

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XVI, Number 205

12th Waxing of Tazaungmon 1370 ME

Sunday, 9 November, 2008

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Cambodian King

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—On the occasion of the 55th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 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 Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, Kingdom of Cambodia.—MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister on his return from SRV

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe welcomed back Prime Minister General Thein Sein, who arrived back here by special flight after attending the 4th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam

(CLMV) Summit and the 3rd Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit held in Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 4 p.m today.

Also present together with Senior General Than Shwe were Vice-Chairman of the

State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-



Senior General Than Shwe greets Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA

in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Maj-Gen Maung Shein of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for In-

formation Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, senior military officers, Director-General of SPDC Office Col Kyaw Win and departmental heads, Charge d'Affaires of Vietnamese Embassy to Myanmar Mr Vu Van Minh and officials.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin and departmental heads, who accompanied the Prime Minister, also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 9 November, 2008

For greater development of the Union

The government is now working hard to ensure equitable development of all parts of the Union including border areas in pursuance of the lofty goal of building a developed nation.

The Border Areas and National Races Development Project launched in 1989 has begun to yield fruitful results in the political, economic and social areas, and the people of border areas are now enjoying the taste of development.

In the past, there was a gap in terms of socio-economic life between rural and urban areas. So, the government is implementing rural development projects to improve the living conditions of rural folks.

As part of the drive for parallel development of all parts of the Union in various sectors, 24 regions have been designated as special zones for development. As a result, all the states and divisions have seen more universities, colleges and specialists hospitals.

Emphasis has been placed on construction of roads and bridges as the transport sector is important for regional development. In this case, the government has constructed a large number of tarred roads, concrete roads, gravel roads, laterite roads and earthen roads.

Smooth transport has helped fortify amicable relations between one national race and another and make commodity flow swifter between one region and another, thus improving the socio-economic life of the people.

Economic growth and social development of border areas reflect stability and peace, national unity and mutual respects between national races. So, the people are obliged to join hands with the government to expedite nation-building tasks for greater regional development.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ့

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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

Commander supervises sanitation work

YANGON, 8 Nov—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint inspected sanitation tasks in Panhlaing ward, Kyimyindine Township this morning.

The commander viewed giving of health educative talks and fumigation against mosquitoes, and unblocking of drains being carried out by members of social organizations and townselders.

Such activities were conducted along Waziya 8th and 9th streets and at No.25 Basic Education Primary School in North Okkalapa Township by members of social organizations and townselders.

MNA



Brig-Gen Khin Yi gives a reward to an outstanding cadet.—MNA

Cash donated

YANGON, 8 Nov—The cash donation ceremony to the funds for organizing the third respect paying ceremony to faculty members of Yangon Institute of Technology and Yangon Technological University was held at the hall of Myanmar Engineering Society on Hline University Campus, here, today.

On behalf of the civil engineers, Principal U Ko Ko of Central Construction Training School on the Ministry of Construction handed over K 1.6 million to Vice-Chairman of the organizing committee U Ko Ko Gyi.—NLM



FM sends message of felicitations to Cambodian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—On the occasion of the 55th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2008, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia.—MNA

SIP Training Course No. 63/2007 concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov— The Sub-Inspector Cadet Training Course No. 63/2007 of the Central Training Institute of Myanmar Police Force concluded at the parade ground of the Institute in Zeebingyi, PyinOoLwin Township yesterday.

It was attended by Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen Win Soe, Commandant of the Institute Police Brig-Gen Thein Tint, Director of Administration and Training Department Police Col Win Khaung, senior police officers, guests and trainee police cadets.

After taking the salute of trainee police cadets, Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi inspected the companies of trainee police cadets.

Next, he presented prizes to outstanding cadets.

Afterwards, he made a speech on the occasion.

The training course was attended by 312 trainee police cadets.

MNA

Teen driver on drugs runs down joggers

GARDEN CITY (NY), 8 Nov—A teenager on drugs and driving a sport utility vehicle slammed into two runners out for an evening jog, killing one of them — a beloved schoolteacher — and seriously injuring her friend, police said Friday.

Shea Rosen, a 19-year-old from the exclusive village of Brookville on Long Island, was being held in lieu of \$1 million bond after pleading not guilty to driving under the influence.

Rosen's attorney, former federal prosecutor Joseph Conway, declined to comment on the high bond amount but said his client's family was unlikely to post it Friday.

Rosen, who works as a busboy and waiter at a Huntington restaurant, had no prior criminal record, his lawyer and police said.

Internet

Principal U Ko Ko donates cash for respects paying ceremony through U Ko Ko Gyi.—NLM

Pull troops from Iraq

BAGHDAD, 8 Nov — Two Iraqi armed groups called on President-elect Barack Obama to withdraw US troops from Iraq and abandon the war on terror, an Internet monitoring service reported on Friday.

Abu Omar al-Baghdadi, self-styled head of the al-Qaida front group the Islamic State of Iraq, said in a speech posted on an extremist Web site that it would be better “for you and us” to “withdraw your forces,” according to the SITE Intelligence Group that moni-

tors militant Web sites.

“You do not interfere in the affairs of our countries,” he continued in an apparent reference to Muslim dominated nations. “We, in turn, will not prevent commerce with you, whether it is in oil or otherwise.”

Al-Baghdadi blamed the global financial crisis on the wars “launched in Muslim countries” and said he was issuing the call on behalf of “my brothers in Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, and Chechnya,” SITE said.—*Internet*

People assist an injured victim of a suicide bomb blast in Bajaur at a local hospital in Peshawar on 6 Nov, 2008. A suicide bomber attacked a meeting of pro-government Pakistani tribal elders in the Bajaur area on the Afghan border on Thursday, killing 10 people and wounding 30, government officials said.—INTERNET



Pakistan's paramilitary soldiers and local people look at a crater caused by last night's suicide attack near a police compound building in Mingora in troubled district of Swat on 7 Nov, 2008 in Pakistan. A suicide car bomber rammed his vehicle into a checkpoint manned by security forces near a police compound, killing at least two paramilitary troops and wounding at least 20 other people, officials said.—INTERNET

Investigation shows 37 Afghan civilians killed in US airstrike

KABUL, 8 Nov — An Afghan government probe team confirmed Friday that a US airstrike on a wedding gathering has killed 37 civilians and injured 31 others recently in southern Afghanistan's Kandahar province.

Twenty six Taliban militants also perished in the air bombing which happened Monday afternoon after the US-led troops were attacked by militants at Wech Baghtu village in Shah Wali Kot district of Kandahar.

The powerful bombing meant to retaliate on the insurgents however also hit a wedding party being held not far from the targeted militant firing position, according to locals.

Haji Roozi Khan, a local villager and eyewitness, earlier told Xinhua that 37 civilians, including 10 women, 23 children, died and over 30 others, including the bride, sustained injuries in the airstrike which lasted from around 2:00 pm until late that night.

A statement from Afghan presidential office Wednesday said around 40 civilians were killed and 28 others wounded in the airstrike, which was condemned by President Hamid Karzai. In the past, Karzai “for several times” has asked the US-led foreign troops to avoid harming civilians.

The US forces in Afghanistan has promised an investigation into the incident, in a Wednesday statement.

“Though facts are unclear at this point, we take very seriously our responsibility to protect the people of Afghanistan and to avoid circumstances where non-combatant civilians are placed at risk,” said the statement.—*Internet*

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 555

WASHINGTON, 8 Nov — As of Friday, 7 Nov, 2008, at least 555 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures Thursday at 10 am EDT.

Of those, the military reports 403 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 66 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.—*Internet*



Afghan villagers search destroyed a house in the village of Wocha Bakhta in Kandahar Province recently. Seven Afghan villagers were killed in coalition air strikes, police said Thursday, a day after claims that scores of civilians died elsewhere in operations also involving foreign forces.—INTERNET

Shiite preachers warn against Iraq-US troop deal

BAGHDAD, 8 Nov — Several prominent Shiite preachers in Iraq gave fiery Friday sermons warning against the signing of a new security agreement which would keep US forces in the country for up to another three years.

“Every Iraqi should read this agreement and decide for himself whether he agrees or disagrees with it,” Sheikh Sattar al-Batat, a follower of anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, said in the crowded slum of Sadr City.

“Will they agree to the complete immunity for American soldiers to do whatever they wish without accountability, or to use Iraq to strike the neighbours of Iraq?” he told tens of thou-

sands of worshippers.

“No one in his right mind can accept this agreement, so how can we?”

His remarks came after the United States and Iraq appeared to be moving closer to a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) to govern the presence of US troops after their UN mandate expires at the end of the year.

The draft agreement calls for US troops to move out of all towns and cities by June 2009 and withdraw from the country completely by 2011, although Iraqi officials have said some troops may remain longer if necessary.

There are currently almost 145,000 US troops in Iraq.—*Internet*



Iraqis hold a banner with the picture of Mohammed Sadiq al-Sadr, a revered Shiite religious leader and father of anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr as they demonstrate against the proposed security pact between Iraq and the US, in Baghdad's Shiite stronghold of Sadr City, Iraq, on 7 Nov, 2008.

INTERNET

Army general to investigate recruiter suicides

SAN ANTONIO, 8 Nov— The Army has agreed to investigate a disproportionate cluster of suicides among recruiters in an East Texas battalion, as well as allegations by other soldiers and family members that they were pressured to cover up serious problems in the battalion, Army Secretary Pete Geren said. Seventeen Army recruiters have committed suicide nationwide since 2001, but four of them were from the Houston Recruiting Battalion,

which recruits soldiers from East Texas. A fifth Houston-area soldier killed himself, but he was assigned to the Army's Future Soldier Training Program. There are 38 recruiting battalions nationwide with 8,400 recruiters. The Army's suicide rate has been climbing as the war in Iraq has forced multiple and longer deployments. Last year, the Army's suicide rate was 18.1 per 100,000, the highest since the service started keep-

ing records in 1980. That's still lower than the US civilian rate of 19.5 per 100,000. The investigation was sought by Sen John Cornyn, R-Texas, who heard from soldiers and family members after the Houston Chronicle reported the cluster of suicides earlier this year. Brig Gen Frank Turner has been assigned to investigate the recruiter suicides and the cover-up allegations, Geren told Cornyn in a letter dated Monday.—Internet



Pakistani locals look at the bodies of two Afghans killed by Taliban militants in Miransha, the main town of the North Waziristan tribal region, on 8 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET

At least five killed in twin suicide bomb attacks in W Iraq

RAMADI, Iraq, 8 Nov— Two suicide car bomb attacks struck a police checkpoint near the city of Ramadi on Saturday, killing at least five people and wounding more than five others, a

local police source said. The incident occurred in the afternoon when a suicide bomber drove his explosive-laden car into the checkpoint in the Albu Farraj area, just outside Ramadi, the capital of

Anbar province, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. As security forces and people gathered at the scene, another suicide bomber rammed his booby-trapped car into the crowd, the source said. A total of at least five people killed and more than five others wounded by the two attacks, the source added. He said that the toll could rise as ambulances and civilian cars were evacuating victims to the city hospitals. Violence has dropped sharply in Iraq in the past months, but insurgents seem capable of carrying out deadly attacks.—Internet



Displaced Congolese people who sought refuge at the Rugari MONUC base for the night are seen aboard a minibus as they attempt to cross the front line to reach Goma, in Rugari, 35 kilometers (22 miles) north of Goma, eastern Congo, on Saturday, 8 Nov, 2008. Fighting raged anew in Congo between the army and rebels outside Goma, as thousands of people fled toward the relative safety of the city.—INTERNET

Pirates seize Danish ship, 13 crew near Somalia

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 Nov — A maritime official says pirates have hijacked a Danish cargo ship with 13 crew members near Somalia. Noel Choong of the International Maritime Bureau in Malaysia says the ship was sailing from the Middle East to Asia when it was seized Friday in the Gulf of Aden. The ship flies a Bahamas flag but operates out of Denmark. Choong says the bureau has warned ships in the area to take extra precautions to deter pirates. No further details were immediately available. There have been 81 attacks this year in the African waters, with 32 ships hijacked. Choong says 11 vessels remain in the hands of pirates along with more than 200 crew.

Internet

Militants kill Afghan governor, 30 rebels killed: officials

KABUL, 8 Nov — Afghan government and international military officials said on Saturday that Taliban insurgents had gunned down a district governor overnight and about 30 militants had been killed in various clashes. Two men delivering voter registration materials for presidential elections due next year were meanwhile missing for a second day and believed kidnapped, the Independent Election Commission said. Militants ambushed the governor of Taywara district in the remote central province of Ghor late Friday as he was driving to

the provincial capital, police said. "The district governor was killed and his driver was wounded," Ghor police chief Shah Jahan Noori told AFP. He blamed the attack on Taliban militants who have increased their attacks against Afghan government and non-governmental organizations to a new high since they were ousted from power in late 2001. Separately, the government of Ghazni Province said that 20 militants were killed on Friday in an operation involving Afghan and international troops. The bodies of the dead had been left at the scene of the fighting in Ab Band

district, provincial government spokesman Ismail Jahangir said. The US-led coalition helping the government to put down a Taliban-led insurgency also announced that its forces had killed 10 militants and detained 13 in operations Friday against "terrorist networks" in eastern Afghanistan.—Internet

Palestinians fire rockets at Israel, no injuries

JERUSALEM, 8 Nov— Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired at least three rockets at southern Israel on Friday, the Israeli military said, fraying a five-month truce that has been tested sorely this week. No injuries or damage were reported in the third successive day of hostilities, and there was no immediate military response to the rocket fire. Islamic Jihad, Gaza's second-largest militant group, claimed responsibility for the attack. Gaza militants and the Israeli military had largely held their fire since a June 19 truce. But on Tuesday, Israeli troops launched a brief incursion into Gaza to destroy what the military said was a tunnel militants had dug near the border to kidnap Israeli soldiers.—Internet

Haiti school collapse kills dozens

HAVANA, 8 Nov — A church-operated school in Haiti called "The Evangelic Promise" collapsed on Friday during the class time, killing about 50 people. According to news reaching here from Port-au-Prince, capital of Haiti, an unknown number of students, teachers and other people were still trapped under the debris, while the death toll could rise. The collapse occurred at 10 a.m. local time (1400 GMT) in Petion Ville near the capital, and authorities have not unveiled the causes of the collapse of the three-floor building. Local police and firemen, as well as officials of the United Nations peace-keeping forces were trying to rescue the victims. Many parents were crying while they were looking for their children. Police commissioner Carl Henry Boucher said that at least 25 people were



Rescuers try to save the injured in a collapsed church-operated school in Haiti Friday. The school collapsed during the class time.—INTERNET

taken to a hospital. The school had some 700 elementary and secondary students. Haitian Education Minister Joel Jean Pierre called the collapse a "national catastrophe." Some 800 people have died from hurricanes and storms this year in Haiti.—Internet

Italy, China sign scientific co-op accord

ROME, 8 Nov — Italy and China signed here on Friday a declaration of intent to boost scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries.

The accord calls for the setting up of a 10-member joint workshop which will have the task of pinpointing the ways and means to bolster bilateral cooperation and formulate pilot projects in the areas of food science, the environment, space, nuclear

physics and health.

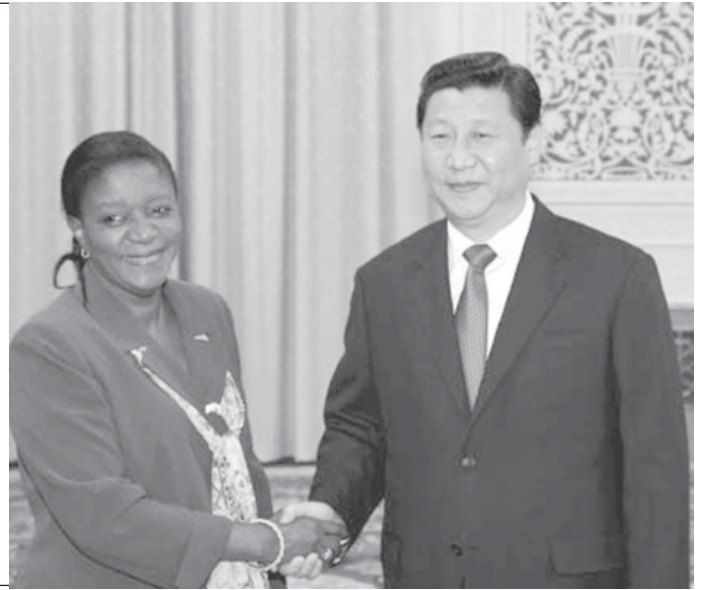
The declaration was signed by Italian Foreign Undersecretary Stefania Craxi, who is responsible for relations with Asian countries, and Chinese Vice Minister for Science and Technology Cao Jianlin. According to Craxi, the accord “falls within the framework of the excellent bilateral relations which exist between Rome and Beijing.”

The Chinese vice minis-

ter said “we find ourselves faced with new challenges — including those of energy, climate and the health of our citizens — which we can only tackle through technological and scientific development.” The declaration of intent was signed at the Italian Foreign Ministry marking the 30th anniversary of the first accord for scientific, technological cooperation between Italy and China.

Xinhua

Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping (R) shakes hands with Zainab Hawa Bangura, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone, during their meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on 6 Nov, 2008.—XINHUA



World's major emerging economies propose reform in global financial system

SAO PAULO, 8 Nov — Delegates from six major emerging countries in the world proposed Friday a reform in the international financial system.

The call was voiced by Brazilian Financial Minister Guido Mantega at a press conference after a meeting with his counterparts from India, China, South Africa, Mexico and Russia.

The meeting was designed for coordinating their stands at the forthcoming annual meeting of financial ministers and central bank heads from Group of 20 (G20) scheduled for this weekend in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Noting the six countries enjoy identical background on how to combat the global financial crisis, Mantega said only a coordinated action can be efficient.—Xinhua



Spectators watch a Long March 3A rocket carrying the Chang'e One lunar orbiter blasting off, near the Xichang Satellite Launch Center, in southwestern Sichuan province, recently.—INTERNET

Venezuela, Russia drill first gas well

CARACAS, 8 Nov — Venezuela and Russia Friday began drilling the first gas well in the Gulf of Venezuela, an area abound with natural gas resources.

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez told national radio and TV chain that “as we launched one week ago the first satellite of Venezuela, now we drill the first gas well in our Gulf.” Venezuelan state-owned oil company PDVSA and Russian Gazprom jointly launched the project called Rafael Urdaneta near the state of Falcon, on the west coast of Venezuela.

Chavez said it is a historical event in Venezuela, “because we were liberated from the neo-colonial model. Here we are with our Russian, US and Canadian friends with the technology.”

“Venezuela is now free with allies like Russia... We will be together for ever,” Chavez said during his speech.

Xinhua

World's largest toy maker in US cuts worldwide workforce

LOS ANGELES, 8 Nov — Mattel Inc, the world's largest toy company, is eliminating 1,000 jobs to cope with the worsening economic meltdown, the Los Angeles Times reported on Friday. The job cuts included 170 positions at its headquarters in El Segundo near Los Angeles, according to the paper.

The cuts amount to about 3 percent of the firm's worldwide workforce, the paper quoted a company statement as saying.

Mattel said the job cuts resulting from the “current economic environment” would be made through a combination of layoffs, retirements, attrition and the elimination of open positions, the paper reported.

Professional and administrative staff positions are being particularly hard hit — targeted for a reduction of about 8 percent, said the paper.

Analyst Linda Bolton Weiser of Caris & Co said she was surprised by the job cuts. “This is a serious move for the company.”

Xinhua



Soldiers in historical uniforms take part in a military parade in the Red Square in Moscow, on 7 Nov, 2008. Moscow marked the anniversary of a historical parade in 1941 when Soviet soldiers marched through the Red Square to the front lines of World War II.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Jordan's king urges continued efforts on peace process between Palestinians, Israelis

AMMAN, 8 Nov — Jordan's king Abdullah II on Friday urged to keep efforts on peace process between Palestinians and Israelis when meeting US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in the Red Sea port Aqaba.

The king stressed during the talks on Friday evening the need to maintain the momentum of the negotiation so that the new American administration would engage in the peace process and build on what has already

been accomplished as soon as possible.

The king also pledged Jordan's full support for the Palestinian National Authority and its efforts to meet the aspirations of the Palestinian people on the basis of a two-state solution.

Rice, for her part, briefed the king on the outcome of her current regional trip and meetings with Israeli and Palestinian officials.

Rice arrived in Israel Thursday afternoon in a

new bid to push forward the sluggish Middle East peace process.

Under the US pressure, Israeli and Palestinian leaders agreed last November at the US-hosted international conference, held in Maryland's Annapolis, to relaunch the stalled peace talks aimed to hammer out a comprehensive peace treaty before US President George W Bush leaves office in January.

Xinhua



Nepalese ethnic cultural group from mid-western Nepal perform traditional dance “Kaura Naach” during the International Folk Music Festival in Kathmandu, capital of Nepal, on 7 Nov, 2008.—XINHUA

Kyee-Ohn Kyee-Wa Multi-purpose Dam Project to benefit farmlands in Pwintbyu Township



Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence visits Kyee-Ohn Kyee-Wa Multi-purpose Dam Project site.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe and departmental officials,

arrived at Kyee-Ohn Kyee-Wa Multi-purpose Dam Project site in Winlo Village, Pwintbyu Township, on 5 November morning and viewed the dam and construction work with the use of heavy machinery.

Kyee-Ohn Kyee-Wa dam project site is located at Mone Creek near Winlo Village in

Pwintbyu Township.

The aim of building Kyee-Ohn Kyee-Wa Dam is to irrigate farmlands, prevent farmlands from being flooded and generate electricity.

Next, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspected paving of road from mile posts 140/1 to 140/4 at Padan-Kazun road section on Patheingyi Road (North) and

construction of a bridge across Peikse Creek at mile post 157/1-2.

Afterwards, they visited the special teak plantation of Sedoktara Township Forestry Department on Salin-Sedoktara Road and paving of road between mile posts 26/5 and 27/5. They also inspected Mone Creek Dam, two miles

from Sedoktara and water storage and Mone Creek hydropower plant.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party met with township level departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders at Sedoktara Township PDC office and visited the township hospital where they

presented cash assistance to the patients.

After that, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party visited the orchid plantation of U Tun Maung in Ward-2 in Sedoktara and looked into 12 kinds of medicinal orchids. They also visited the 250-acre Manawthukha strain paddy plantation in Ward-1. Deputy Director U Tin Maung Win of Magway Division Water Resources Utilization Department reported on a river water pumping project to be implemented and supply of irrigation water upon completion of the project. Maj-Gen Khin Zaw fulfilled the needs and inspected the plantation.

Later, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party inspected the bridge with steel frame across Mone Creek. The bridge can withstand 32 tons of load.

MNA

Talks on ISO Standard Certification process given



Regional Director Mr Asher Bilal presents certificate of honour to a responsible person.—MNA

YANGON, 8 Nov — Talks on ISO Standards jointly sponsored by MAT Audit & Professional Services and Guardian Independent Certification International Ltd took place at Traders Hotel here this afternoon.

Managing Director of MAT Audit & Professional Services and Director of Operation of

Certification International Ltd Dr Tin Latt made an opening speech.

Next, Regional Director of Guardian Independent Certification International Ltd Mr Asher Bilal dealt with ISO Standard Certification process.

After that, the regional director presented certificates of

honour to those responsible of ISO certificate holding Happy Myanmar Co Ltd, Sein Diamond Industrial Commercial Co Ltd, Thu Kha Su San Overseas Employment Agency and Training Centre and U Pe Thein Electrical & Electronic Manufacturing Cooperative Society Ltd.—MNA

5th Inter-State/Division Swimming Contests commence

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — The opening of the 5th Inter-State/Division Swimming Contests (2008) took place at the National Swimming Pool on U Wisara Road in Yangon this morning.

Among the spectators were Minister

for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, President of the Myanmar Swimming Federation Dr Khin Shwe and officials.

Defending champions are Yangon Division women's team and Mandalay Division men's

team. The minister delivered an opening speech.

The minister inspected skill demonstrations of young divers.

Eight state/division teams are contending for the trophies in the contests that continue tomorrow for the final day.—MNA



President of Myanmar Traditional Sports Federation U Win Myint gives prize to Saw Nga Mann (Myanmar), who won in Myanmar-Thai Boxing Contest at National Indoor Stadium-1 on 8 November.—NLM



Vietnamese President Mr. Nguyen Minh Triet cordially greets Prime Minister General Thein Sein.—MNA

Rehabilitation tasks supervised in Kyondah

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov—Member of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing on his trip to Kyondah Region inspected thriving paddy fields along the banks of Thandeik River in Dedaye on 4 November.

On arrival at Kyondah housing established with the contribution of Eden Co in Kyondahchaung Village, Kyondahchaung Village-tract, the minister cordially greeted the dwellers.

In Kyondahchaung Ywa-ma, he inspected the site chosen for construction of a cyclone shelter, paddy fields, the site chosen for construction of buildings for upgrading the village affiliated BEHS to BEHS, thriving paddy fields of the school, and classrooms.

The minister also inspected the roads and bridges of the village, businesses of local people, sites for construction of buildings to upgrade the rural health care centre to a station hospital, and health care services.

MNA

Myanmar, Thailand end in 1-1 draw

YANGON, 8 Nov — Myanmar and Thailand drew 1-1 in a qualifying match for the AFC U-16 Women's Championship in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia this evening.

On 10 November, Myanmar will meet Australia.

MNA

General Secretary U Aung Kyi speaks at press conference on IBTC Open Golf Championships for 2008-2009.—MGF

Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Prime Ministers of ACMECS countries call on Vietnamese President

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein of the Union of Myanmar together with Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Lao Prime Minister Mr. Bouasone Bouphavanh and Thai Prime Minister Mr. Somchai Wongsawat called on President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Minh Triet at 4.30 p.m at Presidential Palace in Hanoi yesterday.

Vietnamese President Mr. Nguyen Minh Triet cordially greeted Prime Minister General Thein Sein and the prime ministers of ACMECS member countries at the Presidential Palace.

Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and

prime ministers of ACMECS countries posed for a documentary photo together with the Vietnamese President.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Thein Sein called on Vietnamese President Mr. Nguyen Minh Triet.

Next, the Vietnamese President extended greetings.

On behalf of Prime Ministers of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand, Thai Prime Minister Mr. Somchai Wongsawat extended greetings at the call.

MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein and the Prime Ministers of Cambodia, Laos and Thailand call on Vietnamese President Mr. Nguyen Minh Triet.—MNA

Press meet on IBTC Open Golf Championships

YANGON, 8 Nov — A press meet on organizing IBTC Open Golf Championships which will be jointly-organized by PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation with the sponsorship of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd, was held at Grand Ballroom of

Hotel Yangon here yesterday afternoon.

It was attended by General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department, Patron of Myanmar PGA and MGF Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), Vice-

President of MGF U Min Thein, General Secretary U Aung Kyi and executives, officials of IBTC, guests and media men.

MGF General Secretary U Aung Kyi delivered an address and Executive Director U Tint Oo of IBTC explained purpose of holding the

tournament.

Next, officials answered the queries raised by those present and the press meet came to an end.

The first event for the IBTC Open Golf Championships will be held from 7 to 10 December 2008 at Lashio Golf Club, the second match, from 11 to 14 January 2009 at Yedagun Taung Golf Resort in Mandalay, the third match, from 25 to 28 January at Ayethayar Golf Resort in Shan State (South) and the fourth match, from 15 to 18 February at City Golf Resort Pongy Yangon respectively.

Handsome prizes will be awarded at IBTC Open Golf Championships.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses opening...

(from page 16)
Summit Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung.
Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein had a documentary photo taken together with Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Laos Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung and ASEAN Under Secretary-General Ms Soeung Rath Chavy.

Afterwards, the Summit was opened with an address by Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung.
Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein made a speech. In his speech, he thanked the Vietnamese government for its arrangements for holding the Sum-

mit on a grand scale and hospitality. He said that the Myanmar government and its people sympathized with the loss of lives and property in Vietnam that were caused by recent floods; that he believed that the difficulties facing will soon be overcome under the far-sighted leadership of the Vietnamese government; that Myanmar also suffered the loss of lives and property that were caused by the storm Nargis this year and thanked neighbouring countries for providing assistance to storm victims and sending medical teams.

The Prime Minister went on to say that Myanmar government tried its utmost in rehabilitation of storm-hit regions after forming the

tripartite core group including ASEAN and United Nations and at present, the rehabilitation tasks have been completed successfully.
As efforts are being made for promotion of

mutual assistance and co-operation among our four nations in accord with the Vientiane Declaration laid down four years ago, progress has been made in that regard, he said.

He expressed his firm belief saying that the present Summit will provide an opportunity to seek ways and means to effectively implement the Vientiane Declaration and future work programmes.

He also said that the present global financial crisis has resulted in a decrease in assistance provided by friendly nations to the country and stressed the need to make continued efforts for acquisition of financial resources for success of the projects being implemented by the four nations.

Now, food insecurity and energy safety call for special emphasis on the

agricultural and energy sectors, he said.

Myanmar will have to make continued efforts to boost cooperation in the agricultural, industrial and energy sectors as it is the leading country in the those sectors, he stressed.

He made suggestions that projects to be implemented through operation should be designated in priority, and they should be implemented in accordance with time frames and schedules in order to implement the projects effectively.

The six primary ASEAN countries are required to provide necessary assistance to CLMV countries to speed up the programmes for ASEAN integration and to reduce the development gap between ASEAN countries, he said.

He said that he believes that the summit will yield fruitful results and will pave the way for co-operation in future due to fine traditions and the spirit of friendly relations and cooperation of CLMV countries.

He reiterated that Myanmar pledges to continue to work hard in co-operation with Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam for economic, and social development of CLMV sub-region.

ASEAN Under-Secretary General Ms Soeung Rath Chavy delivered a speech, and the opening ceremony came to an end.

The summit took place at Room (339) of National Convention Centre. Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung presided over the summit.

The Vietnamese Prime Minister dealt with reviewing cooperation progress and future directions for CLMV.

Next, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen and Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh assessed the reviews of cooperation progress and future directions for CLMV.

Myanmar Prime Minister General Thein Sein held discussions about reviewing cooperation progress and future directions for CLMV.

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein signs the joint declaration of CLMV nations.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein, the Prime Ministers of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam and the ASEAN Under Secretary-General pose for a documentary photo.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends the 4th CLMV Summit.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses opening...

(from page 8)

ASEAN Under-Secretary General Ms Soeung Rathchavy touched upon programmes of ASEAN to provide assistance for development of CLMV countries.

At the summit, heads of government exchanged views on progress in reviewing cooperation progress and future directions for CLMV after the third summit, and held cordial discussions on matters for boosting economic cooperation between the sub-region and CLMV countries for

economic cooperation and bridging the development gap between CLMV countries. They held cordial discussions to designate time and location for the fifth summit.

The prime ministers of CLMV countries agreed to hold the fifth summit in Cambodia in 2010, and approved the future work on economic

cooperation and integration of CLMV countries, and the joint-declaration of the fourth summit.

The Vietnamese Prime Minister gave concluding remarks. The fourth summit came to a close at 4 p.m.

Heads of government of CLMV countries signed the joint-declaration at the same venue.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein shakes hands with Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung.

MNA



Thai Prime Minister calls on Prime Minister General Thein Sein



Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets Thai Prime Minister Mr Somchai Wongsawat.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov – Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Somchai Wongsawat called on Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein at Room No. (249-C) of the National Convention Centre in Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at 11.30 a.m. yesterday.

Present at the call together with Prime Minister General Thein Sein were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw and Director-General of the Political Department U Kyaw Tin. Together with the Thai Prime Minister were Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Sompong Amornvitvat, Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr Virachai Naewboonnien and Director-General of the International Cooperation Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr Krit Kraichitti of Thailand.

MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends Working Dinner of ACMECS leaders

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended the Working Dinner of ACMECS leaders at Sofitel Plaza Hotel in Hanoi of the Vietnam at 7 p.m on 6 November.

It was also attended by Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Laotian Prime Minister Bouasone Bouphavanh, Thai Prime Minister Mr Somchai Wongsawat, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr

Nguyen Tan Dung, Myanmar Foreign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win, Leader of ACMECS high-ranking officials to Myanmar Director-General U Kyaw Tin of the Political Department, the foreign affairs ministers of ACMECS countries and senior officials.

At the dinner, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung extended greetings and clarified preparations for the 3rd ACMECS

Summit and work programmes to be done.

The Cambodian Prime Minister, Laotian Prime Minister, the Myanmar Prime Minister and the Thai Prime Minister of ACMECS held a discussion during the dinner.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends Working Dinner hosted to leaders of 3rd ACMECS Summit.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein arrives in Hanoi

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein, accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin and departmental heads, left here on 5 November by special flight for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to attend the 4th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit and the 3rd Ayeyawady - Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit to be held in Hanoi.

The special aircraft carrying Prime Minister

General Thein Sein touched down at Noibai International Airport in Hanoi at 12.20 p.m Vietnamese Standard Time.

Myanmar Ambassador U Aung Thein and Deputy Head of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SRV Mr Le Minh Thang boarded the plane and welcomed the Prime Minister.

Next, the Prime Minister was welcomed by Minister for Culture, Sports and Tourism of the SRV Mr Hoang Tuan Anh and the Prime Minister was presented a bouquet by a young Vietnamese girl.

The Prime Minister

was greeted by Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tran Van Tung. A Myanmar young girl presented a bouquet to Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

The Prime Minister was also welcomed by the wife of Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam, Military Attaches Brig-Gen Than Aung and Col Tin Tun Aye and their wives, staff of Myanmar Embassy and Office of the Military Attaches and families.

The Myanmar delegation led by the Prime Minister arrived at Hanoi Daewoo Hotel in Hanoi.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein greets Minister for Culture, Sports and Tourism of the SRV Mr Hoang Tuan Anh at Noibai International Airport.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein urges embassy staff to uphold bilateral interests of Myanmar and Vietnam for strengthening goodwill relations



Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets the embassy staff led by the ambassador and the military attaché and families.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein met Myanmar Ambassador U Aung Thein, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Than Aung and their wives, embassy staff and their families at No. 298/A, Kinma Road in Hanoi on 5 November.

The embassy staff led by the ambassador and the military attaché and families paid respects to the Prime Minister in accord with Myanmar traditional customs.

The Prime Minister explained to the embassy

staff the implementation of the guidelines given by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe for stability, peace and tranquility and all-round development in the country, loss of lives and property due to the unprecedented cyclone Nargis, rescue operations in the aftermath of the cyclone including creating better social life of the local people than that in the past, providing of food, clothing and shelter needs for the storm victims and resuming their business arranged by the government, wellwishers, the Tatmadaw, social organizations, entrepreneurs, international organizations, construction of five road networks in Ayeyawady Division which can prevent loss of lives and property in case of a natural disaster due to the global climate change, arrangements for construction of cyclone shelters, developments in the country, systematic implementation of the seven- step Road Map phase by phase for establishment of a democratic nation and relations among ASEAN nations, UN and international community.

The Prime Minister urged the embassy staff to always follow the diplomatic codes of conduct, rules and regulations and uphold bilateral interests of the two countries for strengthening goodwill relations between the two nations.

The Prime Minister presented gifts to the ambassador and wife, the military attaché and wife, and staff.

Next, the dinner was hosted in honour of the Myanmar delegation led by the Prime Minister.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Kim Yong Il and party of DPRK at SPDC Office in Nay Pyi Taw.
(News on page 16)

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov—The Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee held its meeting 40/2008 at the meeting hall of Nay Pyi Taw Command Headquarters yesterday with an address by Patron of the Supervisory Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin.

In his address, Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin spoke of the need for members of the Supervisory Committee to

strive for successful implementation of the Supervisory Committee's objectives and to make necessary arrangements for organizing the second knowledge show and competitions on traffic rules by the end of November.

Next, the chairman of the traffic rules enforcement supervisory committee reported on comparison of traffic accidents and matters related to township-wise traffic rules enforcement

and work carried out committee and sub-committee-wise.

The commander fulfilled the requirements and made the concluding remarks.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Deputy Commander Col Min Zaw, members of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana District and Township Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committees and departmental officials.—MNA

Myanmar delegation arrives back

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov—The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung arrived back here by air this morning after paying visit to the Republic of

India.

They were welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-

Gen Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, the director-general of Religious Affairs Department and officials.

MNA



Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung being welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA

Sein Gay Har Hledan Centre opens

YANGON, 8 Nov—Sein Gay Har Business Group opened Sein Gay Har Hledan Centre at Sandar Myaing Tower of No 39/41, Hledan Road in Kamayut Township, here. It was attended by Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, guests and business entrepreneurs.

Patron of Sein Gay Har Business Group U Ba Aung, Managing Director U Maung Win, Director Dr Htet Ko Ko and Sandar Myaing Tower owner U Tin Maung Than formally opened the centre.

The mayor formally unveiled the stone inscription of the centre and looked round the centre.

Sein Gay Har

Business Group has opened Sein Gay (Har 19th Street,) Sein Gay Har Matbu, Sein Kaung Gay Har, Sein Gay Har Central Mart, Sein Gay Har

(Super Centre) and now Sein Gay Har Hledan Centre. Sein Gay Har Hledan Centre opens daily from 9 am to 9 pm.

MNA



Patron of Sein Gay Har Business Group U Ba Aung and responsible persons formally open Sein Gay Har Hledan Centre.—MNA

Development tasks inspected in Dalla Township

YANGON, 8 Nov—Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa looked into spraying of insecticide, adding chlorine in water, organizing educative demonstration and talks being carried out by Health Department of YCDC on Min Ye Kyaw Swa 1st Street in Bo Yan Pyay Ward of Dalla Township this morning.

Next, the vice-mayor met with townseiders, members of social organizations, departmental officials at the meeting hall of Dalla Township Peace and Development Council Office.

The Vice-Mayor and officials inspected harvesting of paddy at model field of Farmer U Myint Zaw in Ye Chaungwa Village. The vice-mayor urged officials to grow sunflower and green gram as winter crops.—MNA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO (045)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTARAKAN VOY NO (045) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.11.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Parks can cut health gap
between rich and poor

LONDON, 8 Nov — Parks, playing fields and forests greatly narrow health gaps between the rich and poor, and governments should do more to promote and invest in green areas, researchers said on Friday.

Earlier studies have linked living near green space to improved health but the findings in the journal Lancet show some of the impacts are bigger than thought, said Richard Mitchell, an epidemiologist who led the study.

"The size of the difference in the health gap is surprising and represented a much bigger effect than I had been expecting," Mitchell, a researcher at the University of Glasgow, said in a telephone interview.

"So the key message is green spaces are another tool for governments to combat this health gap between rich and poor."

Promoting outdoor recreation and boosting health can in the long run save on health care spending, he added.

Parkland and open space make a difference, Mitchell said, by helping people get rid of stress and allowing more physical activity — both of which reduce risk of heart disease.

"This is the first time we have demonstrated that aspects of the physical environment can have an impact in such a good way," he said. "It is a combination of exercise and restoration."

Internet

IN MEMORIUM

Haji Azam Jeewa (a)
U Kyi Myint (JuJu Bhai)
Ex- Secretary (Myanmar Cricket Federation)

In sad and everlasting memory of our dearest husband , father and grand-father who passed away on 9th Nov,'07, but never forgotten.

Beloved wife - Rita & Family.

Hyundai Motor denies
interest in Chrysler assets

SEOUL, 8 Nov — South Korea's Hyundai Motor Co (005380.KS) on Saturday denied its interest in Chrysler's assets, adding it had no capacity for a new acquisition as it focused on completing construction of overseas plants.

On Friday, Reuters reported Hyundai had had talks with Chrysler LLC owner Cerberus Capital Management about a potential acquisition of the struggling US automaker's Jeep brand and possibly other assets, citing people with knowledge of the talks.

"We have no interest in whatsoever in acquiring Chrysler, including Jeep and have not engaged in any discussions with Cerberus on this matter," Hyundai Motor spokesman Jake Jang said.

"Our hands are full now."

The emergence of South Korea's largest automaker as a potential bidder for at least part of Chrysler came on the same day as General Motors Corp (GM.N) said it shelved its own pursuit of an acquisition of its cross-town rival.

Cerberus planned to restart talks with other potential partners for Chrysler, including Renault-Nissan, the sources said.

Jeep is considered Chrysler's most valuable asset.—Internet

Congo rebel leader Nkunda
vows to keep fighting

TEBERO, 8 Nov — High in the mist-shrouded Mushaki mountains, amid a drenching tropical storm, the rebel leader swept into the crumbling brick farmhouse, his sinewy frame swathed in a red-and-black shawl —dutifully followed by a pet lamb called Betty.

Gen. Laurent Nkunda, extolled by supporters as a gift from God, beamed a toothy smile as he shook hands and exuded charm during an interview with The Associated Press.

The lamb was meant as a symbol of peace — meshing with the image Nkunda has tried to show the world: that he is a responsible, compassionate leader whose only ambition is to bring freedom to his people in the mineral-rich Congo. The rebels are battling Congolese soldiers in a conflict that many fear will spread.

Even as he was giving the interview this week, his fighters an hour's drive away were killing unarmed civilians, looting and burning, according to witnesses and a human rights body. Among those shot in the head: a 25-year-old radio reporter who angered the rebels with his broadcasts.

But there was no way to know that as Nkunda spoke at the mountaintop retreat.

Internet

Zookeeper
Renae Zammit
holds Monifa,
a three-week-
old pygmy
hippopotamus,
in its enclosure
at Taronga
Zoo in Sydney
on 7 Nov,
2008.

INTERNET



Ten die as renewed fighting escalates
in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU, 8 Nov — Ten people were killed including three Ethiopian soldiers and 16 others were wounded as Islamist insurgent fighters carried out a number of concerted attacks on military bases of Somali government forces and Ethiopian troops in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, two days after a ceasefire agreement was supposed to come into effect, witnesses and hospital sources said.

"Three people in our neighborhood died when a shell landed on their home," Ahmed Omarey, an eyewitness in Mogadishu's main Bakara market told Xinhua. "There were also five more people who were wounded in the same house".

Two Somali government soldiers were killed and three others wounded after their vehicle run into a remote-controlled landmine in the south of the Somali capital, local media reports quoted witnesses as saying.

Internet

Ariz boy, eight, accused of killing two,
including dad

FLAGSTAFF (Ariz), 8 Nov — An 8-year-old boy is charged with murder in the shooting of his father and another man in a rural community in eastern Arizona, authorities said Friday.

The boy was charged with two counts of premeditated murder in the death of his father, 29-year-old Vincent Romero, and 39-year-old Timothy Romans, St. Johns Police Chief Roy Melnick said.

Police arrived at the home within minutes of the shooting Wednesday, Melnick said. They found one victim just outside the front door and the other dead in an upstairs room.—Internet



Soldiers search a man after a shootout with attackers who tried to free Jaime "The Hummer" Gonzalez, leader of the Gulf drug cartel, in the border city of Reynosa on 7 Nov, 2008. Mexican federal police on Friday captured Gonzalez, a leader of the armed wing of the Gulf drug cartel, and flew him to the capital after a shootout near the US-Mexican border, police said.—INTERNET

China aims to land moon-buggy by 2012

BEIJING, 8 Nov—China aims to put an unmanned buggy on the moon by 2012, local media reported on Friday, laying the ground for its greater ambitions of putting a man on the moon.

In October 2003, China became the third country to put a man in space with its own rocket, after the former Soviet Union and the United States. It sent two more astronauts on a five-day flight on its Shenzhou VI craft in

October 2005.

China launched its third manned space mission in September, with live-to-air footage of its first space-walk captivating the nation.

Its first lunar probe, the Chang'e-1 satellite, named after a lonely goddess who lives with a rabbit on the moon and pines for her husband, finished its mission last month after orbiting the moon thousands of times.

“China will send a

moon-lander and moon-buggy around 2012,” the Beijing News said, citing state television.

Before the moon-lander, China will send Chang'e-2 satellite to fulfil another circumlunar mission, CCTV added.

China said its lunar mission would include three steps of “orbiting, landing and returning”, but has not disclosed schedule of any manned moon mission so far.

Internet



A veterinarian carries a vicuña to be weighed and sheared in the Andean village of Patoko, Bolivia, on 7 Nov, 2008. The vicuña is one of two wild South American camelids which live in the highland areas of the Andes and had been hunted by poachers and farmers in the past for its fine wool.—INTERNET

Brazil sees carbon market saving Amazon

MANAUS, 8 Nov — Growing concern over climate change, and the potential of the carbon credit market, could give the Amazon forest a financial value rivalling the lucrative activities that are eating it away, Brazilian officials believe.

The Amazon — the biggest zone of tropical woodland on the planet — is already home to the Juma reserve, an area of half a million hectares that has become the first project in Brazil to achieve international certification for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by averting deforestation.

The government in Amazonas state want to replicate that model over 34 other reserves it manages, and it wants to use financing from the carbon market to help preserve the forest and improve the lives of people living within it.

“We will be a big player in the carbon market,” said Virgilio Viana, director of the Sustainable Amazonas



An aerial view of the Amazon forest next to Manaus City in 2006.—INTERNET

Foundation running the reserves.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in August launched an international Amazon Fund, which has already attracted a one-billion-dollar donation pledge from Norway's government up to 2015.

The carbon credits scheme resulted from the Kyoto accord, which came into force three years ago. It opened the way to monetize the shortfall in greenhouse emissions targets and have them traded on a world market.—Internet

Traditional medicine passes WHO health checks

BEIJING, 8 Nov—Health representatives from more than 70 countries gathered in Beijing on Friday to swap ideas on how to make traditional medicine, ranging from acupuncture

to leech treatment, more widely available. The two-day World Health Organization (WHO) event, built around seminars on regulatory standards and folk medicine in cultures from South Africa to Japan, is expected to end with member countries agreeing to expand traditional medicine in their health care systems. WHO officials at the event said blending traditional and Western medicine could make each more effective.

Internet



A patient rests with acupuncture needles on her face in a file photo. Health representatives from more than 70 countries gathered in Beijing on Friday to swap ideas on how to make traditional medicine, ranging from acupuncture to leech treatment, more widely available.—INTERNET

Current warming sharpest climate change in 5,000 years

WASHINGTON, 8 Nov — Research on Arctic and North Atlantic ecosystems shows the recent warming trend counts as the most dramatic climate change since the onset of human civilization 5,000 years ago, according to studies published Thursday. Researchers from Cornell University studied the increased introduction of fresh water from glacial melt, oceanic circulation, and the change in geographic range migration of oceanic plant and animal species.—Internet

EU-led talks on protecting Arctic environment set for Sunday

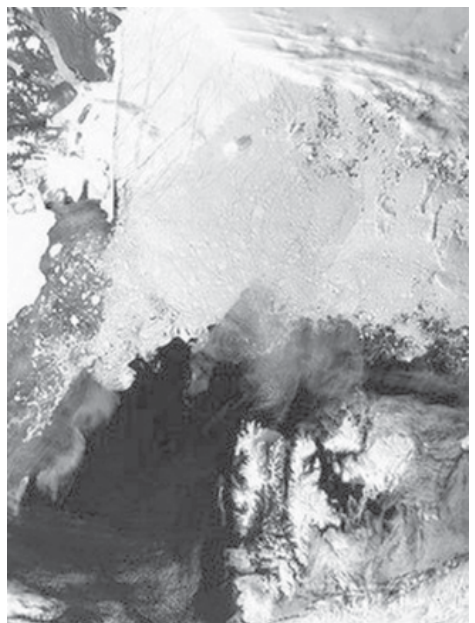
PARIS, 8 Nov — Talks will take place in the Mediterranean principality of Monaco Sunday and Monday on how to beef up environmental research in the Arctic, officials said on Friday.

The conference, unfolding under the chairmanship of current European Union president France, will gather countries of the 27-nation EU, as well as Norway, Iceland, Monaco and representatives from Greenland, a Danish territory.

Invitations have also gone out to non-European members of the Arctic Council — Canada, Russia and the United States — and to representatives from China, India, Japan and South Korea which have scientific activities in the region, the sources said. Sunday's talks will unfold among experts, who will draw up an inventory of environment research in the Arctic and discuss creating a network of observational stations.

Monday's meeting, at the level of ministers or their stand-ins, will debate the experts' recommendations.

The Arctic has become identified by scientists as a region of extreme environmental fragility.



This 2006 Envisat MERIS image released by the European Space Agency (ESA) shows the area North of Svalbard, Norway, where a very low sea ice concentration can be seen.—INTERNET

Disappearing sea ice, triggered by global warming, poses a threat to polar bears and other wildlife as well as to local people who hunt on the ice and live on its edge.—Internet

Smoking coupled with obesity raises death risk

WASHINGTON, 8 Nov — Everyone knows smoking and being obese is not healthy for you, but now a new study shows the odds of dying early

are highest among obese smokers. “We know that obesity and smoking by themselves are important health risk factors,” said lead researcher Annemarie Koster, an epidemiologist at the US National Institute on Aging. “We found that smoking and obesity are independent predictors of mortality, but smoking and being obese especially increases the mortality risk.”

Smoking and obesity

both carry a significant mortality risk, but particularly smoking, Koster said. “It seems that smoking cessation was associated with significantly lower mortality risk in every weight group,” she said. “Quitting smoking will definitely improve your mortality risk, no matter in what weight group you are.” Losing weight will also lower mortality risk, Koster said.

Internet

SPORTS

Wenger dismisses speculation he might quit Arsenal



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger

LONDON, 8 Nov — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger dismissed on Friday speculation that he was thinking of quitting after a grim week for his fledgling side.

“No, I love it here,” Wenger told a news conference before Arsenal’s Premier League home match against defending champions Manchester United on Saturday (1245 GMT). “In my decisions always what is first is the interest of the club, not what the media will think. I cannot influence what people say but I can influence the future of the club.

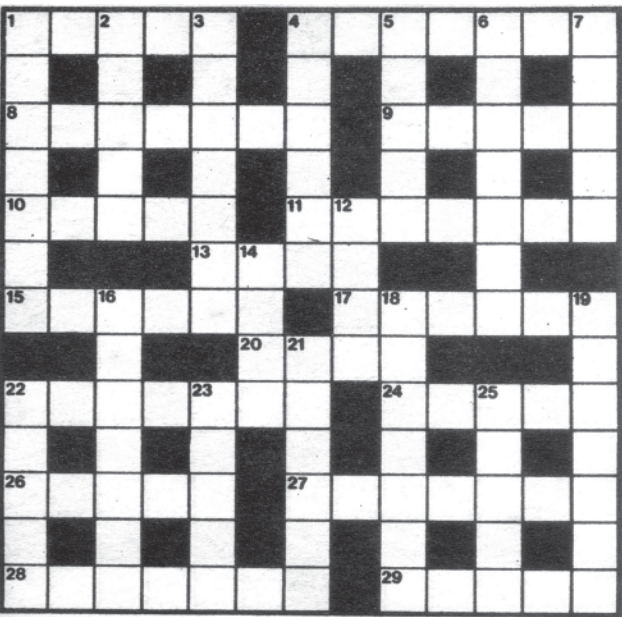
“I am proud of the decisions that I have made.”

Last week Arsenal twice squandered a two-goal lead against north London rivals Tottenham, who snatched a goal in extra time to salvage a 4-4 draw.

On Saturday, Arsenal were unable to cope with a robust Stoke City side and the long throws of Rory Delap, losing 2-1.

Then came a frustrating 0-0 draw with Turkish side Fenerbahce in their Champions League group match at the Emirates stadium on Wednesday night which also added to the club’s growing injury list when defender Mikael Silvestre left the field with a broken nose.—*Internet*

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



- ACROSS**

 - 1 Electrical power units
 - 4 Preparing a hot meal
 - 8 Reprimand
 - 9 Swiss town
 - 10 Type of nut
 - 11 Beseech
 - 13 Fencing weapon
 - 15 Does up (anag.)
 - 17 Extremely cold
 - 20 Overdue
 - 22 School bag
 - 24 Sag
 - 26 Danger signal
 - 27 Very old
 - 28 Lockjaw
 - 29 Utter slowly
- DOWN**

 - 1 Venerate
 - 2 Precious stone
 - 3 Glowered
 - 4 Refreshing drink
 - 5 Planetary path
 - 6 Examine
 - 7 Visitor
 - 12 Orderly
 - 14 Long wooden post
 - 16 Draw out
 - 18 Down in price
 - 19 Chief city
 - 21 Every time
 - 22 Barely sufficient
 - 23 Mortal
 - 25 Greek letter

Four share early second-round lead in soggy Shanghai

SHANGHAI, 8 Nov — Henrik Stenson, Adam Scott, Geoff Ogilvy and Graeme McDowell shared a one-shot lead as the final grouping reached the halfway point of the second round at the rain-disrupted HSBC Champions on Saturday.

After Friday’s washout and a three-hour delay to Saturday’s start, the skies finally cleared and offered hope that the players might still be able to play the full 72 holes, even if the fourth round now looks likely to be completed on Monday.

Sweden’s first-round leader Stenson mixed a couple of birdies with a bogey on his front nine to move to eight under par and Australian Scott joined him by picking up three shots before the turn.

Briton McDowell was the best of the early starters, racing to to the top of the leaderboard with seven birdies through the 15th but Australian Ogilvy was also going well at six under for the day through the 13th. Neither player had dropped a shot.

Defending champion Phil Mickelson had two birdies and a bogey at the turn to move to seven under and he shared fifth place with his Zimbabwean playing partner Marc Cayeux.

Spain’s Sergio Garcia, who could overhaul Mickelson as world number two with a win this weekend, parred every hole on the front nine to stay a stroke behind his American rival in a tie for seventh with four other players.

Organisers had hoped to start play at 645am local time (2245 GMT) and complete the whole of the second round and half of the third on Saturday but light rain continued to fall on the Sheshan International Golf Club overnight, delaying the start.—*Internet*

UEFA opens Celtic investigation

LONDON, 8 Nov — UEFA has opened a disciplinary investigation after a teenage supporter invaded the pitch during Celtic’s 1-1 home draw with Manchester United in the Champions League on Wednesday.

Celtic have a suspended fine of 30,000 Swiss francs (\$25,600) hanging over them from last season after a fan ran on the pitch near the end of their Champions League win over AC Milan and made contact with visiting goalkeeper Dida.

European soccer’s ruling body UEFA said its disciplinary committee would examine the latest incident at their next meeting on 13 Nov.— *Internet*

Serena, Ivanovic withdraw from WTA Championships

DOHA, 8 Nov — World number three Serena Williams and fourth-ranked Ana Ivanovic withdrew from the WTA Championships on Friday.

Williams, who also pulled out last year after playing just one set, blamed a sore stomach muscle.

Ivanovic, who is suffering from a virus and after losing her first two matches could not qualify for the semi-finals, defaulted her last match against Russian Svetlana Kuznetsova.

Although Serena won just one game in the last two sets of her defeat by sister Venus on Thursday, the American said she only felt the problem develop back at her hotel.

“I felt I didn’t serve well, I had a lot of double faults,” Serena told reporters. “Looking back I think maybe that’s why I was doing it because I didn’t feel it (the injury) at the time.

“I think I might have been over-compensating but the moment I got home I did feel pain. When I woke up around 2pm I was still in pain just getting out of bed.”—*Internet*

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

Arsenal	2 - 1	Man Utd
Hull City	0 - 1	Bolton
Liverpool	3 - 0	WBA
Sunderland	1 - 2	Portsmouth
West Ham Utd	1 - 3	Everton
Wigan Athletic	0 - 0	Stoke City



Sunderland 1-2 Portsmouth: Djibril Cisse latches on to Andy Reid's 60-yard pass to fire the home side ahead from the edge of the box.

Nakamura doubtful for football WC qualifier against Qatar



Celtic midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura

TOKYO, 8 Nov — Celtic midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura is doubtful for the World Cup qualifier against Qatar on November 19 after injuring his left knee in training, it was reported on Saturday.

Nakamura, regarded as the national team’s key player, picked up the knock on Thursday and decided to skip Saturday’s game

against Motherwell after an MRI scan in Glasgow, sports daily Sports Nippon said.

“I feel pains in the inside of the left knee. It hurts when I try to kick a ball. I’m going to skip Saturday’s game,” he was quoted as saying by the newspaper.

According to the paper, doctors will give their diagnosis after Saturday and it is doubtful that Nakamura will feature in fixtures against Kilmarnock and Hamilton in the Scottish Premier League next week.

—*Internet*

Shin leads Mizuno Classic

SHIMA, 8 Nov — Women’s British Open champion Shin Ji-yai shot a bogey-free 6-under 66 on Saturday to take a two-stroke lead in the Mizuno Classic.

Shin, the South Korean star making her fifth start of the year in Japan, had a 10-under 134 total on the Kinetsu Kashikojima course.

Shin birdied two of the first seven holes to reach 6 under, then birdied Nos. 10-11 and 15-16 to reach 10 under in the event sanctioned by the LPGA Tour and Japan LPGA.

Japan’s Mayu Hattori, coming off a victory last week in the JLPGA’s IDC Otsuka Ladies, was second after a 69. South Korea’s Lee Jee-young and Japan’s Shiho Oyama shot 68s to reach 7 under.

Defending champion Momoko Ueda, the first Japanese player to win the event in nine years, was even par after a 74. Japanese star Ai Miyazato also was even par after a 73.—*Internet*

India's spacecraft enters lunar orbit: officials

BANGOLARE, 8 Nov—India's first unmanned spacecraft entered lunar orbit Saturday, 18 days after an Indian-built rocket transported it into outer space, officials here announced.

"The motor on board Chandrayaan-1 was fired at 5:15 pm (1145 GMT) for 805 seconds, which successfully put the spacecraft into lunar orbit," Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Director S. Satish announced.

Chandrayaan-1, which was launched on October 22, entered the moon's space on Tuesday after orbiting the earth for several days.

Mission controllers hope the spacecraft's orbit will stabilise in about a week, said Satish at the ISRO headquarters in Bangalore. It is then expected to send a probes to the moon's surface to carry out tests.

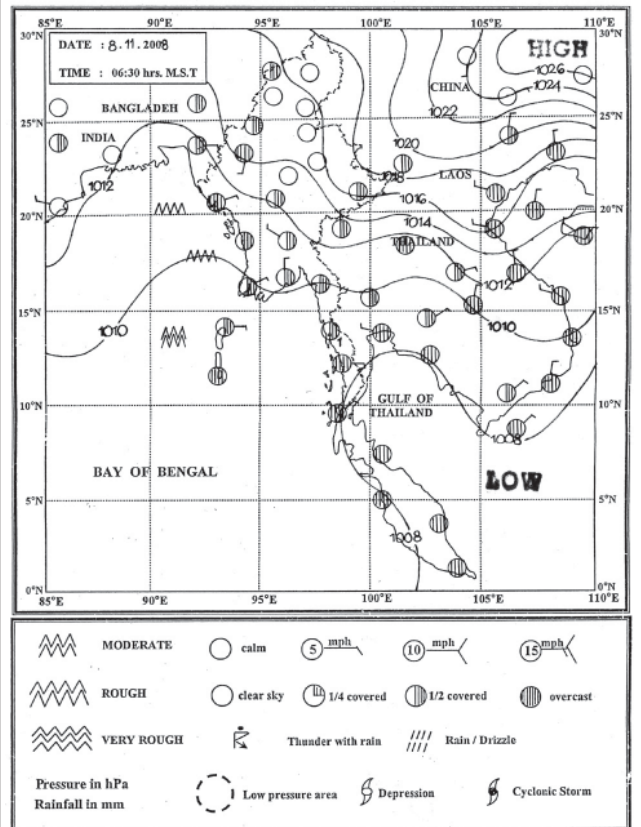
Internet



A rocket carrying India's first lunar probe Chandrayaan-1 blasts off from north of Chennai in October, 2008. India's first unmanned spacecraft entered lunar orbit Saturday, 18 days after an Indian-built rocket transported it into outer space, officials here announced.

INTERNET

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 8 November, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Mon and Kayin States, Taninthayi Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Kachin State, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (6°C) below November average temperatures in Rakhine State and Magway Division, (7°C) to (8°C) below November average temperatures in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division and about November average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (0°C) and Loilin (5°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Ye (0.59) inch and Kawkaireik (0.43) inch.

Maximum temperature on 7-11-2008 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 8-11-2008 was 65°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 8-11-2008 was 73%. Total sunshine hours on 7-11-2008 was (8.1) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 8-11-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (110.31) inches at Mingaladon, (120.95) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northeast at (13:30) hours MST on 7-11-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 9th November 2008: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Division, scattered in Mon State, isolated in Kachin and Kayin States, Yangon Division and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at time Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be slight to moderate elsewhere 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 9-11-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-11-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-11-2008: Partly cloudy.

National computer exam postponed due to loss of exam papers

BEIJING, 8 Nov—A national computer exam scheduled on Saturday and Sunday had been postponed to Dec. 20 and 21 due to the loss of exam papers, said an office in charge of the exam.

More than 80,000 people had registered for the exam for the latter half of 2008.

Some netizens posted entries on the country's major portal, sina.com, saying that the new exam schedule would clash with a national English test for

college students. Those who had registered for both exams, pleaded with the office for holding the computer exam one week before the English exam. However, the office had not yet decided whether they would change the schedule.

The office, comprising the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security and the Ministry of Industry and Information, said that the papers got lost in the process of transfer in Weihai City in eastern Shandong

Province. The exam was postponed for fear of leaking.

All the would-be exam takers would automatically be entered their named for December's exam, said the office.

Those who pass the exam, would obtain certificates for employment in computer and software industry. More than 1.6 million people attended the exam which has been held twice a year for more than a decade.

Internet

Strong quake jolts eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 8 Nov—An earthquake with magnitude of 6.2 rocked eastern parts of Indonesia on Saturday morning, with no initial report of damage or casualty, meteorology agency said here.

The quake struck at 01:04 local time (2004 GMT) with epicentre at 302 kilometres southeast Ambon, the capital city of Maluku Province and at 133 kilometres under sea bed, he said.

MNA/Xinhua



Sunday, 9 November
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. "စီးဆင်းပါစေမေတ္တာရည်" (မေကဗျာ၊ ဖူးဖူး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်ဇော်[ကုမ္ပဏီ])

7:55 am

5. လူပျိုပျိုပျိုပျိုပျို

8:10 am

6. အတီးမြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

7. International news

8:45 am

8. Musical programme

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. တန်ဆောင်တိုင်တေးများ

11:25 am

3. ဖျာပတ်ကျေးလက်(၃၈)မြောက်ကလောင်

11:35 am

4. Round up of the week's international news

11:45 am

5. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

12:10 pm

6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေမေမေတ္တာကုသေကုသေ" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)

1:00 pm

7. Golf magazine (TV)

1:20 pm

8. မြန်မာ့ဗီဒီယိုဇာတ်လမ်း "ပြေပြေလည်လည်" (လူမင်း၊ အောင်လွင်၊ အိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဟိန်းစိုး)

2:45 pm

9. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. Dance of national races

4:20 pm

3. Musical programme

4:30 pm

4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာအထူးပြု) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)

4:45 pm

5. Song to uphold national spirit

5:00 pm

6. Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

7. Evening news

6:30 pm

8. Weather report

6:35 pm

9. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် "Pocket dragon adventure"

6:55 pm

10. တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ

"အိပ်မက်ဆိုး" (မင်းသူ၊ မိုးဟောမန်ခင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်သာ[ပွဲကြိုက်ခင်])

7:15 pm

11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သယံဇာတဇာတ်လမ်း" (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

8:00 pm

12. News

13. International news

14. Weather report

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"အချစ်စစ်ရှာဖွေခြင်း" (အပိုင်း-၆)

Prime Minister sends message of felicitations to Cambodian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—On the occasion of the 55th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2008, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses opening of 4th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein attended the opening of the 4th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit held at Room 241 of National Convention Centre in Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at 2 p.m on 6 November and made a speech on the occasion.

Present on the occasion were Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Laos Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, ASEAN

Under Secretary-General Ms Soeung Rath Chavy, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Aung Thein and heads of departments, ministers of foreign affairs of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, economic ministers, high-ranking officials and entrepreneurs.

Before the summit, the prime ministers arrived at the National Convention Centre at 1.55 p.m. They were welcomed there by Alternate Chairman of the

(See page 8)

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses the 4th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit.—MNA

Secretary-1 receives Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of DPRK

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo received the delegation led by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Kim Yong Il of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and members at the office of the State Peace and Development Council, here, this evening.

Also present at the call together with Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha

Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Director-General of the SPDC Office

Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director-General of Consular and Legal Affairs

Department U Min Lwin and Deputy Director-General of International Organizations and Economic

Department U Nyunt Swe.

Deputy Minister Mr Kim Yong Il and party of

DPRK were accompanied by Ambassador of DPRK Mr Kim Sok Chol.

MNA

Survey successfully conducted for oil and gas exploration in Block AD-7

Continued tasks to be undertaken according to work programmes

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov— Offshore blocks in Myanma Exclusive Economic Zone were tendered for exploration and production of oil and gas. In 2000, Daewoo International Corporation won a bid for Rakhine offshore block A-1. The

corporation conducted exploration and a press release regarding the discovery of natural gas in the block that can be produced on a commercial scale was issued on 15 January 2004.

The corporation also won the bids for Rakhine offshore blocks A-3 and

AD-7 in 2004 and 2005 respectively. Seismic survey was conducted to measure the deposit of natural gas. Pale West 1(A) exploration well was drilled in AD-7 block at North Latitude 19 degrees 49 minutes 7.88 seconds and East Longitude 92 de-

grees 4 minutes 23.49 seconds. Drilling was carried out up to the targeted feet between 17 October and 5 November. Necessary survey was completed. According to the tasks to be carried out, drilling machine was moved to Thanda (1) exploration well in block

A-3 at North Latitude 19 degrees 12 minutes 57.99 seconds and East Longitude 92 degrees 50 minutes 46.77 seconds from 6 to 8 November. Continued tasks will be undertaken according to the work programmes, it is learnt.—MNA