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

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

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

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All member nations expressed unanimous voice at Bagan Summit

Implementation of ongoing work programmes to be speeded up by reviewing work performed in past two years

Regional cooperation and national level cooperation effective ways to narrow development gap among nations

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YANGON, 4 NOV—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win delivered an address at the opening of Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit held at the Yellow Room of the Santi Maitri Building in Bangkok, Thailand, on 3 November morning.

Present on the occasion were Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Myanmar Prime Minister General Soe Win, Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Ye Win, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office Col Thant Shin, heads of department, the ministers, the deputy ministers and high-ranking officials from Cambodia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, foreign ambassadors to Thailand, and guests.

The ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials and guests arrived at Santi Maitri Building starting from 8 am local time.

Prime Minister General Soe Win arrived at the Santi Maitri Building in Bangkok at 8.55 pm. Thai Prime Minister Mr Thaksin Shinawatra welcomed the prime ministers.

*(See page 8)*
Enhance cooperation for mutual benefit and economic development

At the invitation of Prime Minister of Thailand Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win paid a visit to Bangkok, Thailand from 1 to 3 November to attend the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit held there.

Prime Minister General Soe Win and heads of government of ACMECS member countries, who attended the ACMECS Summit met with businessmen of the ACMECS Business Council from Cambodia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the Yellow Room of the Santi Maitri Building in Bangkok, Thailand on 2 November evening.

At the meeting, representatives of respective Business Councils of the ACMECS member nations discussed participation and cooperation of the private sector for the development of trade and agriculture. The heads of government of the ACMECS countries responded to the discussions.

Prime Minister General Soe Win in his reply said that only when the private sector makes progress, will a nation be able to enjoy development. The State-owned sector and private sector have to jointly encounter the difficulties and enjoy the benefits.

Myanmar has been further cementing its friendly ties with neighbouring countries, countries in the region and friendly nations on the basis of mutual trust and respect.

The State Peace and Development Council has laid down and is implementing the 12 political, economic and social objectives for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Local and foreign investments have grown larger as market-oriented economic system was introduced extensively in the nation. The domestic market gets sound links with ASEAN, Asian and international markets. Remarkable progress has been made in production, trade and services sectors that have reached the international level.

This can be attributed to the fruitful results of cooperation between Myanmar and ASEAN nations as well as nations of the world.

Therefore, we firmly believe that Myanmar will be able to continue cooperating with neighbouring countries and countries in the region based on mutual interests in order to penetrate international markets and bring about economic development.
ACMECS Summit ends with agreements on expanded regional cooperation

BANGKOK, 4 Nov — Leaders from five Mekong Delta countries ended a summit meeting Thursday, agreeing on the importance of a joint forward-looking approach in inter-country cooperation to lay a strong foundation for meeting regional needs and achieving regional goals in various areas in the future.

Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra joined the heads of governments of four other member states of the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), including Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam, in signing the Bangkok Declaration on the agreed cooperation at the end of the Second ACMECS Summit, according to the Thai News Agency.

The agreements include deepening regional cooperation in areas of high priority, collectively addressing regional threats posed by newly-emerging and re-emerging diseases in a timely manner, bringing more advanced technology to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of ACMECS wherever possible and applying cross border trade by all means and jointly study on alternative energy programmes and jointly push for regional transport links.

A parent points out to his daughter a melting life-size ice sculpture of a polar bear placed on the street in the center of a busy commercial area in Beijing.

Russia views as priority cooperation with Asia-Pacific states

MOSCOW, 4 Nov — The priority of the Russian foreign policy has been given to the development of comprehensive, mutually advantageous cooperation with Asia-Pacific states, Russian Deputy Foreign Min- ister Alexander Alexeyev said on Thursday in connection with the upcoming summit of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference (APEC).

"Russia’s interests in that region of the world are aimed at creating favourable outside conditions at its eastern fron- tiers and in the Asia-Pacific region as a whole," Alexeyev said in an interview with the magazine Diplomat. He stressed that for Russia the broadest possible participation "in active integration process, now underway in the Asia-Pacific region, is one of the most important tasks".

Azerbaijan not to allow countries meddling in its internal affairs

MOSCOW, 4 Nov — Azerbaijan is not a country where a puppet government can be set up, Azerbaijani President Ilkham Aliyev said Thursday night in an interview with Russia’s television channel One.

"We will determine our own fate. And the circles that think a puppet (government) can be installed in Azerbaijan and controlled have to understand that. This will not work," Aliyev was quoted as saying by the Interfax news agency.

The President noted that Azerbaijan’s "independent policy may not suit everyone. He stated Azerbaijan’s policy is not aimed against anyone, but it seeks to maintain good relations with neighbours and partners.

"We have good relations with everyone, both our neighbours and our partners," the President said.

The parliamentary election is scheduled to be held in Azerbaijan on 6 November. — MNA/Xinhua

Oil prices surge above 60 US dollars in New York

NEW YORK, 4 Nov — World crude oil prices surged above 60 dollars a barrel Thursday on worries to a colder winter in US and Europe.

New York’s main contract, light sweet crude for delivery in December, which kept below 60 dollars a barrel for the first time in three months since Monday due to relatively mild temperatures in the US,jumped 2.03 dollars to close at 61.78 dollars a barrel.

In London, the price of Brent North Sea crude for December delivery surged 2.14 dollars to 60.52 dollars a barrel.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, Heating oil futures gained more than 5 cents to close at 1.8336 dollars a gallon, while gasoline rose 5.77 cents to settle at 1.6268 dollars a gallon. Natural gas futures rose 8.5 cents to settle at 11.689 dollars per 1,000 cubic feet.

The market is still supported by concerns that we may see a very cold winter in the United States and Europe, said the analysts. — MNA/Xinhua

US detainee policy criticized after revelation of secret prisons

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov — The Bush Administration’s policy for detaining terror suspects came under sharp criticism after the revelation of a secret prison system ran by the CIA in foreign countries, US media reported Thursday.

United Nations officials said they will seek more information about the covert prisons, referred to as “black sites” in classified US documents. "Every secret place of detention is usually a higher risk for ill treatment, that the danger of secrecy," said Manfred Nowak, the UN’s special rapporteur on torture, adding that he wants to pursue access to all US detention facilities outside its territory, US Congressional Democrats and human rights groups also warned that the secret system would damage the US image overseas.

A US soldier climbs up a staircase during a patrol of western Baghdad recently. — INTERNET

Foreign missions under Iraq threat

BAGHDAD, 4 Nov — Iraq’s most feared terror group warned foreign diplomats Friday to flee Iraq after announcing it will put to death two Moroccan Embassy employees who were kidnapped last month. Insurgents killed 11 Iraqi security troops in separate attacks north of Baghdad.

The warning was contained in a statement posted on an Islamist Web site in the name of al-Qaeda in Iraq, which also claimed responsibility for the July kidnapping-slaying of two envoys from Algeria and one from Egypt as well as the abduction and beheading of numerous foreign hostages. — Internet

Britain cracks down on pirate radio after oil riots

LONDON, 4 Nov — British police and regulators said Thursday they have shut down dozens of pirate radio stations in London, seizing transmitters as well as drugs and weapons that were found in some studios.

The crackdown on October 29 came exactly two weeks after riots in Birmingham, which according to British newspapers were sparked in part by allegations broadcast on two pirate radio stations that a young girl had been raped.

A spokesman for media regulator Ofcom said there was no connection between the clashes in Birmingham and the operation to shut down the illegal radio stations.

“It’s good timing because the issue is out there, but we have been planning this for some time,” he said.

One man was killed and 30 people including a policeman were injured in the riots. Police were looking at whether the radio stations’ reports could be considered incitements to racial hatred, according to a report in the Telegraph newspaper last week. — MNA/Reuters

A US soldier climbs up a staircase during a patrol of western Baghdad recently. — INTERNET
At least 60 people are feared drowned after an overloaded boat taking villagers to a funeral capsized in the Arabian sea off southern Pakistan. —INTERNET

Iraq war has exposed us to terror at home, says Meyer

LONDON, 5 Nov — Britain’s former ambassador to Washington, Sir Christopher Meyer, delivers a damaging critique of Tony Blair’s approach to the war in Iraq in an interview in the Guardian today.

Sir Christopher, who had a ringside seat in the decision-making that led to the war, unfavourably contrasts Mr Blair with the boldness and attention to detail of Margaret Thatcher. He says Lady Thatcher took pride in knowing more detail than her officials. “That is why it was terrifying to be summoned into her presence because if you did not know your stuff, she would expose you. There was never that danger with Tony Blair.”

Sir Christopher gave the interview to mark the publication of DC Confidential, the first account by an insider of the decision-making that led to war, to be serialised in the Guardian from Monday.

India to probe UN report on Iraq

NEW DELHI, 4 Nov — India said on Thursday it was deeply concerned by “unverified references” made in a UN report which said the ruling Congress party and the country’s foreign minister received favours from Saddam Hussein. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s office said in a statement.

The report by the UN-established Independent Inquiry Committee, led by former US Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, said politicians in several countries were given oil vouchers that could be sold for a commission to help the Iraqi leader in his quest to get UN sanctions lifted.

Congress and Foreign Minister Natwar Singh were among those on the list. Both have denied any wrongdoing. Natwar Singh has said it was an attempt to target those opposed to the US-led war on Iraq.

“The government is deeply concerned about the unverified references made in the Volcker Committee report to the Congress party and ... Natwar Singh,” Prime Minister Singh’s office said in a statement.

“The Volcker Committee report, as it stands today, is insufficient to arrive at any adverse or definitive conclusion.”

Therefore the government is determined to go to the root of the matter and establish the truth or otherwise of these references. The matter is under serious consideration ... and a decision will be announced shortly.” — MNA/Reuters

Chinese, Russian PMs meet, setting future cooperation goals

BEIJING, 4 Nov — Chinese and Russian prime ministers drew up a blueprint of goals for future bilateral cooperation here Thursday, highlighting the results already achieved.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and visiting Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Yefimovich Fradkov held the 10th regular prime ministers’ meeting amidst Fradkov’s on-going China visit.

Wen described the bilateral ties as in “the best development period in history”.

“The formation of the Sino-Russian strategic and cooperative partnership and the signing of the Good-neighbourly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation demonstrate the aspiration of the two sides to hold bilateral ties with strategic and long-term viewpoints,” he said.

He particularly mentioned the lay-out for implementing the Sino-Russian Good-Neighbourly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, approved by the heads of state of the two countries last year.

The document planned the direction for future development of bilateral ties, he stressed, adding that the two governments were satisfied with the implementation of the lay-out.

The expansion of economic cooperation was high on the agenda of the meeting. According to Wen, the two sides have already inked 79 agreements. Dual-track trade soared from 5.46 billion US dollars in the first regular meeting to 21.2 billion US dollars last year. “The figure is expected to hit 28 billion dollars this year,” Wen said.

To boost the cooperation, Wen proposed improving commodity structure and regular trade order; signing the agreement for the construction of the oil pipeline at an early date while enhancing power and nuclear power cooperation; signing a pact to protect and expand mutual investment; strengthening exchanges of scientific personnel and the transfer of scientific results; supporting cooperation along border regions; advancing educational, cultural, health, sports and tourist communication between the two countries; and holding China Year in Russia and Russia Year in China.

MNA/Xinhua

Uganda faces fuel shortages

KAMPALA, 4 Nov — Several fuel stations around Kampala ran out of supplies on Wednesday evening as oil imports continue to be hampered by the new tax measures in Kenya.

Some motorists have reported they could not refuel at some fuel stations around the capital city over the last few days.

“There is still a problem with fuel slow from Kenya arising from processing of documentation for the export system. This is the major problem,” Shell Uganda country manager Ivan Kyayonka was quoted as saying by a report here on Thursday.

“But we are trying to get enough to keep the economic development,” Kyayonka said.

Uganda is non-oil producer and its fuel consumption imports from outside via Kenya’s Mombasa Port.

Kyayonka warned that in the next few days, the country might experience rationing if the situation does not improve.

Kenya Revenue Authority, in trying to beat tax evasion by some oil marketers, now insists that oil companies drawing stocks from the Mombasa refinery meet their tax obligations within two months and not after they have sold the fuel as was the case before. This has caused shortages as a result of the new strenuous documentation to process supplies.

MNA/Xinhua

Six Iraqi policemen killed

BAGHDAD, 4 Nov — Fighters firing mortars and guns have attacked a checkpoint in northern Iraq, killing six policemen and wounding 10, an official says.

The Friday attack on an Iraqi police checkpoint occurred in Buhirah, a town 55km (35 miles) north of Baghdad.

The fighters first fired mortar rounds and then arrived at the scene in eight cars to open gunfire on the policemen, a police officer said, speaking on condition of anonymity out of concern for his safety.

The violence came as Shiites began the three-day religious holiday of Eid al-Fitr which ends a month of fasting during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

A member of the medical staff treats an Iraqi policeman, who was wounded in an attack on a police checkpoint, at a hospital in Baqubah, 65 km (40 miles) north of Baghdad, on 4 Nov, 2005. Gunmen killed at least six Iraqi policemen and wounded 10 when they attacked their checkpoint north of Baghdad on Friday, a police official said. —INTERNET

INTERNET
US factory orders fell 1.7% in September

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov— New orders for US manufactured goods fell by 1.7 per cent in September, led by a drop in orders for capital goods, the Commerce Department reported Thursday.

The drop followed an increase of 2.9 per cent in August and was sharper than a decline of around 1 per cent that analysts had been expecting for September.

Data released by the department showed that orders for durable goods, items expected to last at least three years, decreased by 2.4 per cent in September. This followed a rise of 3.9 per cent in August.

Orders for nondurable goods, including gasoline and other energy products, declined 0.9 per cent in September. In September, orders for capital goods, which includes defence and non-defence products, plunged by 7.8 per cent. Orders for computers and transportation fell by 3.9 per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively.

MNA/Xinhua

Bangladesh seizes explosives, detain suspects

DHAKA, 4 Nov— Security forces seized explosives from a truck carrying wheat in northwestern Bangladesh on Thursday and said they believed they were destined for Islamist militant groups.

The explosives, weighing nearly eight kilos (15 pounds) were seized at a check point early today," an official of Bangladesh Rifles border force said at Chapainawabganj, 350 kilometres (219 miles) from Dhaka.

MNA/Reuters

CIA holds captives in secret prisons abroad

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov— The CIA has been hiding and interrogating al-Qaeda captives at a secret facility in Eastern Europe, part of a covert global prison system that has included sites in eight countries and was set up after the 11 September, 2001, attacks, The Washington Post reported on Wednesday.

The secret network included "several democracies in Eastern Europe" as well as Thailand and Afghanistan, the newspaper reported, but it did not publish the names of the European countries at the request of senior US officials. US Government officials declined comment on the report, which was likely to stir up fresh criticism of the Bush Administration's treatment of prisoners in its declared war on terrorism since the 11 September attacks.

Russia and Bulgaria immediately denied any facility was there. Thailand also denied it was host to such a facility. The newspaper, which said its report was based on information from US and foreign officials familiar with the arrangement, said the existence and locations of the facilities were known only to a handful of American officials and, usually, only to the president and a few top intelligence officers in each host country.

The CIA has not acknowledged the existence of a secret prison network, the newspaper said.

According to the Washington Post, the prisons are referred to as "black sites" in classified US documents and virtually nothing is known about who the detainees are, how they are interrogated or how long they will be held.

MNA/Reuters

Musharraf accuses west of double standards in providing aid to victims of natural disasters

ISLAMABAD, 5 Nov— Accusing the West of double standards in providing aid to victims of natural disasters, President Pervez Musharraf has said post-earthquake Pakistan has not received the level of assistance given after Hurricane Katrina in the US or tsunami in Asia.

"I would say the damage here is much more (than the tsunami), the magnitude of the calamity here is much more, Musharraf told BBC.

He also suggested that donations from the West were low because few Western nations were caught up in the 8 October earthquake that left over 74,000 people dead. "(The tsunami) affected many people from many countries of the world, especially the west, who were tourists in various areas. Here, unfortunately, it is a remote area, poor people affected.

Musharraf urged the world to be as generous with long-term help for quake victims as it was with tsunami last December and the US' Hurricane Katrina disaster in August.

"I would appeal to the world to see reality that it is these people who need aid much more because they are poor and are facing much harsher conditions than the tsunami, he said and called on the international community, the Muslim world and ordinary Pakistanis to give generously.

The December 2004 tsunami killed more than 215,000 people and around 1,200 died when Katrina struck in August.

MNA/PTI
The genuine wish of the entire nation is emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed Union. But normal efforts are not enough to achieve this goal. Such a huge task needs extraordinary efforts that must be made with greater momentum. The present government is in the process of building the nation and enhancing the national economy, with the consolidated and concerted endeavours of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

The nation-building undertaking is a generation-to-generation task that must be implemented continuously throughout the successive eras. It concerns the past, the present and the future of the nation. We in Myanmar are also striving with greater momentum for shaping a better future for all of us. A generation should have the ability to inherit and safeguard the nation’s fine historical traditions and hand it down to the next generation. Moreover, it must have the capacity to further improve the living standard of Myanmar society.

On 15 September 1993, the nation witnessed the formation of an organization mostly with youths who were going to preserve the fine traditions. The organization was established because of the historical requirement. It has been more than a decade since the formation of an organization mostly with youths who were going to preserve the fine traditions. The organization, named “the Union Solidarity and Development Association (USDA)” has been founded; it has been flourishing in accordance with its firm resolve and aims. The main reason for the establishment of the Association is to build and safeguard Myanmar and ensure her perpetuation.

The USDA is an institution for all the new generation national races to form a united force for national progress. It is also an institution that is training the new generation national races to enhance their qualifications and skills, and to ever vitalize their Union Spirit and patriotism.

The Association prescribes its oaths, aims, basic principles, codes of conduct and duties and responsibilities. The prescriptions have initiated and served as guidelines for the lofty national programmes of the Association. The USDA is also the sole organization formed with the aim of setting up a national force keeping in the fore the national task. Nowadays, the new generation youths are joining the USDA and taking part in its endeavours to help safeguard the Union of Myanmar on all fronts, while playing their own part in the tasks of developing and modernizing the entire nation.

We actually need a patriotic force capable of safeguarding our independence and sovereignty and protecting the Union from falling apart, with full Union Spirit. At the same time we need to upgrade our new generation to become qualified human resources that possess the ability to add value to the natural resources of the nation. The duty of the Association is to mobilize and strengthen the national force essential for building and developing Myanmar.

Now the Association has over 21.6 million members actively upholding Our Three Main National Causes with relentless zeal and perseverance and strong and firm patriotism, and the majority of the members are youths.

Youths have the sacrificing spirit. They cherish and value the truth. Because of their natural born character they have clear mind and sincere heart. The majority of the nation’s youths are playing a meaningful role in developing the country and serving her interest in accord with their inborn character.

All the USDA members are determined to protect the nation and the race from all sorts of dangers. The Union of Myanmar has over 100 national races and a population of over 54 million, over 24 million of which are youths. They are serving as the engine for the growth of the nation, and most of them are USDA members.

The USDA members at different levels are taking part in all the nation-building endeavours covering all-round development undertakings and agricultural projects, with heart and soul. In addition, the Association in cooperating with the people is narrowing the gap between the rural and the urban areas.

Hence, we firmly believe that the Union Solidarity and Development Association, a national force of the country, will last forever together with the Union of Myanmar.

(Translation: TMT)
Development in the higher education sector

Latest developments have a great impact on economic, social, health and education sectors of the nations around the world. At such a time, the Union of Myanmar is making arrangements to keep abreast of developed nations and emphasis is being placed on applying know-how and technologies.

In this regard, a constant learning society has been established in Myanmar to be able to pursue the ever advancing technologies. Starting from 2001-2002 academic year, Myanmar Education Objective was set to promote the education sector.

According to the education objective, special four-year plans have been implemented since 2002-2003 academic year with the slogan “Build a modern and developed nation through Education”. This is aimed at building a modern and developed nation through the might of developed human resources.

In the higher education sector, altogether 21 work programmes have been laid down to implement the national education promotion four-year plan.

Universities and colleges have been opened, infrastructures for development of the ICT sector established, teachers trained, arrangements made to confer degree and diploma certificates through teaching programmes as well as through human resources development sector and learning opportunities created for students to promote the higher education sector.

The table provides the readers with the facts and figures on achievements made in the higher education sector in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

The table shows the completion in building of Pakokku University.

Development of the higher education sector:

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<td>5638</td>
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</table>

Teaching programmes:

| Degree                          | degree | 25 | 54 | 29 |
| Diploma                         | diploma | 11 | 22 | 11 |
| Honours Class                   | class | 20 | 30 | 10 |
| Masters Class                   | class | 23 | 41 | 18 |
| Masters Research                | class | 24 | 24 |    |
| Doctorate Course                | course | 21 | 21 |    |
| Total                           |       | 79 | 192 | 113 |
| Number of students              | student | 134325 | 705784 | 571459 |

Department for Human Resource Development:

- Masters course: person 176 176
- Degree course: person 2647 2647
- Diploma course: person 26819 26819
- Certificate course: person 108505 108505

Total: 138147 138147

Remarks:
* The decrease in number is due to emergence of Sagaing Institute of Education, Monywa Institute of Economics and Meiktila Institute of Economics and transferring of Yangon Institute of Technology, Computer University, Institute of Agriculture and Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science to the respective ministries.
** The Institute of Foreign Languages was upgraded into the University of Foreign Languages.
Member countries are to make efforts both national level and regional level to be able to accomplish the work programmes...
issuing the declaration of the Second ACMECS Sum-
mit.

The summit went to recess at 12 noon. They had lunch at Purple Room.

The summit resumed at 1.30 pm. They attended the ceremony to sign the declaration of the summit, and cooperation in combating avian influenza, at Santi Maitri Building.

Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Boummhong Vorachith, Prime Minister of Myanmar General Soe Win, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, and Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai signed the Declaration of Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, and Declaration on Partnership in Combating Avian Influenza and Other Infectious Diseases.

The Thai Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Hor Namhong inked an agreement on visa between the Thai Government and the Cambodian Government.

The summit came to an end successfully at 2 pm.

The declaration warmly welcomed Vietnam’s first participation in the functions of ACMECS Summit. "We agreed on the importance of taking a forward-looking approach in our cooperation in order to lay a strong foundation for meeting the future needs of our region," the declaration said. Areas of high priority include trade, investment, as well as agricultural, industrial, transport, tourism industry, human resources development, public health, information and communication technology and energy cooperation. Ways and means are to be sought for undertaking these tasks conveniently. Leaders of the five countries also welcomed Vietnam’s offer to host the next ACMECS summit and unanimously agreed that the third ACMECS summit would take place in Vietnam in 2007.

In the Declaration on Partnership in Combating Avian Influenza and Other Infectious Diseases, a concerted and closely co-ordinated regional effort are to be made at all levels to prevent and stem the spread of newly emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, in particular avian influenza, as well as HIV/AIDS, and other diseases. — MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win...
Entries invited to Military and Marching Song Contests to mark 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 5 Nov — The Military and Marching Song Organizing Subcommittee under the Poem and Arts Competition Organizing Committee chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung has announced that Military and Marching Song Contest to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2006 will be held.

There will be only one category, professional level, for the marching song competition while the military song contest is divided into two categories, level-1 and level-2. First, second, and third prizes as well as consolation prizes will be awarded in every level. Rules and regulations of the competition are as follows:

In the marching song contest, songs must be composed based on the twelve objectives of the State, the objectives of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day and the twelve fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Composers and vocalists of level 1 are not permitted to compete at level 2 of the military song contest nor are those who stood first, second and third at level 2 of the last year’s military song contest. They are to enter the level-1. Only one song is allowed for individuals or groups. Entry songs must be in accord with military songs competition methods.

Military songs must be in melody and modes as well as in own tune. The time designated for the song must be between four and six minutes. The entry songs are to be with strong vocal and suitable music.

Only a song must be recorded on the entry cassette or reel. A suitable title may be given. Words of the entry song together with its typed copies and an original of its music notes must be attached to the cassette or reel.

The brief biography of the entrant and the singers together with three passport size colour photos must be sent. Those tentatively selected will be informed.

The golf tour is being jointly organized by Myanmar PGA and MGF and mainly sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd.

The fourth and final round of the tour will continue tomorrow.

YANGON, 5 Nov — Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) enlarged his leading role by firing 214 strokes in the professional division after the third round in the Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour at Yadaguntung Golf Resort in Mandalay today.

Hla Myo (Srixon) put his position behind the leader with scoring of 216 strokes, and Soe Myint Lay (Srixon) stood third with 218 strokes.

Zaw Zin Win still leads the amateur division by scoring 215 strokes in a three-day total, followed by Thein Naing Lin and Aung Win (Monywa) tied at 223 strokes each in the third place.

The golf tour is Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour on third round

Zaw Zin Win taking part in the Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour. — MGF

All this needs to be known

- Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- Do not be softened whenever appeared

Prime Minister General Soe Win leaves Bangkok after attending ACMECS Summit

Prime Minister General Soe Win being seen off at Dumnoing International Airport by families of Myanmar Embassy. — MNA

Foreign Minister U Nyan Win poses for a photo together with his counterparts at the ACMECS Ministerial Preparatory Summit. — MNA

Thai Foreign Minister greets Myanmar Foreign Minister U Nyan Win prior to the ACMECS Ministerial Preparatory Summit. — MNA

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Foreign Minister U Nyan Win poses for a photo together with his counterparts at the ACMECS Ministerial Preparatory Summit. — MNA

Thai Foreign Minister greets Myanmar Foreign Minister U Nyan Win prior to the ACMECS Ministerial Preparatory Summit. — MNA
China, Russia issue joint communique

BEIJING, 5 Nov— China and Russia issued a joint communique here Friday, pledging to further deepen cooperation of mutual benefit in various fields.

The communique was signed at the 10th regular meeting between Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Yefimovich Fradkov amid Fradkov’s official visit to China from 2 to 4 November.

During Fradkov’s stay in China, Wen held talks with him, and Chinese President Hu Jintao and top legislator Wu Bangguo met with him separately.

The two prime ministers spoke highly of the significant role the mechanisms of regular meetings has been playing in promoting “practical” bilateral cooperation in various fields over the past decade. They also carefully reviewed the implications of the Sino-Russian Good-Neighborly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, approved by the heads of state of the two countries last year, and expressed satisfaction with the progress scored in the fields of economy, trade, and culture ever since the ninth regular meeting between the two prime ministers on 24 September, 2004.

The two sides are pleased to see that the Sino-Russian strategic partnership has been forging healthily ahead with content being enriched gradually. Political mutual trust has been strengthening steadily, and cooperation in various fields has expanded and deepened steadily. All this has produced fruitful results and brought significant benefits to the two peoples and also made great contributions to world peace and stability, the communique says. The two prime ministers signed 11 documents at the 10th regular meeting, including the communique itself, the Summary of Minutes for the Ninth Meeting of the Commission for Chinese and Russian prime ministers and other memorandums and agreements.

—MNA/Xinhua

Building collapse in Egypt kills seven

CAIRO, 5 Nov— A four-storey building collapsed in the Egyptian Mediterranean port city of Alexandria on Friday, killing at least seven people and injuring six others, the official MENA news agency reported.

The tragedy occurred when the back of the building caved in, MENA said, quoting security sources. At least nine people were pulled out alive from the rubble and all the injured were rushed to the hospital for treatment, it added.

Building collapses were frequently reported in Egypt. Another building collapsed in Alexandria, Egypt’s second largest city, in June and 19 people were killed in the incident. —MNA/Xinhua

Int’l programme on AIDS prevention launched in Xinjiang

URUMQI, 5 Nov— A 9.8-million-US-dollar project co-sponsored by the British Department for International Development (BDID) and the Norwegian Government has been launched in Xinjiang to help the northwestern Uygar autonomous region prevent HIV/AIDS.

The policy support project for HIV/AIDS is aimed at helping China enhance the ability to develop health policies and build an efficient and equitable system to prevent HIV infection, said a project manager of BDID, an agency of the British Government responsible for helping developing countries eliminate extreme poverty.

Designated by the Chinese Government, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and BDID, the three-year project has received five million British pounds from BDID, six million Swiss francs from the Norwegian Government and three million Austral-ian dollars from the Australian Government.

—MNA/Xinhua

Anti-Bush protests continue in Argentina

MAR DEL PLATA (Argentina), 5 Nov— Anti-US demonstrations at the Americas Summit turned violent on Friday as protesters set fire to a bank, looted stores, and battled riot police blocks away from a luxury hotel where US President George W Bush met with regional leaders.

The violence came hours after tens of thousands of demonstrators took to the streets, shouting “Get out Bush!” in a peaceful protest against the US leader, who is unpopular among many Latin Americans for the Iraq war and his push for a regional free trade deal.

But in a later march, several hundred protesters shattered storefronts and fought pitched street battles with riot police, who responded by firing tear gas and rubber bullets.

Chavez, the leftist leader who opposes Bush’s economic model, vowed to bury the stalled Free Trade Area of the Americas, or FTAA during a speech to protesters earlier in the day. “Every one of us has brought a shovelful of dirt to the site,” Chavez told a full stadium hosting an alternative Peoples’ Summit organized by anti-free-trade activists.

By his side was Argentine soccer legend Diego Maradona, who carried the flag of Communist Cuba and wore a T-shirt saying “War Criminal.” They were joined by Bolivian indigenous leader Evo Morales, front-runner for the December 18 presidential election. A large Cuban delegation of athletes sent by President Fidel Castro, who was not invited to the summit, was also popular with the crowd, estimated at 25,000.

Marchers urged the region’s leaders to pursue alternatives to the US-backed free-market recipes, which dominated in the region in the 1990s, but failed to lift the continent’s economies, reduce poverty and inequality.

“We are here to show our proposals and alternatives to build a new dawn in Latin America,” said Argentine Nobel Peace Prize winner and author Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

Schools and most businesses were closed. Shop windows were boarded up against possible violence and looting, while US interests such as Citibank, branches and Blockbuster video stores were armoured with corrugated metal.

—MNA/Reuters

US soldier dies north of Baghdad

BAQUBA, 5 Nov— One US soldier died north of Baghdad, the US military said in a statement on Friday. “One 1st Corps Support Command soldier died as a result of non-battle related causes Thursday day at about 11:15 pm (2015 GMT) near Tallil, Iraq,” the statement said.

The soldier was evacuated to a coalition medical treatment facility.

The violence was described as being un-related pending notification of next of kin.

Talil area is located near the US military base of Anaconda near the town of Balad, some 80 kilo-metres north of Baghdad.

About 2,030 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003.

—MNA/Xinhua

36 Serbia-Montenegro soldiers hospitalized for unknown illness

BELGRADE (Serbia-Montenegro), 5 Nov— A total of 36 soldiers of Serbia-Montenegro were hospitalized in the south city of Nis on Thursday for unknown illness, the Defence Ministry said.

Of the 71 soldiers who complained of stomach disorders and nausea on Thursday morning, 35 were hospitalized and one was transferred to the infectious diseases ward, the ministry said in a statement.

The 71 soldiers from three barracks have been taken to the Nis military hospital where they received treatment, and their lives were not in danger, the statement said.

The causes of health complaints were being investigated by the Nis preventive health care institute, medical hospital and land forces’ command, the ministry said, adding that results would be made public in time.

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—MNA/Xinhua
EU to back renewables boots in developing world

Brussels, 4 Nov— The European Union (EU) is to support better international cooperation and technology transfer to developing countries on renewable energy, the European Commission (EC) said here on Thursday. The EU will convey this message at an International Ministerial Conference on Renewable Energy in Beijing of China on 7-8 November and EU Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas will attend the meeting.

Meanwhile Dimas is also expected to meet high level officials from the Chinese Government to discuss the cooperation between the EU and China on energy and climate change issues. The conference in Beijing, which is organized by the Chinese and supported by the German Government, will serve as a forum for representatives of 80 countries and the EU, including numerous ministers.

“I very much welcome the Chinese Government’s initiative in organizing this conference. It sends a clear message that emerging economies want to play a leading role in creating the conditions for renewables to thrive,” Dimas was quoted as saying by an EC Press release.

“The EU stands ready to contribute its know-how to developing innovative policies, instruments and public-private partnerships for accelerating renewable energy markets worldwide,” he added.

The Beijing conference is a follow-up event to the World Sustainable Development Summit in Johannesburg in 2002 and the International Conference on Renewable Energy in June 2004. Participants will also discuss ways in which international cooperation on renewables and technology transfer to developing countries can be strengthened.

Zambian police nab three for stealing fossilized wood

Lusaka, 4 Nov— Zambian police have arrested three businessmen in connection with the stealing of six pieces of fossilized wood from a fossil forest in the border town of Chirundu, 130 kilometres southeast of capital Lusaka. The trio have been charged with theft in accordance with laws that prohibit removal of objects from the heritage site as souvenirs or any other purposes.

Chirundu Fossil Forest has been listed as Zambia’s national heritage site where petrified trees with a history of 150 million years sprinkle the landscape. However, the natural wonder has recently been damaged mostly due to development projects, in particular the construction of a major international road across the park.

An official with the National Heritage Conservation Commission, Simon Musonda, was cited Wednesday by the local Press as saying that the stealing of fossils at the site had been going on for a long time but no arrest had been made before.

Musonda said it was suspected that the people arrested were selling the fossil wood to neighbouring Zimbabwe, which can fetch a handsome amount on black market.

US files WTO case against Turkey over rice sales restrictions

Washington, 4 Nov— The United States has filed a trade case against the World Trade Organization (WTO) accusing Turkey of imposing sanitary restrictions on US rice exports, US Trade Representative Rob Portman announced on Wednesday.

“Right now American rice exporters are being unfairly restricted. That’s wrong,” Portman said in a statement. The decision to file a case with the WTO came after Turkey’s discussions with Turkey had failed to resolve the dispute, he said.

The trade case contends that Turkey’s import licensing system violates global trading rules by imposing significant barriers to the sale of US rice in the country, according to the statement. The United States said that its rice sales to Turkey had declined by two-thirds since 2003 due to the restrictions with sales of US milled and semi-milled rice falling by 91 per cent over this period. As the first step after a case is filed, consultations are required under WTO rules. If those discussions do not resolve the issue, the dispute can proceed to a hearing before a WTO panel.

Chinese car exports up 174% in 1st three quarters

Beijing, 4 Nov— China’s car exports soared dramatically this year, with the exports totalling 18,988 units in the first three quarters, up 174 per cent year-on-year, latest statistics from the General Administration of Customs showed.

The cars exported were valued at 152.3 million US dollars, the Customs said. During the January-September period, China exported a total of 650,000 units of vehicles valued at 1.33 billion dollars, including 1,282 units of cross-country vehicles and 568,000 units of small passenger cars, which accounted for 70.1 percent of the total.

The exports of large and medium-sized passenger cars and trucks came to 4,454 units and 73,569 units, a year-on-year increase of 41 per cent and 128 per cent respectively.

British “Sun” editor held for alleged assault on husband

London, 4 Nov— The editor of Britain’s biggest-selling daily newspaper, The Sun, was arrested on Thursday for allegedly assaulting her husband, a statement to mark the terrorist attacks, and has not forgotten the fight against terrorism,” the international condemned and reacted by terrorism should be a statement to mark the south London at 4 am called to an address in police station, she was released from custody and will face no further action. A police spokesman said officers had been called to an address in south London at 4 am (0400 GMT) on Thursday.

Turkey calls for global condemnation on terrorism

Ankara, 4 Nov— Turkish President Ahmet Necdet Sezer said on Thursday that terrorism should be condemned by the international community.

Sezer made the call in a statement to mark the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

“Terrorism, terrorists and those who back terrorism should be condemned and reacted by the international community. This is obligatory to succeed in fight against terrorism,” said Sezer.

He noted that Turkey, which has suffered from terrorism for a long time and has not forgotten the agonies of losing thousands of its citizens due to terrorist attacks, strongly condemns all terrorist acts, regardless of its aim, reason, origin or source.

N Ireland police arrest two more over bank heist

Belfast, 4 Nov— Police in Northern Ireland said on Thursday they had arrested another two men over the robbery of 26.5 million pounds (47 million US dollars) from a Belfast bank last December, bringing the total number held in the past two days to five.

The Northern Bank raid, one of the biggest carried out in Britain, was widely blamed on the Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerilla group, which waged a bloody 30-year campaign against British rule in the province.

“Two men have been arrested early this morning under the terrorism act in connection with the investigation into the Northern Bank robbery,” a police spokeswoman said.

None of the five arrested has yet been charged.

The December 20 robbery at the Northern Bank’s headquarters in central Belfast and a highly publicized murder in March of a man later charged with possessing a weapon have placed intense pressure on the IRA to sever criminal links and ultimately spurred its July pledge to down arms for good.

Philippine presidential guards arrest man with gun

Manila, 4 Nov— Philippine presidential security guards Thursday arrested a man bearing a pistol in a provincial city.

Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was due to visit, reported the local media.

The security guards caught a village watchman who had a pistol on him at the entrance of a gymnasion in San Juan, Batangas some 200 kilometres south of Manila before Arroyo arrived for a scheduled visit to the site, said the report.
China plans to put three men in space by 2007

BEIJING, 4 Nov—China plans to put three men into space within the next two years as it looks ahead to an orbiting space station and a mission to the moon, state media said on Thursday.

But he said once the space station project got under way, Shenzhou VIII and IX would only carry equipment for the planned orbiting space station, the newspaper said, quoting chief rocket designer Liu Zhusheng.

Shenzhou X would carry the people who will work in the space station, Liu told the newspaper, without giving a timeframe for its launch.

China is also designing a rocket that can carry a payload of 25 tons into space, up from a present limit of eight tons, the Beijing News said, though it would unlikely be ready for another six- and-a-half years.

Another objective is to put a man on the moon, but that plan could be complicated due to China’s current inability to land and then recover a craft from the surface, the report said.

“Though we have already achieved a high level of successful technology, success does not necessarily mean that technology is mature,” the newspaper quoted another rocket designer, Yang Hong, as saying.

China put its first man in space aboard Shenzhou V in October 2003, giving China membership in the exclusive club of countries that have put a man into orbit.

The former Soviet Union and the United States first sent men into orbit in 1961.

US astronomers say traces of earliest stars detected

LOS ANGELES, 4 Nov—The fluctuations in infrared cosmic light may be traces of the earliest stars born more than 13 billion years ago, US astronomers said on Wednesday.

According to the Big Bang Theory, these stars started forming almost immediately after the Big Bang, the great explosion that created the universe about 13.7 billion years ago.

These earliest stars, called “Population III” by the astronomers, are believed to be composed of burning hydrogen, while most other stars are built by heavier elements, called “metal” in cosmology, as a result of nucleosynthesis in them.

Astronomers said the deepest space and ground based observatories, such as the Hubble space telescope, can only spot metal-enriched stars at cosmic times when the universe was less than 10 billion years old. The signs of “Population III” stars were never detected.

But three researchers from the Goddard Space Flight Centre of US space agency NASA said they have captured traces of radiation from the “Population III” stars. Their paper was published in the latest issue of the journal Nature.

“Although such sources will not be individually detectable by existing or planned telescopes, they would have produced significant cosmic infrared background radiation in the near-infrared, whose fluctuations reflect the conditions in the primordial density field,” their paper said.

The researchers said they used an indirect method. First, they recorded the infrared cosmic radiation, which is invisible to human eyes but detectable to NASA’s Spitzer infrared space telescope.

Then the team subtracted the infrared radiation levels of all known galaxies and instrument disturbance. The leftover measurements are radiation given off by those earliest stars, according to the researchers.

China last month successfully completed its second manned space mission aboard the Shenzhou VII, and is now developing a series of new craft up to the Shenzhou X, two Beijing newspapers said.

The Shenzhou VII would carry three people and be launched within the next two years, the Beijing Morning Post said.

But the Shenzhou VIII and IX would only carry equipment for the planned orbiting space station, the newspaper said, quoting chief rocket designer Liu Zhusheng.

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US couple’s contemporary Chinese artwork collection to be shown

BEIJING, 4 Nov—An exhibition on photos, videos and installations made by Chinese artists and collected by a US couple will open for display at the China Art Gallery (CAG) in Beijing.

More than 50 pieces of photographs, videos and installations by 14 Chinese contemporary artists are expected to be shown at the retrospective, titled “Focus: China Contemporary Art”, from 5 to 20 November, according to Peng Yuan, CAG’s curator. Most of the items are collection of the Haussdoffel couple from San Diego, who are among the most prestigious collectors of contemporary Chinese art.

“The exhibition items epitomize the lives of contemporary Chinese people, and the changing socialiety and value system from new perspectives,” Feng said.

Although influenced by Western artistic concepts, the works still have Chinese styles and characteristics, he said. The works were shown at various international exhibitions, including the Venice Biennale, the Shanghai Biennale, the Kassel Documenta, the Yokohama Triennial of Contemporary Art, those at the New York-based Museum of Modern Art and Tokyo Mori Art Museum, according to Feng.

The new Nokia N92, a mobile TV with a 2.8 inch screen, able to use Digital Video Broadcasting-Handheld technology to pick up broadcasts direct from TV masts, not through mobile operators, during a Nokia conference in Barcelona’s Palau de Congressos on 2 November, 2005. —INTERNET

Indian herbal beauty tycoon to enter China

NEW DELHI, 4 Nov—Shahnaz Herbals, India’s leading beauty brand, is planning to enter Chinese cosmetics market by setting up spas and working with local salons.

Shahnaz Herbals, which has sold its products in Japan and several South-East Asian countries, has plans to open several spas, applying traditional Indian herbal therapy, the company said in a Press release here on Thursday.

Shahnaz has tied up with 180 local salons in China. The company also plans to launch its products in the Chinese market. It has had its products tested by the government and found potential distributors in China.

World’s first cloned Boer goat born in Tianjin

TIANJIN, 4 Nov—The world’s first Boer goat cloned from embryonic cells was born Wednesday in north China’s port city of Tianjin, said Chinese scientists engaged in the cloning programme.

The cloned lamb was born at 9:05 am Wednesday at the Tianjin veterinary research institute, a research body that has been engaged in the embryo cloning project since 2002.

“The birth of the cloned lamb has laid a solid basis for us to further explore the cloning technology to boost the animal husbandry, biomedicine and pharmaceutical industries,” said Ding Boliang, head of the institute.

His organization introduced more than 300 purebred Boer goats for the cloning programme in 2002 and has since built a genetic database of the goats. Boer goat, a species originating in South Africa, grows extremely fast and yields more mutton than ordinary goats or sheep. An adult Boer goat weighs about 100 kilograms and can provide more than 40 kilograms of mutton.

Experts say the goat brings more than delicious dishes to the Chinese dinner table, it may also help millions of redundant rural labourers make a living. —MNA/Xinhua

Visitors look at a hybrid car by China’s SAIC Motor at Shanghai International Industry Fair on 4 Nov, 2005 in Shanghai, China. The exhibition is showcasing the industrial achievements that have helped power China’s breakneck economic growth, which has rapped 9 percent for more than two years running. —INTERNET
Defending Champion Goosen, Bryant lead Tour Championship
WASHINGTON, 5 Nov— Retief Goosen rallied and Bart Bryant survived a mid-day wobble to share the second round lead at the Tour Championship in Atlanta on Friday, with Tiger Woods leading a chasing group three shots back.

Bryant followed up with nervy two-under 68, just enough to stay top of the leaderboard at 10-under 130 with a charging Goosen, reports said.

The South African defending champion opened his round with a bogey at the first but that was the only blemish on the world number four's card as he played error-free golf with five birdies for a four-under 66.

It was another adventurous afternoon for Woods, who mixed six birdies with three bogeys for a three-under 69, leaving the world number one tied for third with Scott Verplank (66) and Ben Crane (65) at seven-under 131.

HK Open Bandminton C'ships
HONG KONG, 5 Nov— World number one Lin Dan and Olympic champion Zhang Ning cruised into the semifinals of men's and women's singles at the Hong Kong Open Badminton Championships 2005 Friday afternoon.

The game between Lin Dan and 28-year-old veteran Gade Peter from Denmark, which lasted around two and half hours, was widely regarded as the early men's singles final.

In the first set, Lin got a streak of three points when trailing 14-16 and finally took the set 17-16. In the second set, Gade pulled off an amazing performance and won 15-13.

In the decisive third set, Lin won with impressive fightback after lagging behind and ousted the only one European player who advanced to the last eight in the men's singles 15-12.

In the women's singles, Athens Olympic champion Zhang Ning defeated Xu Huavener, former Chinese national squad member now representing Germany, 2-0.

Pi Hongyan, another former Chinese national squad member now representing France, advanced to the top four by upsetting world number seven Hallam Tracey from England. Zhang will meet Pi in the semifinals Saturday.

In the women's doubles, world number one Yang Wei/Zhang Jiewen upset another pair of Chinese players Wei Yilu/Zhao Ting 2-0.

In the mixed doubles, Athens Olympic champion Zhang Jun/Gao Ling defeated their rivals from Thailand with an easy 2-0 victory.

联合 seek repeat of Arsenal derailment
MANCHESTER (England), 5 Nov— Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson is looking to derailed Chelsea's title bid and blow the storm clouds away from Old Trafford by ending the champions' long unbeaten run on Sunday.

United go into the game 13 points adrift of Chelsea and Ferguson knows victory is the best way to lift his players and deflect a mounting storm of criticism.

"The criticism is not a problem for me from the media, because we expect that," he told a news conference on Friday.

"What I have to look at is how the players have been affected by it. When you lose a game, particularly for young players, there can be a dip in confidence.

"I think that's natural and we are not different from anyone else in that respect. The best way without question is to win a match. And on Sunday we have an opportunity, because we have the ability to win this match, no matter how difficult the task is against a very good team.

"Maybe that's what we need, to play against a very good team when we know that mistakes can be costly.

"All these (other) things are peripheral to the real thing. We know we have the ability. Can we usurp Chelsea and make them think for a bit because I know we have the ability and probably everybody else does, too."

United ended Arsenal's 49-match unbeaten Premier League run last season with a 2-0 win in October which completely disrupted the momentum of Arsene Wenger's side.

AFA says Maradona could coach national team
BUENOS AIRES, 5 Nov— Diego Maradona will be given a role with Argentina's national team and could take over as coach following the 2006 World Cup, Argentina Football Association (AFA) president Julio Grondona said Friday.

"Diego has been incorporated into the national team staff," Grondona told Radio La Red in an interview, one day after meeting Maradona to discuss his future with the national team.

Grondona said it was too early to say exactly what sort of role Maradona would perform but he dismissed rumours that coach Jose Pekerman would resign if he was given a powerful role.

"There's not much to say in terms of what he will or will not do," said Grondona.

"He will do whatever is necessary. After the (friendlies against) England and Qatar, we will clear up the uncessi-

nancy and anxiety of certain media to see what one will do and what the other will do," he added.

欧洲Conf of sports
ATHENS, 5 Nov— The European Conference of Sports Museums began in the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki on Friday with the aim of creating a network for cooperation and the exchange of information on sports heritage.

It was attended by representatives of sports museums in Finland, France, Estonia and Germany, as well as the trophy rooms of the England's Liverpool and Greece's Olympiacos clubs, Athens News Agency reported.

Thessaloniki Mayor Vassilis Papageorgopoulos warmly praised the Thessaloniki Sports Museum, saying it was a wonderful idea that enriched the city.

塞维利亚, 汉堡赢在UEFA Cup
LONDON, 5 Nov— Javier Saviola's goal and a brace from Frederic Kanoute helped former champions Sevilla beat Besiktas 3-0 in the UEFA Cup on Thursday while Hamburg beat Viking 2-0 thanks to goals from Rafael van der Vaart and Benjamin Lauth.

Saviola broke the deadlock in the 64th minute and put Sevilla 1-0 ahead. One minute later, Kanoute made it 2-0, and he wrapped up the win with a last-minute goal.

Hamburg leads Group A after the second rotation of the group stage of Europe's second tier club competition, which involved 16 matches. CSKA Sofia's Filip Slavija Prague in a late match in that group. Van der Vaart put Hamburg ahead in the 21st minute with a left-footed shot after playing a one-two with Piotr Trochowski that eluded the Norwegians' defence.

Lauth snapped a three-month scoring drought with a perfectly timed header off a cross from Mehdi Mahdavikia in the 65th minute. Hamburg had 24 shots on goal to Viking's three.

Basel won in Belgrade with an 88th-minute goal from Julio Rossi.

Milan Purovic had given the 1991 European champion the lead, but Matias Delgado equalized with a penalty.

Basel earned its first points in Group E of this year's competition. Later, Stasbourg hosts Tromso.

The match was played in an empty stadium as punishment for violent incidents that marred Red Star's qualifying match against NK Inter Zapresic.

In Group D, Litex Lovech of Bulgaria beat Grasshoppers of Switzerland 2-1, with Middlesbrough set to play Dinipro of Ukraine.

In Group F, defending champion CSKA Moscow, the only previous winner of the 40 teams still alive in the competition, plays at Dutch club Heerenveen. Levski Sofia beat Dynamo Bucharest 1-0 in the other group match.

The top three teams from each of the eight five-team groups advance to the knockout round of 32. Each club plays four times, twice at home and twice away, with the schedule decided randomly.

——MNA/Xinhua

Claude Makelele, pictured April 2005, admitted Chelsea must repeat last season's title success on a regular basis before they can replace United as the dominant force in English football. —INTERNET

European Conf of sports
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US youth arrested for botnet cyber attack

Los Angeles, 5 Nov — A 20-year-old Californian was arrested by the FBI for assembling a botnet comprising hundreds of thousands of computers to spread spam and other malware, the Los Angeles Times reported on Friday.

Jevon James Ancheta of Downey, California, was also accused by US Attorney’s Office of having illegally distributed adware software that pops up advertisements in infected computers, to earn a profit. If convicted of all charges, he could be sentenced to 50 years in prison, according to the prosecutors. The case was investigated by the FBI in Los Angeles, where Ancheta was indicted on a 17-count federal indictment Thursday.

Ancheta wrote malicious computer code, used that code to assemble botnets, and sold access to the infected computers for the purpose of launching distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks and sending spam, said the indictment.

He computed to modify and disseminate the Trojan horse programme “rbot”, which allowed him to create botnets, each with thousands of Internet-connected computers under his control.

Among the computers he attacked were some at the Weapons Division of the US Naval Air Warfare Centre in California and at the US Department of Defense, the prosecutors said.

Unlike previous cases, Ancheta was accused of profiting from his attacks. In a separate Internet charge, Ancheta sold access to his botnets to other hackers and posted advertisement of his sale, the indictment said.

Ancheta was an affiliate of several adware companies, which paid him a commission based on the number of installations.

The indictment charged that he would vary the download times and rates of the adware installations to avoid detection, and that when companies hosting Ancheta’s adware servers discovered the malicious activity, he redirected his botnet armies to a different channel so he controlled to pick up adware.

MNA/Xinhua

Asleep in Jesus
Saw Gibson Shaw
Age (65) years
Son of the late (Saw Baw Shaw-Naw Jessie), residing at No (484) Lower Kyimyindyne Road, Kayin Quarter, Kyimyindyne Township, belonged husband of Naw Selda Maung (PAPRD-Retired), loving father of Naw Pa Saw Htee and Naw Pa Saw Wah was called to his Heavenly Home on the morning of 5th November, 2005 in Ghana (Africa).
Arrangement of funeral service will be announced later.

The Bereaved family

WEATHER

Saturday, 5 November, 2005
Summary of observations recorded at 09:00 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and isolated in Mon State, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyarwady Divisions and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were 3°C to 4°C below normal in Chin State and Yangon Division, 3°C to 4°C above normal in Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, 5°C to 6°C above normal in Kayah and Mon States and about normal in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thatrawaddy (1.34) inches, Yangon (Central) (0.59) inch and Hmawbi (0.47) inch.

Maximum temperature on 4-11-2005 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 5-11-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09.00 hrs MST on 5-11-2005 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 4-11-2005 was 3.5 hours approx.

Rainfalls on 5-11-2005 were (0.12) inch to Mingaladon, (0.32) inch to Kabu-Aye and (0.95) inch to central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2005 were (101.38) inches at Mingaladon, (101.50) inches at Kabu-Aye and (100.83) inches at (105.39) inches central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kabu-Aye) was (4) mph from North at (12:30) hours MST on 4-11-2005.

Bay inference: According to the satellite Meteorological observations at (12:30) hours MST today, a low pressure area has formed over Andaman Sea. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the South Bay of Bengal and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 6-11-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Rakine, southern Shan, Mon and Kayin States, Ayeyarwady and Bago Divisions. Weather will be partly cloudy in Kayah and Northern Shan States and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in Southern Myanmar areas.
Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-11-2005: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-11-2005: Generally fair weather.

Untimely rainfall warning

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YANGON, 5 Nov — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win attended the Second Informal Summit of the Heads of Government of ACMECS member states at the Second Informal ACMECS Summit at Thai Koo Fah Building in Bangkok, Thailand at 10 am on 3 November. It was attended by Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Lao Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, and Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai.

The declaration warmly welcomed Vietnam’s first participation in the functions of ACMECS Summit. “We agreed on the importance of taking a forward-looking approach in our cooperation in order to lay a strong foundation for meeting the future needs of our region,” the declaration said.