Better transport of Dawei-Myeik-Kawthoung Road contributes to regional development

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends opening of Myoma Market, Hospital in Khamaukgyi

YANGON, 6 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, senior military officers and departmental officials, the Patron of Taninthayi Division Women’s Affairs Organization Chairperson of Taninthayi Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and members, arrived at Khamaukgyi of Kawthoung District on 3 October morning.

They attended the ceremony to open self-reliant Myoma Market in Khamaukgyi. Executive Officer of the town U Nyi Nyi reported on construction of the market, and handed over documents related to the market to in-charge of Township Development Affairs Committee U Moe Zaw Oo. Next, U Nyi Nyi and U Moe Zaw Oo formally opened the market.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party also attended the ceremony to open Khamaukgyi Hospital and set up the medical trust-fund. Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and Deputy Director-General (See page 7)

SPDC Member Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects the progress of constructing an edible oil mill of SI Co Ltd. — MNA

SPDC Member Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects weighing of a vehicle of Yuzana Co Ltd. — MNA

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

Teachers are the role models in Myanmar society and has a special place in it. They are obligated not only to educate their students but also to nurture them in such a way that they can become good, polite and cultured persons. In fact, a teacher is many things. There are many things a teacher can and should do for the good of his or her students by setting good examples to them.

A ceremony to mark the World Teachers’ Day was held at the Diamond Jubilee Hall in Yangon on 5 October and it was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, also Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee.

In his address on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said, “In Myanmar society, it is a conviction that the dignity of teachers is endowed with noble attributes. It is a very admirable custom that people regard Parents as first and foremost teachers and Teachers as one of the five infinities together with Lord Buddha, the Dhamma, the Sangha and the Parents.”

The Government has been making endeavours for uplift of the education standard of the citizens through the Education Promotion Programmes. In so doing, it has taken into account the vital role of teachers and their pioneering quality and dignities.

Teachers will have to train students who will shoulder the future State duties, to become brilliant persons. They should also enable students to apply their knowledge in socio-economic of the regions, and play a leading role in developing the social community and improving the social standard of the regions.

As teachers are entrusted with the most delicate and highest responsibilities of human society, they should work with zeal and perseverance and dedicate their lives to producing intellectuals and intelligentsia, good citizens and outstanding persons on whom the nation can rely. Parents and people should acknowledge the endeavours of the teachers.

Teachers should adhere to their ethics to become models of the society and try to win public respect. They should also teach their students to become clever, polite and outstanding persons possessing patriotism and Union Spirit.
US soldier killed by roadside bomb in Baghdad

**Baghdad, 6 Oct—** A roadside bomb hit a US Army patrol in the Iraqi capital Baghdad, killing one soldier.

The attack occurred in northern Baghdad, said a US military spokesman. The victim was not immediately identified pending notification of his relatives.

The attack raised to at least 1,944, the number of US military members who have died since the beginning of the US-led invasion of Iraq in March, 2003.

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**New Delhi, 5 Oct—** The BIMSTEC group of seven South and South-East Asian countries on Tuesday agreed to look into the possibility of setting up a trans-regional gas pipeline and a power transmission network as part of efforts to enhance energy cooperation and ensure energy security in the region.

The representatives of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Co-operation (BIMSTEC) at its meeting here also agreed to examine the feasibility of setting up a regional grid and pipeline network but gave no timeframe or cost estimates that the projects could involve, said Shaahi.

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**Guangzhou, 5 Oct—** The investments in fixed assets in south China's Guangdong Province totalled 373.82 billion yuan (about 46.09 billion US dollars) in January-August period, up 16.3 per cent from the same period last year.

But the growth rate was 1.5 percentage points lower than that of January-July period, the provincial statistical bureau said.

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**Nine charged in Calif with $25,000 Katrina fraud**

**Los Angeles, 5 Oct—** Nine people in California have been charged with defrauding the American Red Cross out of at least $25,000 US dollars in donations intended for victims of Hurricane Katrina, law authorities said on Tuesday.

The nine, all residents of Bakersfield, in central California, were either working as temporary staff at a Red Cross call centre or were friends with someone employed there.

US Attorney McGregor Scott told journalists that 25,000 US dollars in fraudulent losses have been documented so far but that he expected the total to "grow dramatically."

"It is beyond the pale that there are those who would seek to capitalize on the tragedy wrought by Hurricane Katrina and the generosity of so many who donated relief funds," said Scott, in Fresno, California.

The nine are charged with participating in a wire fraud scheme and could face prison terms of up to 20 years each. They will appear in federal court in Fresno on Wednesday.

According to prosecutors, four of those accused were employed at an American Red Cross call centre in Bakersfield that was set up to handle claims for assistance from the thousands of those made homeless by Katrina. The other five were friends or relatives of employees — all of them hired through a temporary staff agency.

The defendants, who range in age between 19 to 44, are accused of manipulating systems set up by the Red Cross to verify genuine Katrina claimants to obtain cheques for themselves or their friends.

Scott said Red Cross officials became suspicious and referred the matter to the FBI. Some of those arrested were pictured on video cameras cashing or attempting to cash cheques at Western Union offices in Bakersfield, according to affidavits in the case.

The American Red Cross said last week that it was committed to being "a good steward of the public's generosity" but acknowledged that fraud was unfortunately part of life following major disasters.

It said it knew of 261 cases of alleged fraud in connection with Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and would continue to operate a zero-tolerance policy in all such cases.

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**Action needed to tackle Britain's literacy problems**

**London, 5 Oct —** Urgent action is needed to address the problem of British children entering secondary school with poor literacy skills, the education inspectorate said on Wednesday.

A report from Ofsted said standards of English had improved since 2000 but were still below government targets and there remained problems, particularly among boys.

"There is an urgent need for schools to improve the literacy skills of pupils who enter Year 7 (the first year of secondary school) with attainment below level 4 (the standard expected)," the report by the Office for Standards in Education said.

Ofsted said English was one of the best taught subjects but the rate of improvement in the quality of teaching had been slow.

It said 30 per cent of lessons in primary schools were no better than satisfactory, saying the quality of teachers' assessment was the weakest element.

"This is unlikely to raise pupils' standards significantly, particularly for those who enter school with low levels of literacy," Ofsted said.

The gap between boys and girls was also said to be significant and to widen as children progressed through school, while there was evidence that many pupils were reading less widely for pleasure than before.

"We must ensure that the standard of teaching continues to improve and that pupils receive the help they need," said Miriam Rosen, Ofsted's director of education.

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**Bus, train fares to increase in London**

**London, 5 Oct —** The cost of cash tickets for travelling on London's bus and underground network will increase in 2006, the city's mayor said on Tuesday, in a bid to force commuters to use the cheaper and faster Oyster smartcard instead.

Under the new pricing, a single zone one cash ticket will cost three pounds, up from two, but it will cost 1.50 pounds with Oyster card. A cash single for zones two to six will cost three pounds but just one pound with Oyster and the cash single fare on buses and trains will increase from 1.20 pounds to 1.50 while Oyster single fares will be frozen at one pound in the morning peak or 80 pence at all other times.

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**France’s Greg Raffalli, winner of the men’s singles title at the Cannes Open, was today eliminated in the quarter-finals of the French Open.**
US citizen faces trial for DVD piracy

LOS ANGELES, 5 Oct— An American who served behind bars in China for distributing pirated DVDs on the Internet was taken into custody upon his arrival in the United States on charges of selling counterfeit goods, US officials said on Monday.

Randolph Hobson Guthrie, who arrived at Los Angeles International Airport on Friday by a flight from Shanghai, was due in a downtown courtroom on Tuesday for a bond hearing while awaiting trial on federal charges in Mississippi.

Guthrie and another US citizen, Abram Thrush, were convicted last April in China. It was described as a result of the first piracy investigation conducted jointly by the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Chinese law enforcement authorities. The case began when ICE agents bought counterfeit DVDs in September 2003 at a Mississippi flea market.

The cooperative investigation led a court in Shanghai to convict Guthrie of selling and distributing more than $840,000 dollars' worth of pirated movies on DVDs via the Internet, involving buyers from more than 20 nations, including the United States. Chinese prosecutors contended that since October 2002, Guthrie had illegally sold a total of about 180,000 pirated DVDs around the globe through eBay and a Russian-based web site. w w w . t h r e e d o l l a r d v d . c o m, ICE officials said. M N A / A R P H T

UN security worker shot dead in Somalia

NAIROBI, 5 Oct — Gunmen shot dead a UN security officer outside his home in southern Somalia in the latest assassination linked to foreign targets in the Horn of Africa nation, the world body said on Tuesday.

‘‘He had just been dropped off by his driver when he was shot and killed by two people,’’ Sandra Macharia, spokeswoman for the UN Development Programme’s Somalia operation, told Reuters.

The Somali worker, Mohamuud Musse Gurage, 42, was killed on Monday night in the Lower Juba area of Somalia, she added, prompting a pullout of some UN staff in the area.

Foreigners or Somalis with foreign links have been among the targets, and Islamic militias have been blamed for some of the attacks. Western security agents view Somalia as a potential haven for extremist groups such as al-Qaeda.— M N A / R e u t e r s

Car bomb kills two children, injures two

BOGOTA (Colombia), 5 Oct — A car bomb killed two children and their uncle as they walked along a mountain road in rural southern Colombia, police said on Tuesday, blaming the deaths on a bungled attempt by Marxist rebels to kill security force members.

The car bomb that exploded late on Monday was probably left on the side of the road near the town of Florida, in Cauca Province, by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, as a trap for passing military patrols, police said.

But it exploded when the boy and girl, aged eight and nine, and their uncle, all members of a native Indian community, went up to the car while on a walk to visit a relative.— M N A / R e u t e r s

WHO sees “global epidemic” of chronic disease

GENEVA, 5 Oct — Developing countries can tackle a “global epidemic” of chronic disease by adopting cheap measures that have helped cut heart disease deaths in some rich nations by up to 70 per cent, the World Health Organization (WHO) said.

In a report published on Wednesday, the WHO said nearly half of all deaths from heart disease, cancer, respiratory infections, strokes and diabetes — to which about 35 million people will succumb this year — were preventable.

The report, “Preventing Chronic Diseases — A Vital Investment”, said developing countries, where most such deaths occur, must copy Western nations by discouraging tobacco use and curtailing salt, sugar and saturated fats in food.

“Today we have a major epidemic and we know that if nothing is done, it will evolve rapidly and even more dramatically,” Catherine Le Gales-Camus, WHO assistant director-general of non-communicable disease, told a news briefing.

The WHO, a United Nations agency, said its goal was to prevent the deaths of 36 million people by 2015, by reducing death rates from chronic disease by 2 per cent each year.

“It is achievable. We want to stop people dying at an early age, prematurely and painfully, from a preventable condition,” said Robert Beaglehole, WHO’s director of chronic diseases and health promotion.

Eighty per cent of all heart disease, stroke and type 2 diabetes cases, and over 40 per cent of cancer cases, could be prevented, the report said.

Chronic disease also has a huge economic impact. The WHO estimates that such illnesses will cost China 558 billion US dollars over the next decade, the Russian Federation 303 billion US dollars and India 237 billion US dollars.— M N A / R e u t e r s

Dutch FM questions Iraq invasion

AMSTERDAM, 6 Oct— Foreign Minister Bernard Bot today questioned for the first time whether US-led troops should have invaded Iraq and said diplomacy might have achieved more.

The Netherlands backed the US-led invasion of Iraq, but today Mr Bot was asked in parliament if the invasion was sensible.

“That is a question you can legitimately ask, looking back, and it’s possible that the answer will be that it wasn’t sensible and that using diplomatic means we could have achieved more,” Mr Bot said.

Mr Bot later extended his remarks, telling Dutch television network NOS that he had been referring to the absence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, and a list of questions posed to Iraq.

“If we had had answers to the questions that were on the table, if Saddam Hussein had answered the 200 questions, answered them honestly, then we would have had a better insight into the situation and might have had to take another decision,” Mr Bot said.

The United States largely justified the invasion by charging that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction and was actively pursuing nuclear arms.— I n t e r n e t

1,943 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 6 Oct— As of Thursday, 3 Oct, 2005, at least 1,943 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 1,513 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,804 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 1,404 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.— I n t e r n e t

Iraqi policemen secure the site where a car bomb exploded in central Baghdad on 5 Oct, 2005.— I n t e r n e t
**Iraq rebuilds oil refinery unit crippled by war**

LONDON, 5 Oct — Iraqi crews have rebuilt a 70,000-barrels-per-day oil refinery unit, despite regular attacks, helping to plug shortages that cost over five billion US dollars a year in fuel imports, oil officials said on Tuesday.

The crude distillation unit, one of three at the northern Baiji refinery, has re-opened after a total rebuild and is now operational, they told Reuters.

“It is back up and domestic output has risen as a result,” said the official, adding that a second unit at Baiji is due for maintenance within six months. The official, who declined to be named on security grounds, did not reveal how much Baiji was producing overall. Baiji’s output shrank sharply over the last 25 years due to wars and a crippling embargo.

“It has been a long road, but the crews showed resilience that has been the hallmark of the Iraqi oil industry since the war with Iran in 1980,” he said.

The refinery and a power station nearby have been under attack regularly since the US-led invasion that removed Saddam Hussein and his Baath Party from power in 2003.

Pipelines feeding the refinery from the Kirkuk oilfield to the east and those that carry its output to and from Baghdad have been also sabotaged. Mortar rounds and Katyusha rockets have also hit the complex.

**Vietnam to explore salt mines in Laos**

HANOI, 4 Oct — Vietnam will invest some 2.5 million US dollars in exploring and exploiting salt mines in Laos’ central Khammoune Province.

“We’re surveying salt reserves on a 10-square-kilometre area in Khammoune. The industrial salt to be mined will be consumed in Vietnam or exported,” investor of the newly-licensed project, the state-owned Vietnam Chemical Corporation, told Xinhua on Monday.

The three-year project will help increase salt output of Vietnam which is estimated to produce some 900,000 tons of salt for domestic consumption this year. The country exported over 29,000 tons of salt, mainly to Japan, South Korea and Laos in the first seven months of this year.

Laos attracted 1.3 billion dollars’ worth of foreign direct investment this fiscal year, lasting from October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005, up from 500 million dollars last year. Biggest investors were from China, Vietnam, Thailand and France.

**US soldier describes more abuses in Iraq**

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct — US Army captain who has reported new allegations of detainee abuse in Iraq has met with Senator John McCain and staff aides on the House Armed Services Committee and given them additional accounts of abuse in Iraq that other soldiers had sent him in recent days, according to congressional aides.

In a brief interview after his half-hour meeting with McCain on Tuesday, the captain, Ian Fishback, declined to describe the new information he gave the senator or, in a separate meeting to the House aides.

But Fishback said that since he and two other former members of the 82nd Airborne Division accused soldiers in their battalion in Iraq last month of routinely beating and abusing prisoners in 2003 and 2004, several other soldiers had contacted him and asked him to relay to lawmakers their own experiences.

But a senior House aide who met with Fishback said the officer had been a letter from a sergeant describing detainee abuse in Iraq and allowed the staffers to read the document before taking it back.

The aide, who asked not to be identified because Fishback told them the information in confidence for use in a possible congressional investigation, declined to give details of the abuse.

In separate statements to the organization Human Rights Watch, Fishback and two sergeants recounted how members of the First Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, had repeatedly beaten Iraqi prisoners, exposed them to extremes of heat and cold and shackled them in human pyramids at Camp Mercury, a forward operating base near Falluja.

The abuses reportedly took place from September 2003 to April 2004, before and during the abuses at the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad.
Kuwait keen to boost cooperation with Iraq

KUWAIT CITY, 5 Oct — Kuwaiti First Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah held a meeting on Monday with visiting Speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly Hajem al-Hasani, stressing the importance of enhancing cooperation between Kuwait and Iraq in all arenas.

Sheikh Nawaf said the formation of the Iraqi National Assembly and the drafting of the new Iraqi Constitution were “important steps on the way to achieve democracy in Iraq.” He said that Iraq’s stability was essential for the stability of the whole region, and hoped stability, security and prosperity would prevail in Iraq.

Al-Hasani, who arrived in Kuwait on Monday after his official visit to Jordan, hailed the Kuwaiti support for the Iraqi people, saying that Iraq was moving towards restoring order, security and stability.

Earlier Monday, Sheikh Nawaf received UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy to Iraq Ashraf Jehangir Kazi. The Kuwaiti Minister hailed the role of the United Nations on the international arena in general and in Iraq in particular, voicing Kuwait’s support for the Iraqi people in their effort to restore peace and stability to their country and hoped for even better bilateral ties.

Singapore aviation sector urged to ease travel amid stricter security

SINGAPORE, 5 Oct — The aviation sector should streamline travel procedures amid increasingly tight security measures against terrorism, said Singapore’s Transport Minister Yeo Cheow Tong on Tuesday.

Speaking at an international aviation conference here, Yeo stressed the need for the aviation sector to “find the appropriate balance — the balance between safeguarding security versus the smooth facilitation and clearance of passengers through our airports”.

Despite soaring oil prices, the global aviation industry enjoyed a robust growth in air travel last year, he said, adding that the security threats had put an increasing strain on border controls and airports as maintaining a high level of service for their customers.

“So unless we devise new and better ways to cope with the rising travel demand and the increased security requirements, we risk turning passengers off with long waiting times, flight delays, overcrowding and safety fears,” the minister warned.

Yeo called on airlines, airports, aviation authorities, border control and security agencies to play their part in re-examining travel processes and initiating improvements.

“To promote efficient and hassle-free travel, airlines, airports, aviation authorities, border control and security agencies must therefore all play their part to re-examine the issues and processes, and initiate improvements,” he said.

Yeo also announced that to improve check-in efficiency, Singapore’s Changi Airport will introduce a do-it-yourself check-in from next year.

He added that to facilitate border control, the airport will also use biometrics as an automatic, fast and highly reliable way of processing passenger arrivals and departures.

Despite rising consumer and operator sentiments, aviation experts pointed out that the financial strains caused by the implementation of stricter security measures can only be alleviated if airports and governments collaborate to harmonize and coordinate such activities.

Andrew Drysdale, regional vice-president of the International Air Transport Association, said that since 11 September attacks in the United States, the extra security measures have cost airlines 5.6 billion US dollars a year. More than 25 experts from various international organizations and over 100 airline and airport participants from more than 40 countries and regions are gathered here with the aim of making the air travel experience for passengers a seamless process.

MNA/Xinhua

Gambia cuts ferry tariffs to end Senegal dispute

BANJUL, 5 Oct — Gambia said on Tuesday it would reduce tariffs for ferry crossings of the Gambia river, ending a transport dispute with neighbouring Senegal which had disrupted West African regional trade, officials said.

Senegal, which almost surrounds finger-shaped Gambia, had stopped trucks from crossing the border after the Gambia Ports Authority imposed a sharp increase in ferry tariffs in August.

The Ports Authority, announcing the tariff cut in a statement on Tuesday, said it would take effect on 10 October and was being made to mark the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which begins this week. More than 85 per cent of Senegal and Gambia are Muslim.

The border with French-speaking Senegal was fully re-opened on Tuesday, an official in English-speaking Gambia said. Muslims believe that good deeds are rewarded tenfold during the fasting month of Ramadan, the holiest period in the Muslim lunar calendar.

The transport blockades had deprived Gambians of building materials, fruit and vegetables, and hampered trade and transport links with Senegal’s southern neighbours, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau. Gambia is a narrow strip of land stretching some 220 miles eastward along the Gambia river from West Africa’s Atlantic coast.

MNA/Reuters

Iraqi police release detained British national

NAJAF (Iraq), 5 Oct — Iraqi police released a British citizen on Tuesday, a day after detaining him near the Saudi border with an armed group, a police official said.

The Briton, identified on his business card as Colin Peter Wanley, appeared at a police news conference in the southern city of Najaf on Tuesday after his release.

“Ten people were arrested yesterday close to the Iraqi-Saudi border. One of them was British,” said Saadoun al-Jabiree, an Iraqi border police spokesman.

MNA/Reuters

Japan’s Malaysia Embassy evacuated after mail scare

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 Oct — Japan evacuated its Malaysian Embassy on Tuesday after the mission received a suspicious item by mail, an embassy spokesman said.

“We received a suspicious mail. We reported to the police and there was an announcement to evacuate the building,” spokesman Satoshi Tamai said by mobile phone from outside the embassy.

The building in the diplomatic enclave of Kuala Lumpur was cleared at about 0600 GMT and the road outside sealed off by police, he said. He said he did not have any more details.

MNA/Reuters

Thailand tightens tourist security after Bali bombs

BANGKOK, 5 Oct — Thailand tightened security around popular tourist spots and strategic infrastructure, including ferry piers, on Tuesday following the weekend bombs on Bali, officials said.

“We have been doing everything we have to do and we are adding extra efforts to those, but I can’t tell you what they are,” Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra told reporters before a Cabinet meeting in the northeastern province of Kalasin. Defence Minister Thammanarat Isranagura said he was seeking 30 million baht (730,000 US dollars) from state oil giant PTT Exploration and Production.

Those detained had eight Kalashnikov assault rifles, two pistols, ammunition, radios and GPS satellite navigation equipment, he said. Wanley and two Iraqis were released while the other seven were still being held, he added.

Jabiree said Wanley was working for a water treatment company, identified on his card as Ammtech International Consultants Ltd.

More checkpoints around beaches and sent more plainclothes officers to look for anything suspicious, Phuket city police chief Colonel Paween Pongsirin told Reuters by telephone.

“Phuket is a very sensitive place for our tourism industry so we can’t allow anything to happen,” Paween said.

“Unarmed and undercover police are patrolling round the clock in a bid to prevent any attack possibility,” he said.

Mosques, ferry piers, beaches and tank farms were being watched closely, he said.— MNA/Reuters

Miss Universe 2005 Natalie Glebova gives a traditional Thai greeting known as a ‘Wai’ during film advertising in Bangkok on Thursday, 6 Oct, 2005.

—INTERNET

A Chinese youth depicting a cartoon character walks around among visitors at 2005 Animation Comics Games Carnival on 5 Oct, 2005, in Shanghai, China.—INTERNET

Japanese police release detained British national

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MNA/Reuters
Better transport of Dawei-Myeik-Kawthoung Road… (from page 4)

Dr Ye Myint of Health Department cut the ribbon to open the archway of the hospital.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected units of the hospital. At the ceremony to set up the medical trust-fund of the hospital, the commander gave a speech.

In his address, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that the Government is carrying out five rural development tasks for equitable development of rural and urban areas. No one can deny that progress has been made in the region than the past. Furthermore, local people are to take part in the regional development.

Health staff are to take proper care of health to the local people. Only when departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people will participate in health care services of the region, will health standard improve. In addition, local people are to actively guard against internal and external destructive elements.

At the cash donation ceremony for the medical trust-fund, Dr Nyan Min accepted one generator worth K 700,000 and K 1 million for medicines donated by U Huy Myint (Yuzana Co Ltd); K 500,000 by U Saw Jack Daw Khin Khin Soe (Annawa Soe Fisheries Co).

The hospital is located in Ward 1 of Khamaukgyi. It is 120 feet long and 64 feet wide 16-bed hospital. The hospital was built at a cost of K 45 million.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected Khamaukgyi Police Station and BEPS in Ward 4. In Ward 4, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with local people and gave necessary instructions. They oversaw progress of building the Park in Khamaukgyi.

At Khamaukgyi Station Hall, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with Tatmadawmen and family members, departmental officials and social organization members. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that as the Government is striving for equitable development of rural and urban areas, Khamaukgyi Town has made a very little contribution for the development of the nation. Therefore, local people are to harmoniously take part in the regional development tasks. Departmental personnel and social associations are to organize the local people in carrying out development tasks.

Minister visits yachtsmen to SEA Games

YANGON, 6 Oct — Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint visited Myanmar yachtsmen undergoing training for 23rd SEA Games at Inya Lake today. President of Myanmar Yachting Federation U Moe Myint and officials briefed the minister on progress of the training programme. The minister greeted the yachtsmen individually and urged them to undergo training with zeal and perseverance to bring honour to the nation after winning victory in the games. He then viewed the yachtsmen undergoing training on Inya Lake in a powered- vessel. — MNA

Mandalay Mayor inspects beautifying tasks

YANGON, 6 Oct — Mandalay City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, accompanied by officials, inspected sanitation and beautifying tasks in Chamaytazai on 29 September. The mayor visited the sanitation and beautifying projects for the proper flow of water drainage on both sides of the roads in the township and gave necessary instructions to the officials. — MNA
If one truly human one has to uphold whatever little honour one possesses

The year 1990 was just two years after the 1988 unrest in which anarchy was rampant across the nation. At that time, the majority of the national people could not distinguish exactly who were good and who were bad. Therefore, many people failed to cast votes. Most of the voters were just willing to see a political change in the nation. The Tatmadaw Government elected by popular vote. The truth was that the Tatmadaw Government was powerful, and the population of adults stood nearly 21 million (20,818,313) and only over 15 million (15,112,524) cast votes. NLD won 7,934,632 votes, accounting for 31 percent of the nation’s adult population. At that time, the nation’s population was close to 40 million. So it is unwise to assume that NLD won the support of the majority of the people.

There is a Myanmar saying that goes “It is all right if you don’t want to help, but please don’t disturb.” I have realized that former Czech president Vaclav Havel and Bishop Desmond Tutu do not want at all to give up their positions as they criticize the Tatmadaw Government that is taking all possible measures based on self-reliant efforts to be on the correct path towards development, but are making one-sided accusations against the nation. They are not willing to help Myanmar, and it does not matter. But they should not disrupt Myanmar from taking steps for her progress. Although they have no wish to help Myanmar national people, they are pretending to have goodwill to the people. Indeed, it is just in the interests of a certain person and a handful of people in the nation. It is apparent to everyone that their words are in contrast with their deeds.

The two men issued a report urging the UN Security Council to interfere in the internal affairs of Myanmar. Just as it took a glance at the cover, I guessed they are such kind of persons who have a bias against Myanmar. It is because at the beginning of the report, they said they did not want to recall the nation “Myanmar.” They said they used the name “Burma” instead of “Myanmar.” And they excused that why they did not use the former one was because NLD does not accept to call the name of the nation as “Myanmar.” The group, that often stated that NLD won the majority of votes in the 1990 elections, is still intransigent to call “Myanmar” for the reason that it can win the favor of their foreign masters who are providing assistance for it only if it is against the ruling government. With the intention of promoting the role of the group, the foreign masters said that the name “Myanmar” is used just for the sake of the government, so they could not use the name “Myanmar” and they would continue to use the name “Burma.”

The year 1990 was just two years after the 1988 unrest in which anarchy was rampant across the nation. At that time, the majority of the national people could not distinguish exactly who were good and who were bad. Therefore, many people failed to cast votes. Most of the voters were just willing to see a political change in the nation. The Tatmadaw Government elected by popular vote. The truth was that the Tatmadaw Government was powerful, and the population of adults stood nearly 21 million (20,818,313) and only over 15 million (15,112,524) cast votes. NLD won 7,934,632 votes, accounting for 31 percent of the nation’s adult population. At that time, the nation’s population was close to 40 million. So it is unwise to assume that NLD won the support of the majority of the people.

The Tatmadaw Government held fair and free multi-party general elections on 27 May 1990. At the time, the population of adults stood nearly 21 million (20,818,313) and only over 15 million (15,112,524) cast votes. NLD won 7,934,632 votes, accounting for 31 percent of the nation’s adult population. At that time, the nation’s population was close to 40 million. So it is unwise to assume that NLD won the support of the majority of the people.
If one is truly human one has to uphold whatever little honour one possesses.

(Translation: MS+AK+TMT)

Myanma Alin: 3-10-2005

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 7 October, 2005 9
Commander, Ministers supervise development of townships in Rakhine State

YANGON, 6 Oct — Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, accompanied by the president of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and officials, met with the chairman of Rakhine State Merchant Association and members and entrepreneurs at Bandoola Yeiktha in Sittway on 1 October.

In Maungtaw, the commander and the ministers gave instructions to secretaries and executives of District and Township Union Solidarity and Development Associations at Maungtaw District USDA Office. On 2 October, the commander and the ministers met with departmental personnel, merchants, entrepreneurs and social organization members at Thin Mingala Hall.

On 4 October, the ministers gave instructions to departmental officials, merchants and members of social organizations. They explained regional development matters.

They instructed them to boost domestic products, and increase export items. In Rathedaung, they attended the ceremony to inaugurate the reinforced concrete jetty built by the Township Development Affairs Committee.

The executive officer of Township Development Affairs Committee reported on construction of the jetty. The commander presented gifts to the engineer who led construction tasks. They viewed the jetty with the length of 48 feet and width of 38 feet. They also looked into completion of Mayyu Hall and two storey-building at Rathedaung BEHS.

At the office of Township USDA, they met with the secretary and executives. Similarly, they called on departmental officials and social organization members at Township PDC Office. The commander fulfilled the requirements.

On 4 October, the commander and the ministers met with departmental officials, UMFCCI, Rakhine State Merchants Association, Rubber Entrepreneurs Association and Fisheries Entrepreneurs Association at the city hall in Sittway. UMFCCI President U Win Myint, Chairman of Rakhine State Merchants Association U Bo Thein and entrepreneurs discussed functions of their organizations and future tasks.

The ministers gave instructions on enhancement of agricultural and livestock breeding sector of Rakhine State and promotion of export items and development of border trade.

On 4 October, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein inspected offices of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading and Border Trade Department in Sittway and gave necessary instructions to officials. — MNA

Industry-2 Ministry displays machine parts for government and private industries

YANGON, 6 Oct — Industry-2 Ministry organized a display of machine parts manufactured by its factories this morning at the ministry here.

The ceremony opened with the address of Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin saying that as smelting technology, lathe, mould and die, finishing machines, rubber processing methods and electronic technologies are developing with greater momentum, means should be found to manufacture machine parts required by the ministry, based on the newly acquired technologies and innovations. The show will help integrate the experiences and expertise of senior technicians of ministries, research findings and innovations of academicians of universities and entrepreneurs of industrial zones into advanced and effective production process in the practical field, the minister said.

The show displays ministry-manufactured machines and parts for its industries and other government and private organizations, he said, adding, the ministry has been repairing, maintaining and manufacturing its machines with parts produced by its own industries for over 30 years. He said, it has been producing machines and parts for industries of ministries and organizations for many years. Up to previous month, it had produced 5,082 items of machine parts worth K 47.5 million for government and private industries. The machines displayed at the show include electronic and electrical apparatus, hydraulic parts, meters and other measuring equipment. After studying the machines, the visitors should select the items they would like to manufacture at their own factories in cooperation with experts.

Industry-2 Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw explained programmes to manufacture more machines and parts by local industries.

Guests including Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein, officials, technicians and industrialists studied machine parts displayed at the show. Industry-2 Ministry officials also replied to queries raised by the visitors. — MNA

Departmental heads, experts, industrialists and guests observe machine parts. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin delivers a speech at the ceremony to display machine parts manufactured by the Ministry of Industry-2. — MNA
Progress of Yangon Division Vegetable Cultivation and Poultry Farming Special Zone inspected

YANGON, 6 Oct — Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command, accompanied departmental officials, inspected Yangon Division Vegetable Cultivation and Poultry Farming Special Zone near Nyaungnhapin Village of Hmawby Township yesterday afternoon.

Those in charge of respective zones reported to the commander on zone-wise production of vegetables, broiler and layers and fish and maintenance of roads.

Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for Special Zone reported to the Commander U Hla Soe of General Administration Department briefed the commander on the sites for construction of wooden bridges along roads in the zones and the road to Kalihtaw Dam and supervision to limit overload vehicles on the main roads in the zone.

Entrepreneurs reported to the commander on requirements of agriculture and livestock breeding tasks.

After hearing the reports, the commander said that it is necessary to make preparations for supply of adequate water for agricultural purpose in coming summer. Necessary assistance will be provided to the entrepreneurs for better transport in the zones and power and water supply.

Ministries and national entrepreneurs put land under 28 items of vegetables in the special zone. So far, 5,850 acres of land have been put under vegetable plantations. Furthermore, the entrepreneurs are carrying out breeding of over 900,000 broilers and raising of over 200,000 layers. At 515 acres of ponds, over 1.4 million of fish are being bred.

Rules on Armed Forces Day Commemorative Painting and Sculpture Contests announced

Yangon, 6 Oct — Hailing the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2006, the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee under the Poem and Arts Competitions Organizing Work Committee chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung announced rules on the Arts and Sculpture Contests.

The Painting Contest will be divided into six categories — the pre-primary level (school children from Pre-Primary School, the primary (junior) level (KG, first and second standards), the primary (senior) level (third and fourth standards), the middle school level (fifth to seventh standards), the high school level (eighth to tenth standards and technical and agricultural schools) and the open level (university, college, institute, State School of Fine Arts, amateur and professional contestants).

Contestants can participate in only the open class of the Sculpture Contest. But, they may take part in the two events — the open class (plaster) and the open class (wood). All the contestants including amateurs, professionals and students may take part in both contests.

In the pre-primary and all basic education levels of the Painting Contest, the size of the entry must be 20" x 15" presented by any colour and system. The entry must be endorsed by respective principals with the name of commissioner, standard, school, full address and three passport size photos. The entries are to be sent to the Education Planning and Training Department at 123, Natmauk Street, Bahan Township, not later than 23 February 2006. The works are to be sent to the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee, Tatmadaw Convention Hall, U Wisara Road, not later than 1 March 2006.

The size of entries for the open division painting contest must be 30" x 20" size work presented by any colour and system. Name, Citizenship Scrutiny Card Number, and full address must be sent with three passport size photos. The entries must be original. The works are to be sent to the Secretary of the Painting and Sculpture Contests, Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee, Tatmadaw Convention Hall, U Wisara Road, here, from 1 to 3 March 2006.

The entry for the wood and plaster events of the Sculpture Contest must not be higher than 36 inches and circumference not larger than 24 inches. The work must be own creation. The entry is to be attached with the name, Citizenship Scrutiny Card number, full address and a brief biography and three passport size colour photos.

Any title can be given to the entry. The entries must be the ones that have not entered the contest and exhibition yet. The entries are to be sent to the Secretary of the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee, Tatmadaw Convention Hall, U Wisara Road, not later than 1 March 2006.

All the entries must reflect 12 Objectives of the State, objectives of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day and 12 fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Entries for the open class painting and sculpture contests are to be sent to the Secretary of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Association (Central) of 187, east wing of Bogyoke Market, Pabedan Township, not later than 1 March 2006 or the Secretary of the Painting and Sculpture Contests and Exhibition Organizing Sub-committee, Tatmadaw Convention Hall, U Wisara Road, here, from 1 to 3 March 2006.

Apart from the entries, other paintings and sculptures may be sent to be displayed at the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition. They must also reflect the 12 Objectives of the State, objectives of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day and 12 fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Family health care course for housewives opened

YANGON, 6 Oct — Under the leadership of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central), the family health care course for housewives opened, organized by Yangon East District MCWSC, opened at Aung Kyaw Hall of Basic Education High School No 6 in Botataung Township on 4 October.

First, Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Khin Thet Huy briefed about the course and presented cash assistance amounting to 1,518,000 each to the respective township MCWAs. Officials of the MMCWA also accepted the membership applications at the ceremony. — MNA

Teachershapes courses on reproductive knowledge opened in Yangon South District

YANGON, 6 Oct — Teachershapes training multipler courses on disseminating reproductive knowledge opened by Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association were opened yesterday in Twantay, Kawhmu, Kyangyangon, and Dalla townships in Yangon South District.

At the opening ceremonies of the courses, Vice President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and Chairperson of the Supervisory Committee for Yangon Division MCWA Daw Khin Thet Huy briefed about the course and presented cash assistance amounting to 1,518,000 each to the respective township MCWAs. Officials of the MMCWA also accepted the membership applications at the ceremonies.

East wind, go back east
West wind, go back west

* Myanmar myself
  I depend on myself, I look after my own
  brood
  My knowledge, my word, my religion
  My place, my root, I lay my domain
  Without having to do, lay claim
  From afar, without equal status
  I will wind forceful, don't come and blow
  East wind, go back east
  West wind, go back west

* I watch my enemy, I defend my Mother
  My area, my domain, I beautify it
  I play my tune, I keep my tempo
  My method, my system, I must love
  Without having anything to do, lay claim
  From afar, without equal status
  East wind, go back east
  West wind, go back west.

Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects Yangon Division’s farming zone in Hmawby Township, Yangon North District. — MNA

Naung (Trs)
India’s “Akash” missile test fired

BALSORE, 5 Oct— Akash, India’s surface-to-air missile, was test fired twice at the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur-on-sea in the eastern Indian state of Orissa on Monday.

The multi-target missile with a striking range of 25 kilometres was directed against a target at a range of 60 km during its entire flight and could be launched from a mobile launcher system, according to a defence source. The sleek 5.6-metre long missile, with a launch weight of 700 kilos and capability to carry a warhead of 60 kilos, blasted off from a mobile launcher at 12.50 pm.

It was fired at the target for the second time around one o’clock, the sources said. The test was conducted to prove its consistencies during the entire flight, the sources said.

The Army and the Indian Air Force, who would be using the missile, had wanted it to demonstrate consistency during the entire flight.

The sophisticated missile, which uses an integral ramjet rocket propulsion system and has low reaction time, operates in conjunction with the indigenous-built Rajendra Surveillance and Engagement Radar being developed by the Hyderabad-based Electronic Research and Development Establishment (ERDE).

The radar was capable of tracking 64 targets and guide up to 12 missiles simultaneously. The missile is part of India’s Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Compared to the US-made Patriot, the sources said Akash had better features. It was totally mobile and could be launched from a bottle tank and had thrust for its entire flight and the propulsion worked till it hit the target.

Miss Asia contestants of China, from left, Tiffany Yang, 2nd runner-up Anna Zhai, winner Kitty Wang and Kammy Kang perform at the 2005 Miss Asia Pageant contest in Hong Kong on 4 Oct., 2005.—INTERNET

S Koreans query procedures after concert stampede

SANGSU (South Korea), 5 Oct— Angry relatives in this sleepy South Korean county town on Tuesday questioned safety procedures at the stadium where 11 people were killed and 90 injured in a stampede to see a holiday music concert.

A preliminary police investigation showed the accident occurred when one of the main gates was opened earlier than others for the unreserved-seating concert that had attracted a crowd of about 10,000. People rushed to the open gate, causing a surge that quickly turned into a stampede, according to police. Elderly people and children at the front of the line were trampled.

“No big event has come to this city for more than 10 years. That is why so many people wanted to go out to the concert,” said a 45-year-old male resident of the town about 155 miles southeast of Seoul.

Relatives complained there were not enough safety personnel, police and rescue officials on hand. The area where the stampede occurred was sealed off by police on Tuesday and workers were busy scrubbing the pavement.

Three of the injured were in critical condition and there was a chance the death toll could rise, police said.

INVITATION TO TENDER

MYANMA RAILWAYS

Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation, Government of the Union of Myanmar, from reputed manufacturers or their bona fide agents, from all eligible source countries for the supply and delivery of the following:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Tender No. &amp; Description of Goods</th>
<th>Issuing Date</th>
<th>Closing Date &amp; Time</th>
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Tender Documents are available at the Office of the Managing Director, Myanma Railways, No. 357/361, Merchant Street, Botaung Township, Yangon during office hours on payment of US$ 100 for ICB No. 10/MR/OPEC/E/2005-2006(III) and US$20 for ICB No. 11/MR/OPEC/E/2005-2006(III) respectively.

Bids are to reach the office of the Managing Director, Myanma Railways, No. 357/361, Merchant Street, Botaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar on or before the Closing Date and Time shown against each Tender. The Bids will be opened publicly at 12.00 noon on the Closing Date at Myanma Railways Head Office. All Bids not accompanied by earnest money (Bid Bond) will not be considered.

No Telegraphic/Telex/Fax/e-mail proposal will be considered or accepted.

Myanma Railways reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders without furnishing reasons. Tender will be accepted only from Bidders who has purchased Tender Documents officially. (Those purchased through Embassies must declare for whom they are purchased.)

The above Goods and Services are to be purchased from the proceeds of OPEC Fund in various currencies towards the cost of Yangon-Nyaunglaybin Railway Line Rehabilitation Project.

For further details please call 95-1-298589, 291982, 201555 Ext-510, 602, 540, 228.

Managing Director
Myanma Railways

Bali needs three months to recover from blasts

DENPASAR (Indonesia), 5 Oct— In spite of improved security and concerted efforts by trade associations and the government, Indonesia’s resort island of Bali needs at least three months to recover from Saturday’s explosions, which have killed 27 people and injured 122 others so far, said representatives from tourism-related sectors here on Tuesday.

The associations of hotels, travel agencies and airlines would be mobilised soon to help the tourism-oriented island to return to normal, said Bagus Sudibya, chairman of the Association of Indonesian Tourists and Travel Agencies. For travel agencies, more promotion about the security of Bali needed to be done to draw customers, said Sudibya at a Press conference.

Certain “political decisions” by the central government could also play an important role to encourage Bali to shed off the shadow of bombings, he said. “We have good confidence in tourists, especially those from Australia, who are expected to return here soon,” he added. As to the sector of hotel, Robert Kelsall, representative of the Bali Hotels Association, said more security measures would be adopted by local hotels to ensure guests that here is safe.

“We plan to employ more centrally-controlled TV systems to monitor the surrounding and guarantees that every admission is no problem,” he said.

Meanwhile, the local police were expected to train community people so that they could possess certain professionalism to be alert against terrorism, he added.

Representative from national carrier Garuda, Umar Khan, said that the giant airliner would join hands with other small-scale fliers to help the influx of travellers into Bali to return to normal.

“At present, Garuda’s service between Indonesia and Australia is still normal, around 30 flights a week,” he said, adding that the booking of tickets for other flights of his company was also okay.

NMA/Reuters

OPEC Fund in various currencies towards the cost of Yangon-Nyaunglaybin Railway Line Rehabilitation Project.
Aviation industry strives to improve against high oil costs

Nairobi, 5 Oct—The global aviation industry is striving to improve efficiency as it is expected to lose 7.5 billion US dollars this year due to skyrocketing oil prices, the world aviation body has said.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) Giovanni Bisignani said the forecast is based on an average oil price over the 12 months of 2005 of 57 dollars per barrel.

"Oil is once again robbing the industry of a return to profitability," Bisignani told a news conference in Nairobi late Monday.

He urged the African airlines which he said will experience minimal loses this year to shorten routes, reduce costs and introduce electronic ticketing in order to stay in the competitive business.

The IATA boss said efficiency gains, high load factors and fuel surcharges are helping mitigate a portion of the impact of the extraordinary price of fuel.

"The airline battle to reduce costs, increase yields and improve efficiencies is effective well beyond expectations," said Bisignani. "We are trying to do as much as we can in order to introduce more efficiency as much as we can in order to introduce more efficiency.

Trio win physics noble for shedding light on optics

Stockholm, 5 Oct—Two Americans and a German won the Nobel Physics Prize on Tuesday for optical research giving accurate measurements that could one day be used in deep space travel or three-dimensional holographic television.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the prize to Roy Glauber and John Hall and Germany's Theodor Haensch for studying light and harnessing lasers to create a "measuring stick" to gauge frequencies with extreme precision.

Such precision will one day be needed for "navigation on long space journeys and for space-based telescope arrays," the Academy said, while Haensch, the youngest of the winners at 63, said it could even lead to "3D holographic television".

Hall, 71 and from Colorado, said he might use his share of the 10 million Swedish crown (1.29 million US dollars) prize money to endow a scholarship in science and technology.

Harvard University's Glauber, 80, said he was woken at home in Massachusetts by a call from an science and technology.

"The economic outlook improves, we may see further reductions in planting for 2006," he added.

"The drop in the area reflects the difficult economic conditions many farmers are facing with increasing energy costs and the rising price of fertilizer," said Arthur Hill, chairman of the NFU Combinable Crops Board.

British farmers see 2005 wheat crop down 3.5%

London, 6 Oct —British wheat production should fall to 14.9 million tonnes in 2005, down 3.5 per cent from last year, Britain’s National Farmers Union (NFU) said on Tuesday.

The NFU said wheat yields were expected to be up 3 per cent, with the drop in production reflecting a decline in plantings in all regions this year.

British’s farm ministry last week estimated Britain wheat area dropped 6 per cent for the 2005 crop. The drop in the area reflects the difficult economic conditions many farmers are facing with increasing energy costs and the rising price of fertilizer, “We have a couple of prototypes now. We will implant them in cows at the end of the year. We still have to find suitable coating materials,” Lekkala told Reuters.

"Testing these devices on humans is not part of this research project, and we don’t have a clear time frame for when this could happen,” he added.

"The devices can measure electrocardiogram signals, heart rate or other health parameters and transmit the data, and could also be used to send an alarm in case urgent treatment is needed.”

Finns develop microchip to detect heart problems

Helsinki, 5 Oct—Finnish researchers are developing a microchip that tracks heart rate activity under the patient’s skin and can alert doctors to any health problems, but testing it on humans could still be some way off.

The working group, led by professor Jukka Lekkala at Tampere University of Technology, has been working on a wireless device for measuring health data for several years and is planning to test the prototypes of the chip on cows later this year.

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“Unless the economic outlook improves, we may see further reductions in planting for 2006,” he added.

British grain analysts expect that some marginal wheat area will not be planted for the 2006 harvest due to low grain prices and rising energy and fertilizer costs.— MNA/Reuters

Endowed chair in Indian music set up at UCLA

Los Angeles, 5 Oct—Consolidating the nearly 50-year-old tradition of Indian music teaching at the University of California, an "endowed chair in Indian Music" with a pledge of one million US dollars was set up here on Sunday to mark Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary.

The chair was inaugurated at a concert featuring sitar maestro Shujaat Khan, accompanied by Abhiman Kaushal on the tabla. The duo started with “Abeer Bhatrao” and finished off with the Father of the Nation’s favourite “Vaishnav Jana...” in raga “Aahil Belaval”.

Khan is the son of the legendary Vilayat Khan and has been teaching the sitar at the university since 1996. The Sambhi Chair, part of the School of Arts and Architecture at the University of California (UCLA) seeks to ensure that the study of Indian music will continue at the UCLA and support teaching and research activities of a distinguished faculty member by underwriting graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

Dr Sambhi’s pledge — to my knowledge is the largest ever private gift for Indian music study to a university and has enormous value for the field of ethnomusicology, which has for a half century championed the teaching of Indian music, as well as other musical traditions from around the world, in American universities,” Daniel Neuman, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor of UCLA and a scholar of Indian music, said.— MNA/PTI

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**SPOR**

**Eriksson confident of England topping their group**

**Manchester (England), 5 Oct—**Sven-Goran Eriksson is convinced his underperforming England will finish top of Group Six and avoid the “disaster” of failing to qualify for the World Cup finals.

England looked to be comfortably on their way to Germany until last month’s shock 1-0 defeat in Northern Ireland left them needing to beat Austria on Saturday and Poland next week to qualify as group winners.

Should they fail, Eriksson’s men could still book a ticket to the finals as one of the two best runners-up or via the playoffs.

“We’re playing for the World Cup,” Eriksson told a news conference on Tuesday. “We know we can play in the playoffs as the situation is today, but we don’t want to do that. We want to try to win the group.

“We have to play better and we have to go with that sort of pressure.”

England, not reaching the World Cup would be a disaster.”

Despite his optimism, Eriksson also made it clear England need to move up a gear after starting their season with a 4-1 friendly defeat in Denmark and continuing with an unconvincing 1-0 qualifying win over Wales and the defeat in Belfast.

The Swede said: “We have two huge games to play...and we know we can play much, much better than we have so far this season — and we have to.”

Reluctant to once again analyse the defeat by Northern Ireland, using a controversial 4-3/4-5-1 formation, Eriksson said: “It was bad. It was sad. And that’s it.”

Speaking at Old Trafford, which will be hosting their next two qualifiers, Eriksson said he would “probably” revert to a 4-4-2 system and also gave his full backing to central defender Rio Ferdinand.

**Registration doubts add new twist to Messi saga**

**Marina, 5 Oct—**Argentine teenage prodigy Lionel Messi could again find himself barred from appearing for Barcelona due to arguments over the validity of his playing licence.

A lawyer acting for Deportivo Corunahad told the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) on Tuesday that Messi should not be allowed to play because he was granted Spanish citizenship after the August 31 deadline for registration of players.

Lawyer German Rodriguez Conchado argued the 18-year-old should not be allowed to appear for Barcelona until the new registration period opens on January 1, 2006.

A spokesman for Primera Liga Deportivo Corunahad said the club had already filled its permitted quota of three non-European Union players.

Last week he was granted Spanish citizenship and went on to play in Barca’s 2-2 draw at home to Real Zaragoza in the league.

If Messi’s registration is declared to be unsound then Zaragoza could try and get the result of the game overturned on the grounds Barcelona fielded an ineligible player.

The case would in all likelihood drag on for many months because all parties could appeal to the RFEF, then to the Spanish Committee for Sports Disciplines (CEDD) and even to the civil courts.

Barca president Joan Laporta told sports daily Marca on Monday that he believed there was an organized campaign to prevent Messi from playing for the club.

“Some have tried to create confusion over the affair and I’ve seen evidence of ill-will from some people who had planned to take action to ensure Messi will not play,” he said.

**Sin Un-Jin of South Korea performs with the ribbon during team competition at the Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships in Baku on 5 October, 2005. —INTERNET**

**Chicago White Sox batter Tadahito Iguchi (15) from Japan and Boston Red Sox catcher Jason Varitek (R) watch as Iguchi’s three run home run in the fifth inning gives the White Sox a 5-4 lead in the American League Division Series in Chicago on 5 October, 2005. White Sox won the game 5-4 and leads the series two games to none. —INTERNET**

**Crespo happy for Brazil to take favourites role**

**Buenos Aires, 5 Oct—**Argentina striker Hernan Crespo said he was happy for rivals Brazil to be considered as favourites to win the 2006 World Cup.

Crespo remembered that Argentina arrived at the previous World Cup as favourites, only to be knocked out in the first round, while Brazil started as dark horses and went on to win a fifth world title.

“It’s best not to talk about Argentina as favourates,” he told reporters on Tuesday. “Let’s see how they (Brazil) handle the pressure this time.

“When we were the candidates at the other World Cup, we didn’t do well, so it’s best not to have to go with that sort of pressure.”

“Brazil are the ones with the best chances.”

Argentina beat Brazil 3-1 in a World Cup qualifier in June in Buenos Aires, when Crespo scored twice, but Brazil hit back to win 4-1 in the Confederations Cup final three weeks later when Crespo was being rested.

The two South American giants have already made sure of their places in Germany.

Argentina are at home to Peru, already eliminated, in a World Cup qualifier on Sunday and away to Uruguay three days later when they complete their 18-match programme.

“Even if we’re already qualified, there are no easy matches and they’re all useful for something,” said Crespo.

Argentina will be looking for a significant improvement on their last game, when they lost 1-0 in Paraguay.”

**Nicole Vaidisova of the Czech Republic returns a forehand to Rika Fajiwara of Japan during the second round of the AIG Japan Open Tennis Championships in Tokyo on 6 October, 2005. Vaidisova won the match 6-4, 6-2. —INTERNET**

**Chicago White Sox batter Tadahito Iguchi (15) from Japan and Boston Red Sox catcher Jason Varitek (R) watch as Iguchi’s three run home run in the fifth inning gives the White Sox a 5-4 lead in the American League Division Series in Chicago on 5 October, 2005. White Sox won the game 5-4 and leads the series two games to none. —INTERNET**
Britons are Europe’s most prolific shoplifters

LONDON, 6 Oct — Britons are the most prolific shoplifters in Europe, a survey published on Wednesday showed.

They stole 3.58 billion pounds (6.29 billion US dollars) of goods from their nation’s shops last year, the equivalent of 1.59 per cent of British retail turnover.

Razor blades were the most stolen item followed by alcohol and toiletries, according to the British-based Centre for Retail Research.

Finland had the second worst shoplifting problem followed by Portugal and Greece while the Swiss were the most disciplined shoppers, the survey showed. Theft accounted for 0.89 per cent of Swiss retail turnover.

In all, Europeans stole 30.8 billion euros (36.72 billion US dollars) worth of goods from their stores last year — 71.5 euros per person.

Customers were blamed for 48 per cent of the thefts, staff for 29 per cent and suppliers for 7 per cent.

The survey covered 423 retailers in 24 countries, accounting for 20 per cent of European retail turnover.

MNA/Reuters

Friday, 7 October

View on today

7:00 am
1.  Rhythm of the day
2.  To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3.  Morning news

7:40 am
4.  Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
5.  Music

8:00 am
6.  The mirror images of the musical oldies

8:10 am
7.  National

8:20 am
8.  A chance of music

8:30 am
9.  International news

8:45 pm
10. English for Everyday Use

3:20 am
1.  A chance of music

7:25 am
2.  To be healthy exercise

15

WEATHER

Thursday, 6 October, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, southwest monsoon had withdrawn from the whole country.

Weather has been partly cloudy in Shan State and Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State, lower Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions, widespread in Chin and Mon States and Yangon Division and scattered in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in lower Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyakkami (3.15) inches, Thandwe (2.20) inches, Thaton (1.85) inches, Hakha (1.65) inches, Kanbalu (1.57) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (1.22) inches, Bago (0.95) inch and Meiktila (0.23) inch.

Maximum temperature on 5-10-2005 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 6-10-2005 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 6-10-2005 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 5-10-2005 was (6.4) hours approx. Rainfalls on 6-10-2005 were (1.22) inches at Mingaladon, (0.04) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.08) inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (95.00) inches at Mingaladon, (96.22) inches at Kaba-Aye and (100.20) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northwest at (08:35) hours MST on 6-10-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is cloudy in the South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 7-10-2005: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, light rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-10-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-10-2005: Generally fair weather.

*R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newslight, PO Box No. 43. Telephones: Editors 296115, Manager 296684, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 296843, Accounts 296545, Administration 296161, Production 297032 (Office) / 297928 (Press).
DHF control campaign launched

YANGON, 6 Oct — The Health Department of the Ministry of Health and Yangon City Development Committee launched a campaign to prevent Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon East District, on 4 October.

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, USDA CEC Member (Yangon Division In-charge) Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo viewed the preventative measures against DHF being carried out in the township.

The commander and party viewed measures to drain mosquito breeding stagnant waters, to keep surroundings clean and spray insecticide, and hold the educative talks on health.

Simultaneously, the preventative measures against DHF were carried out in Mingaladon, Insein, Hline and Dagon Myothit (South) townships on the same day.

MNA

1,183 gem merchants arrive

YANGON, 6 Oct — The 2005 Mid-Year Myanma Gems Emporium continued at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, today.

A total of 1,183 gem merchants — 525 gem merchants of 87 companies from 10 countries and 658 local gem merchants of 277 local companies — arrived at the Gems Emporium.

This morning, they checked jade, gems and pearl lots. More gem merchants will arrive till 9 October. Today and tomorrow, the merchants may put bidding forms into the tender boxes.

Pearl lots will be sold on 8 October, gem lots on 9 and 10 October and jade lots on 11, 12, 13, and 14 October through tender and competitive bidding systems.

MNA

The year 1990 was just two years after the 1988 unrest in which anarchy was rampant across the nation. At that time, the majority of the national people could not distinguish exactly who were good and who were bad.

Hnin Aye Khang

MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo visit local people carrying out mass activities against dengue haemorrhagic fever in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. — MNA

A pair of cut jade stones at the emporium. — NLM

Merchants inspect jade lots. — MNA

Merchants examining jade lots at 2005 Mid-Year Myanma Gems Emporium. — MNA