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.

Better foundations for development of national economic life and socio-economic life emerged due to peace and stability in the country

Myitngeo Bridge in Singaing inaugurated

YANGON, 15 Sept — The inauguration of Myitngeo Bridge built across Dokhtawady River was held at the mandat in Singaing Township this morning with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The bridge is situated on the six-lane Yangon-Mandalay Highway between Singaing and Amarapura Townships and it was built by Bridge Construction Special Group-12 of Public Works of the Ministry of Construction.

Also present were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the Mandalay mayor, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, engineers and officials, members of social organizations, local people and guests.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said he was glad to see the opening of Myitngeo Bridge, the 207th bridge which are above 180 feet. The bridge was opened to mark the anniversary of building a democratic State by the Tatmadaw government. It is the development full of national essence for both the people and the Tatmadaw government.

The opening of the bridge is an effort to build a new nation as well as significant progress of the history of Myanmar and it will last for years, he said.

He said he was also pleased to see the emergence of the six-lane bridge on Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway, the major transport route of the country and hoping that relations, trading and flow of commodities among the people in various parts of the Union would improve considerably, he added.

Male Nattaung Dam will irrigate 10,000 acres of farmland in Singu Township and supply drinking water to local people

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects regional development in Sagaing, Mandalay Divisions

YANGON, 15 Sept — State Peace and Development Council Member Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence together with Sagaing Division PDC Chairman North-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, officials of the SPDC Office and departmental officials, attended the ceremony to plant trees held in Shwebo Degree College on 15 September.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on arid zones greening tasks and participated in tree-planting together with the commander.

Next, as a total of 1,100 people including departmental officials, faculty members of the college, social organizations and students, planted 5,000 neem trees in the campus of the college.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental officials, social organizations and townelders at Yangyi-aung Hall in Shwebo and heard reports on the facts about the region by Shwebo District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Than Tun and agricultural tasks by Division Manager of Myanmar Agriculture Service U Khin Maung Latt. Later, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye gave a supplementary report.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Expanding oil and gas exploration

Myanmar is rich in natural resources which can be tapped through the combination of human resources and technology for economic development of the State. Oil and gas is one of those natural resources. To satisfy the energy demand of the nation, the Ministry of Energy is striving in all seriousness for accelerating the exploration of oil and gas. While emphasis is placed on exploration of oil and gas inland, joint efforts are also made with foreign companies in offshore oil exploration.

According to feasibility studies, it is encouraging to learn that a commercial-scale natural gas deposit has been found at Rakhine offshore. Likewise, at the Yetagun oil and gas field in Taninthayi offshore, both old and new wells are producing natural gas daily. So, it is obvious that there are many promising oil and gas fields as regards the expanded exploration.

Progress has been made in drilling new wells in Nyaungdon Oil and Gas Field, Ayeyawady Division. Success has been achieved in the drilling of No 24 Well, which is now producing some 5.208 million cubic feet of gas a day.

In the meantime, the drilling of No 27 Well in Nyaungdon Oil and Gas Field is meeting with success. The new well is producing over 4 million cubic feet of gas and 22 barrels of condensate a day.

Currently, there are 22 wells at the Nyaungdon Oil and Gas Field, which produce 100 million cubic feet of gas and 800 barrels of condensate daily.

The Ministry of Energy is making relentless efforts for timely completion of feasibility study in Maubin and Dedaye regions that are adjacent to southern part of the Nyaungdon Oil and Gas Field.

This being the case, we believe that achievement will be made in exploration of oil and gas in onshore and offshore areas in the long-term interests of the State, while striving for over-filling the energy demand of the State based on current potentials of new wells.
Putin says UN must lead global fight against terrorism

**UNITED NATIONS, 16 Sept —** Terrorism is the main threat to human rights and development and the UN Security Council must be at the centre of global efforts to fight it, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday.

But governments alone are not enough to counter the threat, he told a world summit examining the future of the United Nations on its 60th anniversary.

Religious and civic groups as well as the media, cultural and humanitarian organizations must all play a role, he said.

From its creation, despite many heated discussions and bitter disagreements, the United Nations has symbolized the civilized world's will "to prevent new devastating wars and the revival of barbaric ideologies advocating violence, aggression and racial superiority", Putin said.

"I am convinced that terrorism poses today the main threat to human rights and freedoms as well as to sustainable development of states and peoples. That is why it is the United Nations and its Security Council that must be the main centre for coordinating international cooperation in the fight against terrorism as the ideological successor of Nazism."

Moscow has used its permanent seat on the UN Security Council to promote its view that a conflict in Chechnya is an internal matter driven by terrorists while Chechen guerrillas in the mostly Muslim region describe themselves as striving for a separate Chechen state.

Western governments have in the past accused Russia of human rights violations in its harsh crackdowns on the region.

In negotiations on a package of UN reforms to be adopted at the close of the three-day UN summit, Russia was instrumental in postponing key decisions on how a new UN Human Rights Council would operate, a move critics said would undermine efforts to strengthen UN human rights enforcement.

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China-ASEAN Expo to show 11 “Cities of Charm”

**BEIJING, 16 Sept —** China and ASEAN countries will donate their own “Cities of Charm” on the second China-ASEAN Expo to be held from 19-22 October in Nanning, capital of south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Eleven cities represent the unique flavour of their own countries, including Beijing of China, the City of Singapore, Chiang Mai of Thailand, Chiang Mai of Vietnam, said Li Jinzao, secretary-general of the organizing committee at a Press conference held by the State Council Information Office here on Thursday.

Li said the “City of Charm” will extend country-to-country cooperation among cities, and further increase the influence of the Expo in ASEAN countries.

These “Cities of Charm” boast large numbers of exhibitors and investment projects, which lays a good foundation for sustainable development of the Expo, said Li.

The committee said the promotion on the “Cities of Charm” will be one of the major themes of the successive Expos, and each country will choose one or two cities as the “City of Charm” to be promoted at the Expo every year.

According to statistics from China’s Customs, trade volume between China and ASEAN hit 59.76 billion US dollars in the first half of this year, up 25 per cent year-on-year, and ASEAN has become China’s fourth largest trade partner.

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Poll shows support for Bush continues to drop

**WASHINGTON, 16 Sept — Only 41 per cent of Americans approved of President George W. Bush’s performance in office, while 53 per cent disapproved, the latest New York Times/CBS News poll published on Thursday showed.**

The figures were in line with other national polls conducted last week, roughly equal to the worst ratings Bush has ever received.

For the first time, just half of Americans approved of Bush’s handling of terrorism, which has been his most consistent strength since he scored 90 per cent approval ratings in the aftermath of the 11 September, 2001, attacks.

The findings suggested that the slow federal response to Hurricane Katrina has increased public doubts about the Bush Administration’s effectiveness.

Fifty-six per cent of Americans said they were now less confident about the government’s ability to respond to a terrorist attack or natural disaster.

More than six in 10 said they were uneasy about Bush’s ability to make the right decisions about the war in Iraq, and half expressed similar unease about his ability to deal with the problems of the storm’s victims.

Over all, 38 per cent of Americans approved of his handling of foreign policy; 35 per cent of his handling of the economy; and 36 per cent of his handling of the situation in Iraq.

The poll was conducted Friday through Tuesday with 1,167 adults, and has a margin of sampling error at plus or minus three percentage points.

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Car bomb hits US mily convoy in eastern Baghdad

**BAGHDAD, 16 Sept —** A car bomb blew up near a US military convoy in eastern Baghdad, destroying a Humvee, on Thursday, police said.

"An explosive-laden car, parking on the side of the al-Qanat Highway, was remotely detonated near a US military convoy, destroying a Humvee and killing and wounding all occupants," police officer Ahmed Abdullah told Xinhua. Violence continued on Thursday after more than a dozen bombings ripped through Baghdad on Wednesday, killing at least 160 people and wounding 750.

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Roadside bomb kills two policemen in northern Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 16 Sept —** Two policemen were killed and four others injured when a roadside bomb struck a police patrol in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk on Thursday, police said.

"A roadside bomb exploded at 6:45 am (0245 GMT) in the al-Askari District in eastern Kirkuk when a police patrol was passing by," a police officer said.

Two policemen were killed and four others wounded in the blast in Kirkuk, some 250 kilometres north of Baghdad.

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Aceh rebels hand over 78 weapons

**JAKARTA, 16 Sept —** The rebels in Indonesia’s Aceh Province handed over scores of weapons and ammunition to the Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM) on Thursday, as part of commitment of peace deal on 15 August, a minister and official said.

The hand-over is a crucial element of the peace pact signed by both sides, in an effort to end the 30-year war that has claimed over 15,000 lives, most of them civilians. "It has already handed over 78 weapons in Banda Aceh, the capital of the province," Indonesian Information Minister Sofyan Djalil told Xinhua by telephone from Aceh.

"We hope that the peace process will go smoothly," he said.

The minister said that it was expected that 25 per cent of the total 840 rebels’ weapons could be destroyed within these three days.

"It is hoped that 210 of the rebels’ weapons to be collected in this first phase," he said, saying that the hand-over would be continued in the regencies of Bireun and Sitgih on Friday and Saturday respectively.

Meanwhile, Indonesian military spokesman in Aceh Lieutenant-Colonel Eri Sutikno said the military welcome the move by the rebel.
Visitors attend the Tokyo Game Show 2005, Japan’s biggest video game software exhibition, at the Makuhari Messe Convention Centre in Chiba, east of Tokyo on 16 September, 2005. About 130 companies from 11 countries are participating in the three-day show.—INTERNET

**Chinese, Russian presidents meet on bilateral ties**

**NEW YORK, 16 Sept**—Chinese President Hu Jintao met here on Wednesday with Russian President Vladimir Putin and the two leaders discussed the development of bilateral strategic and cooperative partnership and other major issues of common concern.

The two presidents, who are here to attend the summit on the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations, reviewed the sound development of bilateral relations and cooperation. Hu said China will work with Russia to expand cooperation in various fields while Putin said his country treasures cooperation with China.

Hu suggested the two sides work out cooperative plans and measures in key areas and on major projects to ensure progress in big projects concerning energy, investment and high-tech.

Putin spoke highly of the cooperation among the SCO’s member states and said Russia will make preparations for the SCO summit scheduled for next year in China.

The two presidents agreed that both countries will work with other parties to achieve new progress in the ongoing six-party talks aimed at resolving the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula.

They also voiced support for a resolution of the Iranian nuclear issue through negotiations.

**Two Canadian soldiers wounded in bomb explosion in Kabul**

**KABUL, 16 Sept**—Two Canadian troops were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded next to their armoured patrol Thursday in Afghanistan capital Kabul, an Afghan official said.

The explosion hit one of the two Canadian vehicles patrolling in the street of Kabul, and two Canadian soldiers were wounded, an official from the Afghan Defence Department said.

The investigation about the explosion is still going on, and it is still unknown about if there is any civilian killed or injured in the accident.

About 700 Canadian troops have been deployed in Afghanistan as part of the 10,000 NATO peacekeeping forces to safeguard the security of the country.

**HK continues efforts in search of missing policeman**

**HONG KONG, 16 Sept**—The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government has been continuing its efforts on Thursday in search of a policeman who lost his way during mountaineering in Sai Kung Eastern County Park on Sunday.

A police spokesman said on Thursday that several dozens of people from various government departments are still searching around the park on Thursday, the fifth day of the searching operation.

In the past four days, the police, the government’s fire and flying services as well as staff members from other departments have sent over 800 staff members for searching for the missing policeman. They have also used advanced facilities as infrared thermal detectors, electromagnetic wave life detectors and reconnaissance planes with telephoto lens in their land, marine and air searching operations around the place where the man was missing.—MNA/Xinhua

**India, Pakistan agree to continue peace dialogue**

**NEW DELHI, 16 Sept**—South Asian rivals India and Pakistan have agreed they would not let terrorism impede their peace process and remained committed to a peaceful resolution of all disputes, including Kashmir.

The nuclear-armed neighbours issued a joint statement after Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf held a late night meeting on Wednesday on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York.

“The two leaders... reiterated their pledge not to let terrorism impede the peace process,” said the statement read out by Musharraf to reporters in Singh’s presence.

Television reports in India and Pakistan said Musharraf invited Singh to visit Pakistan and the invitation had been accepted.—MNA/Reuters

**Car bomb kills at least 10 in north of Baghdad**

**KIRKUK (Iraq), 17 Sept**—A suicide car bomb exploded outside a Shiite mosque in the town of Tuz Khurmatu, north of Baghdad, on Friday, killing ten people and wounding 21, Iraqi police said.

Captain Saed Ahmed said the bomb went off as people were emerging from the Great Prophet mosque in the town.

The attack comes amid a three-day campaign of violence by guerillas that has seen more than 180 people killed.

A witness said the bomber detonated the vehicle as the faithful were emerging from prayers on the Muslim holy day.

**Suicide bombing kills three policemen south of Baghdad**

**BAGHDAD, 17 Sept**—A suicide bomber blew himself up south of Baghdad on Friday, killing three policemen and wounding another six, police said.

The suicide bomber attacked a police patrol in a town named al-Hawsa, 35 kilometres south of Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

“It is a single attack, unknown gunmen killed mayor of al-Işıkendiya City and his four bodyguards in Babylon Province on Friday,” the source added.

Security situation in Iraq has deteriorated since Wednesday after al-Qaeda leader in Iraq Abu Musab al-Zarqawi declared war on Shiite Muslims in Iraq in response to a US-Iraqi offensive on the northern restive town of Tal Afar, long believed to be a guerrilla stronghold.

Over 200 people have died in the renewed wave of violence this week, with the deadliest single attack killing over 80 people and wounding more than one hundred on Wednesday.—MNA/Xinhua

**US Marine killed in explosion in western Iraq**

**BAGHDAD, 17 Sept**—A US Marine was killed in an explosion in Iraq’s western province of Anbar, the US military said on Friday.

The Marine was killed on Thursday in an “indirect fire explosion” in Forward Operation Base Camp Ramadi, the military said in a statement.

The name of the killed soldier was being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement added without elaboration.

About 1,900 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media tally.—MNA/Xinhua

**Iraqi soldiers view the destruction following a suicide car bomb attack in the Iraqi town of Tuz Khurmatu on 16 September, 2005.**—INTERNET

**Visa haute couture: the new light of Myanmar**

Sunday, 18 September, 2005 4

[Image 301x208 to 550x399]
Vietnam active in encouraging businesses with regulatory reforms

HANOI, 15 Sept—Vietnam ranks third in the world in the past year in encouraging businesses with regulatory reforms, said a report of the World Bank (WB) and International Finance Corporation released on Wednesday.

The progress has been made thanks to the country’s strong legal reforms on registering company, registering property, protecting investors, enforcing contracts and closing a business, said the report entitled “Doing in Business in 2006”.

Specifically, Vietnam has conducted electronic name verification, cutting one week off the time to start a business, introduced a bankruptcy law that clarifies rules for closing insolvent businesses and reorganizing viable ones, and sped contract enforcement by setting time limits on court judgments, noted the report. However, regarding an overall index called “ease of doing business”, which is calculated by measuring a set of key indicators, such as registering a company, hiring and firing workers, registering property, getting credit, and paying taxes, Vietnam ranks the 99th among 155 surveyed economies in the world.

The gap between Vietnam and some other members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) remains huge, as regional countries like Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia are among the top 30 economies under the index.—MNA/Xinhua

World leaders united on terrorism, apart on UN reforms

UNITED NATIONS, 15 Sept—World leaders united on Wednesday on the need to ban incitement of terrorism but fell short of ambitions for a fundamental reform of the United Nations at a summit on the agency’s 60th anniversary.

The 15-member Security Council held a rare top-level session to adopt a resolution on terrorism proposed by Britain following the July 7 London bombings.

“We have a solemn obligation to stop terrorism at its early stages,” US President George W Bush told the session. “We must do all we can to disrupt each stage of planning and support for terrorist acts.”

Bush also issued a more nuanced appeal, saying that war alone would not defeat terrorism if the world ignored “the hardship and oppression of others”.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan told the gathering of kings, presidents and prime ministers that despite some progress, negotiators had failed to achieve a profound overhaul of UN policies and institutions he sought.

He conceded that in many areas, including enlargement of the Security Council, members remained sharply divided: “We have not yet achieved the sweeping and fundamental reform that I and many others believe is required.” Annan said.

“Our biggest challenge and our biggest failing is on nuclear-proliferation and disarmament,” he told the opening session of the three-day summit, which has turned from solving crises to highlighting the world body’s difficulties.

Negotiations on a summit document the world leaders are to endorse dropped disarmament proposals from Norway and South Africa, backed by about 80 nations. The United States objected to calls for nuclear disarmament but stressed the danger of terrorists and rogue states obtaining unconventional weapons.

In a veiled criticism of the United States, the world’s richest nation, Dutch Prime Minister Jan-Peter Balkenende said the Europeans had agreed to boost development aid spending but “we need to see more equal burden-sharing”.

Most of the delegates spent their time meeting each other, including a handshake between Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, whose nations have no diplomatic relations.—MNA/Reuters

Vietnam welcomes UN reforms

HANOI, 17 Sept—Vietnam welcomes the United Nations’ reform plan that was newly adopted in New York, a Vietnamese spokesperson said Friday.

“After 60 years of existence and development, the United Nations (UN) should reform to adapt to changes in the world at present,” Le Dung, spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, said while answering questions on Vietnam’s reaction to the plan.

In its operation, the UN should adhere strictly and consistently to the principles enshrined in its Charter concerning equality, national sovereignty, non-intervention into each other’s internal affairs and territorial integrity, he stressed.

“This will help raise the agency’s role, prestige as well as operational efficiency and capacity in coping with new challenges to maintain peace and international security, and speed up the common development of its member countries in order to implement the millennium development goals,” Dung added.—MNA/Xinhua

Musharraf calls for comprehensive strategy to fight terrorism

UNITED NATIONS, 15 Sept—Pakistan’s President Pervez Musharraf on Wednesday called on the international community to strengthen the United Nations, and to adopt comprehensive strategy in fighting terrorism.

Speaking at the high-level plenary meeting of the UN summit, Musharraf said “it is our solemn responsibility to bequeath a legacy of hope and peace to future generations. We cannot afford to fail”.

“[T]his Special Summit offers us an opportunity to recommit ourselves to the principles and purposes of the UN Charter,” the President said, pledging to make the United Nations a more effective and relevant institution for the 21st Century.

Musharraf pointed out that international security can be best promoted when states see peace as being in its best interest through mutual cooperation, when the supremacy of equitable principles is established over the realities of unequal power, and when states agree to utilize the United Nations to harmonize their policies and reconcile their interests.

“The Security Council should work openly, on behalf of the general membership.

The Council should become more representative, not by adding a new elite, but by reflecting more fully, the entire spectrum of the UN’s membership,” he declared.—MNA/Xinhua

Bomb threat in NZ hotel

WELLINGTON, 15 Sept—Part of downtown of New Zealand’s north port city Tauranga has been evacuated Thursday morning and armed police are in the area after a bomb alert in the building, local media reported.

A man in a fifth floor room of a nine-storey hotel is threatening to detonate bomb unless he gets to speak to Prime Minister Helen Clark.

Clark is now campaigning in Auckland and her office is informed of the incident.—MNA/Xinhua

Eleven fishing ships in Vietnam sink, 1 dead

HANOI, 16 Sept—Whirlwinds, torrential rain and big waves caused by a tropical low pressure have made 11 fishing ships sink in Vietnam’s southern Ca Mau Province, killing one fisherman and leaving 6 others missing, local newspaper Youth reported on Friday.

Sixty-eight other fishermen on the ships, which had the accident on Tuesday and Wednesday, were saved.

Locals rescuers have found locations of 10 sank ships, and pulled 3 of them out of the water. They have kept on relief work.

Natural disasters, mainly storms and floods, killed 232 people, left 38 others missing, injured 187 others, destroyed 187,000 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).—MNA/Xinhua
sovereignty. As a result, there emerged better foundations for development of national economic life.

He said the government gave priority to construction of bridges and roads, the major factor that brings about socio-economic life of the people for ensuring smooth transportation, development of trade and economy.

He said there were 461 roads and altogether 13,635 miles of road in 1988. Now the government has built 160 roads and there are 5,005 miles of road—totalling 621 roads and 18,640 miles of road. Vehicles can go smoothly due to emergence of bridges and roads in Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Division which have plenty of rivers and creeks and roads in mountainous regions of Shan State. One can now go from Yangon to Mandalay and from Mandalay to Muse in a day. No one can deny the fact that significant results have been brought about, he said.

In the past there was only one bridge (Sagaing) across the Ayeyawady River. Now there are seven bridges and the total number of bridges increased up to 207. The government spent K 26651.649 million and US $ 172 million on construction of bridges and better results have emerged.

The Secretary-1 spoke at length on renovation and construction of railroads in Taninthayi, Division and Shan and Kayah States and construction of tunnels in Ponnyataung in Magway Division and increase of railroads compared to that of 1988. The government built 177 dams and reservoirs that irrigate over 2.4 million acres of farmland, increased power consumption, the government implemented hydel-power projects, natural gas and coal-fired power stations projects nationwide. There are 30 hydel-power projects, four gas-powered stations and one coal-fired powered sta-
Better foundations for development of national economic...

(from page 6)

As for the education and health sectors, universities and specialist hospitals have emerged in cities and regions of the country one after another. In even Mandalay and Magway Divisions where Myinting Bridge lies, a number of facilities such as various universities of related fields, 300-bed hospitals, teaching hospitals, Kyaukse Industrial Zone, plants and factories can be seen here and there for the development of socio-economy, human resources and industrial sector of the State.

The Secretary-1 said despite the State’s projects for construction of development infrastructures, there are those who underestimate the strenuous efforts of the government. In reality, the government has accepted the idea that it is very proud of having constructed such facilities with the country’s own resources hand in hand with national people for the emergence of development infrastructures in spite of various difficulties it encounters. This reflects the strength of national unity. Construction of roads, bridges including Myinting Bridge, dams, universities and hospitals also reflects the good attitude of the Tatmadaw government towards the national people, he said.

With the emergence of development infrastructures and prevalence of peace and stability and national solidarity, the government has initiated the seven-point Road Map to transform the nation into a modern, developed democratic one. As the National Convention, the very fundamental step of the Road Map, is in progress, the nation is now beginning to see its bright future, said the Secretary-1.

The government is committed to continue its development projects to enable the country to stand tall so long as the world exists. So, people, on their part, are urged to maintain the development momentum and peace and stability and national solidarity that have been already restored.

All in all, reflecting the goodwill of the government that has striven its utmost for over a decade, all are to lend themselves to the building of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun

Male Nattaung Dam will irrigate 10,000 acres...

(from page 1)

After hearing reports on 100,000 acres of rubber cultivation in Sagaing Division, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on striving for meeting the target area of cultivation, providing water for cultivated areas and meeting the set standard of monsoon crops. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that Shwebo District possesses the good basis for economic sector as a result of roads and bridges constructed by the Go-vernment and individual entrepreneur U Thaung Nyunt.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and officials, proceeded to the construction site of Male Nattaung Dam Project being implemented by Irrigation Department of Male Nattaung Dam Project being implemented by Irrigation Department, to inspect the project. Next, they inspected construction of the earth embankment of the dam.

On completion, the dam will irrigate 10,000 acres of farmlands in Singu Township and supply drinking water to the local people. At 2 pm, they attended the ceremony toweed 200-acres of paddy fields and broadcast fertilizer in Shweppaya Village-tract in Singu Township.

Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party joined the weeding and fertilizer broadcasting ceremony at 14 acres farm of U Maung Htwe in Lakaunggyi Village-tract in Madaya Township.

On 15 September morning, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, accompanied by Commander Maj-Gen Thu Aye, met with Tatmadawmen of Yangon Command and family members at Aungdagun Hall of the local battalion in Shwebo, and instructed them to cooperate with local people in carrying out development tasks of the nation and five rural development tasks, upholding Our Three Main National Causes, and to undertake agriculture and livestock breeding tasks on a manageable scale.

Commander and Mayor inspect sanitation works in Yangon City

YANGON, 17 Sept — Chairman of Yangon Divi-
sion Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected sanitation works being undertaken around Yangon City.

The commander and the mayor oversaw unblocking of the drains with the help of machinery in Insein, Hilmethaya and Kyanktada Townships and laying of asphalt on the roads in Hlite, Yankin and Bahan Townships. The commander gave necessary instructions to the officials. Similar works were also undertaken in Tatmadaw Housing Estate of the Ministry of Defence by Tatmadawmen of Yangon Command.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets local people on Myitnge Bridge. — MNA

Newly opened Myitnge Bridge is located on Yangon-Mandalay six-lane Union Highway between Singaing and Amarapura Townships. It is 840 feet long and it has 72 feet wide motorway and four feet wide pedestrian way on either side. The bridge can withstand 75-ton loads.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspects Male Nattaung Dam project in Singu township, PyinOoLwin District, Mandalay Division. — MNA

by Agricultural Mechanization Department in Aungchantha Village of Shwebo Township.

Next, they oversaw sample quality paddy strains. They also viewed agricultural equipment and natural fertilizers at the showroom of AMD.

At Shwebo District Hospital, they inspected the operation theatre, wards and the X-ray room.

In Nwennyin Village, they looked into the pottery works of entrepreneur U Thaung Nyunt.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and officials, proceeded to the construction site of Male Nattaung Dam Project being implemented by Irrigation Department on Male Nattaung Creek near Larakley Village of Singu Township.

Head of Mandalay Division Irrigation Depart-
mint U Aye Thein reported on matters related to the project. Next, they inspected construction of the earth embankment of the dam.

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From favourable conditions of peace, stability and development to discipline-flourishing democratic nation

Delegates including those from political parties holding open discussions at the National Convention to adopt basic principles to shape the future of the nation into a democratic one.

It is natural that every citizen loves his motherland. One wants to see his mother country enjoying the taste of independence, peace and development with a high standard of living. Actually, such goodwill of citizens of respective nations is generated by patriotism and nationalistic fervour.

Myanmar fell under alien subjugation for 123 years. Throughout that long period, the national people suffered oppression. And the colonialists exploited the natural resources at will, thus making the entire people get into sheer poverty. To make matters worse, there broke out armed conflicts among the national races just as the nation regained the independence. So, the people had to live in a state of alarm. Due to the destructive acts of aboveground and underground armed groups under the instigation of neo-colonialists who are anxious to break up the nation and then to get it under their thumb, national development tasks did not work at all in spite of diverse natural resources in abundance.

Myanmar is such a fertile land with sufficient supply of water that it produces various crops in surplus. About half of the nation is covered with lush and evergreen forests. The nation’s numerous mineral deposits are inexhaustible. A great deal of oil and gas are produced both onshore and offshore. In addition, her waters are teeming with abundant supply of fish and prawn. Some precious stones like ruby, sapphire, jade are larger than the ones that are produced both onshore and offshore. In addition, the nation’s numerous mineral deposits are inexhaustible.

The Tatmadaw that is always ready to stand acts of external elements.

So, the people had to live in a state of alarm. Due to the threatening situations of the nation. At the same time, it took all possible measures for the development of border areas that lagged behind in development and were subject to the acts of insurgents in successive periods. Now, border areas have enjoyed fruitful results of unprecedented progress. The Government has been building infrastructures in all sectors. Day in, day out, it has been implementing the five rural development tasks and the 24 special development regions project. In consequence, it could make peace with national race armed groups who are now playing an active role in regional and national development projects. It has developed the agricultural sector and extended the industrial and trade sectors in accord with the four economic objectives.

It introduced the market-oriented economic system, invited participation in terms of technical know-how and local and foreign investments, and took necessary steps to protect national economy against possible alien monopoly so that the national economy can be kept in the hands of the nation and the national people.

The efforts made during the period of 17 years have helped States and Divisions and urban and rural areas of the nation enjoy development equally.

Now, the nation puts around 26.6 million acres of farmland under crops, and on completion of the extended land reclamation plan, 20 million more acres can be cultivated. The emergence of 18 industrial zones has widened the scope of the nation’s industrial sector. The nation has been able to transform its traditional farming into mechanized farming. The entire Union has been served with thousands of miles of railroads and motorways. So far, the nation has seen 177 irrigation facilities alongside 293 river water pumping stations. The progress of States and Divisions is most encouraging.

These have helped the nation to put over 1 million acres under multiple cropping, nearly two million acres under summer paddy, and over 14.39 million acres under monsoon paddy, accounting for nearly more than 16 million acres of paddy, thus increasing the nation’s paddy output to nearly 1,200 million baskets. The total acreage of beans and pulses, edible oil crops, rubber, sugarcane, jute and cotton is on remarkable increase. Furthermore, the areas of livestock breeding and establishment of forest plantations have surged.

Besides, the Government has built 5,005 miles of roads, 207 bridges 180 feet long and above, 1,808 bridges under 180 feet, 217 post offices, 173 telegraph offices, 581 auto exchanges, 207 rural auto exchanges, 5,650 e-Mail Internet lines, 43 ground satellite stations, generators that can produce 3,943.519 megawatts, 30 hydropower plants, eight other power plants, 18 industrial zones, 15,835 private factories and mills, 192 State-owned factories, three offshore oil fields, 6,778 basic education schools, 1,593 multimedia teaching centres, 37 universities, colleges and degree colleges, 44 centres for development of human resources, two technological universities, 25 technological colleges, two universities for computer studies, 24 computer colleges, one aerospace engineering university, 10 government technical institutes, 135 health care centres, 113 rural health care centres, 12 traditional medicine hospitals, 148 traditional medicine clinics, nine sub-printing houses, 162 TV retransmission stations along with upgrading of 188 hospitals. So far, 29,895 rural libraries have been established.

The five rural development tasks are being implemented for the progress of over 60,000 villages of the nation. As a result, rural folks are able to lead a healthy life and are enjoying better income. In addition, innovative measures are being taken for bio-gas fired power plants and windmills to supply sufficient electricity and to contribute towards the rural development.

Upholding Our Three Main National Causes, the Government, the Tatmadaw and the people are harmoniously implementing the 12 objectives for transition to democracy. Now, the drive is in full swing. Necessary infrastructures needed for national development have been built across States and Divisions and rural and urban areas.
From favourable conditions of peace, stability and development to discipline-flourishing democratic nation

Mortality rate is now 7.1 out of 1,000 in rural areas, down from 9.9 out of 1,000 in 1988. The average life expectancy of national people has risen to 60.8 years (men) and 63.3 years (women) in rural areas. There have emerged 19,959 miles of rural roads, 6,324 rural bridges, and 19,870 rural water supply projects. Now, 14,309 villages have access to safe clean water.

With respect to the health sector, the number of hospitals, clinics, doctors and nurses is on the increase. Now, Myanmar medical experts have been able to show their brilliant performances in operations on conjoined twins, transplanting renal and livers. As regards the cultural sector, the Government has preserved and revitalized the nation’s literacy, music, ten traditional arts and crafts, and theatrical art. The Bagan Archaeological Region has been recognized by the world. The observance of the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions has entered the 13th anniversary. The implementation of the 15-year Drug Elimination Plan is moving into top gear. The poppy cultivation is now on the decrease by 96 per cent. So far, a total of 164,965 acres of poppy plantations and 100,257.37 ypi or small baskets of poppy seeds have been destroyed. Up to now, the Government has held ceremonies to destroy seized narcotic drugs for 50 times, and put 1,430,153 acres have been put under poppy-substitute crops.

The self-reliant efforts made by the entire national people in union with the effective use of natural resources have resulted in significant progress to the nation. As the saying that goes “All right, if you do not want to help us, don’t disturb”. Myanmar would have enjoyed more progress if she had not faced any disturbances and hindrance. However, it is common knowledge that certain elements are abusing the weapon of media, making various accusations, imposing economic sanctions on the nation, and manufacturing false stories designed to mislead the international community about Myanmar. However, Myanmar has been able to stand on her own feet through self-reliant pacers.

Now, peace and stability has been restored all over the nation enjoying improvements in diverse sectors. That has been known to Myanmar nationals, neighbouring countries, her close friends, including internal and external destructive elements at home and abroad who are turning a blind eye to the achievements. Certain broadcasting stations under the domination of neo-colonialists are clinging on to the wicked policy that “Repeat exaggerated stories and all will come to believe them later”.

They even are variously dissuading international community from providing humanitarian aids for Myanmar. They are still accusing the Government of neglecting the children suffering from social deprivation such as malnutrition and poor health standard. Much as Myanmar has made great headway in her drive for drug elimination in it, she is being accused of being responsible for drug-related cases. They are launching various media and political attacks on the nation by abetting drug trafficker dacoits who are committing all forms of destructive and terrorist acts with the intention of breaking up the Union.

Myanmars have to make self-reliant efforts in carrying out nation-building tasks only through man and machinery power of its own. The accusations of forced labour are designed to hinder national progress. They are accusing the nation, in which the citizens have enjoyed the best freedom to profess a religion they believe in and the people who belong to various religions live in harmony, of lacking freedom of religion. Such groundless accusations surfaced from the sources of destructive elements when their destructive acts intended under the pretext of religion to break up the Union did not work at all. Such accusations were also made by the insurgents who found it difficult to penetrate into the border areas to refine opium and produce stimulant tablets, to recruit new members, and collect extortion money from locals as the Tatmadaw, police force and the people’s militia safeguarded and protected the border areas of the nation. In reality, their attention was to create situations under which Tatmadaw members could not be stationed in border areas. As oil and gas deposits were found onshore and offshore of the nation, pipelines were laid to sell gas to neighboring countries. They fabricated that the environment was polluted due to the existence of gas pipelines. In fact, such baseless accusations were made by fugitives in collusion with absconders from abroad. It is known to Myanmar and international community that their accusations are groundless and do not represent the truth. So, there is no need to heed such accusations.

Therefore, sustained efforts are to be exerted effectively to achieve greater development, to restore peace and stability by protecting and safeguarding the nation, and to produce human resources for the mother country to keep abreast of the world nations. Moreover, ongoing projects are to be implemented in line with the desire of the entire people for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation mobilizing the strength of the people to bring progress and prospects to the posterity.

The National Convention is being held in a bid to translate the State’s seven-point Road Map for the transition to democracy, and the drive has now made significant progress. Over 1,000 delegates from national races and all strata of life are holding frankly open discussions to their full satisfaction so as to adopt basic principles and detailed basic principles for the framing of a State Constitution.

Now, detailed basic principles are being laid down in the chapters of legislation, executive and judiciary. So far, detailed basic principles for constitution and delegation of legislative powers have been adopted.

The delegates have submitted respective proposals to lay down detailed basic principles for executive and judiciary. Hence, detailed basic principles for executive and judiciary sectors will be laid down before long.

At the end of this year, the delegates including those from political parties will continue talks at the National Convention to lay down basic principles that are in harmony with the State, the people and their culture, and customs to shape the future of the nation into a democratic one. Upholding Our Three Main National Causes, the Government, the Tatmadaw and the people are harmoniously implementing the 12 objectives for transition to democracy. Now, the drive is in full swing. Necessary infrastructures needed for national development have been built across States and Divisions and rural and urban areas. Now, Myanmar engineers have shown their brilliant performances by completing the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), which is the longest of its kind in the nation. And even local people never dreamt of it in the past.

I have to present the achievements of the nation just in brief considering limited space for the article. I have to compile several volumes of books if all the achievements of the Union are to be covered thoroughly. National people will enjoy pervasive delight and take a great pride in the national development if they just read the facts and figures I have presented in the article in short.

I would therefore like to exhort all the national people to maintain the rhythm of national development, peace and stability already achieved and to be fully imbued with Union Spirit in order that the nation can be transformed into a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation in the near future.
Garudhamma Day (Full moon day of Tawthalin) ceremony held

YANGON, 17 Sept — Trainees of Basic Buddhism Course of the Ministry of Religious Affairs led by Instructor Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadaja Bhaddanta Paññsami (Magadi-Thazi) Sayadaw held Garudhamma Day (Full moon day of Tawthalin) ceremony this morning at Maha Thenthawgyi at the hill-lock of Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye. The instructor Sayadaw administered the Five Precepts to the congregation.

The trainees then recited religious verses and the ceremony ended.

MWAF Vice-President receives UN-IAP Coordinator

YANGON, 17 Sept — Vice-President of the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Khin Lay Myint received National Planning Coordinator of UN-IAP Myanmar Office Dr Ei Kalyar Moe at the federal airport yesterday afternoon.

They discussed matters related to taking measures of mobile teams for opening the courses against human trafficking, handing over reclamation of rubber acres, health, education and social sectors, breeding of poultry and pigs and reclamation of vacant and virgin lands.

Well-qualified intellectuals...

(from page 16)

129.11 per cent of local food sufficiency, cultivation and production of main crops, reclamation of highland farmland annually in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, growing of 2,880.64 rubber acres, health, education and social sectors, breeding of poultry and pigs and reclamation of vacant and virgin lands.

At the prize presentation ceremony for the outstanding students, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win awarded prize for the best passing rate in the matriculation examination of Shan State (East) to Mongkhag BEHS and prizes to three-distinction winners Maung Sai of Li Tin Wun of Kengtung BEHS No 2, Maung Ye Zaw Tun of Loimwe BEHS and Ma Nang Wan Lwe of Kengtung BEHS No 3.

Next, Commander Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe and departmental officials presented prizes to five-two-distinction winners and 17 one-distinction winners, and gifts to the teachers.

On behalf of the outstanding students, Ma Nang Wan Lwe of Kengtung BEHS No 3. said, “This being so, the Government upholding Our Three Main National Causes is undertaking the tasks with the aims of becoming the national economy and ensuring uplift of living standard of the national people. In implementing political, economic and social sectors, progress of infrastructures in transport, education, health, social and economic sectors have emerged one after another.

He added that he was pleased to present prizes to outstanding students and the outstanding teachers including the best passing town and school. He wished for the emergence of more and more outstanding students and teachers in the future.

It is necessary to nurture the students to have correct knowledge and thinking. As such, they will have ability to shape the glorious future form of the nation and their region with correct idea. So, they will become new intellectual and intelligent generation on whom the State and the entire nation can rely.

In building a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, well-qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia must be nurtured. Hence, the Government places emphasis on development of the education sector.

Therefore, local people should cooperate with departmental officials and social organizations are urged to participate in the respective sectors to bring out outstanding students on whom the State can rely.

And, he urged departmental personnel to perform their tasks with good idea for development of the region and building of the discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Later, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win cordially greeted those present.

NCCWC Chairman leaves for LPDR

YANGON, 17 Sept — A Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe left here this morning to attend the 26th General Assembly of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization which will be held in Vientiane, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic from 18 to 23 September.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off at the airport by Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Vice-Chief Justice U Thein Soe, Judge of Supreme Court U Khin Myint, Lao-People’s Democratic Republic’s Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chanthy Bodhisane and officials of the Supreme Court Office, Auditor-General Office and NCCWC.

Chief Justice U Aung Toe was accompanied by Secretary of NCCWC U Thaung Nyunt and committee member Dr Tun Shin.

Bangladeshi delegation leaves for home

YANGON, 17 Sept — The visiting delegation led by Commodore Khondker Moyeenuddin Ahmed (G), ndc, psc, BN of National Defence College of Bangladesh left here by air this afternoon.

They were seen off at the airport by Commander of the National Defence College Brig-Gen Than Maung, senior military officers and Military Attaché Brig-Gen Helal Uddin Ahmed, psc of Bangladesh Embassy to Myanmar. — MNA

Deputy Attorney-General leaves for Vietnam

YANGON, 17 Sept — A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin together with Director of Attorney-General’s Office U May Din and Taninthayi Division Law Officer U Tin Thein Maung, left by air for Hanoi, Vietnam, this morning to attend the 6th ASEAN Law Ministers Meeting to be held from 19 to 20 September.

The Deputy Attorney-General will proceed to Vientiane, Lao PDR, to attend the 26th General Meeting of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPPO) on 20 September, as a member of the Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission U Aung Toe.

The Deputy Attorney-General and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Director-General of Attorney-General’s Office U Mya Nyin, directors and family.

Paloktok journal presents prizes to winner at pre-primary school painting contest

YANGON, 17 Sept — The ninth prize presentation ceremony for the painting contest at pre-primary school level organized by Social Welfare Department and Paloktok journal was held at No 4 Pre-Primary School on Bago Road, Ahlone Township, this morning.

Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa delivered an address. The minister and officials presented prizes to the winners.

Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint looked around the prize winning works. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presents prize to a winner. — MNA

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint meets Dr Ei Kalyar Moe. — MNA
Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung made a speech and donated a set of computer through Headmistress Daw Htay Yin. Afterwards, Kayin State PDC Chairman Col Khin Kyu donated exercise books. Next, the minister and party inspected the classrooms of the school. At the village, members of social organizations including USDA, MWAF and MMCWA met with local people for gaining education knowledge. At the meeting, matters related to giving medicines to children, educative and preventive programmes for AIDS, health care for expectant mothers, cleaning tasks and opening libraries in the village, were discussed. Next, officials answered the queries raised by the local people.

In the time of SPDC Government, Tatmadaw and people have been carrying out development tasks and that is why, Hton-ai and Khayaatwin villages in Hpa-an Township have developed in all aspects. There are also thriving agricultural plantations and successful livestock breeding tasks in the village. The local people can communicate with the help of phone lines and acquire the knowledge at the libraries opening at the village. The smooth transport has been achieved after constructing the bridges, and satellite receivers can be installed after electricity is made available in the village. That is why the development of Hton-ai Village and Khayaatwin Village makes clear that the accusations of those at home and abroad with negative views who are not wanting to see the progress of the State are totally wrong.

That is why the development of Hton-ai Village and Khayaatwin Village makes clear that the accusations of those at home and abroad with negative views who are not wanting to see the progress of the State are totally wrong.
Zimbabwe to receive four Siberian tigers from China

ZHARAS, 16 Sept—Zimbabwe is set to receive four Siberian tigers, the largest cat in the world, from China for captive breeding in an wildlife exchange programme, according to local reports on Thursday.

Zimbabwe Environment and Tourism Minister David Nhema said on Wednesday these are the first four tigers Zimbabwe would receive for captive breeding. “We do not have the right in this country and we would like to benefit from the exchange programme with China,” he said.

We have also given them various animals for breeding purposes in China, including zebra, impala and elephants,” Nhema said.

Nhema said three Chinese wildlife experts from the World Wildlife Limited are currently in the country to assess whether the country’s environment is conducive for the breeding of the tigers.

“They are happy that the three experts found our animal habitats friendly to the requirements that are compulsory for tiger breeding and we expect the animals would be here as soon as possible,” Nhema said.

Nhema said.

MNA/Chinhua

Russian warplane crashes in Lithuania

VILNIUS, 16 Sept — A Russian Su-27 fighter crashed in Lithuania on Thursday after loss of control and was forced to eject, officials said.

The Lithuanian Defence Ministry said the plane was flying between St. Petersburg and the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad, which is cut off from the rest of Russia by Lithuania and Polish territory, when it came down.

“Reasons that remain unclear this aircraft veered off its course while traveling over neutral waters of the Baltic Sea,” the ministry said in a statement. It said the plane did not have permission to enter Lithuanian airspace. “The pilot was unhurt and he managed to eject,” it added.

He was taken to a police station in a nearby town for questioning.

The plane came down in Jurbarkas Region, around 35 miles from the Lithuanian town of Kaunas.

MNA/Reuters

Single drug dose effective for childhood cholera

LONDON, 16 Sept — A single dose of an antibiotic is an effective treatment for children with cholera, an infection that strikes more than 110,000 people each year, scientists in Bangladesh said in a report published on Thursday.

The World Health Organization recommends a 3-day, 12-dose course of the drugs tetracycline or erythromycin for children suffering from cholera. But researchers at the Centre for Health and Population Research in Dhaka found that a single dose of ciprofloxacin works just as well.

“For infections caused by susceptible strains of V cholerae, single dose ciprofloxacin achieves clinical outcomes similar to or better than those achieved with 12-doses of erythromycin treatment in childhood cholera,” Dr. Debasis Saha, who headed the study, said in a report published online by the Lancet medical journal.

Cholera is caused by the bacterium Vibrio cholerae. The illness causes diarrhea, vomiting and dehydration. It can be fatal if it is not treated quickly. The bacterium is spread by contaminated water and food.

The researchers compared the standard treatment with erythromycin and a single dose of ciprofloxacin in 162 children. They found the single dose worked within 48 hours in 60 per cent of cases, compared with 55 per cent in the other group.

Ciprofloxacin was more effective in reducing vomiting but was not as good as the standard treatment at eradicating the bacteria.

The researchers said the single dose drug should be considered an option for first-line treatment for childhood cholera.

MNA/Reuters

Gang sentenced over Heathrow robbery plot

LONDON, 16 Sept—Eight men are due to be sentenced on Friday for plotting to carry out what police believe would have been one of Britain’s biggest ever heists at Heathrow Airport last year.

The men planned to steal about 33 million pounds worth of cash, diamonds and gold bullion from a Swiss port storage depot at the airport in May 2004. The gang drove a van through the warehouse doors but were captured by armed police who had been waiting in wait.

Seven of the men admitted conspiracy to rob Swiss port while an eighth was convicted of the same offence at a trial earlier this year.

They are due to be sentenced on Friday at King’s Cross Crown Court.

MNA/Reuters

Britian’s biggest successful robbery was a 1987 break-in at a safe deposit centre in London where 60 million pounds was stolen. In 1983, 26 million pounds was taken in a raid on a Brinks-Mat vault at Heathrow.
**Indonesian researcher finds herbal formula to curb bird flu**

**Jakarta**, 16 Sept — An Indonesian researcher has found a herbal formula to ward off bird flu virus on chicken, saying that there is a possibility of using the formula to other poultry and human.

Sumardi, 42, a researcher at the Food Technology School of Semarang’s Soegiopranata Catholic University, accidentally found the formula in July.

In a telephone interview with Xinhua from the capital of Central Java Province of Semarang on Thursday, Sumardi said, the formula basically comprised four traditional medicinal plants: java chilli powder (piper retrofactum), white turmeric extract (curcuma xanthorrhiza), temu ireng extract (curcuma aromatica) and powder of fragrant ginger (zingiber aromatica).

Sumardi mixed these four materials with honey, bees, cane sugar, and some water.

Among the four basic materials, zinger aroma had the strongest effect to avoid the attack of the lethal virus, he said.

“Zinger aroma has ion of OH minus and OH plus that can easily react. It’s strongly predicted that the ion curbs the growth of HSN1 virus,” he added.

The researcher cited that in a normal condition, one virus of HSN1 could develop into four within two seconds.

“So the scores of the bird flu virus in chicken being attacked will not increase, and the number of virus can be declined as the virus has lifecycle,” he said.

“So the chickens can survive, despite they grow slower.”

These chickens are safe to be consumed as long as they are cooked with at least 80 degree Celsius, he said.

Sumardi said, in July he tried this formula with 400 chicks, which were placed close to carcasses of chicken that had died of the HSN1 virus, somewhere in East Java Province.

He divided these chicks into four groups of 100 each.

The first group was given no medicine at all. The second group was given a low dose of 10 per cent, the third group of 20 per cent and the fourth 30 per cent.

“On the fourth day, all the chicks treated with the formula with various doses are survive, but those without having the treatment all died,” said Sumardi.

But, he said that if the formula treated to the poultry in too high doses it could decline chickens’ desire to eat.

**Vietnam starts nationwide poultry vaccination**

**Hanoi**, 16 Sept — Thirty-three out of 64 localities in Vietnam, including capital Hanoi and southern Ho Chi Minh City, Thursday started vaccinating fowls against bird flu viruses, including the deadly strain H5N1.

Up to 260 million doses of vaccines worth some nearly 47.5 million US dollars, the products of China and the Netherlands, have been distributed to the localities, the newspaper Labour reported on Thursday.

Under a recent instruction of the Vietnamese Government, the vaccination among fowls, mainly chickens and ducks, must be completed by late November at the latest.

The government urged relevant ministries to rapidly culled infected fowls, isolate bird flu outbreaks, and forbid the transport of poultry as well as poultry products out of affected areas, if the disease is spotted in any localities.

According to local veterinary agencies, up to 70 per cent of waterfowls in the southern Mekong delta have been recently tested positive to HSN1. Vietnam has culled over 1,300 fowls in the eight localities of Dong Thap, Ben Tre, Can Tho, Tra Vinh, Yen Bai, Ha Giang, Bac Ninh and Hanoi since early April.

To prevent new bird flu outbreaks as well as early detect infections among humans, Vietnam’s Health Ministry is proposing the World Health Organization assist the country in establishing surveillance systems at 800 hospitals nationwide.

Since the first bird flu patient was detected in Vietnam in late 2003, up to 91 human cases of infections, including 41 fatalities, have been reported in 31 cities and provinces.

**One dead in bomb blast at Italian barracks**

**Rome**, 15 Sept — A small bomb exploded at a barracks near Rome on Wednesday, killing one officer of the Carabinieri paramilitary police and wounding another, an officer said.

“It was an explosive device,” the officer said, declining to give his name. It was not clear how the device was taken into the barracks, but Italian police are often the target of small parcel bombs sent by local militants, usually anarchists.

The device exploded in a room used for sorting mail at the Carabinieri barracks in Latina, south of the capital, a police source said. The Carabinieri ordered all other barracks in the region to be searched for bombs.

**Firecracker factory blast kills 32 in east India**

**Patna** (India), 16 Sept — Firecrackers stored in a factory warehouse exploded in the eastern Indian state of Bihar on Thursday, killing at least 32 people and injuring 72, police said.

“So far 32 bodies have been removed,” state police chief Ashish Ranjan Sinha said. He said the incident took place in a factory located in a congested area of Khusrupur Town, about 30 miles south of the state capital, Patna.

About 50 labourers were working in the building at the time of the blast, he added.

Several of the injured were in a serious condition, district administrator B Rajendra, told the Press Trust of India news agency.

The cause of the explosion was not immediately known.

Fire accidents at Indian firecracker factories and warehouses occur frequently.

**India, Pakistan back peace process in “tense” talks**

**New Delhi**, 16 Sept — The leaders of India and Pakistan vowed to pursue a sluggish peace process.

A joint statement by Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf after their meeting late on Wednesday on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session said they were committed to a peaceful resolution of all disputes, including Kashmir.

“The two leaders... reiterated their pledge not to let terrorism impede the peace process,” said the statement read out by Musharraf to reporters in Singh’s presence.

**Australian woman survives eight days on ravine ledge**

**Sydney**, 16 Sept — A 60-year-old Australian woman whose car plunged 230 feet into a ravine survived for eight days under a rock ledge until a rescuer spotted car skidmarks in the dirt.

Kathryn Ellacott lived on water from a stream near her wrecked car until being winched out on Wednesday from the ravine, 40 miles north of the town of Townsville in northern Queensland.

“It’s a marvellous tribute to human survival,” police officer Warren Webber told local media on Thursday. Ellacott, who had suffered severe lacerations, a broken leg, dehydration and ant and mosquito bites, was recovering in Townsville Hospital.

“It’s tremendous that after a week of being missing in that country, and after a road accident, that Mrs Ellacott is in the condition she’s in,” said Webber.
**SPORTS**

**Goosen ties record win, Campbell stages fightback**

**VIRGINIA WATER (England), 17 Sept—** Top seed Retief Goosen equalled his own tournament record when he thrashed Australian Mark Hensby 12 and 11 in their quarterfinal at the World Match Play Championship on Friday.

Goosen now meets New Zealander Michael Campbell after the US Open champion came back from five down after 17 holes to sink Australian Steve Elkington at the 37th.

Ireland's Paul McGinley trounced Brion Luke Donald 9 and 8 to set up a clash with second-seeded Argentine Angel Cabrera, a 4 and 3 winner over Spaniard Jose Maria Olazabal.

Goosen, the world number five from South Africa, closed out Hensby with a par four at the 25th hole to match his first-round rout of American Jeff Maggert last year.

The unfortunate Hensby was never in the contest after going eight down after 11 holes, a unique position in the 41-year history of the Wentworth event.

World number 27 Hensby, who had beaten 1999 winner Colin Montgomerie 2 and 1 in the first round, set the tone for the day when he three-putted from 35 feet for a bogey five at the opening hole against Goosen.

The ninth seed continued to suffer a torrid time, bogeying the third, fifth, ninth, 10th, 11th, 13th and 16th on his way to a five-over-par 77.

By contrast Goosen looked in omi-

nously good form in his bid to capture the winner's cheque of one million pounds (1.81 million US dollars), the richest first prize in golf.

Goosen, attempting to register his third tournament win in a row following victories in Germany and China, birdied the fourth, fifth, seventh, 12th, 13th and 17th to card a flawless six-under 66.

Hensby came perilously close to losing the championship record for 18-hole deficits held by Maggert, Australia's Peter Thomson (against Gary Player in 1968) and Fijian Vijay Singh (against Mark O'Meara in 1998), who were all 10 down at the halfway stage.

**England consider to bid for 2018 World Cup**

**LONDON, 17 Sept—** The Football Association of England confirmed it is in talks over a possible bid to host the 2018 World Cup finals but it will not try for the 2014 finals.

FA chief executive Brian Barwick has already targeted the 2018 finals after Britain's successful Olympic 2012 bid.

"We are clearly giving some serious consideration to putting together a bid for the tournament," Barwick told the FA's website.

Culture secretary Tessa Jowell said the government would support any bid.

A Treasury spokesman said: "In the normal course of its business, the Treasury and DCMS are in constant dialogue with the FA and other sports bodies on a range of issues.

"Discussions about a World Cup bid in 2018 are at a very early stage, but we are hopeful we can build on the success of our Olympic bid by bringing the World Cup and other great international sporting events to Britain."

And in August, Barwick said: "I think we would bid further down the line. The next time that it should come to Europe is probably 2018 and we have given enough time to get organized."

The FA, who missed out in the 2006 bid, have yet to make any firm decisions and has denied reports claiming Barwick had talks with the Treasury about a 2014 bid.

Next summer's World Cup will be staged in Germany and is not expected to return to Europe for another 12 years.

The 2014 finals are likely to be held in South America. England hosted the World Cup in 1966 — when the home nation won the tournament — and also staged Euro 96.

**Prince William to become FA president**

**LONDON, 17 Sept—** Prince William, grandson of Britain's Queen Elizabeth, will become the new president of the Football Association, the FA announced on Friday.

William will succeed his uncle Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, next May although as president-designate until next year's Cup final on May 13 he will support the Duke in his duties.

"I am really excited to be taking up this role," Prince William told the FA website. "Football is a game I love playing and watching. It is also the national sport and generates extraordinary passions among millions of people."

"It certainly did last year for me when I followed England with my friends dur-

ing Euro 2004, and will no doubt do so again next summer during the World Cup in Germany. "Over the next few months I look forward to getting to know the FA well with the help of my uncle, and to understanding better the role the organization plays in promoting the game at all levels."

FA chairman Geoff Thompson met Prince William and FA chief executive Brian Barwick on Friday to discuss his new role and the issues facing English soccer's governing body as well as the game as a whole at home and internation-

ally. After the meeting held at Clarence House, Thompson said: "Everyone at the FA is delighted that Prince William has agreed to be our next president."

"In 2000 the FA asked the Duke of York to take the role for five years. He has done a terrific job for which we are enormously grateful," he added in praise of the role played by the Queen's second son after Prince Charles.

"Prince William's enthusiasm for foot-

ball both as a player and a fan is well known and we believe his presidency will prove a great asset to the national sport," said Thompson.

The FA statement said the governing body was grateful for the support it had long received from the Royal Family.

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS**

1 Golf bag carrier

4 Is deficient

8 Musical instrument

9 Renamed (anag.)

10 Salad vegetable

11 Sea-bird

12 Tease

14 French cheese

15 Engrave

16 Vital plant liquid

21 Conceal

23 Stomach area

25 Foreword

26 Wanders

27 Beaming device

28 British naval hero

**DOWN**

1 Blue pigment

2 Sirius

3 Small frozen blocks

3 (3.5)

4 Loiter

5 To sponge

6 Short race

7 Traffic light

13 Men raged (anag.)

16 Direction-finder

17 Place of worship

19 Father

20 Complete agreement

22 Sediment

24 Just

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**Chinese Universities help Olympic organizers in staff training**

**BEIJING, 17 Sept—** Beijing Olympic organizers are turning to colleges for training specialized staff for the 2008 Games.

The Beijing Organizing Committee for the 2008 Olympic Games (BOCOG) Friday signed memorandum of cooperation with 16 Beijing-based colleges and universities, entrusting the schools with the duty of grooming students who will work as interns at next year's Olympics.

Tsinghua University and Beijing University, the most presti-

gious academies in China, are tapping the list of the universities.

Li Binghua, BOCOG's Execu-

tive Vice-President, said that a to-

total of 706 interns specializing in

multidisciplinary areas, are needed for the 2008 Olympics. "They will work for a half to one year at the BOCOG intern, the BOCOG intern program," said Li. The BOCOG also plan to recruit about 100,000 volunteers for the 2008 Olympics and Paralympics.

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**Tennis player Venus Williams of the US smiles in front of a picture of Mao Zedong of China at a fan meeting in Seoul on 17 September, 2005. Sharapova and Williams will have an invitation exhibition match in Seoul on Monday.---INTERNET**
Hijacked light plane crashes in NZ’s Auckland harbour

WELLINGTON, 17 Sept — A light aircraft, hijacked by a pilot who threatened to crash it into New Zealand’s highest building in Auckland, has plunged into the city’s harbour, radio reports said on Saturday.

Radio New Zealand said the 328 metre (1,140 feet) Sky Tower was evacuated after threats were made by the pilot, who it said had stolen the plane from a local airport south of Auckland.

The tower sits on top of a large casino and hotel complex in the centre of Auckland, New Zealand’s biggest city.

It was not immediately clear how many people were aboard the plane and what their condition was. Police boats were moving toward the spot where the plane went down. Police were unavailable for comment and there were no further details.

The leaders of the two main political parties — Labour Prime Minister Helen Clark and National’s Don Brash — were both in the city awaiting the outcome of the general election.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Sunday, 18 September, 2005

“Special Weather News”
(Issued at 10:00 hrs MST on 17-9-2005)

According to the observations at (06:30) MST today, the low pressure area over East Central Bay persists.

Under the influence of the low pressure area, frequent squalls and rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40-45) mph.

Flood Bulletin
(Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 17-9-2005)

According to the observation at (06:30) MST today, the water level of Sittoung River at Taungoo is (687) cm. Although it is falling slightly, it may remain above the danger level (600 cm) during the next 4 days.

According to the observations at (06:30) MST today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk is (1077) cm. It may remain above the danger level (1070) cm during the next 4 days.

WEATHER

Saturday, 17 September, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain has been isolated in Kachin and Kayin States, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfalls in Chin, Rakhine States and lower Sagaing Division.

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hakkha (4.81) inches, Sittway (4.01) inches, Mindat (2.79) inches, Maungdaw (2.56) inches, Falam (2.44) inches, Kyaukpyu (2.16) inches, Kanbula (1.85) inches, Monywa (0.75) inch and NyaungU (0.43) inch.

Maximum temperature on 16-9-2005 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 17-9-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 17-9-2005 was 89%. Total sunshine hours on 16-9-2005 was (0.8) hour approx. Rainfalls on 17-9-2005 were (0.24) inch at Mualaladon, (0.27) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.16) inch at the central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (79.84) inches at Mandalay, (82.24) inches at Kaba-Aye and (87.40) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) m/s from Southwest at (18:00) hours MST on 16-9-2005.

Bay interference: According to the observations at (06:30)hrs MST today, the low pressure area over East Central Bay persists. Weather is cloudy in the North Bay and Monsoon is strong to vigorous elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 18-9-2005:

Rain will be isolated in Kachin and Shan States, scattered in Kayah State, Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Chin and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is 90%.

State of the sea: Frequent squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40-45) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-9-2005: Rain, Degree of certainty is 90%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18-9-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Four political objectives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* National reconsolidation</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution</td>
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<tr>
<th>Four economic objectives</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples</td>
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<tr>
<th>Four social objectives</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Well-qualified intellectuals, intelligentsia must be nurtured in building a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation**

*Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence speaks in meeting with departmental officials, social organization members and local people at Kengtung city hall.* — SNA

**YANGON, 17 Sept —** Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and town elders at the city hall in Kengtung, Shan State (East) on 14 September.

He gave instructions on regional development, education and health matters, and presented prizes to outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination in Shan State (East) for 2005 academic year.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, senior military officers, in-charge of Shan State (East) USDA Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe and local authorities.

First, Commander Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing reported on the location and area of Shan State (East), 554 miles long border sharing with three neighbouring countries, progress of administrative, economic and social matters of the people in border areas after upgrading Mongkhok, Pungpahkymen, Tongtah, Mongyu, Kenglat and Tarlay village tracts except Mongla and Mongpaung towns, paddy cultivation. (See page 10)

**Living conditions of national people improve significantly**

*All local people to strive for regional development*

**YANGON, 17 Sept —** The State has been striving for narrowing the development gap of all regions of the country by laying down border region development project.

24 development special region project and five rural development tasks. As a result, not only the cities but also rural areas have developed significantly.

USDA CEC Kayin State In charge Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung made inspection of Hton-ai Village in Hpa-an township, Kayin State, on 14 September to see the development of the village. The opening ceremony of a windmill took place in the village, and it was attended by the minister.

U Soe Lwin, leader of the committee for building the windmill, formally opened the mill. The CEC member and party inspected the windmill and gave necessary instructions to officials and villagers. The windmill that cost K 500,000 can light 20 four-foot fluorescent tubes.

After the ceremony, the CEC member met members of USDA, Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association and local populace. A local reported on the participation of the public in cooperation with the State and members of social organizations in health, education, economic and social sectors and for water-supply tasks. She also reported that it can be witnessed that living conditions of national people have improved significantly. All local people are required to strive for the development of the projects. Likewise, with the assistance of the government and cooperation of the health department, the health sector of the region has developed.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended a ceremony to donate computers and books at the village basic education high school in Khaya-atwin village in Zathapyin in Hpa-an township on 15 September. (See page 11)