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

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.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sees off Thai Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra at the lounge of the airport. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye bids farewell to Thai Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra at the airport before his departure for Bagan-NyaungU. — MNA

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

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

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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents documentary photo album and video tapes to Thai Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra at the lounge of the airport. — MNA

YANGON, 21 Sept—
The Thai delegation led by Supreme Commander of Thai Royal Armed Forces General Chaisit Shinawatra, that was on a goodwill visit in Myanmar at the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, left here by air for Bagan-NyaungU this afternoon to continue the goodwill visit.

The Thai Supreme Commander and party left No 1 Tatmadaw Guest House in a motorcade to Yangon International Airport. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party (See page 8)
**National development endeavours that will go down in history**

During the time of the Tatmadaw Government, dams, new motor roads and railroads, bridges, airports, ports, factories and workshops, hydel-power plants, gas-fired power plants and coal-fired power plants are being constructed the length and breadth of the nation for the benefit of the nation and the people.

Development of transport infrastructure is especially important for that of trade and economy and improvement of the social status of the people. Therefore, special emphasis is being given to the construction of river-crossing bridges and roads.

In 1988, there were 13,635 miles of motor roads including 461 Union Highways but now there are 18,640 miles of motor roads including 621 highways. In Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Division where there are many rivers and creeks and in Shan State, a mountainous region, a network of various types of bridges has emerged and the people in those regions are enjoying unprecedented benefit.

In the past, there was only one bridge across the Ayeyawady River but now there are seven built across it. At present, the whole nation has a total of 207 bridges 180 feet long and above. More than K 26,651,694 million and US$ 172 million was spent on the construction of these bridges. In the rail transportation sector, there were 1,976 miles of railroads and 2,790 miles of railtracks in 1988 but now there are more than 3,000 miles of railroads and over 4,000 miles of railtracks altogether in the whole nation.

For the development of the agriculture sector, the main pillar of national economy, dams and river water pumping stations are being built. Now, in the whole nation, there are 177 dams and reservoirs, which can irrigate more than 2.4 million acres of farmland, and 203 river water pumping stations, which benefit nearly 400,000 acres of farmland.

In the education and health sectors, universities and specialist hospitals have been built in the capital cities of states and divisions and in special development regions. It is due to peace and stability and national unity forged in accordance with the national policy that development infrastructure has emerged all over the nation. We believe that national development endeavours being carried out by the Tatmadaw Government will go down in the history of our Union.

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**Acreage of paddy up in NyaungU**

**YANGON, 21 Sept** — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo urged on practice of irrigated cultivation and systematic use of water for double cropping when he met with local farmers and departmental officials at Lawkananda river water pumping station in NyaungU Township, Mandalay Division, on 16 September.

Thanks to the river water pumping stations, the number of acreage of paddy increases in NyaungU, an arid region, year by year. According to an official of Lawkananda river water pumping station, so far, 2,700 acres of land have been put under monsoon paddy against the target of 5,000 acres of monsoon paddy this season.

During his tour of NyaungU Township, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo also went to Latpanchayapaw and Thakangyi river water pumping stations in the region. At Latpanchayapaw river water pumping station, the minister inspected supply of irrigation water and 1,500 acres of monsoon paddy field in the catchment area. — MNA

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**Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects Lawkananda River Water Pumping Project in NyaungU Township. — A&I**

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**Workshop on Growing Integration of Greater Mekong Sub-regional ASEAN States in Asian Region concludes**

**YANGON, 21 Sept** — Organized by Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies, the second day session of the Workshop on the Growing Integration of the Greater Mekong Sub-regional ASEAN States in Asian Region continued at the Traders Hotel this morning.

In today’s session, Director-General of the Energy Planning Department of the Ministry of Energy U Soe Myint read the papers on “Myanmar, Potential Energy Supplier”, Director of the International Organization and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Denzil Abel on “Call on Bagan”, Dr Marie Lall, Principal Researcher, Educational Foundations and Policy Studies, Institute of Education, University of London on “India Looking East: The India-Myanmar Gas Nexus” and Dr Apichai Sunchindah, Executive Director, ASEAN Foundation, Jakarta on “Water Diplomacy in the Mekong Basin: Prospects and Challenges”.

Afterwards, the researchers and scholars from local and abroad, actively participated in discussions. Next, the workshop ended with concluding remarks by Secretary of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies Ambassador U Nyunt Tin. In the evening, the dinner was hosted by Ambassador U Nyunt Tin to those present. — MNA
China favours more developing nations in UNSC

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Sept—Representation of developing countries, particularly the African countries, should be increased in the Security Council, Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said on Monday.

Addressing the general debate of the 60th session of the UN General Assembly, Li said China supports the reform of the Security Council aimed to strengthen its authority and efficiency and improve its working methods.

"Representation of developing countries, particularly the African countries, should be increased so that small and medium-sized countries will have more say in the decision-making of the Council," he stressed.

The foreign minister said that no reform proposal can work that only addresses the concerns of a few countries in disregard of the interests of the majority of countries and treats unfairly developing countries in Africa and other parts of the world.

"China supports the principle of cooperation based on democratic consultation," Li noted. "As the reform bears on the future of the United Nations and the interests of various parties, there should be no artificial time frame or forced voting."

"Instead, the member states should seek consensus through dialogue and consultation and in accordance with the principle of democratic international relations," Li stressed.

He also urged the current session to give focus on Africa, saying if there is no stability in Africa, the world would have no peace, and if Africa remains poor, there would be no development for the world.

"The Security Council should pay special attention to African problems and give them the priority on its agenda," he said.

"This does not only mean devoting more meetings to African issues at the Council, but more importantly, taking concrete actions to heed the voice of Africa, respect its views and accommodate its concerns," he added. —MNA/Xinhua

Bulgaria thwarts smuggling of nuclear material

SOFA, 20 Sept—Bulgarian police have arrested four men trying to smuggle into Romania a substance scientists say can be used to make powerful explosives or "dirty bombs".

The men, three Romanians and a Bulgarian, were caught as they tried to cross into Bulgaria's northern neighbour at the Danube river town of Rousse on Saturday, police said on Monday.

"Police found a bag with 3.4 kilos (7.5 lb) of hafnium in the car. The substance was transported as a metal, and in this condition it is not radioactive and is not dangerous," the national police said in a statement.

The substance is on a list of substances that cannot be transported across borders without official clearance. —MNA/Reuters

1,907 US military members killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 20 Sept—As of Tuesday, 20 Sept 2005, at least 1,907 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

At least 1,479 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department’s tally, last updated at 10 am EDT Tuesday.

At least 1,768 US military members have died, according to the AP count. That includes at least 1,370 American military, 262 British soldiers, 178 French, 62 German, 92 Italian, 144 Japanese, 294 South Korean, 258 Polish, 189 Slovakian, 182 Spanish, 317 Turkish and 99 Ukrainian military members.

Four soldiers were killed by explosives in two separate deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the AP’s count. That includes at least 1,370 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military—A soldier was killed 75 miles north of Baghdad, Iraq, when his vehicle was struck by an explosive on Tuesday. Four soldiers were killed by explosives in two separate incidents on Monday in Ramadi, Iraq. —Internet

Nine Americans killed in north Iraq as tensions build in south

BAGHDAD, 20 Sept—Guerrillas have killed nine American troops and security officers in four attacks across Iraq, including a suicide-bomb blast that took the life of a State Department security official and three security contractors as their diplomatic convoy left the regional United States embassy office in Mosul.

One attack in Mosul on Monday morning killed the State Department security official and three private security contractors as their diplomatic convoy left the regional United States embassy office in Mosul.

The bizarre fight on Monday between the Iraqi police and British soldiers who have all launched bomb attacks in Turkey in recent years. —MNA/Reuters

HK traffic accident kills one

HONG KONG, 20 Sept—Car crash in Kwan Tong, Hong Kong on Tuesday killed one person early Monday morning, according to the police.

Police are investigating the fatal car crash in Kwan Tong, in which a 43-year-old taxi driver was killed and another man was critically injured.

Officers say a light goods vehicle was travelling up slope at Hui Kwong Street, but reportedly lost control and collided with a taxi in the opposite lane. In a separate accident, 16 people were injured in a collision between a coach and a bus in Tsuen Kwan O. No one was seriously harmed. —MNA/Reuters

Explosion on bus in Turkey kills two

ISTANBUL, 20 Sept—An explosion on a bus in southern Turkey overnight killed two people and wounded 10, Turkish state-run Anadolu news agency said on Monday.

It said the blast came from the hand-baggage shelf inside the bus which was travelling from the southern city of Adana to Antalya, a tourist centre, along the coast to the west. Part of the bus was blown over an area of 400 metres. Police said they had opened a wide-ranging investigation into the blast, the agency said.

Kurdish rebels, Islamist radicals and far-leftists have all launched bomb attacks in Turkey in recent years. —MNA/Reuters
Asia-Pacific Petroleum Conf addresses high oil prices

SINGAPORE, 20 Sept — The 21st Asia-Pacific Petroleum Conference (APPEC) opened here on Monday evening with the theme of "High oil prices: fundamentals versus financials."

The three-day event has invited professionals from the region’s oil and gas industry as well as international practitioners to discuss such topics as the impact of Asian oil supply and demand on the global markets, and oil trading versus the commodity investors.

Delivering the opening address, Singapore’s 2nd Minister for Trade and Industry Vivian Balakrishnan said that high global demand for oil, especially in Asia, is believed to have triggered recent surge in oil prices.

"This strong demand is underpinned by robust economic growth," he said, adding that the oil demand in Asia accounted for nearly half of the increase in global oil consumption last year.

He said that there exist significant opportunities for growth for Singapore in areas including oil exploration and production engineering and services, refining, supply chain and logistics, as well as trading. — mna/xinhua

Poll shows Bush’s disapproval rating at 58%

WASHINGTON, 20 Sept — Only 40 per cent of Americans approved of President George W Bush’s performance in office, while 58 per cent disapproved, a new poll released on Monday showed.

This was the second time the president’s approval rating has hit a low mark, according to the CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll. On Hurricane Katrina, which has killed nearly 900 people since it struck the Gulf Coast region three weeks ago, only 41 per cent of those polled said they approved of Bush’s handling of the storm’s aftermath, while 57 per cent disapproved.

Public support for his handling of the war in Iraq dropped to 32 per cent, with 67 per cent said they disapproved of the way Bush was handling the war.

Fifty-nine per cent said they considered the 2003 invasion of Iraq a mistake, 63 per cent said they wanted to see some or all US troops withdrawn from that country.

Just 35 per cent of those polled approved of Bush’s handling of the economy, with 63 per cent saying they disapproved.

The poll of 818 adults was conducted between Friday and Monday, and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 4 percentage points. — MNA/Xinhua

Three Blackwater USA employees killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 20 Sept — The violence in Iraq has claimed the lives of three security contractors for Blackwater USA in Moyock, North Carolina.

According to 13News’ partners at the Virginian Pilot, the three died in a suicide car bombing in Mosul.

"Their untimely deaths illustrate the extraordinary conditions under which these individuals voluntarily serve to bring freedom and democracy to the Iraqi people," Blackwater said in a statement to the Virginian Pilot.

The Washington Post reported they were riding in an armoured SUV and were part of a three-vehicle diplomatic convoy. A lone driver pulled chumside along the convoy and detonated an explosion next to the second vehicle.

A State Department employee, Assistant Regional Security Officer Stephen Eric Sullivan, also was killed.

Two other people, who haven’t been identified, were wounded in the blast.

Blackwater USA did not release the names of their contractors. According to a casualty counting Web site, Blackwater USA has lost 22 employees in the on-going conflict.

Internet

Guerrillas ‘inside Iraqi police’

BAGHDAD, 20 Sept — Iraq’s National Security Adviser Muwafaq al-Rubaie has admitted the country’s security forces have been infiltrated by guerrillas.

Speaking on the BBC’s Newsnight programme, he said he had no idea how far they have already been undermined.

It comes after the British Army said it was forced to take action to free two UK soldiers after learning Iraqi police had handed them over to a militia group.

The Pentagon warned in July that Iraq’s police force was recruiting guerrillas.

The Iraqi government has launched an inquiry into events surrounding the arrest of the British soldiers on Monday, both thought to be members of the SAS elite special forces.

Iraq’s Interior Ministry ordered the police force in the southern city of Basra to release the soldiers — but that order was ignored.

Mr Rubaie told Newsnight: "Our Iraqi security forces in general, and these in particular and in many parts of Iraq, I have to admit that they have been penetrated by some of the guerrillas, some of the terrorists as well, so I can’t deny this."

Internet

France, Cambodia to relaunch bilateral cooperation

PARIS, 20 Sept — France and Cambodia signed on Monday a frame agreement of partnership for 2006-2010, relaunching their bilateral cooperation.

"It is a new era of the French-Cambodian cooperation that we enter together," said French Junior Minister for Cooperation Brigitte Girardin before signing the frame agreement with Vice Cambodian Prime Minister Hor Namhong, as well as two other funding conventions for the management of Angkor and college training in the medical field.

For his part, Hor Namhong answered in French that Cambodia did not forget the agreement of Paris signed in 1991 at the French initiative, that ended a 20-year war and said that Cambodia did not forget France’s support in the economic, social and cultural fields.
ASEAN stresses importance of enhancing judicial cooperation

HANOI, 20 Sep — Delegates at the 6th ASEAN Law Ministers Meeting agreed to boost legal cooperation, especially in the field of judicial assistance in civil and commercial matters, said a Vietnamese official on Monday.

The one-day meeting highlighted the importance of establishing a working group to build agreements on service abroad of judicial and extra-judicial documents, and abolition of legalisation of foreign public documents used in judicial assistance among members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Vietnamese Deputy Justice Minister Hoang The Lien said at a Press briefing just after the meeting closed.

Representatives also agreed to set up working groups to examine modalities for harmonizing the trade laws of ASEAN members, laws on legalization of foreign public documents, a model ASEAN extradition treaty and a model law on maritime security, he added.

Besides, they underlined the importance of enhancing coordination linkages with the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crimes in preventing and combating transnational crimes and terrorism, Lien said.

The ministers also expressed their commitment to the ASEAN declaration, Bali Concord II, in 2003, which was a landmark decision for the block to work toward an ASEAN Community with three main pillars, namely security, economy and socio-culture, he said, adding that they agreed to hold the 7th ASEAN Law Ministers Meeting in Brunei in 2008.

The meeting, which is alternatively held once per three years in ASEAN countries, is attended by law ministers and representatives from ASEAN members, namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Delegates from other countries, including China, Japan, South Korea and the United States, and international organisations also participated in the meeting.

Bomb damages truck carrying Afghan ballots

JALALABAD (Afghanistan), 20 Sept—A truck carrying ballot boxes after legislative elections in Afghanistan was slightly damaged by a roadside bomb, police said on Monday.

A remotely controlled bomb exploded in front of the vehicle on Sunday evening in Kohgiani District of Nangarhar Province about 60 miles east of Kabul, provincial police chief General Khalilullah Zaiyee told Reuters.

“This was the work of the enemies of Afghanistan,” he said. “They wanted to destroy the truck with the ballot boxes.”

The truck, which was carrying ballots to a provincial counting centre, was slightly damaged but the driver was not hurt and the ballots were spared, he said.

Millions of Afghans voted on Sunday in the first legislative elections in more than 30 years, despite threats by Taleban guerillas to disrupt the vote.

At least 14 people were killed in violence but voting was held in all districts.

Vote counting is due to start on Tuesday and is expected to take 16 days.

This will involve transporting tens of thousands of ballot boxes to provincial centres.

Final results are expected on 22 October.

Residents wait for buses as cars break down on a waterlogged street after heavy rains in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 19 September, 2005.—INTERNET

Bangkok aims to be world book capital

BANGKOK, 20 Sep — Bangkok as a candidate for UNESCO’s World Book Capital every year since 1996 to support the efforts of cities around the world to encourage people, especially youngsters, to read more books. Bogota, Colombia’s capital, was recently named World Book Capital 2007.

A UNESCO’s panel, the Publishers and Booksellers Association of Thailand said it would boost their campaign at the tenth BookExpo Thailand 2005, beginning on October 6. The expo, entitled “Knowledge Beyond Boundaries” is planning for 1.5 million visitors.

Mine blast kills one person in eastern Turkey

ANKARA, 20 Sep.— A landmine went off in Gene Town of eastern Turkish province of Bingol, killing one person and injuring two others, semi-official Anatolia news agency reported on Monday.

The landmine, which was planted by the outlawed Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK), exploded while officials were making a cadastral survey of the area.

Technician Fehmi Dogan, 39, was killed in the explosion, and two others were injured, according to the report.

China calls for peace, harmony and common development

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Sep — China called for peace, harmony and common development in the world, Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said on Monday.

Addressing the general debate of the 66th session of the UN General Assembly, Li said this session should serve to promote peace, harmony and common development.

“I want peaceful development,” Li said. “Stability and security of one country cannot be built on turbulence or crisis of another.”

He pointed out that only a new security concept featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination will enable us to develop ourselves in peace and safeguard peace by development.

“We want harmonious development,” Li said. “We should work together for more democratic and law-based international relations, and a peaceful environment in which countries respect one another, treat one another as equals, and different cultures can emulate and interchange with each other.”

“We want common development,” the Chinese Foreign Minister added. “No model of development which benefits only a few countries or a small group of people is acceptable or sustainable.”

He stressed that countries should cooperate with each other more closely to bring economic globalization on the track of common benefit-sharing and common prosperity.

On the UN reforms, Li said the position of the United Nations as the core of world collective security mechanism must be strengthened so that it can perform its duty of safeguarding peace in a more effective way.

MNA/Xinhua
The Reverend of the East passes away in the West
Sitagu Ashin Ānissara (Agga Maha Pandita) D.Lit, Ph.D

Like the Pole Star the words and deeds of Ashin Silananda Bhivamsa will always serve as a glowing and guiding example for all Buddhists. He was a monk hailed from Weikzawdaya Meditation Retreat of Sagaing Hill giving light of religious knowledge to men and women.

Although he was a member of Sangha of Shwegyin Gana, he won the respect of all the Buddhist Ganas. He was well-versed in Pali and Sanskrit, and a monk who could lecture very well the Three Pitakas in English.

He was also the monk who gave valuable advice in compiling the Pali-Myanmar dictionary, published by Myanmar Buddhist Association, to meet the standard of a similar dictionary published by London Pali Association.

With the cooperation of Anisakhan Sayadaw of Sagaing Hill and Mahasi Sayadaw, Ashin Silananda Bhivamsa conducted Abhidhamma and vipassana courses in the US for nearly 25 years. He was the lighthouse for all Myanmar Theravada Buddhist monks in US, compiling and publishing books on Theravada Buddhism. In discharging missionary duties in the US, he also won the respect and devotion of Mahayana Buddhists of Tibet, China, Japan, Vietnam, the Republic of Korea in addition to the Theravada Buddhists of America.

He was an Agga Maha Pandita, Agga Maha Kammathanacariya Title recipient of Sagaing Hill and Mahasi Sayadaw, Ashin Silananda Bhivamsa conducted Abhidhamma and vipassana courses in the US for nearly 25 years. He was the lighthouse for all Myanmar Theravada Buddhist monks in US, compiling and publishing books on Theravada Buddhism. In discharging missionary duties in the US, he also won the respect and devotion of Mahayana Buddhists of Tibet, China, Japan, Vietnam, the Republic of Korea in addition to the Theravada Buddhists of America.

He was an Agga Maha Pandita Title recipient of the Sasana conducting vipassana courses abroad at over 20 centres. He compiled 15 treatises in Myanmar and 10 in English. The government conferred Agga Maha Pandita, Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika, and Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika titles and doctorate degree in literature on the Sayadaw.

Rivers serve mankind’s interest with water, trees with fruits, and the sun and the moon with the light. For the learned persons they benefit human beings with their wisdom. So, Ashin Silananda Bhivamsa is one of the great benefactors of mankind. The life span of human beings can be said short. All things in this world will meet their end one day. But the demise of Buddha is totally different from that of ordinary human beings, as He attained the Nibbana where all sufferings cease, and the Dhamma continues to exist.

The Buddha continued to teach lay persons and monks till His last breath. Ashin Silananda Bhivamsa bore the suffering of the brain cancer without any complaint. An earthquake of high intensity occurred in Japan on the day of His demise. But world people were shaken more by the news of His passing away.

(Translation: TMT)
Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 21-9-2005

Biography of Sayadaw Ashin Silananda Bhivamsa
1927: A native of Mandalay, he was born of U Hsai, a Myanmar traditional architect and Daw Mone on 16 December.
1943: He was novitiated on 14 April under the patronage of Sayadaw Maha Dhamma Kathiha (Akyaw) Paññhavanta of Sagaing Hill
1947: He was ordained into monkhood on 2 July by Weikzawdaya Sayadaw with the sponsorship of his parents.
1950: He received the Sasana Dhaja Siripavara title.
1954: He won the Pariyatti Sasana Hita Dhammadracariya title.
1954-57: He went to Sri Lanka for further studies.
1957: He played a leading role in compiling Pali-Myanmar dictionary.
1958: Together with Secretary of the Sixth Synod Sayadaw Vipajalankara Visuddha, he went on a first missionary tour of Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, and Japan.
1959: Together with Anisakhan Sayadaw, he went to the US, England, France and Germany as his second missionary tour.
1960: During his third missionary tour abroad, he visited England, France, Germany, Sweden and Denmark together with international missionary Sayadaw Ashin Thelbala.
1960: He became the presiding Sayadaw of Maha Weikzawdaya Retreat of Sagaing Hill.
1969: He became the Presiding Sayadaw of Abhaya Rama Shweu Monastery of Mandalay.
1969: He was elected as the patron of the All Myanmar Shwegyin Gana.
1978: In December, he became the Ovadacariya of the Mahasi Sayadaw, went to the US for missionary service.
1979: In October, he founded the Theravada Buddhist Association.
1981: In June, he set up Dhamma Nanda Wihara Monastery in Daly City, California State.
1996: He moved to the new Dhamma Nanda Wihara Monastery to Half Moon Bay.
1996: He became the Ovadacariya of the Mahasi Sasana Yeikha in Yangon.
1998: In December, he became the rector of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University founded by the Religious Ministry.
2004: From 9 to 11 December, he presided over the World Buddhist Summit hosted by Myanmar in Yangon from the beginning to the end.
2004: On 11 December evening, he pronounced the WBS Joint Statement
2005: At 5 pm on 11 December, he delivered the Abstract Speech of the WBS.
2005: In March, he underwent medical check up under the joint arrangement of the Religious Affairs Ministry and the Health Ministry. His illness was diagnosed as brain cancer.
2005: In April 12 he underwent surgery in the US.
2005: He passed away on 13 August.

Like the sun that rises in the east and sets in the west, the Sayadaw, who was born in the East passed away in the West.

RPTCC-4 kicks off in Yangon

Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint delivers an address at the opening session of RPTCC-4. — MNA

YANGON, 21 Sept — The 4th Meeting of the Regional Power Trade Coordination Committee (RPTCC-4) was held at Traders Hotel here today.

Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint, Mr Hoomphone Bulyaphol, Director-General of the Department of Electricity, Laos, and Mr John R Cooney, Director, Infrastructure Division, Mekong Department, ADB, delivered opening addresses.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Minister U Myo Myint said representatives of the Mekong regional countries will discuss matters on implementation of the Regional Power Trade Operation Agreement at RPTCC-4. Myanmar is actively participating in Mekong regional cooperation in economic development, he added. Mekong regional countries signed the Regional Power Trade Operation Agreement (RPTOA) stage 1 in July, 2005.

The meeting continues tomorrow. — MNA
Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects... (from page 16)
reported on construction tasks and 32 per cent completion of the project.
Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with faculty members and students and gave necessary instructions. He inspected progress of the construction tasks.
The three-storey building will be 513 feet long and 358 feet wide. It will have 38 lecture halls, the office, the administrative office, staff room and the principal’s office, the laboratory and toilets. Construction task started in May 2005 and it will be completed in May 2006. At 220 acres rubber plantation of the local battalion, in-charge of the plantation Lt-Col Maung Myint reported on cultivation of the rubber plantations and arrangements for reclaiming land for extended rubber plantations. The commander reported to Lt-Gen Maung Bo on assistance for the plantation.
Lt-Gen Maung Bo instructed Tatmadawmen and family members to grow rubber on a manageable scale, distribute rubber saplings on a commercial scale, and nurture the grafted rubber plantation.
On his inspection tour, Lt-Gen Maung Bo oversaw thriving rubber farms in Kyaukmaraw Township. In the afternoon, they arrived at the late monsoon paddy plantation in Theinbyaw Village of Kyaukmaraw Township. At the briefing hall, he heard reports on cultivation of 474 monsoon paddy against the target of 1,346 acres in the village-tract, and arrangement being made for growing 872 acres of monsoon paddy.
He inspected cultivation of late monsoon paddy and ploughing tasks with the use of Leyar-16 power-tiller and gave necessary instructions.
At 2.30 pm, Lt-Gen Maung Bo went to the local medical battalion in Mawlamyine. He attended the ceremony to donate medical equipment to medical battalions under control of South-East Command. Commanding Officer Lt-Col Zaw Than Maung reported on the purpose of the donations. Lt-Gen Maung Bo handed over eight items of medicines worth K 1.1 million and nine items of medicines worth K 1 million donated by South-East Command to the respective commanding officers.
Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially conversed with Tatmadawmen patients and family members and presented cash assistance to them.
In the evening, Lt-Gen Maung Bo attended the ceremony to put new Mawlamyine Railway Station into service. Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Pe Than and Managing Director U Min Soe of Myanma Railways welcomed and conducted Lt-Gen Maung Bo round the new station. At the briefing hall, Deputy Minister U Pe Than briefed him on matters related to the new station and Mawlamyine-Ye Railroad and the plan for building Mottama Station.
Senior engineers of Public Works examined progress in construction of railroads on Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), and Senior Engineer (Civil) U Lwin Thu of Myanma Railways on matters on new Mawlamyine Station and construction of the approach railroad to Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine).
The new Mawlamyine Railway Station together with departmental officials, social organization members and local people welcomed the arrival of No 1 174 Ye-Mawlamyine uptrain to the new Mawlamyine Station.

The three-storey building of Government Technological College (Mawlamyine) will be 513 feet long and 358 feet wide. Construction task started in May 2005 and it will be completed in May 2006.

Functions of Arid Zone Greening Department, Myanmar Timber Enterprise inspected in Magway, Mandalay Divisions

YANGON, 21 Sept.—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung arrived at the office of Shweudaung Township Forest Department on 17 September evening.
Deputy Director U Kyi Soe of Forest Department (Bago Division-West) reported on setting up of reserved forest and protected public forests, and Deputy General Manager (Timber Extraction) U Han Soe on the plans for extraction of timber this year, transport matters and planting of new teak saplings.
At No 96 Saw Mill in Aunglan, the minister heard reorts on saw mill tasks and sawn timber presented by Mill Manager U Aung Nge.
In the afternoon, the minister viewed greening tasks at Minbu Hill. Director-General U Tun Tun of Arid Zone Greening Department and Minbu Township Staff Officer U San Tin briefed the minister on progress of greening tasks for Minbu Protected Public Forest.
In Magway, the minister inspected 395 acres of village firewood plantations.
In Phankhisan region of Yenangyoung Township, Staff Officer U Maung Maung Naing of AZGD reported on progress of the forests and use of fuel-substitute wood. Next, the minister oversaw 950 acres of Shwepondaung neem trees plantation.
On 19 September morning, the minister heard reports on matters related to Myethintwin reserved forest with the use of assistance from JICA in NyaungU District. The minister inspected forests, Ngalmnpok nursery and plantations.
In the afternoon, officials reported on establishment of forests at the office of Mawya Township AZGD. Afterwards, the minister inspected functions of the Minsontaung Sanctuary.
At the timber extraction office at the foot of Mandalay Hill, the minister met with officials of Forest Department and Myanmar Timber Enterprise and gave necessary instructions.

Industry-1 Minister receives members of International Consultancy Team

YANGON, 21 Sept.—International Consultancy Team based in Singapore headed by Mr Guana of Top Global Engineering and Trading Pte Ltd called on Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung at the latter’s office here yesterday.
Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun and officials.

Industry-2 Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

YANGON, 21 Sept.—Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun, who had completed his tour of duty, at the ministry on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this afternoon.
At the meeting, they discussed win-win cooperation in industry sector.
Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw and officials.

Executive of MWEA leaves for Tokyo

YANGON, 21 Sept.—Executive of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs’ Association Daw Hnin Wai yesterday left here for Tokyo, Japan, to attend the training at Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy in Tokyo.
She won a MBA programme scholarship to study at Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 22 September, 2005 7
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye...

from page 1)
welcomed them at the air-
port.
Next, Vice-Senior
General Maung Aye pre-
sented documentary photo
album and video tape to
the Thai Supreme Com-
mander.
The Thai delegation
was seen off at the air-
port by Vice-Senior Gen-
eral Thura Shwe Mann of the Minis-
try of Defence, Com-
mander-in-Chief (Navy)
Vice-Admiral Soe Thein,
Commander-in-Chief
(Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein,
Chief of Military Affairs
Security Maj-Gen Myint
Swe, senior military offic-
ers from the Ministry of
Defence, Thai Ambassa-
dor to Myanmar Mr
SuPhot Dhirakaosol, Mil-
tary Attache Col Prissapa
Suvanatat and officials.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sees off Thai
Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra
and party at Yangon International Airport.— MNA

YANGON, 21 Sept
—The opening cer-
emony of special gold
shop of Myanmar Gems
Enterprise of the Minis-
try of Mines was held on
the ground floor of
Myanmar Gems Museum
on Kaba Aye Pagoda
Road this morning.
Under the guid-
ance of the Head of State
the special shop was
opened for the public to
purchase gold freely and
easily.
The ceremony was
attended by Minister for
Mines Brig-Gen Ohn
Myint, Deputy Minister
U Myint Thein, Deputy
Minister for Finance and
Revenue Col Hla Thein
Swe, officials of the min-
istries and guests.
At 10.40 am,
Managing Director of No
2 Mining Enterprise U
Hla Thein and Managing
Director of MGE U
Thein Swe formally
opened the gold shop.
The minister and
guests observed gold
coins, jade and jewellery
and inspected private
gold shops on the ground
floor. The minister cor-
dially greeted the buyers
who came to buy gold
coins.

One tical gold coins.— MNA

Managing Director U Hla Thein of No 2 Mining Enterprise and Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanmar Gems Enterprise open special gold shop.— MNA

Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint inspects selling of gold coins at special gold shop.— MNA

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun visited the shop. A gold coin weighing one
tical (16.329 gm), is 26.0
mm in diameter and 2
mm in thickness. It is
99.99 percent pure gold.
People can buy gold
coins at K 300,000 per
tical.
The two gold
shops open daily from
9.30 am to 4.30 pm ex-
cept Monday and public
holidays.— MNA

Bakers seen at Special Gold Shop of Myanmar Gems Enterprise.— MNA
Lt-Gen Maung Bo calls for extended farming of rubber in Mon State

Yangon, 21 Sept—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence continued his inspection tour around Mon State on 19 September.

Together with Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, senior military officers, and officials, visited local regiment in Wekali Village, Thanbyuzayat Township. They were welcomed there by Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi and senior military officers. In meeting with officers and other ranks at Aung San Hall of the regiment, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that today’s Tatmadaw members have taken up national defence and nation-building duties from their seniors, so they are to do their bit with a sense of duty, and to safeguard and defend the motherland, while upholding Our Three National Causes as national duty.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and the vice-chief of Armed Forces Training presented cash assistance and personal goods to the Tatmadaw members of the local station.

Next, they inspected the nursery of rubber saplings in the farm of the regiment. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on nurturing of 500,000 rubber saplings next year, and arrangements for family members to grow rubber on a small scale.

On arrival at the affiliated Basic Education High School in Wekali Village, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented K 3 million for construction of a school building and establishment of a multimedia teaching centre for the school through the head-mistress. The commander also presented K 1 million to the funds of the school.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed the study of the students and the building under construction. He inspected thriving rubber farms on both sides of Thanbyuzayat-Mudon-Mawlamyine Highway.

They visited the rubber research and propagation farm of the Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise in Kyunphaik Village, Mudon Township. Officials of the farm reported on facts about the farm, propagation of 18 species of rubber, ongoing programmes, distributed required the MPCE and local regiments and units to extend production of rubber saplings year by year. Now, the state has put 260,000 acres under rubber, so it needs over 30 million rubber saplings. Rubber farming becomes popular across the nation, the region is urged the MPCE to propagate sufficient number of rubber saplings to fulfil the requirements. He called for the MPCE to propagate rubber to fulfil the demand of over 15 million saplings next year. Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected rubber production process in the farm. They went to Zinkyaik small-scale hydropower plant near the Kyaukthinbaw Pagoda in Zinkyaik Village, Paung Township. Officials gave facts about the plant, and supply of electricity to the region.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo dealt with distribution of electricity, and prospects for increased generation of electricity. Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the plant, Zinkyaik Waterfall, and its environs.

They attended the inauguration of a windmill of Gazaing Model Village in Bilin Township. The chairman of the village PDC formally opened the facility. Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that the Armed Forces (Navy) is producing windmills for rural areas. He urged local people to purchase windmills individually or in groups.

The commander said that the government is rendering assistance in all sectors for Gazaing Model Village under the regional development plan, stressing the need of local people to participate in the project.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived back here in the evening.
Government, people and …

(form from page 16)

Equipment Minister Col Zaw Min K 500,000, Resident Representative Dr Adak Wibowo medicines, local national race leader U Kan Na K 1 million and wellwisher U Than Win medical equipment worth K 2 million to the hospital in charge.

Speaking on the occasion, USDA Joint Secretary-General Col Zaw Min said that the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw are carrying out rural development tasks in all parts of the nation harmoniously. For providing proper health care services, Namsalat Station Hospital was commissioned. The station hospital will contribute towards giving health care service to over 30,000 people from 62 villages in Namsalat region.

Development tasks in health and education sectors are being performed with the assistance and cooperation of UN agencies — WHO, UNICEF and FAO, and successes have been achieved. Health staff are to exert their efforts for providing health care service to the local people in Namsalat region, and local people are to participate in the tasks for durability of the hospital.

For providing proper health care services, Namsalat Station Hospital was commissioned. The station hospital will contribute towards giving health care service to over 30,000 people from 62 villages in Namsalat region.

On behalf of the local people, national race leader U Kan Na expressed gratitude. The commander, the minister and guests visited patients at the hospital and presented refreshments to them. Afterwards, they viewed the library in the village.

On arrival at 842 acres of Hsinshweli high yield paddy plantation of the village, the chairman of Hsenwi Township Peace and Development Council and the township manager of Myanmar Agriculture Technology Service reported on cultivation of Hsinshweli monsoon paddy, local food sufficiency, matters related to agricultural technology and achievements. Later, they answered the queries raised by those present.

Next, the prize presentation ceremony for outstanding persons agriculture followed. USDA Joint Secretary-General Minister Col Zaw Min presented best farmer award to the winner, and FAO Resident Representative Mr. Tang Zhengping best agricultural supervisor award to the winner. Afterwards, the commander, the minister and guests visited the paddy fields.

At Basic Education High School (Branch) in Namsalat Village, they donated 100 dozens of exercise books and UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Elke Wisch sports equipment for the students of the museum.

Chairman of Advisory Committee of the office of the Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Ruengroj Mahasararakam and party view around Defence Services Museum. — MNA

YANGON, 21 Sept — General Ruengroj Mahasararakam, Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the office of the Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces, who accompanies the Thai Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra on the good-will visit to Myanmar, this morning visited the Defence Services Museum in Dagon Township. Lt. Col Zaw Win of the museum conducted them round the museum.

Afterwards, General Ruengroj Mahasararakam and party visited the National Museum. Director-General of the Department of Cultural Institute U Myint Thein Swe and officials welcomed them at the National Museum. They also viewed round at the Drug Elimination Museum in Kamayut Township and White Elephant Garden at Mindhamma Hill in Insein Township. — MNA

Chairman of Advisory Committee of the office of the Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Ruengroj Mahasararakam and party view around Defence Services Museum. — MNA

UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Elke Wisch donates sports gear to BEHS (branch) in Shan State (North). — MNA

U Kan Na donates K 1 million for the education fund of BEHS (branch) in Shan State (North). — MNA

Padamy Garden Company Chairman U Than Win hands over documents related to station hospital through the deputy director-general of Health Department. — MNA

U Mahanaw donates K 300,000 to Sanlaung station hospital in Shan State (North). — MNA

UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Elke Wisch donates sports gear to BEHS (branch) in Shan State (North). — MNA
Government, people and …

(from page 10)

local national race leader U Kan Na, they cut the
ribbon to open the building, and viewed round the
school.

The commander, the minister and national race
leader U Kan Na formally opened the Pyinnya Alin
library of the school. The commander and the minister
presented books for the library to U Kan Na.

Additional Shan State (North) Education Of-
cicer U Than Tun briefed them on progress of the
education sector in Shan State (North).

After that, the commander donated uniforms
for teachers, the minister K 500,000 for the trust-funds
of the school, U Kan Na K 1 million and wellwisher U
Than Win K 1 million for school furniture to officials.

Townswelder U Sai Kyaw Myint expressed gratitude.

At the briefing hall of the Myoma agricultural
farm in Hsenwi, the commander, the minister and
party heard reports on growing of monsoon Hsinshweli
high yield paddy and local food sufficiency presented
by the Township PDC Chairman and the deputy gen-
eral manager of Agricultural Education Division.
The minister presented best supervisory award for
Hsinshweli paddy cultivation to Chairman of Town-
sip PDC Chairman. The commander, the minister
and party visited the hospital and presented refresh-
ments to the patients.

They proceeded to 500-acre opium-substitute
maize, pigeon pea, Hsinshweli paddy and sugarcane
cultivation and bee-keeping project site in Manmaw
region of Lashio Township. At the briefing hall, the in-
charge of the plantation and the Myanma Rice Re-
search Manager submitted reports on agricultural and
bee-keeping works. The commander, the minister and
party inspected keeping of 500 beehives and maize
plantations.

According to the reports, 761 acres of high yield
R- line paddy plantations were harvested on 1,090
acres of Hsinshweli paddy plantation in conjunction
with the ceremony to explain 761 acres of high yield R-
line paddy plantations to produce over 200 baskets of
paddy per acre, at the model paddy plantation in
Lashio. Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint,
Shan State MAS Manager U Hla Gyi, Deputy General
Manager U San Nyunt of Agricultural Education Divi-
sion and Dr Tan Win of Myanma Rice Research
Division explained production of hybrid paddy strains
and answered the queries raised by those present.

Next, the commander, the minister and party
viewed participation of USDA members in pollination
at the Hsinshweli paddy fields. — MNA

Minister inspects retransmission stations in
Bago, Mandalay Divisions

YANGON, 21 Sept
—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan
made field trips to towns-
ships in Bago and Man-
dalay Divisions on 19 and
20 September and looked
into information work.

Minister Brig-Gen
Kyaw Hsan and officials
inspected retransmission
station of MRTV in
Nyaunglebin in Bago Di-
vision on 19 September.

Officials reported on
installation of machines
and equipment, test trans-
mission of MRTV pro-
grammes and require-
ments.

The minister gave in-
structions on transmission
of MRTV programmes as
soon as possible, system-
atic use of equipment and
inspection of lighting-
conductors installed in
tower and retransmission
station.

Myanma Television
retransmission station in
Nyaunglebin is airing test
transmission of TV pro-
grammes. People in
Nyaunglebin, DaikU,
Shwegyin, Kyaukdaga
and Kyaukkyi Townships
can receive TV pro-
grammes clearly. After
the test run, full time TV
programmes will be
broadcast.

The minister and party
went to MRTV retransmission station in Toungoo.
They inspected construction of embank-
ment that prevents water
from flowing into the
broadcasting room in the
event of flooding.

The minister gave
instructions on mainte-
nance of equipment, prepa-
rations for floods, sanita-
tion of drains near
the station and fire and
flood preventive measures
and attention to the dan-
ger of destructive ele-
ments. — MNA

MWAF and MCWA members discuss health, education and social matters at BEHS (Branch) in Namsalat
Village of Hsenwi Township. — MNA
IDB ignores Dhaka’s aid request

DHAKA, 20 Sept — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has ignored a request by Bangladesh to raise its loan assistance to 1.2 billion US dollars in the current fiscal to ease pressure on the balance of payments.

The Bank, however, will provide in total 899 million dollars this fiscal, which is higher than what Bangladesh received last fiscal, The Financial Express reported on Sunday.

The Bangladeshi government, against the backdrop of a global rise in the price of oil, has sought additional loan from the IDB to ease pressure on its balance of payments.

Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman in a letter to IDB last month sought assistance worth 1.2 billion dollars for this financial year to manage finances for growing import bills caused by the rise in fuel prices in the international market.

The IDB in its reply said the Bank has increased allocation for the current year by 29.6 per cent to 700 million dollars from previous year’s allocation of 540 million dollars. It would provide an additional 100 million dollars as internal funds.

IDB is a multilateral development financing institution, established to foster social and economic development of its member countries and Muslim communities worldwide.

India seeks more Japanese investment

NEW DELHI, 20 Sept — India on Monday sought greater investments from Japan and asked entrepreneurs from the Asian powerhouse to look towards the country as a potential trading and manufacturing hub.

Addressing representatives of Japanese companies, Commerce Minister Kamal Nath said the demand for investments from Japan as well as bilateral trade were not up to the potential.

Nath said the Indian economy was very well suited to the small and medium Japanese companies, who might have difficulty in operating in their own market, which has got saturated.

India, with its vast technical and managerial skills, could collaborate with Japanese small and medium companies, as complementary and supplementary partners, he said. Addressing the two together could cater to not only the vast Indian market, but also the untapped markets in Asia, Latin America and Africa.

He also emphasized the need to intensify Indo-Japanese industrial cooperation in sectors like telecommunication, power generation, software, biotechnology, food processing, transportation, chemicals and petrochemicals.

The minister pointed out that while India’s trade with almost all major trading partners has been growing, bilateral trade with Japan had been stagnant at below five billion US dollars.

The FDI policies in India are reckoned to be among the most liberal and favourable among the emerging economies.

Government has allowed FDI up to 100 per cent under the automatic route for the development of townships, housing, built-up infrastructure, and other construction and development projects, he added.

Two Bangladeshis fishermen missing

HALDIA, 20 Sept — Two Bangladeshis fishermen were missing while 10 others had been rescued in the high seas, 50 kilometres off Digha coast in West Bengal’s East Midnapore District in East India, police said on Monday.

Two Bangladeshis fishermen, ‘Samiti 24’ and ‘FB Zalil Pahalam’ carrying 25 fishermen had drifted to the Indian coast due to turbulent waves of the Bay of Bengal on Sunday night, the police said.

Of the 12 fishermen of ‘Samiti 24’, 10 were rescued by the crew members of the FB Zalil Pahalam, the police said.

The East Midnapore District police brought the remaining 23 fishermen to Digha police station.

OPEC President stands for raising oil output quota

VIENNA, 20 Sept — Current OPEC President and Kuwaiti Minister of Energy Ahmed Fahal al Sabah said here on Sunday that OPEC members should raise their daily oil production quotas in order to stabilize the oil prices on international markets.

Although the current oil supply to international markets is adequate, it is necessary to raise the daily oil output ceiling because the northern hemisphere is reaching a winter fuel need peak and Hurricane Katrina produced devastating effects on the oil-producing capacity along the Mexico Gulf coast of the United States, Fahal al Sabah said.

Before the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) begins a two-day ministerial meeting here Monday, he also said the current oil prices on international markets are too high and it is important for OPEC to exert efforts to stabilize the prices.

He predicted that OPEC will make a decision on Tuesday to raise the daily oil output ceiling by 500,000 barrels per day (bpd) to a total 28.5 million bpd despite a current production surplus.

An official quota of 28.5 million bpd would mark an all-time high since the headline OPEC figure was created in 1987.

But speaking to reporters after most of the 11 OPEC ministers had arrived, Fahal al Sabah said another option had emerged, which is that of leaving the current quota unchanged while placing up to two million bpd on call in the market to be drawn on if needed.

The OPEC option would provide immediate supply when there is a demand in the market and would stabilize the price, he said.

But some OPEC members, who oppose the rise of the oil output quota, say a lack of refining capacity, and low crude supply, has maintained gasoline prices near record highs, although the price of crude has also stayed above 60 US dollars a barrel.

However, OPEC made it clear that oil exporters are concerned by the economies where consumers have been hit by sharply higher prices for petroleum products such as gasoline.

Fahal al Sabah noted — MNA/Xinhua
Anti-fur protesters storm London fashion show

LONDON, 20 Sept — Three anti-fur protesters burst onto the stage on Sunday during London Fashion Week’s first show, which was designer Julien Macdonald.

Carrying signs saying “Fur Kills” and “Fur is Dead”, two campaigners from the animal rights group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) ran onto the stage shouting their slogans before police dragged them off.

At the end of the show, Macdonald walked on the catwalk, a third protester ran onto the stage with a sign saying “Macdonald Fur Scum!”. The Welsh designer, who did not use fur in this show but had used it in the past, laughed off the experience and said all publicity was good publicity.

MNA/Reuters

Bangladesh makes law to punish adulterated food dealers

DHAKA, 20 Sept — Bangladesh Parliament on Monday passed a bill with stringent measures to stop selling of adulterated and rotten foods.

The new bill — “Bangladesh Pure Food (Amendment) Bill, 2005” — provides maximum fine of 300,000 taka (about 4,600 US dollars) and various jail terms, including rigorous imprisonment for three years, in case of violation of the law. The bill prohibits sale or use of any poisonous or dangerous chemicals, including food colour or flavouring matter in any food, which may cause injury to human body.

Under a provision of the bill, the government may, by notification, establish one or more Pure Food Courts in each district and in metropolitan areas. The court shall consist of an officer vested with the powers of a first class magistrate.

A serial published by local daily Ittefaq on adulterated and rotten food by restaurants and selling items by traders after expiry dates prompted the government to launch a crackdown about two months ago.

Inquiry teams are making raids in different shops and factories and have fined dozens of prominent food producers for making adulterated foods.

The food shops and factories are making food items using chemicals detrimental to health and traders are using chemicals for ripening different fruits, including banana.

Many people mainly children have fallen ill with dysentery, diarrhoea and other intestinal diseases eating those foods.

MNA/Xinhua

British mothers confused by baby milk adverts

London, 20 Sept — Baby milk manufacturers are confusing mothers with clever marketing that evades a ban on advertising their infant formulas in Britain, according to a research published on Monday.

Three-fifths of women asked in a survey believed they had been advertising for infant formula, even though advertising in Britain has been banned since 1995, a survey for UNICEF UK and the National Childbirth Trust found.

The researchers said baby milk firms were exploiting a loophole which allows them to advertise follow-on formula, which is only suitable for infants over six months. “The manufacturers have changed the way they package and promote their follow-on formulas so they’re almost identical to the regular infant formula,” said Andrew Radford, director of UNICEF UK’s Baby Friendly Initiative.

“This means that a supposedly legal TV or magazine advert for a follow-on formula will also promote a company’s infant formula.”

The survey questioned 1,000 new mothers and pregnant women in August and found that nearly one in five (17 per cent) who used follow-on milk had started it before the baby was three months old, despite it not being suitable for infants that young.

The survey found that 38 per cent of the women had fed their youngest child only with breast milk and 36 per cent had only used formula. A similar poll conducted at the same time by the Department of Health discovered that many women were unaware of the difference between the two preparations.

The Department of Health recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a baby’s life.

— MNA/Reuters

Cambodia to enhance management in medicine market

PHnom Penh, 20 Sept—Starting 1 October, medicine in circulation in Cambodia must have a stamp with a registration code given by the Ministry of Health.

According to the ministry, if there is no stamp, the medicine can be removed from the market.

Distributors will be the first to be controlled, and then the retailers’ turn will come.

This is all part of the ministry’s efforts to fight against the flow, mainly in the provinces, of fake medicine. “We suspect there are many counterfeit medicines taken by the ministry. It shows the determination of the government to manage the market of the medicine,” Wong Swie Hwa, managing director of Cambodia Pharmaceutical Enterprise, told Xinhua on Monday.

“We believe that the ministry will help reducing the fake medicine in the country and promote the fair competition in the market,” she added.

Most of these counterfeit products circulate in rural zones. And recently the ministry publicly announced a list of 138 false medicines.

Considering the dangers of these medicines, the ministry reminds that those who do resort to selling illegal medicines risk imprisonment for quite a few years and a large fine.

MNA/Xinhua

Qingdao to auction land for Olympic venue construction

Jinan, 20 Sept— Qingdao, the eastern Chinese city to host the 2008 Olympic sailing event, will start auctioning its land for building Olympic facilities to draw at least 3.5 billion yuan (400.9 million US dollars) for venue construction.

The starting prices of the first three pieces of land to be listed for sale next month add up to 1.3 billion yuan, all of which will be used for Olympic venue construction, according to land resources department of the city government.

These three pieces of land were expected to function as recreation centres, public parking lots and commercial streets during the Games.

The final bidders have the rights to use the land but should subject the land for Olympic use in 2008, according to the government.

Qingdao has mapped out 38.74 hectares seaside area for building Olympic facilities. Construction of the main venues, including Olympic village, the administration offices and the media centre, needs to be completed by July 2006.

— MNA/Xinhua

HK expects holiday travellers high tide

Hong Kong, 20 Sept— Hong Kong Immigration Department said around 200,000 Hong Kong people, who celebrated moon festival on Sunday in the Chinese Mainland, are expected to return to Hong Kong on Monday via the border crossing at Lowu.

It said fewer people travelled to the Mainland this year for the Mid-Autumn festival holidays due to bad weather, thought Hong Kong people have a tradition to celebrate the moon festival in the near province of Guangdong with their families.

Officials said they would open more counters at the checkpoint if necessary to deal with the expected flood of travellers due to the end of a two-day holiday.

MNA/Xinhua

Women walk on Miami Beach in Florida. Storm-wear New Orleans residents began fleeing their devastated city again as Hurricane Rita threatened the Gulf Coast three weeks after Katrina’s deadly passage through Louisiana.—INTERNET

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The Department of Health recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a baby’s life.

— MNA/Reuters
Chelsea’s Lampard eyes an open title race

LONDON, 21 Sept— Chelsea midfielder Frank Lampard claimed on Tuesday that the Premiership title race is still wide open despite the Blues’ imperious start to the new campaign.

Chelsea have won all six League games and not conceded a goal to open up a six-point lead at the top of the table. “I am sure the rest of the League is not giving up and it is definitely not cut and dried yet,” said Lampard, 27.

“It is too hard to say how close the League is going to be. It is so early to be talking about a points gap.”

EPL’s new signings Michael Ball, who left Rangers for PSV, is sidelined for several weeks. Englishman Reiziger tore a hip muscle and will be out for two months with a knee ligament injury.

Wenger hails Campbell for England

LONDON, 20 Sept— Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger hailed match-winner Sol Campbell and tipped the defender to return for England following Monday’s 2-0 triumph over Everton.

Campbell, plagued by injuries over the last two and a half years, has been out of contract after being released by AS Roma and joined AEK on a free transfer.

Commenting on the goals, Wenger said: “I rushed him back a bit because losing Vieira, Henry and Keown was too much in terms of experience. I was uncertain about his fitness but he’s remarkably fit,” Wenger told reporters. “At some stage you wonder how you’re frustrated and it affects you mentally,” Wenger said. “But I feel his hunger and his desire to come back for us, first, but for England as well. He’s a leader,” said Wenger, who has lost captain Thierry Henry due to injury and sold former skipper Patrick Vieira to Juventus.

Commenting on the goals, Wenger said: “He’s a leader,” said Wenger, who has lost captain Thierry Henry due to injury and sold former skipper Patrick Vieira to Juventus.

Campbell’s return to top form followed a period of self-doubt for the defender after his injury problems and the resulting loss of his England place.

“While you’re a competitor and there’s no competition, you’re frustrated and it affects you mentally,” Wenger said. “At some stage you wonder how you still are. “I feel his hunger and his desire to come back for us, first, but for England as well. He’s a leader,” said Wenger, who has lost captain Thierry Henry due to injury and sold former skipper Patrick Vieira to Juventus.

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EAA rejects Prague’s candidacy for 2009 Indoor Athletic Champs

PRAGUE, 21 Sept— The European Athletic Association (EAA) Tuesday rejected the candidacy of Prague for organizing the Indoor Athletic European Championships in 2009.

According to the EAA representatives, the Prague Stazka Arena, where the champs was to be held, had reduced visibility from the grandstand, and problems with the installation of athletic tracks could occur.

The Czech Athletic Association (CAS) disagrees with their arguments.

The EAA has also turned down the application of Instanbul, which has been the only other candidate to host the indoor championships in 2009. CAS representatives said they were very surprised by the EAA decision.

CAS deputy head Libor Varhanik said that there would be no problems with the tracks as several expert reports proved it.

CAS admits that there were problems with reduced visibility. “But these problems appear in any multifunctional arena and can be solved,” CAS head Karel Pilny said. Pilny said they will attempt to change to the stance of the EAA.”

PSV duo Reiziger, Ball face long spell on sidelines

AMSTERDAM, 21 Sept— PSV Eindhoven’s new signings Michael Reiziger and Michael Ball face long spells out after being injured at the weekend.

Former Middlesbrough player Reiziger tore a hip muscle and will be sidelined for several weeks. Englishman Ball, who left Rangers for PSV, will be out for two months with a knee ligament injury.

Greek defender Dellas joins AEK

ATHENS, 21 Sept— Greek international centre back Traianos Dellas has returned to AEK Athens on a two-year contract, the club said on Tuesday.

Dellas, a member of the Greek team that won Euro 2004, had been out of contract after being released by AS Roma and joined AEK on a free transfer.

Dellas, a member of the Greece team that won Euro 2004, had been out of contract after being released by AS Roma and joined AEK on a free transfer.

The 29-year-old previously played for the Greek club between 1999 and 2001 before moving to Perugia.

A few years ago, I said that AEK would be the only team for whom I would consider coming back to Greece football. That is what has happened,” he said.

“They are the only team I love and where I was loved by the fans.”

Dellas is still returning to fitness after a hermia operation and is unlikely to be available for the second leg of AEK’s UEFA Cup first round tie against Zenit on September 29.

Greece defender Dellas joins AEK

MNA/Reuters

Wenger hails Campbell for England

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS
Over 300 Bangladeshis fishermen missing after storm

Cox’s Bazaar (Bangladesh), 21 Sept — More than 300 fishermen were posted missing on Tuesday after a storm triggered high swells along the Bangladesh coast, a local official said.

The storm brought heavy rain and spawned a sea surge up to 10 feet (3 metres) high over the past two days near Cox’s Bazar on the Bay of Bengal.

Approximately 100 boats with about 400 people were caught in the storm but only 52 people had returned by Tuesday morning, the leader of a local fishermen’s association said. “The others are still missing but we hope they will come back soon,” he said, adding that many fishermen missing after previous storms had eventually managed to reach shore.

Weather officials said the sea would remain rough for a few more days due to a depression over the Bay of Bengal. Most Bangladeshi fishing boats lack safety and communication equipment and are unable to monitor weather forecasts. Storms kill hundreds of Bangladeshi people every year and the country’s worst cyclone left about 143,000 people dead in April 1991.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodian King’s official website launched

PHNOM PENH, 21 Sept — Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni’s official website was launched on Monday.

The website (www.kmndommon.com) contains five sections, including biography, news, social activities, correspondence and video. Each one will be updated daily in three languages of Khmer, English and French, according to a statement from the Royal Palace received on Tuesday.

For the time being, only a few items have been published. But in the coming weeks the King’s activities since he ascended the throne on 29 October, 2004 will be published, the statement said.

Before the King had his own official web site, he has a web page in his Father, former King Norodom Sihanouk’s web site.

The retired King’s web site is very popular and attracts more than 1,000 visitors daily from around the world. For at least three years he has been posting his opinions, historical documents and exchanges with diplomats or Cambodian politicians.

Sihanouk abdicated in favour of his son Sihamoni last October. But the Internet kept him in the public eye.

The son of Norodom Sihanouk and Queen Monineath Sihanouk, Sihamoni, 52, was a dancer, choreographer and ambassador to UNESCO in Paris.

Since taking the throne, King Sihamoni has used his smile and gentle charm to win over Cambodians, making frequent journeys to the countryside.

MNA/Kimheang

WEATHER

Wednesday, 21 September, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thun- derstorms have been isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin, Kayah and Kayin States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Homalin (4.96) inches, Mawaik (4.41) inches, Hinthada (1.69) inches, Bilin (1.65) inches, Kalaw (1.58) inches and Thanayint (1.42) inches.

Maximum temperature on 20-9-2005 was 82°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 21-9-2005 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 20-9-2005 was nil. Rainfalls on 21-9-2005 were (0.08) inch at Mingladon, (0.16) inch at Kabah-Aye and (0.16) inch at the central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2005 were (83.74) inches at Mingladon, (87.60) inches at Kabah-Aye and (93.51) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kabah-Aye) was (4) mph from Southwest at (15:15) hours MST on 20-9-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 22-9-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, Ayeayawady and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Weak monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-9-2005: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-9-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 21-9-2005)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo is (618) cm. It may remain above the danger level (600) cm for the next (3) days commencing today.

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk is (1092) cm. It may remain above the danger level (1070) cm for the next (3) days commencing soon today.
For the development of the agriculture sector, the main pillar of national economy, dams and river water pumping stations are being built. Now, in the whole nation, there are 177 dams and reservoirs, which can irrigate more than 2.4 million acres of farmland, and 293 river water pumping stations, which benefit nearly 400,000 acres of farmland.

Government, people and Tatmadaw carrying out rural development tasks harmoniously

Discussions on education, health, social matters held in Namsalat Village, Hsenwi T’ship

Development tasks in health and education sectors are being performed with the assistance and cooperation of UN agencies — WHO, UNICEF and FAO, and successes have been achieved.