

Mountaineers of MHMF, MWSF honoured

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov—The mountaineers of Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Federation and Myanmar Women's Sports Federation who successfully scaled the 15146-foot high snow-capped Htawtakaw Mountain in Putao District of Kachin State were honoured at a ceremony held at the auditorium of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs here yesterday.

MHMF Secretary Dr Khin Maung recounted the provision of health care and taking part in regional development tasks at the villages along the way to the mountain and their experiences.

Next, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered an address on the occasion and a member of mountaineering team presented photos of the snow-capped Htawtakaw Mountain to the minister.

Afterwards, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented medals to the mountaineers and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, cash awards to a member of the team.

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Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint addresses ceremony to honour youth mountaineers of Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Federation and Myanmar Women's Sports Federation. —MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Ngwehsaung Beach uplifting livelihoods of local people

Article & Photos: Kayan Soe Myint

Myanmar is rich in scenic beauty and charming beaches that attract tourists. Ngwehsaung is one of the popular beaches in the country.

In line with the guidance of the Head of State which calls for building Ngwehsaung Beach of Ayeyawady into a recreation centre for the international tourists, local authorities and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism opened 19 hotels owned by Myanmar nationals in the year 2000. During eight years period, a total of 21 hotels have so far been opened in the region.

Recently, I had a chance to visit the Ngwehsaung Beach. I went along the 30 miles and three furlongs long road built by Asia World Co to link Seinkon Village and Ngwehsaung Beach after crossing Ngawun Bridge on Yangon-Pathein Road. It took 45 minutes to cover the route from Pathein Bridge to Ngwehsaung Beach.

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Scenic beauty of Ngwehsaung Beach that charms visitors.



PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 30 November, 2008

Transport network intended to pave way to new nation

Development of a nation, and high living standard and economic growth of the people are interrelated with the transport sector of the nation. In the past successive periods, Myanmar had poor transport, and as a consequence, the nation lagged behind other countries in development and the people were far from enjoying social and economic development. In other words, smooth transport between one region and another is the key to national development, along with social-economic development and friendship among national brethren.

With this object in view, today the government has been constructing roads and bridges into a transport network in order to improve the transport sector. The total length of roads has surged from over 21,000 miles in 1988 to over 70,000 miles. New railroads stretching 1478 miles and 325 new railway stations were constructed to upgrade the railroads.

In the past, Myanmar had only five bridges spanning its four major rivers: the Ayeyawady, the Chindwin, the Sittoung and the Thanlwin. The number of river-crossing bridges has increased to 18. Thus far, the government has constructed 311 road bridges and 42 railroad bridges with above 180 feet in length. Seven bridge projects are ongoing.

Local people know best how well they do in the transport, trade and relations with each other, thanks to a network of railroads, roads and bridges. Emergence of transport facilities one after another across the nation is an apparent testament to the benevolent attitude the government has shown to the people.

Actually, construction of a transport network is intended to pave the way to a peaceful, modern and developed new democratic nation with flourishing discipline.

Bank of China opens subsidiaries in Switzerland

GENEVA, 29 Nov— Bank of China has opened two subsidiaries in Switzerland, becoming the first Chinese banking group to establish a presence in the country, the organization announced Friday. The bank said in a Press release that it has received approval from the Swiss Federal Banking Commission to open the two subsidiaries. The Bank of China (Suisse) SA, will start operations

immediately. “It will offer top quality private banking services to Chinese as well as international clients,” the bank said.

The second subsidiary, BOC (SUISSE) FUND MANAGEMENT SA, will offer institutional asset management services to Chinese, Swiss and international institutions. It will also manage funds in both Chinese and global financial markets.

MNA/Xinhua

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

Cultivation of sunflower inspected in Kangyidaunt Township

YANGON, 29 Nov — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe inspected growing of black gram and sunflower on the five-acre of farmland of Daw Kalama in Kwinlya Village-tract in Kangyidaunt Township, Patheingyi District on 26 November.

The commander inspected land preparation, putting natural fertilizer in the plantation of black gram and sunflower with the help of local farmers and staff of the Myanmar Agriculture Service.

He also inspected 21



acres of summer paddy of Myanmar Correctional Department in Koezu Village-tract in Patheingyi Township.—MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe visits a sunflower field in Kwinlya East Village.

MNA

Roads in townships of Yangon Division under large-scale repair

YANGON, 29 Nov— Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected the 1000 feet long and 21 feet wide Taw street, the 1200 feet long and 12 feet wide Bo Uttama street, the 1200 feet long and 12 feet wide Bawga street and the 300 feet long and 12 feet wide Bagaya street in Bawga ward, Kyimyindine Township here.

Next, the mayor looked into the sinking of tube-

wells by the YCDC's Engineering Department (Water/Sanitation) in Kamayut, Sangyoung and Kyimyindine townships to supply potable and safe water to the public.

Afterwards, he inspected the renovation of Parami road near the junction of Pyay road and Parami road in Mayangon township, that was being undertaken by the Engineering Department (Road/Bridge) with the aim of ensuring smooth and secure transport.—MNA

MWEA members leave for Japan



MWEA members seen at the airport prior to their departure for Japan.—MWEA

YANGON, 29 Nov— CEC member Daw Thet Thet Khine (Shwe Nandaw jewelry shop) and member Daw Zar Zar Htay (Hman Cho Traditional Medicine House) of the Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association left for Osaka, Japan by air to attend the 29th Kankeiren ASEAN Management Seminar to be held from 1 to 5 December.

They were seen off by the CEC member and responsible persons at Yangon International Airport.

MNA

US military networks under cyber attacks

LOS ANGELES, 29 Nov — Cyber hackers have launched a series of “malware” attacks on US combat zone computers and the US Central Command overseeing Iraq and Afghanistan, under scoring concerns about computer warfare, it was reported on Friday.

The attacks prompted senior military leaders to take the exceptional step of briefing President George W Bush this week, according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

Such attacks may have originated in Russia — an incursion that posed unusual concern among commanders and raised potential implications for national security, the paper noted.

Defence officials would not describe the extent of damage inflicted on military networks but said the attack struck hard at networks within US Central Command, the headquarters that oversees US involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan, and affected computers in combat zones, said the paper. The attack also penetrated at least one highly protected classified network.

The most recent attack involved an intrusive piece of malicious software, or “malware,” apparently designed specifically to target military networks, according to the paper. “This one was significant; this one got our attention,” the paper quoted an unidentified defense official as saying. —Internet



Relatives of a killed resident cry next to a shop damaged in a shoot out by a convoy of foreign troops in Kabul, Afghanistan, Friday, on 28 Nov, 2008. A convoy of foreign troops shot at a vehicle in the capital's outskirts Friday, killing a civilian and wounding three others, officials said.—INTERNET



An Afghan police man chases angry protesters after a convoy of foreign troops shot at a vehicle in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 28 Nov, 2008. A convoy of foreign troops shot at a vehicle in the capital's outskirts Friday, killing a civilian and wounding three others, officials said.

INTERNET

Taleban kill 13 Afghan troops in ambush

KABUL, 29 Nov — Taleban insurgents killed 13 Afghan troops in an ambush of their convoy in northwestern Afghanistan, while NATO-led troops fired on insurgents inside Pakistan, officials said Friday.

More than 300 militants attacked the Afghan forces' convoy, which was transporting 47

vehicles for their units in Bala Murghab district of Badghis Province late Thursday, said Naeem Khan, a border police official.

In a several-hour battle, 13 Afghan soldiers and policemen were killed and 11 others were wounded, said Abdul Ghani Sabri, the deputy provincial governor. Seven Taliban fight-

ers were also killed, Sabri said.

Sixteen other Afghan troops were captured by the militants, who also took most of the 47 vehicles being transported in the convoy, Khan said.

Following the clash, helicopters were dispatched to the area and fired at the militants, Khan said.

Internet

Suicide bomber kills 12 south of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 29 Nov — A suicide bomber struck Shiite worshippers Friday at a mosque run by followers of anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, killing at least 12 people, a day after Iraqi lawmakers approved a security pact with the United States.

The blast underlined fears on both sides of the argument of proponents of the deal warn the Iraqis aren't ready to take over their own security while opponents, led by the Sadrists, say the American presence is the main reason for the instability plaguing the country.

In Baghdad, thousands of al-Sadr's loyalists took to the streets to rally against the deal in the main Shiite district of Sadr City.

The bomber blew himself up among a group of men waiting to be searched near the green iron gate at the entrance of the main mosque in Musayyib, 40 miles south of Baghdad.

Worshippers — who had

planned a protest against the pact after services — rushed outside or stood against the walls for protection against a possible roof collapse.—Internet



A man checks the damage after a suicide bomber blew himself up at the entrance of a Shiite mosque in Musayyib, south of Baghdad, Iraq, on 28 Nov, 2008, killing at least 12 people, Iraqi officials said.—INTERNET



Journalists drop to the ground to take cover as incoming bullets whistle into the crowd outside the Taj Mahal hotel during gun battles between Indian troops and militants in Mumbai, India, on 29 Nov, 2008. Indian commandos killed the last remaining gunmen holed up at a luxury Mumbai hotel Saturday, ending a 60-hour rampage through India's financial capital by suspected Islamic militants that rocked the nation.—INTERNET

Mumbai operation appears nearly over

MUMBAI, 29 Nov — The last gunmen in a standoff at the Taj Mahal hotel in Mumbai were killed early Saturday, the city's police chief told CNN sister station CNN-IBN, but another official said more attackers could be inside the hotel.

“It's completely over, except for the fact that now we will start searching the hotel and sanitizing it against any explosives and against any other things that may have been left behind,” police Chief Hussain Gafoor said.

The announcement coincided with the end of intermittent gunfire from the historic Taj, which has been the scene of a violent and drawn-out standoff resulting in numerous deaths and injuries since Wednesday.

It also signaled a potential end to two nights and three days of terror attacks targeting several high-traffic landmarks in Mumbai known to be frequented by tourists.

The casualty toll from the attacks reached 160 dead and 327 wounded Friday, officials said.

However, JK Dutt, director-general of the national security guard, said there could be more terrorists and that the operation was still ongoing.—Internet

Russian president visits Cold War ally Castro

HAVANA, 29 Nov — Russia’s president met with revolutionary icon Fidel Castro on Friday, discussing Guantanamo Bay and hopes for a multipolar world with Cu-

ba’s former leader during a tour of Latin America aimed at raising Moscow’s presence in the region. Dmitry Medvedev spent hours talking and

sightseeing with President Raul Castro before meeting privately with his 82-year-old older brother. Medvedev said he was happy with his visit when he left the island Friday evening on a flight from the beach resort of Varadero east of Havana, Cuba’s Prensa Latina news agency reported. “We have defined what we are going to do next, we have cleared up everything regarding credits, and in Russia we will await President Raul Castro’s visit,” Prensa Latina quoted the Russian president as saying. The news agency offered no details about what had been defined and cleared up.—Internet



Cuba’s President Raul Castro, left, and Russia’s President Dmitry Medvedev look on as they take part in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Jose Marti monument, background, in Havana, on 27 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET

Gaza mortars wound six Israelis

JERUSALEM, 29 Nov — Palestinian militants in Gaza blasted a military base in southern Israel with mortars late Friday, wounding six soldiers in the latest assault on an unraveling truce between Israel and Gaza’s Hamas rulers. Israel’s rescue service said one of the soldiers was critically injured, and the others were slightly or moderately hurt. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by the small Popular Resistance Committees, an ally of the Islamic Hamas militant group. The military base is located near a fuel terminal that supplies much-needed gasoline and cooking fuel to impoverished Gaza. According to the Israeli



Israeli soldiers and medics wheel a wounded soldier on a stretcher as he arrives to hospital after being injured by mortar fire, in Beersheba, southern Israel, on 28 Nov, 2008. —INTERNET

military, Palestinian militants fired a total of 11 mortars at southern Israel from Gaza on Friday. Three of them landed at the base, the military said. Earlier in the day, Palestinian gunmen clashed with Israeli troops else-

where along the volatile Gaza-Israel border. The military reported that one militant was shot. A Gaza health official reported one Palestinian was killed, but that report has not been confirmed. Internet

Five US citizens killed in Mumbai attacks

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov — The State Department said on Friday that five US citizens had been killed in the attacks on Mumbai and that more Americans remained missing. “The Department is now able to confirm the deaths of five American citizens. Consular staff have been in contact with all of the victims’ families,” Gordon Duguid, act-

ing deputy spokesman, said in a statement. “The Consulate in Mumbai will continue to work with the Indian Police until all missing American citizens have been accounted for,” he added. The State Department did not identify the victims killed in the wave of attacks by Pakistan-based Islamic militants that have left up to 155 dead.

Earlier, the Synchronicity Foundation, a meditation community outside Charlottesville, Virginia, said two of their members, a father and daughter, had been killed at the Oberoi Hotel. And a Jewish outreach group said a New York-based rabbi and his wife had been killed in an assault on the group’s centre in Mumbai.—Internet



A man on a bike looks up at homes that were destroyed by flooding in Blumenau, Brazil, on 28 Nov, 2008. Flooding and mudslides have killed at least 100 people in southern Brazil.—INTERNET

Two men dead after shots fired in SoCal Toys ‘R’ Us

PALM DESERT, 29 Nov — Two men pulled guns and shot each other to death in a crowded toy store Friday after the women with them erupted into a bloody brawl, witnesses said. Scared shoppers fled but no one else was hurt. The violence erupted on Black Friday, the traditional post-Thanksgiving start of the holiday shopping surge, but authorities indicated the shooting wasn’t related to a shopping frenzy. Riverside County sheriff’s Sgt Dennis Gutierrez said the fight was not over a toy. He said handguns were found by the men’s bodies, but he released little other information. He would not answer a question about whether the shooting was gang-related. Witnesses Scott and Joan Barrick said they were checking out of the store when the fight began between two women, each with a man. The women were near the checkout area, but the Barricks did not think the women had purchases.—Internet

Police and emergency personnel are seen outside the Toys ‘R’ Us store in Palm Desert, Calif, on 28 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET



Deadly clashes break out in Nigerian city

Jos (Nigeria), 29 Nov — Clashes broke out in a flashpoint Nigerian city after the first elections in a decade, leaving at least 15 people dead and prompting the president to send troops into the streets Friday. Six mosques, five churches and countless homes were destroyed before the military retook control of the streets and imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew in the central city of Jos. Eleven dead were given burial rites at the main mosque Friday afternoon and three corpses lay at the morgue in the central hospital, said a spokesman for the facility, Ishaya Pam. He said there was a “high number” of casualties, and that 150 people were sheltering in the building for safety. The riots were sparked after electoral workers failed to publicly post results in ballot collation centers after Thursday’s vote, prompting many onlookers to assume the local government vote was becoming the latest in a long line of fraudulent Nigerian elections.—Internet



China's first homegrown regional jet ARJ-21-700 flies in Shanghai, east China, on 28 Nov, 2008. The ARJ-21, which was developed independently by China, completed its maiden flight on Friday. The 90-seat ARJ-21-700 jet, powered by a turbofan engine and rolled off the production line in 2007, has a maximum flight range of 3,700 kilometers and a maximum altitude of 11,900 meters, according to Xinhua.—INTERNET

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China's exports to grow 15 percent in 2009

BEIJING, 29 Nov—China's export volume is expected to achieve a growth rate of around 15 percent in 2009 despite the impact of the financial crisis and global economic downturn, a trade expert with the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) has said.

"It is true that coastal provinces such as Guangdong have been

facing much pressure as global demand for traditional commodities has weakened significantly," Mei Xinyu, an expert with the MOC Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation.

In China, the so-called "traditional commodities" of export refer to garments, accessories, textile, shoes and furniture, among others.—Xinhua



Miss India (left) and Miss Ghana hold plates of cultural food they cooked themselves, on 24 Nov, at the Legend resort in Limpopo, in South Africa's northern province. In the Entabeni reserve, in the north-western province of Limpopo, the 112 Miss World candidates left behind their on-stage personas to play enthusiastically on the djembe and plant a tree that bears their name.—INTERNET

Locator signals picked up from Air NZ planes' black boxes

WELLINGTON, 29 Nov—Locator signals have been picked up from two black box flight recorders from the Air New Zealand-owned plane that crashed into the Mediterranean, New Zealand media reported on Saturday.

The Airbus A320, flown by two German pilots and carrying five New Zealanders, plunged into the sea off the southern French coast as it ap-

proached Perpignan airport.

Two bodies were found shortly after the crash, but the five others were still missing.

The plane was on a test flight as part of maintenance being done before being returned to Air NZ after a two-year lease to German company XL Airways.

Air NZ said on Saturday morning that it had

notified that bad weather meant the flight recorders were unlikely to be recovered until Sunday.

Four of the five New Zealanders on board were Air NZ staff.

They were Captain Brian Horrell, 52, from Auckland; and engineers Murray White, 37, from Auckland, Michael Gyles, 49, from Christchurch, and Noel Marsh, 35, from Christchurch.—Xinhua



Obama cabinet to be nearly complete by Christmas

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov—US President-elect Barack Obama will have nearly named his entire cabinet by Christmas, a top Obama aide said Friday.

John Podesta, a co-chair of the Obama transition team, told Bloomberg News that "virtually the whole cabinet" would be in place by the end of the year.

Earlier this week, Obama announced his

nomination of New York Fed chairman Timothy Geithner to be treasury secretary.

He has also reportedly settled on Senator Hillary Clinton for secretary of state, New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson for commerce secretary, Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano for homeland security secretary, former Senator Tom Daschle for health and human services secretary and Eric Holder

for attorney general.

Obama also reportedly favors keeping Defense Secretary Robert Gates in his current position. Though Gates currently appears to be the only Republican hopefully to hold a key post under Obama, Podesta said there would be "multiple Republicans" in the Obama administration, which would assume duties on 20 Jan, 2009.

Xinhua

Brazil condemns terrorist attacks in India

BRASILIA, 29 Nov—Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Friday condemned the terrorist attacks on the Indian city of Mumbai on Wednesday.

"I forward, on behalf of the Brazilian people and government, our condemnation of this cowardly demonstration of violence and our solidarity with the families affected and with the entire Indian nation," Lula said in messages to Indian President Pratibha Patil and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim also sent a message to his Indian counterpart Pranab Mukherjee, expressing the solidarity of the Brazilian government and condolences for the dead in the attack. More than 140 people have been killed and almost 400 others injured in the attacks targeting Westerners, according to Indian officials.—Xinhua

Construction begins on China's tallest building

SHANGHAI, 29 Nov—Construction began here Saturday on China's tallest building, a 632-metre skyscraper called the Shanghai Center.

The center will be taller than the other two most famous skyscrapers in Shanghai, the 420.5-metre-tall Jin Mao Tower completed in 1999 and the 492-metre-tall Shanghai World Financial Center finished in August this year, all located in the central financial district of Lujiazui.

The new building will be completed in 2014, costing more than 14.8



Shanghai Centre project will be started since 29 Nov, 2008. It is proposed to be the tallest building of China after it finished.—XINHUA

billion yuan (about 2.2 billion US dollars), according to the Shanghai Center Construction and Development Co, Ltd.

"The Shanghai Center is expected to increase domestic demand and economic growth amid the worldwide financial crisis," said Kong Qingwei, board chairman of the company.

Designed by Gensler,

an American firm, the new landmark will twist as it rises and be surrounded by an outer glass wall.

The design with the name of "Dragon" was chosen from many candidates in June. The tower will feature nine gardens between the main building and the glass wall. A public park will also be in the building.—Xinhua

People try to set up a totem of the mountain deity Bainaia during a ceremony in Yakeshi, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region on 28 Nov, 2008. —XINHUA



A hotel guest carries a baby while being evacuated from the besieged Trident-Oberoi Hotel in Mumbai on 28 November, 2008.
INTERNET

Russia test-fires ICBM from submarine

Moscow, 29 Nov — The Russian navy said Friday that a new-generation Bulava intercontinental ballistic missile was test-fired from a submerged submarine and hit its target 6 the second consecutive successful test of the troubled weapon. Russian officials have hailed the Bulava as a key future component of the nation’s nuclear forces, but several failed test-launches over the past two years have cast doubt on the missile.

The Bulava reportedly is designed to have a maximum range of about 10,000 kilometers (6,200 miles) and to carry six individually targeted nuclear warheads.

Navy spokesman Capt Igor Dygalo said in a statement that a Bulava was launched on Friday from the nuclear submarine Dmitry Donskoi beneath the White Sea surface and hit its test tar-

gets on the Kamchatka Peninsula, some 5,500 kilometres (4,000 miles) to the east. Also Friday, Russian news agencies quoted the head of the country’s Strategic Rocket Forces as saying the planned US missile defense system in Europe and other perceived threats have prompted Moscow to work harder on missile development.

Interfax quoted Col-Gen Nikolai Solovtsov as saying Russia has stepped up efforts to lay a groundwork for new missiles that could be deployed after 2020. Solovtsov also said plans are on track to put a new RS-24 missile equipped with multiple nuclear warheads in service next year. He says the RS-24 will improve Russia’s capability of penetrating missile defense systems.

Internet

Three escape pirate-hijacked tanker

NAIROBI, 29 Nov — Three British guards jumped overboard and were rescued from the water after battling in vain to prevent pirates hijacking a chemical tanker off the coast of Somalia.

The Liberian-flagged Biscaglia came under “sustained and heavy attack” early Friday morning, Nick Davis, Director of Anti-Piracy Maritime Security Solutions (APMSS), said in a statement.

The three APMSS-employed security guards — all former British servicemen — mounted “sustained non-lethal resistance” but were unable to stop the attackers seizing control of the ship, Davis said.

The trio were airlifted to

safety by a German naval helicopter and flown to a French frigate after the vessel summoned assistance from coalition warships. They were later transferred to a British Royal Navy ship. All three were unhurt, Davis said.

Pirates continued to shoot at the three in the water, Davis said. “The hijacked vessel with pirates in control then attempted to run them down.”

The Biscaglia is managed by Singapore-based Ishima and owned by Winged Foot Shipping in the Marshall Islands and was crewed by 25 Indians and two Bangladeshis who are believed to be still onboard.—Internet



The three security guards board a helicopter to leave the French frigate Nivose after jumping overboard when their vessel was attacked by pirates. —INTERNET

Surging shoppers kill New York Wal-Mart worker

NEW YORK, 29 Nov — A man working for discount retailer Wal-Mart was killed on Friday in a stampede by frenzied shoppers who broke down doors and surged into a Long Island, New York store, a police spokesman said.

The 34-year-old man was at the entrance of the Valley Stream Wal-Mart store just after it opened at 5 am and was knocked to the ground, the police report said.

The exact cause of

death was still to be determined by a medical examiner.

Four shoppers, including a 28-year-old pregnant woman, were also taken to local hospitals for injuries sustained in the incident, police said.—Internet



Photo shows a rare stone, featuring its patterns on the surface, at the home of a rare stone collector in Wushan county, southwest China’s Chongqing Municipality.

Man with gun under pillow forfeits licence

A German man who slept with a loaded revolver under his pillow has lost his gun license after a court ruled it to be irresponsible behavior.

The 56-year-old was stripped of his license for failing to store the weapon properly, Braunschweig administrative court judge Torsten Baumgarten told Reuters Tuesday. The gun was only discovered by chance during a police inspection.

“His home was being checked because he had threatened to throw a hand grenade if the city council approved plans to build a high-voltage power line in his neighborhood,” Baumgarten said. “The decision to take his license was made independently.”

Bamboo laptop by Asustek to debut on Saturday

Asustek Computer plans to debut a nature-friendly laptop PC with a casing made of bamboo on Saturday at Taipei’s IT Month exhibition.

The laptop, first announced last year, is part of Asus’s efforts to use renewable materials in products. The shell of the laptop is made of real bamboo, which grows fast and is used widely throughout Asia in furniture, as well as construction scaffolding, food for pandas, and in artworks.

The company on Thursday displayed the first bamboo laptop that’s ready for the market. The device is part of Asus’s U6V series of notebook PCs and sports a 12.1-inch screen, Intel Core 2 Duo microprocessor, and Microsoft’s Windows Vista OS.

Asus plans to sell them at the Taipei IT show for NT\$59,900 (US\$1,802) each. The company will launch the bamboo laptops in the US and Europe at a later date, but has not decided exactly when, an Asustek representative said.



The pigs, tattooed with Disney designs, legendary stories, cartoons, and the Louis Vuitton logo, are work of Belgian artist Wim Delvoye in a suburb farm of Beijing. The maximum price of these tattooed pigs can hit one million yuan (about 150,000 US dollars).

Rich man posts lonely heart advertisement

A wealthy 56-year-old man in Zunyi city, Guizhou province, posted a lonely heart advertisement online in the hope of finding a young, beautiful and capable wife.

The man said he was very rich, having his own company, a house, a car and millions of yuan in cash.

He has been single since divorcing his wife 20 years ago, but now wants to find an attractive woman who can help his business.

He even pasted his own picture online. But many people believe only greedy girls will take the bait.



A girl in a typical dress stands next to a giant cup containing the typical Mexican cocktail “margarita”, made with 200 liters of tequila, lemon and sugar, in Los Cabos, Baja California state, northern Mexico during an attempt to break a Guinness record of the biggest margarita in the world.

NEWSALBUM

Ohio police dog bites man accused of dogfighting

Authorities said a police dog bit and helped apprehend a Dayton man wanted on dogfighting charges. Dayton police Lt Patrick Welsh said a 31-year-old man fled on foot Sunday as officers were responding to a call.

Welsh said the dog grabbed the man on the wrist so officers could arrest him. The suspect was treated for bites to his hand and taken to jail on previously filed charges of dogfighting.

Ngwehsaung Beach uplifting livelihoods of local people

Article & Photos: Kayan Soe Myint

(from page 1)

We, members of the news team, stayed at Emerald Sea Resort. The resort was built in 2005 and opened with 23 rooms in 2006. The hotel comprises five deluxe class sea view rooms and superior class garden view rooms plus the lobby, the dining hall and meeting halls. The free package tours for the tourists are arranged from Yangon to Ngwehsaung. The rooms are installed with services of air-conditioners, hot and cold water, refrigerators, international satellite channels and DVDs. Myanmar, Thai and Chinese foods are

available at the restaurants of the hotel at fair prices. While staying at the hotel, we were satisfied with modern and comfortable buildings and accommodation and good hotel services.

The next day, we left for Ngwehsaung Village. Indeed, it is not a small village. Ngwehsaung was formed as a town included in Patheingyi District of Ayeyawady Division by the government, and the town is facilitated with General Administration Department, Health Department, Land Records and Settlement Department, Agriculture Depart-

ment, Post Office and A level Telephone Station, Police Station and People's Hospital.

Ngwehsaung is constituted with four wards and 49 villages. By operating agriculture, horticulture, transportation for hotel services, souvenir shops, restaurants and inn businesses in addition to fishing at the sea, the local people have improved their living standards.

After visiting Ngwehsaung region, I met with Secretary of Myanmar Hoteliers Association and Secretary of Ngwehsaung Hotel Zone U Kyaw Tun, who is also a hotel owner. In an inter-



A scenic beauty of Ngwehsaung Beach for tourists and local people.

view, U Kyaw Tun explained that the recreation centre was opened in the year 2000. So far, a total of 21 hotels have been

opened in the region.

A large number of foreign tourists visited the beach from 2000 to 2006. In 2007-2008, many domestic tourists visited there. As the road transport is better from Yangon to Ngwehsaung, beach hotels are opened in summer and rainy seasons. Ngwehsaung Hotel Zone Entrepreneurs Association is striving for development of the beach region. At present, the 3.5 miles long road linking the hotels has been constructed in the region. With a view to creating job opportunities for the local people, the association conducted the basic hotel service courses, the first-aid courses and the rescue courses at the seas in addition to the security courses in cooperation with respective organizations.

The Beach Work Committee was formed

under Ngwehsaung Hotel Zone Entrepreneurs Association to carry out the environmental conservation and sanitation for the durability of the beach joining hands with other organizations. Moreover, the association sets a plan to monthly hold the show and contest to entertain the visitors. For example, the traditional dance contest will be held on the Independence Day. Furthermore, the arrangements are made for conducting educative programmes.

If the plots are allotted for car servicing and housing, more progress may be seen in Ngwehsaung region. In fact, the scenic beauty of Ngwehsaung should be conserved for its existence forever.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin: 27-11-2008



Visitors taking relaxation in swimming pool of international standard hotel in Ngwehsaung Beach.

88th Anniversary National Day observed in Mawlamyine

YANGON, 29 Nov — The 88th Anniversary National Day was observed at U Tha Hnyin Dhammayon of No. 9 Basic Education High School (formerly Shin Maha Buddha Gosa National School) in Mawlamyine Township on 22 November.

Chairman of Mawlamyine Township Peace and Development Council U Thein Win read the message sent by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe on the 88th Anni-

versary National Day.

Next, the chairman of Township PDC presented prizes to winners of essay and poem competitions in commemoration of the National Day at Basic Education High and Middle School Levels.

MNA

University of Medicine-2 to hold respect-paying ceremony, get-together

YANGON, 29 Nov — Old students, who studied at University of Medicine-2 (Yangon) from 1969 to 1976 will hold a ceremony to pay respects to faculty members at the Traders Hotel on 18 January 2009 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and a get-together at the Excel Tower on 17 January at 6 p.m.

Faculty members and old students are invited to attend the occasions without fail. For those wishing to contribute donations and for more information, contact Daw

Hla Kyin (Tel: 01-384496 and 09-5012488), Dr Daw Cho Cho (Tel: 01-687409 and 09-5137969) and Dr Daw Si Si Mar (Tel: 01-400147 and 09-80-25122). —MNA

DON'T SMOKE

Foreign Minister back from ASEAN-MERCOSUR meeting

YANGON, 29 Nov— U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, leader of the Myanmar delegation, arrived back on 28th November 2008 after attending the first ASEAN-MERCOSUR Foreign Ministerial Meeting which was held in Brasilia, Brazil, on 23 and 24 November 2008. Member of the Myanmar delegation, U

Than Tun, Director-General of ASEAN Affairs Department, also returned with the Minister. This meeting was held for the first time to promote the comprehensive co-operation between ASEAN and MERCOSUR and the delegations led by the Foreign Ministers of member countries of both organizations attended the meeting.

On the issue of international financial situation, delegates emphasized the need for comprehensive and coordinated responses of international community and the importance of bank regulations and supervision by the Governments, and also reforms of international financial institutions. Food security issue



Minister U Nyan Win attends the first ASEAN-MERCOSUR Foreign Ministerial Meeting.
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Management Course No. 1 for officials concludes

YANGON, 29 Nov— The concluding ceremony of Management Course No. 1 for officials was held at Ohndaw Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) this morning. At the ceremony, Rector U Win Maung

presented best trainee award to U Aung Kyaw Zan (Deputy Director, Protocol Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), U Kyaw Win Tun (Assistant Director, Ministry of Commerce) who stood first in the course and

U Aung Thwin Oo (Assistant Director, Directorate of Trade, Ministry of Commerce), second. After making the concluding speech, the rector presented certificates to trainees. MNA

9th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners' Conference

2-3 December 2008

Nay Pyi Taw

Traditional medicine, principal contributor to public health

Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners' Conference, a genuine Myanmar legacy left by ancestors

had got attention of the participants who interrelated it with the issue of energy security. Growth of agricultural production, with increased investment, was also discussed. Delegates expressed their view with regard to exploration and exploitation of new sources of energy, including solar-energy, wind-energy and production of bio-fuel.

They emphasized the fact that production of bio-fuel should not have adverse effects on the food production. In this connection, the delegates attached importance to the successful conclusion of Doha Round, and elimination of protectionism and subsidies for agricultural products. They also discussed matters relating to

enhancing cooperation in trading and investment between the two organizations. The press statement was released after the meeting which called for further cooperation between the two organizations, and the second ASEAN-MERCOSUR Ministerial Meeting will be held in 2010. MNA



Minister U Nyan Win and ASEAN-MERCOSUR foreign ministers pose for documentary photo.
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Global Financial Crisis Search for a New Financial Paradigm

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov—The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry organizes monthly subject-wise talks at its Office Tower on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street in Lanmadaw Township here. With the sponsorship of United Pharma Yangon Co Ltd, Chairman of First Private Bank Ltd Dr Sein

Maung will give talks on "Global Financial Crisis Search for a New Financial Paradigm" on the first floor of UMFCOI Office Tower on 6 December. Executives and members of UMFCOI and affiliated associations and interested persons may attend the talks. MNA

Earthquake News

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov—A slight earthquake of intensity 4.8 Richter Scale with its epicentre about 435 miles North-Northwest of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory inside of Myanmar was recorded at (13) hrs (24) min (53) sec MST on 29th November 2008, said the Meteorology and Hydrology Department. MNA

Photo, article, short story contest on mass sports activity

YANGON, 29 Nov— Conducted by Sports and Physical Education Department under the Ministry of Sports, the contest for photo, short story and article will be held to mark December mass sports activity. The photo must be 10" x 12" and the article

and short story must be written from four pages to six pages and from five pages to eight pages respectively. The articles and short stories are to promote the people's health and strength and the standard of Myanmar sports. Any titles may be chosen for article and short

story. The handsome prizes will be presented. The manuscripts and photos must be sent to the organizing committee (Tel: 374502) at Aung San Stadium not later than 12 January. MNA

Mountaineers of MHMF, MWSF...

(from page 1)

Jointly-organized by MHMF and MWSF, the 25-member mountaineering team including 10 women successfully scaled the 15146-foot high snow-capped Htawtakaw Mountain in Machanbaw Township at 8.20 a.m. on 14 November and arrived back Putao on 19 November. During their climbing to the Htawtakaw Mountain, they saw a lake of over one square mile situated on Myanmar-India border line at a height of 13626 feet. The Chairman

of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command, the Chairman of Kachin State PDC Commander of Northern Command, the Minister for CPT, the Minister for Industry-2, the Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee, the Minister for Sports, the Ministry of Rail Transportation and the Ministry of Transport provided requirements to the mountaineers for ensuring success in mountaineering tour. Companies and

wellwishers also made cash donations.

The members of MHMF and MWSF also successfully climbed up the 11500-foot high snow-capped Phonkan Mountain in 2001, 2002 and 2006, the 13350-foot high snow-capped Eimawbon Mountain in 2002, the 12250-foot high snow-capped Saramayti Mountain in 2003, the 15000-foot high snow-capped Madwe Mountain in 2005 and the 14100-foot high snow-capped Phonyin Mountain in 2007 and went on the 300-mile Tahundam hike in 2006.

MNA

Kaspersky Anti-Virus Software services



U Htoo Myint Naung explains Anti-Virus Software services.—MNA

YANGON, 29 Nov—A briefing on Kaspersky Anti-Virus Software services was held at the Traders Hotel, here, this afternoon. At the briefing; Chairman of Myanmar Computer Entrepreneurs Association Daw Wah Wah

Tun made an opening speech and U Htoo Myint Naung of Technomation Studios explained the application of Kaspersky Anti-Virus Software and its services.

Technomation Studios is providing services for Kaspersky Anti-Virus

Software and other indoor services. For more information, contact Technomation Studios (Tel: 4412935 and 387305) and Compu-Tech Computer (Tel: 200823 and 290503) in here and MCUG (Tel: 02-72467) in Mandalay.—MNA

Air Bagan Open Golf Championships continues

YANGON, 29 Nov—With the sponsorship of Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar P.G.A, Air Bagan Open Golf Championships of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009 continued at PyinOoLwin Golf Club in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division this morning.

After the third round, Min Naing (Srixon) was leading the Professional Golfers with 215 strokes, followed by Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) with 216 strokes, Thein Zaw

Myint (KM Golf Centre) with 218 strokes, Zaw Zin Win (Srixon) with 221 strokes and Kyaw Thiha (KM Golf Centre) with 222 strokes.

In the men's amateur event, Aung Win (Forestry) was leading the play with 217 strokes, followed by Yan Myo Aye with 225 strokes, Soe Moe Win with 226 strokes, Nay Bala Win Myint with 227 strokes and Soe Moe Aung with 228 strokes.

With the aim of enabling Myanmar golf-

ers to win the international golf tournaments, the golf championships were jointly organized by Air Bagan Ltd as main sponsor, Hotel Yangon, Ruby Dragon (Jade and Gems) Co. Ltd, KBZ Bank Ltd, Alpine Purified Drinking Water, Dagon Brewery Co. Ltd, MY Associates Co. Ltd, Srixon, KM Golf Centre, ACCEL International Co. Ltd (Canon) and Lifeline (DHEA-Plus) as co-sponsors, and supported by Han Event Management.—MNA

ကမ္ဘာ့ခုံအားကျဆင်းမှုကူးစက်ရောဂါတိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့
၂၀၀၈ ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလ(၁)ရက်နေ့
(1-12-2008)
“ကာကွယ်ကုသပြုစုလို့၊ အေအိုင်ဒီအက်စ်တိုက်ဖျက်ဖို့
အားလုံးပါဝင်ဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့”
“Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise.”
“Scaling up- prevention, treatment and care”
ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Women do vocational courses

YANGON, 29 Nov—The Basic Vocational Course No. 11, Advanced Tailoring Course No. 8 and Wickerworks Course No. 5 concluded at Women's Vocational Training School in Mudon, Mon State on 27 November.

Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win addressed the completion of the courses that were done by 62 trainees.

Similarly, the Ba-

sic Vocational Course No. 49 and Advanced Tailoring Course No. 20 concluded at WVTS in Myeik, Taninthayi Division yesterday.

Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo made a speech at the completion of the courses a total of 47 trainees did.

The similar courses concluded at Ye Township in Mon State, Kawthoung in Taninthayi

Division, Hpa-an and Myawady in Kayin State, Maungta in Rakhine State, Pakokku, Yesagyo, Myaing, Pauk and Seikpyu in Magway Division, Haka, Falam, Tiddim, Mindat, Matupi and Kanpetlet in Chin State.

No charges are asked for the courses being conducted by the Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races Development Affairs.—MNA

Notice to mariners issued

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov—Petronas Myanmar Oil Company that is carrying out oil exploration through joint venture with Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise will launch the Yetagun Phase 4 Infill Drilling Operations with the use of Teknik Berkat

at Yetagun Platform A of Block No. M-12 offshore Rakhine region from December to May 2009.

The well is located at north latitude 13 degrees 02 minutes and 57.5498 seconds and east longitude 96 degrees 52 minutes and 07.7429

seconds.

Notice to mariners was issued at the 4 square kilometre of the exploration areas. Vessels and boats are not to undertake fishing, passing through and anchoring in that area.

MNA



Min Naing (Srixon) takes the lead in Air Bagan Open Golf Championships.—MGF

Monsoon paddy in season, on sale at reasonable prices in Bago Division

Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe, Photos: Kyaw Myint Than (Lanmadaw)

(from page 16)
My paddy is purchased by merchants from Bago and Thanatpin and U Arnt Gyi Brokerage House of Bago and U Khin Maung Naing and Daw Cho Brokerage House of Thanatpin. They offer me fair prices to get my paddy."

Farmer U Gyapan said, "I have paddy fields of 70 acres. I use Manawthukha and Yadana Aung paddy strains. Now, I am going to sell my monsoon paddy of 1400 baskets at the fair prices. Brokers have been here to purchase paddy. Mostly, they are from Bago. Now, the trade of paddy is as usual. I deal



I have harvested all my monsoon paddy.
(U Maung Lwin, farmer)

with some regular customers."

The Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry also pur-

chased paddy for export.

Merchant Daw Cho said, "I am from Thanatpin. Up to now, I have got over 50,000 baskets. Now, I am here again to know whether farmers still have paddy for sale. Some of my rival merchants and companies are from Hpa-an. I have decided to buy all the harvests from the 5000-acre paddy farm. If I do, I will offer current prices. I have no plan to pay low prices because I want to keep a good balance between their benefits and mine."

On the way from Thanatpin to Nyaunglebin Township, I saw a convoy of 10-wheel trucks fully loaded with paddy.

Nyaunglebin Town-

ship MAS Manager U Tun Yee told the Myanmar Alin, "This year, the township grew monsoon paddy of 135,000 acres. It is growing summer paddy to meet 9500 acres. Now, we have grown 90,000 acres of beans and pulses, about 25,000 acres of edible oil crops, and 13,000 acres of vegetables. So far, we have harvested more than 45,000 acres of monsoon paddy. We have got 86.50 baskets an acre, so the paddy output is more than we expected and last year's rate. Last year, we got 84.39 baskets an acre."

Farmer U Han Gyi said, "I live in Myoma Ward (4), Pyundaza. That

is the farm we call Wè-kwin. I run 30 acres and this year, I got 90 baskets of paddy an acre. Last year, I got only 80 baskets an acre. All my paddy has been sold to merchants from Nyaunglebin."

Farmer Maung Shwe of Wè-kwin Village said, "I have sold all the paddy from the 20 acres of fields. I got five more baskets an acre, so I do well in my business this year. This morning, a merchant asked me if I still had paddy for sale. Here, paddy trade is as usual."

We also visited Panda Rice Mill that collects and mills paddy through Wè-kwin Village. The mill in-charge Ko Myo Thant said,

"We run our mill regularly. We collect all the paddy that is sold to us every day. Now, we have got more than 6000 baskets of paddy and are milling it. We distribute our product to Meiktila, Pyawbwe and Yangon. Our rival brokerage houses are Hsu Paing brokerage house, Phyo Dana rice mill and brokerage



I have decided to buy all the harvests from the 5000-acre paddy farm.
(Daw Cho, merchant)

house, Silver Peacock rice mill and brokerage house, Aung Yadana rice mill and brokerage house and Pyidawtha rice mill and brokerage house. Paddy trade is going on regularly."

Now, farmers in Nyaunglebin Township are busy with their farms to grow summer paddy. Paddy output and trade are going smoothly. So, farmers are doing well in their farming.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
29-11-2008



Combine-harvesters operating in a paddy field in Nyaunglebin Township.



Students visit Drug Elimination Museum

YANGON, 29 Nov— Under the supervision of the Organizing Department of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Child/Girl Working

Head of Organizing Department of MWAFF Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo and party visit Drugs Elimination Museum.

MNA

Group member students visited the Drugs Elimination Museum in Kamayut Township yesterday morning.

The excursion team comprised Head of the department Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo and members, Chairperson of Yangon Division Women's Organization Daw Khin Myo Thu and members, Chairperson of Yangon West District WAO Daw Ohn

Myint and members and students, totalling 150.

Curator Police Captain Kyaw Zaw Myint of the museum and Assistant Curator Police Captain Aung Naing explained matters related to the museum.

Next, the curator and the assistant curator conducted Head of Department Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo and party round the museum.—MNA

MCBA's AGM on 7 Dec

YANGON, 29 Nov—The 12th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Customs Brokers Association will be held at UMFCCI office on Minye Kyawswa Street in Lanmadaw Township at 10 a.m. on 7 December. Members of the association are invited to attend the meeting without fail.—MNA



A 100-meter tall Christmas tree is illuminated on the facade of a Tokyo hotel. More single Japanese men than women are looking for love this Christmas to beat the holiday blues, according to a survey released this week.— INTERNET

Official: Some 2,000 small Indonesian islands may disappear

JAKARTA, 29 Nov—At least 2,000 small islands across archipelagic Indonesia may disappear sooner or later as a consequence of excessive mining and other environment-damaging activities, a senior official said on Saturday.

“Uncontrolled mining activities continue to threaten the existence of those small islands but I wonder why nobody, including the hundreds of state and private institutes of higher learning in the country, speaks up and does something to stop those activities,” Antara news agency quoted Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Minister Freddy Numberi as saying in Malang, East Java province.

The minister said more than 24 small islands in the country had already disappeared so far and eight of them used to be part of the Seribu (Thousand) Islands in the Jakarta Bay. Most of the islands that had vanished were uninhabited.

To ensure the legitimacy of Indonesia's ownership over the scattered islands, he said that his ministry had conducted expeditions to inventory them, and was registering them with the United Nations in phases.

So far, the ministry had registered a total of 4,000 islands with the United Nations and would do the same on 6,000 more in the near future.

There are 17,504 major and smaller islands in Indonesia.—Internet

Iraqi civilians inspect the wreckage of a car bomb in Baghdad, Iraq, Saturday, 29 Nov, 2008. A parked car exploded Friday evening in central Baghdad, killing at least three people and wounding 13, according to police and hospital officials.

INTERNET



Nigeria tests drug after deaths

LONDON, 29 Nov—All paracetamol-based drugs prescribed in Nigeria are being tested after the deaths of 29 children, who had taken contaminated medicine, officials say.

The children died after drinking a baby teething mixture contaminated with diethylene glycol, a toxic substance normally used in engine coolant.

The authorities have closed down the

manufacturer of the mixture - MyPikin - along with one of its suppliers.

About 40 other children were taken to hospital with diarrhoea and vomiting.

“We’re now testing all brands of paracetamol drugs from all over the country,” National Agency for Food, Drug Administration and Control Director-General Dora Akunyili told Reuters news agency.

The children died at



three hospitals in Lagos, Ibadan and Zaria.

The agency said it had first received reports of possible contamination on 19 November and had begun to confiscate the syrup two days later.

Internet



An acrobat performs on the stage during the awarding ceremony of the 7th National Acrobatic Contest held in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, on 28 Nov, 2008.

INTERNET

US missile strike kills two in NW Pakistan

MIRAN SHAH, PAKISTAN, 29 Nov —Intelligence officials say a suspected US missile strike has killed at least two people in northwestern Pakistan.

The officials say Saturday's missile attack destroyed the house of a local resident near Miran Shah, the main town in the North Waziristan tribal region near the Afghan border.

The officials say some people were also injured in the attack. They would not say whether any foreign or local militants were among the dead or injured.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of their job.

Internet



Robotics assembly line is seen at the Kia car factory near the northern Slovakian city of Zilina, on 25 Nov, 2008. Slovakia leads the world in per-capita car production outperforming industrial giants such as Canada, the US, Japan, China and Russia and despite the global economic crisis forecasts the creation of up to 30,000 new jobs between now and 2010 as the country's fledgling automotive sector prepares to shift into higher gear.— INTERNET

OPEC says to maintain crude output quota until next Algiers meeting

CAIRO, 29 Nov — The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) announced during its consultative meeting here Saturday that it has decided to maintain crude output quota until next month's meeting in Algeria.

Internet

Invitation for ASEAN Energy Awards 2009 Competitions

ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) is now accepting entries to the competitions for (1) ASEAN Renewable Energy Project, (2) ASEAN Energy Efficient Building and (3) ASEAN Best Practices for Energy Management in Buildings and Industries under the ASEAN Energy Awards 2009.

The entries are invited from Government sectors and Private sectors.

Application forms are available from Myanmar Engineering Society, Hlaing Universities' Campus, Hlaing Township, Yangon (Tel: 01-579038/579039, 09 50 28963), until 8th December 2008.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO (RKN-049)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTARAKAN VOY NO (RKN-049) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.11.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

US, EU fear Syria "sanitized" alleged nuclear sites

VIENNA, 29 Nov — The United States and the European Union said on Friday they were disturbed by apparent Syrian efforts to "sanitize" sites UN inspectors want to examine in a probe into alleged covert nuclear activity.

Washington accused Damascus of adopting Iranian tactics to impede a nuclear watchdog investigation into what US officials say was a secret atomic reactor that could have made plutonium for atom bombs if Israel had not bombed the site last year.

A 19 November International Atomic Energy Agency report said satellite imagery of the site revealed a layout resembling that of a reactor.

Traces of uranium, or nuclear fuel, were found by inspectors allowed to scour the Al-Kibar site in June.

The IAEA's director urged Syria on Thursday to heed multiple agency requests for a return trip to Al-Kibar and to three military sites, as well as documentation about their uses, to help inspectors draw conclusions about what they were.

US and EU envoys told a meeting of the IAEA's 35-nation Board of Governors that Syria needed to clarify why Syria had landscaped all four sites and removed objects after inspectors asked to see them, as revealed by satellite pictures.

Internet



File photo of Zimbabwean commuters waiting to board a train at Harare railway station. About 50 people were injured when a train derailed after leaving from Zimbabwe's second city of Bulawayo, state media reported on Saturday.—INTERNET

50 injured as Zimbabwe train derails

HARARE, 29 Nov — About 50 people were injured when a train derailed after leaving from Zimbabwe's second city of Bulawayo, state media reported on Saturday.

"The train was travelling from Bulawayo to Harare, was carrying about 1,000 people," police superintendent Alex Chagwedera was quoted as saying in the *Herald* newspaper of the Friday accident. "About 50 people were injured."

Three coaches of the passenger train had derailed and the cause of the accident is yet to be established, according to the report.

Internet

Australian airliner shuts down engine, aborts flight to Singapore

SYDNEY, 29 Nov — The captain of a Qantas Airbus A330 carrying 168 passengers to Singapore had to shut down an engine and turn back to Perth after an oil warning light flashed, according to the airline.

The plane flew back to the west Australian city on one engine after the mid-air drama on Friday. Passengers were rescheduled on a replacement flight that took off nearly five hours late.

"Initial inspections by engineers indicate that a fault with the engine starter motor could have led to the engine oil problem," Qantas spokesman David Cox told the *Sydney Morning Herald*.—Internet

The captain of a Qantas Airbus A330 carrying 168 passengers to Singapore had to shut down an engine and turn back to Perth after an oil warning light flashed, according to the airline. The plane flew back to the west Australian city on one engine after the mid-air drama on Friday.—INTERNET



A model showcases a creation made of leaves and flowers by Colombian designer Cristhian Vargas during the Bio Fashion show in Cali, Colombia, on 28 Nov, 2008.

INTERNET

Taleban's ex-spokesman shot dead

KABUL, 29 Nov — A former high-profile spokesman for the Taleban has been shot dead in eastern Afghanistan, officials have said.

Mohammad Hanif was killed at his home in the province of Nangarhar along with three other people who were believed to be his relatives.

Some reports said the assailants were wearing Afghan army uniforms.

Dr Hanif, as he was known, was arrested in January 2007, but freed from custody this year. It was thought he no longer had any contact with the Taleban.

District official Sayed Mohammad told *Associated Press* news agency the attackers had used ladders to climb into Dr Hanif's home in Chaparhar.

Another official said the others killed were Dr Hanif's cousin, brother-in-law and nephew and that the attack may have been linked to a family feud.

Dr Hanif began speaking for Afghanistan's former rulers in October 2005.

Internet

Britain probes links with Mumbai attackers

LONDON, 29 Nov — Britain was probing Saturday whether any of the gunmen who carried out attacks in Mumbai were from here, though officials have insisted there is "no evidence" thus far to support those claims.

Foreign Secretary David Miliband said it was too early to tell whether or not any of the attackers were British, while Prime Minister Gordon Brown said his Indian counterpart Manmohan Singh had not mentioned a British link in a telephone conversation Friday. "We have spoken to Indian authorities at a high level and they have said that there is no evidence that any of the terrorists either captured or dead are British," a foreign ministry spokesman in London said on Friday.

According to British media reports, Indian television news channel NDTV has reported that "British citizens of Pakistani origin" were among the attackers who stormed two luxury Mumbai hotels and other key targets on Wednesday, leaving up to 195 dead, among them foreign hostages.—Internet



Indian soldiers take position outside the Taj Mahal Hotel in Mumbai. Britain was probing Saturday whether any of the gunmen who carried out attacks in Mumbai were from here, though officials have insisted there is "no evidence" thus far to support those claims.—INTERNET

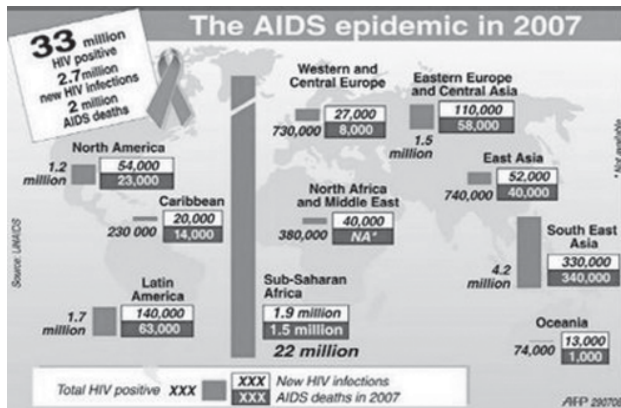
UN warns against cuts to AIDS prevention programmes

GENEVA, 29 Nov — HIV infections could surge if countries pinched by the global financial crisis cut AIDS prevention programmes, a United Nations agency said on Friday.

Paul De Lay, a senior official at UNAIDS, said that economic turmoil was a threat to development programs as cash-strapped governments start to pare back on international aid.

The world must maintain current assistance levels, he told a briefing before World AIDS Day on Monday.

“(Or) what we’ll find in the next four or five years is a resurgence in new incident infections and we won’t be able to scale up the treatment that is clearly going to be needed as more and more people



HIV carriers, new infections and AIDS deaths. Unlike previous years, UNAIDS did not give any fresh figures for the number of infections and deaths ahead of World AIDS Day, saying the relevant data had not yet been amassed.—INTERNET

become symptomatic and need access to drugs,” he said.

An estimated 33 million people worldwide were living with the HIV virus, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa, at the end of 2007. AIDS has killed 25 million since being identified in 1981. An estimated 2.7 million people become in-

fectured each year. Treatment programmes which provide life-extending drugs have expanded and now reach nearly 4 million people — short of the estimated 9.7 million in need of antiretrovirals — De Lay said. Five new people are infected each year for every two put on treatment, he said.—Internet

FDA sets safe level for infant formula contaminant

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov — Federal regulators set a safety threshold Friday for the industrial chemical melamine that is greater than the amount of contamination found so far in US-made infant formula.

Food and Drug Administration officials set a threshold of 1 part per million of melamine in formula, provided a related chemical isn’t present. They insisted the formulas are safe.

The setting of the standard comes days after The Associated Press reported that FDA tests had found traces of melamine in the infant formula of one major US manufacturer and cyanuric acid, a chemical relative, in the formula of a second major maker. The contaminated samples, which both measured at levels below the new



A file photo shows samples of dry pet food are placed in a vial to be liquefied for testing for the industrial chemical melamine at the California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory at the University of California, Davis, campus in Davis, Calif. Traces of melamine have been detected in samples of top-selling US infant formula. INTERNET

standard, had been analyzed several weeks ago.

The FDA had stated in early October that it was unable to set a safety contamination level for melamine in infant formula.

Though Dr Stephen Sundlof, FDA’s director of food safety, said Friday that there had been no new scientific studies since October that would give regulators more safety data, he said the agency was confident in setting the 1 part per million level for either of the chemicals alone. The level is the same as public health officials have set in Canada and China ó where in September the problem of melamine in infant formula first surfaced —but 20 times higher than the most stringent standard, in Taipei.—Internet

US Jewish, meditation groups’ members die in India

NEW YORK, 29 Nov — A New York couple who recognized the threat of terrorism in India but believed their mission of spreading Jewish pride was greater than the potential danger were slain in a series of attacks across Mumbai that have killed at least five Americans.

Rabbi Gavriel Noach Holtzberg, 29, and his wife, Rivkah, 28, died in the attack on the ultra-Orthodox Chabad-Lubavitch movement’s center in Mumbai, Rabbi Zalman Shmotkin said in New York. Elite com-

mandos who stormed the center found six hostages dead.

The group said three other victims in the building apparently had been visiting there. Shmotkin said the dead included Bentzion Chroman, an Israeli with dual US citizenship; Rabbi Leibish Teitlebaum, an American from Brooklyn; and an Israeli woman whose name was not released. The Israeli Foreign Ministry said the body of a sixth victim, an unidentified woman, was also found inside the five-story building.—Internet

Zimbabwean women and children fetch water from an unprotected well in Harare. Cholera has killed 412 people in Zimbabwe to date and the disease is also spreading into neighbouring Botswana and South Africa, the United Nations warned Friday. INTERNET



Expert says small Ark earthquakes could be warning

LITTLE ROCK, (Ark.),29 Nov — A series of small earthquakes that rattled central Arkansas in recent weeks could be a sign of something much bigger to come.

By this weekend, seismologists hope to install three measurement devices to gather data about future temblors in the area. That information could show whether the rumbles come from heat-related geological changes or from an undiscovered fault — which could mean a risk of substantial earthquakes in the future.

“The potential for generating a high-magnitude earthquake is real,” said Haydar Al-Shukri, director of the Arkansas Earthquake Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Five earthquakes ranging in magnitude from 2.2 to 2.7 have hit central Arkansas this month. Quakes with a magnitude of 2.5 to 3 are typically the smallest felt by people.

While hundreds of earthquakes occur each year, including several in Arkansas, the location of the recent ones give Al-Shukri pause.—Internet

Extra testosterone won’t boost physical function

NEW YORK, 29 Nov —Healthy older men who given large doses of testosterone show increases in muscle mass and power, but no improvement in physical function, a new study shows.

This was likely because the men in the current study were “unusually fit for their age,” Dr Thomas W Storer of Boston University School of Medicine and colleagues say, meaning that the strength and muscle they gained didn’t affect their already-excellent physical function. Future investigations of testosterone therapy should be conducted in people who do have functional limitations, the researchers say, “so that there is room for demonstrable improvement in function with increased muscle strength.”

Giving men extra testosterone can build muscle, but studies investigating its effects on performance and function have had mixed results, Storer and his team note in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. To better understand the hormone’s effects on physical function, the researchers blocked normal testosterone production in 44 60- to 75-year-old men and then administered testosterone shots.

Internet



Shoppers look at computers on display at the Apple Store in the Back Bay neighborhood of Boston, Massachusetts on 28 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Only treble will ease torment says Samaras

GLASGOW, 29 Nov — Celtic striker Georgios Samaras says only a treble triumph on the domestic front will make up for being knocked out of European competition on Tuesday night.

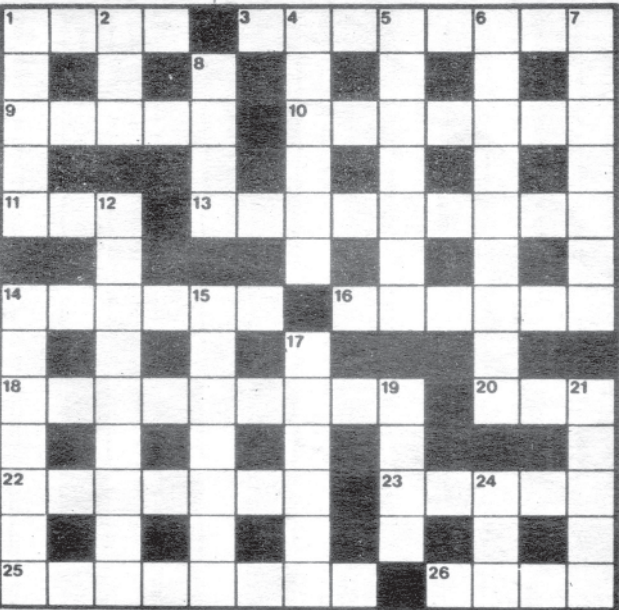
The forward says he and his team-mates are still trying to come to terms with their late collapse that saw them lose to Danish minnows Aalborg in their Champions League Group E showdown.

Celtic had looked on course to end their 17-game winless away run in the competition as they took the lead through a Barry Robson header. But Brazilian Caca's deflected equaliser and a late own goal from Gary Caldwell condemned the Scottish champions to bottom spot in the group.—Internet



Celtic's Greek forward Georgios Samaras (left) controls the ball in front of Aalborg's Swedish midfielder Andreas Johansson during the Champions League group E match at Celtic park in Glasgow, on 17 September.—INTERNET

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Young girl
- 3 Told police
- 9 Below
- 10 Lockjaw
- 11 Flat fish
- 13 Surrender to God
- 14 Look at
- 16 Swiss hut
- 18 Police investigator
- 20 Tree juice
- 22 School
- 23 Drive along
- 25 Oil and vinegar
- 26 River bird

DOWN

- 1 Hummock
- 2 Unhappy
- 4 Observe
- 5 Flightless bird
- 6 Spanish veils
- 7 Pudding
- 8 Weaponry
- 12 Table game
- 14 Made smaller
- 15 Court ball game
- 17 Israelite judge
- 19 Way out
- 21 Power line tower
- 24 Animal's foot



Aston Villa's English Striker Gabriel Agbonlahor (L) celebrates with teammate English Striker Ashley Young (R) on 15 November.—INTERNET

O'Neill sets Villa stars World Cup test

BIRMINGHAM, 29 Nov — Martin O'Neill has challenged his rising Aston Villa stars to use the next 12 months as a platform to break into Fabio Capello's England World Cup squad, starting against Fulham this weekend.

Gabriel Agbonlahor, Ashley Young, Curtis Davies and James Milner are either in Capello's plans or on the fringes and Villa manager O'Neill has thrown down the gauntlet to his youngsters.

Agbonlahor was promoted from the Under-21s and excelled on his debut in Berlin against Germany ten days ago while Young earned his fourth international cap as a second-half substitute.—Internet

Ames looks for another Skins Game win

INDIAN WELLS, 29 Nov — For Stephen Ames, the Skins Game has become a lucrative holiday tradition.

Ames has won the last two Skins Games, pocketing more than \$1.2 million in the process. But as he tries for a third straight title this weekend, he's not only thinking about the \$1 million purse.

"I'm just out here to have fun," Ames said on Friday at the Indian Wells Golf Resort. "That's what this game is about, having fun."—Internet

Messi the key as Barcelona seek Sevilla victory



Barcelona's Argentinian Lionel Messi (left) celebrates after scoring against Sporting during their Champions League group C match in Lisbon, on 26 November.—INTERNET

5-2 victory in Portugal, which secured his team's place in the Champions League knockout stages, once again illustrated their dependency on the Argentinian.

He was given a break last weekend against Getafe and, without him, Barca lacked impetus and only managed to draw.

Messi started the game against Sporting in the centre of the three attacking players, but then went to the flanks after the team went ahead.

Internet

Scolari plans new year title surge

LONDON, 29 Nov — Luiz Felipe Scolari has warned Chelsea's title rivals that his team will win the Premier League if they are in the top two at the end of December.

Scolari has led Chelsea to the top of the table despite a series of injuries to key players like Didier Drogba, Michael Essien, Ricardo Carvalho and Michael Ballack.

Even with so many injury problems, Chelsea have looked the best team in England for much of the season. And although the Blues have wobbled recently, Scolari is convinced they will be a far more formidable proposition in the second half of the campaign when his walking wounded have fully recovered and found top form.

Internet



Chelsea's Brazilian manager Luiz Felipe Scolari

Napoli aiming to hit Inter on the break



File photo shows Naples' Argentinian forward Ezequiel Ivan Lavezzi (R) being hugged by midfielder Christian Maggio. Serie A surprise outfit Napoli travel to Inter Milan this weekend confident they can emulate Panathinaikos and come away from the San Siro with three points.—INTERNET

ROME, 29 Nov — Serie A surprise outfit Napoli travel to Inter Milan this weekend confident they can emulate Panathinaikos and come away from the San Siro with three points.

Napoli currently sit in a Champions League qualifying position despite a recent blip in their early season form.

Captain Francesco Monteverino believes they have the firepower, particularly on the counter-attack, to hurt Jose Mourinho's leaders and reigning champions.

"It will be an open match. We need to be humble but also intelligent," said Monteverino.—Internet

Bayern must concentrate on Leverkusen, insists Klose

BERLIN, 29 Nov — Bayern Munich striker Miroslav Klose insists the defending Bundesliga champions must seize their chance to leapfrog Bayer Leverkusen to go second in the table when the two sides meet on Saturday.

The Bavaria derby gives third-placed Bayern the chance to overtake their rivals in the table and put themselves in pole position to take on league leaders Hoffenheim in Munich the following weekend.

But Klose insists despite his side facing four tough

games in the next fortnight, including their Champions League clash with Lyon, Jurgen Klinsmann's Bayern must focus fully on Leverkusen.—Internet



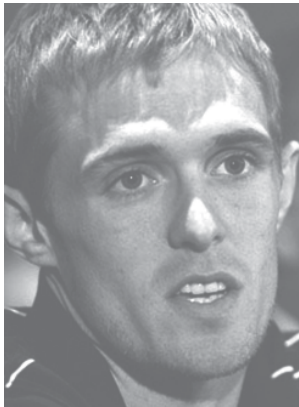
Bayern Munich's striker Miroslav Klose

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

(29-11-2008)

Aston Villa	0-0	Fulham
Middlesbrough	0-0	Newcastle
Stoke	1-1	Hull
Sunderland	1-4	Bolton
Wigan	2-1	West Brom

Fletcher desires City challenge



Darren Fletcher

players in the Premier League title challenge.

And Fletcher is keen to see City contest United, insisting a challenge for silverware would add an enticing twist to their encounters. "The rivalry is already there but it would be even more special if it came down to competing for trophies as well," said Fletcher.—Internet

LONDON, 29 Nov—Manchester United midfielder Darren Fletcher has admitted that the Manchester derby would be even more intense if trophies were on the line.

For the past three decades bragging rights have been the priority for the blue side of Manchester in their derby meetings.

But since the takeover of City by the Abu Dhabi United Group, Mark Hughes' side look like becoming major

Gunners boss backs youthful team for success

LONDON, 29 Nov—Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger is adamant his young side will not 'break' under the pressure of their recent turbulence.

The Gunners have endured a tough beginning to the season, losing five of their opening 14 Premier League games while William Gallas' comments of unrest did little to steady the ship.

Fergie admits fixtures worry

LONDON, 29 Nov—Sir Alex Ferguson refuses to be drawn on suggestions that Manchester United would be better off losing Wednesday's Carling Cup quarter-final against Blackburn.

A United victory would close off two more midweek dates in January when his side would be involved in semi-final games.

Ferguson is already attempting to find a suitable date for their Premier League game against Fulham which was postponed in August.

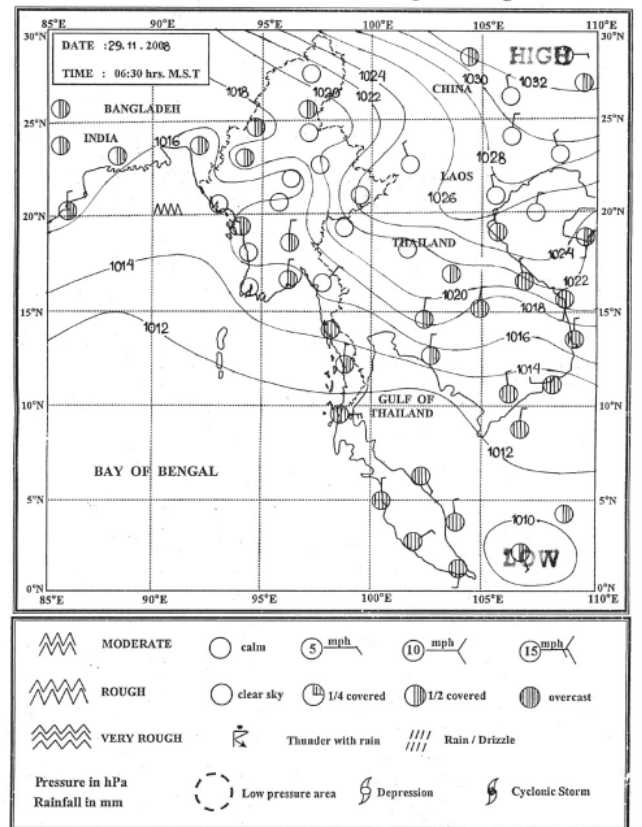


Sir Alex Ferguson

And United's fixture against Wigan on 20th December has been called off due to United's participation in the Club World Cup in Tokyo, beginning on 11th December.

Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 29 November, 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, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Kachin, Kayah and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below November average Temperatures in upper Sagaing, Magway, Bago and Yangon Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (0°C), Namsam and Hakha (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 28-11-2008 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 29-11-2008 was 62°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 29-11-2008 was 61%. Total sunshine hours on 28-11-2008 was (9.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 29-11-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (110.31) inches at Mingaladon, (120.95) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northeast at (09:30) hours MST on 29-11-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 30th November 2008: Weather will be partly cloudy in Northern Shan State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-11-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-11-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-11-2008: Generally fair weather.



Sunday, 30 November
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြုဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am

6. လှုပ်ရှားပုံပြင်စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်

8:15 am

7. Musical programme

8:30 am

8. International news

8:40 am

9. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:45 am

10. “သတိတစ်ချက်တစ်သက်အမှား”

(ကျော်မင်းနောင်ကြည်လဲ့လဲ့ဦး၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. Musical programme

11:20 am

3. Round up of the week's international news

11:30 am

4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

12:00 pm

5. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ” (အပိုင်း-၁)

12:40 pm

6. Golf magazine (TV)

1:00 pm

7. မြန်မာ့ရုပ်ရှင်

“ငါသူတစ်ပါးယောက်ျားမိန်းမ” (ရန်အောင်လွင်မိုး၊ မေသန်းနု၊ ထက်ထက်မိုးဦး၊ ခင်စင်စင်ကျော်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီမိုးမိုး)

2:45 pm

8. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. နားဝင်ပီယံသူလက်သံ

4:20 pm

3. Song of national races

4:25 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ် (မြန်မာစာအထူးပြု) (မြန်မာစာ)

4:40 pm

5. Songs to uphold national spirit

4:45 pm

6. “သတင်းကောင်း” (သျှားညို၊ ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ ပွင့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ညိုမင်းလွင်)

5:10 pm

7. Musical programme

5:25 pm

8. Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ်

“Pocket Dragon Adventure”

7:00 pm

12. တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ

7:20 pm

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သံယောဇဉ်နောင်ကြီး” (အပိုင်း-၁၈)

8:00 pm

14. News

15. International news

16. Weather report

17. လပတ်မှီးလေဝသနှင့်ဇလဗေဒ ဓန့်မှန်းချက်

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အချစ်စစ်ရှာဖွေခြင်း” (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

Monsoon paddy in season, on sale at reasonable prices in Bago Division

Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe, Photos: Kyaw Myint Than (Lanmadaw)

In the trip to Thanatpin Township, seven miles from Bago, we noticed farmers and workers working in the paddy fields stretching along the road.

Pointing to the paddy fields, Head of the Settlement and Land Records Department (Bago Division Branch) U Zaw Min, who accompanied us, explained, "The paddy fields over there have been irrigated as part of groundwork to grow summer paddy. Farmers also get irrigation water from Bago-Sittoung Canal, so they do not need to worry about irrigated water."

According to its geographical features, Bago Division has better favourable conditions to grow paddy and other crops than any other regions of the nation. It has a large area of plains and



This year, we grew more paddy.
(U Zaw Min, Head of Bago Division Settlement and Land Records Department)

a vast number of irrigation facilities, lakes, creeks and streams.

"Last year, Bago Division has an area of 3,297,855 acres of arable lands. Now, its sown acreage is 3,257,589. And it has 2,623,380 acres of paddy fields, so its total sown acreage of crops is 6,709,855. Of them, total area of 4,023,090 acres are arable land in the rainy season, and total area of

2,686,765 acres in the cold season. We use 2,238,665 acres for multiple cropping pattern, and 609,941 acres for mixed-cropping pattern," said U Zaw Min.

In 2008-2009 fiscal year, the division put 4,239,801 acres under crops in the rainy season. Paddy sown acreage has

risen from 3,011,004 to 3,011,182 acres, accounting for 14,062 more acres.

Regarding the 5000-acre paddy farm in Htaungmin Village close to Bago-Sittoung Canal, Staff Officer of the Settlement and Land Records Department (Thanatpin Branch) U Soe Min Tun

said, "Of the 5000 acres, 3339 acres belong to Htaungmin Village, 911 acres belong to Apaing Village, and 750 acres belong to Gyarpakit Village. The total sown acreage of those three villages is 11,117."

Manager U Tin Kyaing of Township

Myanma Agricultural Service said, "We are trying to establish a special zone of high-yielding paddy. Now, we use 100 acres for paddy seeds. We will use both direct sowing method and transplanting method to grow paddy. Now, we have grown paddy in 81 out of 5,000 acres. Last year's per acre paddy yield was over 82 baskets only, but this year's per acre paddy yield is expected to reach as many as 100 baskets."

When asked about his business, local farmer U Maung Lwin of Htaungmin Village said, "Now I have harvested all the 20 acres of monsoon paddy. This year, paddy yield has increased by about five baskets an acre if compared with that of last year.

(See page 10)



Paddy being loaded onto a 10-wheel truck in Daiku.

Arsenal in disarray

LONDON, 29 Nov — Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson has risked incurring the wrath of old rival Arsene Wenger af-

ter claiming Arsenal are in 'disarray'.

The Gunners have found themselves in the headlines in recent days for all the wrong reasons

following William Gallas' outspoken attack on his team-mates and their disappointing 3-0 defeat to Manchester City last weekend.

Ferguson, who is preparing his side to face City this weekend, believes title rivals Arsenal are not currently in good shape and that City caught them on a good day last week.

"Maybe City got Arsenal on the right day last Saturday because there seems to be a lot of disarray in the Arsenal camp with the carry-on with one of their players," said Ferguson.

"But you can only do what you are supposed to do and City did that very convincingly."

Wenger has angrily rejected Ferguson's claims as he looks to get his side back in the title hunt against Chelsea on Sunday.

Internet



Ferguson & Wenger

New train schedules come into effect beginning 1 Dec

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov — Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation announced new train schedules for railroad sections for the convenience of the travelling public. The new schedules for railroad sections will come into effect beginning 1 December 2008.

No. 7 Up-train leaves Yangon Railways Station at 11.00 a.m. and arrives at Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana at 7.45 p.m. The train stops at Bago and Toungoo stations for three minutes. No. 29 Up-train leaves Yangon Railways Station at 12.15 p.m. and arrives in Mandalay at 4 a.m. the following day. It stops over at Bago, Toungoo, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana and Thazi stations. No. 9 Up-train leaves Yangon Railways Station at 8.00 a.m. and reaches

Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana at 9.30 p.m. No. 25 Up-train leaves Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 9.30 p.m. and arrives in Mandalay at 5.30 a.m. the following day. No. 1 Up-train leaves Yangon Railways Station as usual and reaches Mandalay at 6.10 a.m. the following day. No. 10 Down-train leaves Pyinmana station at 4.30 a.m. and arrives in Yangon at 5.45 p.m.

New Pyawbwe-Phayangazu railroad section will be opened on 30 November. Trains will run on Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Shwenyaung-Loikaw Railroad section. No. 147 Up-train leaves Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 10.30 p.m. and reaches Loikaw at 8.15 p.m. the following day. No. 140 Up-train leaves

Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 11 p.m. and arrives at Shwenyaung station at 1.45 p.m. the following day. No. 142 Down-train leaves Shwenyaung at 11.30 a.m. and arrives at Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 3 a.m. the following day. No. 148 Down-train leaves Loikaw at 5.45 a.m. and arrives at Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 3.30 a.m. the following day. No. 143 Up-train leaves Thazi station at 5 a.m. and arrives at Yaksaw station at 7.15 p.m. No. 144 Down-train leaves Yaksaw station at 5.30 a.m. and arrives at Thazi station at 8.45 p.m.

The schedules will also be posted at the respective stations in states and divisions.—MNA