Senior General Than Shwe receives Member of Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo Vice-Chairman of NPC Standing Committee

YANGON, 16 Nov — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe received Member of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Vice-Chairman of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee of the People’s Republic of China Mr Wang Zhaoguo and party at the Credentials Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building on Pyay Road, here, at 10 am today.

Also present at the call were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Prime Minister General Soe Win, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, USDA CEC member Thura U Aung Ko, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe receives Member of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Vice-Chairman of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee of the People’s Republic of China Mr Wang Zhaoguo and party at the Credentials Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building. — MNA

The Chinese goodwill delegation was accompanied by Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu.— MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
People’s Desire

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

Transport Minister to attend 11th ASEAN Transport Ministers’ Meeting in LPDR

YANGON, 16 NOV—Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe was seen off at the airport.—MNA

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe being seen off at the airport.—MNA

U Tin Htun presents credentials to King of Brunei

YANGON, 17 NOV—U Tin Htun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam, presented his Credentials to His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu‘izzaddin Waddaulah, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, on 1 November 2005, in Bandar Seri Begawan.—MNA

U Tin Oo Lwin presents credentials to President of Sri Lanka

YANGON, 17 NOV—U Tin Oo Lwin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, presented his Credentials to Her Excellency Madame Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, on 31 October 2005, in Colombo.—MNA

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe who wish to sell their precious stones are to confront the MGE (Head Office). —MNA

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and other requirements. Respec-
tive departments and organizations at home and abroad are working together to gain attention of greater number of local and foreign gems mer-
chants.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein inspects wheat donated by the Government of the Republic of India.—COMMERCE

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, on 14 November, inspected 10,000 tons of wheat donated by the government of the Republic of India at the warehouses of the Direct Freight Handling Section-2 on Upper Pazaungdaung Road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township and gave neces-
sary instructions to officials. —MNA

Low grade utility jade sales in December

YANGON, 15 NOV—The Myanmar Gems En-
terprise under the Ministry of Mines is making preparations to organize low grade utility jade sales in December 2005 in the interests of the State and national entrepreneurs.

Jade lots at floor prices will be sold through tender system.

The MGE will coordinate with the depart-
ments concerned for ensuring prompt acquisition of earnings, swift export of jade lots and fixation of the earnings of national gems merchants as export earnings and other requirements. Respec-
tive departments and organizations at home and abroad are working together to gain attention of greater number of local and foreign gems mer-
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Scrutiny, acceptance and price fixation of the jade lots that the national entrepreneurs want to sell at the sales will take place soon. Those who wish to sell their precious stones are to con-
tact the MGE (Head Office). —MNA

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tact the MGE (Head Office). —MNA

New waterway under Chindwin river bridge (Monywa)

YANGON, 15 NOV —A new waterway has been marked under Monywa Bridge on Chindwin River between piers No 7 and No 8 with effect from 15 November.

The clearance of the new waterway is 300 feet in width and 40 feet in height. A triangle sign in green colour illuminated with green at night is fixed at the entrance to the waterway. The no-entry sign is a red coloured cross lighted with red bulbs at night.

The waterway can be used only by a single boat at a time and priority must be given to the vessels sailing downstream in river. —MNA

Minister inspects wheat donated by Indian government

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US atomic expert doubts report of Iran weapons work

VIENNA, 15 Nov — A prominent American nuclear security expert on Monday challenged as misleading a report of new US intelligence purportedly suggesting Iran was planning to build a nuclear warhead.

David Albright, head of the US-based Institute for Science and International Security think-tank and a former UN arms inspector, said the report was off the mark on one key issue and glossed over two others.

In a statement, Albright said the article repeatedly characterized the laptop’s contents as information about a nuclear warhead design when the information actually describes an entry vehicle for a missile. “This distinction is not minor. The information does not contain any words such as nuclear or nuclear warhead. The ‘black box’ carried by the re-entry vehicle may appear to be a nuclear warhead, but the documents do not state what the warhead is.”

MNA/Reuters

Three Americans killed in bomb blast in central Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 15 Nov — Three Americans were killed and two others wounded in a large explosion near a convoy of Sport Utility Vehicles (SUV) near the heavily fortified Green Zone in central Baghdad on Monday, an Interior Ministry source said.

“A roadside bomb went off near an SUV convoy at about 9:20 am (0620 GMT), killing three American nationals and wounding two others,” the source told Xinhua.

The SUV convoy is usually used by foreign security contractors, who provide security for senior US and Iraqi officials. The source also said the US troops had evacuated the casualties of the blast into the Green Zone, which houses the US Embassy and the Iraqi Government.

US troops cordoned off the area, preventing Iraqi police from approaching the scene, the source added.

MNA/Xinhua

US military deaths rise to 2,071

WASHINGTON, 15 Nov — As of Tuesday, 15 Nov, 2005, at least 2,071 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 1,614 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. The figures include:

five military civilians.

The AP count is nine higher than the Defense Department’s tally, last updated at 10 am EST Tuesday.

The British military has reported 97 deaths; Italy, 27; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,932 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 1,505 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 15,704 US service members have been wounded, according to a Defense Department tally on Tuesday.

MNA/Reuters

Six dead, 30 wounded in Iraq bus blast

BARAKDAD, 15 Nov — Six people were killed and 30 wounded on Monday when a roadside bomb exploded near two coaches in the western Iraqi city of Ramadi, hospital officials said.

De Hamdi al-Rawil of Ramadi hospital said 10 of the injured were in serious condition after the blast tore through one of the coaches.

The buses were carrying passengers to Ramadi, (70 miles) west of Baghdad, from Ta’mim, a small town nearby.

Ramadi is the capital of the western province of Anbar.

Attacks on civilians are rare in Anbar, but the province has been one of the focal points of an insurgency by Iraq’s Sunni Arab minority and foreign fighters against the Shi’ite and Kurdish-led government and the US forces that back it.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia, Ukraine to talk on price of gas from Russia

KIEV, 15 Nov — Russia’s Energy and Industry Minister Viktor Khristenko will meet his Ukrainian counterpart, Ivan Plachkov, on Monday for a new round of talks on Russian gas supplies as Moscow calls to raise the price to European levels.

The Russian Energy Minister was also expected to meet Oleksiy Ivchenko, head of Ukraine’s national gas company Naftogaz, the Ukrainian Government said.

Ukraine currently buys Russian gas at a heavily discounted rate of 50 US dollars for 1,000 cubic metres, but Moscow wants to raise the price to what its European customers pay, about 150 US dollars.

However, Ukraine insists that the lower price is justified because the country stands as a main transit point for Russian gas headed westward.

According to reports of Russia’s ITAR-TASS news agency, Khristenko has insisted that future agreements on gas supplies with Ukraine will not be signed unless Ukraine agrees to pay more gradually. — MNA/Xinhua

A view of the bed of the River Teesta at Gengchura in Bangnar District, 345 km (214 miles) north of Dhaka on 15 Oct, 2005. At the end of the monsoon season, the river that brings misery to thousands of Bangladeshis looks more like a big canal, with people and cattle walking across through knee-deep water. —INTERNET

A car bomb exploded outside an outlet of a US fast food chain in Pakistan’s largest city Karachi on 15 Nov, 2005, killing at least six people and wounding several others. —INTERNET

Washington, 16 Nov — The Democrats at the US Senate urged the Bush Administration to change its policy in Iraq and the US costs in Iraq and the US costs in Iraq and that forces will not stay indefinitely in Iraq.

“Second, the Bush Administration must advise the Iraqi people that United States military forces will not stay indefinitely in Iraq and that it is their responsibility to achieve the broad-based and sustainable political environment essential for defeating the insurgency,” Reid said.

Thirdly, President Bush needs to submit a quarterly basis a plan for success to Congress and to the American people and “this plan must specify the challenges and progress being made in Iraq, timetables for achieving our goals, and estimated dates for redeployment from Iraq as these goals are met,” Reid added.

With more than 2,050 Americans killed in Iraq and the US costs in Iraq having passed 250 billion US dollars, calls have been mounting for the US troops to withdraw from Iraq and President Bush’s approval ratings have fallen to new lows.

MNA/Xinhua

A prominent American nuclear security expert on Monday challenged as misleading a report of new US intelligence purportedly suggesting Iran was planning to build a nuclear warhead.

David Albright, head of the US-based Institute for Science and International Security think-tank and a former UN arms inspector, said the report was off the mark on one key issue and glossed over two others.

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Suspected car bomb explodes in India

SRINAGAR, India, 16 Nov—A suspected car bomb exploded Wednesday in the main business district of Srinagar, the summer capital of India’s Jammu-Kashmir state, injuring scores of people, witnesses said.

Heavy firing was heard soon after the explosion, though it was not clear who was firing at whom, or whether there were any fatalities.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the blast.

Many cars, motorcycles and bicycles were damaged in the powerful blast near the four-story corporate office of ‘Nazir Ltd.’ The explosion was massive and there are a large number of casualties. I saw a lot of injured people on the road crying. I don’t know about fatalities,” Nazir Ahmed, a bank manager, told The Associated Press by telephone.

Large metallic chunks of a destroyed car were strewn at the front gate of the bank. —INTERNET

Anarchists attack car showrooms with firebombs in Greece

ATHENS, 15 Nov—A group of Greece’s local anarchists attacked two car dealerships in central Athens early Sunday, destroying more than 30 automobiles, police said.

About 50 youths rampaged through central Athens firebombing Citroen and Mercedes showrooms, which were severely damaged, but no injuries were reported, police said. Firefighters extinguished the blaze in two hours.

Police say more than 30 automobiles were destroyed or damaged in the early morning attack, including vehicles parked nearby.

Thirty youths taken in for questioning later in the day were released due to lack of evidence.

Police say the youths may have been acting in solidarity with race rioters in France.

Anarchist groups in Athens and Thessaloniki frequently carry out fire bombings, often targeting banks and the offices of government agencies. MNA/Reuters

Cleaners polish off Italy's Trevi Fountain

ROME, 15 Nov—Italian police arrested four street cleaners on Monday as they tried to pocket hundreds of euros scooped from Rome’s famous Fountain of Trevi.

Each day, thousands of tourists stand with their backs to the Renaissance masterpiece and throw coins over their shoulders into its shallow basin in a tradition which is supposed to ensure they return to Rome.

The money, which adds up to several hundred euros a day or more, is regularly swept out by a cleaning firm with half of the proceeds handed over to Roman Catholic charity Caritas. MNA/Reuters

Bulgaria informs allies over Iraq withdrawal plans

Bulgaria approved in May a government plan to withdraw the country’s 400 troops in Dowyami, Iraq by the end of the year after a long mandate of more than two years. Thirteen Bulgarian soldiers have already died there, newly appointed Defence Minister Bliznakov said.

About 50 youths loyal to Mogadishu’s Islamic courts and local militia defending the densely populated Yaqshird District began Saturday and flared again on Sunday. The violence has apparently been sparked by attempts to close cinemas and video stores.

“The Islamic courts’ militia are trying to close all entertainment centres of the district,” one local resident Ahmed Dhiwalow told Reuters.

Three people died on Saturday, and another nine on Sunday, in clashes that caused inhabitants to flee the area and shops to close, witnesses and a Reuters reporter said.

Heavy firing could be heard from all over the city. MNA/Reuters

US budget, tax fights reveal Republican snarl

WASHINGTON, 15 Nov—Republican leaders Roy Blunt of Missouri, and Tom DeLay of Texas had to step down as House Republican leaders after being indicted on felony charges in September, and Senate Republican leader Bill Frist of Tennessee found himself the subject of a stock insider-trading probe.

As a result, Republicans are engaged in a high-stakes fight largely among themselves. They are attempting to determine if they can finance the increasingly unpopular Iraq war, secure US borders, repair cities devastated by hurricanes and prepare for a possible flu pandemic — while upholding two pillars of conservatism: cutting taxes and government spending. The Republican majority’s problems in Congress have been on a slow boil for months, and they have ranged from fiscal to political to legal matters.

Representative Tom DeLay of Texas had to step down as House Republican leader after being indicted on felony charges in September, and Senate Republican leader Bill Frist of Tennessee found himself the subject of a stock insider-trading probe. On the fiscal front, given all the demands on the government, coupled with four consecutive years of huge budget deficits, Republicans “do not have much room to manoeuvre,” said Sabato.
Asian Investment Forum kicks off in Thailand

BANGKOK, 15 Nov — The Asian Investment Forum opened here Monday with the primary focus to provide a platform for the European Union (EU) and Asian private sector representative organizations to reinforce economic cooperation.

Somkid Jatusripitak, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Commerce, said in a delivered speech that Europe and Asia are about to embark upon the new era of path-breaking cooperation and co-prosperity as a rising Asia should be Europe’s top choice in the age of globalization.

As one of the most active participants of Southeast Asia’s progress, Thailand’s geographic location and strategic advantages enable it an attractive destination for international businesses. Also, plays a role in the course is the country’s pro-active international trade and investment policy which is set to create more growth opportunities. “For the future, Thailand not only aims to attract Asian countries to come to Thailand, it is ready to invite European companies to visit Thailand.” Somkid told the Press at a retreat session. No single country can stay at home in the era of globalization, he added.

According to Board of Investment in Thailand (BOI), EU’s investment in Thailand is projected to grow 25 per cent in 2006. “We should not set our sights beyond just numbers. We must strike for a board-based partnership that capitalizes on the growing dynamism in trade and investment as well as other value creating activities like the exchange of technology,” Somkid stressed.

Franco appeals to Tunisia over stabbed journalist

PARIS, 15 Nov — France appealed to Tunisia on Sunday to shed more light on an attack on a French journalist who was beaten and stabbed in Tunis.

Christophe Boltanski, a correspondent for the French newspaper Liberation, is recovering after being beaten, kicked and stabbed in the back by unidentified attackers on Friday.

“We have made it known to the Tunisian authorities, in Paris and in Tunis, that we are counting on them to shed all light possible on the attack on Christophe Boltanski,” the Foreign Ministry said in a written statement.

“The ministry urged Tunisia to guarantee the safety of journalists attending the World Summit on the Information Society, a conference endorsed by the United Nations which starts in Tunis on Wednesday. The Paris-based Press watchdog Reporters Without Borders condemned the attack. It said a “repressive climate” in Tunisia offered no guarantee of safety during the summit and urged it to be held elsewhere.” MNA/Reuters

Turkey charges two in bookstore bombing probe

DIYARBAKIR, (Turkey), 15 Nov — A Turkish court has charged a military sergeant and a former Kurdish rebel with involvement in last week’s bombing of a bookstore in southeast Turkey, officials said on Sunday.

Turkey’s Government, ratted by suspicions that members of the security forces may have acted outside the law, pledged a full probe into Wednesday’s bombing which killed one person in the town of Semdinli near the Iraqi and Iranian borders.

Turkish media said the bombing recalled a 1996 scandal which erupted after a car carrying a senior policeman, a wanted gang leader and a parliamentarian crashed in western Turkey.

Ensuing probes revealed shady links between politicians, police, the military and criminal gangs. Officials said a local court had charged a civilian and a gendarmerie sergeant on Saturday, but released two other suspects detained after the incident.

The civilian was charged with carrying out the bombing. He was identified by the media as a former member of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) who had benefited from a repentance law. MNA/Reuters

Bomb kills two Bangladeshi judges

DHAKA, 15 Nov — Two Bangladeshi judges were killed in a bomb attack on Monday when a man threw a device at the car they were travelling in, police said.

The judges were on their way to the Jhalakathi district court, 155 miles south of Dhaka, when the attack took place, a police officer said.

One of them was killed on the spot, while the other died on way to hospital. A young man who was wounded had been arrested, police said without providing more details.

Road accident kills 10 in southern Egypt

CAIRO, 16 Nov — A collision between a minibus, a bus and a truck killed 10 people near a city in southern Egypt, police sources said on Wednesday.

The sources said eight people died at the scene of the accident, which took place late on Tuesday night, near the city of Minya, around 250 km (160 miles) south of Cairo, and two more people died in hospital from their injuries.

Egyptian state-run television showed footage from the local hospital of children injured in the collision. Traffic safety regulations are notoriously lax in Egypt and no reliable statistics exist for the number of deaths and injuries every year on the roads of the Arab world’s most populous nation. MNA/Reuters

Nearly 3% of Vietnamese population have diabetes

HANOI, 15 Nov — About 2.2-2.5 million Vietnamese people, or 2.4-3.0 per cent of Vietnam’s population now suffer from diabetes, according to an official of the Central Endocrinology Hospital on Monday.

It is difficult to give the exact number of diabetes patients as the disease does not exhibit clear symptoms at early stages, the official from the hospital in Hanoi said on condition of anonymity.

He predicted that some five million local people will have diabetes by 2025. The infection rates are currently very high in major urban areas, such as over 4.3 per cent in southern Ho Chi Minh City, and 3.7 per cent in Hanoi, much higher than the rates recorded in countries like the United States and Japan.

Vietnamese should focus on raising public awareness about the danger of diabetes and ways of preventing it such as using appropriate diet, increasing physical activities and reducing weight consequently, said the official. — MNA/Xinhua

An Iraqi policeman inspects the scene of an attack on a police vehicle in Kirkuk on 15 Nov, 2005 — INTERNET
Wellwishers invited for water supply projects

Ashin Adiccavamsa (Salingyi)

Newspapers are the eyes and ears of the public. Man could not live without news and information. Newspapers effectively fulfill the wishes of the people who want to read news stories. By reading newspapers, people can know what is going on at home and abroad.

Newspapers also carry news photos. Newspaper readers can know true voices of the public. These days, newspapers are featuring the public opinion voiced at mass rallies to protect and safeguard the nation through the strength of the people from the dangers posed by internal and external destructive elements.

It can be said that newspapers could intellectually nourish the people. People naturally want to read a newspaper as soon as it is delivered at the door. Newspapers cover news stories of various aspects including economic and social sections such as marriages and obituaries.

Carrying articles of various fields, a newspaper can expand the horizon of knowledge of the people.

For me, newspapers also carry news stories of meritorious deeds, for which I say “Sadhu!” (Well done!).

As water is the lifeblood of man, the learned left a saying “Man can survive seven days without food, but only one morning without water”.

Today, people come to realize the value and benefits of water more than in the past. Man can suffer diseases if he drinks unclean water, and clean water is essential for health.

Villages in the arid zones do not have an easy access to water. However, thanks to the leadership of the government, today there have emerged many wellwishers who contribute cash to the sinking of tube-wells, and local people can enjoy sufficient clean water. I am glad to read the news stories of the opening of new tube-wells in rural areas.

After reading the list of the donations for rural water supply project in the article “Regular maintenance services to rural tube-wells for their durability” by Maung Ba Pe (Oktha) in Myanma Alin on 4th August 2005, I praised the generosity of the wellwishers.

It was the 10th ceremony to present cash donations for sinking tube-wells in rural areas. A total of 180 wellwishers donated over K 120.8 million and 4,000 US dollars. The donations 1,515 wellwishers made from the first time to the tenth time amounted to K 117.39229 million, 74,252 US dollars, 770 Euros, and 10,012 FECS. How generous they are!

I wonder how encouraging it would be if water supply project covered not just rural villages but townships with the assistance of cash donations. Salingyi in Monywa District, Sagaing Division, is a region where water is scarce with a little rainfall. In 1972-73, wells were dug on self-reliant basis in Kywekyuang, not far from the town to supply water for local people. The work was handed over to the township Development Affairs Committee.

Now in Salingyi, the water pipelines laid over 30 years ago to supply water for the town are no longer serviceable. Recently, I have heard a number of complaints about shortage of water due to the worn-out pipelines. If wellwishers know that, I think they will contribute cash donations to the repair or replacement of the damaged pipelines.

Now in Salingyi, the water pipelines laid over 30 years ago to supply water for the town are no longer serviceable. Recently, I have heard a number of complaints about shortage of water due to the worn-out pipelines. If wellwishers know that, I think they will contribute cash donations to the repair or replacement of the damaged pipelines.

Therefore, some townships need to constantly maintain the water supply facilities for their durability. About K 3 million or 4 million will be enough to replace the old pipelines with new ones. Water shortage problems will be no more if the pipelines have been replaced. Wellwishers are urged to make cash donations individually or in groups to be able to complete the water supply project.

Translation: MS

Pro-golfer Zaw Zaw Latt, amateur Naing Naing Lin secure champions in Air Bagan Myanmar Gold Tour

The Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour was mainly sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd together with co-sponsors KBZ Bank Ltd, Myanmar Brewery Ltd, Myanmar Treasure Master Enterprise Ltd. It was organized by Han Event Management. Interested persons may visit www.golfing-myanmar.com to enjoy highlight news of the Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tours. — MNA

Pro-golfer Zaw Zaw Latt, amateur Naing Naing Lin secure champions in Air Bagan Myanmar Gold Tour

In the Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour held in Yangon’s Taungkonlay Golf Course, Zaw Zaw Latt with 302 strokes, Naing Naing Lin with 303 strokes and Myint Thaung (KM Golf Centre) with 301 strokes respectively. A tube-well was sunk near Ywathitgon Village, four miles and five furlongs southwest of Salingyi, in 1998. The tube-well produced clean water, but the project for water supply was not completed due to various reasons. Phukan Company conducted a feasibility study for the completion of the water supply project in the region.

With 56,246 US dollars donated by Japanese people, a 20,000-gallon tank was built at Taungkonlay village, 5,080 feet far from the tube-well. Water was pumped from the tube-well to the tank. Then the water was piped to the 60,000-gallon tank in Salingyi, four miles from the first tank. The donations of the Japanese wellwishers covered the construction of a waterwork, main water tank, a power cable, and water pipelines. On 1 December 2000, a ceremony was held to hand over the facilities to the Township Development Affairs Committee.

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Education sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of science and technology in the time of the Tatmadaw Government

International cooperation in the science and technology fields

The government is constantly raising the standard of science and technology in order to help promote the economic, social, education and health sectors of the nation to be in conformity with developing and changing situations of the world.

Only when science and technology are applied fully will the nation be able to be on a par with international community. In Myanmar, constant learning society has been established in order to apply ever advancing science and technology.

Nowadays, Myanmar is actively cooperating with international development agencies and other organizations related to technology to promote technological programmes which are in line with changing international situation.

Making contact with ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology -ASEAN COST, Myanmar is joining hands with the 8 sub-committees under the committee to enhance research works in the science and technology sector.

Moreover, under the science and technology collaboration programmes, Myanmar signed an agreement on bilateral collaboration in technologies with India in 1999. She also signed Memoranda of Understanding on nurturing human resources with China and Pakistan.

In carrying out international relation programmes in the time of the Tatmadaw government, scholarships, training and conferences were conducted in collaboration with 31 countries. Under these programmes, 154 scholarships were provided, 609 training conducted and 664 conferences held.

Myanmar also attended Asia-Pacific Symposia on Science and Technology and submitted 175 papers. International conferences play a vital role in research and development of the technology sector. It also promotes new creativity in information and communication sector for the future of the nation. As a result, fruitful results have been achieved.

The table shows Myanmar activities in international scholarship, trainings, conferences and research paper reading sessions in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

Asia-Pacific Symposia on Science and Technology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Papers submitted by Myanmar</th>
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International cooperation in the science and technology fields

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<td>3</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>609</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>664</td>
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USDA Secretary-General receives Chinese goodwill delegation

YANGON, 16 Nov — The visiting Chinese goodwill delegation led by Member of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Vice-Chairman of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee of the People’s Republic of China Mr. Wang Zhaoguo called on Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo at the hall of USDA Headquarters on New University Avenue in Bahan Township yesterday afternoon.

Also present at the call were USDA Joint Secretary-General U Zaw Min, CEC members U Tin Nang Thein, U Aung Thein Linn and Thura U Aung Ko, Chinese Ambassador Mr. Guan Mu and officials.

USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo explained aims and tasks of USDA, basic principles, tasks being carried out in cooperation with international NGOs, participation of USDA in tasks of regional development, five rural development tasks, rural power supply tasks, education, health and social sectors and development of the nation, and enhancement of friendly relationship and cooperation between youths of the People’s Republic of China and Myanmar.

Mr. Wang Zhaoguo also discussed promotion of friendly relations.

Next, they exchanged souvenirs and posed for a group photo.

In the evening, USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo hosted a dinner in honour of the Chinese goodwill delegation led by Mr. Wang Zhaoguo at Sedona Hotel.

Chinese goodwill delegation visits downtown Yangon

YANGON, 16 Nov — The Chinese goodwill delegation led by Member of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Vice-Chairman of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee of the People’s Republic of China Mr. Wang Zhaoguo today visited National Museum, Myanma Gem Emporium and Shwedagon Pagoda.

They arrived at Shwedagon Pagoda this afternoon and paid homage to Buddha Image at the southern prayer hall. The delegation made cash donation at the pagoda.

Ambassador of the PRC to Myanmar Mr. Guan Mu and officials accompanied the delegation at the visit. — MNA

Myanmar cultural delegation arrives back from PRC

YANGON, 16 Nov — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung arrived back here this afternoon after attending the Asia Cultural Forum-2005 held in Guangdong Province, the People’s Republic of China.

Members of the delegation Director-General of the Fine Arts Department U Ngwe Tun and Director of the Department of Cultural Institute Daw Sandar Hmuan also arrived back on the same flight.

The Myanmar delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Education Dr. Chan Nyein, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn, Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung and departmental heads. — MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.
Japanese Counsellor meets MMCWA executives

YANGON, 16 Nov — Counsellor of Japanese Embassy in Myanmar Mr Ichiro Maruyama and officials on 14 November met with executives of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association- MMCWA at the building of the association here.  

At the meeting, they discussed the tasks of the association and Grassroot Grant Assistance (GGA) concrete one and it can to 290 feet long reinforced bridge has been upgraded Dahseik suspension one by one were allowed road. In the past, vehicles gravel road as a detour Mongpan-Mongtung construction of Langkho detour (Dahseik) has spent K 5.7 million on for the roads in the urban sector-wise development Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations and local people to participate in the tasks for sector-wise development of the district. 

Township Engineer U Kan Tin of Public Works reported on matters relating to construction of six-mile gravel Langkho detour road. Col Myint Wai of Langkho Station and officials formally opened the road. On behalf of the local people, U Sai Chat Oo of Dahseik Village expressed gratitude. The prize presentation ceremony followed at Basic Education High School in the village. Township Education Officer Daw Nan Ohn Kyi gave a speech. Officials presented prizes to 12 outstanding students. Shan State and Township Women’s Affairs Organizations gave away 10 dozens of exercise books, cash assistance and drawing books, and Shan State USDA provided stipend, and the Chairman of District PDC K 10,000 to fourth standard student Maung Sai Aung Myo. Local breeders are carrying out pig, cow and poultry farming tasks to contribute to nutrition development of the local people. The opening of Langkho Detour (Dahseik) in progress. — MNA

Polio has been eradicated in Myanmar...

(from page 16)

In an effort to root out the infectious disease in the nation, Myanmar holds immunization days every year and has been making efforts to eradicate polio in Myanmar. Polio has been eradicated in Myanmar since 2003.

At the meeting, Chairperson of Supervisory Committee of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Thet Hui presented prizes to officials of Taikkyi, Hinthebyu, Kayan and Kyauktaw townships health departments for their contributions to polio eradication in Yangon Division. Deputy Director Dr Soe Lwin Nyien of Health Department explained implementation of polio eradication project in Myanmar. — MNA

Reproductive Course No 4/2005 concludes


At Thuta Pyokhin Library of the village, the books donation ceremony followed. Shan State USDA Executive U Sai Lon Kyaw handed over 100 books, Shan State WAO 100 books and District MMCWA 50 books to Village PDC Chairman U Nanda. At the same time, the specialists team led by Head of Shan State Health Department U Sai Kham Hlaing was providing health care services to the local people. At the talks organized by Shan State WAO, Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Khin Nwe Yi gave lectures on health knowledge. Next, the roundtable discussion on facts about Women’s Affairs Organization was held. Afterwards, they presented refreshments and cash assistance to 15 older persons and served refreshments to 20 primary students. In the agriculture sector, the district has 61,743 acres of paddy, and local food sufficiency of various species of trees and 2,000 Thitsint (Belleric myrobalan) in the rainy season tree planting ceremony. Moreover, local people established Thanatka (Limonia acidissima) plantations on a commercial scale in the township.

At present, Dahseik Model Village, Namtok Village and Namgting Village have been facilitated with power supply from generating the self-reliant hydel power turbine. Especially, all the houses in Dahseik Model Village enjoy TV programmes through satellite receiver. Langkho District has the narrow gap between rural and urban areas as well as development in all aspects. At present, prevailing peace and stability reflects progress of the district. — MNA

Langkho detour (Dahseik) inaugurated,...

(from page 16) 

In 2001-2002, Public Works is carrying out 225 bases as well as 188 bridges with 180 feet and above in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. The Ministry of Rail Transportation built seven bridges, the Ministry of Electric Power two bridges, and Langkho Station 11 bridges, totalling 208.

He continued to say that the Government implemented Dahseik river water pumping project near Dahseik Model Village, spending K 596.3 million. The river water pumping station irrigated 136 acres of monsoon paddy in 2005-06. Arrengements are being made for supplying water to 3,400 acres of paddy in 2006-07. Due to the better transportation and supply of water, the local people in Dahseik Village will meet development of social and economic affairs. In conclusion, the district chairman urged members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations and local people to participate in the tasks for sector-wise development of the district. 

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Local breeders are carrying out pig, cow and poultry farming tasks to contribute to nutrition development of the local people.
Information Minister goes on an inspection tour of Waw Township
IPRD in Bago Division

YANGON, 16 Nov — Accompanied by officials concerned, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan went on an inspection tour of Waw Township Information and Public Relations De- partment in Bago Division yesterday morning.
First, the Assistant Director of Bago Division IPRD, the Head of Bago District IPRD and the Head of Waw Town- ship IPRD briefed the minister on media func- tions.
In connection with the reports, the minister gave instructions on measures to be taken for construction of IPRD of- fice on the chosen site and ensuring establishment of self-reliant libraries, or- ganizing wellwishers to donate more books for the libraries, spending the funds of libraries with effect, supervising the libraries for durability, coordination with local authorities for speedy es- tablishment of libraries in the entire division and co- operation with depart- ments concerned in carry- ing out rural develop- ment tasks.
After viewing wall newspapers, collection of articles, poems, cartoons, etc and varieties of books on display at IPRD’s of- fice, he made arrange- ments to fulfil the require- ments. — MNA

Indonesia to include Army in eradicating bird flu

JAKARTA, 16 Nov — Indonesia will include troops and volunteers in efforts to eliminate bird flu outbreak in the country, following the increasing of the deaths caused by the virus, a local media reported here on Tuesday.
Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said on Monday that troops and volunteers would help to search to find fowls infected with bird flu virus. He said that the search would first be concentrated in Jakarta and areas deemed difficult for officials to detect the H5N1 virus.
Four of the five people who had died of bird flu in Indonesia, had lived in Jakarta. “We have to address this problem quickly. There should be a door-to-door inspection by volunteers, university students and mili- tary personnel to ensure they are clear from bird flu,” said Susilo.
“We should not underestimate this problem. There must be an intensive campaign to make the public aware of the virus,” he said.
The virus has killed at least 64 people in Asia since the end of 2003 and was detected in Eastern Europe last month. In Indonesia, nine people are confirmed to have been infected with bird flu virus. The virus has killed 60 people in Asia since the end of 2003 and was detected in Eastern Europe last month. In Indonesia nine people are confirmed to have been infected with bird flu virus.

“IT” technology fair opens on sidelines of APEC forum

BUSAN (South Korea), 16 Nov — A technology trade fair opened on Tues- day on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) fo- rum here on Tuesday, aim- ing to publicize South Ko- rea’s latest technological developments.
The exhibition, held at Busan Exhibition and Convention Centre, the central venue for the APEC forum, was hosted by South Korea’s Minis- try of Information and Communication. The ex- hibition comprises of eight corporate pa- visions and four enter- prise sections including the Robotics Section, e- Government Section and U-Port Section. The or- ganizers estimate more than 6,000 participants from the 21 APEC member economies will attend the exhibition.

They oversaw up- grading of Myanna Gonyi Road and repaving of Kanpat (Ring) Road in Mingala Taunggyi Township, extension of Thumingala Road in South Okkalapa Town- ship, and upgrading of Pinlon Road in Dagon Myothit Township.

Upgrading tasks of Yangon City in progress

YANGON, 16 Nov — On inspection tour, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Commander of Yangon Command, this morning said that employees and workers are to make concerted efforts for timely completion of road construction tasks in Yangon City meeting the set standard, adding that tasks are to be supervised for minimizing loss and wastage.
The commander, also Chairman of Yangon Di- vision Peace and Devel- opment Council, accom- panied by Mayor Brig- Gen Aung Thein Lin, made an inspection tour of keeping Yangon City clean and pleasant.

Egypt draws emergency plan against possible bird flu outbreak

CAIRO, 16 Nov — An Egyptian official said on Monday that Egypt has drawn a national emergency plan to deal with possible bird flu outbreak.
“We have worked out a national emergency plan and the government is ready for any emergen- cies,” Undersecretary of Ministry of Health Nasr El-Sayyed told Egyptian TV.
“The precautionary measures taken by the government have been ef- fective,” he added, saying “there has been no report of the H5N1 bird flu in- fection in Egypt up to now.”
The official also said the Health Ministry has kept a close eye on all birds and poultry as well as people who are in direct contact with birds. — MNA/Xinhua

NZ Red Cross team departs for Pakistan

WELLINGTON, 16 Nov — A contingent of New Zealand medical staff is going to provide relief in the earthquake-affected northern region of Pakistan. Foreign Minister Winston Peters said on Tuesday.
“Reports coming out of Pakistan suggest the situ- ation is still very serious. It is important that victims of the quake can get medical treatment before the severe winter season sets in,” said Peters.
Up to ten delegates have left for or will travel to Pakistan in the next few days. The group range from experienced delegates to first-timers, and they will spend up to six months in Pakistan.
The medical staff will be stationed at Abbottabad, where a multinational Red Cross hospital is treating earthquake victims and helping prevent the spread of infection and disease.
The large earthquake which struck the Kashmir region on October 8 is estimated to have killed more than 74,000 and an estimated three million people were left homeless.

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Chinese FM meets S Korean, Singapore, New Zealand FM

BUSAN (South Korea), 16 Nov—Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing, who is attending the APEC 2005 forum here, met on separate occasions with South Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Ban Ki-Moon, Singapore Minister of Foreign Affairs George Yong-Boon Yeo, and New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs Winston Peters on Tuesday.

During the meeting between Li and Ban, they spoke highly of the good progress of the bilateral relations between China and South Korea. Li stressed that the upcoming state visit of Chinese President Hu Jintao to South Korea will strategically further define the development goals for the two countries’ ties. The visit will also increase mutual understanding and trust and promote sustained growth of the two countries’ partnership of comprehensive cooperation, Li added.

Ban said China is South Korea’s important partner and people are looking forward to Chinese President Hu’s visit, believing that the visit will upgrade the two countries’ mutually beneficial cooperation.

The two sides also stressed they should continue to join efforts to push forward the six-party talks, so as to reach the objective of the Korean Peninsula being nuclear free and safe-guard the lasting peace and stability of the peninsula. During the meeting between Li and Yong-Boon Yeo, Li said China appreciated the Singapore Government’s reiteration of its adherence to the “one China” policy and its opposition to “Taiwan independence”. He said China and Singapore had further expanded cooperation in the trade, security, cultural and educational areas and in international and regional affairs.

Cambodian police seize 10,000 pills of drugs

PENOM PENH, 16 Nov— Cambodian Banteay Meanchey authorities seized more than 10,000 amphetamine pills and arrested five, local media reported on Monday.

Five men were arrested by police officials in Banteay Meanchey Province on Friday for trafficking the illegal amphetamine pills. The Cambodia Press Review said.

Following a careful investigation, police first stopped and arrested Banteay Meanchey Province residents Phum Sothun, 32, and Teab Sahan, 19, while the pair were driving in a car, said Roth Sreng, chief of the province’s military police.

Roth Sreng said police went on to arrest three other men in Serei Souphon District on suspicion of illegal trafficking, based on confessions made by Phum Sothun and Teab Sahan, according to the newspaper.

Police seized another 8,000 amphetamine pills from Phum Sothun’s house after he admitted to hiding the drugs there. Roth Sreng said the suspects were attempting to sell the drugs for distribution throughout Thailand through the Poipet International Gateway, according The Cambodia Press Review.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on Monday.

An Iraqi Army soldier inspects the wreckage of a car bomb exploded near a restaurant in eastern Baghdad, Iraq, on 15 Nov, 2005.—INTERNEWS

Vietnam’s cashew nut export to rise this year

HANOI, 16 Nov— Vietnam is estimated to reap 495 million US dollars from exporting cashew nuts this year, up 13.5 per cent from last year, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on Monday.

Vietnam, the world’s second biggest cashew exporter after India, is intensifying trade promotion in traditional markets such as the United States, China, Australia, the Netherlands, England, Canada, Russia, Italy and Japan. Up to 41 per cent and 25 per cent of its total cashew export volume last year was directed to the United States and China, respectively.

The country is renewing technologies to increase quality of cashew nuts for export, and employing other technologies to process other parts of the trees, including their fruits, rinds and trunks. It plans to increase cashew acreage to 450,000-500,000 hectares by 2010, and reap nut export turnover of at least 700 million US dollars in the year.

Vietnam, with 350,000 hectares of cashew under cultivation, will grow more cashew trees in the southern and central regions, as well as replace old strains with high-productivity ones so that it can turn out 700,000 tons of nuts in 2010, the ministry said.

The country shipped abroad 86,000 tons of cashew nuts worth 408 million US dollars in the first 10 months of this year, posting respective year-on-year increases of 5.8 per cent and 18.1 per cent. The value hike was attributed mainly to higher world prices, the ministry noted.

Latin America’s banana producers seek “total access” to EU market

PANAMA CITY, 16 Nov— Latin America’s banana-producing countries want to gain “total access” to the European Union (EU) market after the WTO rejected a new EU proposal to impose banana tariffs, Panamanian Trade Minister Alejandro Ferrer said on Monday.

“We are going to analyze scenarios and a common position to meet a new offer the European Union should make,” Ferrer told the Press after a meeting of regional trade ministers. Ministers from Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, all main banana producers in the world, were attending the meeting in the Panamanian capital.

Latin American growers’ hopes have been boosted by a recent WTO verdict which ruled that the EU tariffs failed to comply with world trade rules. Last Month, the World Trade Organization (WTO), which sets rules for international trade, struck down an EU proposal for a tariff of 1.87c (about $218 US dollars) per ton of exported bananas from Latin America, which would have started on January 1, 2006.

A South Korean woman looks at the traditional ‘Hanbok’ costume, which will be worn by leaders during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, in Pusan, South Korea on 16 Nov, 2005.—INTERBEX

Austalian wheat marketer says US ban “unjustified”

CANBERRA, 16 Nov— Australia’s monopoly wheat exporter, AWB on Tuesday described an “unjustified” sanction on it by US Government over an Iraqi oil-for-food scandal. A UN inquiry has found AWB involved in funneling 200 million US dollars in kickbacks to Saddam Hussein’s Government under the UN oil-for-food programmes.

In a press conference on Monday, US Department of Agriculture has suspended AWB, which is the biggest single trader of wheat on the US futures market, from a US-funded credit programme, which guarantees export sales of grain out of the United States.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio quoted AWB Limited spokesman Peter McBride as saying that “we believe that the United States Department of Agriculture has had pressure from US wheat lobby groups. So we believe that it’s unjustified and we’ll be making a submission to that effect”.

He added that the company is not currently using the programme and there will not be any effect on Australian wheat farmers, adding “we believe it’s probably more a reputation issue”.

A spokesman for Trade Minister Mark Vaile says the Federal Government is seeking urgent clarification about the ban against AWB. The Australian, a leading daily in Australia, said on Tuesday “the US action is highly embarrassing for the (John) Howard Government as one of President George W. Bush’s staunchest supporters on the invasion of Iraq.”
World Diabetes Day 2005 focuses on foot care

GENEVA, 15 Nov— The theme of this year’s World Diabetes Day, which is celebrated on Monday, is “Diabetes and Foot Care,” and the emphasis falls on foot problems caused by diabetes, one of the most serious and costly complications of the disease.

Many serious complications, such as kidney failure or blindness can affect individuals with diabetes, but it is the complications of the foot that are one of the most serious and costly complications of diabetes. Of all lower extremity amputations, 40 to 70 per cent are related to diabetes, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a statement. However, it is possible to reduce amputation rates by 49 per cent to 85 per cent, through a care strategy that combines prevention, treatment of foot ulcers, close monitoring, and education of people with diabetes and healthcare professionals, the United Nations agency added.

World Diabetes Day celebrated every year on 14 November, was established by WHO and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) in 1991, aiming at coordinating diabetes advocacy worldwide.

The slogan for the 2005 campaign is “Put Feet First: Prevent Amputations.”

“The only sure way to prevent amputations is to prevent diabetes,” said Mr. Robert Vigersky, Chief Executive Officer of the American Diabetes Association (ADA).

“High-risk diabetics should be seen by a doctor every month to check for foot problems,” Vigersky said. “Good foot care, along with good diabetes care, can prevent amputation.”

The ADA encourages people with diabetes to be aware of their feet, to check them carefully and to report any problems to their doctors.

The ADA said that people should have their feet checked regularly by doctors. It also recommended that people with diabetes keep their feet clean and dry, and that they should avoid wearing shoes that are too tight or too loose.

Zimbabwe builds dams to tackle water problems in Harare

HARARE, 15 Nov— Construction of the Kunzvi Dam is the panacea to the water problems plaguing Harare and its dormitory towns, Zimbabwean Water Resources and Infrastructure Development Minister Munacho Mutezo said on Monday.

“Harare has been facing a major water shortage and implementation of Kunzvi Dam is the solution,” he said while addressing a Chinese delegation from Jiangxi Province which is on a five-day visit to the country to explore areas of possible cooperation.

“We hope the project will be able to work shortly so that the people in Harare and surrounding areas do not have to suffer.”

Mutezo said time was ripe for implementation of the project, which had been on the cards for the past eight years.

“Some suburbs in Harare have been going for weeks without water supplies,” he added.

Collective efforts needed to develop pre-school education

KATHMANDU, 15 Nov— There is a need for collective efforts among different components of education field to develop pre-school education for children, an educational expert said here on Sunday.

“Ther e should be collective efforts from educational policy makers, master trainers, headmaster and teachers of schools for development of pre-school children,” said Janette Hirschmann, a member of the Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center (MCTC) of Israel, told reporters.

“Pre-school education is important for the mental and intellectual development of children,” Hirschmann noted. Hirschmann is currently in Nepal to conduct master trainers training to this end, which is jointly organized by the Ministry of Education and Sports, the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization and the Israeli Government. Altogether 30 master trainers or supervisors from 25 districts are taking part in the training on what pre-school children need to develop in the best possible way.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 17 November, 2005

KATHERMALU

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KATHMANDU, 15 Nov— There is a need for collective efforts among different components of education field to develop pre-school education for children, an educational expert said here on Sunday.

“Ther e should be collective efforts from educational policy makers, master trainers, headmaster and teachers of schools for development of pre-school children,” said Janette Hirschmann, a member of the Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center (MCTC) of Israel, told reporters.

“Pre-school education is important for the mental and intellectual development of children,” Hirschmann noted. Hirschmann is currently in Nepal to conduct master trainers training to this end, which is jointly organized by the Ministry of Education and Sports, the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization and the Israeli Government. Altogether 30 master trainers or supervisors from 25 districts are taking part in the training on what pre-school children need to develop in the best possible way.
Renault Clio wins European Car of the Year Award

PARIS, 15 Nov — The new version of the Renault Clio has won the coveted European Car of the Year Award for 2006, in a neck-on-neck race with the Volkswagen Passat, the Car of the Year organization said on Monday.

The compact model was selected out of a second round of seven cars by a jury of 58 international automotive journalists, and garnered 256 votes against 251 for the Passat.

"Jury members have praised the new Clio especially for its quality, safety, comfort and space," the organization said, adding that the Clio was the first car to win the prize twice.

The Clio III was launched late 2005, while the first Clio won the award in 1991. Renault has already won five times in the prize's 43-year history, the last was the Megane, three years ago, which went on to become Europe's best selling car.

The Clio won over the Alfa Romeo 159, BMW 3-series, the joint-platform model Citroen C1/Peugeot 107/Toyota Aygo, the Mazda 5, Toyota Yaris and the Volkswagen Passat.

Last year's winner was the Toyota Prius hybrid car. The European car market is very sluggish, with French October car sales down 5.8 per cent in the biggest decline for six years. Renault hopes the Clio will boost fourth quarter sales after a disappointing third quarter.

The Clio III is made in France while the Clio II, renamed Campus, will continue to be produced in Slovenia.

MNA/Reuters

Unaddressed psychiatric disorders common with cancer

NEW YORK, 15 Nov — A study shows that about one of every ten adults with advanced cancer are plagued by major psychiatric disorders, yet many cancer patients with mental health problems are not getting help from a mental health professional, according to the study.

This finding speaks to the need for cancer doctors and patients to discuss psychological concerns during cancer care.

"Willingness on the part of the patient did not seem to be a barrier to mental health service use," Dr Nina S Kadan-Lottick from Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut told Reuters Health, noting that "93 per cent of the patients in the study who met criteria for a psychiatric disorder stated that they would pursue mental health services if they were aware that they had a problem."

In the study, the researchers determined the rate of psychiatric disorders and the use of mental health services in some 250 adults with advanced cancer participating in the "Coping with Cancer Study," an ongoing NIH-funded multicenter study of advanced cancer patients and caregivers.

Trained interviewers used established diagnostic tools to spot various psychiatric disorders including depression, anxiety disorder, panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD.

Overall, 12 per cent of the cancer patients met criteria for a major psychiatric illness—5 per cent suffered panic attacks—yet only 45 per cent of affected patients accessed mental health services, according to a report in the journal Cancer. "In our study of advanced cancer patients undergoing cancer therapy, fewer than half of the patients with active major psychiatric complaints received care from a mental health provider," Kadan-Lottick noted in comments to Reuters Health.

MNA/Reuters

Chilly feet can prompt common cold symptoms

LONDON, 15 Nov — Getting chilly can bring on a cold, British scientists said on Monday, overturning medical orthodoxy that says there is no connection between developing the viral infection and a drop in body temperature.

"Research at Cardiff University's Common Cold Centre paid 90 students to sit for 20 minutes with their bare feet in buckets of cold water. A few days later the study found that 13 of the students reported cold symptoms, such as a runny nose or sore throat, compared to five in a control group of 90 who kept their feet dry in socks and shoes."

"When you dip your feet into cold water, you cause a pronounced constriction to the blood vessels in the nose," said the centre's director Professor Ron Eccles.

MNA/Reuters

3G TV service launched in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 15 Nov — Singapore Telecommunications (SingTel), the leading telecom operator in the city state, launched a third generation (3G) mobile phone service named “3G TV”, according to Channel NewsAsia report on Monday night.

The first-ever initiative, with access to a video portal on a 3G platform instead of using the normal Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) access, allows users to enjoy video on their handsets in an easy and visual way.

Users may view all the 3G TV contents for free till the end of this year before a charge ranging from 0.5 to 3 Singapore dollars (about 0.3 to 1.8 US dollars) per channel applies in the future. Currently serving some 40,000 3G subscribers, SingTel plans to launch two more 3G initiatives, Video Call on Broadband and 3G Live Cam, by the end of 2005, said the report. Attempting to spur the market demand for 3G services, SingTel claimed that it is lowering the margins for the initial period, expecting the 3G penetration to leap over time.

Singapore commercially rolled out the 3G services on 17 February this year and as many as 744,800 Singaporeans are expected to use 3G mobile phones by 2009, accounting for about 20 per cent of the country’s population.

MNA/Xinhua
BIRMINGHAM (ENGLAND) — While Manchester United's Dutch striker Ruud van Nistelrooy scored a hat-trick to put the Red Devils in line to win the English Premiere League, Chelsea have fallen down the table with five losses in nine matches.

Wenger says Premiership title race is back on

LONDON, 16 Nov — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger claimed on Tuesday that Chelsea's loss to Manchester United has turned the race for the Premiership title back into a genuine contest.

Wenger has undergone a well-publicised feud with Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho — conducted through the media — in recent weeks.

And the Arsenal boss added that Chelsea's recent dip in form served only to highlight Arsenal's achievement in going an entire Premiership season unbeaten in 2003-04.

"I feel the outstanding record is to go a whole season unbeaten and people will maybe realise later what that record means," he said.

"It shows how difficult it is to beat that. It highlights our consistency and how much quality we have shown."

The Gunners face Chelsea on 18 December, but Wenger warned his players not to look to far into the future.

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LONDON, 16 Nov — Chelsea and Manchester United are now stuck in club-versus-country rows over Hernan Crespo and Cristiano Ronaldo respectively.

Nedved says World Cup would be ideal peak of his career

PRAGUE, 16 Nov — The captain of the Czech soccer team, Pavel Nedved, will be playing in the World Cup qualifying play-off decoder against Norway in Prague on Wednesday for his dream of playing the World Cup to come true, he said Tuesday.

"I have played three European Championships and I lost to Real Betis in the Champions League the last time I played..." he said Tuesday.

"I feel the outstanding record is to go further back and at last season when Paolo Ferreira also had to undergo surgery, England seem intelligent to me. They think about the burden constituted by the Premiership and opted for just one game, in Europe, but against a South American opponent, in this case Argentina, who can offer them a different playing style."

"For their part, Argentina were looking for a European opponent with a different playing style to those it meets in South America."

"But then they are going to Qatar, returning their players to their clubs one day before the weekend's competitions."

"The French play two games and, incredible as it seems, they go to the Caribbean, obliging players such as Makelele, Thierry Henry or Patrick Vieira to make a journey of many hours and to a complete change of climate."

"I played three European Championships and participation in the World Cup would be the best peak of my career, but I only fear for (tomorrow's) result," said Nedved, 33, Juventus' midfielder.

Yet he would not give a clear reply to the question whether he would play in the World Cup in Germany next year if the Czechs qualified for it.

"I confirm I will play the play-off tomorrow and then we shall see," Nedved said.

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Northern Ireland holds Portugal 1-1

LONDON, 16 Nov — Warren Feeney capitalized on a rare international start by scoring Northern Ireland's goal in their 1-1 draw against Portugal on Tuesday.

The Luton Town striker, who had not started for over three years and was a sub for the last seven games, scored with a looping header in the 53rd minute.

World Cup finalists Portugal had led through a Stephen Craigan own goal five minutes before half-time when the Irish League star Peter Thompson.

"Given manager Lawrie Sanchez was without a number of key players, he could claim a moral victory."

"There were good performances from goalkeeper Maik Taylor and midfielder Steve Davis and Portugal knew they had been in a game. The Belfast fans were also able to celebrate the appearance of Irish League star Peter Thompson."

"It shows how difficult it is to beat that. It highlights our consistency and how much quality we have shown," he said.

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LONDON, 16 Nov — Manchester United's striking starway Crespo and Cristiano Ronaldo respectively.

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Front-page events whether sporting events whether held locally or abroad.

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MALAYSIA launches nat'l jerseys for athletes

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 Nov — Malaysian athletes now have their own national jerseys, the first time a uniform jersey launched in this southeastern country, local media reported on Tuesday.

Malaysian athletes will put on the sportswear when attending the 23rd South-east Asian Games to be held in Manila, capital of the Philippines. "When we wear it, we will feel proud and inspired to compete against athletes from other nations," Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak said when launching the jersey.

Prior to this, athletes

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Tiger Woods of the US tees off on the 18th hole during the Dunlop Phoenix Pro-Am charity golf tournament at the Phoenix Country Club in Miyazaki, Japan on 16 Nov. 2005. —INTERNET

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Pakistan's Hasan Raza, right, catches the ball from England's Andrew Strauss, centre on Wednesday, 16 Nov, 2005 during the final day of the first cricket Test between Pakistan and England at Multan Cricket Stadium in Multan, Pakistan. —INTERNET

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Prior to this, athletes
53 birds die of avian flu in Britain

London, 16 Nov — Fifty-three birds have died at a British quarantine centre hit by an outbreak of avian flu, according to a report released on Tuesday by the British Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

The report said that within the species documented as coming from Taiwan, only the Mesias were infected with H5N1, adding that 53 out of 101 birds had died. It went on to say that the H5N1 virus was only transmitted between the Mesias. There is no evidence of transmission to other species in the facility including the sentinel birds.

Announcing the publication of the report, Chief Veterinary Officer Debby Reynolds said, “This report contains significant epidemiological findings and helps to further our understanding of highly pathogenic avian influenza. “In particular the apparent lack of transmission of H5N1 between species in the facility will be of interest to the international community.”

In a written Parliamentary statement, Environment Secretary Margaret Beckett said, “This report will be fed into the independent review of avian quarantine procedures I announced on 31 October led by Professor Nigel Dimmock and to Essex County Council, who are conducting an investigation into events at the quarantine facility.”

For subsequent two days:

Rain, slides spark chaos in Norway

STOCKHOLM, 16 Nov — Torrential rains and landslides sparked chaos all over western Norway on Monday and Tuesday, Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK) reported.

An estimated 10,000 Norwegians were left isolated in mountain towns and villages on Tuesday, after a severe storm set off landslides that blocked roads and tunnels. Emergency crews were working around the clock to restore access, according to NRK.

“It’s almost incredible that this can happen all over the county at the same time,” said operations leader Per Rimmol of the Sogn og Fjordane Police District. — MNA/Xinhua

Wednesday, 16 November, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin and Mon States and Tanintharyi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (4°C) to (6°C) below normal in Chin State, Yangon, Magway and upper Sagaing Divisions and (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Tanintharyi Division and above normal in the remaining areas.

The significant night temperatures were Pinlaung, Mindat and PyinOoLwin (6°C) each. The noteworth-y amount of rainfall recorded was Ye (0.87) inch. Maximum temperature on 15-11-2005 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 16-11-2005 was 63°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 16-11-2005 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 15-11-2005 was (8.2) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 16-11-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2005 were (102.60) inches at Mingaladon, (101.77) inches at Kaba-Aye and (106.46) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from West at (14-20) hours MST on 15-11-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17-11-2005: Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Tanintharyi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-11-2005: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-11-2005: Partly cloudy.
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

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

Polio has been eradicated in Myanmar since 2003

Four townships awarded for outstanding work

Shan State Women’s Affairs Organization donates books to a library of Dahseik Village in Langkho Township. — MNA

Langkho detour (Dahseik) inaugurated, outstanding students honoured in Langkho

Langkho Township. — MNA

As water is the lifeblood of man, the learned left a saying “Man can survive seven days without food, but only one morning without water”. Today, people come to realize the value and benefits of water more than in the past. Man can suffer diseases if he drinks unclean water, and clean water is essential for health.

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Asin Ardavamsa