**True patriotism**

* It is very important for everyone of the nation wherever he lives to cultivate and possess strong Union Spirit.
* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to uphold and safeguard.

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**Tatmadawmen, entrepreneurs urged to strive for development of the agriculture of resource-rich Kachin State**

Yangon, 14 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence observed monsoon paddy cultivation, rubber plantations, bridges and regional development in Kachin State on 12 September.

Accompanied by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, senior military officers, and officials, Lt-Gen Ye Myint visited a 3,100-acre rubber farm of the command in Myitkyina on 12 September.

Officials explained the target and progress in rubber plantation. The commander also joined in the discussions. In response to the presentations, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that officials should render assistance to the entrepreneurs to grow rubber on extensive scale. The Tatmadawmen and the entrepreneurs should jointly strive for the development of agriculture of the resource-rich Kachin State.

During his visit to the rubber plantation of Myitkyina Air Base near Alemawphaung village, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard a report on growing of rubber presented by the commander and officials. After giving instructions, he visited a 1,500-acre private rubber farm at Shudaung village in Myitkyina Township. He viewed obtaining of latex from rubber trees, producing of rubber sheets at a factory and rubber farms run by the regional battalions and entrepreneurs.

Accompanied by Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Brig-Gen Myint Hein of Mogaung Station and officials, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the Namti Creek Bridge (Kanlha) on Shwebo-Myitkyina road in Mogaung Township.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard a report on the pile driving ceremony of the bridge held on 4 March 2005, foundation laying of the (See page 8)

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**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

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**Documents concerning Drugs Importation Approval Certificate, Retail and Wholesale Licence, Drugs Registration Certificate, List of Registered Approval, membership certificate of Myanmar Drugs and Medicines Traders Association, prices, and the use of drugs should be presented to Border Trade Department through the border points.**

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**Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.**
**PERSPECTIVES**

Thursday, 15 September, 2005

Extend agricultural and livestock breeding work

As the Union of Myanmar is home to numerous national races, the government is doing everything in its power to make sure that all the regions of the Union develop harmoniously and all the national people enjoy the fruits of peace and development.

Development of a region, a district or a township rests on the management of the government, efforts of departmental personnel and cooperation of local people. The government is fulfilling the requirements for development of each and every region. Local people, on their part, are required to take an active and enthusiastic part in the implementation of development work for their respective regions.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Thaan, accompanied by responsible officials, visited Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State, and asked villagers to be vigorous in sowing seeds. In Rakhine State and in the rest of the nation, efforts are being made to plant rubber on more plots of land.

Rules and regulations to develop border trade with a neighbouring country. Therefore, it is being a border area, there is a border trade among the countries. As Maungtaw District has climate and soil suitable for agriculture, efforts are being made to grow monsoon paddy as well as summer paddy. For the 2005-2006 cultivation season, more than 150,000 acres of farmland have been put under monsoon paddy in Maungtaw District. Moreover, efforts are being made to extend the prawn farming, inshore and offshore fishing. Not only that, Maungtaw District being a border area, there is a border trade with a neighbouring country. Therefore, it is necessary for all those concerned to abide by rules and regulations to develop border trade properly.

It has been planned to grow rubber on 100,000 acres of land in Rakhine State. Now efforts are being made to plant rubber on more than 30,000 acres of land within three years starting from the year 2005-2006. Rakhine Agriculture Service has already disbursed more than 300,000 seeds of rubber to 11 townships in the state.

We would like to call on the people living in Rakhine State and in the rest of the nation to extend agricultural and livestock breeding work and take an active part in the development work for their respective regions to ensure food sufficiency and regional development.

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**PEOPLE’S DESIRE**

- Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

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**Central Administrative Committee for State Pariyatti Sasana and Religious Affairs**

**Central Administrative Committee for State Pariyatti Sasana Universities in progress.**

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**Chinese goodwill delegation arrives**

**Chinese trainer of Karatedo Technical Course concludes**

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**Morality Committee for State Pariyatti Sasana**

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**The meeting of Central Administrative Committee for State Pariyatti Sasana Universities of Ministry of Religious Affairs in progress.**

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**The meeting of Central Administrative Committee for State Pariyatti Sasana Universities of Ministry of Religious Affairs in progress.**
China, Mexico agree to enrich strategic partnership

MEXICO CITY, 13 Sept — China and Mexico agreed here Monday morning to strengthen dialogues, enhance mutual trust and enrich the content of their strategic partnership.

The agreement was reached between Chinese President Hu Jintao, who arrived here Sunday for a state visit, and his Mexican counterpart Vicente Fox during their talks. The two sides also signed a series of cooperative documents here Monday concerning avoidance of double taxation, culture, plant quarantine, agricultural, social development and mining.

At a news briefing after the talks, Hu said his talks with Fox were “fruitful” and they reached important consensus on the future development of bilateral relations as the two countries enjoy solid political, economic and common interests and broad development prospects. They have agreed to further bilateral economic and trade cooperation, expand two-way investment and explore new areas for cooperation.

Hu said China welcomes Mexico to set up a consulate in economically-developed Guangdong Province, which will help further the development of bilateral relations.

The two sides will also enhance cooperation in agriculture, fishery, mining, household appliances, textile and light industry. The two sides will strengthen cultural exchanges and promote tourism as well, said Hu.

The two countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in international affairs, giving priority to development and the establishment of a just and rational international political and economic new order. The two presidents disclosed that a bilateral joint committee will convene the second meeting at the beginning of next year to work out a joint action plan as soon as possible.

Hu said China welcomes Mexico to set up a consulate in economically-advanced Guangzhou City, capital of south China’s Guangdong Province, which will help further bilateral relations.

MNA/Xinhua

Survey shows Londoners feel unsafe on public transport

LONDON, 13 Sept— A new survey showed that almost two-thirds of Londoners still feel unsafe on public transport, more than two months after the 7 July terrorist attacks here.

The survey conducted by research agency Synovate indicated that while about the same amount are now more suspicious of other people, almost all said they would not be intimidated by the bombings.

Some 73 per cent said they had not changed their journey to work while 81 per cent said they were determined to maintain their normal daily lives. The anxiety felt by commuters has also spread around the country. Half the population admitted they feel unsafe on public transport while 42 per cent said they avoided going to London unnecessarily.

In the capital, the survey found the bombings had altered the lives of the Asian population more than the White. One-third Asians surveyed said they had changed their journey to work, compared to less than 10 per cent of Whites.

MNA/Reuters

Court martial of seven British soldiers hits hitch

COLCHESTER (England), 13 Sept— A court martial of seven British soldiers charged with murdering an Iraqi teenager hit a hitch on Monday when a juror said he recognized one of the defendants.

The juror, a major in the British Army, said he recognized Corporal Scott Evans, the most senior of the seven men on trial, from a tour of duty in southern Iraq.

Fearing a breach of impartiality, the judge ordered the major to leave the seven-person panel. He was replaced by another juror with no knowledge of Corporal Evans.

A new trial was called and the prosecution spelt out its case for a second time for the benefit of the new juror.

Prosecuting lawyers say Evans and his six co-defendants killed 18-year-old Nadhem Abdullah in southern Iraq in May 2003 because they wrongly believed he had been in a car which had evaded an Army checkpoint.

They say the soldiers fatally injured Abdullah with a blow to the back of the head with a rifle butt.

MNA/Reuters

Suicide car bomb kills over 100 in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 14 Sept— A suicide bomber blew himself up in a minibus after luring a crowd of men to the vehicle with promises of work in Baghdad on Wednesday, killing over 100 people and wounding 163, police and officials said.

Witnesses said the blast in the mostly Shiite district of Kadhimiya tore through a group of labourers waiting at the roadside in the hope of finding jobs for the day.

“We gathered and suddenly a car blew up and turned the area into fire and dust and darkness,” said Hadi, one of the workers who survived the attack.

An Interior Ministry source said the bomber had pulled up in the minibus and called to a group of men to gather round, saying he was looking for workers. He then detonated his explosives.

One source said up to 500 lbs of explosives might have been used in the bomb.

Bodies lay in the street and burned-out cars, witnesses said. Some used wooden carts to haul away the dead. Iraqi government officials have accused Sunni Arab militants of attacking majority Shiites, who were swept to power in January elections, in a bid to spark a civil war.

The carnage followed late-night killings in the town of Taji, just north of the capital, where gunmen dragged 17 people out of their homes and shot them, police said.—INTERNET

Gunmen execute 17 villagers in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 14 Sept— Gunmen wearing military uniforms surrounded a village north of Baghdad and executed 17 men, police said.

Police Lt Waleed al-Hayali from the area of Taqo, 16 miles north of Baghdad, said the gunmen detained the victims after searching the village. They were handled brutally and were later shot at a site one mile from the village.

The dead were members of the Tameem tribe, al-Hayali said. The gunmen looted the village before fleeing.

Internet

Baghdad Green Zone shelled

BAGHDAD, 13 Sept— Two mortar rounds have exploded near a military hospital inside the Green Zone that houses the Iraqi government, parliament, and foreign missions.

A plume of smoke could be seen rising from the area near the hospital after the attack on Tuesday, and helicopters circled overhead.

Sirens sounded the alarm and loudspeakers could be heard issuing instructions to personnel in the area. Security inside the zone was boosted this month after reports that bombers were trying to penetrate the area, which is a frequent target for attacks.

Police said at least two other rounds exploded in downtown Baghdad.—Internet

A burned-out car sits in front of a damaged restaurant following an evening car bomb attack in Baghdad, on 13 September, 2005. —INTERNET
China’s share reform launched in full swing

Beijing, 13 Sept—China’s two stock markets on Monday unveiled the names of 40 domestically listed firms and their compensation offers to seek the right to float their non-tradable shares, marking the beginning of the country’s historic stock market restructuring in full swing.

The companies included Shanghai Automotive and Minsheng Bank. The move followed the successful state share reform of 46 listed firms since May, which was launched on a trial basis in two batches.

Following years of debate, China decided this year to end the split share structure, which was seen as the major problem in China’s stagnant stock market as a large part of the shares were not allowed for trading on the market. China kicked off the first round of experimental reform of the share structure on 9 May. Among the four pilot companies, only Qinhua Tongfang failed to pass its reform proposal due to tradable shareholders’ discontent about its compensation plans.

The China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC), the national capital market regulator, initiated the second round of reform on 19 June, with 42 pilot companies involved.

The split share structure refers to the existence of both tradable shares and non-tradable shares owned by the state and legal persons. Non-tradable shares account for about two-thirds of the shares of the firms listed on the two markets in Shanghai and Shenzhen.

The system, with major shareholders indifferent to price fluctuations, greatly hinders stock transactions and capital allocation. The split share structure is the key culprit for China’s stagnant stock market, and the reform is the “most significant” in China after the nation set up the stock market in the 1990s, said Wu Xiaoxiu, director of Finance and Securities Institute of China People’s University.—MNA/Xinhua

Katrina, a wake-up call to withdraw US troops from Iraq and focus on domestic needs

WASHINGTON, 13 Sept—Senate opponents of the Iraq war on Tuesday called Hurricane Katrina a wake-up call to withdraw US forces and focus on domestic needs, lawmakers of both parties acknowledged the relief effort will make it tougher for President George W Bush to maintain support for the war.

“The degree of difficulty has been exponentially increased by Katrina,” said Joseph Biden of Delaware, top Senate Foreign Relations Committee Democrat.

“The administration has got to get its act together,” Biden said. “Don’t give me this amorphous malarkey about we’ll stay there until the job is done,” he said, but instead Bush must set targets for training Iraqi troops to replace US forces.

Sen. John McCain (news, bio, voting record) said the war was not expected to meet the term for being scrapped.

“The vessel was from Britain. The vessel has served for more than 20 years, but did not meet the term for being scrapped. The 60,000-ton oil tanker, dubbed Zhenhua 11, belonged to Shanghai Zhenhua Port Machinery (Group) Co., Ltd. The officials said the owner of the oil tanker was from Britain. The vessel has served for more than 20 years, but did not meet the term for being scrapped.

The Qatari Amir is expected to touch on the question of cooperation between the South and the North, easing off debt burden of poor nations, in addition to his ideas on reforming the United Nations.

Sheikh Hamad flew to New York on Sunday to take part in the UN General Assembly due on 14-16 September.—MNA/Xinhua

Oil tanker fire kills seven, injures four in Yangtze River’s E China section

NANJING, 13 Sept—Seven people were confirmed dead with four others burned in an oil tanker fire that broke out on Sunday morning in the Jiangyin section of the Yangtze River in east China.

According to local government officials at Jiangyin Port, on Sunday morning, oil residue in an oil tanker met a burning fire when it was being refitted in the Jiangyin area of the Yangtze River, China’s second longest.

The ensuing fire and choking smoke killed seven workers aboard immediately and injured another four.

The vessel have been to Jiangyin from Tianjin Port, north China, for less than one month and the refitting operation has lasted for 10 days or so. According to the reequipment plan, the vessel would be transformed from an oil tanker into a special transport ship for global services.

Power was quickly lost in many areas in downtown, south and west Los Angeles.

A line of cars is seen during the evening rush hour after a power outage in the Silver Lake section of Los Angeles on 12 September, 2005.—INTERNET

“Human error” causes widespread power outage in LA

LOS ANGELES, 13 Sept—City maintenance workers accidentally cut a power line Monday, sparking a widespread electrical outage that knocked out the lights in almost half of Los Angeles, snarling traffic and trapping dozens of people in elevators.

The workers accidentally cut a line at a power receiving station, then connected it to another line “that was not expecting that amount of electricity”, said Ron Deaton, general manager of the city’s Department of Water and Power (DWP).

That surge triggered power-control systems throughout the electrical delivery grid to avoid an overload, knocking out service to more than half of Los Angeles soon after 12:30 pm.

Hurricane “Ophelia” churns off US east coast

SALVO (North Carolina), 13 Sept—Hurricane Ophelia churned near the southeastern US coast on Monday, forcing wary residents off the most vulnerable islands of North Carolina’s Outer Banks.

Heavy rains from Ophelia’s outer squalls could soak parts of the North and South Carolina coasts by Monday night, the National Hurricane Centre in Miami said. But the main core of the storm had barely budged in days.

The centre of Ophelia, the first hurricane to threaten the United States since Katrina devastated the US Gulf Coast two weeks ago, was about 275 miles south-west of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, at 8 am EDT (1200 GMT).

The hurricane was stationary and was expected to turn slowly southwest, putting the centre over or near the North Carolina coast on Wednesday.

Ophelia had top sustained winds of 75 mph, just over the 74 mph threshold to become a hurricane, and little change in strength was expected, hurricane centre forecasters said.

North Carolina Governor Mike Easley has declared a state of emergency and put 200 National Guardsmen on stand-by for deployment.—MNA/Reuters

Qatar to propose establishing fund for poor nations at UN Summit

KUWAIT CITY, 13 Sept—Qatari Amir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani will propose setting up a special development fund to aid poor nations when he addresses the summit of the UN General Assembly, the Qatar News Agency reported on Sunday.

A Qatari political source was quoted as saying that the Amir had also donated 20 million US dollars from his personal funds for this project.

The Qatari Amir is expected to touch on the question of cooperation between the South and the North, easing off debt burden of poor nations, in addition to his ideas on reforming the United Nations.

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British soldiers ‘beat Iraqi taxi driver’

LONDON, 13 Sept—An Iraqi taxi driver today told a court that he had been beaten unconscious by a group of British soldiers.

The seven servicemen, who are accused of murdering an 18-year-old man in the same attack, listened to the victim of their alleged assault as he gave evidence at their court martial in the UK.

Ahfah Finnijan Saddam said he had been carrying several passengers towards the village of Faraka, near Al U’Zayra in southern Iraq, when the alleged attack took place on 11 May 2003, three weeks after formal hostilities had ended.

Giving evidence, he told a military court in Colchester, Essex, that he had tried to show the soldiers his car registration but was dragged from the vehicle and attacked.

“The British people stopped and they started beating me,” he said. “First I was standing talking to them ... they did not understand what I was saying and they started to beat me. Then I fell on the floor from the blows and they continued hitting me and then I passed out.”

He told the court that he had been hit with rifle butts, helmets, fists and feet during the attack. Describing his injuries, Mr Saddam, who was dressed in a brown shirt and trousers, unbuttoned his sleeve and attacked.

“After the explosion, the victims were hit in my elbow, my head, my back, all over my body.” —Internet

Water Desalination
Conference held in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 13 Sept—The 10th International Desalination Association (IDA) World Congress opened in Singapore on Sunday with a participation of over 600 experts and delegates from the water industry.

Themed “Desalination: the tide has turned”, the six-day conference will discuss issues on desalination and water reuse with more than 100 technical papers to be presented at the event.

Channel NewsAsia reported that Fehaid Fahad Al Shareef, Governor of the Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC) of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, attended the meeting. The SWCC’s 27 desalination plants produce 576 million gallons of desalinated water daily.

As one of the largest users of desalinated water in the world, Saudi Arabia consumes 30 per cent of the world’s desalinated water production, which accounts for 70 per cent of the country’s total water supply.

Singapore will also share its experiences on water catchment during the conference. Established in 1985, the IDA has dedicated itself to the development and promotion of the appropriate use of desalination technology and water reuse worldwide.

Samsung Electronics develops world’s first 16Gb NAND memory chip

SEOUL, 13 Sept—Samsung Electronics Co, Ltd, the world’s biggest computer-memory chipmaker, announced on Monday it has developed the world’s first 16 Gigabit (Gb) NAND (not and) flash memory chip, using a 50-nanometre manufacturing technology.

“Memory is opening 3D files, Samsung Electronics said in a Press release, adding the new flash memory can also save up to 32 hours of DVD-quality movie files on a single memory card.

The new chip, which was developed at August 14 this year, holds 16.4 billion functional transistors, each measuring one-two-thousandths of a metre, the thickness of a human hair, the release said.

When explaining the meaning of the new chip, Hwang said “The 16Gb device should accelerate further expansion of the NAND flash market across mobile and portable digital applications as an alternative to mini-HDDs (hard disk drivers) and even HDDs for laptops”, Samsung plans to start mass producing the 16Gb NAND flash memory chip in the second half of 2006, according to the release.

It also said the NAND flash market has enjoyed a compounded annual growth rate of 70 per cent from 2001 through 2005. The worldwide sales of NAND flash memory chips are expected to rise to 10.1 billion US dollars in 2005, compared with seven billion dollars last year, Samsung Electronics said.

Hwang also predicted that the NAND flash will eventually replace other storage mediums, especially those used in mobile products, creating a “Flash Rush”.

Meanwhile, at the Press conference, Samsung also unveiled first 7.2 Multi-pixel CMOS (Complementary Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor Transistor) image sensor for high-end digital pictures and Fusion Semic- conductors for next-generation smartphones and PDAs, MP3 music players and subscriber iden tity module card applications. —MNA/Xinhua

Powerful explosion rocks Metro Manila

MANILA, 13 Sept—A powerful explosion rocked a logistics building at Taguig, Metro Manila, late Monday night, the local radio DZMM reported.

The report said the explosion was heard from inside the logistics building at the camp at 23:15 local time (15:15 GMT). The fire also struck the nearby Pasig City Hall. After the explosion, the building, called Camp Bagong Diwa, was engulfed by fire that triggered minor explosions.

Firemen rushed to the area to contain the fire while policemen secured the vicinity of the camp. Director Vidal Quezol, chief of the National Capital Region Police Office, told DZMM that the explosion was an accident and not a terrorist attack.

The situation in Manila has remained tense as President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo flew to New York on Monday night to attend a UN summit meet ing.

US jets strike Iraqi town near Syria

BAGHDAD, 13 Sept—The Iraqi army said it had killed 14 fighters and captured 35 US aircraft have repeatedly struck fighter targets in the Iraqi town of Karabila, near the Syrian border, while the Iraqi army clashed with fighters at the nearby Gumruk area.

“Amercan aircraft have struck the city of Karabila more than 10 times,” a hospital source said on Tuesday.

The hospital source said families were beginning to leave Karabila after the air strikes and heading for Haditha, where the US military said earlier on Tuesday it had killed four fighters and captured another after an air strike on a house.

Iraqi troops, with US support, are currently winding up an operation to flush fighters from the northern Iraqi town of Tal Afar.—Internet

Tropical low pressure kills five in Vietnam

NHA TRANG, 13 Sept— Flooding caused by a tropical low pressure have killed five local people in Vietnam’s central region and Tay Nguyen (central highlands) region, local newspaper Youth reported on Wednesday.

The people, mostly grade students, were from the two central provinces of Thua Thien Hue and Quang Nam and the central highlands province of Dac-Lac. The flooding caused by the low pressure on Tuesday drowned the students when they were on the way to school.

Heavy rain and strong winds caused by the pressure injured seven children, damaged hundreds of houses, and submerged thousands of hectares of crops. The children from central Quang Binh Province were injured when tiles from the roof of a kindergarten, in which they were sleeping on Tuesday afternoon, fell due to a strong wind.

Natural disasters, mainly storms and floods, killed 232 people, left 38 others missing, injured 187 others, destroyed 4,200 houses, and 3,000 hectares of rice, and killed over 2,000 cattle and 170,000 poultry in Vietnam last year, causing a total property loss of over 900 billion VND (some 57 million dollars).—Internet
The Government has been expanding the horizon of public health care and taking all possible measures for uplift of the health standard of the nation with a view to enabling the entire national people to lead a healthy life, to be free from diseases and to enjoy longevity.

In the drive, it is required to import safe and potent medicines. Now, the problems of less potent and fake drugs are rampant all over the world, posing grave danger to the world people.

So, the Ministry of Health and relevant departments and organizations have to supervise tasks for import of drugs for ensuring authentic and safe medicines into the nation. Recently, I interviewed some officials so that I would be able to disseminate noteworthy points about import of standard medicines to the national people to lead a healthy life, to be free from diseases and to enjoy longevity.

In the interview, Director Dr Soe Myat Tun of the Food and Drugs Administration of the Health Department of the Ministry of Health told that the Government enacted National Drug Law in October, 1992, and issued notifications related to the law in August, 1993. The Ministry of Health has been supervising the registration, import and distribution of drugs in line with the provisions of the law.

He said that the Myanmar Food and Drug Board of Authority was constituted to closely supervise the matters on food and drugs. In addition, the National Drug and Drug Administration (NDDA) was also formed under the Health Department in accordance with Section 29 of the National Drug Law in 1995. The Central Food and Drug Supervisory Committee and the Drug Consultative Committee were established in order to supervise the functions of the FDA. Exercising the authority given by the National Drug Law, the Ministry of Health is supervising import of drug and enforcement of rules and regulations.

The ministry officials are making field trips to supervise storage of drugs to ensure fully potent drugs for consumption. Only registered medicines are valid for import. So, entrepreneurs have to submit trade name, generic name, dosage forms, strength, pack size, date of manufacture, batch number, manufacturing process, batch code, storage conditions, name of manufacturer/country of the drugs they want to import.

Those who apply for drug import permission are to submit document/dossier and samples of drugs they want to import, to the FDA. If the FDA is satisfied with the documents and samples, it will forward the case to the meeting of the Drug Advisory Committee to make the final decision. The drugs that the authorities have refused to register or that have not been registered are not allowed for export. Drug traders and consumers should understand that quality and potency of unregistered drugs have no guarantees, he said.

From time to time, the ministry reminds the national people to lead a healthy life, to be free from diseases and to enjoy longevity. So, the Ministry is implementing a programme through the media for enabling the people to distinguish authentic drugs and fake ones.

Deputy Director Dr Khin Oo May of the Import Division of the Directorate of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce said that with the permission of the Trade Policy Council, the Import Division issues import licences. The group of medicines includes household medicines, veterinary medicines, medical equipment, raw materials for modern drugs, and raw materials for traditional medicines.

She said the Ministry of Commerce has been scrutinizing the applications for import of drugs. But, some less potent medicines are imported under invoice and distributed along with standard border trade. At an interview with them, she said, it causes adverse effects on the consumers while reducing revenues of the Government.

Under the directive of the Ministry of Health, the Committee for Scrutinizing Prices and Quality of Imported Drugs is scrutinizing the applications for import of medicines and medical equipment. And on the recommendation of the committee regarding prices and qualities of goods, the Directorate of Trade grants permission for import.

Recommendation of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries is needed to apply for import of veterinary medicines, and recommendation of the Traditional Medicine Department, for import of raw materials for traditional medicines.

The import licences are being issued according to the Drug Registration Certificate (DRC) and the Drug Importation Approval Certificate (DIAC). Licensed medicines are being imported through the border trade. At an interview with Daw Kyi Kyi Cherry Maung, Deputy Director of the Border Trade Department, she said, “The BTD of the Commerce Ministry has opened border trade routes at Muse, Lweje, Laiza, Chinsawhaw and Kanpaikke at Myanmar-China border, Tachileik, Myawaddy, Kawthoung, and Myek边境 at Myanmar-Thai border, Tamu and Reed at India Myanmar border, and Sittway and Maungtaw at Bangladesh-Myanmar border. In addition, the department opened Mayanaung check point to inspect goods coming into Myanmar from Thailand. One Stop Services (OSS) have been set up to prevent smuggling of goods into the country.

“The One Stop Services are formed with staff of BTD, Customs Department, Immigration and National Registration Department, Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar Economic Bank and Internal Revenue Department.

“The OSS at border crossings have been taking actions against persons trafficking in illegal medicines. Documents concerning Drugs Importation Approval Certificate, Retail and Wholesale Licence, Drugs Registration Certificate, List of Registered Approval, membership certificate of Myanmar Drugs and Medicines Traders Association, prices, and the use of drugs should be presented to BTD through the border points.”

For the convenience of importers to submit applications, Secretary of the association Dr Saw Hla Tun said, “It is the duty of all to prevent drugs that do not meet the standards from entering Myanmar markets. Traders and entrepreneurs of the profession should serve as a bridge to enable people to buy drugs they really need.”

In August 2005, the Health Ministry formed the committee to control prices and drug quality inspection committee with the participation of 12 entrepreneurs under the supervision of ministry officials for scrutinizing the applications, the committee presented them to the ministry. After scrutinizing the applications, the ministry sends them back to the entrepreneurs.

“It is important for the importer company to follow the procedures. The association on its part will recommend an application if it is in accordance with the procedures. The association is also organizing workshops for the importers to work according to the rules.”

An official of Customs Department also explained measures being taken for the convenience of drug importers.

Concerning the import and distribution of quality drugs, a director of Traditional Medicine Department said, “The Traditional Medicine Law was enacted on 25 July 1996 and a notification regarding the law was issued on 9 August the same year. Traditional medicines are being registered after due inspections according to the procedures. Every licensed entrepreneur has the right to produce and distribute traditional medicine. But action will be taken against any entrepreneur who go against the rules. Import of raw materials needs approval of the Traditional Medicine Department to ascertain whether the materials are actually used in producing the traditional medicines. The imported traditional medicines should be registered with the FDA.

The committees concerned are facilitating the work of importing and distributing potent and safe drugs.

Only when the entire nation is healthy, will the human resources be turned into a great strength to build a modern and developed nation. In this regard, the departments and organizations concerned will have to look into the task to ensure that there are no weaknesses and loopholes in it. And they will have to work with goodwill. The merchants and importers on their part should import and distribute potent and quality drugs for the uplift of health and fitness of the entire nation.

(Translation: MS+TMT)

Mya A Shein, Kyemon: 14-9-2005
Second session of intensive courses at Yangon UDE announced

YANGON, 14 Sept — Yangon University of Distance Education will conduct its second session of the intensive courses for 2005 academic year from 13 to 23 October and hold examinations from 27 October to 3 November at examination centres of Dagon University, East Yangon University, Mawlamyine University, Pathein University, Sittway University, Pyay University, Toungoo University, Dawei University, Hinthada University, Hpa-an University, Myeik University, West Yangon University, Maubin University and Bago Degree College.

First, second and third year arts major students except history and law majors who have got registered at Dagon Branch (Dagon University) of Yangon UDE are to attend the intensive courses at Dagon University. First year Myanmar major students must sit the examination at North Okkalapa BEHS No 1, No 3, No 4 and No 5; and First year Geography major students at North Okkalapa BEHS No 2, Dagon Myothit (North) BEHS No 1, No 3 and No 4. All students for first, second and third arts specialized majors except history and law majors are to take the exam at Dagon University.

First, second and third year arts major students except history and law majors who have got registered at the eastern branch of Yangon UDE (East Yangon University) must attend the intensive courses at East Yangon University.

Similarly, first, second and third year arts major students except history and law majors who have got registered at the western branch of Yangon UDE (West Yangon University) are to attend the intensive course at West Yangon University.

Except history and law majors, all arts specialized majors of first, second and third year students who have got registered at district branches of Yangon UDE must attend the intensive courses at the respective universities and colleges and sit the examination.

The detailed schedules will be announced at respective branches of UDE and BEHSs. — MNA

Hlinethaya Industrial Zone seeks ways of high productivity

YANGON, 12 Sept — To bring about development of factories in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone, Myanmar Industrial Development Work Committee organized a workshop today at Hlinethaya Industrial Zone-1.

A total of 70 representatives from factories in Hlinethaya Township in the industry zone are participating in the workshop which will last till 16 September. Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein made an opening address at the workshop.

Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein addresses the opening of a workshop to boost production of industries. — LABOUR

Teachersonship courses on reproductive health kick off

YANGON, 14 Sept — With the purpose of giving educational talks on reproductive health and change of habits among the public, teachersonship courses were opened in Hlegu, Hmawbyo and Taikkyi townships in Yangon North District this morning.

Present on the occasion were Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association Chairperson Daw Khin Thet Htay and members, Taikkyi Station Commander Col Tint Wai, Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myat Min and departmental officials, the chairperson of Supervisory Committees for District MCWA and members, local authorities, chairpersons of Township MCWAs and members, course instructors and trainees.

First, Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Chairperson Daw Khin Thet Htay delivered an address on the occasion and presented cash assistance K 1,518,000 to Hlegu Township MCWA Chairperson Daw Hla Hla Win. Next, Chairperson Daw Hla Hla Win reported on arrangements to be made for giving lectures on reproductive health in the teachersonship course and presented membership certificate of five extended branch associations and 300 permanent membership certificate to Secretary of Yangon Division MCWA Dr Hla Myint.

Likewise, the teachersonship course was opened in Hmawbyo Township. MCWA Chairperson Daw Khin Thet Htay made a speech on the occasion and handed cash assistance K 1,518,000 to Taikkyi Township MCWA Chairperson Daw Thida. Chairperson Daw Thida reported on arrangements to be made for giving lectures on reproductive health in the teachersonship course and presented membership certificate of five extended branch associations and 300 permanent membership certificate to Secretary of Yangon Division MCWA Dr Hla Myint.

Similarly, the teachersonship course was opened in Taikkyi Township. MCWA Chairperson Daw Khin Thet Htay made a speech on the occasion and handed cash assistance K 1,518,000 to Taikkyi Township MCWA Chairperson Daw Thida. Chairperson Daw Thida reported on arrangements to be made for giving lectures on reproductive health in the teachersonship course and presented membership certificate of five extended branch associations and 300 permanent membership certificate to Secretary of Yangon Division MCWA Dr Hla Myint.

The course lasts from 14th to 18th September and is being attended by 45 trainees from each township. If completed, the trainees will disseminate their knowledge experienced from the course in 20 villages. — MNA

US disaster chief quits; storm toll passes 500

NEW ORLEANS, 13 Sept — The head of the US disaster agency resigned Monday amid a storm of criticism over Washington’s response to Hurricane Katrina as the confirmed death toll from the calamity passed 500, including 45 victims found inside one abandoned New Orleans hospital.

Michael Brown quit as chief of the Federal Emergency Management Agency while President George W Bush was winding up a two-day visit to New Orleans and nearby devastated areas. Three days earlier Brown had been removed from direct control over recovery efforts on the US Gulf Coast as complaints mounted that he came to the emergency too late with too little.

In an apparent nod to critics who said the agency needed more expertise at the top, the White House announced that David Paulison, a veteran firefighter who runs the agency’s preparedness division, would take over as acting director.

Fifty-four per cent of Americans disapprove of Bush’s handling of the response to Katrina, according to two polls released on Monday — one by ABC News/Washington Post and the other by CNN/USA Today/Gallup.

A methodical search for the dead continued in New Orleans and nearby areas.

Teams of morticians were taking DNA samples from survivors who may have lost family members so they could try to make matches and perhaps identify the corpses they were finding.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals said recovery workers found a cluster of 45 bodies at Memorial Medical Centre in New Orleans.

It was not immediately clear what their causes of death were but it appeared that all 45 died at some point after Katrina hit and officials completed evacuating the city’s hospitals.

Around 40 per cent of the city remains swamped by contaminated water, although surrounding suburban areas were drying out. Most of city’s 450,000 residents are scattered across the United States in shelters or with friends and family.

An estimated one million coastal residents were displaced by the hurricane.

Louisiana authorities said on Monday they had confirmed 279 fatalities, including the hospital deaths. An additional 218 people have died in Mississippi and seven in Florida where Katrina first hit. The total was far lower than initial estimates that thousands had died. — MNA/Reuters
Minister U Aung Thaung inspected the production process of the cotton farm at Pyay of Bago Division, reported to the minister on cultivation of 4,200 more acres, growing 90 acres of rubber. The chairman of Mohinyin District PDC and departmental officials presented sector-wise reports. The minister gave a supplementary report. He also inspected progress in building of toilets projects and delivered a speech.

He held a meeting with departmental officials, local authorities and social organizations at the town hall of Mogaung Township. Officials reported on facts on the township, and economic, educational and health sectors of the region including those in charge of the museums, libraries and local government. "We are ensuring smooth supervision of the projects and delivering our report to the minister," the officials said.

After the meeting, Lt-Gen Ye Myint cordially greeted those present. — MNA
**Significant progress of...**

(from page 16)

In 1963, the school was upgraded into Basic Education High School in 1981. In 2003, the school became a Basic Education Middle School. In the past, the students who had passed the exam of eighth standard faced many difficulties in learning the education explained at length by MCWA for poor elderly people. Members of USDA and MCWA hold heart-to-heart discussions with local people in Natgyichaung Village, Paung Township, Mon State. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presents gift to an outstanding schoolboy. — MNA

Specialists from Mon State General Hospital give free medical treatments to locals in Natgyichaung Village. — MNA

Significant progress of... (from page 16) in 1963. The school was upgraded into Basic Education High School in 1981. In 2003, the school became a Basic Education Middle School. In the past, the students who had passed the exam of eighth standard faced many difficulties in learning the education at BEHS of Natgyichaung Village. Paung, seven miles far from their village. At present, students are glad to learn the high school level education at the school of Natgyichaung Village.

Deputy Director-General U Myo Nyunt of Department of Basic Education explained at length on progress of the education sector.

The new building of BEHS (Branch) in Natgyichaung Village was built at a cost of over K 6.7 million — K 4.6 million contributed by the Government and K 2.1 million by the local people. While holding the opening ceremony of the school building, the medical team comprising specialists and physicians from Mon State General Hospital were performing the medical treatment and operation tasks to local people free of charge.

This being so, members of the medical teams provided health care services to 57 eye patients, 15 ear, nose and throat patients, 19 gynaecological and obstetrical patients, six surgical patients, 16 dental patients, 42 children patients, five psychiatric patients and 70 other patients. Officials of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and Maternal and Child Welfare Association also held round-table talks with rural people.

In reviewing these activities without wishful thinking, it is obvious that the Government is placing emphasis on providing health care services not only to the people in major cities but also to those in rural areas in line with the five rural development tasks. Furthermore, social organizations are actively taking part in the HIV/AIDS educative programmes.

At the time of the Government of the State Peace and Development Council, the Government, the Tatmadaw and the people cooperate in one another in undertaking development tasks including rural areas.

Therefore, Natgyichaung Village of Paung Township, Mon State, has improved in all sectors.

Due to implementation of Kyonka hydel power project in the region, three villages have been supplied with electricity. Hence, the local people can enjoy TV programmes national and abroad through satellite dish. In addition, telephones have been installed at the villages. And, local people have the opportunities to study various kinds of books at the libraries in the villages.

Today, local people of Natgyichaung Village and its surrounding villages are enjoying fruitful results of paddy plantations and horticultural and livestock breeding farms.

Thanks to better transport, economic growth can be witnessed at Natgyichaung Village. That is why, significant progress of Natgyichaung Village in Paung Township shows evidence that internal and external destructive elements made false accusations.
Serve public and national interest in reinforcing the Fourth Estate
Conviction, goodwill and practical efforts of media personnel are of utmost importance
Correct stand of media will serve national interest
Strong patriotism and Union Spirit to be built in order to guard against dangers

As some big nations use media as offensive weapon, small nations have to use it as counter-offensive weapon

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses opening of Journalism Course No 1/2005 of News and Periodicals Enterprise.—MNA

* The nation has been in the process of implementing the seven-point Road Map according to the wish of the people.
* Infrastructures for the flourishing of the democratic system have been built in the nation.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 15 September, 2005

Yangon, 14 Sept—The News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information inaugurated Journalism Course No 1/2005 at the training hall of the New Light of Myanmar Daily on Strand Road in Botataung Township.

It was attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry, officials, the chairman of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and CEC members, the patron of the Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, its president and journalists, course instructors and trainees.

In his speech, the minister said the 12th course organized under the historical necessity is of great importance not only for the nation and the people but also for the ministry and the nation’s journalism world, calling on the trainees to work hard in the studies.

He also urged the trainees to make efforts to practise and translate the three objectives of the course into reality when they will get engaged in the journalism world. The trainees should take advantage of class time by paying a careful attention to the lectures in the class under the course instructors who are well-versed in journalism and literacy.

Newspaper has come into being as a mass media for many years. However, much technologies have made progress, the making efforts for the national development drive and ward off the destructive acts. Thus, the trainees should strive to become qualified journalists always standing by the people. The government has been endeavouring for national development and ensuring peace and stability and rights for every citizen, with the four main columns as the base. The fourth estate or column is to help control and steer the three columns of the legislative sector, the executive sector and the judicial sector.

The fourth estate will lose its aims and will harm the national interest if it exercises excessive freedom. The trainees should serve the national interest in reinforcing the fourth estate. Thus, the conviction, goodwill and lice of neo-colonialism. They are trying to introduce their lifestyles and culture to the small nations by force.

He said they are using their strength and power to make the small nations do what they want to and they are bullying small nations and forcibly introducing their political concepts, social systems and cultural traits.

They are also destroying political, economic, administrative, social and cultural values and spirit with the misuse of media. Strong patriotism and the Union spirit are to be built in order to guard against such dangers.

He spoke of the need for both trainees and the people to gain strength through the media. As media offensive on political, economic and social fronts. He urged them to strive for the people of the world to see the true situations of the country.

In conclusion, he urged the trainees to study journalism at the course, to realize the three aims of the course and to apply the knowledge gained in practical fields.

He also urged them to try to widely carry out the tasks for media cover not only in border areas but in the world in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, to enhance qualifications and to serve the interest of the people and the nation while discharging the media duties. The three-month course is being attended by 45 trainees from the ministries and organizations.—MNA
YANGON, 13 Sept — Myanma Economic Bank (Branch) was opened on 11 September in Kawlin in the presence of Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun.

At the ceremony, Chairman of Katha District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Aung Aung and Managing Director of Myanma Economic Bank U Myat Maw formally unveiled the signboard of the bank. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye unveiled the signboard of the bank. Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered opening addresses at the ceremony. — MNA

**Doh Kyeywa Journal in circulation**

YANGON, 14 Sept — With a view to disseminating knowledge to people, Volume 1, No 18 of Doh Kyeywa (Our Village) Journal comes out today.

The journal contains articles, stories, poems and news. Bookworms can acquire general knowledge on agriculture, livestock breeding and health.

A wide range of topics are carried in the issue No 18.

Those wishing to send manuscripts and to put advertisements in the journal, may contact No 30-32, 10th Street, Lammadaw Township, Yangon and can dial 371342, 252452, 379768. — MNA

**Fourth Myanmar National ICT Awards Competition to be held**

YANGON, 14 Sept — The Myanmar Computer Federation will organize the Fourth Myanmar National ICT Awards Competition with the categories such as Education & Training Health Solutions, Security, E-Government Application & Services, Industrial Applications, Business Application, E-Commerce, Tourism, Communication, Entertainment Applications, Research & Development.

Individual person, organizations and ministries are invited to take part in the competitions. The applications for the competition can be taken out beginning 14 September.

The contestants may send software products, multimedia and animation products, websites, CD-ROMs of the respective events to Myanmar Computer Industrialist Association not later than 11 October. For further information, anyone may dial 652238 of MCI, MICT Park (Hlme University Campus). — MNA

**Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung meets Chinese Ambassador Me Li Jinjun on 14 September at Ministry of Industry-1. — INDUSTRY-1**

**Minister inspects Hnget-Aw-San Youth Training School in Kawhmu Township**

YANGON, 13 Sept — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Director-General of Immigration and Population Department Col Maung Maung Than, Deputy Director-General of Social Welfare Department Lt-Col Aung Tun Khang and officials inspected Hnget-Aw-San Youth Training School in Kawhmu Township this morning.

Deputy Director U Sein Win and Principal U Kyaw Win reported on training of youths, vocational education, health care and resettlement.

The minister inspected hostels, library, basic education primary school, mess hall, industrial and vocational training courses. He presented food, clothing and cash for the youths.

The minister discussed functions and civil service rules and regulations in meeting with personnel and officials of IPDs and Fire Services Departments of Kawhmu, Twantay, Seikkyi-Khanautgo, Dalla and Kungyangon Townships at the Kawhmu Township Peace and Development Council Office.

The minister inspected women rehabilitation centre in Alanoke Village in Twantay Township.

**Chinese Ambassador calls on Yangon Mayor**

YANGON, 14 Sept — Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun called on Chair- man of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin at the office of the mayor at City Hall, here, this morning.

Also present at the call were Joint-Secretary of YCDC U Aung Than Win and committee members and heads of department. — MNA
** Colombians police seize 1.5 tons of cocaine**  
Bogota, 13 Sept—The Colombian police discovered 1.5 tons of cocaine inside a light airplane, which did an emergency landing after a mechanical malfunction on the Caribbean island of San Andres Island, authorities said on Monday.

San Andres and Providencia Archipelago Police Chief Carlos Mena said the plane was a King 300 "with a US registration, but we're investigating to see if it is false." On landing, two of the three on board of the plane escaped but the pilot was arrested.

The plane was bound for Mexico and it was not ruled out that the cargo was to be sent to the United States, where this cargo would be worth over 40 million US dollars. According to the documents found on board, the plane came from the Colombian Caribbean harbour of Coveles.

Official figures indicate that this year 70 tons of cocaine have been seized in different operations, especially on the coastal areas.

Colombia is the biggest producer and exporter of cocaine in the world, with an annual average of 550 tons.

** China to produce 180 million tons of crude oil in 2005**  
Beijing, 13 Sept—China is expected to produce 180 million tons of crude oil in 2005, becoming the fifth largest crude oil producer, a senior government official said here Tuesday.

Last year, China produced 175 million tons of crude oil and imported 117 million tons, said Zhang Gaobao, deputy director of the State Development and Reform Commission, at a Press conference of the State Council Information Office.

China's oil import accounted for 6.31 percent of the world total, 23 percent of that of the United States and 56 percent of that of Japan, he said.

According to the official, China's energy production can feed 94 percent of its demand, while import is resorted to for the remaining 6 percent.

This means China's energy self-sufficiency rate is over 20 percent higher than the average of countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, said Zhang.

China's per capita primary energy consumption has increased 4.85 tons of oil equivalent, 66 percent of the world average and 13.4 percent of the United States, Zhang said.

** Talks slogan on over outcome document for coming UN summit**

Wellington, 13 Sept—A national survey report released Monday shows more than 9 in 10 people are choosing not to smoke.

Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) director Becky Freeman welcomed the results, saying a public health is winning the battle against the tobacco companies who have long portrayed smoking as cool and grown-up behaviour.

Since 1997, ASH has annually asked students throughout New Zealand about their smoking habits. The 2004 survey showed 17.6 percent of 14 to 16-year-olds said they were smokers, down from 26.6 percent in 1999.

The number of teenagers who said they have never smoked has increased from 31.6 percent in 1999 to 47 percent.

It also showed that 21.2 percent of girls (24.9 percent in 2003) and 13.8 percent of boys (16.4 in 2003) smoked at least once a month.

ASH said the reduction is linked to the Smokefree Environments Amendment Act 2003 that requires the buildings and grounds of schools and early childhood centres to be smokefree.

The survey also marks the first time a decline in daily smoking among Maori females has been observed.
Indonesia’s airlines support stricter safety regulations

JAKARTA, 13 Sept— Airliners in Indonesia say they are ready for a possible tightening of the industry’s safety regulations following the crash of a Mandala Air Boeing-737, which killed 149 people in the capital of North Sumatra Province of Medan last week.

Many carriers pledged to upgrade aging aircraft and continue to adhere to strict international safety standards, the airliners said. “Safety and maintenance have always been our No. 1 priority,” the Jakarta Post daily on Monday quoted the chief director of national flag carrier Garuda Indonesia, Emirsyah Satar, as saying. He said Garuda aircraft regularly underwent audits from the US Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) and by similar agencies from Japan and South Korea.

Meanwhile, PT Merpati Nusantara Airlines corporate secretary Jaka Pujiyono said Merpati also planned to upgrade 11 Boeing 737-200 aircraft in its 36-strong fleet. Merpati had long scheduled the upgrade in its business plans and it had nothing to do with the government’s moves following the accident, he said.

Low-cost carriers assured the safety was their priority, with an official of a popular budget airline mentioning how all the 36 aircraft his company operated were relatively new, of post-1989 production, and properly maintained.

The official, who requested anonymity, strenuously denied notions that budget carriers were sacrificing flight safety and aircraft maintenance to keep their operational costs down.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan’s encephalitis claims 585 lives in Uttar Pradesh state

NEW DELHI, 13 Sept — The dreaded Japanese encephalitis continues to toll its India’s eastern Uttar Pradesh, claiming eight more lives Monday, Press Trust of India (PTI) reported from Gorakhpur, which is the worst-hit district in the state.

The number of deaths due to the deadly diseases in the state so far is reported to be 585, the PTI said, quoting state health department sources. As many as 57 cases were admitted in BRD Medical College in Gorakhpur, which is the worst-hit district in the state.

Some 500 patients are still under treatment across various hospitals in the region, they said. A specific type of mosquito, culex tritaeniorhynchus, according to experts, is responsible for transmitting the disease to humans from pigs, which is the primary host of the encephalitis virus. — MNA/Xinhua

Astronomers detect most distant cosmic explosion

WASHINGTON, 13 Sept — Astronomers said on Monday they have detected a cosmic explosion at the very edge of the visible universe, a 13-billion-year-old blast that could help them learn more about the earliest stars.

The brilliant blast — known as a Gamma Ray Burst — was probably caused by the death of a massive star soon after the Big Bang, but was glimpsed on 4 September by NASA’s new Swift satellite and later by ground-based telescopes.

The explosion occurred soon after the first stars and galaxies formed, perhaps 500 million to one billion years after the Big Bang explosion that scientists believe gave birth to the cosmos. The current scientific estimate for the age of the universe is 13.7 billion years.

“We are finally starting to see the remnants of some of the oldest objects in the universe,” said Daniel Reichart of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Reichart led the team that measured the distance of the blast from Earth. This Gamma Ray Burst, or GRB for short, could be the first of dozens or hundreds that might soon be unveiled to astronomers, and these expected discoveries could help them learn more about the early universe, astronomer Donald Lamb said in a telephone news conference.

“This burst opens the door to the use of GRBs as unique and powerful probes of the early universe,” said Lamb, a professor at the University of Chicago. “This is what we’ve all been waiting and hoping for and now the fun begins.”

Scientists had theorized that such bursts could be detected, and the Swift spacecraft, launched last year, aimed to find them.

In cosmic terms, distance equals time, so this explosion occurred 13 billion light-years away, with its light just reaching earthly observers. One light-year is about six trillion miles, the distance light travels in a year.

“Described Swift to look for faint bursts coming from the edge of the universe,” said Neil Gehrels of NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Centre outside Washington, said in a statement. “For the first time, we can learn about individual stars from near the beginning of time. There are surely many more out there.” The earliest stars no longer exist; but debris from their destruction can still be detected with Swift and other telescopes; by studying the remnants of these ancient explosions, scientists may be able to tell what these stars were made of and how they formed. — MNA/Reuters

Over 60 Somalis die at sea headed to Yemen

DIBOUTI, 13 Sept — At least 61 Somali migrants died after smugglers left them helpless for 20 days in a weaky boat during a crossing to Yemen, survivors said on Monday.

A Danish ship sailing nearby saw the stranded boat and managed to rescue 39 people, including a woman who gave birth at sea to a baby boy, and took them to Djibouti.

“We were 100 when we left (the Somalia port of) Bosasso heading to Yemen but after three days we finished most of our food,” said Adam Roble, a survivor. “We ate everything we could find including sea shrimps but 61 of us died of hunger while others committed suicide by plunging into the sea.” — MNA/Reuters

China wishes HK crowned with more world No 1 titles

HONG KONG, 13 Sept — Chinese Vice President Zeng Qinghong said here on Monday that he wishes Hong Kong to be crowned with more world No 1 titles.

The Vice-President, who addressed the university, Zeng was briefed at the centre on the development of research in the field of Nano technology and the invention of the “Walter”, a mannequin capable of “sweating”.

He had cordial talks with the teaching staff and students at the research centre, where he also attended the signing ceremony of a cooperation pact between the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Beijing Institute of Technology.

The Vice-President affirmed the achievement scored by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in the development of applied technology.

Science and technology must serve economic development, said Zeng, adding that Hong Kong has to increase its input in research and education to cultivate more research talents and sharpen its competitive edge.

Zeng encouraged the Hong Kong patriots to be confident to top the world, saying “Hong Kong has its advantages to do more world No 1 titles”. The Vice-President presented a model of a flexible mannequin to the university at the conclusion of his inspection tour there. — MNA/Xinhua

Bangladesh offers reward to help hunt bombers

DHAKA, 13 Sept — Bangladesh on Monday released photographs of the leaders of two Islamic militant groups suspected of involvement in last month’s serial bombings and promised to reward anyone with information on their whereabouts.

The Home Ministry said computer-animated images of Shayeck Abdur Rahim, the top leader of Jamaat-ul-Mujahed, and Siddikul Islam Bangla Bhai, commander of Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh, were given to media in one of the biggest manhunts in the country in recent years.

Police have arrested more than 200 people, mostly Jamaat-ul-Mujahed activists, for involvement in the blasts that killed two people and wounded about 100 across the country. But Shayeck Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai are at large.

“Anyone helping in the arrest of the two by providing information to security forces and intelligence agencies would be handsomely rewarded,” State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfuzzaman Babar said.

He didn’t give any details, but newspapers quoting officials said the government was willing to give one million taka (15,244 US dollars) each to anyone giving information leading to the arrest of the two men. — MNA/Reuters

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Late goals give Kaka-inspired Milan victory

MILAN, 14 Sept— Two goals in the last three minutes gave AC Milan a 3-1 victory over Turkey’s Fenerbahce in Champions League Group E on Tuesday with inspired Brazilian midfielder Kaka netting a pair of fine solo strikes.

Kaka gave last season’s beaten finalists the lead in the 18th minute with a beautifully taken goal and the Italians then had chances to double their advantage. Christoph Daum’s Fenerbahce drew level in the 63rd minute with a penalty from Brazilian Alex and looked to have earned a deserved draw until Kaka produced more magic three minutes from the end.

After his brilliant individual effort, Kaka then had a hand in Milan’s third two minutes later, converted by European Footballer of the Year Andriy Shevchenko as Carlo Ancelotti’s side gained a result that flattered them.

Milan, with just two changes from the side which lost on penalties to Liverpool in May’s final, started confidently, gained a result that flattered them.

“We could have played a better match against 10 men. Some of our players had too much respect (for Inter), and that’s why we did not get even a point,” said Weiss.

“We deserved to win after playing better football on the night. “We had opportunities to win and I think we deserved to win,” he told reporters.

“The (Rangers second) goal was a strange goal. It looked easily as if he (Baia) could punch the ball or catch the ball, but he lost the duit in the air with Prso.”

Rangers edge five-goal thriller against Porto

GLASGOW, 14 Sept— Rangers made a winning start in the Champions League with an enthralling 3-2 victory over Porto in Group H on Tuesday.

Greek defender Sotiris Kyrgiakos headed in off the right post five minutes from time to seal a dramatic result for the Glasgow side in front of 48,990 fans.

Rangers broke the deadlock 10 minutes from the interval when Danish frontman Peter Lovenkrands hooked a spectacular goal from 15 metres.

Two minutes into the second half, though, Porto’s Pepe headed home from six metres following a corner by Cesar Peixoto.

Rangers’ Croatian striker Dado Prso bundled the ball over the line from less than a metre for 2-1 when keeper Vitor Baia failed to deal with an overhead kick by Tunisian Hamed Namouchi on 59 minutes.

As the ball dropped downwards to the bar, Baia completely lost its flight and Prso celebrated as the ball went in off his boot.

Porto levelled again through Pepe when he smuddled the ball into the net from another Peixoto corner in the 71st minute but then passed Kyrgiakos’ header from Barry Ferguson’s free kick to steal all three points.

Porto’s Dutch coach Co Adraanse felt his side deserved a point after playing better football on the night. 

“We had opportunities to win and I think we deserved to win,” he told reporters.

“The (Rangers second) goal was a strange goal. It looked easily as if he (Baia) could punch the ball or catch the ball, but he lost the dut in the air with Prso.”

Olympiakos

ATHENS, 14 Sept— A superb goalkeeping display from Espen Johnsen and Trondheim beat Olympiakos 3-1 in the Champions League on Tuesday.

The Greek champions went ahead in the 19th minute of the Group F match when defender Alejandro Lago headed the ball past Antonis Nikopolidis.

Rosenborg equalised three minutes before halftime when Orjan Berg’s neatly threaded pass found Per Ciljan Skjelbred, who tucked the ball past Antionis Nikopolidis.

The Norwegian side took the lead in the 68th when his free kick from 20 metres hit Cobej’s right hand post. Artmedia tried to put pressure on Inter after Veron was sent off but the visiting goalkeeper Julio Cesar saved their only real chance when forward Juraj Halenar fired a low shot from close range at the Brazilian five minutes from time.

Artmedia coach Vladimir Weiss was satisfied with his team’s performance but could not hide his frustration that Slovakia’s champions missed an opportunity against weakened opponents.

“It was a great match for us and a great experience in the Champions League,” Weiss said.

“After Veron was sent off I believed that we could play a good match, that we could at least a point. Unfortunately, we did not manage to achieve that.

“We could have played a better match against 10 men. Some of our players had too much respect (for Inter), and that’s why we did not get even a point,” said Weiss.

“We deserved to win”
All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

Asleep in Jesus
Lt. Col. R. Po Saw (Retd) - B.E.M.E.
Age 69 years

Lt. Col. Roger Po Saw (Retd), residing at Building 12, Room C2, No.3, Aye-Yeik Mon Street, No. 3 Ward, Hlaing Township; son of U Harry Po Saw and Mrs. Emma Po Saw; beloved husband of Daw Aye Aye Thant; father of U Kaung Htet Oo @ John (German Car Industries); Daw Mi Myat Kyi Hkyu Win, and Daw Chawdari @ U Zaw Hlaun Maung; grandson of Kaung Pyi Sone and Kaung Myat Thu; brother of Daw Khin Khin Sw @ Valerie-Lt. Col. Myat Thin (Retd), (Prof. Dr. Daw Khin Hla Win @ Penny) - Prof. U Han Tin (Retd), U Michael Po Saw - Daw Hla Hla Win @ Hilda, and U Terence Po Saw - Daw Tin Tin Nwe @ Lillian, was called to his heavenly home on the morning of the 14th of September, 2005 at the Sakura Medical Centre, Yangon.

The funeral service will be held at the Holy Cross Church, 104 Inya Road on the 16th of September, 2005, at 2:00 pm, after which the remains will be entombed at the Yayway Christian Cemetery.

The bereaved family

7 killed, 2 injured in fatal traffic accident in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 14 Sept — Seven people, including five children, were killed and two were critically injured when a car speeding down the downtown Monivong Boulevard crashed into roadside booth and the crowd, police said Wednesday.

“It is the fatal traffic accident in the capital with so many people died at one single accident,” said Mao Somy, deputy chief of Phnom Penh municipal traffic police. The accident occurred late Monday night, Mao Somy said. Police found the two men in the car were in drink, and lost control of their Toyota Camry.

The dead were three siblings and two cousins from a family aged from 11 to 17. The sixth identified a shoe-shiner was also killed, but there was no information about the seventh victim.

8:45 am
4. Military programme
5:00 pm
6. Cute little dancers
5:30 am
7. "Myanmar" (from 1:00 pm)
8:00 am
8. International news
9. Let’s Go
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm
3. English for Everyday Use
4:45 pm
4. Musical programme
5:00 pm

6:00 pm
9. Musical programme
5:15 pm
10. "Myanmar song"
5:45 pm
11. "Myanmar" (from 1:00 pm)
6:30 pm
12. Weather report
7:00 pm
13. "Myanmar" (from 1:00 pm)
7:35 pm
14. "Myanmar" (from 1:00 pm)
8:00 pm
15. "Myanmar" (from 1:00 pm)
8:30 am
16. News
9:00 am
17. International news
9:30 am
18. Weather report
10:00 am
19. "Myanmar" (from 1:00 pm)
10:30 am
20. The next day’s programme

WEATHER

Wednesday, 14 September, 2005
Forecast for observed and neighbour districts at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in upper Sagaing Division, Kachin, Shan and Kayin States and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin State, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Mon State, Magway, Hago and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavy falls in Magway and Taminnayi Divisions. The notewor thy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (10.63) inches, Kawthoung (2.13) inches, Mindat (2.09) inches, Pakokko (2.01) inches, Monywa (0.79) inch, and Chaung (0.51) inch.

Maximum temperature on 13-9-2005 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 14-9-2005 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 14-9-2005 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 13-9-2005 was 2.9 hrs approx. Rainfall on 14-9-2005 were (1.30) inches at Mingaladon, (0.32) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.20) inch at the central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (78.19) inches at Mingaladon, (80.67) inches at Kaba-Aye and (86.14) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from Southeast at (13:30) hours MST on 13-9-2005.

Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in North Bay and Monsoon is weak to moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Special feature: Yesterday’s tropical depression over the south China Sea had crossed the Vietnam Coast. According to the observations (06:30) hrs MST today, it is centred as a land depression at (280) miles Northeast of Bangkok, Thailand. It is forecast to move westwards and entered into the Andaman Sea within next few hours.

Forecast valid until evening of 15-9-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Chin State, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Mon, Kayin States and Taminnayi Division. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Frequent squalls with rough seas are likely in Delvac Gulf of Mottama, of and off Mon-Tannayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40-45) mph. Seas will be moderate else where in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of thunder activities in Lower Myanmar areas. Forecast for remaining area for 15-9-2005: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-9-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

“Flood Bulletin”

(Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 14-9-2005)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo is (683) cm. It may remain above the danger level (600) cm for the next (3) days commencing noon today.

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The Government has laid down and is striving for equitable development of all parts of the nation by implementing the border areas development plan, the 24 special development regions plan, and the plan for five rural development tasks.

Significant progress of Natgyichaung Village, Paung Township shows evidence that internal and external destructive elements made false accusations.

Parents, students pleased with opening of BEHS (Branch)