Minister facilitates Kyaukse Industrial Zone

NAV PYI TAW, 21 Sept — Minister for Industry 1 U Aung Thaung inspected factories of Kyaukse Industrial Zone in Kyaukse on 19 September.

At cement plant in Kyaukse, Minister U Aung Thaung looked into maintenance of grinder for finished goods and installation of gear reducer of main drive system and visited around the factory.

Next, the minister inspected production process of cement bags at Plastic Factory in Kyaukse of the Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries. At brick factory, the minister looked into production of bricks.

The minister later went to bicycle factory of Myanma General and Maintenance Industries and inspected testing production of 15 parts of bicycle, bicycles for men and women, and electric bicycles.

At sewing machine factory in Kyaukse, the minister looked into major machine parts, related items, steel balls ordered by cement plant and production process of casting and fulfilled the needs of the factory.

MNA

Prevent terrorist acts through the strength of the people (1)

Owing to its policy based on racism and warfare, KNU was dwindling away. KNU hoped reinforcements from western countries, but its dream never came true. So, it laid down the second left-leaning policy and started to serve as followers of BCP.

LU THIT

Blues bounce back against United

LONDON, 21 Sept— The Chelsea forward came off the bench to ensure the unbeaten home run extended to 85 matches.

Salomon Kalou salvaged a point and preserved Chelsea’s 85-game unbeaten home record at the end of a breathless clash with Manchester United. The visitors had led for much of the contest following Park Ji-sung’s first-half tap-in.

But 10 minutes from time, after Nicolas Anelka, Didier Drogba, Joe Cole and Michael Ballack had tried and failed to break down United’s stubborn defence, Kalou exposed United’s poor offside trap by nodding home John Mikel Obi’s free-kick 10 minutes from time. Not for the first time in his illustrious career, Ferguson’s team selection caused an outbreak of head scratching among United’s army of fans.

Despite their poor recent form, United showed their attacking intent from the start, when Fletcher turned Hargreaves’ low cross wide, and Chelsea, having lost Deco just before kick-off after the Portugal star was injured in the warm-up, could not get into their stride even though they could call upon Michael Ballack as replacement.

Luiz Felipe Scolari’s team was further disrupted when Ricardo Carvalho hobbled off after just 12 minutes, so there was always a nagging fear. Joe Cole’s failure to find the net when he robbed Patrice Evra to give himself a clear sight of goal was going to prove costly. — Internet
**PERSPECTIVES**

Monday, 22 September, 2008

National entrepreneurs to strive for industrial development

The government has established 18 major industrial zones and 28 sub-industrial zones in various regions for industrial development in the country. It allows industrialists to undertake small and medium industries in joint ventures except heavy industries while promoting the role of the private sector in conformity with economic policies laid down.

Transformer Factory of Yangon Transformers and Electrical Co Ltd in Industrial Zone section-1 in Shwepyitha is one of the companies in operation. Moreover, the factory produces transformers used for signal lights on runways of airfield and river water pumping stations. Yangon Transformers and Electrical Co Ltd is building sub-power stations for the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 and making concerted efforts for producing import substitute products and earning foreign exchange.

The products of international standard of the factory are sold in the local and foreign markets in accord with the trade policy.

There are 115 running factories in Industrial Zone sections-1 and 105 in Industrial Zone sections-2, 3 and 4. These factories manufacture consumer goods such as various kinds of clothes, personal goods, machines and spare parts, construction materials, electrical goods, forest products, chemicals, paper and stationery and marine products.

It is important for industrialists of the industrial zones to work hard in cooperation with the government for development of the industrial sector by promoting export items and reducing imports.

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**International Literacy Day observed in Hpa-an, Kayin State**

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept—Brig-Gen Zaw Min, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council, attended a ceremony to mark the International Literacy Day held at Hpa-an No. 1 Basic Education High School on 8 September. The chairman spoke on the occasion, and literacy talks were given. Next, prize winners of essay and poster contests in commemoration of the International Literacy Day were awarded.

On 9 September Brig-Gen Zaw Min visited Tagaungbo Village BEMS (Branch) and donated K 100,000 for the school. On 11 September, the chairman visited a sugarcane plantation, erecting of lamp posts and stockpile of steel cables in Kawthaik Village in Hpa-an Township.

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**Information Minister inspects broadcasting studio in Yangon**

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meeting with officials at the broadcasting studio of Myanmar Radio and Television.—MNA

**World Oral Health Day marked with talks**

YANGON, 21 Sept—Myanmar Dentists’ Association (Central) conducted educative talks to mark the World Oral Health Day at MDA here on 14 September.

President of MDA Prof U Thein Htut made a speech and Prof U Ko Ko Maung extended greetings. Next, the president gave certificates of honour to toothpaste companies.

At the educative talks, Prof U Myo Win, Prof U Ko Ko Maung and Prof (Ret’d) U Pwint Phyu gave educative talks on symposium on diastema—the gap which is problematic for dental practitioners.—MNA

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**First round matches of Defence Services C-in-C’s Shield**

YANGON, 21 Sept—The first round matches of the 24th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Shield (Army, Navy and Air Force) soccer tournament (U-21) will take place from 24 September to 8 October, Group-A will play in Mawlamyine, Group-B in Pathein, Group-C in Monywa, Group-D in Mandalay and Group-E in Toungoo.

The second round matches will take place in Taunggyi from 15 to 24 October.—MNA

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**AGMs of Yangon South, North District USDAs held**

YANGON, 21 Sept—The annual general meeting of Yangon South District Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at District Peace and Development Council Office this morning.

CEC member of the USDA (Yangon Division in-charge) Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa delivered a speech and presented prizes to outstanding students in the 2007-2008.

President of Myanmar Rice Merchants Association presented K 300,000 for regional development to Division Secretary U Aye Myint. Officials concerned awarded 15 merchants who rendered assistance to the storm-hit areas.

Similarly, the annual general meeting of Yangon North District USDA in Insein Township USDA office was held at the Township USDA.

Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa presented prizes to outstanding students in the 2007-2008. Officials concerned presented gifts to those who participated in the social welfare services in the storm-hit areas.

Forty wellwishers presented K 1.5 million for regional development.

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**Minister of Information inspects broadcasting studio in Yangon**

Yangon, 21 Sept—Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met with officials of the broadcasting studio of Myanmar Radio and Television here yesterday.

It was also attended by Managing Director U Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise, Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise, Deputy Director-General U Thein Aung of MRTV and officials concerned.

First, the deputy director-general and Major Tin Aung Swe of the station command reported to the minister on daily broadcasting programmes and security measure taken.

After hearing the reports, the minister gave instructions on systemic control of machines, prevention against fire and distructionists.—MNA

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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
Israel PM Olmert tells Cabinet he is resigning

JERUSALEM, 21 Sept—Israel’s prime minister told his Cabinet on Sunday that he would step down, following through on a promise to allow the new leader of the ruling party to try to form a coalition government.

But Ehud Olmert did not say when he would formally submit a letter of resignation, leaving the exact timing of his departure unclear. Israeli Radio reported that Olmert would hand the letter to President Shimon Peres later in the day, but the report could not be confirmed.

He pledged to stand by Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni, who was elected last week to replace him as chairman of the governing Kadima Party. Livni has been busy in recent days lobbying potential partners to join a new coalition under her leadership.—Internet

Chavez eyes China, Russia, more on “strategic”interest tour

CARACAS, 21 Sept—Leftist Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Sunday set out on a tour he has said holds “great strategic interest,” with stops in China, Russia, Cuba, Belarus, Portugal and France.

“This is a trip of great strategic importance for us,” Chavez said late Friday, stressing that the countries he plans to visit from 21-27 September “have great potential that we are joining to Venezuela’s potential.”

While his official agenda has not been made public lawmakers approved the trip to “strengthen international relations with those countries and sign exchange and cooperation deals on economic, social and cultural matters.”

Chavez will first travel to close ally Cuba, and then to China, which Chavez calls a strategic ally, for the capitalization of a six-billion-dollar bilateral investment fund. He says Caracas will use it for “socialist productive projects.”—Internet

Iran vows to block any attack

TEHERAN, 21 Sept—Iran will stop any attacker before he can “pull the trigger” and sanctions intended to isolate the Islamic Republic have not worked, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told a military parade on Sunday.

The United States and its allies are seeking to step up UN sanctions on Iran over its disputed nuclear plans, which the West says a bid to build nuclear arms. Iran denies this.

There has been persistent speculation Washington or Israel might launch strikes on Iran’s nuclear sites, as neither country has ruled out military action if diplomacy fails to end the row.

“If anybody dares to offend the boundaries of the Iranian nation, the Iranian nation’s holy land and Iran’s legal interests, our armed forces will break his hand before he can pull the trigger,” Ahmadinejad said.

Weekend attacks leave dozens injured in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 21 Sept—At least 35 people were wounded and one killed in seven violent incidents in Baghdad Sunday morning, including seven bombings and two gun attacks, according to an Interior Ministry official.

Sunday’s violence included a roadside bomb blast in northern Baghdad’s Waziriya district that targeted an Iraqi Army convoy, the Interior Ministry official said. At least eight people, including three soldiers, were wounded, the official said.

Another roadside bomb struck an Iraqi police patrol in northern Baghdad’s Adhamiya district Sunday morning, the official said. Five Iraqis, including a policeman, were wounded, he said.

Four Iraqis, including a policeman, were wounded when a bomb attached to a civilian vehicle exploded in central Baghdad on Sunday, the official said.

According to the Interior Ministry official, two Iraqi civilians were hurt by a bomb blast outside the central Baghdad office of a newspaper.

A bomb attached to the vehicle of a Finance Ministry official detonated while he was driving in western Baghdad’s Harthiya district, seriously wounding him Sunday morning, the official said.

The Interior Ministry official reported a roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi police convoy in southeast Baghdad’s Zaafaranai neighbourhood wounded three police officers and three civilians around noon Sunday.

Around the same time, a roadside bomb targeting a police patrol in central Baghdad wounded at least three police officers and four civilians, the official said.

Gunmen with silencers on their weapons ambushed Brigadier Adel Abbasan in western Baghdad’s al Adel neighbourhood as he drove to his Interior Ministry job Sunday morning, the official said. Abbasan, who worked in the ministry’s criminal investigation department, was killed and his driver was wounded.—Internet
Medvedev approves plan for Stability-2008 drill

MOSCOW, 21 Sept — Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on Saturday endorsed a plan for the Stability-2008 strategic exercises, the Interfax news agency reported.

At a meeting with Russian Defence Minister Anatoly Serdyukov, Medvedev asked the “preparedness for the active phase of the exercises and what stages of the exercises have been prepared.”

“We are fully prepared for the exercises,” said the defence minister, who also presented a detailed report on the plan of the exercises to the president.

Serdyukov told reporters on Friday the Stability-2008 drill will be held from 22 Sept to 21 Oct. The scenario of the exercises was developed with the involvement of a broad range of Russian authorities and the Defence Ministry of Belarus. — Xinhu

UN chief condemns bombing attack in Islamabad

UNITED NATIONS, 21 Sept — The United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Saturday strongly condemned the “heinous” terrorist attack on the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan.

“No cause can justify the indiscriminate targeting of civilians,” Ban said in a statement through his spokesperson.

Ban expressed heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims of the attack and to the government and people of Pakistan. At least 60 people died in a blast outside Marriott Hotel in central Islamabad Saturday evening local time. Some 200 were wounded in the massive explosion. — Xinhu

Children learn knowledge by watching a scientific experiment equipment during an science popularization activity in Fujian, southeast China’s Fujian Province, on 20 Sept, 2008, the National Science Popularization Day of China. — Xinhu

Algeria hopes to deepen strategic cooperation with China

ALGIERS, 21 Sept— Algerian Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia on Saturday expressed hopes to further deepen the strategic cooperation between Algeria and China. Meeting with visiting Chinese Vice Commerce Minister Chen Jian, Ahmed Ouyahia said he was satisfied with existing bilateral cooperation, and wished this cooperation would deepen and further develop to a new high.

He urged the Chinese companies in Algeria to have closer cooperation and exchanges with Algerian enterprises. Chen also met with Algerian Commerce Minister El-Hachemi Djaaboub the same day on boosting China-Algeria economic and trade cooperation. — Xinhu

Moderate earthquake jolts Japan’s Chiba region

TOKYO, 21 Sept — A 4.8-magnitude earthquake jolted Japan’s Chiba region at 7:17 am on Sunday, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The epicentre of the tremor was some 80 km underground in northwest Chiba Prefecture bordering Tokyo.

Obvious shocks were felt in most buildings in Tokyo and its vicinity. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage. And no Tsunami warning was issued. — Xinhu

Central bank official: China confident in financial market stability

BEIJING, 21 Sept — China is confident and capable of maintaining a stable financial market amid world industry turmoil, a central bank official has said.

The overall operation of China’s financial market is stable while the banking system has relatively abundant liquidity, said Su Ning, deputy governor of the People’s Bank of China, at a forum in Shanghai on Saturday.

The turbulence on the international market aggravated risks faced by China’s financial sector, but a vast domestic market and internal economic vitality would empower the country to tackle various challenges, said Su. He noted domestic consumption has contributed more to economic growth than before, while natural disasters and global economic troubles have not changed the fundamentals of the world’s fastest expanding economy. Official figures show in the first eight months, China’s retail sales of consumer goods surged 21.9 percent year on year. The central bank reduced the benchmark credit interest rate for the first time since October 2004 on Tuesday, a long-expected move to deal with economic slowdown. — Xinhu

Four killed, two injured in US small jet crash

WASHINGTON, 21 Sept — A small commercial jet crashed midnight in West Columbia, South Carolina, leaving four of the six people on board dead and the rest two seriously wounded, officials said Saturday.

The injured are two famous pop musicians Travis Barker and Adam Goldstein, and they have been admitted to hospitals for treatment, according to officials from the National Transportation Safety Board.

The aircraft, a small commercial Learjet, failed to take off and crashed onto the fence at the end of the runway in an airport in Columbus.

Barker and Goldstein had just performed in Columbus before boarding on the jet.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation. — Xinhu

The wreckage of a Learjet rests on an embankment along Highway 302, along the outskirts of the Columbia Metropolitan Airport, on 20 Sept, 2008, in Columbia, SC. — Internet

Li Changchun (C), a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), speaks at the opening of an exhibition featuring the rescue work on the 12 May earthquake that hit southwest China, in Beijing, capital of China, on 20 Sept, 2008. — Xinhu

Children learn knowledge by watching a scientific experiment equipment during an science popularization activity in Fujian, southeast China’s Fujian Province, on 20 Sept, 2008, the National Science Popularization Day of China. — Xinhu

Photo taken on 19 Sept, 2008 shows the the Yellow River, China’s second longest and popularly known as China’s mother river, in northwest China’s Qinghai Province, on 19 Sept, 2008. The clear water and the sights on the riverbanks present an appealing autumn scenery in the recent days. — Xinhu

The overall operation of China’s financial market is stable while the banking system has relatively abundant liquidity, said Su Ning, deputy governor of the People’s Bank of China, at a forum in Shanghai on Saturday.
Silicon Valley unemployment reaches 4-year high

LOS ANGELES, 21 Sept — In another sign of a slowing economy, the unemployment rate in Silicon Valley inched upward for a fourth consecutive month in August to reach a four-year high, newly released data showed.

Unemployment in Silicon Valley reached 6.6 percent last month, up from a revised 6.5 percent in July and 5 percent in August 2007, according to data made public by California’s Employment Development Department on Saturday. The 6.6 percent unemployment rate in Silicon Valley is the highest since July 2004, when it was 6.7 percent.

The year-over-year job total fell by 1,400 jobs in Santa Clara and San Benito counties which are home to the Silicon Valley. “We’ve lost a lot of wealth, and it’s hitting us even here in Silicon Valley where the fundamentals of the economy are strong,” said Stephen Levy of the Centre for Continuing Study of the California Economy.

Statewide, the unemployment rate was 7.7 percent in August, up from 7.4 percent in July.

The number of people unemployed in California was 1,417,000, up by 61,000 over the past month. The number represents a jump of 413,000 compared with August of last year.

South China club fire kills at least 43, injures 88

SHENZHEN, 21 Sept — A fire at a club in south China’s Guangdong Province left at least 43 people dead and 88 others injured on Saturday night, local police said.

Among those injured, 51 people needed treatment and were being treated in hospital. All were in stable condition, doctors said.

The fire broke out at about 11 pm at a club named “King of the Dance,” in Longgang District in Shenzhen City, when hundreds of people were watching a performance.

According to police’s initial investigation, the fire was triggered by fire-workers ignited during the performance on the third floor of the club.

There was only a narrow aisle, about 10 metres long, in the hall. Many people got hurt in stampede, said Yang Zhi, a club staff member who survived the fire.

“I saw people rushing out at about 11 pm and all light were off,” Yang wetted his clothes and followed the others. He got burns on the neck.

The fire was extinguished at the night. Most of the injured were the audience, police said.

The province has set up a special working team for the case. An investigation has begun.

Obama, McCain combine for record spending

WASHINGTON, 21 Sept — Democrat Barack Obama and Republican John McCain together spent $94 million in August, a record spree mostly aimed at Barack Obama and Republican John McCain together spent $94 million in August, a record spree mostly aimed at

At least 31 dead, nine missing in China coal mine gas outburst

ZHENGZHOU, 21 Sept — At least 31 dead, nine missing in a coal mine gas outburst in central China’s Henan Province early on Sunday.

A local government spokesman said coal and gas erupted at about 1:40 am at Xinfeng No 2 Coal Mine, southwest of Dengfeng City. There were 108 people underground when the accident occurred and 68 of them escaped. Rescue efforts are underway. The coal mine is a private one. — Xinhua

Prisoner sues for pain, stress over moldy cookies

A man who says he bought moldy cookies in the King County Jail is suing the county for pain, suffering and emotional distress.

Moses Wiggins, 41, said he didn’t notice the mold until he had eaten half a bag of cookies.

He spent several days vomiting while suffering diarrhea and stomach cramps.

The incident happened last year at the jail in Kent. He’s currently in the Stafford Creek prison near Aberdeen serving time for a theft conviction.

Police: Man blames bad driving on spilled beer

A man with four previous drunken driving convictions who was stopped for weaving in and out of traffic on Interstate 40 was ready with an excuse for his poor driving: his passenger spilled his beer.

Not surprisingly, the man was arrested just before midnight Saturday, said state police officer Kurtis Ward, who said he initially thought the driver was joking.

“He was so matter of fact about it, like it wasn’t a big deal,” Ward said. The 31-year-old man was allegedly too drunk to perform field sobriety tests and was arrested on aggravated drunken driving charges, court records said.

Ward found four opened bottles of beer in the car, court records showed.

Cops arrest photo radar van driver for alleged DUI

Police in Scottsdale say they’ve arrested a man driving a photo-enforcement van on suspicion of drunken driving.

Sgt Mark Clark said the van owned by Scottsdale-based Redflex Traffic Systems was spotted driving erratically by a citizen Saturday evening.

Clark said in a statement released Tuesday that the witness reported the driver had hit the curb twice and nearly caused a crash.

A Scottsdale officer caught up with the van, saw it weaving and made a traffic stop. The driver was identified as 53-year-old man. He reportedly failed field sobriety tests and was booked and released on an extreme DUI charge.

Police seek shoplifting swimming suspect

Pierre police are looking for a shoplifting suspect who got away by swimming across a narrow part of the Missouri River. An assistant police chief said officers responded to the call Monday afternoon at a clothing store and found the suspect, who gave a false name.

When an officer tried to arrest the man, he took off running and eventually swam across the river to La Framboise Island and couldn’t be found.
Prevent terrorist acts through the strength of the people (1)

Lu Thit

The victims were innocent people. The bomb attacks depicted the grudge the terrorists had harboured long against the government, but those who fall victims to such inhumane attacks are none other than innocent people including children.

How barbarous and ruthless insurgents were! I am sure it has come to the knowledge of the people: the news on bomb blasts that took place in Kyaukkyi on 11 September evening. I have realized that KNU is, in reality, unrivalled in atrocities and inhumane acts, but I felt inconsolable after the deaths of the innocent victims.

At the press conference (1/2008), profound evidences were disclosed as to the plots anti-government groups had hatched to create a public panic, destabilize the nation and incite riots. I thought it was time to crush all the ruthless axe-handles. In many cases, authorities concerned managed to expose clandestine plots of terrorists in cooperation with the people. However, KNU terrorists persist in terrorist acts in the hope of the cash enticements.

A bomb explosion occurred at the video lounge in Theindan Ward, Kyaukkyi. Responsible persons could clear the planted hand-made time bomb at a grocery at about 7 pm. While in the process of clearing the explosives, other two bombs went off with the interval of 10 minutes inside the lounge. The blasts killed Kayin national student Maung Saw Bo Ne Tun, 13, and Bamar national Ma Pan Nu Khaing, 20, and injured nine other Kayin and Bamar national people.

The victims were innocent people. The bomb attacks depicted the grudge the terrorists had harboured long against the government, but those who fall victims to such inhuman attacks are none other than innocent people including children. Maung Saw Bo Ne Tun, for example, was a student, and his whole body was completely wet with blood after his death. Having a look at the photo stated in the newspaper, even I felt very sorry. So, I am sure his parents, sisters and brothers, friends and teachers mourned for his tragic end.

Truthfully, the entire people absolutely abhor the terrorists, who are killing innocent people, posing threats to secure life of the people, harming the public economy. Therefore, the information given by a duty-conscious public member led to the arrest of bomber KNU member Saw Ya Ko (a) Saw Yangon at his home the following night. He lives in Hngetpyawtaw Village, Kyaukkyi Township. In 1976, he got in contact with Phado Saw Nar of the Kayin Central Organization (KCO), and formed more Kayin Rifles and Armes. In the process of clearing the crimes, they had been called in Theindan Ward, Kyaukkyi. Hence, the entire people were overwhelmed by joy after the arrest of KNU member Saw Ya Ko.

According to clarification made at the press conference, internal and external saboteurs are conspiring to detonate bombs in some busy places in the nation; several bombers have been sent into the nation; KNU, ABSDF and VBSW have sent five more bombers to the nation on 10 September; and authorities concerned are taking measures to expose the terrorists and explosives. If they are not exposed in time, we will hear similar bad news on casualties of innocent people. Abysmally cruel insurgents persist in terrorist attacks against the nation, so every public member is duty-bound to inform authorities concerned as soon as possible if they notice someone suspicious.

Having a long look at KNU Saw Ya Ko (a) Saw Yangon, I wondered why KNU were that cruel. My curiosity made me keep on recalling my memories of KNU. I would like to present some points about KNU.

KNU is made up of national traitors who bring miseries to local people of own national races, opening refugee camps. They are first degree culprits of widespread problems of Internal Displaced Persons (IDP), and refugees. They betray the motherland with the west-looking policy, constantly committing murders, lootings, arsons, bomb attacks and blasting public property. In short and to the point, today KNU members are just mercenary puppets and they have been committing diverse atrocities for long such as bomb attacks and slaughtering the people including Kayin nationals, sexual violence, trafficking in persons and recruitment of minors.

Actually, the armed insurgency of KNU is a combination of narrow-minded racism and warlord policy based on the colonialists’ divide-and-rule policy and privileges given by the colonialists to them. Kayin nationals by nature are honest and loyal. Taking advantages of that point, the colonialists organized and shaped Kayin nationals into a national race that was in favour of the former. They armed Kayin people and formed more Kayin Rifles and paramilitary police forces. At the Kayin nationals’ conference in Yangon in February 1946, Karen Central Organization (KCO) was formed with the intention of establishing separate Kayin State. It is very foolish of KCO that it formed a Kayin goodwill delegation, and the same year, it sent the delegation to London to make a demand of forming separate Kayin State under the British Empire. However, British Prime Minister Attlee did not give them a specific response.

In short, KCO turned down Aung San-Attlee Agreement in 1947 and formed Karen National Union (KNU) with new young Kayin members on 6 April. Ten days later, it formed KNDKO as an armed force of KNU.

The colonialist government was responsible for the insurgency of KNU. The colonialists not only stuff Kayin national people with anti-Bamar sentiment, but also armed them. In consequence, since the pre-independence period, Kayin armed forces had been strong militarily. When it was reinforced by KNDKO, KNU strongly equipped itself with racism, and demanded that almost the entire nation be Kayin State. It is fair to say that the colonialist government’s aid and abetment was the root cause of KNU armed insurgency.

Since its birth, KNU has exercised wrong policies. The entire people were overwhelmed by joy after regaining independence. However, KNU reared its ugly head by issuing an announcement that Kayin nationals were an independent race and threatened to secede from the Union. At that time, Kayin State had been granted permission to form Kayin State government and Kayin council in accordance with 1947 constitution, but they again demanded formation of separate Kayin State. After making the unreasonable demands, KNU members went underground in groups in 1948.

(See page 7)
Prevent terrorist acts through the strength of the people (1)

Lu Thit

(from page 6)

It was in 1949, when KNU publicly rose against the government. Since 1948, Kayin paramilitary forces and KND estimated against the government. In the early 1949, KNU occupied Hantabin, Toungoo, Pyi Otwm, Insein, Dakul, Yamethin, Pyawbwe, Meiktila and Maymyo one after another. At the beginning, KNU troops were gaining grounds. In the late 1949, they had to retreat due to the offensives of the Tatmadaw. Saw Ba Oo Gyi fell in Htaw-kokoe on the way from Thandaung to Kawkareik in August 1950.

Owing to its policy based on racism and warfare, KNU was dwindling away. KNU hoped reinforcements from western countries, but its dream never came true. So, it laid down the second left-leaning policy and started to serve as followers of BCP.

Since born, KNU has not represented Kayin nationals. Its members committed a large number of atrocities over the people including their own national race people such as burning down whole towns and villages, bloodstream, lootings, rapes, and bomb blasts. Therefore, there have been untold miseries in history, for which the people abhor KNU members.

According to the facts and figures stated in the newspapers, in 1948-49, KNU troops committed 10 murders, 35 robberies, and 13 bank robberies. In 1949, it burnt down Maletto Village in Maubin Township and massacred all the villagers. It also committed large-scale arsons in Insein, Penwegen and Nattalin. While it was in control of PyinOoLwin (previously known as Maymyo), it killed 1946 town dwellers without giving any particular reasons. After it had occupied Pyu, it set fire to the market in the centre of the town and houses and shot local people. In the incident, about 400 houses were burnt down and 351 people lost their lives. It also brought more than 2000 local people to Zeyawady and committed a massacre, which was a black mark in the history of the nation. KNU’s slaughters and massacres were like the holocaust by Nazis.

On 15 November 1954, KNU swooped down on Sittoung-Mottama train and abducted more than 40 university girl students and 15 young women. It sold those women plus the young women it forcibly took from some villages in Mon State to KMT nationalist Chinese Maj-Gen Lauli and got arms and ammunition in return. Moreover, it blasted Mawlamyine-Yagon passenger train at the place, about 30 miles from Hnin Pale station on 15 January 1955, leaving 35 people dead. It took jewellery and money from the passengers, abducted about 40 young women and raped them and sold them in the border. The atrocities accounted for inhuman acts of KNU’s armed insurgency.

Translation: MS

KNU is made up of national traitors who bring miseries to local people of own national races, opening refugee camps. They are first degree culprits of widespread problems of Internal Displaced Persons (IDP), and refugees. They betray the motherland with the west-looking policy, constantly committing murders, lootings, arsons, bomb attacks and blasting public property.

Dengue virus-affected patients reach 35 in SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 21 Sept—The number of dengue virus-affected persons reached 35 in various parts of Balochistan in southwestern Pakistan, health sources said Sunday.

The private NNI news agency quoted sources as saying that up to 35 people were brought to hospitals in Quetta, the provincial capital, which were found dengue virus positive. They said that most of the patients belong to Qilla Saifulullah, Lorailai and Musa Khel near the Pakistani-Afghan border.

About 21 persons were killed in 2005 due to dengue virus in northeast of the province.—Internet

Critics raise doubt on US government’s ability to run private companies

LOS ANGELES, 21 Sept—The U.S. government’s massive bailout packages to salvage troubled private companies prompted critics to question whether US officials are up to the task of directing large corporations through such turbulent times, it was reported on Sunday.

“By agreeing to bail out insurance giant American International Group Inc. and mortgage lenders Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the federal government has put itself in the unprecedented position of running huge private companies,” the Los Angeles Times said.

AIG, for instance, has 116,000 employees and does business in about 100 countries. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac together hold or guarantee 5.4 trillion dollars of mortgages, about half of the nation’s home loans, the paper said.

In the case of American International Group, or AIG, the government is now the majority shareholder, acquiring 80 percent of the company in exchange for lending it as much as 85 billion dollars over two years to keep the business out of bankruptcy as it is dismantled, said the paper.—Internet

Lu Thit

Turkey and Russia have signed a customs protocol to resolve a row over Russian customs that have hit Turkish exports, a Turkish minister was quoted by the Anafol Ord agency as saying on Friday.

Turkish Deputy Premier Hayati Yazici said that a “Simplified Customs Line” procedure would be applied for willing Turkish and Russian firms in line with the protocol signed by Turkish and Russian authorities on Thursday.

Turkish firms exporting goods to Russia would have a “VIP entry” to this country if they made the necessary notifications regarding their products beforehand, said Yazici at a Press conference on the signed customs protocol aiming at the simplification of customs procedures.

Yazici said the “Simplified Customs Line” would be a general procedure that would cover all kinds of transportation and goods, moreover, it would be a transparent, foreseeable and non-discriminative system.—MNA/Onlu

Huang Xudong raises the red veil on the bride Yao Li, during a group wedding of traditional Chinese style at Fengjing Town in Shanghai, east China, 20 Sept 2008. 20 couples attended the group wedding Saturday.

INTERNET
Wise one protects non-intoxication as supreme treasure

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 20-9-2008

Means sought to upgrade...

(form from page 16)

varieties of book, take preventive measures against fire and tighten security for destructive acts, adding that efforts are to be made for selling quality books that are full of essence and to improve bookstalls.

Afterwards, Chief Editor U Ko Ko Htwe briefed the minister on progress in upgrading Sarpay Beikman library and future tasks, general matters of editorial section, arrangements in the changes of display and essence, publishing of weekly, monthly and yearly journals and an encyclopedia and manual books and security measures.

Later, a general round of discussions followed. In connection with the reports, the minister instructed officials to make efforts to compile a perfect encyclopedia, to make arrangements to recompile same subjects picked out from annually published encyclopedias, to set up an organization to publish books, to publish books that should be reprinted, to publish prize-winning manuscripts every year, to make records on educative talks monthly for book worms and editorial staff, to provide necessary assistance to libraries, to take preventive measures against fire, to take security measures for libraries and visitors, to exhibit books in an attractive way like private bookstalls, to give better customer services and to stay away from misappropriation.

Next, the minister inspected the e-library in the Sarpay Beikman library, making of book lists and systematic arrangement of books and journals and gave necessary instructions to officials concerned.

Motorized fishing boats provided to local farmers seen in Labutta Township.
Inter-Ministry Football champion honoured

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint receives the championship trophy of the 2nd Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament. — MNA

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended the ceremony to honour winning football team of the Ministry of Sports which was awarded championship trophy in 2nd Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament 2008 at the ministry, here, this evening and delivered an address. Officials of the team handed over championship trophy, duplicate shield and trophy to the minister. The minister presented K 1 million the winning football team, K 300,000 to two coaches and K 300,000 to the supervisory committee. Next, Manager of the team Director U Thet Lwin spoke words of thanks. Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint hosted dinner in honour of winning football team and greeted the players. — MNA

Development tasks looked into in Chin State

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept — A ceremony to hold the annual meeting of Falam District Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at Falam Basic Education High School on 15 September, attended by CEC Member of USDA Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko.

CEC Member Chairman of Chin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Hone Ngai made a speech on the occasion and presented cash prizes to outstanding students who had passed the 2007-2008 matriculation examination, a TV and satellite receiver for Thel village, clothing, stationery and sports gear for the students and spectacles for the aged and cash for Dobi bridge through officials. Next, the chairman handed certificates and cash prizes to volunteers who had contributed towards relief and rehabilitation tasks. Afterwards, a certificate of honour and cash prize was given to blood donor U Peter Zone.

Afterwards, the CEC Member comforted the patients who are receiving medical treatment at Falam General Hospital and provided cash assistance to them. He later looked into the 200-acre tea plantation grown by Falam district and township USDA.

Next, the deputy minister oversaw Hlaingbar hydropower plant, Myanma Agriculture Service and Kayanlong model tea plantation. The following day the CEC Member inspected the basic English language course, attended extempore talks and essay competitions as well as the annual general meeting of Chin State USDA.

Afterwards, sports gear, spectacles, anti-malaria medicines, cash for blood donors and malaria medicines, cash assistance for education, prizes for basic English language, extempore talks and the 2007-2008 matriculation examination were presented.

Next, the CEC Member attended the opening ceremony of hydroelectric power plant and made a speech on the occasion. Afterwards, a satellite receiver and TV, clothing, stationery, spectacles and sports gear were handed by the CEC Member. The CEC Member formally unveiled the stone plaque of the power plant. — MNA

Objectives of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

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

132 KV Nanhsan-Loilem-Pinlet Power line being erected

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept — Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials yesterday inspected construction of pylons of 132 KV Nanhsan-Loilem-Pinlet Power line in Loilem District. At the main sub-power station in Nanhsan, Senior Engineer U Sein Kyaw Tint and Senior Engineer U San Myint reported on distribution of power and construction of power grid. The minister inspected control room and switch yard, and gave instructions. He went to Township Electrical Engineer’s Office where electrical engineer U Naing Lin reported on functions. — MNA

Promise Fashion Bag Show Room (2) opens

YANGON, 21 Sept — Hlwan Moe Thu Co opened Promise Fashion Bag Show Room (2) at No. 288/302, the corner of Anawrahta Street and 27th Street in Pabedan Township, Yangon this morning. Head of Management Department of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Dr. Daw Khin Hsan Nwe, Chairperson of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association Daw Khin Myint Myint and Co-Managing Director Daw Khin Myo Thet formally opened the Show Room.

Hlwan Moe Thu Co is distributing Hong Kong-made modern high quality bags. Any bag a person has bought will be replaced with a new one if it has any faults. Those who purchase the bags worth more than K70,000 will be presented five percent-discount VIP cards.

Promise Fashion bags are available at Show Room (1) at No. (A) (14/15) of Yuzana Plaza in Mingalar Taungnyunt Township, Show Room (2) and Hlwan Moe Thu Bag Shops. — MNA

SAY NO TO DRUGS
Pleasure boat sinks off Japan’s Niigata city, leaving 2 dead

**Tokyo, 21 Sept** — A pleasure boat sank Sunday off Japan’s Niigata city, leaving two people dead and one missing, local media reported.

There were 10 people aboard when “Koyo Maru No 7,” a 3.2-ton pleasure boat, went missing at around 10:45 am local time (0145 GMT) on its way from Sado Island to Niigata, said the reports, citing the Japan Coast Guard.

The coast guard found nine of those on board at some 18 km off the Niigata city later in the day, but two of them were confirmed dead. And the other, named Shozo Okura, remained unaccounted for.

According to the coast guard, as there was no collision, the accident might be caused by the trouble with the hull. —Xinhua

Russian opposition new UN sanctions against Iran

**Moscow, 21 Sept** — Russia is opposed to any new UN sanctions against Iran over its disputed nuclear programme for the time being, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

The Foreign Ministry’s statement came a day after a meeting of senior diplomats from the five permanent UN Security Council members and Germany over possible new sanctions against Iran as Teheran refuses to comply with UN resolutions.

“We spoke out against extra measures by the UN Security Council at the current stage,” the ministry was quoted by the RIA Novosti news agency as saying. “The Russian side stressed the need to continue efforts to get Teheran engaged in a constructive dialogue aimed at starting a process of negotiations,” the ministry said.

Representatives from the United States, China, Russia, Britain, France and Germany met Friday in Washington to discuss Iran’s nuclear issue. The meeting was expected to pave the way for talks among leaders of the six countries next week on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session.

The United States and its Western allies have accused Iran of developing nuclear weapons, but Iran insists that its nuclear programme is only for peaceful purposes. — MNA/Xinhua

Smuggling tunnel collapses in Gaza, killing two

**Gaza, 21 Sept** — A smuggling tunnel under Egypt’s borders with Gaza Strip collapsed on Sunday, killing two Palestinians, security sources said.

The sources said the rescue workers were trying to pull out the two dead bodies from the tunnel, which is located in the middle of the border line between the Palestinian town of Rafah and Egypt. Many tunnels are being dug in Rafah to smuggle goods and products into Gaza Strip. The number of the tunnels has been increasing since Israel imposed a blockade and economic sanctions on Gaza Strip last year.

In the recent months, more than 40 Palestinians have been killed in tunnel collapse incidents. —Xinhua

Two killed, 24 injured in northern Iraq car bombing

**Baghdad, 21 Sept** — Two people were killed and 24 people wounded in a car bomb explosion in Iraq’s northern oil-rich city of Kirkuk on Sunday, a local police source said.

“The bombing occurred when a booby-trapped car parked on a busy road in central Kirkuk detonated, killing two people and wounding 24 others,” Brigadier Burhan Wasif, police chief of the city told Xinhua.

Several policemen were among the wounded people, Wasif said, adding that several civilian cars were also damaged by the blast.

Tensions run high in the ethnically mixed city, some 250 km north of Baghdad, as Turkoman and Arab minorities oppose Kurdish claims to annex the Kirkuk region to their autonomous enclave in northern Iraq. —Xinhua

Chinese astronauts for Shenzhou-7 mission arrive at launch centre

**Jiuquan, 21 Sept** — A panel of six Chinese astronauts arrived at Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwestern Gansu Province on Sunday, making the last-minute preparations for the country’s third manned space mission.

Taking a special flight to the remote centre, three qualified spacemen and three substitutes said they had “full confidence to successfully accomplish the mission” after various trainings and tests.

The astronauts will pilot spacecraft Shenzhou-7 to carry out the mission during which one of them will spacewalk outside the capsule.

The spacecraft has been planned to be launched at an appropriate time between 25 and 30 Sept after the spaceship, its carrier Long-March II-F rocket and the escape tower were vertically transferred to the launch pad on Saturday.

All the six astronauts prepared for Shenzhou-7 were once trained and tested at Jiuquan centre more than two weeks ago when they had a live exercise to enter the spaceship and learned the mission’s whole process in a full-ready simulation.

The six spacemen now had moved to their special accommodation to be quarantined and to adjust their psychological conditions for the mission. —Xinhua

Moderate earthquake jolts Papua, Indonesia

**Jakarta, 21 Sept** — A 5.4 magnitude earthquake hit southeast of Jayapura, capital of Indonesia’s Papua province, on Sunday, but there was no immediate report of casualties or material damage, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency (BMG) said.

The epicentre of the quake, which struck at 4:05 pm (0905 GMT), was located at 3.95 degrees southern latitude and 141.47 degrees eastern longitude at a depth of 70 km, said the agency. —Xinhua

Iran’s armed forces display the country’s hardware during a military parade ceremony, marking the 28th anniversary of the onset of the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988), in Teheran, Iran, on Sunday, 21 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

Performers dressed as tigers take part in Pulikali, or tiger dance, during festivities in Trichur city, in the southern Indian state of Kerala recently. The ceremony was organized to mark the end of the annual harvest festival, “Onam”. —INTERNET
France to buy 10 Soyuz launchers from Russia

SOCHI, 21 Sept — The European commercial space-launch consortium Arianespace on Saturday signed a deal with the Russian space agency Roskosmos to acquire 10 new Soyuz launchers for around $500 million dollars (347 million euros), a French diplomatic source told AFP.

The contract was signed on the sidelines of a visit by French Prime Minister Francois Fillon to Sochi in southern Russia where he met his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on Friday. The new launchers would be used from the second quarter of 2009, said an Arianespace statement. In April, the European Parliament gave the green light for the deployment of the European Union’s Galileo satellite navigation programme, which is seen by space experts as a challenge to the US-administered GPS global positioning system.

To meet European Space Agency requirements for two different launch systems, the organization’s chief executive Jean-Yves Le Gall said Arianespace would use both Ariane 5 and the Russian-developed Soyuz rockets capable of carrying four and two satellites at a time, respectively. Internet

Nigerian militants declare ceasefire in delta

LAGOS, 21 Sept — Nigeria’s main militant group said on Sunday it had begun a unilateral ceasefire after a week of clashes with the military and attacks on oil installations which cut output in Africa’s top producer.

The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) launched strikes against pipelines, flow stations and other oil and gas facilities last Sunday in response to what it said were ground and air strikes by the military against one of its bases.

“Effective 0100 hours (8 pm on Saturday EDT) 21 September, exactly one week after we launched our reprisal, MEND will begin a unilateral ceasefire till further notice,” the group said in an e-mailed statement.

It said it had taken the decision after a plea by elders but warned it would restart its campaign if it came under attack from the security forces. It also warned that other groups aligned with it may not respect the ceasefire.

Kuwaiti telecoms giant raises 4.49 bln dollars in funding

KUWAIT CITY, 21 Sept — Kuwait’s telecom giant Zain said on Saturday it had raised $1.2 billion dinars ($4.49 billion dollars) of new capital in a rights issue, to meet huge expansion plans.

The offering, the largest in the oil-rich emirate’s history, was 99 percent subscribed, Zain said. The fund-raising move, which was open only to existing shareholders, was successful despite unfavourable financial conditions globally and locally, the company added in a statement.

“The proceeds of this capital increase will be used to finance future strategic expansion plans and meet financial commitments,” chief executive officer Saad Al Barrak said.

Zain is now present in 22 countries in the Middle East and Africa since expanding operations last month to economic powerhouse Saudi Arabia. Up to the end of June, the group had 51 million subscribers.

In the past few years, it has spent billions of dollars in acquisitions and expansions.

“We expect these investments to bring about substantial increases in the group’s future revenues and net profits,” Barrak said.

Zain aims to become one of the top 10 global telecoms companies by 2011.

Nearly 250,000 Ohio customers remain without power

COLOMBUS, 21 Sept — Almost a quarter million homes and businesses across Ohio remained without power Saturday, one week after a huge storm blacked out large swaths of the state.

The remnants of Hurricane Ike battered Ohio last Sunday, knocking out electrical service for 2.6 million customers. Cincinnati-area Duke Energy officials insisted workers would restore power by weekend’s end to customers in the south-west corner of the state.

Approximately 85,000 of their customers remained without power Saturday.

“We have entered a very tedious phase of the restoration process,” Duke Energy Ohio and Kentucky President Sandra Meyer said in a statement. “Much of the outage work is now focused on restoring power to smaller pockets of customers.”

Columbus-based American Electric Power said it had restored electrical service for 2.5 million customers.

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Brown faces struggle at party conference

LONDON, 21 Sept — British Prime Minister Gordon Brown is facing the political fight of his life as his Labour Party gathers for its annual conference this weekend with several lawmakers openly calling for a new leader.

Fifteen months after taking over from Tony Blair, Brown’s popularity is in tatters with poll after poll showing Labour trailing the opposition Conservatives by some 20 points as the economy teeters on the brink of its first recession in 16 years.

Brown’s allies say there is no question of the prime minister stepping down and he is the best person to guide the country through the turbulent economic storm — the 57-year-old Scot was finance minister for a decade. “Our focus is upon helping the British people come through this difficult time,” Brown said in an interview with Sky News broadcast on Friday. “That’s the stuff of politics. We get on with the business of government.”

But the prime minister will also need to pull a few rabbits out of the hat if he is to give the party faithful something to cheer about and quell dissent in the ranks.

Operational agreements were signed for two different missions for two different Galileo satellite navigation programmes, which are seen by space experts as a challenge to the US-administered GPS global positioning system.

Arianespace would use both Ariane 5 and the Russian-developed Soyuz rockets capable of carrying four and two satellites at a time, respectively. Internet

Palestinian woman dies during Israeli raid on West Bank

JERUSALEM, 21 Sept — A Palestinian woman died of injuries sustained on Sunday when she was shoved to the ground by Israeli soldiers conducting an arrest raid in her village in the occupied West Bank, witnesses and a medical official said.

They said Mariam Ayyad, aged around 60, had tried to block the path of troops who came to Abu Dis, near Jerusalem, overnight to detain students lodging in a property she owned.

“She went outside in order to prevent them arresting someone from her house,” one of the students, who would only be identified by his nickname, Abu Yaffa, told Reuters. “They knocked her down and there was blood on her head.”

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**Two Russian bombers return home from Venezuela**

**MOSCOW, 21 Sept — Two Russian Tu-160 strategic bombers returned from Venezuela to their base in central Russia’s Saratov region early Friday after a 15-hour flight.**

“The mission seems to have been accomplished,” Major Division Commander General Alexander Blazhenko said, adding that the flight has nothing to do with the recent clashes in Georgia’s breakaway region of South Ossetia.

“We started preparations for this mission a long time ago. Initially, we were unclear which country we would fly to. Finally, Venezuela offered us cooperation. It’s just a fatal coincidence — not more than that,”

was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying. The flight back to Russia was conducted over the neutral waters of the Atlantic and Arctic Oceans. The aircraft were air refueled by Ilyushin Il-78 tankers over the Norwegian Sea.

**MNA/Xinhua**
Scholar claims to find medieval Jewish capital

Moscow, 21 Sept — A Russian archaeologist says he has found the lost capital of the Khazars, a powerful nation that adopted Judaism as its official religion more than 1,000 years ago, only to disappear leaving little trace of its culture. Dmitry Vasilyev, a professor at Astrakhan State University, said his nine-year excavation near the Caspian Sea has finally unearthed the foundations of a triangular fortress of flamed brick, along with modest yurt-shaped dwellings, and he believes these are part of what was once Itil, the Khazar capital.

By law Khazars could use flamed bricks only in the capital, Vasilyev said. The general location of the city on the Silk Road was confirmed in medieval chronicles by Arab, Jewish and European authors.

“The discovery of the capital of Eastern Europe’s first feudal state is of great significance,” he told The Associated Press. “We should view it as part of Russian history.”

Kevin Brook, the American author of “The Jews of Khazaria,” e-mailed Wednesday that he has followed the Itil dig over the years, and even though it has yielded no Jewish artifacts, “Now I’m as confident as the archaeological team is that they’ve truly found the lost city.”

Germany expected to cut 2009 economic growth forecast: report

BERLIN, 21 Sept — The German government Saturday downplayed as only “speculation” a report in a German weekly that Europe’s biggest economy would slash its 2009 growth forecast to 0.5 percent from the previous 1.2 percent estimate.

“There is not yet an official forecast. It is only speculation,” an economy ministry spokesman told AFP in commenting on a Der Spiegel report, which cited ministry experts.

The government will publish its next economic forecasts on 16 October. Meanwhile, the European Central Bank’s chief economist, Juergen Stark, predicted that Germany would go through “a period of weaker economic growth, the duration of which will depend on the extent of the repercussions from the (financial) shockwave coming from the United States,” he said in an interview to appear in the Sunday newspaper Welt am Sonntag. — Internet

Knife-wielding man hurts 12 in C China downtown street

WUHAN, 21 Sept — A knife-wielding man hurt 12 people, two seriously, on Saturday in the downtown area of Shiyan in central China’s Hubei Province, local police said.

Police in Shiyan City received several reports from 11:38 am that a man stabbed pedestrians in a busy street near an apparel market.

Police caught the man at about 11:50 and seized a knife, measuring more than 30 cm long. The injured, ranging in age from 15 to 42, were being treated and all were in stable condition.

Li was also hospitalized after he stabbed himself in the belly.

According to police investigation, the man, named Li Zehong, 46, was a farmer from Yunxian County. He and his wife had been chronically on bad terms. Their son and elder daughter were working in southern Guangdong Province. His wife and the younger daughter lived in Shiyan.

The case is still under investigation. — Internet

Volunteers carve pieces of paper during a process of paper-cutting in Guangling, a small county in north China’s Shanxi Province, on 19 Sept, 2008.—XINHUA

Flood victims arrive at a temple to collect relief supplies in Thailand’s Lopburi Province, about 150 km (93 miles) north of Bangkok on 20 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

Workers carve pieces of paper during a process of paper-cutting in Guangling, a small county in north China’s Shanxi Province, on 19 Sept, 2008.—XINHUA
USA and Russia keep Davis Cup hopes alive

PARIS, 21 Sept — Defending champions USA and two-time winners Russia kept their hopes of reaching the Davis Cup final alive on Saturday after both teams clinched marathon doubles wins in their semi-finals.

In Madrid, the makeshift pairing of Mike Bryan and Mardy Fish enjoyed a 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 win for the 32-time champions over Feliciano Lopez and Fernando Verdasco to trail Spain 2-1.

Meanwhile, in Buenos Aires, Russia, who slumped to a dispiriting 2-0 deficit against Argentina on Friday, saw Igor Kunitsyn and Dmitry Tursunov defeat David Nalbandian and Guillermo Canas 6-2, 6-1, 6-7 (9/11), 3-6, 8-6.

Both ties will be decided in Sunday’s reverse singles when Spain’s world number one Rafael Nadal tackles Andy Roddick and David Ferrer meets Sam Querrey.

Argentina, who have never won the Davis Cup, will have Nalbandian up against world number six Nikolay Davydenko and teenage sensation Juan Martin Del Potro facing Igor Andreev.

Bryan said he was pleased the way he and Fish had responded to the pressure of playing in the intimidating 22,000-capacity Las Ventas bullring in Madrid.

Ederson puts Lyon five points clear in France

PARIS, 21 Sept — Brazilian Ederson scored a penalty for Lyon in their 1-0 home win over Le Havre, putting them five points clear at the top of the French championship on Saturday, while nine-man Bordeaux also won.

Lyon’s win means the seven-times reigning champions can finally put behind them a busy week following a controversial victory over Nice last weekend and conceding a draw at home to Fiorentina in midweek Champions League action.

Without injured Brazilian Juninho and Karim Benzema, who came on for the last half hour, Lyon hardly shined against promoted Le Havre but a foul in the box on Frederic Piquionne at the end of the first half, and converted by Ederson, brought the victory.

And Lyon reshaped their defence with previously out-of-form Brazilian centre back Cris coming into the side, paired with Mathieu Bodmer, and Anthony Reveillere at right back and John Mensah at left back.

Safina beats Kuznetsova to win Pan Pacific Open

Tokyo, 21 Sept — Olympic silver medallist Dinara Safina powered past Svetlana Kuznetsova in an all-Russian final for her first victory at the Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament on Sunday.

Safina, the 22-year-old French Open finalist and world number five, notched an easy 6-1, 6-3 victory over Kuznetsova, the 2004 US Open champion and world number seven.

Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

ECONOMY SIGNS

XB D EL UU

AMITY LAGGING

CS L HH LA

TRANSPORT

UE WELLE

ESSAYS D E FEND

TT UC S

HERE SYNTHESIS

RR P BOE

NOISEM I N A N

ATTIN NPM

LOYAL D GRESS

Maniche shines in Atletico goal rush

MADRID, 21 Sept — Atletico Madrid capped a fantastic week with a 4-0 home victory over Recreativo Huelva on Saturday to go second in the Spanish first division. After demolishing PSV Eindhoven 3-0 on Tuesday in their first Champions League match for 11 years, Atletico crushed Recreativo by one goal more.

Atletico lie behind Espanyol who return to the summit despite a 1-1 draw with Getafe on Saturday which ended their 100 percent start to the season.

Argentina’s Sergio Aguero, known by the nickname “Kun”, had scored twice against PSV and made it three goals in five days with the Atletico opener before Portuguese schemer Maniche, also on target in Eindhoven, added a second.

Wang Yihan of China poses with her medal after defeating Zhou Mi of Hong Kong after their women’s singles final match at the Japan Open badminton tournament in Tokyo on 21 Sept, 2008.
Merkel accuses UK, US of blocking tighter financial controls

BERLIN, 21 Sept—German Chancellor Angela Merkel accused Saturday the United States and Britain of blocking her government’s previous efforts to tighten the controls of financial markets.

According to German radio Deutsche Welle, Merkel made the remarks when speaking to a rally in Linz of Austria on Saturday, where she was campaigning on behalf of the Austrian conservative People’s Party (ÖVP).

Merkel said her government had tried in vain to win US support last year for tighter regulation of hedge funds and financial oversight of capital markets, hinting that she felt vindicated in her stance as a financial disaster unfolded on Wall Street in recent days.

“It was said for a long time ‘Let the markets take care of themselves’ and that there is ‘no need for more transparency’,” Merkel told the rally.

“Today we see a step further because even America and Britain are saying ‘Yes, we need more transparency, we need better standards for the ratings agencies’,” Merkel was quoted as saying.—MNA/Xinhua

Landslide, flood death toll reached 25 in western Nepal

KATHMANDU, 21 Sept—At least 25 people died in landslides and floods in some districts in western Nepal following incessant rainfall for past few days, local media reported on Sunday.

According to eKantipur.com report, seven people died in Dohara village after a flood in the Joghudha River in Kanchanpur district Sunday. In Kailali district, the death toll reached 11 on Sunday.

According to the Nepal Red Cross Society, 4,000 families have been displaced by the flood in Kailali district alone.

Xinhua

Mbeki agrees to stand down

JOHANNESBURG, 21 Sept—South African President Thabo Mbeki agreed to stand down on Saturday, according to reports of news agencies.

According to a statement from the presidency, Mbeki will “step down after all constitutional requirements have been met,” said reports. The top-level National Executive Committee of African National Congress (ANC) decided Saturday to recall Mbeki before the end of his term next year.

Mbeki has lost a power struggle against ANC leader Jacob Zuma and has come under pressure to quit following a judge’s ruling last week that Mbeki was instrumental in Zuma being charged with corruption, news agencies reported.

Mbeki became President in 1999 and was due to leave office in April. 2009. He had led ANC for about a decade until last year when he was defeated by Zuma.

Weather

Sunday, 22 September, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Shan and Chin States, Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State, Mandalay, Bago and Tanintharyi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States, isolated heavy fall in Kachin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were 91.20 inches at Pyay (Yenwin), and 84.40 inches at Ngapali (Yenwin) in Rakhine State. Total rainfall since 1-9-2008 was (83.90) inches at Ngapali, (105.50) inches at Pyay (Yenwin) and (122.40) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Pyay (Kaba-Aye) was (20) mph on 21-9-2008.

Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy in the North Bay of Bengal, monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 22-9-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagarial and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagarial and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Chin States, Bago Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40-45) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: The atmospheric unsettled conditions in Rakhine Coast continue.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 22-9-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-9-208: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-9-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
Means sought to upgrade Sarpay Beikman bookstall and library

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attends a meeting to upgrade Sarpay Beikman bookstall and library held at Printing and Publishing Enterprise on Merchant Street here yesterday morning.

At Sarpay Beikman bookstall, chief editor U Ko Ko Htwe of Sarpay Beikman and section head (production) Daw Myint Thida Khine briefed the minister on exhibition and sale of books published by private publishing houses and government-run ones.

Next, the minister gave instructions on a wide range of measures to become modern bookstalls, selling of (See page 8)