyae Phyo of Bago Division, third; Ma Hnin Ei Khaing of Mandalay Division, first in the (aged 5-10) girls' contest, Ma Mie Mie Naing Soe of Yangon Division, second and Ma Khin Pyae Son Aung of Yangon Division, third.

Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Chairman of the Work Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint presented prizes to the winners in the Oboe and violin contests: U Hla Htay of Yangon Division, who stood first in the amateur level (first class) men's Oboe contest, U Tun Khaing of Magway Division, second and U Tin Pyae (a) Zeyar Pyae of Sagaing Division, third; U Myo Min Than of



Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence presents first prize to Maung Thaw Zin Phyo of Sagaing Division in basic education level (aged 15-20) boys' Ozi contest. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin presents first prize to Ma Naw Do Nay Htoo of Kayah State in basic education level (aged 15-20) girls' Violin contest. — MNA

Ayeyawady Division, first in the amateur level (second class) men's contest, U Min Swe of Magway Division and U Tun Tun Oo of Yangon Division, joint second and U Kyaw Khaing Bwa of Yangon Division, third; Maung Nyunt Aung of Yangon Division, first in the higher education level men's contest, Maung Soe Min Thu of Mandalay Division, second and Maung Phyo Ko Ko of Mandalay Division, third; Maung Kaung Myat Wai of Yangon Division, first in the basic education level (aged 15-20) boys' contest, Maung Thein Swe Myint (a) Soe Ko Ko of Sagaing Division, second and Maung Zin Waing of Mandalay Division, third; Maung Soe Thiha of Yangon Division, first in the (aged 10-15) boys' contest; Maung Nyein Win Moe of Yangon Division, second and Maung Nay Zaw Oo of Mandalay Division, third; Maung Chan Lwin Moe of Yangon Division, first in the (aged 5-10) boys' contest, Maung Yan Kyaw Myo of Mandalay Division, second and Maung Yazar Phyo of Mandalay Division, third; U Kyi Maung of Kachin State, first in the amateur level (first class) men's violin contest, U Hla Aung of Mandalay Division, second and U Khin Maung Yin of Rakhine State, third; Maung Saw Htoo Htoo Wai of Kayah State, first in the amateur level (second class) men's contest, U Yu Maung of Yangon Division, second and U Tun Lwin of Ayeyawady Division,

third; Maung Aung Naing Oo of Mandalay Division, first in the higher education level men's contest, Maung Soe Wai Lin of Yangon Division, second and Maung Kyein Lamon of Ayeyawady Division, third; Maung Than Htaik Aung of Yangon Division, first in the basic education level (aged 15-20) boys' contest, Maung Thet Lwin Aung Tun of Ayeyawady Division, second and Maung Nyi Nyi Lwin of Yangon Division, third; Maung Ga Yaung Yaw Ba of Kachin State, first in the (aged 10-15) boys' contest, Maung Min Thiha Aung of Yangon Division, second and Maung Min Aung Kyaw Thu of Mon State, third; and Maung Jaw Hsai Lat Aung of Kachin State, first in the (aged 5-10) boys' contest, Maung Zeya Aung of Yangon Division, second and Maung Pyae Phyo Zaw of Mandalay Division, third.

Chairman of the Leading Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level (first class) women's violin competition to Ma Aye Su Mon of Kachin State, Daw Lwin Cho Cho Tun of Ayeyawady Division and Ma Ei July Aye of Yangon Division; first, second and third prizes for higher education level women's violin competition to Ma Shwe Yin Nyein of Yangon Division, Ma Yadana Htay of Mandalay Division and Ma Han Su Lab of Yangon Division; first prizes for basic education level (aged 15-20) girls' violin competition to Ma Aye Lin Thu of Kachin State and Ma Naw Do Ne Htoo of Kayah State; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 10-15) girls' violin competition to Ma Zabei Phu of Yangon Division, Ma Grace Gyar Sai Gyar and Ma Pan Pan Shwe Soe of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 5-10) girls' violin competition to Ma Shwe Yi Yadana of Taninthayi Division, Ma Naw Mu Se Gin of Yangon Division and Ma Hnin-U Shwe Yi; first, second and third prizes for amateur level (first class) men's orchestra (individual) competition to U Ye Lin Bo of Yangon Division, U Kaung Thant of Mandalay Division and Myodaw Aye Min Aung of Yangon Division; first, second and third prizes for amateur level (second class) men's orchestra (individual) competition to U Aung Myint Bo of Yangon Division, Maung Kyaw Soe Han of Bago Division and Maung Bo Naing of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for higher education level men's orchestra (individual) competition to

(See page 8)



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint presents first prize to U Myo Min Than of Ayeyawady Division in amateur level (second class) men's Oboe contest. — MNA

Prizes presented to winners in 16th Myanmar Traditional ...

(from page 7)

Maung Nyi Nyi Lwin of Sagaing Division, Maung Lwin Ko Ko Oo of Ayeyawady Division and Maung Bo Hein of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 15-20) men's orchestra (individual) competition to Maung Zaw Min (a) Po La Pyae of Yangon Division, Maung Chit Phyo Hlyan of Mon State and Maung Bo Bo Kyaw of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 10-15) men's orchestra (individual) competition to Maung Wai Yan Maung Maung of Yangon Division, Maung Naing Zar Lin of Sagaing Division and Maung Zaw Win Naing of Bago Division; and first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 5-10) boys' orchestra (individual) competition to Maung Si Thu Tun (a) Si Thu Maung Tin of Sagaing Division, Maung Win Ko Ko Zin of Bago Division and Maung Soe Nyi Nyi of Ayeyawady Division.

Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level (first class) women's orchestra (individual) competition to Daw Khaing Zar Win of Yangon Division, Daw Khin Khin Myint of Rakhine State and Ma Hlaing Htar Htar Myint of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for amateur level (second



Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung of the Ministry of Defence presents first prize to Ma Yun Wadi Aung Kyaw Soe of Mandalay Division in (aged 5-10) girls' orchestra (individual) contest. — MNA

class) women's orchestra (individual) competition to Pauk Kyaw Ma of Yangon Division, Myanmarpyi Sein of Ayeyawady Division and Daw Nu Nu Lwin of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for higher education level women's orchestra (individual) competition to Ma Ei Ei Mon of Yangon Division, Ma Thi Thi Aung Min of Mandalay Division and Ma Ni Ni Win of Mandalay Division; first and second prizes for basic education level (aged 15-20) women's orchestra (individual) competition to Ma Wint Thinzar Sten of Yangon Division, Ma Zar Ni Nan Lwin of Yangon; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 10-15) women's orchestra (individual) competition to Ma Phyu Hnin Khaing (a) Myanmarpyi Bo Ma of Sagaing Division, Ma Aye Myat Noe Khin of Yangon Division and Ma Zin Mar Phyo of Bago Division; and first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 5-10) girls' orchestra (individual) competition to Ma Yun Wady Aung Kyaw Soe of Mandalay Division, Ma Htay Yu Aung (a) Shwe Yi



Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence presents first prize to Maung Win Htet of Sagaing Division in higher education level men's Dobat contest. — MNA

San Lwin of Sagaing Division and Ma Shwe Yi Soe Bo of Mandalay Division.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence presented first and second prizes for amateur level (first class) men's orchestra (group) competition to U Hein Yazar and party of Yangon Division to U Hsai Bo and party of Sagaing Division, and third prizes to Bo Bo Thein and party of Mandalay Division and Dagon Myat Zin Aung and party of Bago Division; first, second and third prizes for amateur level (second class) men's orchestra (group) competition to Maung Kyaw Zin Min (a) Yangon Duwun and party of Yangon Division, U Aung Myint Bo and party of Yangon Division and Padamya Kalar (a) Kyaw Kyaw Lin and party of Bago Division; first, second and third prizes for higher education level men's orchestra (group) competition to Maung Aung Bo Min and party of Mandalay Division, Maung Myo Zaw Hein (a) Myo Zaw Aung and party of Yangon Division and Maung Hlaing One Two and party of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 15-20) men's orchestra (group) competition to Maung Zaw Min (a) Po La Pyae and party of Yangon Division, Maung Bo Shine Kyaw and party of Yangon Division and Maung Bo Htoo and party of Mandalay Division; and first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 5-10) boys' orchestra (group) competition to Maung Aung Bo Htet and party of Mandalay Division, Maung Pyae Sone Aung and party of Yangon Division and Maung Hein Myitta and party of Yangon Division.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level (first class) women's orchestra (group) competition to Ma Khaing Zar Win and party of Yangon Division, Pauk Kyaw Ma and party of Yangon Division and Ma Shwe Sin Kalyar Htet Htet Kyaw and party of Mandalay Division; first, and second prizes for amateur level (second class) women's orchestra (group) competition to Ma Khin Thit Lwin and party of Mandalay Division and Ma Hla Hla Htay and party of Yangon Division; first, second and third prizes for higher education level women's orchestra (group) competition to Ma Aye Nandar Win and party of Yangon Division, Ma Khin Mar San and party of Ayeyawady Division and Ma Shwe Mi Mi Aung of Mon State; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 15-20) women's orchestra (group) competition to Ma Wint Thinzar Sten and party of Yangon Division, Ma Aye Myat Oo and party, and Ma Khin Khin Bo and party of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for basic educa-

tion level (aged 10-15) women's orchestra (group) competition to Ma Chit Su Wai Sten and party, Ma Phyu Phway Thant and party of Mandalay Division, and Ma Ei Thinzar Aung and party of Mandalay Division, and first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 5-10) girls' orchestra (group) competition to Ma Thet Htar Wai and party of Yangon Division, Ma Yun Wady Aung Kyaw Soe and party, and Ma Pa Pa Pyae Phyo and party of Yangon Division.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level (first class) men's Ozi competition to U Sein Kalar and party of Mandalay Division, U Kyaw Kyaw and party of Ayeyawady Division and U Kyaw Min and party of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for amateur level (second class) men's Ozi competition to Maung Ye Win Tun and party of Sagaing Division, Maung Pyae Phyo Maw and party of Mandalay Division and Maung Lin Htaik Aung and party of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes for higher education level men's Ozi competition to Maung Kaung Myat Kyaw and party of Mandalay Division, Maung Min Thein Kha and party of Sagaing Division and Maung Nyunt Aung and party of Yangon Division; and first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 15-20) men's Ozi competition to Maung Thaw Zin Phyo and party of Sagaing Division, Maung Sein Htwa and party of Mandalay Division and Maung Min Hein Htet and party of Mandalay Division.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level (first class) men's dobat competition to U Sein Kalar and party of Mandalay Division, U Kyaw Min and party of Mandalay Division and U Kyaw Kyaw and party of Ayeyawady Division; first, second and third prizes for amateur level (second class) men's dobat competition to U Aung Than Zaw and party of Sagaing Division, Maung Lin Htaik Aung and party of Mandalay Division and U Chit Kyaw Kyaw and party of Ayeyawady Division; first, second and third prizes for higher education level men's dobat competition to Maung Win Htet and party of Sagaing Division, Maung Myo Thu and party of Mandalay Division, Maung Wai Yan Cho and party of Yangon Division; and first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 15-20) men's dobat competition to Maung Sein Bo Htar and party of Mandalay Division, Maung Zaw Min (a) Po La Pyae and party of Yangon Division and Maung Thiha Zaw and party of Sagaing Division.

Ma Lwin Lwin Cho Tun of Ayeyawady Division, a gold medalist in the amateur level (first class) women's donmin competition, entertained the audience, playing a donmin.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut presents first prize to Ma Sein Moe of Bago Division in higher education level women's Donmin contest. — MNA

Coord meeting for Yadanabon Myothit project held

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct —A coordination meeting for construction of Yadanabon Myothit near PyinOoLwin in Mandalay Division was held at the meeting hall of Yadanabon Teleport here on 29 October.

Present at the meeting were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and departmental heads and entrepreneurs.

First, Commander Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe made a speech, and then the minister discussed measures taken for allocation of land to 35 local and foreign companies on Softbase Factory Area on 372 acres of plot and accomplishment for necessary infrastructures.

Next, the mayor explained completion of roads in Yadanabon Myothit project area, power and water supply tasks and future tasks.

Departmental officials and entrepreneurs reported on necessities and the commander and the minister fulfilled the requirements.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw addresses coordination meeting for construction of Yadanabon Myothit. — COMMUNICATIONS

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi makes a speech at opening of English Proficiency Course.

ENERGY



Staff of MOGE receives English proficiency skills

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct — Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise of Ministry of Energy opened a 10-week course on English proficiency at the ministry here on 29 October.

The course was opened with an address by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi. The opening

ceremony was also attended by Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, departmental officials and course instructors and trainees.

A total of 50 staff of MOGE are attending the course. The course is conducted with the aim of improving four skills of English of the trainees. — MNA

Training Course No. 4/2008 of Laukkai Nationalities Youth Technical Training School concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct —The Training Course No. 4/2008 of the Nationalities Youth Technical Training School in Laukkai of the Education and Training Department under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs concluded at the training school on 24 October.

Brig-Gen Win

Maung of Laukkai Station made a speech on the occasion while Director U Nan Aung of Education and Training Department clarified the salient points of the course.

Before inspecting the practices of trainees, Brig-Gen Win Maung presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates through a trainee.

The 20-week course was attended by 34 trainees.—MNA

Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt and party view loading of buffalos onto a ship for farmers of Bogale. —MNA

100 buffalos sent to Bogale

YANGON, 31 Oct —Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, accompanied by officials of FAO, on 28 October, observed loading of 100 buffalos onto a ship at the jetty of Bayintnaung Brokerage in Mayangon Township to distribute the animals to local farmers of storm-hit Bogale Township.

The local farmers will be provided with buffalos and feedstuff for one month. Veterinarians of township and district LVBDS will give health care for draught

cattle.

The LBVD and FAO jointly distributed 598 draught cattle to Kungyangon, Ngapudaw, Mawlamyinegyun and Pyapon townships in August for the first time, 706 draught cattle to Kungyangon, Dedaye, Pyapon and Bogale townships for the second time, totalling 1,304 together with 2,670 bags of feedstuff to the local farmers.

Plan is under way to supply packages of poultry to the households of farmers.—MNA



DON'T SMOKE

H&T Minister receives Laotian Dy Minister of Foreign Affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct—Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing received Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Bounkeuth Sansomsak and party together with Laotian Ambassador Mr Kouily A Souphaket at the ministry, here, yesterday morning. They discussed cooperation in promotion of tourism industry between the two countries in accord with the A y e y a w a d y - C h a o P h r a y a - M e k o n g Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS). MNA



Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu attends ESCAP/ASEAN Regional High-level Expert Group Meeting on Post-Nargis Recovery & Livelihood Opportunities in Myanmar. — FOREIGN AFFAIRS

TCG Chairman attends ESCAP/ASEAN Regional High-Level Expert Group Meeting

YANGON, 30 Oct — At the invitation of Dr Noeleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Myanmar Delegation led by Chairman of Tripartite Core Group Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu attended the ESCAP/ASEAN Regional High-Level Expert Group Meeting on Post-Nargis Recovery and Livelihood Opportunities in Myanmar, held in Bangkok from 27th to 28th October 2008. The deputy minister attended the opening ceremony of the meeting held at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC) on 27 October and delivered an opening speech. At the meeting, Myanmar delegation presented matters on resettlement plans of Myanmar and revitalizing livelihood opportunities in agriculture, fisheries, livestock, small business, trade and commerce and the role of microfinance perspectives from Myanmar. On 28 October, the delegation continued to attend the final day of the meeting and delivered a closing speech. The deputy minister and members of the Myanmar delegation Deputy Director-General U Aung Tun Khaing from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Deputy Director-General U Than Aye from the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Deputy Director-General U Khin Ko Lay from the Ministry of Livestock and Fishery, Deputy Director-General Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein from the Ministry of Health, Director Daw Win Myint from the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Deputy Director Daw Kyawt Kyawt Khaing and U Kyaw Soe Thein, Head of Branch 1 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs arrived back here from Bangkok, Thailand on 29 October.—MNA

Respects paying ceremony and get-together to be held

YANGON, 30 Oct—Old students who graduated in Engineering and Architecture from Yangon Institute of Technology in 1981 will hold a ceremony to pay respects to teachers at M-3 Food Centre from 5 to 9 pm on 7 February of 2009. To compile records, those wishing to attend the ceremony may send two photos, address, phone numbers and cash to U Saw Maung (Mining) (Tel-095156515), U Maung Ohn (Mech) (Tel-095121036), U Kyaw Oo (Mech) (Tel-0264063) (Mandalay), U Kyaw Hsan (Civil) (Tel-095003816), U Tin Aung (Civil) (095134499) (Mandalay), U Aung Naing Myint (EC) (Tel-01549583), U Sein Aung (EC) (Tel-095003420), U Ye Myint (EP) (Tel-095006371), Daw Thu Zar Myint (Chem) (Tel-095130450), U San Lwin (Petrol) (Tel-0234154) (Mandalay), U Than Aung (Met) (Tel-01290677), Daw Tint Tint Thein (Textil) (Tel-2033091) and U Hlaing Myint (Arch) (Tel-095117754). MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing meets Laotian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Bounkeuth Sansomsak and party. — MNA

Java professional software courses to be conducted

YANGON, 30 Oct— Under the guidance of a British software engineer, Yoma Technologies will conduct programming course (Java) and Java programmer course on 3 November and Java professional developer course (project) on 24 November. Programming Course (Java) covers 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/J2SE (Collections, I/O, Inner Classes, Generics etc), Java Swing API for GUI, Exceptions and Exception Handling Techniques, Introduction to Relational Databases and SQL and Java Database Connectivity (JDBC). Java Professional Developer Course (Project) covers 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 take the courses can contact Yoma Technologies of Myanmar Info Tech Building-2, Room-3, Hline Campus, Yangon (Ph: 652264 (Extension-15), 703230; Web: www.yomatechnologies.com/training. MNA



Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu and attendees pose for a documentary photo. — FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Myanmar loses to Vietnam in Asian U-19 Women's Qualifier

YANGON, 30 Oct—Myanmar women lost to Vietnam with 4-0 in the group-A of Asian U-19 Women's Football Qualifier held in Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia at 6.30 pm local time. Myanmar has one win and one loss in two matches on three points and will face Singapore on 1 November.—MNA

Minkyaung Creek Bridge on Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road benefiting people of Rakhine State

Article: Nu Nu Yi & Aye Thanda Thein, Photo: Myanma Alin

(from page 16)

To ensure better transportation in all regions of the Union and to uplift the social-economic life of the national people, the government has been building various sizes of bridges across rivers and creeks throughout the country.

For enabling over 300,000 local people residing in 480 villages located in Kyaukpyu and Yanbye including Yanbye Island to enjoy fruits of better transport, Minkyaung Creek Bridge coupled with Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road was put into service on 17 April 2006.

Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road was constructed during over four years period with might and main by engineers of Public Works, Tatmadawmen and local people. Before construction work, mangroves and

swamp lands in the area had to be dealt with for the road. Therefore, responsible persons and engineers sought various ways and means to convert the lands of mangroves and swamps into the earth works that were suitable for construction of the road. By overcoming difficulties, the bridge construction workers made their utmost efforts in construction of the bridges, while the road construction workers faced enormous tasks.

The Bridge Construction Project Special Group (11) built Minkyaung Creek Bridge in Yanbye Township of Rakhine State. The bridge, 2,704.4 feet long, was the longest one out of 13 bridges along the road between Taungup and Kyaukpyu.

Minkyaung Creek Bridge has 24 feet wide motorway flanked by three feet wide pedestrian ways. Its

clearance is 171 feet wide and 31 feet high. The upper structure of the bridge was constructed with steel frames and reinforced concrete. The lower structure was built with reinforced concrete bored pile foundation.

Thanks to construction of Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road and Minkyaung Creek Bridge, the local people have easy access to various regions of Rakhine State and have the opportunity to extend their businesses. More cultivable lands, lakes and farms have been reclaimed on either side of the road. Today, the local people are enjoying the fruits of economic, education, health and social development thanks to the bridge.

Translation: TTA

Myanma Alin: 27-10-2008



Minister Col Zaw Min receives President Mr. Wu Jing of Datang (Yunnan) United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd (DUHD) and party of PRC. —MNA

EP No. 1 Minister meets Chinese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Oct (Yunnan) United —Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min received President Mr. Wu Jing of Datang (Yunnan) United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd (DUHD) and party of the People's Republic of China at the ministry here this morning.

They held discussions on matters related to Tarpein (1) Hydropower Project. —MNA

MWAF holds educative talks on legal affairs

YANGON, 31 Oct —Educative talks on legal affairs organized by Legal Affairs working group of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was held at the office of Taikkyi Township Peace and Development Council this morning.

First, Leader of the working group Daw Ni Ni Win made a speech.

Next, secretary Daw Myint Swe gave talks on the Anti-Human Trafficking Law, member of the working group Director Daw Lwin Lwin Aye

Kyaw of the Supreme Court on matters related to the Gambling Law and deputy leader of the working group Professor Dr Daw Than Nwe on the Juvenile Law. They replied to the queries raised by the attendees.

It was attended by members of Yangon Division and Taikkyi Township Women's Affairs Organizations, Taikkyi

Leader of Legal Affairs working group Daw Ni Ni Win makes a speech. —MNA

Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Red Cross.

MNA



Copies (Bilingual) of the State Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on sale

YANGON, 31 Oct — The Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Ministry of Information is selling the copies (bilingual) of the State Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

There are 15 chapters in the book and each chapter is stated in Myanmar and English.

The copies can be purchased at Sarpay Beikman Bookshop (Nay Pyi Taw) No. (Ta-55), Thabyegon Market, Nay Pyi Taw Ph-067-414681, Sarpay Beikman Bookshop (Yangon) No 529/531, Merchant street, Yangon Ph-01-249031, 01-381448, Sarpay Beikman Bookshop (Mandalay) Ph-02-62931, 02-62925, 02-62932, Tun Oo Book House, No. 101, 84th street between 29th-30th, Mandalay, Ph-02,39891, 02-39801, Naga Book House, No. 290 (Kha), 83rd street between 29th-30th, Mandalay, Ph- 02-35267, 02-39869 and the News and Periodicals Enterprise Bookshop, No.212 on Theinbyu road, Yangon, Ph-01-294306. Those from other states and divisions may purchase the copies through respective Township Information and Public Relations Department offices.

Those wishing to purchase the copies in large quantities may contact the sales manager, No. 228 on Theinbyu road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Ph-380804, 382070. —MNA

Tun Foundation extends date for entries of painting competition

YANGON, 31 Oct — Tun Foundation Bank Best Painting of the year 2008 will be held on a grand scale in December with the assistance of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon (Central). Artists are invited to compete in the contest with two paintings. The measurements of entries must be between 3 feet by 4 feet and 4 feet by 6 feet each.

Two photos or CD for the paintings are to be sent to the office of the Tun Foundation at the corner of Strand road and Theinbyu road. The committee for organizing the competition issued an announcement today that those paintings will be accepted up to 15 November instead of 31 October.

NLM

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (162)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (162) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.11.08 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONG SAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO., LTD

Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

၁၉၈၄ ခုနှစ် ဆေးတက္ကသိုလ်(၁) ရန်ကုန်ကျောင်းသား/သူဟောင်းများ၏
အာစရိယပူဇော်ပွဲနှင့် မိတ်ဆုံစားပွဲ

ဆေးတက္ကသိုလ် (၁) ရန်ကုန်မြို့မှ ၁၉၈၄ ခုနှစ်တွင်အောင်မြင်ခဲ့ကြသော ကျောင်းသား၊
ကျောင်းသူဟောင်းများမှ ငွေရတု အထိမ်းအမှတ် အာစရိယပူဇော်ပွဲနှင့် မိတ်ဆုံစားပွဲကို
ဇန်နဝါရီလ ၁၀ရက်၊ ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ် (စနေနေ့)တွင် ကျင်းပနိုင်ရေးအတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ
ကျောင်းသား/သူဟောင်းများထံသို့ ဆက်သွယ်ကြပါရန် မေတ္တာရပ်ခံအပ်ပါသည်။

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| ၁။ ဒေါက်တာ ကြည်မင်း | - ၀၉ ၅၁၅ ၅၂၄၇ |
| ၂။ ဒေါက်တာ ခင်မောင်ထွေး | - ၀၉ ၈၀ ၃၁၈၄၅ |
| ၃။ ဒေါက်တာ ဖုန်းမြင့် | - ၀၉ ၈၀ ၃၃၉၉၅ |
| ၄။ ဒေါက်တာ အက်ဒပ်စ် | - ၀၉ ၅၁၉၁ ၉၀၇ |
| ၅။ ဒေါက်တာ ဥမ္မာကျော် | - ၀၉ ၅၁၇ ၂၂၆၁ |
| ၆။ ဒေါက်တာ မောင်မောင်ထွေး | - ၀၉ ၅၁၀ ၉၆၄၂ |
| ၇။ ဒေါက်တာ ကျော်ဝင်း (တောင်ကြီး) | - ၀၉ ၅၀၁ ၃၄၀၁ |
| ၈။ ဒေါက်တာ မြင့်စိုး | - ၀၉ ၅၀၂ ၂၀၃၇၁ |

NASA delays shuttle's
February Hubble repair mission

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct—US space agency NASA said it had indefinitely delayed a February shuttle mission to repair the

orbiting Hubble Space Telescope, which was back in business after a four-week break to fix transmission problems.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration also announced the next shuttle launch for 14 November, when an Endeavour mission will deliver more equipment to the International Space Station.

The Hubble's instruments were suspended automatically on 27 September due to a technical problem with Side-A of its Science Data Formatter, a unit that stores and transmits data back to Earth.

Internet



Technicians make final checks to Hubble servicing equipment in September in the Payload Hazardous Servicing facility at Kennedy Space Centre, Florida. Several large pallets of equipment and parts will be loaded aboard the US space shuttle Atlantis for its planned launch to the Hubble.

INTERNET

New diabetes rate up 90
percent in past decade

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct—The rate of new cases of diabetes soared by about 90 percent in the United States in the past decade, fueled by growing obesity and sedentary lifestyles, US health officials said on Thursday. Diabetes experts said the findings show there is no end in sight to the diabetes epidemic.

Newly diagnosed cases of diabetes rose to 9.1 per 1,000 people annually between 2005 to 2007, up from 4.8 per 1,000 from 1995 to 1997, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said.

The most common form of diabetes, type 2 diabetes, is closely linked to obesity and has become increasingly common in recent decades as more people become obese. An estimated 90 percent to 95 percent of the new cases are type 2 diabetes as opposed to type 1 diabetes, also called juvenile diabetes.

The report, based on data from 33 states, also detailed regional variations, showing — as other studies also have — that the problem is most acute in the southern United States.—Internet



A doctor checks blood pressure in a file photo.

INTERNET

Quakes give trampoline effect

HONG KONG, 31 Oct —Earthquakes not only shake the ground from side to side, they hoist it up and down as though the earth is bouncing on a trampoline, researchers in Japan found.

The scientists found evidence of the jarring vertical movements from analyzing data recorded by seismographs during a powerful earthquake that struck northern Japan on 14 June.

That 7.2 magnitude quake struck a remote hot spring resort, killed at least 9 people and left more than 200 injured. The scientists likened the vertical movement of the quake to an athlete bouncing on a trampoline.

Internet



Residents try to remove a wall that collapsed due to an earthquake in Kurihara, northern Japan.

INTERNET

Vietnam floods kill 14 as
Hanoi streets under water

HANOI, 31 Oct—Floods from heavy rain in Vietnam's central provinces have killed at least 14 people in the past week, including four children, the government and state media said on Friday.

Many roads in the capital, Hanoi, were submerged, with up to 1 metre (yard) of water in some places, and some residents had abandoned cars and motorcycles. Torrential rain pounded northern Vietnam early on Friday, threatening dangerous flash floods in six mountainous provinces, state weather forecasters said.

Three girls aged 11 and 12 returning from school and a two-year-old boy were among the victims of floods that have hit nine central provinces since 24 October, the government's disaster management unit said in its daily report.

Seven people died in Ha Tinh province, three in Quang Ngai and two in Nghe An, while Quang Nam and Phu Yen provinces each reported one death. Up to 330 mm (13 inches) of rain had pounded Nghe An province, 300 km (186 miles) south of Hanoi, since Wednesday, halting traffic, while landslides had eroded many sections of the north-south Ho Chi Minh highway in Thua Thien-Hue province.

Internet



People make their way through a flooded street in downtown Hanoi following heavy rains, on 31 October.

INTERNET

Archaeologist says he found oldest Hebrew writing

HIRBET QEYAF, 31 Oct — An Israeli archaeologist has discovered what he believes is the oldest known Hebrew inscription on a 3,000-year-old pottery shard — a find that suggests Biblical accounts of the ancient Israelite kingdom of David could have been based on written texts.

A teenage volunteer discovered the curved shard bearing five lines of faded characters in July in the ruins of an ancient town on a hilltop south of

Jerusalem. Yossi Garfinkel, the Israeli archaeologist leading the excavations at Hirbet Qeiyafa, released his



In this photo taken on 26 Oct, 2008, Archaeologist Yossi Garfinkel displays a ceramic shard bearing Hebrew inscription at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem

INTERNET

conclusions about the writing Thursday after months of study.

He said the relic is strong evidence that the ancient Israelites were literate and could chronicle events centuries before the Bible was written. This could suggest that some of the Bible's accounts were based on written records as well as oral traditions — adding credence to arguments that the Biblical account of history is more than myth.

Internet



A man uses a payphone near a main office of KT in Seoul on 31 Oct 2008. KT, South Korea's top fixed-line and broadband firm, reported a wider-than-expected fall in quarterly net profit due to losses from a weaker won, but its operating profit beat forecasts as marketing costs dropped.—INTERNET

Nasty fungus may be killing thousands of bats

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct — A previously unknown fungus that thrives in chilly temperatures may be the culprit behind the deaths of at least 100,000 bats hibernating in caves in the northeastern United States, scientists said on Thursday.

The fungus is a white, powdery-looking organism found on the muzzles, ears and wings of dead and dying bats hibernating in caves in New York state, Maine, Vermont and Connecticut in the past two years, they wrote in the journal Science.

“Essentially, hibernating bats are getting moldy as they hang from their cave ceiling,” David Blehert, a microbiologist with the U.S. Geological Survey who led the study, said in a telephone interview.

“It's decimating the cave-bat populations,” he said.

Bats play a vital role in keeping down insect populations, pollinating plants and spreading around plant seeds.

The disease is affecting all six species of hibernating cave bats in the northeastern United States — little brown bats, big brown bats, northern bats, tricolored bats, Indiana bats and the small-footed myotis, Blehert said.

At least 100,000 and perhaps as many as 200,000 bats have died since the so-called white-nose syndrome linked to the fungus first appeared in the winter of 2006-2007, he said.

The fungus was found to have colonized the skin of about 90 percent of the 117 bats examined after they died.—Internet

Split-screen settlement for dueling TV viewers

HOLLYWOOD, 31 Oct — The classic dilemma: You are home for the evening. You wish to watch, say, a comedy, on TV, but a family member would rather watch something else.

Texas Instruments, the maker of the DLP Cinema chip, is developing technology that might fix the problem by allowing two people to view two different programs simultaneously — on the same TV.

The company outlined some of its early developments that use 3-D technology for home entertainment on Thursday at the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers Technical Conference and Exhibition.

One development, which TI expects to begin to preview at year's end, is processing technology that if incorporated in a third-party home entertainment system could allow for 2-D, 3-D or “dual view mode” on the same TV. Dual view mode, similar to 3-D, combines two images, but they are different images.

Tim Simerly, video systems architect at TI, said that each viewer would wear different glasses — one exposing only program “A” and one allowing the viewing of only program “B.” At least one viewer would need to wear a headset in order to get the correct audio.

Internet

Vigorous exercise protects against breast cancer

LONDON, 31 Oct — Plenty of vigorous exercise can cut a healthy, older woman's breast cancer risk by 30 percent, researchers said on Friday.

A study of more than 30,000 post-menopausal women showed that strenuous activity — ranging from housework such as scrubbing floors to running — protected against breast cancer even among those who do not have a higher risk, the researchers said.

The effect was clearest among lean women.

“We know that being overweight puts women at increased risk of breast cancer,” said Michael Leitzmann, who led the study while at the National Cancer Institute of the US National Institutes of Health.

“What our study shows is that even among women without this increased risk, if they exercise they can get some benefit.”

Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths among women worldwide, according to the American Cancer Society.

The group estimates about 465,000 women died of breast cancer globally in 2007, and 1.3 million new cases were diagnosed.

Internet.

Brain's “hate circuit” identified

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct — People who view pictures of someone they hate display activity in distinct areas of the brain that, together, may be thought of as a “hate circuit,” according to new research published in the latest issue of US online journal PLoS One, available here on Thursday.

The study, by scientists at University College London, examined the brain areas that correlate with the sentiment of hate and shows that the “hate circuit” is distinct from those related to emotions such as fear, threat and danger — although it shares a part of the brain associated with aggression.—Internet



Displaced residents renovate their mud house after it was damaged by the rain in Baghdad's Doura district, southern Baghdad, on 29 Oct, 2008. Picture taken on 29 Oct, 2008.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Bayern bosses dark on Podolski



Germany's striker Lukas Podolski.

MUNICH, 31 Oct — Germany striker Lukas Podolski faces another stint on Bayern Munich's bench after a further ticking off from manager Uli Hoeness and his departure from the German giants looks increasingly likely.

With Italy striker Luca Toni injured, Podolski played in the last two league games against Wolfsburg and Frankfurt, but poor performances means he can expect to be

back on the bench against Arminia Bielefeld on Saturday.

Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester City have both expressed interest in signing Podolski and the player himself has hinted at a return to former club Cologne when the transfer window opens in January.

After Bayern's 2-1 win over Eintracht Frankfurt on Wednesday, Munich manager Hoeness again criticised Podolski and the chances of seeing out his contract, which runs until June 2010, look slim.

"He had two chances and did not use them," fumed Hoeness, who told the 23-year-old to "stop whining" earlier this season when Podolski complained about being left on the bench for a second consecutive season.

Internet

Ballack meets Loew to apologize



Germany captain Michael Ballack, flew from London to Frankfurt, Germany, on Thursday to apologize directly to Joachim Loew for comments he made last week criticising the national coach.

INTERNET

BERLIN, 31 Oct — Chelsea star Michael Ballack flew from London to Frankfurt, Germany, on Thursday to apologize directly to Joachim Loew for comments he made last week criticising the national coach.

Germany captain

Ballack criticised Loew last Tuesday in a newspaper interview here saying the coach should show his senior players more loyalty and respect after veteran midfielder Torsten Frings was dropped.

Ballack, 32, apologised last weekend in a press release, but Loew insisted the Chelsea midfielder fly to the German Football Federation (DFB) offices in Frankfurt to meet face-to-face on Thursday and explain his comments.

Ballack returned to London immediately after the meeting and the DFB are expected to make an announcement on Friday to reveal whether Ballack will keep his role as captain of die Mannschaft or even his place in the team.

Munich newspaper Abendzeitung claimed on Thursday that Ballack is set to resign as Germany captain, but remain in the team with Bayern Munich defender Philipp Lahm taking over as captain.

Internet

Lato elected head of Poland's troubled federation

WARSAW, 31 Oct — Ex-Poland international Grzegorz Lato was elected head of Poland's corruption-ridden PZPN football federation Thursday in a bid to clean it up as Poland gears up to co-host Euro 2012 with Ukraine.

The election comes after wrangling between European football's governing body UEFA together with world ruling body FIFA and the Polish government.

Early this month, Poland's Sports Minister Mirosław Drzewiecki gave authorisation for a Polish Olympic Committee arbitration tribunal to head the PZPN.

UEFA and FIFA rules stipulate government interfere is unacceptable



Ex-Poland international Grzegorz Lato reacts in Warsaw, after being elected head of Poland's corruption-ridden PZPN football federation.—INTERNET

and Poland faced being excluded from playing two World Cup qualifiers early this month, with a possible reconsideration of whether Poland should jointly host the Euro 2012 championships.

Internet

Tennis ace Roddick China-bound as top stars advance in Paris

PARIS, 31 Oct — US star Andy Roddick clinched his season-ending Shanghai Masters Cup berth Thursday, while world number one Rafael Nadal, second-ranked Roger Federer and Andy Murray joined him in the quarter-finals of the Paris Masters.

Roddick beat Gilles Simon of France 6-3, 7-5, Nadal swamped French hope Gael Monfils 6-3, 6-2, fourth seed Murray defeated Spanish 15th seed Fernando Verdasco 6-3, 7-6 (8/6) and Federer knocked over Marin Cilic of Croatia 6-3, 6-4 to respect the form book.

Nadal was never in serious trouble as he staved off a triple break point to land the first set and then did likewise in the fourth game of the second set to put Monfils, whom he had already beaten twice this year for the loss of just five games, firmly in his place.

Internet

Dechy upsets Govortsova to reach WTA quarter-finals



France's Nathalie Dechy.

QUEBEC, 31 Oct — France's Nathalie Dechy advanced to the quarter-finals of the 175,000-dollar WTA Quebec Chal-

lenge here Thursday with a 6-1, 7-5 upset of seventh seed Olga Govortsova of Belarus.

Dechy doomed Govortsova's bid for her first career title and advanced to a Friday matchup against American lucky loser Angela Haynes, who ousted France's Severine Bremond 6-2, 6-4.

The Dechy-Haynes winner will meet either Russian top seed Nadia Petrova or Hungary's Melinda Czink in a Saturday semi-final.

Internet

Jones and Letzig share the lead at Ocean Hammock

PALM COAST, 31 Oct — Kent Jones recovered from a tee shot in the rough to birdie the 18th hole Thursday for a 7-under 65, giving him a share of the lead with rookie Michael Letzig in the first round of the Ginn sur Mer Classic.

They had a two-shot margin over Ryan Palmer, who birdied three of his first five holes and eased his way to a 67.

Jones and Letzig played college golf at New Mexico a decade apart, but that's where the similarities end.

Letzig, who had never played a PGA Tour event in his life until earning his card last year through the Nationwide Tour, is 109th on the money list and is in good shape to keep his job for next year.

Jones has spent most of his 10-year career around the 125th spot on the money list — the cutoff for keeping his card — and he arrived at the Ginn Ocean Hammock Resort at No 179.—*Internet*



Suzann Pettersen of Norway looks at her tee shot at the eighth hole during the first round of the LPGA Hana Bank-Kolon Championship golf tournament at the Sky72 Golf Club Ocean course in Incheon, west of Seoul, on 31 Oct, 2008.—INTERNET

Price, Eger take 1st-round lead at Schwab



Nick Price reacts after making a birdie putt on the 18th green of Sonoma Golf Club during the first round of the Charles Schwab Cup Championship golf tournament in Sonoma, Calif, 30 Oct, 2008.

INTERNET

SONOMA, 31 Oct — Nick Price made a 25-foot putt on the 18th hole to pull even with David Eger at 6-under 66 atop the leaderboard Thursday in the opening round of the Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

Battling intermittent rains that are expected to get a whole lot worse on the weekend, Price and Eger took a one-stroke lead over Mike Goodes in the Champions Tour's

season-ending event. Tom Kite, who played a bogey-free round along with Price, and Andy Bean are two shots back in the \$2.5 million tournament, which also decides the tour's season-long Schwab Cup points competition.

"Given the forecast, I guess this was the round to get your good score in," said Eger, who sneaked into the field of the tour's top 29 players after an inconsistent season.

Price also is out of contention for the Schwab Cup and its \$1 million annuity after playing just a part-time Champions Tour schedule, but the two-time PGA Championship winner enjoyed his first chance to play the rolling course at Sonoma Golf Club in the heart of Northern California's wine country.

Price, who has won more than \$1 million in 17 events this season, hit a 41-footer for birdie on the 16th before ending his round with another long putt.

Internet

**U BO YE
(72) Years**

Youngest son of Maha Thray Sithu U Ohn Pe and Daw Mya Mya, son-in-law of U Hla Tun and Daw Aye Tin, beloved husband of Daw Khin Phone Swe, younger brother of (U Tin Pe)-Daw Sao Nuwadee, Daw Khin Khin Hlaing-(U Than Tut), (U Win Pe)-Daw Khin Khin Sein, (Daw May May Khin)-(Mr.N.Bhatt), U Hla Pe-Diana, elder brother of Daw Tee Tee Ohn-U Tun Htein expired suddenly on 29th October 2008 at 3:20 am. Cremation at Yeway cemetery on Sunday, 2nd November 2008 at 3:00 pm.

**Thousands of Syrians protest in
Damascus at US raid**

DAMASCUS, 31 Oct—Thousands of Syrians held a government-backed demonstration in Damascus on Thursday to protest against a US military raid in the east of the country that has put a further strain on US-Syrian ties.

The US Embassy in Damascus had closed for the day due to security concerns. Syria says the raid killed eight civilians. A US official said it was believed to have killed a smuggler of foreign fighters into Iraq.

The crowd, mostly state workers and students of government schools, gathered in a central Damascus square a few kilometres (miles) from the US Embassy.

Riot police surround

ned the embassy, which was pelted with stones during a protest in 1998 over US-led airstrikes on Iraq. Some demonstrators carried banners denouncing the United States and Israel and praising Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

“We sacrifice our blood for you, Bashar.

Down with America,” some members of the crowd shouted. The raid undermined US-Syrian ties which were already strained by other disputes, including US accusations that Damascus has not stopped foreign fighters crossing into Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

**NATO forces step in
to rescue hijacked
Turkish ship**

ANKARA, 31 Oct—NATO forces stepped in to rescue crew of hijacked Turkish ship offshore of Somalia, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported Thursday. *Yasa Neslihan*, a Turkish ship

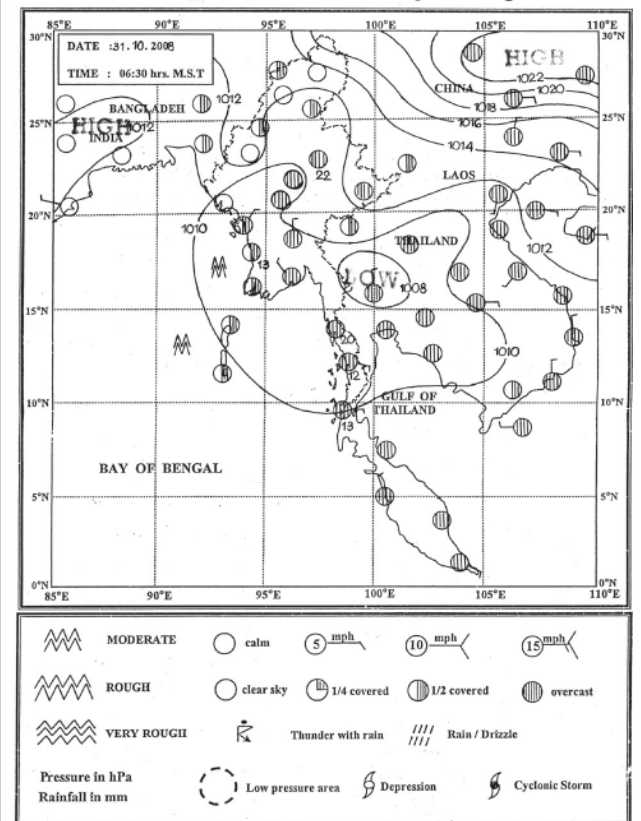
of Marshal Island registry, was hijacked by pirates offshore of Somalia on Wednesday noon, Turkish Maritime Under secretariat officials were quoted as saying.

There were 20 Turkish crew members on board of the ship which was carrying iron ore from Canada to China. Under the request of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NATO forces join the rescue operation of the crew on the hijacked cargo ship.

Turkish officials are trying to work out a solid plan to rescue hostages alive as the hijacked ship is still navigating offshore of Somalia.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**WEATHER**

Friday, 31 October, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Shan State, scattered in Kayin State, isolated in Rakhine State, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Ye (1.22) inches, Kawkeyik (1.06) inches, Lashio (0.95) inch, Dawei (0.79) inch and Namsan (0.55) inch.

Maximum temperature on 30-10-2008 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 31-10-2008 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 31-10-2008 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 30-10-2008 was (3.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 31-10-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (108.54) inches at Mingaladon, (120.28) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.47) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (15:15) hours MST on 30-10-2008.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the North Bay, West Central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 1st November 2008: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Shan and Kayin States, isolated in Rakhine and Kayah States, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-11-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-11-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-11-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Weather outlook for first weekend of November 2008: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division, scattered in Yangon Division.

**Staff
members
stand next to
a robotic
butler at the
FusionWorld
exhibit at the
Fusionopolis
building in
Singapore
on 31 Oct,
2008.**



INTERNET



Myanmar

**Saturday, 1 November
View on today**

7:00 am

1. မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်
ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

7:50 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am

6. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:10 am

7. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား
ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ

8:15 am

8. Musical programme

8:30 am

9. International news

8:40 am

10. “အလံလေးတော့ကိုပြပါ”
(နွဲ့နိုင်ဝင်း၊ စရာ၊ ပေါ်လေး၊
ချစ်စရာ၊ ရတနာခင်)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. Yan can cook

11:30 am

3. Round up of the
week's TV local news

12:25 pm

4. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
“မေမေမေတ္တာကုသေကုသေ”
(အပိုင်း-၁၇)

1:10 pm

5. ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ

1:50 pm

6. International news

2:50 pm

1. ၂၀၀၈ခုနှစ် (၂၄) ကြိမ်မြောက်
တပ်မတော်ကကွယ်ရေး
ဦးစီးချုပ်ဖလားအသက် (၂၁)
နှစ်နှင့်အောက်တပ်မတော်
(ကြည်း၊ ရေ၊ လေ)ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ
“ဗိုလ်လှပွဲ”
“မြောက်ပိုင်းတိုင်းစစ်ဌာနချုပ်
အသင်းနှင့်အရှေ့ပိုင်းတိုင်း
စစ်ဌာနချုပ်အသင်း”

4:50 pm

2. Musical programme

5:05 pm

3. မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ

5:15 pm

4. ရာသီလွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

5. Evening news

6:30 pm

6. Weather report

6:35 pm

7. အလှူရှာမယ်လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:50 pm

8. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

6:55 pm

9. ရုပ်မြင်ရသတေးစုကဏ္ဍ
10. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
“သယောဇော်နောင်ကြီး”
(အပိုင်း-၉)

7:10 pm

11. News

12. International news

13. Weather report

14. ၂၀၀၈ခုနှစ်(၁၆)ကြိမ်မြောက်

မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှုအဆို၊
အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
(ရုပ်စုံသဘင်အဖွဲ့လိုက်ပြိုင်ပွဲ)
မန်းသင်္ဂါရုပ်စုံသဘင်
“မဟာဗုဒ္ဓဝင်တောထွက်ခန်း”
(ပထမဆု) (မွန်လေးတိုင်း)

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“အချစ်စစ်ရှာဖွေခြင်း”

(အပိုင်း-၃)

10th Anniversary ICT Exhibition opened

*Lt-Gen Myint Swe
of Ministry of
Defence visits 10th
Anniversary ICT
Exhibition at
Tatmadaw
Convention Centre.*

MNA

*Booths staged at
10th Anniversary
ICT Exhibition.*

MNA



YANGON, 31 Oct — The 10th Anniversary ICT Exhibition kicked off at Tatmadaw Convention Centre here today.

The exhibition was opened in the presence of Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence and Chairman of e-National Task Force Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw delivered an opening address.

Chairman of Myanmar Computer Professionals Association U Khun Oo and Chairperson of Myanmar Computer Entrepreneurs' Association Daw Wah Wah Tun formally opened the exhibition.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Chairman of e-National Task Force Member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Aung Myint, ambassadors and officials visited booths displayed at the exhibition.

A total of 65 companies and Myanma Posts and Telecommunications have staged 156 booths at the exhibition which will be opened from 9 am to 5 pm daily up to 2 November. — MNA



Minkyaung Creek Bridge on Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road benefiting people of Rakhine State

Article: Nu Nu Yi & Aye Thanda Thein, Photo: Myanma Alin



Photo shows an aerial view of Minkyaung Creek Bridge on Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road in Rakhine State.—(Byline on page 11)