Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconciliation
- 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

Only Union Spirit is true patriotism, all nationalities will have to safeguard

Secretary-1 meets officers, Tatmadaw members and their families in Loikaw

With prevalence of peace and tranquillity, the border areas have developed and the living standard has also improved. Major towns have emerged in border areas and national races there can do their business with peace of mind.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Towards industrial development

The industrial sector being instrumental in our endeavours for all-round development of the nation, special priority has been given to industrial development and steps are being taken for the emergence of private factories and workshops by establishing industrial zones in areas that have potential for industrial development. Moreover, measures are being taken for the development of import-substitute industries, industries producing export items and agro-based industries.

Among the industrial zones, the Taunggyi (Ayethaya) Industrial Zone, the Mandalay Industrial Zone and the Monywa Industrial Zone now have foundry shops, forging shops, press shops and machine shops and have started producing machinery parts and ironware.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by responsible officials, visited the Taunggyi (Ayethaya) Industrial Zone on 10 September and discussed industrial development with responsible personnel of the industrial zone. In his meeting with the chairman and members of the industrial zone supervisory committee and industrialists, the Secretary-1 said that the industrialists should lend themselves to the task of building a modern and developed nation through cooperation among individuals among the industries engaged in similar types of business and among industrial zones.

The Taunggyi (Ayethaya) Industrial Zone is situated southwest of Taunggyi and 992 industrialists there are producing household goods, consumer goods, foodstuffs and parts of farm machinery. Special efforts are now being made to meet the production targets for fertilizers, powered tillers, combined harvesters, automobiles and auto spare parts.

It needs a lot of financial investment and skilled technicians to develop the industrial sector. Increased production of the agriculture, meat and fish, mining, forestry and energy sectors can feed the necessary capital into the industrial sector and the education sector can turn out highly-qualified human resources necessary for the development of the industrial sector.

The government is striving for the development of the industrial sector by mobilizing scattered private industries into regional industrial zones while providing cottage industries with modern machinery and technology. Therefore, industrialists, on their part, are to cooperate at all levels by making the most of the favourable environment created by the government.

University entrance for 2005 academic year

YANGON, 12 Sept— Those who passed the 2005 matriculation exam are to personally draw the mark lists, biography, university entrance manual and university entrance application from the supervisors of respective examination centres beginning from 19 September to apply for the entrance.

The applications can be sent right to Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) daily inclusive Saturdays and Sundays from 19 September to 4 October. Further information is available at Higher Education (Lower Myanmar) on Thiaton Street, Kamayut Township, (Tel: 503147, 502285, 525612).—MNA

MWEA organizes seminar

YANGON, 12 Sept— Seminar on Millionaire Entrepreneur organized by Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association will be held on 24 and 25 September at room No 2005 of MICT Park in Hlme Township.

Ms AS Malar (PhD in Entrepreneurship Consultant Trainer and Dr Muruga (Principal Consultant, Best Selling Author and Public Speaker in Entrepreneurship) will make presentations at the seminar. Those interested may contact phone numbers 254400 and 0999 23666.—MNA

Books, cash donated to rural self-reliance libraries

YANGON, 12 Sept— The 7th books and cash donation for rural self-reliance libraries being undertaken by Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information was held at the ministry on 7 September.

Wellwishers donated cash, books and journals, it is learnt. MNA

Hole-in-one

YANGON, 12 Sept— Mr Xiao Shou Qing scored an ace from 144 yards at the 16th hole at Silvery City Golf resort at 12.30 pm on 17-8-2005 while playing with golf ball Callaway Hx Red 4 and Honna Iron 9.

The partners at the time were Mr Wilson HW Liu and U Khin Maung Aye. NLM
Chinese Vice-Premier stresses public bidding work

BEIJING, 11 Sept—Doing a good job in public bidding is important to promoting a market-oriented economy, Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan said here on Saturday.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of the China Public Bidding Association, Zeng called for improving public bidding management and standardizing market order to ensure healthy development of this sector.

Since the Law on Public Bidding took effect on 1 January, 2000, the scope of public bidding has seen a great expansion, he said, varying from construction project to electromechanical equipment, from land transfer to government purchasing, which effectively save the investments.

He explained that only the government projects that had introduced the public bidding alone saved 500 billion yuan (62 billion US dollars) in the past five years.

Zeng also called for further implementation of the public bidding law and formulation of technical norms for public bidding.

Mubarak pledges further reforms after landslide election win

CAIRO, 11 Sept — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak promised on Sunday further reforms after he won Egypt’s first multi-candidate presidential election last week, the official MENA news agency reported.

The 77-year-old Mubarak, in power since 1981, reiterated his campaign promises to maintain democracy and continue comprehensive reforms, including fighting unemployment and improving the people’s lives.

“We are now standing together on the threshold of a very critical stage in our contemporary history, characterized by a new and a clear vision,” he told a meeting with members of the People’s Assembly and Shura Council at his presidential palace.

“Together we will face the challenges of the future and together we will seek to fulfill all our hopes and ambitions through building on everything we have been able to achieve over the past years,” he added.

British soldier killed, three hurt as blast hits Iraq patrol

BAGHDAD, 12 Sept—A British soldier died and three were hurt when a roadside bomb blasted their Land Rover in Iraq yesterday.

It was the third UK death in a week and the 95th of the Iraq conflict.

The patrol was hit at 11.15am local time, a few miles from the Shaibah air base, south west of Basra. It is the British logistics headquarters in Iraq. The three injured were being treated at a field hospital.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said of the attack: “The area has been secured and an investigation is under way.” Defence Secretary John Reid, visiting British Nato troops in Kosovo, said he was “greatly saddened”.

He added: “My thoughts are with the family and the families of those injured in this appalling act of violence.”

Last Monday Fusiliers Donal Meade and Stephen Manning died when their armoured Land Rover convoy was hit five miles from a base near Al-Zubair.

1,897 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 11 Sept—As of Sunday, 11 Sept, 2005, at least 1,897 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,470 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The 63-year-old Koizumi, a telegenic veteran with a knack for punchy slogans but a mixed record on implementing market-friendly reforms.

The Liberal Democratic Party was assured of winning 296 seats in the 480-seat chamber, Kyodo News agency said, the first time it had won a major victory on its own in 15 years.

The LDP and its coalition partner, the New Komeito Party, grabbed a total of 327 seats, up from 283 previously, allowing them to dominate the powerful Lower Chamber with a majority on all committees and override the Upper House if need be.

The result was a striking victory for Koizumi, a media-savvy maverick who had gambled his career in a populist appeal to voters to back his plan to privatize Japan’s postal system, a financial services giant that includes a postal savings bank and insurance business with a combined 3 trillion dollars in assets.

Tory divisions emerge over Iraq

LONDON, 11 Sept—Senior Conservatives have been arguing over whether it was right to back military action in Iraq.

The party’s support for the government’s decision to go to war has emerged as a key issue in the leadership election.

Kenneth Clarke has made it a key selling point of his leadership bid, using his first speech to condemn the “disastrous decision” to go to war.

While the criticism was directed at the government, it was also an implicit swipe at Tory rivals David Davis and David Cameron who backed the conflict.

Meanwhile another of the contenders, Liam Fox, accused Clarke of undermining the morale of British troops stationed in Iraq.

Speaking on Sky News’ Sunday with Adam Boulton programme, Fox said that to “go back over this time and time again is to detract attention away from the very important task of reconstructing Iraq”.

“And I think it also is dangerous because it undermines the morale of our troops if they think that they are being asked to carry out military missions that don’t have the support of people at home,” he added.

But another leadership candidate, Sir Malcolm Rifkind, on Sunday attacked his shadow cabinet colleagues for not abandoning their previous support for the war.
Chinese President meets Canadian parliamentarians

OTTAWA, 11 Sept — Visiting Chinese President Hu Jintao met here Friday afternoon with some members of the Senate and the House of Commons of Canada.

Hu briefed them on China’s progress, the development of Sino-Canadian relations in the past 35 years, the achievements of his current visit, and China’s position on the Taiwan question and UN reform.

He expressed the hope that legislatures of the two countries will continue working for exchanges and cooperation between the two countries.

There is only one China in the world and Taiwan is an inalienable part of the country, said the President.

The one-China policy has been commonly accepted by the international community including Canada, he said, adding that it is also an important basis for the smooth development of the Sino-Canadian relations.

He hoped that the Canadian Government and Parliament will stick to the one-China policy and properly handle the Taiwan question in a bid to ensure a sound and stable development of the Sino-Canadian ties.

The parliamentarians expressed their willingness to further increase exchanges with their Chinese counterparts to enhance mutual understanding.

China and Canada agreed here Friday morning on building a strategic partnership aimed at promoting the long-term and steady development of bilateral relations.

The agreement on raising China-Canada relationship from a partnership of all-around cooperation forged in 1997 to a strategic partnership was reached between Hu and Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin during their two-hour talks.

Hu and Martin also witnessed the signing of a series of cooperation documents between the two countries concerning air transportation, railways, food security, quarantine, nuclear energy and health research.

Hu arrived here Thursday morning on a state visit as guest of Canadian Governor General Adrienne Clarkson.

This is the first visit to Canada by a Chinese head of state in eight years.

Hu is also scheduled to pay a state visit to Mexico and attend a UN summit to be held in New York from 14 to 16 September.

MNA/Xinhua

CFAU marks 50th anniversary

BEIJING, 11 Sept — The China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU), held a commemoration in Beijing on Saturday to mark its 50th founding anniversary.

The university, known as the “cradle of Chinese diplomats”, specializes in diplomacy and foreign language instruction. Quite number of China’s elite diplomats are from the university.

Chinese State Councillor Chen Zhili attended the commemoration and made a speech, highlighting the university’s contribution to “training a large group of diplomats for China.

“Within the first two decades of the 21st century, China’s diplomacy is confronted with great opportunities,” Chen said.

“As an institution of higher learning for cultivating diplomats, the CFAU shoulders great responsibilities and should seize opportunities to provide more talents on diplomacy,” Chen added. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia deports terrorism expert over visa misuse

JAKARTA, 11 Sept — Indonesia on Friday deported a Singapore-based terrorism expert for allegedly conducting research in Ambon while holding a tourist visa, the web site of Jakarta Post quoted a police source as saying.

Rohan Gunaratna, a Sri Lankan and author of the book Inside Al Qaeda: Global Network of Terror, was arrested on 2 September in Ambon, said national police Detective Chief Makkul Padmanega.

“He was using a tourist visa but at the same time doing research. He was deported this morning,” Makkul told reporters in Jakarta.

He arrived in Jakarta by plane on Friday morning and was told by the police to leave the country upon arriving in the capital. said Tony Hokom, chief of the Maluku Immigration Office.

“We stamped on his passport that he has to go,” he said. Maluku Police Chief Adityawarman said that Gunaratna was conducting research on terrorism on a tourist visa in violation of immigration regulations.

Gunaratna, an associate professor at the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies in Singapore, said that he was detained and questioned by police in the city of Ambon, but denied that he had ordered to leave the country.

“I was invited for questioning by the Indonesian authorities,” he said by telephone from the Ambon Airport before boarding his flight.

“They had no problems with me continuing my research, but I had already completed most of the work,” he added.

Meanwhile, he insisted that he had no immediate plans to leave the country, and would attend several meetings in Jakarta.

MNA/Xinhua

Suicide car bomb hits US convoy in western Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 11 Sept — A suicide car bomb detonated near a US military convoy in Baghdad’s western district on Sunday, wounding six Iraqis, police said.

“A suicide bomber drove an explosive-laden car and struck a US military convoy on the main road in Ghazaliyah district, wounding six people and damaging several civilian cars along with several nearby shops and houses,” an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

An Iraqi boy sits in a refugee camp near the northern town of Tal Afar on 9 September, 2005. — INTERNET

Sichuan river polluters punished

BEIJING, 12 Sept — Judges have recently handed down sentences to six people responsible for a serious pollution incident that hit the Tuojiang River in Southwest China’s Sichuan Province.

The river, which feeds China’s main shipping artery the Yangtze, was heavily polluted in February and March last year when a chemical plant dumped lethal waste water containing synthetic ammonia and nitrogen into its upper reaches.

As the river is the sole water source in the area, the pollution caused the death of more than 500,000 kilograms of fish, and left more than 1 million people in the afflicted counties and cities such as Jianyang, Zizhong and Neijiang without drinkable water for nearly a month. The total economic loss reached 300 million yuan (US$ 37.04 million).

The disaster became public knowledge, a joint investigation was launched by authorities including the CPC Sichuan Commission for Discipline Inspection, the Provincial Bureau of Supervision, the Provincial Procuratorate and the Provincial Public Security Bureau.

Investigation found that the chemical plant failed to undergo mandatory filter procedures before discharging its chemical-ridden waste water. The culprit, Sichuan Chemical Company Ltd, located in the provincial capital Chengdu, was soon shut down. — Internet

Colliery fire kills one, traps 14 in N-E China

HARBIN, 12 Sept — A colliery fire has killed one miner and trapped 14 others at around 10:00 am Sunday, in Jinyuan coalmine of China’s northernmost Heilongjiang Province, according to local government.

An official with the provincial coalmine safety supervision bureau told Xinhua that there were 31 coal miners working underground when the fire raged suddenly.

Rescuers have rescued 16 coal miners, spotted the body of one miner, and gone on looking for the 14 other trapped miners. — MNA/Xinhua

An Indian volunteer from the AIDS control society, takes part in a campaign for AIDS awareness programme, in the northern Indian city of Chandigarh, on 9 September, 2005. — INTERNET

The one-China policy has been commonly accepted by the international community including Canada, he said, adding that it is also an important basis for the smooth development of the Sino-Canadian relations.

He hoped that the Canadian Government and Parliament will stick to the one-China policy and properly handle the Taiwan question in a bid to ensure a sound and stable development of the Sino-Canadian ties.

The parliamentarians expressed their willingness to further increase exchanges with their Chinese counterparts to enhance mutual understanding.
G-20 seeks market access for developing countries’ agri products

BHRUBAN (Pakistan), 11 Sept — Ministers of the G-20 Saturday concluded their two-day ministerial meeting and demanded global market access for developing countries’ agricultural products.

In a ministerial declaration issued at the end of the two-day conference held at Bhruban, about 50 kilometers north of Islamabad, the ministers demanded the developed countries gradually reduce their farm subsidies on agricultural products and elimination of export benefits to farmers within five years.

They urged the developed countries to scale down tariffs on agricultural commodities to provide level playing field and global market access to the developing countries.

Agriculture is the backbone of the G-20 economies, as 70-per-cent population of these countries comprises of growers, thus, the developed nations must give positive response to their agricultural proposals, the declaration said.

At a joint Press conference, G-20 representatives said that if developed countries will not consider the G-20 agriculture proposals positively, the upcoming WTO conference to be held in Hong Kong in December will suffer another failure.

They said that the G-20 has finalized its strategy for the negotiations on agriculture at the Hong Kong round of talks. They believed that this meeting and joint united stand of G-20 would send a strong message to the developed world that the developing nations stand together to have their due share in the international trade, especially in the agriculture.

Over 100 delegates from 21 member countries, Argentina, Benn, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, China, Cuba, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippine, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia, attended the two-day meeting.

The G-20 is a group of developing countries established on August 20, 2003, in the final stages of the preparations for the Ministerial Conference of the WTO held in Cancun from September 10 to 14, 2003. Its focus is on agriculture, the central issue of the Doha Development Agenda.

EU ministers turn heat US firms over fuel prices

MANCHESTER (England), 11 Sept — The European Union urged the United States on Saturday to use less oil and kept the pressure up on oil companies for the meeting started.

Jean-Claude Juncker told reporters believers, “Luxembourg Prime Minister in the United States in particular.

Juncker says that if oil remained expensive in the fourth quarter, economic growth in the euro zone this year could be around 1.0 per cent rather than the previously expected 1.3 per cent.

Oil prices around current levels in 2006 would also shave some 0.3 per cent off next year’s growth, he said after a first day of talks in Manchester on Friday.

Oil prices, boosted to record highs of nearly 71 US dollars per barrel by the damage inflicted on US refineries and oil rigs by Hurricane Katrina, eased on Friday to around 64 US dollars per barrel after the International Energy Agency began releasing reserves.

The G-7 — the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada — meets in two weeks’ time in Washington.

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Cuban doctors say politics block “Katrina” aid offer

Havana, 11 Sept — Cuban doctors put on stand-by a week ago by President Fidel Castro to fly to the aid of the victims of Hurricane Katrina said on Friday they hoped the United States would put politics aside and accept their help.

So far, the word from Washington has been thanks, but no thanks. The White House snubbed Cuba’s offer and said Castro would do better “freeing” his Communist-run country.

Meanwhile, the 1,500 doctors are taking English language classes and brushing up on their epidemiological skills.

“Katrina” aid offer

Ranbaxy’s seven anti-AIDS drugs put back on WHO’s approved list

GURGAON, HARAYANA, INDIA, 11 Sept — Ranbaxy Laboratories Limited (Ranbaxy) last month announced that the World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, included the Company’s seven Anti-Retrovirals (ARVs) in its pre-qualification list.

The products approved by WHO are:
- Lamivudine 150-mg+Nevirapine 200mg+Stavudine 40mg tablets
- Lamivudine 150-mg+Nevirapine 200mg+Stavudine 30mg tablets
- Lamivudine 150-mg+Stavudine 40mg tablets
- Lamivudine 150-mg+Stavudine 30mg tablets
- Lamivudine 150-mg+Zidovudine 300mg tablets
- Lamivudine 150 mg tablets, and
- Zidovudine 300 mg tablets

The Ranbaxy Laboratories Limited of India manufactures and markets brand and generic pharmaceuti- cals and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredi- ents. The company is selling its prod- ucts in over 100 countries and has an expanding international portfolio of af- filiates, joint ventures and alliances, ground operations in 44 countries in- cluding Myanmar and manufacturing operations in seven countries. It is provid- ing quality ARV medicines at affordable prices to AIDS/HIV affected countries for patients who might not other- wise be able to gain access to the therapy.

Albania holds ex-premier’s confidante for smuggling

TIRANA, 11 Sept — Leonard Koka, the brother of the Socialist mayor of Durres and a confidante of outgoing prime minister Fatos NANO, has been arrested on charges of smuggling cigarettes worth 4 million US dollars, police said on Saturday.

Prime Minister-elect Sali Berisha of the Demo- cratic Party told Parliament that fighting corruption would be the priority of his government’s rule.

Prosecutors accuse Koka of smuggling 3.5 million packets of cigarettes, apparently from neighbouring Montenegro.

Berisha has consistently accused Koka of being the head of a drug and cigarette smuggling ring based in the biggest port town of Durres where Koka’s brother was elected mayor two years ago.

Koka was so close to Nano that Demo- crat MPs say the Socialist government was formed in his res- taurant.

His brother-in-law was former agriculture minister Agron Duka.

Cuban doctors take English language classes at the Latin American School for Medical Sciences in Havana on 9 September, 2005. The 1,500 doctors are taking English language classes and brushing up on their epidemiological skills.
“The local people had to suffer from internal insurgencies again due to destructive acts of the SSA group led by Ywetsit that is taking foothold in the border of the other country and attempting to encroach on the border areas of Shan State where peace and tranquillity prevails, dividing into sub-groups”.

This was said by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, who briefed on the sufferings of local people due to forced recruitment of the group led by Ywetsit at Press Conference (6/2005).

The latest developments explained by the Home Affairs Minister on inhumane acts perpetrated by those insurgents, who are taking refuge in the border of the other country, are:

—On 31-5-2005, Sai Kyaw Lin and five other persons of Ward 5 in Kengtawng, Mongnai Township, Shan State (South) were seized and taken away by an insurgent group led by Ywetsit. As they were under forced recruitment, Sai Kyaw Lin and another one managed to escape.

—On 23-6-2005, altogether 40 villagers from Mesa village and Ponsoke village in Kadugyi Kadukalay region, Maukma Township, Shan State (South) were seized and taken away for recruitment. Out of them, only Takyi managed to escape.

—On 16-7-2005, an SSA insurgent group led by Kawliya held and took away 12 villagers including Chairman of Kadugyi Village PDC U Zawtika, one villager from Pankyvaing Village and two villagers from Kyekhon Village numbering 15 for recruitment.

Unwilling to join the insurgent group led by Ywetsit, local youths entered novicehood, hiding in the monasteries in Kyaingtawng. From 8-6-2005 to 25-6-2005, the number of novices, who were avoiding recruitment in Kyaingtawng alone, was 67.

In consequence, officials concerned had to take security measures in the region, and a Myawady TV crew made a field trip to meet 35 villagers of Ward 5 in Kengtawng, Mongnai Township. From 8-6-2005 to 25-6-2005, altogether 40 villagers from Mesa village and Ponsoke village in Kadugyi Kadukalay region, Maukma Township, Shan State (South) were seized and taken away for recruitment. Out of them, only Takyi managed to escape.

With prevalence of peace and tranquillity in Shan State, special development regions such as Taunggyi region, Kengtung region, Lashio region and Loilem region have been designated and developed. For better transport Lankho Bridge and Laikha Bridge were built by spending a huge amount of money, and very narrow roads in the state were widened enough for two-way drives. The purpose of the State’s efforts for building such facilities to ensure the development of Shan State is to serve the interests of the region as well as of the whole Union.

The clarification of Home Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo in which he explained the reason why local national youths had entered novicehood should be noted. Due to the destructive acts of SSA Ywet Sit’s members, local people fled their villages and hid in town monasteries as monks or lay persons. And the number of novices increased considerably at the beginning of Buddhist lent. It was because they feared the insurgent members of SSA who made forced recruitment, entering the villages. Some had to flee to the town monasteries as monks. Some had to enter novicehood only on their arrival at the monasteries.

With prevalence of peace and tranquillity in Shan State, special development regions such as Taunggyi region, Kengtung region, Lashio region and Loilem region have been designated and developed projects are being implemented to bring about equitable development across the nation. After the year 2000, unprecedented progress has been made in the forging of Union Spirit and spirit of national unity.

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In this context, the Minister for Home Affairs said at the press conference (6/2005) that the government would be taking every step to ensure prevalence of peace and stability of all states and divisions of the nation, rule of law and unity of entire national people.

I will conclude the article with an excerpt from the clarification of Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan: “The people are urged to keep vigil and come forward with information on destructive elements and their cohorts”.

(Translation: TS*ST)

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 12-9-05

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Since its birth, USDA has been placing emphasis on serving interests of the State and the people. The seven-point Road Map has been laid down and is being implemented for the emergence of a peaceful modern and developed nation with fully institutionalized discipline. With this end in view, the National Convention, the first and most crucial step of the Road Map is in progress.

There emerged development infrastructures in various sectors thanks to concerted efforts of the government and the people. In consequence, the people are now enjoying the fruits of peace and stability, strong economy and human resources development. In the meantime, the Tatmadaw is making all-out efforts for the nation to keep abreast of the global community, after laying down the 12 objectives. Prevalence of law and order, community peace and tranquility and national solidarity have been accorded special priority ever since the advent of the State Peace and Development Council. To ensure regional development, the government has designated and is implementing the 24 special development zones and the five rural development tasks.

There emerged development infrastructures in various sectors thanks to concerted efforts of the government and the people. In consequence, the people are now enjoying the fruits of peace and stability, strong economy and human resources development. In the meantime, some western countries with financial and technological edge are meddling in the internal affairs of Myanmar. At such a time, the propagating mechanism of the USDA is to be set up to counter media attacks launched by those countries. In doing so, a wide range of media such as electronic media, print media, IT technology and mass media will have to be extensively applied.

In conclusion, the Secretary-General called on the trainees to be well qualified in media industry knowing that the course is being conducted spending a large amount of funds and time to polish the skills of USDA members and enable them to serve the national interests; to constantly train themselves to be able to effectively apply knowledge and education accurred from the course; to try their utmost to become model members and discharge duties straightforwardly; to take part in the drive for successful realization of the seven-point Road Map, upholding Our Three Main National Causes and to loyally engage in future tasks of the association.

After the opening ceremony, the Secretary General greeted those present on the occasion. The nine-week course is being attended by 53 trainees from the State and Division USDA's.

Publishers raises money for orphans

Publisher: As part of an effort to raise money for orphans, a book fair organized by publishers was opened today at Lawkanat Hall on Pansodan Road here. A total of 18 publishing houses participates in the book fair and on sell books at a discount. Publishers will contribute 10% of the sales towards the fund of the Withakha Orphanage in Dagon, Myothit (Seikkan) run by nuns. The sale will continue up to 18 September.
Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein reported on programmes for offering education of international standard, the government’s efforts for the youths in states and divisions to receive basic and higher education in the respective regions easily, adult literacy and enrollment for school-going-age children and building of a modern developed nation through education.

Minister for Communications, Posts and Telecommunications Brig-Gen Thein Zaw reported on opening of the post offices and telegraph offices and installation of telephone exchange, use of modern communication systems and networks.

Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Col Hla Myint Shwe reported on data of Kayah State, cultivation of 96,963 acres of monsoon paddy out of 100,433 acres, cultivation of 151,280 acres of ten major crops and cultivation of 14,825 acres of Shweyinaye paddy, efforts for rice sufficiency and improvement of education, health and transport and development of livestock breeding and agriculture.

In his discussions, the Secretary-1 said he and party including the ministers and region in-charges came to Shan and Kayah State to fulfill the requirements on regional development tasks. He said he observed the sites for construction of government technological college and computer college in Loikaw. Construction of Loikaw University will soon be completed, he added.

The government is implementing border region development project, 24 special development zones project, and rural development project. With peace and tranquility prevailing in the regions, border areas have developed and the living standard has also improved. Major activities prevailing in the regions, border areas have developed and the living standard has also improved. Kayah State has large areas of arable land left to be reclaimed. It has favourable climate and railroads, motorways and airports for transport development. It produces natural resources in-cluding teak, timber, and minerals. Thus, it has sound economic foundations.

However, as peace and stability cannot be restored fully in some remote areas, the nation cannot tap all the sound economic foundations fully yet. Thus, all need to strive for ensuring total peace and stability in the entire state. Since the time the nation regained independence, national brethren have been fighting one another due to racial and ideological differences. In the 21st century, the world has become a global village due to the rapid development in IT. According to the prevailing situation, all should discard their racial and ideological differences and work with new vision based on Union Spirit.

Since yore, national races including Kayah, Kayan, Pa-O, Mon, Bamar and Shan are harmoniously residing in Kayah State forming itself a mini-union like all other states and divisions. And since time immemorial the Union has been a formation of all the mini-unions lying within the nation’s boundaries. In this situation, it is important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit. Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard. Nowadays, the government has been in the process of holding the National Convention after laying down the seven-point Road Map for democracy transition. Over 1,000 delegates of all walks of life are taking part in the National Convention to lay down detailed basic principles needed for the emergence of a democratic nation, the wish of the entire nation. All should lend a helping hand to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation according to the traditions and culture of the people.

The Secretary-1 cordially greeted those present at the meeting. The Secretary-1 and party arrived back here in the afternoon.

Members of the Secretary-1’s inspection team USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo, Secretariat member U Thein Zaw and CEC members U Thein Nyunt and U Thein Aung met with USDA members in Taunggyi and Loikaw. — MNA
Government has laid down plans and has been building necessary infrastructures for development of the State, especially for the development of education, economic and health sectors. As part of an effort to meet with success in implementing the State’s plans, local residents are to put energies into agriculture and livestock breeding in the region.

YANGON, 12 Sept —
Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council/Commander of the Western Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials, on 9 September went to rubber plantation of Rakhine State Police Force in Minbya Township, Rakhine State.

At the plantations, Commander of Rakhine State Police Force Police Col Win Kyi reported to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander. In his report, he said that Rakhine State sets its target of 100,000 acres rubber and arrangements have been made for growing rubber on 30,000 acres for three consecutive years as from 2005.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged officials concerned to collect quality strains and to carry out cultivation tasks in cooperation with Myanma perennial Crops Enterprise. A total of 521 acres of land have been reclaimed in 17 townships and so far 6810 rubber plants have been grown on 33 acres. There are 47,700 rubber saplings cultivated in nine townships.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party also went to model 100-acre monsoon paddy plantation in Sambale Village-tract in Minbya Township on An-Sittway Road. At the plantation, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with local farmers and called for yielding 100 baskets per acre, growing of high yield-quality paddy strains and extended cultivation of Shweyinaye paddy strain.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected Shweyinaye paddy cultivation and thriving of paddy fields on either side of Mrauk-U-Minbya Road. At a meeting with departmental officials, social organizations, townswolders, business men and locals at Minbya, Minbya Township Peace and Development Council Chairman reported on requirements to be fulfilled for the development of the township. After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attended to the needs, and made an address. In his address, he said the government has laid down plans and has been building necessary infrastructures for development of the State, especially for the development of education, economic and health sectors. As part of an effort to meet with success in implementing the State’s plans, local residents are to put energies into agriculture and livestock breeding in the region.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and party arrived at 60-acre double cropping plantation in Ywapyin Village-tract and inspected thriving paddy fields.

Rakhine State sets its target of 1.1 million acres of monsoon paddy in 2005-2006, and 190,000 acres have been put under paddy and there will be double-cropping on remaining acres. Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to Kyatatat Dam four miles east of Kani Village in Minbya Township and inspected flow of water into the dam, water storage and spillway of the dam.

The embankment of the dam is 38 ft in height and 420 ft in length. It is an earthen type and has a water storage capacity of 142 acre feet. The dam was constructed by the Irrigation Department and it was inaugurated in April 2004.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected Minbya Bridge.

On the same day, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint went to model 100-acre paddy plantation in An Township and inspected the paddy fields.

An Township sets its target of 44,100 acres of monsoon paddy. At present, 44,108 acres of monsoon paddy have been cultivated and the township exceeds its target.

Afterwards, they proceeded to the rubber plantation of An Township Peace and Development Council. There are 20,000 of rubber saplings in the plantation. Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprises has cultivated 160,000 rubber saplings to be grown in An Township.

Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at the briefing hall of Public Works at Mile Post No 64/7 on Mibun-Ant and heard report on road works of Mibun-An road section in the rainy season. Next, they inspected maintenance and repairing of road.
Workshop on Biofuel Cooperation held

YANGON, 12 Sept — Ministry of Energy of Myanmar and Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency of Thailand jointly held the Workshop on Biofuel Cooperation in Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) at Sedona Hotel here today.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi delivered an address.

Local and foreign scholars discussed development of the biofuel and prospects.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, heads of department, officials the Energy Ministry, Science and Technology Ministry, Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry, Myanmar Engineer Association, other organizations, and Ministry of Energy of Thailand and guests.

The workshop concluded at 5 pm.

MNA

Industry-1 Minister inspects factory and plant in Magway Division

YANGON, 12 Sept — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung visited the maize product factory project (Yanpe) being undertaken by Myanma Foodstuff Industries in Taungdwingyi township, Magway Division on 10 September morning. He inspected construction of three silos for maize and installation of motors and machinery and other construction tasks and gave necessary instructions to officials.

At the briefing hall of the project, factory manager U Zaw Tun Aung, Managing Director of Myanma Foodstuff Industries U Soe Hlaing reported to the minister on progress in construction work and installation of machinery. The minister next left necessary instructions.

The minister and party went to Thayet cement plant No 1 of Myanma Ceramics Industries in Thayet, Magway Division and inspected construction of a crusher that can crush 300 tons of limestone per hour. Next, the minister looked into production of limestone. He also inspected conditions of Kiln No 2 at Thayet cement plant No 1.

At 7 pm, the minister met with officials and departmental staff at the meeting hall of the plant and gave instructions on boosting production and security measures to be taken at the plant.

MNA

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and officials pose for a documentary photo after the opening ceremony of Workshop on Biofuel Cooperation in ACMECS. — MNA

Bangladeshi delegation visits Drug Elimination Museum in Kamayut Township. — MNA

YANGON, 12 Sept — The visiting Bangladeshi delegation led by Commodore Khondker Moyeenuddin Ahmed (G) ndc, psc, BN of National Defence College called on Commandant Maj-Gen Moe Hein of National Defence College at the college on Shwedagon Pagoda Road here this morning.

The Commandant briefed on the background history of the college and officials concerned on foreign policies, transnational crime issues, and development of Myanmar economy. Next, Maj-Gen Moe Hein and the delegation leader exchanged souvenirs. Deputy Commandant of the college Brig-Gen Than Maung hosted a lunch in honour of the visiting delegation members at Mya Yeik Nyo Royal Hotel.

Later, the delegation visited Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road and Drug Elimination Museum in Kamayut Township.

MNA

Bangladeshi delegation on study tour of Yangon city
Heavy rains lash Indian finance hub for second day

MUMBAI, 11 Sept — Heavy rains lashed India’s financial capital, Mumbai, for a second day running on Saturday, flooding some roads and railways and delaying commuters.

But officials said there were no casualties and, so far, no damage to property. Emergency services were on standby, although authorities said conditions were no where near as bad as late July, when more than 1,000 people in the city and neighbouring districts in the western state of Maharashtra were killed in floods and mudslides.

“There is water-log- ging in some localities and, with more rain expected today, the traffic police have issued advisories — asking people to travel only if es-Sential,” the state’s top relief official, Krishna S Vatsa, told Reuters.

The city’s weather office said the forecast for the next 24 hours was for isolated heavy to very heavy showers, which could dump more than 5.1 inches of rain on some areas.

“We have a little more than 22 centimetres (8.6 inches) of rain in the 24-hour period till 8:30 am (0300 GMT),” Director Area Cyclone Warn- ing Centre, Thakur Prasad, told Reuters.

Mumbai, a teeming city of more than 15 million people which was known in the past as Bombay, was brought to a standstill for four days in late July and early Au- gust when a record 94 centimetres of rain fell in 24 hours, flooding entire suburbs. Losses to the state and private business in the city in July were es- timated at more than 20 billion rupees (457 million US dollars).

125 dengue cases reported in past 24 hours in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 12 Sept — Some 125 dengue cases were reported in the past 24 hours in Singapore, making it the fifth consecutive day which saw the number exceeding 100, Channel NewsAsia reported on Saturday night.

Up to 3 September, 8,850 dengue fever cases have been reported in Sin- gapore from the beginning of this year, while the total number for last year was 9,459 cases, almost doubling the 4,788 cases in 2003.

Earlier this month, the National Environment Agency (NEA) has allo- cated 6 million Singapore dollars (about 3.6 million US dollars) for a dedi- cated mosquito control programme.

Baghdad Airport reopens, first flight leaves

BAGHDAD, 12 Sept — Baghdad Airport reopened on Saturday, the airport’s director said, after a dispute over unpaid bills led to the cancellation of all flights on Friday.

“The Iraqi Airways flight to Dubai took off at 12:00 (0800 GMT) with 56 passengers on board,” said al-Saraf told Reuters.

The airport closed on Fri- day after a private British company that polices it closed the passenger termi- nal, saying it had not been paid for six months. But a spokesman for Global Strate- gies Group, whose staff are the only officials at the airport qualified to screen bags and passengers, said on Saturday that the gover- nment had agreed to pay half the money owed.

“We went back on task at 8:00 (0400 GMT) this morning,” Giles Morgan told Reuters, saying Global had received a letter from the government guarantee- ing payment.” Pending pay- ment we will carry on pro- viding security services,” he said. A spokesman for Royal Jordanian Airlines said flights were stand- ing by to take off from Amman after the reopen- ing of the airport.

Bomb attack kills US soldier in Samarra

BAGHDAD, 12 Sept — A US soldier was killed and two others wounded in a roadside bomb blast near the northern city of Samarra on Sunday, the US military said.

The victims, assigned to the Task Force Liberty, were killed and wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated at dawn next to their vehicle while on patrol near Samarra, the military said in a statement.

The wounded soldiers were evacuated to a US military medical facility, said the statement. Over 1,885 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media tally.

Iran to offer int’l tender for two nuclear power plants

TEHERAN, 12 Sept — An Iranian nuclear official said Saturday that Iran has decided to offer an international tender for the construction of two new nu- clear power plants in the near future, the semi-offi- cial Mehr news agency re- ported. Mohammad Saeedi, deputy head of the Atomic Energy Organiz- ation, announced the deci- sion in London in a speech at a conference of the World Nuclear Associa- tion, which ended on Sat- urday, the report said.

“In the near future, Iran will officially announce an international tender for the construction of two nuclear power plants and, taking all technical requirements as well as security guarantees into consideration, will defini- tely choose the most quali- fied companies,” Saeedi was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, Saeedi elaborated on Iran’s capa- bility to produce various kinds of uranium products and the country’s efforts to master the complete nu- clear fuel cycle.

The European Union is pressing Iran to abandon its fuel cycle programme to provide guarantees that its nuclear research will not be used for military pur- poses. Saeedi briefed the participants on other facts of Iran’s nuclear status-quo and its plan to produce 20,000 megawatts of elec- trical power from nuclear energy in the next 20 years.

MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua

Cambodian Royal Khmer Airlines to launch daily flights

PHNOM PENH, 12 Sept — Cambodia’s Royal Khmer Airlines will launch daily flights between Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City on Thurs- day, local newspapers reported on Saturday.

Royal Khmer Airlines started in April, but sus- pended operations about one month later citing sky-rocketing international fuel prices. The airline also plans to operate flights between Siem Reap and northeast province Ratanakiri in the future, and to import more aircraft, such as Boeing models 757 and 737, The Cambodia Daily quoted Paul Kamal, the firm’s general manager as saying. The airline now has a 110-seater Boeing 737-200.

Prices for flights on the airlines have not yet been set. — MNA/Xinhua

A Chinese soldier (R) tries to save a fisherman trapped in an ocean wave in Leqing City, east China’s Zhejiang Province on 11 September, 2005. —INTERNET

A model wears a creation from the spring 2006 Diane von Furstenberg collection at a show during Fashion Week in New York on 11 September, 2005. —INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

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Some bleeding strokes could be prevented

New York, 11 Sept—Many young adults who suffer bleeding in the brain, a type of stroke, have risk factors that could be modified, researchers report. This suggests that these strokes might often be preventable.

Dr Edward Feldmann, of Brown Medical School in Providence, Rhode Island, and colleagues examined risk factors for bleeding stroke using data from the Hemorrhagic Stroke Project. Their analysis, reported in the American Heart Associations journal Stroke, compared 217 patients with brain bleeds between 18 and 49 years old recruited from 44 hospitals in the United States, with a “control” group of 419 similar but unaffected individuals.

The team found that risk factors for bleeding stroke included high blood pressure, diabetes, menopause, and current cigarette smoking. More than two alcoholic drinks per day, more than five caffeinated drinks per day, and caffeine in drugs were also associated with the risk of bleeding in the brain.

The findings should encourage doctors to identify and treat “hypertension, smoking, and heavy alcohol use,” Feldmann’s team says.

The association with “menopause and caffeine consumption deserves further investigation,” they add — MNA/Reuters

Nine killed in Vietnam floods, more danger to come

HANOI, 12 Sept — Floods have killed at least nine people in Vietnam’s Mekong Delta, seven of them children, and officials said Monday more danger loomed as the waters were expected to peak until late this month. More than 32,000 people were evacuated from inundated villages and areas at risk from landslides in three Mekong Delta provinces, An Giang, Long An and Dong Thap, disaster management officials said.

“Four children died as their parents did not pay due attention,” and officials of the An Giang Flood and Storm Committee told Reuters. The fifth flood victim in An Giang was a 18-year-old girl whose body was found in a trolley bag on a path at one of the state’s best-known parks.

“As we mark the second day of the flood, we are still facing a tough situation,” the police said in a statement.

Typhoon Khanun leaves nine dead, one missing in east China province

HANGZHOU, 12 Sept — Nine people were killed and one was missing in Zhejiang Province after Typhoon Khanun, the No 14 typhoon of this year, slammed into the province on Sunday, local government sources said Monday.

The total economic losses caused by the typhoon were estimated at 6.89 billion yuan (849 million US dollars), said officials of the provincial flood control and drought relief headquarters.

As of 6.00 am Monday, typhoon Khanun battered four cities, 29 counties and 357 towns in the province, affecting 5.11 million people. Strong winds and rainstorms infected by the tropical storm flattened 7,468 houses, damaged many water conservancy facilities and cropland, according to the headquarters.

Khanun slammed into Taizhou City of Zhejiang Province at 14.50 pm Sunday, bringing strong wind and rainstorms to the province when it churned through.

Meteorologists described Khanun as the strongest ever to hit China this year, bringing force 12 gales in eight hours after it battered the Chinese mainland.

MNA/Xinhua

Woman arrested over dismembered body in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 11 Sept—Singapore police said they had arrested a Filipino maid in a murder investigation on Saturday, a day after a dismembered body of a woman was found in bags near the entrance of a subway station at Singapore’s Orchard Road, home to luxury boutiques and large department stores.

A few hours later, a female torso was found in a river, while her head and lower limbs were discovered in rubbish due to be incinerated.

The 29-year-old suspect was arrested at her employer’s home. Gruesome murders are rare in Singapore, which has one of the world’s lowest crime rates but also some of its toughest laws, including caning and death by hanging.

This is the second discovery of a dismembered body in the wealthy island state this year, coming less than three months after the body of a Chinese national, Liu Hong Me, was discovered in two boxes on the outskirts of the central business district.

Liu’s body, found decomposing in a river, while her head and lower limbs were discovered in rubbish due to be incinerated.

Her factory supervisor has since been detained.

MNA/Reuters

Different therapies can work for alcoholism

NEW YORK, 12 Sept — The research team with the UK Alcohol Treatment Trial (UKATT) compared two approaches to helping people with alcoholism, and found that they were equally beneficial and cost-effective.

Specifically, the study looked at “social behaviour and network therapy” and the more established “motivational enhancement therapy.”

“Motivational enhancement is an alcohol-focused treatment that works on people’s motivation to change alcohol behaviour, which is a quite well-known and well-researched intervention,” Dr Christine Godfrey of the University of York told Reuters Health.

“Social behaviour and network therapy is more person-centred,” she explained, which helps provide patients with better social environments and alternative activities. “It gets them to think about who they associate with, and how their network can help them in changing their behaviour.”

Social behavior and network therapy involves eight 50-minute sessions, while motivational enhancement involves three sessions.

For the two UKATT studies reported in the British Medical Journal, 52 therapists at seven treatment sites were randomly assigned to training in one of the two treatment approaches.

The investigators then recruited adult subjects with alcohol problems who were assigned to one of the two treatments; 617 of 742 subjects remained in the trial at follow-up a year later.

The investigators found that the effectiveness of the therapies was similar. Total drinking was reduced by 45 percent at 12 months, while alcohol-related problems had decreased by 50 percent.

“Tests of therapist time and their training, social behavior and network working cost a bit more than motivational enhancement,” Godfrey said.

“But when we looked at how these therapies impacted on things like health care costs, social services, and deaths from the criminal justice system, social behavior and networking saved rather more than motivational therapy.”

“We put all those together there’s no difference in cost-effectiveness,” she added. — MNA/Reuters

Claim(s) Day Notice

MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (599)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (599) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.9.05 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 vessel.

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

Shipping Agency Department

Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

MNA/Reuters
Hurricane Ophelia meandering toward US East Coast

MIAMI, 11 Sept — Hurricane Ophelia inching toward the US East Coast, prompting forecasters on Saturday to place parts of two Atlantic states on a hurricane watch and the governor of North Carolina to declare a state of emergency.

Local officials issued a mandatory evacuation order for non-residents on the low-lying vacation island of Ocracoke on North Carolina Outer Banks.

The watch issued by the National Hurricane Centre in Miami cautioned millions of residents that fierce winds and other hurricane conditions were possible within 24 hours along America’s southeastern coast, including the Savannah River in South Carolina to Cape Lookout in North Carolina.

Sustained winds had been gauged as high as 80 miles per hour within Ophelia, which was near Longitude 76.2 West, or some 230 miles east-southeast of Charleston, South Carolina, at 5 p.m. EDT (1000 GMT), according to a hurricane centre advisory.

"Ophelia has been meandering mainly toward the north near 2 mph. Little motion is anticipated tonight or Sunday," forecasters in Miami said.

The forecasters, who said the hurricane watch may be extended further north, described Ophelia as a large category 1 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Scale that was unlikely to strengthen significantly during the next 24 hours.

More than 3,000 tourists and 800 residents were on Ocracoke Island, which is reachable only by boat or plane, according to Hyde County Emergency Management Coordinator Tony Spencer.

"The evacuation is going orderly but a lot of folks don’t understand the logistics of needing to evacuate early," Spencer told Reuters by telephone from the island.

No other North Carolina county was under an evacuation order, a spokeswoman for the state Emergency Management Centre said.

North Carolina Governor Mike Easley, in declaring a state of emergency for his state, said tropical storm force winds and rain were expected to be felt in North Carolina on Monday and would strengthen through the day to hurricane force winds.

North Carolina officials were to hold a briefing on Sunday to detail preparations for the storm.

Jet crash claims two lives in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 11 Sept — Two people were killed on Saturday when a jet crashed at a Vereneungings airlip, about 60 kilometres south of Johannesburg, according to the South African Press Association reported.

Gareth Stadler, a spokesperson for emergency service company, said it was uncertain what had caused the accident.

"The pilot might have lost control. We cannot say for sure what happened," he said. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) said that it would investigate the cause of the jet crash. — MNA/Xinhua

Trash ground explosion kills two, injures eight in N-E China

SHENYANG, 11 Sept — Two people were killed on the spot and eight others injured in a trash ground explosion taking place Friday afternoon in Xihu District, Benxi City of northeast China’s Liaoning Province. All the casualties were migrant scavengers, said local sources.

A sudden blast happened at Liutang Trash Ground in Xihu District around 4:30 pm when the 10 trash collectors were scavenging through a trash heap newly trucked in, said a worker on-duty at Liutang Trash Ground, which is administered by the environmental hygiene section of Benxi City.

All the injured are hospitalized. Cause of the accident is under investigation. — MNA/Xinhua

Dubai plans city of “wonders of the world” replicas

DUBAI, 11 Sept — The Gulf emirate of Dubai will build a city of size-replicas of seven wonders of the world at an estimated cost of 1.5 billion US dollars to house offices, shops and flats, a developer said on Saturday.

The Falcon City of Wonders project is the latest of a host of ambitious construction projects in the booming trade hub, which is part of the United Arab Emirates.

Three buildings will be modelled on structures that were part of the original list of the “Seven Wonders of the Ancient World” — the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and the Lighthouse of Alexandria.

Others will be replicas of more modern wonders — the Eiffel Tower, the Taj Mahal, the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Great Wall of China, a state official said.

The structures will house flats, office space, hotels and shopping malls.

The project is led by the Falcon City of Wonders Company, owned by local businessman Salem al Moosa, a spokesman said.

It is part of the multi-billion-dollar Dubailand development, a government-run project to help promote tourism.

There were no details on who would build Falcon City, when construction would begin or how long it would take to finish.

The spokesman said the estimated cost was 5.5 billion dirhams (1.5 billion US dollars).

UAE property firm Benaah has been contracted to build a 6.5-billion-dirham Golf City inside Dubailand, a large sprawl of desert next to Dubai on the Gulf coast.

MNA/Reuters

Babies show signs of crying in the womb

NEW YORK, 11 Sept — An infant’s first cry may occur not in the delivery room, but in the womb, researchers have found. With the help of video-recorded ultrasound images, the investigators found that a group of third-trimester foetuses showed evidence of “crying behaviour” in response to a low-decibel noise played on the mother’s abdomen.

Foetuses showed a “startle” response to the noise, along with deep inhalations and exhalations, an open mouth and a “quivering” chin — all signs of crying.

The behaviour, seen in 11 foetuses, began as early as the 28th week of pregnancy. It was only by chance that the researchers made their observations, said study co-author Dr Ed Mitchell of the University in Auckland in New Zealand.

The ultrasound and noise stimulation were performed as part of research looking into the effects of maternal smoking and cocaine use during pregnancy. At first, the researchers thought the foetal responses they saw might be seizures, Mitchell told Reuters Health.

But when they took a closer look at the video recordings, they realized the foetuses’ behaviour was analogous to an infant’s crying.

It is not surprising that foetuses this age would show such behaviour, Mitchell said, since premature infants born even earlier than the 28th week of pregnancy can cry.

“but it had never been observed or recognized for what it is,” he said of the foetal crying.

Mitchell and his colleagues report their findings in the Archives of Disease in Childhood: Foetal and Neonatal Edition.

The researchers first noted the crying behaviour in an ultrasound of a 33-week-old foetus. When the stimulus — noise and vibration akin to a rumbling stomach — was placed on the mother’s abdomen, the foetus “startled” and turned its head. That was followed by heavy breaths, jaw opening and chin quivering, according to the researchers.

Subsequent ultrasound recordings found similar behaviour in 10 foetuses, all 28 weeks old and up, that lasted for 15 to 20 seconds after the noise stopped.

“This phenomenon,” the researchers write, "suggests a prenatal origin of crying".

MNA/Reuters

Cambodian PM leaves for 60th UN General Assembly

PHNOM PENH, 12 Sept — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen left here on Saturday evening for New York with a delegation to attend the 60th UN General Assembly to be held from 13 to 16 September.

Hun Sen will address the 60th UN General Assembly on 15 September, according to a statement of the Foreign Ministry. Foreign Minister Hor Nambora, who left here earlier this week, will also attend the summit. On the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, the Premier will meet leaders from the 2nd ASEAN-UN summit and the Francophone summit.

The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. — MNA/Xinhua

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Clijsters eliminates Sharapova to face Pierce in US Open final

NEW YORK, 12 Sept— Kim Clijsters repeated her US Open victory in the women's semifinals on Friday and beat top-seeded Maria Sharapova 6-2, 6-7 (4-7), 6-3. The 22-year-old Belgian, fourth-seeded here, will meet Mary Pierce of France, who came back to defeat Elena Dementieva of Russia 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 in the earlier semis, in Saturday's prime-time US Open championship final.

If Clijsters wins, as the US Open Series winner over the summer, she will earn 2.2 million US dollars — the biggest purse in women's sports history.

More important to Clijsters, it would be her first Grand Slam singles title after a 15-month injury layoff and appearances in four previous finals and 2004's debilitating wrist injury.

The Belgian broke all four of Sharapova's service games and ran off from two wins in four matches. The second set was something altogether different. Sharapova, serving to stay in the match at 5-6, lost the first three points: a backhand that went wide, a forehand in the net and a double-fault that was characteristically hit too hard and sailed long. Somehow, she escaped.

At love-40, she had the audacity to open with a 29-stroke rally with a drop shot, of all things. It was successful, and she dodged and weaved — there were two aces that clipped lines and two double-faults, one off the tape — and somehow he hung in.

In the end, Sharapova's emphatic swinging forehand volley winner gave her the set and a fresh start. Clijsters reacted by winning the first four games of the final set. This time, there was no comeback. Sharapova finished with 54 unforced errors against her 35 winners. Clijsters had a modest 24 winners, but had only 29 unforced errors. — MNA/Reuters

Gamba consolidate J-League top spot after fightback

TOKYO, 12 Sept— Gamba Osaka extended their lead at the top of the J-League to four points on Saturday with a 4-2 win over fourth-placed Sanfrecce Hiroshima.

After Sanfrecce had jumped into a 2-0 lead in the first quarter of an hour, Gamba hit back with a hat-trick from Brazilian Araujo and a strike from Japan's Masashi Nakayama. Leading scorer Araujo has now scored 24 goals from 23 games.

Urawa Reds dropped from third to fourth after a disappointing 2-1 defeat at home to lowly Oita Trinita and were overtaken by Jubilo Iwata, who enjoyed a 2-0 home win over Omiya Ardija.

In other games on Saturday, FC Tokyo edged Shimizu S-Pulse 1-0 at home, while Albirex Niigata, Nagoya Grampus Eight thumped Kashima Antlers 4-0 at home and champions Yokohama F-Marinos defeated Vissel Kobe 2-0 in Kobe.

Second-placed Kashima Antlers play away to Kawasaki Frontale on Sunday. — MNA/Reuters

Wenger slams Arsenal’s performance in Middlesbrough loss

MIDDLESBROUGH (England), 12 Sept— Arsenal's performance was unacceptable, manager Arsene Wenger said after his team lost 2-1 away to Middlesbrough on Saturday.

"I didn't dream that Chelsea would lose points against Sunderland today. What's more worrying is that we are going to have four games in two weeks and win the mistakes that we made at the back," Wenger said.

"That is not acceptable," he said after Arsenal slipped further adrift of Premier League pace-setters Chelsea with their second defeat of the season. Champions Chelsea have taken a maximum 15 points from their five games, whereas last season's runners-up Arsenal have taken six with the first set in a tidy 28 minutes. The second set was something altogether different. Sharapova, serving to stay in the match at 5-6, lost the first three points: a backhand that went wide, a forehand in the net and a double-fault that was characteristically hit too hard and sailed long. Somehow, she escaped.

At love-40, she had the audacity to open with a 29-stroke rally with a drop shot, of all things. It was successful, and she dodged and weaved — there were two aces that clipped lines and two double-faults, one off the tape — and somehow he hung in.

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Celtic close gap on Hearts in Scotland

GLASGOW, 12 Sept— Celtic reduced the gap at the top of the Scottish Premier League with a 2-0 home win over Aberdeen on Saturday.

They are now just two points behind leaders Hearts who play at Livingston on Sunday.

Polish striker Maciej Zurawski fired a spectacular first half opener before Bulgarian Stilian Petrov secured the points with a second half goal.

Celtic manager Gordon Strachan said the result was a fitting tribute to the late Jock Stein. There was a minute's observation before kickoff to mark the 20th anniversary of the death of Celtic's 1967 European Cup-winning manager.

Champions Rangers suffered a shock 1-1 draw at Falkirk after Nacho Novo's penalty was levelled by Danny McBean's late goal. — MNA/Reuters

Michael's pulls two clear at rain-hit Singapore Open

SINGAPORE, 12 Sept— Joint overnight leader Edward Michaels opened up a two-stroke lead at a weather-affected Singapore Open on Saturday, the American completing 14 holes of his third round before fading light led to a suspension of play.

Forced to sit out a three-and-a-half-hour rain delay, Michaels returned to the course on the ninth and mixed a birdie, four pars and a bogey to stand on even-par for his round and six under for the tournament.

Four players, tournament favourite Adam Scott, fellow Australian Andrew Burke, American Anthony Kang and New Zealand's Mahal Pearl, are grouped together in a share of second place.

After two days of sweltering heat, a torrential downpour in the early afternoon left competitors and spectators scampering for cover at the Sentosa Golf Club's par-71 Serapong Course.

Following yet more rain and a warning of lightning, most of the field went back out to complete their rounds or as many holes as possible before sunset.

Sharing the halfway lead with Buckle, Michaels got off to a perfect start with a birdie on the 420-yard par-four opening hole. Another on the par-five seventh helped to regain the momentum he lost after dropping two shots on the fourth.

World number seven Scott is the highest-ranked player in the two-million-US-dollar event and he continued to play solid golf to remain well in contention for a second Asian title of the season after April's Johnnie Walker Classic victory in Beijing.

The 25-year-old Scott has maintained a steady climb up the leaderboard since the opening round and he was called in on the 15th hole after missing an eagle and two birdies with a pair of bogeys.

Returning after a three-year hiatus as the richest Open on the Asian Tour, the event has attracted a strong field and includes four invited international players — Australians Scott, O'Hern and Craig Parry and Britain's Lee Westwood.

Westwood was also going well and the delay worked in his favour, the Englishman adding two birdies to end the day a tie for seventh place on two under par.

With its narrow fairways and deep rough, the course rewards precision off the tee and world number 30 O'Hern, the US PGA Tour leader in driving accuracy this season, was expected to emerge as a contender here but a late slump hampered his chances.

The left-hander matched Scott's 35 on the front nine and had parred the 10th to stand on four under before the heavens opened.

Upon returning, O'Hern double-bogeyed the 11th and dropped another stroke two holes later to fall back to ninth place, five off the lead after 15.

Parry continued to struggle and was out of contention on seven over par at the completion of his third round. — MNA/Reuters

Trezeguet strikes twice as Juventus crush Empoli

MILAN, 12 Sept— France forward David Trezeguet scored twice to help Italian champions Juventus romp to a 4-0 win at Empoli in Serie A on Sunday and maintain a 100-per-cent start to the season.

Juve were 3-0 up within 16 minutes thanks to Trezeguet's opener, compatriot Patrick Vieira's first goal for the club and a deflected strike from Mauro Camoranesi. Trezeguet completed the rout after the break with a lob as Fabio Capello's side picked up their second straight win of the campaign.

It was a blistering opening from Juventus who went ahead when Swedish striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic produced a delightful touch to put Trezeguet in on goal in the 10th minute and the Frenchman confidently drove home.

Four minutes later, Vieira claimed his first goal following his move from Arsenal with a fine glancing header from a Pavel Nedved corner.

The game was all over in the 16th minute when Argentine-born Camoranesi picked up the ball deep and his speculative shot took a big deflection off Empoli defender Andrea Coda and looped into the net. — MNA/Reuters

Roger Federer of Switzerland holds the men's US Open trophy at the US Open tennis tournament in Flushing Meadows, New York, on 11 September, 2005. Federer defeated Agassi 6-3, 2-6, 7-6, 6-1. — INTERNET
Bird flu suspected in Indonesian woman’s death

JAKARTA, 12 Sept—An Indonesian woman in Jakarta has died of what authorities suspect may be bird flu, the Health Minister said on Sunday.

The woman, 37, died on Saturday night in a hospital in south Jakarta, after suffering from pneumonia and flu-like respiratory problems since 6 September.

“We had taken samples for tests and one showed it was positive (for the H5N1 strain),” Health Minister Siti Fadillah Supari told El Shinta radio, adding that more tests were being done.

The deadly H5N1 bird flu strain has killed 63 people in Asia since late 2003. The death in Jakarta, if confirmed, would be the fourth recorded in Indo-

Flood Warning
(issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 12-9-2005)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk is (1036) cm. It may reach the danger level (1070) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

Lin, Fu-Fa (a) ဗိုလ်မှုဗုဒ္ဓဗေဒား
Age (65) Years
(Wakema)

Lin, Fu-Fa, son of (U Chain Phay-Daw Kyin Shwe), son-in-law of (U Hla Htun-Daw Bi), beloved husband of Daw Khin Saw Ow of No 10, third floor, Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Pabedan Township and No 208, Sixth (west) Ward, Zingama Road, Thaketa Township, father of Lin Lai Yu (a) Maung Naing Oo-Ow Yan Won (a) Ma Yin Yin San, Lin Lai Hui (a) Maung Phye Thu Soe-Ma Theingi Swe, grandfather of 4 passed away on 12th September 2005.

The cremation will take place at Yayway Cemetery at 3 pm on Wednesday (14-9-2005).

(Buses will leave the Thaketa residence at 1:30 pm.) Bereaved family

WEATHER

Monday, 12 September, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Khanin State and lower Sagain Division, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagain, Manda-
day, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Tannahai Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Ayeayawaddy Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hintha (3.03) inches, Kiyakhan (2.99) inches, Hpa-an (2.76) inches, Toungoo (2.25) inches, Pathin (1.93) inches, Yamethin (1.46) inches, Loikaw (1.34) inches, Meiktila and Nyang U (0.99) inch each, Magway (0.67) inch and Monywa (0.48) inch.

Maximum temperature on 11-9-2005 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 12-9-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 12-9-2005 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 11-9-2005 was nil. Rainfalls on 12-9-2005 were nil at Mingaladon and Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at the central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-
2005 were (76.69) inches at Mingaladon, (79.76) inches at Kaba-Aye and (85.00) inches at central Yangon. Maxi-
mum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (7) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 11-9-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over the West Central Bay and adjoining North West Bay still persists. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North Bay. Monsoon is moderate to strong elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 13-9-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Khanin and Shan States, scattered in Kayah State, Sagain, Manda-
day, Magway and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 80%. State of the sea: Occasional squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Outlook for subse-
quent two days: Continuation of thundery conditions in the Central Myanmar areas. Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-9-2005: Some rain or thunder-
showers. Degree of certainty is 80%. Forecast for Man-
daly and neighbouring area for 13-9-2005: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.
Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends ceremony
to donate provisions to monasteries in Loikaw

YANGON, 12 September
— Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein yesterday attended a ceremony to donate provisions to 10 monasteries in Loikaw, Kayah State, and presented offertories to Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

The ceremony held at Sasana Beikman building in Loikaw was also attended by Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence. Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Vice-Chairmen Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Retd) and Maj-Gen Saw Tun, members of the committee, the ministers, senior military officers, the deputy ministers, heads of departments and officials.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said the meeting was to discuss formation of sub-committees and committees to carry out functions of Central Organizing Committee of MWVO, training of members of the committees by conducting advanced organizational course and short-term course, establishment of war veteran village No-2, systematic allotment for settlers, establishment of manageable industries, power and water supply and cooperation for long-term interest in the tasks of industries, livestock breeding and other services undertaken by MWVO.

He called for making suggestions on development of the organization.

Next, Secretary of Central Organizing Committee of MWVO Brig-Gen Phone Swe reported on the resolutions of the previous meeting and conditions on national politics, defence and security, economy, social affairs, welfare and community welfare services. Respective group leaders reported on implementation of the five major tasks of Central Organizing Committee of MWVO.

Officials concerned reported on tasks to be undertaken. Those present took part in the discussions.

The meeting came to a close after concluding remarks by the Secretary-1.