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* 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 economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

Four political objectives

YANGON, 1 Oct—Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Maj-Gen Ko KoOof the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Bago Division PDC Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min, the ministers, the deputy ministers and officials, attended the opening ceremony of the Bulldozer and Excavator Factory (Thagara) of the Ministry of Industry-2 in Yedashe Township, Toungoo District, yesterday morning.

After the opening ceremony, the Prime Minister viewed progress in construction of Yangon-Mandalay Highway and condition of the road and road sections in Toungoo in a motorcade.

In Toungoo, they inspected construction of Tawwin Ketumati Hotel of Kaung Myanmar Associates Co Ltd (KMA Co Ltd) for promotion of the tourism industry.

At the lobby of the hotel, Tampawady U Win Maung reported on construction of the buildings of hotel including entrance gates with the decoration of architectural works of Toungoo period and General Manager Daw Stellar Kyaw Win, on construction of the hotel according to the style of Toungoo period.

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Prime Minister General Thein Sein views Tawwin Ketumati Hotel in Toungoo.—MNA

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Myanmar Wushu team back from Korea

YANGON, 1 Oct—Myanmar Wushu team led by Vice-President of Myanmar Wushu Federation U Kyaw Kyaw today arrived back here by air after participating in the 4th World Wushu Competition held in Pusan in the Republic of Korea from 26 to 29 September.

They were welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport by officials concerned of the Ministry of Sports, executives of Myanmar Wushu Federation and their relatives.—MNA

Man City searching top players as Bayern’s Podolski, Fiorentina’s Mutu & Inter’s Cambiasso on radar

Fiorentina’s Adrian Mutu and Inter midfielder Esteban Cambiasso are on the radar.

City after being taken over by Abu Dhabi United Group (ADUG) towards the end of August, have no shortage of cash and the new owners showed their intent to make the Eastlands club top contenders for titles, by pulling off a sensational summer transfer deadline day signing of Brazil star Robinho from Real Madrid for a British transfer fee record of £32.5 million.

Adrian Mutu

Lukas Podolski

Esteban Cambiasso

Internet

2-10-08NL 7/30/18, 5:40 AM
Strive for full operation of modern factories

The government is building a modern developed nation in accord with the objectives laid down and it is also constructing factories, workshops and import-substitute factories that produce modern machinery and equipment nationwide. There are better prospects in the industrial sector as the government gives encouragement to the establishment of industrial zones and industrial regions.

With the development of industrial sector high-tech factories and workshops are being built in the respective industrial regions. Therefore they get new production opportunities for the local people.

Bulldozer and Excavator Factory (Thagara) of the Automobile and Diesel Engines Industries under the Ministry of Industry-2 was opened in Thagara Industrial Region. Yedashe Township, the other day.

The factory consisting of forging, welding, assembling and painting workshops equipped with modern technology will manufacture 100 bulldozers and 200 excavators annually.

The Ministry of Industry-2 is implementing multi-purpose diesel engine plant, hydro-power turbine and generator plant and industrial training school projects.

A large number of industrial regions and zones, new modern factories and workshops are being established now. The factories and the industrial zones to exert earnest efforts for full operation of production process to meet the targets. Such endeavours will surely contribute towards the national development and raising of socio-economic life of the people.
Blasts in crowded India market kill 2, injure at least 100

GAURATI, 1 Oct—Police say a series of blasts have exploded in crowded markets in India’s remote northeast, killing two people and injuring at least 100. The first of four blasts went off at 7:30 pm when markets in Agartala were thronged with holiday shoppers. The city is the capital of Tripura state.

Senior police official Shreyesh says three more blasts went off at three nearby markets over the next 90 minutes. The blasts Wednesday night killed two people and injured at least 100. Shreyesh, who uses one name, says 10 victims are in critical condition.

Severe fuel shortage grips parts of southeast

ATLANTA, 1 Oct—A severe fuel shortage has gripped parts of the southeastern United States, causing long lines at filling stations and symbolizing for some people their fears about the wider economy.

The shortage began two weeks ago in Atlanta, the region’s largest city, when oil refineries on the Gulf Coast were shut down by hurricanes Gustav and Ike earlier this month. Parts of north Georgia, western North Carolina and parts of Tennessee were also affected. The effects on motorists have been dramatic. Most service stations in Atlanta are out of gas, with plastic bags placed over the pumps or signs saying “out.”

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,176

BAGHDAD, 1 Oct—As of Tuesday, 30 Sept, 2008, at least 4,176 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,381 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Austria, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.

15 killed in pre-dawn fire in Japan

TOKYO, 1 Oct—Police say 15 people have been killed in a pre-dawn fire at a building in Osaka in western Japan.

A police spokesman says the fire broke out early Wednesday in a video shop located on the first floor of the seven-storey building. The official spoke on condition of anonymity, citing department policy.

Authorities are investigating the cause of the 3 am blaze.

Canada opposition party accuses PM of plagiarism

TORONTO, 1 Oct—A senior campaign staffer for the governing Conservative Party resigned Tuesday after admitting he wrote a speech for Prime Minister Stephen Harper that plagiarized another leader’s address urging support for the US-led war in Iraq.

The opposition Liberals released transcripts and video of speeches delivered by then-Australian Prime Minister John Howard on 18 March, 2003, and one by Harper two days later in the Canadian Parliament when Harper was the opposition leader. Liberal foreign affairs spokesman Bob Rae said nearly half of Harper’s speech was a word-for-word recitation of Howard’s comments.
Zardari says he escaped assassination at Marriott hotel

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct—Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari called the recent bombing in Islamabad’s Marriott hotel an assassination attempt and other top leaders narrowly escaped, in an interview on US television.

“All of us. All the parliament, the people, all of democracy was the target. We were all supposed to be there,” Zardari told Fox News late Tuesday, when asked if he thought he was the target of the devastating 20 September blast.

“I was supposed to be there with my prime minister, with my speaker, with a lot of us. Just by chance that it was changed,” Zardari said.

“We were sitting in the speaker’s dinner just a stone’s throw away from that same place. We were in the PM house on the lawn when we heard the bang,” he added.—Internet

ElBaradei lauds China’s cooperation with IAEA

VIENNA, 1 Oct—IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei Tuesday hailed the “efficient” cooperation between his agency and China, calling China a trustworthy member of the IAEA, has contributed to its development, he said. ElBaradei congratulated China on the successful Beijing Olympics, saying the IAEA was happy to be able to play a role in the event and it was willing to continue carrying out effective cooperation with China.—Xinhua

UN provides aid to Cuba in aftermath of hurricanes Gustav, Ike

Havana, 1 Oct—The United Nations (UN) has allocated a donation of 4.8 million US dollars to Cuba to help it recover from devastations caused by hurricanes Gustav and Ike, official Cuban daily Granma said Tuesday.

The donation from the Central Emergency Response Fund (UN-CERF) will be used to provide temporary housing, food and clean water and improve sanitary conditions and restore damaged agriculture in east Cuba, it said. Authorities reinforced sanitary controls to prevent possible epidemic outbreak across the affected areas following downpours amid the hurricanes.—Xinhua

12 Indonesians killed in boat tragedy, 112 rescued

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 Oct—Twelve people were killed as a boat carrying more than 100 Indonesians sank off the coast of a port near Kuala Lumpur early Tuesday, local media reported. All the dead, including one pregnant woman, were in their 20s and they were drowned when the wooden barge suddenly sank off the coast of Klang Port, some 40 km southwest of the capital Kuala Lumpur. Meanwhile, 112 others aboard survived the tragedy which took place about 10 minutes after the boat set sail from a forest area on the coast towards Sumatra in Indonesia, Malaysia’s national news agency Bernama said.

303 batches of Chinese milk found chemical-free

BEIJING, 1 Oct—Milk quality testing continued throughout China in the wake of a deadly contamination scandal.

None of the toxic chemical melamine was found in 303 samples of China’s major milk brands in recent days, said the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (GAQSIQ) on Tuesday.

Seven soldiers killed in S Philippines clashes

MANILA, 1 Oct—Seven soldiers were killed and 12 others wounded in Monday’s clashes with some members of the separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in Philippines’ southern province of Maguindanao, a military spokesman said on Tuesday.

It was the biggest single-day loss suffered by the government troops throughout September, the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, as the government continued offensives against MILF commanders accused of leading attacks on civilian communities in Mindanao early last month, the Philippine Daily Inquirer said in a report on its website, quoting military spokesman Ernesto Torres.

Torres said that pursuit operations are still ongoing against the MILF members in the South. “At the moment the operations of troops are continuing specifically in the provinces of Maguindanao, Cotabato and the Lanao provinces,” he said.

The Lanao provinces include Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte. Government forces have been pursuing MILF commanders Ameril Umbrato Kato, Aleeem Saulaian Pangalian and Abdullah Macapaar for nearly two months.
Coral-killing starfish turns out to be four species, not one

PARIS, 1 Oct — The crown-of-thorns starfish, a notorious threat to coral in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, comprises four species, not one, biologists reported on Tuesday.

The spiny predator, known by its Latin name Acanthaster planci, has been a worsening peril to reefs for at least three decades, latching onto coral polyps and digesting them.

A paper published in the British journal Biology Letters said that most research on A. planci has been carried out on the Pacific, triggered by devastating outbreaks of the pest on Australia’s Great Barrier Reef.

But DNA analysis of specimens recovered elsewhere showed the creature comprises four distinct species, it says.

MIT scientists mass-produce smell receptors in lab

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct — Scientists at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have found a way to mass-produce smell receptors in the laboratory, an advance that paves the way for “artificial noses” to be created and used in a variety of settings.

The work, appearing on-line this week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), could also allow scientists to unlock the mystery of how the sense of smell can recognize a seemingly infinite range of odors.

Artificial noses could one day replace drug- and explosive-sniffing dogs, and could have numerous medical applications, according to the research team.

“The main barrier to studying smell is that we haven’t been able to make enough receptors and purify them to homogeneity. Now, it’s finally available as a raw material for people to utilize, and should enable many new studies into smell research,” said Brian Cook, one of the researchers.

Smell is one of the most complex and least-understood senses. Humans have a vast olfactory system that includes close to 400 functional genes, more than are dedicated to any other function.

Fans unite in auction to save Superman’s house

CINCINNATI, 1 Oct — Superman’s home planet Krypton was destroyed, but his house on Earth will live on thanks to loyal fans and an online auction that raised $100,000 to restore the rotting home where the Man of Steel was created.

Everything from original artwork to a role on the hit television show “Heroes” was sold in the month-long auction, which ended on Tuesday, to save the dilapidated Cleveland, Ohio, house where Superman was dreamed up by writer Jerry Siegel and artist Joe Shuster more than 70 years ago.

“This was easily the most humbling spectacular project I’ve ever been part of, and showed just how much people care about this character and why the sense of Superman still matters,” said novelist Brad Meltzer, who organized the auction.

A Thai buffalo racer is in high gear during annual racing in Chonburi Province, 68 miles south of Bangkok. The annual event was held as a celebration among rice farmers before the rice harvest.

Police: Man wanted picture gets ‘train rash’

Police say a man who wanted his picture taken next to a moving train suffered “train rash” but no serious injuries when he got too close to the train.

Police Sgt. Jeff Skuza said the 34-year-old man and two friends were in the Dombarovsky district in the Ural Orenburg region Wednesday morning.

Police say a man who wanted his picture taken next to a moving train suffered “train rash” but no serious injuries when he got too close to the train. But Dan Styczynski, of Dingmans Ferry, Pa., said the pigeon was one of dozens he recently gave away after the racing season ended. He is unsure who raced the season ended. He is unsure who gave the bird to, although he believes it may have been given to a pigeon club the Dnepr programme,” said a RVSN spokesman Colonel Alexander

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Brazil, Venezuela sign seven new agreements

BRASILIA, 1 Oct—Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and his Venezuelan counterpart Hugo Chavez inked seven agreements on Tuesday in a bid to step up bilateral cooperation.

“The impact of these agreements in Venezuela is amazing. I want to thank Brazil for its disinterested cooperation,” said Chavez at a joint Press conference held in the northern Brazilian city of Manaus.

The agreements, signed during their regular meeting, include building an iron and steel plant and furthering cooperation on installation of a refinery. The two presidents meet every three months to discuss bilateral cooperation.

Under the agreement on the iron and steel plant, Brazilian company Andrade Gutierrez will build for the National Iron and Steel of Venezuela a plant capable of producing 1.5 million tons of steel per year in the state of Boliva.

The refinery agreements set conditions for Brazil’s state oil company Petrobras and Venezuelan state oil company PDVSA to jointly build a refinery, Abreu e Lima, in Brazil’s Pernambuco state. A South Korean Navy ship, bottom, patrols as a Chinese fishing boat, lefthand, passes through the river barrier of the Ems on 29 Sept, 2008. It is 315 metres long and 36.8 metres wide. It has 1,426 cabins for 2,852 passengers. The Solstice of the US shipping company Celebrity is the largest cruiser ever built in Germany.—INTERNET

Brazilian President: Brazilian economy solid, US should do their homework

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 Oct—Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said Tuesday the Brazilian economy is sound and solid enough to face the international financial crisis and the US government needs to “do their homework.” “The crisis is one of the most serious problems we have ever seen,” Lula said in Manaus in the northern state of Amazonas, where he and Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez signed several bilateral agreements.

Lula said he is concerned about the development of the crisis, but assures that the Brazilian economy is solid enough to cope with it. “Ten or 15 years ago, if the US sneezed, Venezuela and Brazil would have pneumonia because our countries were fragile,” he said, “but it has not been the case now.”

“Our financial system is not involved in the subprimes. We did our homework and the US, who spent 30 years in telling us what to do, did not do theirs,” he noted.

Death toll in Lebanon bomb rises to seven

BEIRUT, 1 Oct—Two men have died from wounds in a bomb blast in north Lebanon, taking the death toll from the attack to seven, security sources said Tuesday. The bomb attack Monday targeted a bus transporting troops in the northern city of Tripoli. Four of those killed were soldiers. The others were civilians. There have been no claims of responsibility for the attack, the second against the military in the city in less than two months. An 13 August bomb killed 15 people, 10 of them soldiers, at a bus stop in Tripoli.

There were no claims of responsibility for that attack either, although investigators suspected Islamist militant involvement early in their inquiry.—INTERNET

Crude oil rises back above $100

NEW YORK, 1 Oct—Crude oil rebounded from previous day’s huge sell-off and topped 100 US dollars a barrel Tuesday as investors bet the US Congress will approve a new bailout plan.

Light, sweet crude for November delivery rose 4.27 dollars to settle at 100.64 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Prices slid more than 10 dollars, biggest drop in seven years, on Monday after the US House of Representatives rejected the 700 billion-dollar rescue plan. Major US stocks were battered as well with Dow made a landslide loss of 777 points. Investors’ mood was lifted a bit Tuesday as many of them bet the US legislators will approve a restructured bailout plan, which hopefully would avert the economic downturn. Worries that slowing economy would cut energy demand from consumers and businesses worldwide has made the crude oil lose more than 30 percent since its peak in July.—INTERNET

Western financial crisis to affect Africa’s economic growth

KAMPALA, 1 Oct—The current financial crisis affecting western countries is likely to affect Africa’s economic growth if the continent does not look for alternative markets, a top financial official warned here on Tuesday. Ugandan Finance Minister Ekaer Ezra Suruma told his counterparts from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) members that Africa’s exports to the United States and Europe are likely to be affected because the people there will have low purchasing power. “We have to find alternative markets for our products,” said the minister. He added one option is to increase their exports to Asian countries, which hopefully will not be deeply affected.

Africa, through the African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the Everything But Arms, exports its products to the United States and the European Union markets tariff and quota free respectively.

INTERNET

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INTERNET
New school building for BEPS in Sittway

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye together with CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Rakhine State In-charge) Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe attended the opening of newly-built school building for Basic Education Primary School at Kyaunggyi ward in Sittway on 28 September. The commander, the CEC member and Director Daw Kyi Kyi Han of Asia World Co Ltd formally opened the new school building.

At the ceremony to hand over new school building, Rakhine State Education Officer U Win Swe gave related documents of the school, and the commander and the CEC member delivered addresses on the occasion. Next, Director Daw Kyi Kyi Han handed over the documents to the education officer. The commander and the CEC member viewed around the new school building.

Afterwards, the commander and the CEC member met with the secretaries and the executives of State/District/Township USDAs at the office of Rakhine State USDA.

Exam results of 16th Nikaya Examination announced

YANGON, 1 Oct—The Religious Affairs Department of the Ministry of Religious Affairs held the 16th Nikaya Examination at 68 examination centres across the nation from 9 to 13 July. In the five treatise test of (Vinaya Pitaka) in Khuddaka Nikaya, a total of 323 monks passed the five-treatise test, 185 monks the three-treatise test, 249 monks the two-treatise test and 477 monks the one-treatise test.

In the three treatises test of Samyutta Nikaya (Suttanta Pitaka), one monk passed the three-treatise test, three monks the two-treatise test and one monk the one-treatise test.

In the three treatise test of Anguttara Nikaya (Suttanta Pitaka), 38 monks passed the three-treatise test, 20 monks the two-treatise test and 20 monks the one-treatise test.

In the four-treatise test of Khuddaka Nikaya-1 (Suttanta Pitaka), 58 monks passed the three-treatise test, 20 monks the two-treatise test and 10 monks the one-treatise test.

In the five-treatise test of Khuddaka Nikaya-2 (Suttanta Pitaka), 15 monks passed the three-treatise test and 10 monks the one-treatise test.

In the four-treatise test of Anguttara Nikaya (Atthakatha Pali) (Vinaya Pitaka) (Atthakatha Maha Vidu category), one monk passed the three-treatise test, one monk the two-treatise test and one monk the one-treatise test.

A total of 1,665 monks passed eight toasts and Maha Vidu category, one monk passed the three-treatise test and one monk, the one-treatise test.

The examination results were posted at Town-ship Sangha Nayaka Com-mittees.

Deputy A-G leaves for Ukraine

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin left for Ukraine by air to attend the 3rd Annual General Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA) to be held at Kiev, Ukraine from 3 to 6 October.

Division Law Office U Zeya of Yangon Division Law Office and Deputy Director U Zaw Lin Maung of Attorney-General’s Office (Yangon) also left for Ukraine on the same flight.
Chairman of KMA Co Ltd U Khin Maung Aye and responsible persons briefed the Prime Minister and party on beautifying works at the hotel, construction of rooms and arrangements for giving better services to the guests.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein gave instructions on efforts to be made for promotion of hotel industry as well as tourism industry.

Next, the Prime Minister and party left Toungoo by car and arrived back here in the evening.

Tawwin Ketumati Hotel was built on 12 acres of land and it was opened on 9 April 2008. It is a five-star-level hotel with a view to enabling the guests to enjoy the cultural heritage works of Toungoo.

An aerial view of Tawwin Ketumati Hotel in Toungoo. — MNA

International Day of Older Persons marked

YANGON, 1 Oct — International Day of Older Persons organized by Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement was observed at International Business Centre, Pyay Road here, this morning.

First, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint delivered a speech. The commander and officials presented gifts to senior citizens. The commander and officials accepted cash and kind worth K 13,589,960 donated by 85 wellwishers. One of the elder persons spoke words of thanks. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein gives instructions on efforts to be made for promotion of hotel industry as well as tourism industry.

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun met staff of Myanmar Economic Bank, Myanmar Small Loans Enterprise and Internal Revenue Department in Kyaukse and Natogyi Townships, Mandalay Division on 28 October. In Myingyan, he also met staff of Myanmar Economic Bank, Internal Revenue Department, Myanmar Small Loans Enterprise and Myanmar Insurance and stressed the need to discharge duties of banking services and revenue task honestly. He called for keeping the respective offices clean and tidy and meeting the customers friendly. — MNA

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung extended greetings. Pro-Rector of ITBMU U Mya Than (Retd Ambassador) explained facts about the course.

Wellwishers made cash donations to the trust fund of the institute. Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nanissara (Ph.D, D. Litt) and Rector of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Dr Ashin Nanda Malabhivamsa (Ph.D) delivered addresses.

An aerial view of Tawwin Ketumati Hotel in Toungoo. — MNA

The International Institute of Abhidhamma launched Certificate Course (Domestic) in Abhidhamma in English (1/2008) at IIA Campus II on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township, here, this afternoon.

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Eight hundred monks, nuns and laypersons will attend the course to be conducted from 4 October to 28 December at the venue. — MNA

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Regional development tasks gather momentum in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 1 Oct—CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Ayeyawady Division In-charge) Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt on 28 September met with the secretaries and executives of Division/District/Township USDAs at the office of Ayeyawady Division USDA.

At the office of Pantanaw Township Development Affairs Department, the executive officer and engineer in-charge reported to the minister on progress of road works and future plans.

Next, the minister inspected construction of 250-foot long gravel road being implemented by Pantanaw Township DAD near Pantanaw Township BEHS. —MNA

Minister Col Thein Nyunt observes road paving in Pantanaw.—PBRDA

Notice to mariners issued

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept —Fisheries Department has issued an announcement that all vessels large or small must stay away from the area in which scouting survey is being carried out by Rimbunan Petrosas Ltd in cooperation with Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise at Mottama offshore block No M-1 with the use of MV-443 and MV-ANH4 from 29 September to 15 October 2008.

The location that scouting survey will be carried out are at point-A from North Latitude 16 degrees, 00 minute and 00 second to East Longitude 97 degrees, 34 minutes and 00 second and shore line. —MNA

International Day of Older Persons 2008 observed...

In his address, the minister called for preservation of present family style and family spirit and collaborative efforts in improvement of aged care and providing requirements for the older persons in storm-affected regions.

Next, the minister presented cash assistance for the Homes for the Aged in States and Divisions and two eldest persons in Myanmar through Director-General U Soe Kyi of Social Welfare Department.

Afterwards, the minister and the chief justice presented gifts, cash donations and medicines.

The ceremony came to an end after speaking words of thanks by an older person. The motto of this year’s International Day of Older Persons is “Towards A Society For All Ages”. —MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe addresses the ceremony to mark International Day of Older Persons 2008.—MNA

Shwegyin Hydropower Project to generate 262 mln kwh per year

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct — Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min inspected Shwegyin Hydropower Project, 6 miles north-east of Shwegyin, Bago Division, yesterday.

Shwegyin Hydropower Project will have a generating capacity of 75 MW and is expected to generate 262 million kilowatt hours per year.

During the inspection tour, the minister inspected the construction of the main spillway, the intake channel and installation of iron pipes at the project which is being implemented by Hydropower Implementation Department of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1.

Over 63 per cent of the project have been completed.—MNA

Minister Col Thein Nyunt observes road paving in Pantanaw.—PBRDA

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

Commander looks into model farmland in Monywa District

YANGON, 1 Oct—Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe and CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association (Sagaing Division In-charge) Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint viewed thriving Shwebo 2 monsoon paddy at model farmland in Kani Township, Monywa district on 28 September and fulfilled the needs.—MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe addresses the ceremony to mark International Day of Older Persons 2008.—MNA
To conserve the environment and wildlife, the Forest Department is properly controlling the environmental conservation areas. Moreover, the department is performing tasks for durability of significant ecology systems such as water and land resources, wildlife, natural forests and geographical areas.

At present, the Union of Myanmar had set up 38 environmental conservation regions on 12,345 square miles of land that is 4.725 percent of the area of the country. As part of implementing the long-term plan, efforts are being made for extending the environmental conservation areas up to 10 per cent of the total area of the nation.

Nowadays, the government is giving encouragement to the entrepreneurs to promote the ecotourism industry at the environmental conservation regions to earn income for the State. Myanmar is rich in natural resources including wildlife and rare species of flora and fauna that attract the tourists.

Out of environmental conservation regions, the ecotourism based camps were opened as follows:-
(1) Hlawga Wildlife Park
(2) Yangon Zoological Gardens
(3) Moeyunygi Sanctuary
(4) Meinmahla Island Sanctuary
(5) Inlay Lake Sanctuary
(6) Shwesettaw Sanctuary
(7) Mount Popa Park
(8) Alaungdaw Kassapa National Park
(9) Chathin Sanctuary

Panoramic view of the snow-capped mount Khakaborazi designated as a national park in Kachin State.

![Panoramic view of the snow-capped mount Khakaborazi designated as a national park in Kachin State.](image)

Out of these ecotourism facilities, Khakaborazi National Park located in the northernmost part of Myanmar is a significant one. A world heritage area which is a first-ever one of Myanmar will soon emerge at Khakaborazi National Park.

In 1998, the Forest Department designated the area of Mount Khakaborazi as the national park to focus on conservation of environment and bio-diversities. The aims of establishment of the park were as follows:-
(1) to conserve bio-diversities of eastern area of Hamalayan mountain ranges and their environments and ecosystem;
(2) to safeguard the areas where Ayeyawady River originates;
(3) to expose and put new species of bio-diversities on record by conducting subject-wise research works;
(4) to undertake the promotion of eco-tourism industry without harming ecosystem of bio-diversities for contributing to the growth of State economy.

Khakaborazi National Park is located in the northernmost part area of the country, Nagon Township of Putao District in Kachin State. Tourists may travel to Myitkyina by plane, by motor car or by train, and then proceed from Myitkyina to Putao by plane. The distance from Putao to the entry camp to the southern part of the park (Pannandin) is 80 miles long. Or, the visitors may go to the village through 43 miles route by car.

The park is located on 1,472 square miles. The altitude of the park is between 3000 feet and 19,296 feet and its temperature is 15° Celsius in maximum and 3° Celsius in minimum. The visitors may enjoy scenic beauty of over 10,000 feet high snow-capped mountain ranges. They can see beautiful scenes of peaks, mountain ranges, ravines, waterfalls and springs there. Moreover, they can visit the streams of swift current, wetlands in hilly region. Furthermore, the visitors may observe blue pine and coniferous plants and rhododendron trees in the area. There are many species of bio-diversities from eastern area of Hamalayan mountain ranges, especially rare species of herbal plants can be seen in the region. Indeed, red pandas, takins, musk deer, snow-capped mountain gorals, blyth’s, Hamalayan monal, Sclater’s monal and other lizards. The tourists may enjoy beauty scenes of butterflies and rare species of orchids.

In addition, there remain various kinds of unidentified orchids and plants.

Along the route to the park, the tourists may gain experiences of mountain climbing. They may observe customs and culture of local national races. They may have an opportunity to enjoy the natural scenes of snow-capped mountain ranges, ravines and waterfall located in Myanmar, the only one in Southeast Asia region. They may study the ecosystem of bio-diversities in the area. Furthermore, they may take pride in their efforts by scaling the Mount Khakaborazi that is the highest mountain in the country. The tourists are therefore invited to visit the park to enjoy the natural beauty of Khakaborazi National Park.

Panoramic view of the snow-capped mount Khakaborazi designated as a national park in Kachin State.

Panoramic view of the snow-capped mount Khakaborazi designated as a national park in Kachin State.

Translation: TTA

### Khakaborazi National Park for eco-tourism

**Article: Nay Win Myat**

Industry-2 Minister receives Chinese and Thai delegation

Nay Pyi Taw, 1 Oct—Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein received Chinese delegation led by Mr Zhang Xiuwen, general manager of Shandong Shantui Construction Machinery Import and Export Co Ltd and Thai delegation led by Mr Sombat Laophongchana of Krung Thai Tractor Co Ltd. — MNA

CSSTB members inspect candidates sitting for examinations

Nay Pyi Taw, 1 Oct—A total of 753 candidates sat for examinations for 86 vacant posts—B.E, B.Com, B.Econ, B.A (Eco) and B.Act—of the department and enterprises under the Ministry of Industry-2, announced by the Civil Service Selection and Training Board held at Nay Pyi Taw No. 5 BEHS and No. 6 BEHS on 28 and 29 September. At exam centres, CSSTB members U Hla Myint Oo and U Win Aung, Director-General U Wai Myint and officials inspected the candidates who are sitting for the exams. — MNA

Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein meets Mr Zhang Xiuwen of Shandong Shantui Construction Machinery Import and Export Co Ltd and Thai delegation led by Mr Sombat Laophongchana of Krung Thai Tractor Co Ltd. — MNA

Panoramic view of the snow-capped mount Khakaborazi designated as a national park in Kachin State.

Panoramic view of the snow-capped mount Khakaborazi designated as a national park in Kachin State.
S Korea plans to import Russian gas through DPRK

SEOUL, 1 Oct — South Korea decided to import nearly 20 per cent of its future natural gas needs from Russia via pipeline passing through the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), the country’s Korea Herald reported Tuesday.

Under the 100-billion-US-dollar agreement by South Korean President Lee Myung-bak and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, Seoul will import 10 billion cubic metres of gas a year for 30 years from 2015.

“Buying natural gas is becoming increasingly difficult as major economies engage a war to secure future energy sources. The Russian gas deal is a major achievement of the government in its drive to secure a stable supply of natural resources for the country,” said Lee Jae-hoon, the Vice Minister for Energy.

“The project will bring economic benefits to all of the three countries,” he added. However, the plan of buying Russian gas is facing concerns as South Korea’s energy security may be vulnerable to the capricious political climate regarding DPRK.

“The targeted individual is also suspected to be affiliated with anti-Afghan militant leaders who searched a compound in Andar District targeting a state-run Korea Gas Corp. and its Russian counterpart Gazprom is to sign a formal contract on the gas purchase in 2010.— MNA/Xinhua

Five militants arrested in central Afghanistan

KABUL, 1 Oct — The US-led Coalition forces on Tuesday detained five militants during an operation to disrupt an IED (Improvised Explosive Device) network in Ghazni Province of central Afghanistan, said a Coalition statement issued here on Wednesday.

Five militants were detained while Coalition forces searched a compound in Andar District targeting a Taleban sub-commander known to coordinate and direct IED attacks in the region, the statement said.

“The targeted individual is also suspected to be affiliated with anti-Afghan militant leaders who facilitate the movement of foreign fighters into the country,” it added.

Taleban insurgents have staged a comeback three years ago and intensified their activities targeting interests of Afghan Government and international troops despite around 71,000 foreign troops stationed in the war-torn country. Conflicts and spiraling insurgency have claimed the lives of over 4,000 people with 1,445 civilians so far this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Jordan receives 74,000 barrels of oil from Iraq

AMMAN, 1 Oct — Jordan has in the past 10 days received a total of 10,000 tons, or some 74,000 barrels of oil from Iraq, local daily. The Jordan Times reported on Tuesday.

The shipments at an average of 7,400 barrels a day came in line with an oil agreement that the two sides renewed earlier this year, Jordanian Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Khalidun Qteishat was quoted as saying. Qteishat made the remarks to reporters on Monday at a monthly news conference held by Minister of State for Media Affairs and Communications Nasser Judeh, according to the report.

“The ministry is cooperating with its Iraqi counterpart to overcome several challenges in order to meet the daily target of barrels as stipulated in the agreement, to be increased gradually to 30,000 barrels,” Qteishat told the reporters.

Based on the deal, Iraq was to provide Jordan with 10,000 barrels per day, which is 10 per cent of the kingdom’s daily needs, at a preferential price of 22 US dollars a barrel lower than the international market price.

MNA/Xinhua

DPRK leaders pledge to boost DPRK-China friendship

PYONGYANG, 1 Oct — It was the consistent stand of the Democratic People’s Republic of (DPRK) to consolidate and develop friendly and cooperative relations with China, top DPRK leaders said in a greeting message on China’s National Day on Tuesday.

According to a report by the official KCNA news agency, the traditional DPRK-China friendly relations will grow stronger, said Kim Jong Il, top leader of the DPRK along with Kim Yong Nam, top legislator and Kim Yong Li, Premier of the DPRK in the message of marking China’s National Day.

“One over the past 59 years since he foundation of the PRC, the Chinese people have achieved great successes in the struggle to build a harmonious socialist society based on the scientific view on development,” it added. MNA/Xinhua

Insurgents kills US soldier in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 1 Oct — An American soldier died of wounds sustained from small-arms attack on his patrol in Baghdad, US military said on Tuesday.

The soldier, assigned to Multi-National Division-Baghdad, died at about 06:30 p.m. (1530 GMT) on Monday at a military hospital after being fatally wounded, the military said in a statement.

About an hour earlier, the soldier’s patrol was shot wounded by a small-arms fire in northern Baghdad and he was immediately airlifted to a nearby hospital, said the statement. — MNA/Xinhua

Giant pandas play at the Xiangjiang Wildlife World in Guangzhou, capital of south China’s Guangdong Province, on 30 Sept, 2008. Ten giant pandas in the zoo, including five adopted from Wolong nature reserve in the quake-hit Sichuan Province, become the tourists’ favorite attraction in the city during the National Day Holidays. — Xinhua

The re-entry module of China’s Shenzhou-7 spacecraft is lifted onto a truck at Beijing’s Changping railway station on 30 Sept, 2008. The module was shipped to Beijing Tuesday afternoon, two days after its safe landing in northern China’s Inner Mongolia. — Xinhua
Spanish police seize seven tons of marijuana

MADRID, 1 Oct—The Spanish police has seized seven tons of marijuana and detained five people in recent crackdowns in the southern province of Andalucia, provincial commissary Jose Maria Deira said Tuesday.

“The drug, coming from Morocco, is very pure, which has a market value of 10 million euros (about 14 million US dollars),” Deira said, “it is the biggest volume seized in Andalucia this year.”

Deira said the marijuana was captured on two ships respectively, one ton in Cadiz on 21 Sept, and the other six tons in San Lucar de Barrameda a day later.

“It took several days to report the seizure because the police was trying to make more arrests and seizures,” police authorities said. Deira added that all the detainees were Spanish and they would face judicial punishment.

New tests find melamine in 31 Chinese milk brands

BEIJING, 1 Oct—Me- lamine tainting has been found in another 31 brands of Chinese milk powder, the state product safety administration reported Wednesday. The results, shown on the adminis- tration’s Web site, indicate a further widening of the scandal that has sparked massive product recalls in China and countries that received Chinese food exports ranging from infant formula to chocolate.

The contamination is blamed for the deaths of four children and kidney ailments among 54,000 others. The State Admin- istration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said it tested samples from 265 brands produced before 14 Sept.

Nine of the brands containing dangerous levels of melamine were produced by the company at the centre of the scandal, Sanlu, a 43 percent stake of which is owned by New Zealand dairy cooperative Fonterra. No date for the testing was given.

Kenya’s tea production for August up 7%

NAIROBI, 1 Oct—Kenya’s tea production for August increased by 7 per cent to 24.4 million kilogrammes compared to the same month in 2007 which registered 22.7 million kilogrammes, tea marketers said on Monday.

The Tea Board of Kenya attributed the high production recorded in August to good weather conditions in tea growing regions, with East of Rift having experienced relatively warm temperatures and showers experienced in the period to-date was due to depressed rainfall experienced in most parts of the country during the first half of 2008. “Notably, the month of August marked the cessation of the cold weather conditions and therefore improved pro- duction has been recorded in September,” the state- ment said.—MNA/Xinhua

Spain detains fishing boat with 229 African immigrants

MADRID, 1 Oct—Spanish coastguards Tuesday morning detained a fishing boat with 229 Africans on board, which allegedly tried to reach the country’s Canary Island, Naval spokesman said on Tuesday.

All the 229 people on board were male including at least 20 minors, said Naval spokesman.

The ship, with the largest group of illegal immigrants ever in- tercepted off the Spanish archipelago, was seen on Monday afternoon some 100 km south of Gran Canary. It arrived at the port of Los Cristianos in Tenerife after midnight. According to the Naval spokesman, some Afri- cans have received treatment from the Spanish Red Cross and five of them were taken to a hospital for dehydration and hypothermia.

Each year, thousands of Sub-Saharan Africans emigrate from their countries to Europe in the hope of seeking a better life, taking a long and risky trip.

Powerful earthquake hits NZ’s Kermadec Islands

WELLINGTON, 1 Oct—An earthquake measuring 7.3 on the Richter Scale struck New Zealand’s Kermadec Islands early Tuesday, causing no casualties or damages so far, said the New Zealand’s Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS Science).

The quake struck at about 04:19 am local daylight time Tuesday (1519 GMT Monday). It was centred at the sea area, some 1,035 kilometres northeast of Auckland at the depth of 33 kilometres, said GNS Science.

Aftershocks were reported in parts of New Zealand’s North Island and the Cook Islands.

No tsunami warning was issued by the Hawaii-based Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre.

MNA/Xinhua

Claims day notice

MV KOTA TAMPA VOY NO (211)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPA VOY NO (211) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.10.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

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Pentagon issues new deployment order for Iraq

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct — The Pentagon on Tuesday issued deployment orders for 26,000 US troops assigned to go to Iraq from this winter to the summer of 2009.

The decision involves three headquarters and seven brigade combat teams, which will replace some of the units in Iraq.

The Pentagon said in a Press release that the move “reflects the continued commitment of the United States to the security of the Iraqi people and provides replacement forces required to maintain the current level of effort in Iraq.”

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said the plan is in accordance with President George W. Bush’s decision on 9 Sept to withdraw some 8,000 troops from Iraq by next February.

The plan also means the Pentagon is not envisioning any drastic drawdown of military presence in Iraq next year.

According to the plan, after February next year, there will still be 14 combat brigades in Iraq, only one less than the current total of 15 brigades.

But Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama has said that he will withdraw all combat troops from Iraq within 16 months after he is elected the next president.—Xinhua

China issues orange alert for Typhoon “Jangmi”

BEIJING, 1 Oct — The National Meteorological Centre (NMC) issued an orange warning for typhoon Jangmi on Tuesday, which was expected to bring strong winds and rain in southeastern coastal areas.

Langmi, the 15th and strongest typhoon of this year, was about 250 kilometres northeast of Cangnan, in the eastern Zhejiang Province, at 5 a.m., packing winds of up to force 10, or 90 kilometres per hour and expected to weaken, having shaved Zhejiang’s coastal area on Monday night.

INTERNET

Australians search for man believed taken by crocodile

KAMPALA, 1 Oct — Government representatives from 42 African countries have agreed to sign an international treaty on banning cluster bombs, a declaration issued at the end of a two-day meeting said here on Tuesday.

The declaration dubbed “Kampala Action Plan” urges all states to sign the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) scheduled for December 3 in Oslo, Norway to demonstrate the continent’s strong commitment to the eradication of cluster munitions.

The African continent has for the last four decades experienced violent conflicts in which cluster bombs were used, killing and maiming civilians. The CCM was nego-tiated and adopted by more than 100 states in Dublin, Ireland in May this year.

It will be opened for signature in Oslo on 3 December, the international day for persons with disabilities.

INTERNET

African countries agree to sign international treaty on banning cluster bombs

Russia’s Ambassador to Bolivia Leonid Golubev gives an interview to the Associated Press in La Paz, on 30 Sept. 2008.—INTERNET

La Paz, 1 Oct — A PAZ, Bolivia - Bolivia’s plan to purchase five Russian civil defense helicopters is a “first step” in deepening ties between the two countries as Russia looks to expand its role across Latin America. Russia’s top diplomat in Bolivia said Tuesday.

Ambassador Leonid Golubev told The Associated Press that he would like to see Russia’s ties to Bolivia one day “approach the level” of its growing partnership with Venezuela, which will host the Russian navy for military exercises in the Caribbean later this year.

“We want to show the United States that Latin America is not their backyard,” Golubev said. “We also have interests in various spheres, including military ones.”

The ambassador expressed “great satisfaction” at the recent rise of Bolivian President Evo Morales and other “socialist-oriented” governments across Latin America.

“This creates a favorable opportunity for us to return to Latin America, to help and to cooperate,” he said.

With the exception of its long ties to Cuba, Russia has been largely absent from Latin America since the end of the Cold War.—INTERNET

Russia looking to boost Bolivia ties

Russia space leader calls for closer co-op in space exploration

U.S. space leader calls for closer co-op in space exploration

We used to face some difficult times and there were real competitions then. But today we talk about a multipolar world. And I understand that our focus should be getting closer,” he said. When asked about the significance of China’s Shenzhou-7 space mission, the Russian official said the feat is an “important step” not only for the manned spaceflight but for space exploration as a whole.—INTERNET

Afghan officials agree to sign international treaty on banning cluster bombs

A saltwater crocodile near Darwin in Australia’s Northern Territory. A search has begun for a fisherman believed to have been snatched by one of the giant reptiles in the region.—INTERNET

SYDNEY, 1 Oct— A search was underway Wednesday for a fisherman believed to have been snatched by a crocodile near a river populated by the deadly reptiles in northern Australia.

Arthur Booker, reportedly a 62-year-old Vietnam veteran, had packed up his camp near the north Queensland town of Cooktown in the state’s so-called ‘Cape Crocodile’ region early Tuesday when he went back to collect some pots.

His wife, who had been waiting for him in their car, alerted authorities and a search was begun when Booker failed to return.

Police could not confirm he had been taken by a crocodile but said some of the man’s belongings had been found on the river bank close to crocodile marks and that the line securing the pots was frayed, rather than cut clean with a knife.

Local officials said two large crocodiles had been seen in the area and searched and needed to ensure their own safety. “They will be looking in the water today and having a look in the bottom to see if they can’t pull anything off the bottom,” Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service regional manager James Newman said.—Internet

Cargo ships wait to enter the Pedro Miguel lock in the route of the Panama Canal in August. Bidding has opened on the third contract to expand the Panama Canal’s access to the Pacific Ocean, the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) announced Tuesday.—INTERNET

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Philippines says China’s transformation “truly impressive”

MANILA, 30 Sept— China’s development over the past 59 years has been “truly impressive” and the country is more and more engaged with Asia and the rest of the world in pursuit of peace, progress and prosperity, a Philippine official said on Monday.

China’s transformation since October 1, 1949 has been truly impressive, said Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Alberto G. Romulo on the occasion of the 59th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China.

“Barely two days ago, the world witnessed China’s first successful space walk from its own space craft, Shenzhou-7,” said the Secretary of Foreign Affairs. The Shenzhou-7 manned spacecraft that carried three taikonauts blasted off Thursday evening and flew 68 hours in space which included a spacewalk on Saturday.
**SPORTS**

**Feeble Fiorentina jeered after Steaua bore draw**

**Florence, 1 Oct** — Fiorentina coach Cesare Prandelli defended his players after they were jeered off the pitch following a dull 0-0 home draw against Steaua Bucharest in the Champions League on Tuesday.

Fiorentina lacked spark and imagination as they failed to break down a tight and disciplined Steaua outfit but Prandelli insisted people shouldn’t expect too much, too soon from his team.

“We’re back in the Champions League after many years away, I think we deserve congratulations not whistles,” he told Sky Sport.

“You can’t forget that we haven’t played in the Champions League for many years. There needs to be a calmer reaction.”

**Manchester United count cost of Champions League win**

**Aalborg, 1 Oct** — Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has admitted that his side’s comfortable victory over Aalborg could carry a high price after two key players picked up injuries in the Champions League stroll.

Paul Scholes was carried off with knee ligament damage in the 11th minute while star striker Wayne Rooney hobbled off in the second-half of the 3-0 win with an ankle problem.

“With Scholes it is definitely medial ligament damage, but we don’t know how serious yet,” Ferguson said, before offering a prediction that the midfield dynamo would be sidelined for six to eight weeks.

Meanwhile, Rooney’s Materials show how difficult it is for the team to break Celtic’s resistance.

Celtic now have just one point from their first two matches, which is a daunting trip to Old Trafford to face reigning champions Manchester United on 21 October.

Villarreal are locked with Manchester United on four points at the group summit and travel to group outsiders Aalborg BK on the same day.

**Real beat unlucky Zenit to make it two from two**

**Saint Petersburg, 1 Oct** — Real Madrid maintained their unbeaten start in the Champions League group stage with a 2-1 win over Zenit St Petersburg here on Tuesday making it the first time in five years they have won their opening two matches.

Real captain Iker Casillas was relieved to come away with a win after sustained pressure from Zenit failed to down the nine-time champions.

“In the end we suffered more than we should have done,” said Spain’s Euro 2008-winning keeper.

“But we’ve got six points, these are important before we play Juventus in our next match. We’ve taken a giant step (towards the next stage).”

**Arsenal move into pole position**

**London, 1 Oct** — Arsene Wenger expects Arsenal to use their 4-0 rout of Porto as a springboard to qualify for the Champions League knockout phase as group winners.

Wenger’s side moved top of Group G thanks to two goals each from Robin van Persie and Emmanuel Adebayor on Tuesday and the Arsenal manager has no doubts they will stay in pole position.

After Saturday’s embarrassing defeat against Hull cast doubts on Arsenal’s ability to compete for the top honours, the Gunners were firing on all cylinders again at the Emirates Stadium.

**Ze Roberto saves Bayern from Lyon’s clutches**

**Munich, 1 Oct** — Ze Roberto’s second half goal earned Bayern Munich a 1-1 draw against French giants Lyon to keep Jurgen Klinsmann’s side top of Group F in the Champions League.

Lyon went ahead when Bayern’s Argentine international Martin Demichelis headed in Brazilian playmaker Juninho’s long range freekick for a 25th minute own goal.

That was the last thing Klinsmann’s team needed after two successive losses in the Bundesliga but their blushes were saved in the 52nd minute.

**Ferrer launches Japan Open tennis campaign**

**Tokyo, 1 Oct** — World number five David Ferrer pulverised Jesse Levine’s serve-and-volley game to launch his campaign to defend his Japan Open tennis title on Wednesday.

It was a return to form for the top-seeded Spaniard, who was unceremoniously dumped in his first match in Beijing last week, scoring a 6-4, 4-6, 6-1 victory over the 101st-ranked American in the second round.

"Every week is different. Today I played good. It was a very tough match. Levine has good power and I had to fight to beat him," said Ferrer.

**Bate Borisov’s Sergei Somovski(L) vies for the ball with Juventus’ Vincenzo Iaquinta during their UEFA Champions League group H football match in Minsk. The match ended in a 2-2 draw.**

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Lebanese Sunni leader lashes out at Syria

BEIRUT, 1 Oct—Lebanese Sunni majority leader MP Saad Hariri has lashed out at Syrian President Hafez Assad, accusing him of insinuating that Lebanon has been responsible for security situation in Syria, local newspaper Daily Star reported here Tuesday.

A Syrian Press report said Monday that the car which blew up in Syria last week came from a neighbouring country, which was understood by many observers and hinting to Lebanon.

Media reports also quoted Assad as saying Monday that north Lebanon had become “a base for extremism and poses danger for Syria”.

In his response, Hariri denounced that “the Syrian leadership was looking for any excuse to obstruct normal relations with Syria”.

Hariri, meanwhile, noted that some agencies are smuggling extremist fighters over the borders “to spread chaos and carry out terrorist acts against Lebanese Army and civilians”.

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Russian troops let EU monitors into buffer zone

Gori, 1 Oct—Russian troops have allowed a group of European Union monitors to enter a buffer zone on the edge of Georgia’s separatist province of South Ossetia despite an earlier warning to them to stay out of the area.

Unarmed EU monitors in light armoured vehicles launched patrols Wednesday in several areas near South Ossetia, in line with a French-brokered truce.

Russian troops manning a checkpoint near the village of Kventakotsa, about 12 miles west of the city of Gori in central Georgia, allowed two EU patrol vehicles into the buffer zone after a brief conversation with monitors.

The Russian military warned Tuesday that it would not allow the monitors to enter the buffer zone surrounding South Ossetia.

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Pakistani’s forces kill 2,825 militants in operations

ISLAMABAD, 29 Sept—Pakistan has killed 2,825 militants in the tribal regions and Swat valley in the northwest since July 2007, a senior security official said on Monday.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the official said a total of 2,825 militants, including 581 foreigners, had been killed. A total of 1,400 miscroats, including 311, have been injured so far and a total of 2,774 militants, including 330 foreigners, have been arrested, said the official.

The News Network International (NNI) news agency quoted the official as saying that 386 Army soldiers and 225 personnel of Frontier Corps (FC) were among the dead.

The official also confirmed that 1,622 Army men were also injured in the operations during the same period.

A total of 88 suicide attacks, 769 Improvised Explosives Devices explosions, 520 fire raids, 79 ambushes and 128 physical attacks have occurred since July 2007, said the official.

He clarified that in those 88 suicide attacks, a total of 1,188 people were killed and as many as 3,209 others injured. —NNI/Xinhua

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Rival Hamas, Fatah leaders pledge Palestinian unity bid

GAZA, 1 Oct—Officials of the rival Palestinian groups Fatah and Hamas movements celebrated the end of the holy month of Ramadan on Tuesday with pledges to seek unity at internal talks in Cairo in the coming weeks.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas of Fatah movement marked the feast of Eid al-Fitr by laying flowers at a monument to fallen soldiers in Ramallah, his de facto capital in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

“President Abbas and the Palestinian leadership are exerting great efforts for the success of the dialogue that Egypt is holding,” Abbas’ spokesman Nabil Abu Ridaiah said. —MNA/Xinhua

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WEATHER

Wednesday, 1 October, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Rakhine and Kayah States, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Divisions, fairly widespread in Mon State, lower Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Mandalay Division, isolated heavyfalls in Magway and Bago Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Aylar) (1.66) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Thapyayone) (1.62) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) (0.43) inch, Toungoo (Aviation) (4.21) inches, Taungtwingyi (2.64) inches, Toungoo (2.36) inches, Mawlamyine (1.97) inches and Pyinmama (1.30) inches. Maximum temperature on 30-9-2008 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 1-10-2008 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs on 1-10-2008 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 30-9-2008 was 3.0 hours approx.

Rains: A weak low pressure system located near Gauge A-Kabar (0.12) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (96.85) inches at Mingaladon, (108.42) inches at Kab A-Ay (126.10) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4.5) mph from South at (15.30) hrs MST on 30-9-2008.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-10-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-10-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-10-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing visits Golden Brown pedigree poultry farms of Triangle Region Command in Kengtung. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—Accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo and departmental officials, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, asked after the aged at the Golden Brown pedigree poultry farms inspected at Triangle Region Command headquarters in Kengtung yesterday morning and presented cash assistance and refreshments to the aged and cash to the funds of the home. Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing inspected the Golden Brown pedigree poultry farms of Triangle Region Command Head-quarters and systematic breeding. At Golden Triangle Guest House in Kengtung, he met local national race leader U Sai Lin and party of Mongla Region. After cordially holding discussions on regional development task, he presented gifts to U Sai Lin and party. —MNA

International Day of Older Persons 2008 observed in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct — International Day of Older Persons 2008 was observed at Nay Pyi Taw City Hall this morning. Patron of the Committee for Observing International Day of Older Persons Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe made a speech of honour and presented gift, cash and medicines to the aged. It was also attended by Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, the deputy ministers, responsible persons of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal Child Welfare Association, diplomats of foreign embassies in Yangon, resident representatives of UN agencies, the chairman and members of the committee, departmental heads, members of township social organizations of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District, guests, the aged and officials. (See page 9)

Two obiting terrestrial planets collide

SCIENCE DAILY, 1 Oct — Two terrestrial planets orbiting a mature sun-like star some 300 light-years from Earth recently suffered a violent collision, astronomers at UCLA, Tennessee State University and the California Institute of Technology will report in a December issue of the Astrophysical Journal. “It’s as if Earth and Venus collided with each other,” said Benjamin Zuckerman, UCLA professor of physics and astronomy and co-author on the paper, “Astronomers have never seen anything like this before. Apparently, major catastrophic collisions can take place in a fully mature planetary system.” “If any life was present on either planet, the massive collision would have wiped out everything in a matter of minutes — the ultimate extinction event,” said co-author Gregory Henry, an astronomer at Tennessee State University (TSU). “A massive disk of infrared-emitting dust circling the star provides silent testimony to this sad fate.” —Internet

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe presents gifts to the aged at the International Day of Older Persons. —MNA

Khakaborazi National Park for eco-tourism

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Applied Rice Development Course opened

YANGON, 1 Oct — The Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading under the Ministry of Commerce conducted the Applied Rice Development Course (1/2008) at its office here this morning. The subjects prescribed for the course cover production, purchase, transport, milling and storage, pasteurization and export of rice, signing, opening of money order, shipping, compilation of documents, world rice market, local rice market, changing rice consumption patterns, and role of private rice mills.

One hundred and three trainees are attending the two-week course. —MNA