### Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconciliation
- 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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**Yangoon-Mandalay dual railroad will emerge upon completion of Pyinmana-Myohaung section**

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Sept—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by ministers, deputy ministers, and officials of the SPDC Office, on 3 September morning left Nay Pyi Taw for Mandalay by train. On board the train, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min reported on the construction of the 157.75-mile Pyinmana-Myohaung (Mandalay) railroad. After giving necessary instructions, the Secretary-1 inspected progress in the building of bridges and laying of the rails along the road. Out of 489 bridges including 15 big ones to be built along the route, 446 bridges and 5 big ones have been completed.

On arrival at Mandalay Station, the Secretary-1 and party were welcomed by SPDC member Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and officials. Next, the Secretary-1 and party embarked on Mandalay-Yangon express train which would make a maiden trip on 4 September and inspected it. Afterwards, he visited the briefing hall of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) project on the Mandalay bank and heard a report by Deputy Superintending Engineer U Htay Myint on construction progress of the bridge. The Secretary-1 stressed the need for timely completion of the project meeting the standard set as the bridge will show the expertise of Myanmar engineers. Next, he inspected the construction work by boat.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) is 3,675 feet in length. The approach road on the bank of Mandalay is 1,140 feet and that on the bank of Sagaing 780 feet. It can withstand 60 tons of loads and more than 75 per cent of construction has been completed.

Yesterday morning Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party attended the conclusion of the refresher course No 25 for basic education teachers.

(See page 8)
Shape a stable and promising future

Nowadays, some big nations with an edge in media and technology are trying to export their ideologies and cultures to other nations. At such a time like this, people will be able to safeguard their national interests and prevent the infiltration of alien ideologies through political, economic and cultural fronts only if they have wide knowledge and experience.

The future of the nation is in the hands of the youth today and that of the youth rests on their education. Therefore, it is the duty of teachers to raise the education standard of a generation higher than that of another and to nurture their students in such a way that they learn to abide by school discipline, rules and regulations of their community and the law. At the same time, it is necessary to train them to possess national spirit, community spirit and become good citizens who can serve the best interests of the nation.

In this age of knowledge, the national education promotion programme concerns not only with the classroom but also with the entire society. The goal of the national education promotion programme is for all citizens to be literate, to raise the education standard of the entire nation and to enable all, irrespective of age, to learn constantly.

Higher education standard is a driving force for national development. This being the case, teachers are required to try as best they can to widen the scope of knowledge of the entire people including student youths and enrich their lives through education. Then only, will they be able to shape a stable and promising future for the nation and the people.

* 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

Electric Power-2 Minister inspects electrical device factory, lamppost factory

YANGON, 5 Sept — Minister for Electric Power-2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint on 3 September inspected an electrical device factory in Industry Zone-1 in Shwepyitha Township and a concrete lamppost factory in Hlinethaya Township. The future of the nation is in the hands of the youth today and that of the youth rests on their education. Therefore, it is the duty of teachers to raise the education standard of a generation higher than that of another and to nurture their students in such a way that they learn to abide by school discipline, rules and regulations of their community and the law. At the same time, it is necessary to train them to possess national spirit, community spirit and become good citizens who can serve the best interests of the nation. In this age of knowledge, the national education promotion programme concerns not only with the classroom but also with the entire society. The goal of the national education promotion programme is for all citizens to be literate, to raise the education standard of the entire nation and to enable all, irrespective of age, to learn constantly.

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CPT minister receives Russian guests

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw received Vice-Chairman Mr Kirill Agevnin and party of C Boss Technologies of the Russian Federation on 1 September at the minister’s office. Officials of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications were also present at the call. — MNA

Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint proceeded to a lamp post factory of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Board and inspected the production and stockpiling of concrete lampposts. At the meeting with employees, the minister called on officials concerned to improve the quality of goods and with a view to penetrating foreign markets. — MNA

MSF brings up new generation swimmers

YANGON, 5 Sept — With the purpose of promoting swimming standard and achieving success in the long run, Myanmar Swimming Federation is bringing up new generation swimmers. Starting July, six selected swimmers of the federation and 7 new generation ones are undergoing intensive training under the Chinese swimming coach. A total of 20 young divers were under training since two years ago. The Chinese diving coach arrived Myanmar in the third week of August. He is now coaching 20 young divers. The young athletes are between aged 11 and 16. The assistant coaches are U Ngwe Hla Moe (Swimming) and U Soe Moe (Diving) who are conducting joint-exercises. MSF is going to seek and bring up new generation swimmers from Ayeyawady, Mandalay, Mon, Sports and Physical Education Institute (SPEI) (Yangon) and (Mandalay) and monastic schools.

CSSTB member leaves for Cambodia

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept — Member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board (CSSTB) U Hla Myint Oo on 1 September left here for Cambodia to participate in the 13th officials’ meeting on technology of ASEAN and meeting of civil service personnel of ASEAN to be held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from 5 to 6 September. He was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw airport by Chairman of CSSTB Dr Than Nyun and CSSTB members. Member of CSSTB U Hla Myint Oo was accompanied by Director-General U Hla Kyi of Civil Service Selection and Training Department and U Win Maung, Professor of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi). — MNA

A Chinese coach trains new generation swimmers. — NLM

Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects concrete lamppost factory in Hlinethaya Township. — MNA

People's desire

* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy
Russia welcomes China to join in offshore oil, gas exploration

CHANGCHUN, 4 Sept — Russia is hoping that China would join in the exploration of oil and gas reserves in its far east Sakhalin Island, a senior Russian official said.

The official with the Sakhalin provincial government made the remarks here Saturday at a Northeast Asia trade expo. He said that Chinese investors are welcomed to develop the rich oil and gas deposits on the Sakhalin shelf, and they are expected to take part in the exploration and export of offshore oil resources.

By now, Russia’s state-owned energy company Rosneft and China’s leading oil company Sinopec had set up a joint venture to explore oil and natural gas under the Sakhalin-3 project. The project has an estimated oil reserve of 168 million tons and natural gas reserve of 258 billion cubic metres, according to the official.

The official with the Russian official.

Sakhalin Island, a senior Russia is hoping that
creation by Indian designer Manish Malhotra during
frequent, nonstop services.

Airbus is about four years behind its US-based rival’s next-generation plane, the 787 Dreamliner, tailored to cover more destinations with more frequent, nonstop services.

US Democrats see support for anti-Rumsfeld vote

WASHINGTON, 4 Sept— A resolution demanding the resignation of Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld after he compared Iraq war critics to Nazi appeasers has strong support among US Senate Democrats, a senior Democrat said on Sunday.

A resolution against Rumsfeld, long a lighting rod for criticism of the Iraq war, would struggle to be passed by the Republican-controlled Senate and would anyway not be binding on the Administration of President George W Bush. But Democrats, who have a strong chance to win back control of at least one chamber of Congress in November mid-term elections, will use it to send a message that the Administration’s policies in Iraq are failing, New York Senator Charles Schumer said.

“It says that our policies are not going well,” Schumer, chairman of the Senate Democrats’ campaign committee for the November elections, told Fox News Sunday.

“And the reason is not that we shouldn’t fight a strong war on terror, but Rumsfeld’s not doing a very good job of it.”

Schumer said there was a “lot of sentiment” among Senate Democrats to push for a resolution, and noted that it was not just Democrats that have called for Rumsfeld to step down — a Republican candidate for the Senate from New Jersey, Thomas H Kean Jr, did so on Saturday.

California Democrat Senator Barbara Boxer has vowed to offer a resolution calling on Bush to name a new defence secretary, saying she was outraged by Rumsfeld’s comments that appeared to compare Iraq war critics to appeasers of Nazi Germany. A similar resolution against the defence secretary is being considered by House Democrats. Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean said on “Face the Nation” that “of course” Rumsfeld should resign, adding that it was not smart to attack the majority of Americans who thought the war in Iraq was amiatke.

First passengers fly on superjumbo

PARIS, 4 Sept — The Airbus A380, the world’s largest passenger jet, took off with a full load of passengers for the first time Monday and the European aircraft maker announced further management changes in the wake of costly delays to the $13 billion super jumbo programme.

Carrying 474 Airbus employees, the 308-ton jet left from Toulouse, southern France, on the first of four test flights scheduled this week to try out the plane’s cabin environment and systems with passengers on board.

Airbus says it is on schedule to deliver the first finished A380 to Singapore Airlines by the end of the year, despite the latest wave of costly delays that are expected to hold up subsequent deliveries by about six months.

With the A380, Airbus has bet heavily on future demand for very large planes to fly growing numbers of travellers among the world’s increasingly congested major airports. In mid-sized, long-range jets — where Boeing sees much more demand — Airbus is about four years behind its US-based rival’s next-generation plane, the 787 Dreamliner, tailored to cover more destinations with more frequent, nonstop services.

Nine racehorses die in fire in eastern Japan

TOYOYAMA, 4 Sept—Nine racehorses were found dead after a fire destroyed two stables early Sunday in eastern Japan, Kyodo News reported.

The fire broke out around 1 am (1600 GMT Saturday) at a stable on the premises of the Funabashi Racetrack in Funabashi, Chiba Prefecture and spread to another one nearby, according to local police. It burned down two stables in about three hours before taking under control.

No one was reported injured in the fire but the nine horses aged between 2 and 5 years. The damage from the fire is estimated to be in the tens of millions of yen. According to Chiba’s horse racing association, there are 78 stables in and around Funabashi racetrack, home to some 600 racehorses.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

People from Lapaz Village place booms made from straw to protect their coastline from an oil spill that continues to threaten the area in Nueva Valencia Town, Guimaras, central Philippines, on 4 Sept, 2006. — INTERNET

Russian official said.
Chinese V-P calls for better cooperation in Northeast Asia

CHANGCHUN, 4 Sept — Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi said here Saturday that the cooperation mechanism among Northeast Asian countries should be improved.

Trade facilitation process should be quickened in the region with more government support, said Wu at the Northeast Asia Economic Cooperation Forum held in Changchun, northeast China's Jilin Province.

Wu said China's strategy of rejuvenating its old industrial base in northeast China has brought great business opportunities to companies in Northeast Asia.

The Vice-Premier said China would stick to its policy of opening up and reform to strive for prosperity in Northeast Asia along with other nations. A comprehensive coordination framework should be set up around development of Tumen River, said Wu. The governments in the region should build a transparent and predictable environment in system and policies to attract investment and promote mutual cooperation in agriculture, manufacturing and energy resources, she said.

The Vice-Premier also called for nations in the region to push forward service trade by focusing on logistics, tourism and project outsourcing.

MNA/Xinhua

Expatriate Bangladeshis in UAE remit more money home

DHAKA, 4 Sept — Remittances sent to Bangladesh from expatriate workers in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) rose by 15.9 per cent in the last financial year, according to central bank statistics.

The remittances sent to Bangladesh from UAE totalled 512.6 million US dollars in the fiscal 2005-06 (July 2005-June 2006), local news agency UNB quoted figures released by Bangladesh Bank, the central bank, as saying Sunday.

The statistics reveal that each of 400,000 non-resident Bangladeshis in the UAE sent around 1,280 dollars per annum back home on average. Bangladeshi make up about 10 per cent of the UAE's 4.1 million population.

MNA/Xinhua

Bulgarian ar-chaeologist Daniela Agee shows a small ancient golden chariot, during a news conference in Sofia, on 4 Sept, 2006. A 2,200-year old set of golden jewels has been unearthed in a Thracian burial mound at Bulgaria's Black Sea coast.

INTERNET

Monkeys slaughtered to save plantations in Uganda

KAMPALA, 4 Sept — A total of 50 monkeys have been killed this week in a two-day operation conducted in forests of Busamuzi and Nairambi sub-counties in the central Uganda's District of Mukono.

Residents at first thought it was an armed robbery, but were later surprised to learn that the battle was between the district vermin guards and monkeys to save their plantations.

Sarafina Namuyima and Adrian Dungu, the chairpersons for Nairambi and Busamuzi sub-counties, respectively quoted by Daily Monitor on Saturday, said the increasing numbers of monkeys were leading to famine by destroying plantations.

The area MP, William Nsubuga Buwuma, recently told the Parliament that monkeys were destabilizing the Universal Primary Education Programme as most of the children were remaining at home to guard gardens instead of going to school.

MNA/Xinhua

Two US soldiers killed in eastern Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 4 Sept — Two US soldiers were killed when a roadside bomb struck their vehicle in eastern Baghdad on Sunday morning, the US military said in a brief statement.

The names of the soldiers are being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it added.

Since the US-led war in Iraq started in March 2003, more than 2,630 soldiers have died in Iraq, according to media count.

MNA/Xinhua

An elephant parades during the opening ceremony of the 6th king's Cup Elephant Polo at Golden Triangle in north of Thailand on 4 Sept, 2006. The tournament drew 12 international teams from 19 countries of five continents to take part in the game with 30 elephants.

INTERNET

KAMPALA, 4 Sept — After a month of relief from crocodile horror, residents in a central Uganda's district of Mukono were thrown into fear again as another giant crocodile was sighted on the shores of Lake Victoria.

According to the Daily Monitor on Saturday, another crocodile was recently sighted by residents who were looking for firewood at Kigaya Landing Site where a 35-year-old crocodile had been killed this week in a two-day operation conducted in forests of two sub-counties in the central Uganda's District of Mukono.

Residents in central Uganda's District of Mukono were thrown into fear again as another giant crocodile was sighted on the shores of Lake Victoria.

Exactly a week ago, a bomb exploded inside a food market in attacks that killed more than 20 people and wounded dozens.

INTERNET

Blast in Iraq town kills four, wounds 19

BAGHDAD, 4 Sept — A bomb in a market store killed four people and wounded 19 in north of Baghdad on Sunday, police said.

Khalis has been the scene of recent sectarian violence. Exactly a week ago, a bomb exploding inside a food market in Khalis and in the evening gunmen stormed the market in attacks that killed more than 20 people and wounded dozens.

MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Xinhua

South Korean actor Kwon Sang-woo holds a vase of ‘Vasconydis’ Kwon Sang Woo’ during the orchid’s naming ceremony at Singapore’s Botanic Garden on 4 Sept, 2006.

INTERNET
Chinese, Russian police to hold joint anti-terror drill

MOSCOW, 4 Sept— Chinese and Russian police are to hold a joint anti-terror drill in the Far East area of Russia next year, Russian Deputy Interior Minister Nikolai Ovchinnikov has announced here.

Preparations for the drill, the first ever between the police of the two countries, were already underway, said Ovchinnikov, without giving details.

The fight against terrorism was an important part of China-Russia police cooperation and a priority in the bilateral cooperation plan of Russia’s Interior Ministry and China’s Ministry of Public Security.

China and Russia began to conduct police cooperation in 1993 and signed an official cooperation agreement in 2003. The two countries were carrying out “substantial cooperation on police affairs”, including the fight against cross-border organized crime and smuggling, as well as personnel training and exchanges of information, he added. — MNA/Xinhua

US airliner to London cancelled after smoke report

WASHINGTON, 4 Sept— A US passenger flight on its way from Minneapolis, Minnesota, to London was cancelled on Sunday after it made an emergency landing over a smoke alert in the cabin.

Northwest Airlines Flight 44, with 255 passengers and 10 crew members on board, landed without incident just before 9:50 p.m. on Saturday (0250 GMT on Sunday) at Duluth International Airport.

No injuries were reported among the passengers, who waited aboard until about 7:30 am (1230 GMT) on Sunday when they were told that the trip was cancelled.

Doug Wood, Northwest’s manager in Duluth, a city of northeast Minnesota, said the smoke appears to be caused by an electrical fault, which was later fixed by mechanics. — MNA/Xinhua

Grounded British ship blocks Suez Canal branch

CAIRO, 4 Sept— The British container ship, Mariming Miral, ran aground in the eastern branch of the Suez Canal Saturday and stopped traffic along this part of the waterway, the official MENA news agency reported.

The container ship, carrying 52,000 tons, ran aground owing to engine failure in the eastern branch of the Canal near Kabrit City, holding up 18 north-bound ships coming from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea. All ships had to be diverted to different branches of the canal, it said.

Suez Canal Authority tugboats are currently trying to steer the container away from the route of the ships before a group of engineers fix the ship, said MENA.

The 170-kilometre-long Suez Canal was opened in 1869 after 10 years of work.

The canal connects the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea, providing a shortcut for ships operating between European and Asian ports. — MNA/Xinhua

Hostages freed from Moscow prison

MOSCOW, 4 Sept— Russian police forced three inmate hostage-takers to release their 15 captives unharmed Monday after a hours-long standoff at a pretrial detention centre in southeast Moscow, said Interfax news agency, quoting prison system director Yuri Kalinin.

Russian police used concussion grenades and other nonlethal force to free the hostages, one of whom was the prison director, Kalinin said. The raid took only one-and-a-half hours, he said. The three inmates were arrested.

The incident began about 4 pm (8 am ET) when prison wardens were attacked, disarmed and taken hostage during a routine prison walk. Interfax reported. The hostage-takers barricaded themselves in a room with their victims, it said.

Federal Penitentiary Service spokesman Alexander Sidorov said the hostage-takers — all of whom have been sentenced for serious crimes, including homicide — believe their sentences were too harsh and are demanding to be retired. — Internet

Spain hit by highly toxic spill

LONDON, 4 Sept— Officials in north-western Spain are struggling to contain a highly toxic chemical river spill heading towards the Atlantic Ocean.

The discharge into the Umia River was caused by a fire at a chemical plant in the Galicia region late last week.

The three-kilometre (1.9 mile) long spill is slowly moving down the river, killing fish and plants in its path.

The water supply to some 80,000 people has been cut off, and shell fishing areas have been closed as a precaution. The turquoise-coloured petroleum pollutant could reach the Atlantic Ocean in two days, officials in Galicia estimate.

They are building a series of dams to try to stop the spill.

The cause of the fire at the chemical plant is still being investigated.

The spill is a further blow to Galicia, which has been ravaged by forest fires in recent weeks. The region was devastated by a vast oil slick caused when the Prestige oil tanker sank in 2002. — Internet

Participants of the ‘Regata Storica’ (Historical Regatta) row their boat in front of San Giorgio Maggiore and the Salute church in Venice on 3 Sept, 2006. — Internet

Maidens gather at Ludzidzini, the royal palace in Swaziland, to deliver reeds to the King during the annual reed dance on 3 Sept, 2006. The reed dance allows King Mswati III to choose a wife, if he wishes. — INTERNET

The spilt is killing fish and plants in its path. —INTERNET
Tanzania, Zambia seal pact to strengthen ties

LUSAKA, 4 Sept—Zambia and neighbouring Tanzania signed a joint communique to strengthen their relations on Friday, one day after a riot erupted along the two countries’ border, Zambia News and Information Services reported on Saturday.

The communique was signed in Nakonde, north Zambia, by Zambia’s Northern Province Permanent Secretary Joel Mwapesile.

The two sides agreed in the communique that a police commissioner in Zambia will lead an inquiry into alleged police brutality in Nakonde.

The document was endorsed after irate Tanzanians went amok beating up Zambians and burning down vehicles on Thursday following the death of a Tanzanian man in Zambian police custody with a house breaking charge.

Both of the governments agreed in the communique that an investigation will be made to ascertain the cause of the death. A probing into the mistreatment of foreign suspects in custody of both countries and the injuries of their citizens during the riot is also to be carried out.

The police of Tanzania and Zambia will work to recover property lost or stolen in the riot.

84% of suicide bombing victims in Afghanistan are civilians

KABUL, 4 Sept—More than 84 per cent of the persons killed by suicide bombers are civilians this year throughout Afghanistan, according to statistics released by the US-led coalition forces on Sunday.

Upto 12 August, 105 out of the 124 persons killed by suicide bombings in this volatile country were civilians, the statistics said.

The other victims are five coalition soldiers and 14 Afghan troops and police.

Japan preparing nuclear accident-response steps

TOKYO, 4 Sept—Japan is preparing a set of high-level alert procedures to follow in the event of a nuclear power plant accident abroad, out of concern that North Korea may carry out an underground nuclear test, Kyodo News said on Saturday, citing government sources.

The steps to be taken would be comparable to those Tokyo has in place for a major earthquake or other large-scale natural calamity within Japan, the sources told Kyodo.

If the government determines that Pyongyang has detonated a nuclear device, Japan will declare an “emergency situation” and a task force will be set up at the Prime Minister’s official residence, the sources said.

Government officials were not immediately available to comment on the report.

Arrangements call for the task force, led by the Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary for Crisis Management Takeshi Noda, to discuss specific steps such as investigating the impact of radioactivity, they said.

Snakebites kill six people in eastern Nepal

KATHMANDU, 4 Sept—As many as six persons killed of snakebites in the last seven days in Sunsari District of eastern Nepal, the state national news agency (RSS) reported here on Sunday.

People from Prakashpur, Ramgunj, Balagachiya, Bhaigadgaon and Sunowari villages of the district died of bites of poisonous reptiles, according to the District Public Health Office (DPHO).

The ministry said in a statement that a sample taken from birds in various villages and farms in Sohag was tested positive for the deadly avian virus. This has been the first case of bird flu among fowl since 5 July when Egypt reported the last case after the outbreak of the epidemic on 17 February.

29 killed by traffic accident in central Iran

TEHRAN, 4 Sept—A passenger bus-truck collision left 29 people dead and eight others wounded early on Sunday in the central Iranian city of Naen, local media reported. The bus was on its way from northeastern city of Mashhad to the central city Isfahan when the accident took place, said the Iranian Student’s News Agency (ISNA). A traffic control officer was quoted as saying the accident happened when the truck loaded with construction stones suddenly turned to the left.

Four Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan

OTTAWA, 4 Sept—Four Canadian soldiers were killed and several others wounded on Sunday during a major NATO offensive in southern Afghanistan.

The soldiers were killed during a major air and ground offensive — dubbed Operation Medusa — which includes Canadian, British and American troops joined by Afghan forces in Kandahar Province. The Canadian Forces General, Brigadier-General David Fraser, made the announcement at a news conference in Kandahar on Sunday, according to Canadian media reports.
The 41st Anniversary International Literacy Day falls on 8 September 2006.

With reference to the World Literacy Congress held under the patronage of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Tehran, Iran, from 8 to 19 September 1965, UNESCO designated the 8th of September as International Literacy Day.

According to the educational records of researchers, long ago, literacy rate of Myanmar stood high due to the literary and cultural courses conducted at monasteries in various parts of the nation. Nevertheless, the servitude of more than 100 years had adversely affected literacy rate of the Myanmar people. After Myanmar regained independence on 4 January 1948, literacy campaigns were thus launched to accelerate the literacy rate of the entire nation.

The mass activities on literacy in the Union of Myanmar can be divided into three periods—1948 to 1962, 1964 to 1988, and 1988 to date.

In the post-independence era, Myanmar’s literacy rate was just 35 per cent. Public Education Law was therefore promulgated and the Public Education Council formed to launch the public education plan and new life plan to raise the literacy rate. Literati historians compiled “Public education chronicle” featuring the 1948-1962 literacy campaign.

In the 1964-1988 era, substantial attention was given to creation of an opportunity that would provide all people with access to basic education. The mass activities during the period for literacy gained a good name worldwide. In the summer of 1964, three ‘Rs’ course was conducted at eastern model village in Meiktila Township, Meiktila District, with the help of voluntary teachers, which was the initial step in the second period.

In response to the call of UNESCO, Myanmar marked the International Literacy Day in Meiktila District in 1970.

Owing to the unremitting efforts to step up the literacy campaign in cooperation with the UNESCO in the second period lasting 24 years, more than 240,000 people, 15 years and older, became literate. In recognition of Myanmar’s effective literacy campaign, UNESCO awarded Myanmar Mohammed Reza Pahlavi Prize on the International Literacy Day (1971) and Noma Prize on the International Literacy Day (1981). A group of scholars including those from the Myanmar Education Research Bureau (MERB) compiled a book titled Myanmar Literacy Record featuring all efforts made from 1964 to 1988.

In December 1996, national level coordination committee on Education for All was established, under which the leading committee on education for all and work groups on education for all at state/division, township, ward and village levels were formed. The work ceased from 1988 to 1990. The year 1990 saw the launch of non-formal education research jointly carried out by the MERB and UNESCO till 1995. Then, the campaign “Education for All by the year 2000” was launched. The Ministry of Education entrusted the MERB with the responsibilities to take a leading role in the non-formal education tasks.

The UNESCO designated the year 1990 as International Literacy Year, encouraging the world literacy drive.

In 1990, the World Education Forum was held in Thailand and it issued World Declaration on Education for All.

After the forum, the words “Education for All (EFA)” became popular in the literacy campaigns. Senegal of Africa hosted the World Education Forum in Dakar from 26 to 28 April and that passed the Education for All: Dakar Framework for Action.

Among the six goals collectively committed in Dakar the World Education Forum (Dakar), the fourth is “achieving a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults”.

The 56th UN General Assembly on 19 December 2001 designated the decade (2003 to 2012) as United Nations Literacy decade (UNLD).

Since Myanmar regained independence, measures have been taken for literacy of the majority of the people as much as conditions permitted. In the period from 1990 to 2000, Myanmar managed to increase the literacy rate to 91 per cent.

In its drive to implement the national education promotion plan, the government has been laying down formal and non-formal education programmes through the special four-year plan and the 30-year long-term plan since 2000. As a result, the adult literacy rate of the whole nation reached 94.1 per cent in 2005.

In the adult literacy programme, the experts from UNESCO drew the continuing education plan after the completion of basic literacy work. Prescribed in the plan are the programmes on faster reading, good income, leading a better life, individual hobbies, continued pursuit of education and providing level of education equal to formal education.

To implement the adult literacy campaign and non-formal education programme, Asian and Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU) of Japan helped establish the Myanmar Literacy Resource Centre in the Myanmar Education Research Bureau as a non-governmental organization, that has been implementing the non-formal education programmes and continuing education programmes.

So far, under the aegis of the Ministry of Information, a total of 54,707 self-reliant libraries have been opened across the nation to ensure that the literate people cultivate a good habit of reading and can read faster. It means the Ministry of Information has fulfilled the requirements for ensuring faster reading of the people and establishment of reading sessions.
**Dual railroad will emerge along the Yangon-Mandalay route upon completion of Pyinmana-Myohaung railroad**

at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar). After that, he visited the Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) near Anisakan village in PyinOoLwin township. He was welcomed there by PyinOoLwin Station Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe and Director General Dr Thein Tun.

The director-general of the Department of Medical Research (Upper Myanmar) reported on strength of the department, construction tasks, stockpiling of laboratory equipment, sending staff abroad for further studies, holding workshops with participation of foreign experts, collecting and nurturing of various species of State and research on the guidance of the Head of State and responsibilities assigned, large-scale contribution of potent traditional medicines for the treatment of malaria, hypertension, diabetes — malaria, for curing the six common diseases — malaria, TB, hypertension, diabetes, diarrhoea and dysentery.

**Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) is 3,675 feet in length. The approach road on the bank of Mandalay is 1,140 feet and that on the bank of Sagaing 780 feet. It can withstand 60 tons of loads and more than 75 per cent of construction has been completed.**

First, Health Minister Dr Kyaw Myint reported on doing research on solving the problems of diseases that break out in Upper Myanmar and other health problems in accord with the guidance of the Head of State and research on traditional herbal plants for curing the six common diseases — malaria, TB, hypertension, diabetes, diarrhoea and dysentery. The director-general of the Department of Medical Research (Upper Myanmar) reported on strength of the department, construction tasks, stockpiling of laboratory equipment, sending staff abroad for further studies, holding workshops with participation of foreign experts, collecting and nurturing of various species of State and research on the guidance of the Head of State and responsibilities assigned, large-scale contribution of potent traditional medicines for the treatment of malaria, hypertension, diabetes — malaria, for curing the six common diseases — malaria, TB, hypertension, diabetes, diarrhoea and dysentery.

**Secretary-I of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Pharmaceutical Factory (PyinOoLwin) of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries. — MNA**

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USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents a crop sprayer to executives of Kanyutkwin, Pyu Township USDA.

**Steps for regional development discussed**

Nav Pyi Taw, 5 Sept—Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo had a meeting with townswelders, local farmers, and members of USDA and social organizations at Koekhan Sasana Biseikman building of the Ngathatkyi Pagoda in Kanyutkwin, Bago Division, on 3 September.

The secretary-general in his speech said that local residents are taking part in the drive for restoration of peace and stability, fundamental necessities for the development of their regions. With the conviction that with the social and economic progress of rural folks, that will contribute towards regional and national development in terms of economy, the government, the Tatmadaw and the people are making earnest efforts in concert. The association is cooperating with them in the rural development tasks and the five major duties the length and breadth of the nation.

Service personnel, townswelders and farmers reported on work progress in the agricultural, education and health sectors of the region. Departmental officials gave an account of work programmes to render assistance for accomplishment of rural development tasks.

The secretary-general fulfilled the requirements and presented pesticides to executives of township USDA, and members of social affairs committees and USDA, cash assistance to the trust funds through townswelders and members of the education promotion committee.

Next, the secretary-general visited Kanyutkwin Myolet monastery and inspected Kanyutkwin digital auto exchange.

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**Myanmar declared as nation free from bird flu**

Yangon, 5 Sept—Myanmar was struck by an outbreak of bird influenza on 8 March 2006 and the disease was put under control on 8 April.

In cooperation with foreign experts, a three-month programme on detection of avian influenza was conducted with the use of modern technology starting from 29 April and it was found that Myanmar was free from the epidemic.

Having controlled the spread of the epidemic by culling chickens and quails in line with the laws of OIE, it was confirmed that no virus was found in the nation during the three-month programme.

The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries declared Myanmar as a nation free from bird flu on 4 September by sending facts and evidences to OIE and WHO.

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**Premier Wen to attend China-ASEAN commemorative summit**

Beijing, 5 Sept (Xinhua)—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao will attend a commemorative summit between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) that will be held on October 30 in Nanning, capital of south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Qin Gang made the announcement at a regular press conference here on Tuesday.

The summit meeting is to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the establishment of China-ASEAN dialogue relations. Leaders from ASEAN countries will also attend the summit.

It is the first time for China to hold a meeting between Chinese and ASEAN leaders. “This is a historic event in China-ASEAN relations,” the spokesman said.

Leaders from both sides will review the growth of China-ASEAN friendly ties, and layout the future development of this relationship ties, according to Qin.

The third China-ASEAN Expo, as well as the third China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit, will also be held on the sideline of the summit, he said.

The ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

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**Minister calls for more investment in extraction of bio-fuel**

Yangon, 5 Sept—Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung today met with businessmen and industrialists and urged them to invest in extraction of bio-fuel from physic nut seeds.

In his address at the meeting held here, Minister U Aung Thaung said that agro based countries will become exporters of bio-fuel in future as fuel resources are becoming scarce in the world.

He continued to say that it is surely profitable to invest in cultivation of physic nut plants and extraction of bio-fuel from its seeds.

Farmers are being encouraged to grow physic nut plants on a large-scale and the state is expected to reach its target of over 8 million acres of physic nut plants in 2008, the minister said at the meeting.

In his speech, the minister also called on industrialists for technological innovation in anticipation of bio-fuel used new products and industries.

At the meeting, officials of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry-1 and Ministry of Commerce read out papers on extraction of bio-fuel from physic nut seeds and uses of bio fuel instead of oil.

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**Reclamation of special breeding farms inspected**

Nav Pyi Taw, 5 Sept—CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein together with Director-General of Livestock and Veterinary Department U Maung Maung Nyunt went on an inspection tour of reclamation of special breeding farm-1 in Kangyi village, Tatkam.

Responsible personnel briefed the minister on reclamation of special breeding farms and condition of road, electric power and basic structure.

In connection with the reports, the minister gave necessary instructions to the responsible personnel. Next, the responsible personnel briefed the minister on measures taken for cultivation of the grass to be used as feedstuff and prevention and treatment of animal related diseases. The minister gave necessary instructions.

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**Minister U Aung Thaung delivers an address at coordination meeting on extraction of bio-fuel. — Industry-1**

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People can become good citizens through uplift of national education

Special Refresher Course No 59 for Basic Education Teachers concludes in Phaunggyi

YANGON, 5 Sept — The conclusion ceremony of special refresher course No 59 for basic education teachers was held at the Nawarat Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division, yesterday morning. On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein delivered a speech.

The minister continued that the State has been implementing the 30-year long-term education promotion programme. As five-year short-term projects and annual projects are being implemented and reviewed, it is important to carry out the tasks for basic steps to be smooth and successful.

Besides, the success of the national education organize and lead the parents of the rural areas. As teachers are dealing with people from all walks of life of the rural and the urban areas, they should deal with all the parents amicably on equal terms without making any discriminations. They should help relieve the burden of parents in enrolling their children at schools. The government has opened post-primary schools, affiliated schools and branches to enable children of rural areas to pursue education conveniently, to raise the number of students who can continue their education and to open more opportunities or in other words effectively improve the rural education quality. Teachers are urged to make practical efforts to realize the aims.

The present era is in the process of globalization along with ICT development. Some powers with media advantage are trying to infiltrate their opinions, culture and lifestyles into other nations on political, economic, social and cultural fronts. Hence, national people need to have correct vision, wider knowledge and national outlook to be able to see the international changes from the national point of view to safeguard the national interest. Only then will all be able to ward off all alien infiltration through political, social, economic and cultural sectors.

People can become good citizens through the uplift of national education. He urged the teachers to build a brighter future for the country and the people accepting the national duties in the education sector as the nation-building tasks.

In conclusion, the minister urged the teachers to make efforts for uplift of national education for the emergence of a peaceful, modern developed nation and to take part in the tasks for successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map whatever roles they are in.

Next, on behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein presented prizes to outstanding trainee teachers and certificates to the group leaders.

Afterwards, the minister accepted K 371,350 for Loka Chantha Abhayab Labha Muni Buddha Image, Koe Nawin Pagoda of CICS (Phaunggyi), restoration of ancient pagodas in Bagan, USDA and post-primary school and pre-primary school of CISC donated by trainee teachers. After the ceremony, the minister cordially greeted the trainees. — MNA

Minister Dr Chan Nyein presents model hostel award through a trainee of special refresher course No 59 for basic education teachers. — MNA

As teachers are dealing with people from all walks of life of the rural and the urban areas, they should deal with all the parents amicably on equal terms without making any discriminations.
Desks, stationery donated to primary schools in Thakayta township

YANGON, 5 Sept — Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation donated desks, stationery and uniforms to primary schools in Thakayta township today. The donation ceremony, held at No 9 Basic Education Primary School in Thakayta township, was attended by MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay, heads of various departments and leaders of work groups under the MWAF, Patron of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai, township level departmental officials, donors and school heads.

Daw Khin Thet Htay handed over 150 sets of school desks for BEPS Nos 4, 9, 15, 19, 32 and 33. Next, Daw Mar Mar Wai and officials donated exercise books worth K 300,000 for six primary schools and Daw Thein Hsiao of Myatlayyon Family donated pencils worth K 150,000. Families of Pale Health schools and Daw Thein Hsiao of Myatlayyon Family also donated exercise books worth K 300,000 for six primary schools. After the ceremony, Daw Khin Thet Htay and party attended the educative talks held at the No 1 BEHS in Thakayta township and accepted 1,100 membership applications. — MNA

Outstanding policemen honoured

YANGON, 5 Sept — The members of Yangon Division Myanmar Police Force who demonstrated their brilliant performances in exposing crimes relating to public property were honoured at a ceremony held at Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Office here this afternoon, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary of Yangon Division PDC Lt-Col Myint Kyi and members. Commander of Yangon Division Police Force Police Col Hla Min, officials, local authorities and guests.

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win made an address and presented K 1 million to Yangon Division Police Force through Police Col Hla Min. Heads of district Police Forces handed over the property seized in the cases by the Yangon Division Police Force to the owners. — MNA

Australia hit by driest August on record

SYDNEY, 5 Sept — Australia faced a widespread risk of bushfires and worsening water shortages after its driest August since records began in 1900 and its warmest August since 1950, the Australian Bureau of Meteorology said on Monday.

Lack of rain exacerbated a very dry period that most of southern Australia had experienced since late 1996 and eastern Australia since 2002, bureau director Geoff Love said.

“Water storages are already severely stressed and many areas have not had substantial relief rainfall for many years,” he said in a statement.

“If the current low rainfall and high temperatures persist, the consequences will be wide-ranging, including an elevated bushfire risk this coming summer and escalating water shortages and restrictions,” he said.

The prospect of soaking rains over the next few months did not look promising, Love said.

A return to dry weather follows Australia’s worst drought in 100 years in 2002, which devastated crops. With lingering bouts of very dry weather after 2003, farmers say Australia is in a five-year drought which is showing no sign of ending soon.

“Rainfall deficiencies expanded over southern Australia with record low winter falls over a large part of southern Western Australia and parts of southeastern Australia,” the bureau’s National Climate Centre said in a separate statement on Monday.

Australia’s winter grains crops are already struggling in the dry weather, industry analysts say. Severe downgrades of the estimated size of Australia’s wheat crop in recent months have already cut it to 30 per cent less than last year, at around 18 million tons. — MNA/Reuters

British tourist killed, 6 others injured in Amman attack

AMMAN, 5 Sept — A gunman opened fire at a group of foreign tourists and their guide in Amman’s Roman Amphitheater on Monday, killing a Briton and wounding six others, the official Petra news agency reported.

A British male tourist died from his wounds after the attack in the popular attraction in Amman’s bustling central district, sources from the Foreign Ministry and the Public Security Department were quoted as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 6 September, 2006 11
Lebanese hostage released in south Nigeria

ASABA (Nigeria), 4 Sept — The 27-year-old Lebanese expatriate oil worker Danny Khoury kidnapped by an Ijaw militant group on 18 August in Nigeria’s oil-producing area has been freed.

Khoury, a staff of Homan Engineering Company, Port Harcourt, was abducted by the Niger Delta Enlightenment and Exploitation Force (NDEEF) at Akohada, Rivers State and taken to their hideout in Enekorogha Village, near Burutu, in Delta State.

Adekayi Babalola, director of the Delta State Bureau of the State Security Service, handed over the freed hostage Friday to Deputy Governor Benjamin Elue in Asaba, the capital of Delta State.

He said Khoury’s freedom "was facilitated by assistance of all the communities among the militants’ hideout".— MNA/Reuters

Over 200 Taleban militants killed in major offensive

KABUL, 4 Sept — More than 200 Taleban guerrillas and four ISAF troops were killed in a major offensive in the southern Kandahar Province of Afghanistan, ISAF said in a statement on Sunday.

Reports indicate that more than 200 Taleban fighters have been killed in Panjwai District since about 2,000 troops of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and Afghan forces launched Operation Medusa early Saturday morning, it said.

This figure was arrived at by reviewing information from ISAF-surveillance and reconnaissance assets operating in Panjwai and Zhrai districts, as well as information reported by various Afghan officials and civilians living nearby, it said.

Four ISAF soldiers were also killed on Sunday and seven others were wounded, the statement said. Meanwhile, more than 80 suspected Taleban fighters were captured by Afghan police and a further 180 insurgents were seen fleeing Panjwai District.

MNA/Reuters

Iran nabs S African citizen for drug trafficking

TEHERAN, 4 Sept — Iranian police have arrested a South African man on suspicion of drug smuggling, the semi-official Fars news agency reported on Sunday.

Drug traffickers and dealers may receive a death sentence under Iranian law, depending on the kind and amount of drugs involved.

Police at Teheran’s Imam Khomeini Airport arrested the man, identified only as “Michael”, when sniffer dogs discovered 4.5 kilograms (10 pounds) of crack cocaine in his luggage on August 28, Fars said. It is thought that the man was trying to smuggle the drugs out of Iran to South Africa, the news agency reported.

Judiciary officials were not immediately available for comment. South African Embassy officials said they had no knowledge of the case. Iran lies on a main drugs trade route from Afghanistan and has historically had high levels of opiate usage.

The government has tried to tackle the problem by funding rehabilitation clinics and fortifying its eastern border.— MNA/Reuters

A young red squirrel that St Albert resident Al Popil (R) calls “POokie” takes a peanut from his mouth on 3 Sept, 2006. “POokie” is his son’s live in Popil’s backyard in the city of St Albert, near Edmonton.—INTERNET

Second wave of Italian peacekeepers lands in Lebanon

BEIRUT, 4 Sept — Italian marines and military vehicles landed in Lebanon on Sunday, the second wave of troops and equipment to arrive as part of an expanded UN force to police the fragile truce between Israel and Hizbollah.

Alexander Ivanko, spokesman for the UN Interim Force in Lebanon UNIFIL, said 880 Italian marines and military vehicles landed in Beirut, and a ship carrying small port of Naqoura, a small cluster of residents through streets of bombed city.

The Italian force brings the end of the day, to troops would reach a UNIFIL, said 880 Italian marines and military vehicles landed in Beirut, and a ship carrying small port of Naqoura, a small cluster of residents through streets of bombed city.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

INVITATION TO TENDER

MYANMA RAILWAYS

Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation, the Union of Myanmar, from reputed manufacturers or their bona fide agents of the Republic for the supply and delivery of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Tender No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Tender Issuing Date</th>
<th>Tender Closing Date &amp; Tender Opening Date</th>
<th>Tender Document Fee (per set)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>19/4R/INDIA/Plant/06676 (M/2006-2007)</td>
<td>Drop Forging Plant</td>
<td>5-9-2006 Tuesday</td>
<td>6.11.2006 (Monday)</td>
<td>US$ 50</td>
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Tender Documents are available at the Office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, No. 357/361, Merchant Street, Botataung Township, Yangon the Union of Myanmar during office hours on payment of non refundable fee as stated above. Tender documents can be also available at the Embassy of the Union of Myanmar, New Delhi, India. Further enquiries about tender can be made to Managing Director, Myanma Railways (Fax No. 9567405346, 9567405347, 951298630) by fax or by phone to 9567405026, 9567405346, 951298950, 951291982, during office hours.

Bids are to reach the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, No. 357/361, Merchant Street, Botataung Township, Yangon on or before the Closing Date and Time. The Bids will be opened publicly at 14:00 hours on the Closing Date at the above address.

All Bids not accompanied by earnest money (Bid Bond) will not (not) be considered. No Telegraphic/Fax/Telex/Fax/e-mail proposal will be considered or accepted.

Myanma Railways reserves the right to reject the Tender without furnishing reasons. Tender will be accepted only from Bidders who has purchased Tender Documents officially. (Those tender documents purchased through Embassy reasons. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who has purchased Tender Documents officially. (Those tender documents purchased through Embassy)

The above Goods are to be purchased by the proceeds of the loan from the Government of the Republic of India.

Managing Director, Myanma Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

MNA/Reuters
India, Germany to sign joint defence cooperation agreement

NEW DELHI, 4 Sept — India and Germany will be signing their first-ever joint defence cooperation agreement to provide for transfer of German hi-tech weapons technology and broader interaction between the Armed Forces of the two countries.

The agreement would be concluded during the high-level visit of Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee to Germany and France beginning Sunday.

“The agreement would open doors of German technology transfer to India and provide the framework for holding joint naval exercises and more interaction between the Armed Forces of the two countries”, a Defence Ministry spokesman said here. In Berlin, Mukherjee would hold talks with Defence Minister Franz Josef Jung and Minister for Technology and Economics Michael Gloss. He will also address the captains of German defence industries.

Mukherjee will also pay homage at the Zehrensdorf Indian cemetery where lie graves of 206 Indian soldiers who died as prisoners during World War II. In the first leg of the tour, Mukherjee and his delegation will be in Paris from tomorrow in a visit being keenly looked forward to by the French Government and defence industry.

He will hold wide-ranging talks with his French counterpart Michele Alliotte and also have an interactive round table with the Chief Executives of the French defence-related industries, including the European consortium EADS, Thales and Aviation giant Dassault.

The visit to Paris comes against the backdrop of anxiety in French armament industry — India’s third largest weapons supplier — over the future of strategic tie-ups. — MNA/PTI

Chinese actress Zhang Ziyi, actor Daniel Wu, actress Zhou Xun and director Feng Xiaogang (from L to R) arrive for the screening of Feng’s movie “The Banquet” at the 63rd Venice Film Festival in Venice of Italy, on 4 Sept, 2006.—Xinhua

Russia to send Army engineers to Lebanon

MOSCOW, 4 Sept— Russia will only dispatch Army engineers to Lebanon in line with the UN peacekeeping efforts, Russian Vice-Prime Minister and Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov said on Sunday.

“They could participate in restoring infrastructure of that country if the Lebanese Government agrees,” Ivanov was quoted by the ITAR-TASS news agency as saying.

“I stress not a combat force, but Army engineers who will participate in restoring roads and bridges,” he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Guanayan woman, her five children killed in house fire

CARACAS, 4 Sept — A Guayan woman and her five children died in a house fire on Saturday some 100 kilometres southwest of Georgetown, the capital of the South American country, reports monitored here said.

The fire broke out in the bauxite mining town of Linden. According to Guyana Fire Service, the family were trapped inside the two storey house before they were overcome by the blaze.

Meanwhile, in the same town a state-owned television transmitting station, part of the National Communications Network, also went up in flames, with local television channels breaking off the air. — MNA/Xinhua

An over weight woman walks along a popular tourist spot in Sydney, Australia, on 4 Sept, 2006. An obesity pandemic threatens to overwhelm health systems around the globe with illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease, experts at an international conference warned on Sunday.—Xinhua

A British company is urging recently consumers to buy “secret” mobile phone software so they can read their partner’s text messages but denies encouraging infringement of privacy laws.

FlexiSpy is billed as the “world’s most powerful spy software for mobile phones,” which enables a buyer to “secretly record every SMS (text) message, view their call history, and more!” — INTERNET

Guatemalan forces launch huge anti-heroin sweep

TAJUMULCO(Guatemala), 4 Sept — Hundreds of police have fanned out across western Guatemala in a major sweep to destroy poppy plants used to make heroin.

Eight hundred agents supported by 200 soldiers are carrying out a two-week operation to eradicate poppy fields and arrest middlemen in the region’s drug trade.

To support the effort the President signed an order for five towns in the far western region of San Marcos that bars residents from carrying arms or holding meetings without a permit and expands officials’ rights to conduct searches.

The area has become a major shipment point for drugs because of its long coastline near cocaine-producing Colombia and its border with Mexico.

But poor peasants with few alternatives to growing drugs are likely to soon replant the illegal crop.

San Marcos’ mountainous terrain is ideal for planting poppies, with most roads in the area inaccessible by car. A thick, afternoon fog that blankets the canyons between the Tacana and Tajumulco volcanoes makes it difficult for Army helicopters to monitor the area. — MNA/Reuters

DONATE BLOOD
FIFA gives Portugal 10 days to fix Gil row

PORTO (Massachusetts), 5 Sept — Tiger Woods unleashed two eagles and four birdies in his final round to win the Deutsche Bank Championship on Monday, extending his winning streak to five tournaments.

The British Open and PGA champion fired an exquisite final-round 63 to finish on 16-under-par 268, two shots clear of Fiji’s overnight leader Vijiay Singh and eight shots ahead of third placed Brian Bateman of the US.

Woods came out hard, taking only three holes to erase Singh’s three-stroke lead, which the Fijian had amassed by shooting a course record and personal best 10-under-par 61 on Sunday. Woods’ first eagle came on the 554-yard, par-five second hole, where he landed on the green in two strokes, flying his approach shot over the hole’s water hazard and making an 11-foot putt.

“I made a nice putt on the third and all of a sudden I had all the momentum on my side,” Woods told reporters. “I didn’t think I’d get it all back in the first three holes.”

“Vijay’s not going to make a lot of mistakes. One of the hardest things to do in our sport is follow up a great round with another great round.”

His second eagle was on the 600-yard, par-five seventh, where Woods, leading by one stroke, again marched to the green in two strokes to massive applause and sank another 11-foot putt.

Singh, who had consistently dropped his approach shots close to the holes on Sunday’s soft, rain-soaked greens, frequently found his ball in the rough on the dry, sunny day, making only four birdies in shooting a three-under-par 68.

FIFA gives Portugal 10 days to fix Gil row

LISBON, 5 Sept — FIFA has given Portugal’s soccer federation until 14 September to resolve a legal row over club Gil Vicente which has disrupted the start of the country’s Premier League season, the Portuguese Football Federation said on Monday.

There was nobody immediately available for comment from FIFA when contacted by Reuters.

The row started earlier this month with the relegation of Gil Vicente from the Premier League after they used an ineligible player, Mateus.

The small club with 5,500 members challenged the suspension of the Angolan player in a civil court, challenging the league and FIFA rules.

PPF head Gilberto Madail travelled to Zurich with two federation legal advisers last week to meet FIFA officials in an attempt to resolve the dispute.

FIFA said the situation had to be resolved in such a way that the “legal soccer organs are respected”, in Portugal, according to the Portuguese federation.

MNA/Reuters

Berezhovsky associate eyes West Ham club

MOSCOW, 5 Sept — A business associate of exiled Russian businessman Boris Berezhovsky wants to buy the English Premiership club West Ham United, a business daily Vedomosti reported on Monday.

Berezhovsky’s long-time business partner Georgian businessman Badri Patarkatsishvili is planning to start negotiations to purchase the club. Vedomosti quoted two sources close to the businessman as saying.

Vedomosti said the deal could be worth 100 million pounds (190.4 million US dollars).

Officials at the East London club were not available for immediate comment. Patarkatsishvili could also not be reached for comment.

If the deal materializes, Patarkatsishvili would be the second club owner on the London soccer scene from the former Soviet Union after Russian tycoon Roman Abramovich, who bought Chelsea in 2003.

Patarkatsishvili has recently sold a leading business daily Kommersant to Russian steel tycoon Alisher Usmanov in a deal estimated by the Russian media at between 200 million US dollars and 300 million US dollars.

Kommersant was long controlled by Berezhovsky, a prominent critic of President Vladimir Putin, from his exile in London. He sold it earlier this year to Patarkatsishvili. — MNA/Reuters

Striker Torres to extend contract with Atletico Madrid

MADRID, 5 Sept — Spain striker Fernando Torres has agreed on a one-year extension to his contract with Atletico Madrid that will tie him to the club until 2009, the player said on Monday.

“I had two years left on my contract. After all the uproar this summer I am still here and the club have offered me another year,” Torres told a news conference.

“I am delighted because I feel valued at the club and this is further proof. Everything has been agreed and when I return (from international duty) we will look to make it official.” — MNA/Reuters

Dunga says Ronaldinho to play against Wales

LONDON, 5 Sept — Ronaldinho has recovered from injury and will play for Brazil in their friendly international against Wales in London on Tuesday, coach Dunga said on Monday.

Brazil meet Wales at White Hart Lane in their second match in London in two days following an exciting 3-0 win over arch-rivals Argentina at the Emirates stadium on Sunday. “Ronaldinho was disappointed not to be able to feature in the match against Argentina yesterday, but I am pleased to announce that he is now fit and will play in tomorrow night’s match against Wales,” Dunga said in a statement.

FIFA’s World Player of the Year has recovered from a back injury he suffered in training with his club Barcelona last week.

“This is a brilliant football player and I am very happy to have him in the squad,” Dunga said.

The Brazilian forward helped the club to the Spanish league title and also won the World Club Cup.

MNA/Reuters

Woods battles back for fifth straight tour win

NOTRE (Massachusetts), 5 Sept — Tiger Woods unleashed two eagles and four birdies in his final round to win the Deutsche Bank Championship on Monday, extending his winning streak to five tournaments.

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Singh, who had consistently dropped his approach shots close to the holes on Sunday’s soft, rain-soaked greens, frequently found his ball in the rough on the dry, sunny day, making only four birdies in shooting a three-under-par 68.

MNA/Reuters

Players of Brazil celebrate after winning their bronze soccer medal match against the US as Amanda Poach of the US reacts during the FIFA U-20 Women’s World Championship in Moscow on 3 Sept, 2006. —INTERNET

China’s Li Na returns the ball during the third round match against Mary Pierce of France at the US Open in New York, the United States, on 3 Sept, 2006. Li won the match 2-1 (4-6/6-0/6-4) and advanced into the quarterfinals. —XINHUA

China’s captain Ma Xiaoxu holds her trophy of Golden Shoe and Golden Ball awards for FIFA Under-20 Women’s World Championship 2006 in Moscow, capital of Russia on 3 Sept, 2006. —XINHUA

Amanda Poach of the US reacts during the FIFA U-20 Women’s World Championship in Moscow on 3 Sept, 2006. —INTERNET

China’s Li Na returns the ball during the third round match against Mary Pierce of France at the US Open in New York, the United States, on 3 Sept, 2006. Li won the match 2-1 (4-6/6-0/6-4) and advanced into the quarterfinals. —XINHUA

Andre Agassi of the US blows a kiss to the crowd after his loss against German’s Benjamin Becker at the US Open tennis tournament in New York, on 3 Sept, 2006. Agassi was playing in his last US Open. —INTERNET

Brazils Gilberto Melo eyes the ball during their friendly soccer match against Argentina at the Emirates Stadium in London on 3 Sept, 2006. —INTERNET
4 US soldiers could face death penalty in rape case
WASHINGTON, 5 Sept — A US military investigator has recommended a court-martial on charges that could lead to the death penalty for four soldiers accused of raping and killing of a Iraqi girl, The New York Times website said on Monday.

In his recommendation, Colonel Dwight Warren agreed with military prosecutors that “reasonable grounds exist to believe that each accused committed the offense for which he is charged”, including premeditated murder, which under the Uniform Code of Military Justice could be punishable by death.

Defence lawyers said they would file objections to the recommendations, which goes to a convening authority that will decide whether to follow it.

The finding comes three days after another military investigator recommended that four other soldiers, accused of killing three Iraqi men during a 9 May assault on an island north of Baghdad, face the death penalty in courts-martial.

— MNA

WEATHER
Tuesday, 5 September, 2006
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin State and Taninthayi Division, and especially in Kachin and Mon States. Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, isolated in Rakhine State, upper Sagon, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Kachin State and Ayeyawady Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (4.76) inches, Pyay (4.30) inches, Machanbaw and Dawe (0.91) inch and Patein (0.83) inch.

Maximum temperature on 4-9-2006 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 5-9-2006 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 5-9-2006 was (88%).

Total sunshine hours on 4-9-2006 was (3.4) hours approx. Rainfalls on 5-9-2006 were (0.51) inch at Mingaladon, (0.16) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2006 were (83.07) inches at Mingaladon, (93.90) inches at Kaba-Aye and (98.70) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from South West at (11:15) hours MST on 4-9-2006.

Bav inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 6-9-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, upper Sagon, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and fairly widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of thundery condition in the northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 6-9-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 6-9-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers with some bright hours. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 6-9-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

“Flood Bulletin”
(Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 5-9-2006)
According to the (06:30 hrs) MST observation today, the water level of Sintong River at Mawlamyine (1150) cm. It may remain above its danger level (1070) cm during the next (72) hours commencing noon today.

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Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects regional development tasks in Mandalay Division

Upon completion, the Yeywa Hydel Power Project with the capacity of generating 790 megawatt will supply 3,550 kilowatt hours a year.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects construction site of Yeywa Hydel Power Project. — MNA

21 resign from Dedaye Township NLD as they no longer put trust in leaders of the party

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Sept—Li-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj Gen Khin Zaw, on 2 September went to No 2 Integrated farm of the Central Command in Singaing Township and inspected the 100-acre physic nut plantation.

There are 250 acres of physic nut plants, over 80 acres of mango, over 5 acres of plum and 17 acres of honey orange in 883 acres of the farmland of the command. Moreover, the command also has taken up the fish farming and bred 3,500 layers.

On his inspection tour, Lt-Gen Ye Myint also inspected the monsoon paddy cultivation in the farmland.

A total of 607,680 acres have been put under physic nut by the command against the target of 604,513 acres.

During his tour, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, together with Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, attended the opening ceremony of Sewing Machine Factory and the footwear factory of the Myanma General and Maintenance Industries.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to the cotton plantation zone in Singaing Township and viewed the plantations.

At Yeywa Hydel Power Project on Myitnge River, 31 miles south-east of Mandalay, an official reported to Lt-Gen Ye Myint on construction tasks of the project. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint fulfilled the requirements and called for making efforts for completion of the project ahead of schedule.

On his inspection tour of the hydel power project, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the construction work and gave instructions.

Upon completion, the Yeywa Hydel Power Project with the capacity of generating 790 megawatt will supply 3,550 kilowatt hours a year.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected maintenance of Dothiawady Bridge (Yeywa) on Myitnge River and construction of a double-lane road at mile post No 9/3 on the Myitnge-Htbon Road.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint called for timely completion of the road and renovation of the old one.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Pyigyitagon Township and paving of tar on Yangon-Mandalay Road and gave instructions.

MNA

Weather Forecast for (4-9-2006)

Yangon and neighbouring areas
One or two rain or thundershowers with some bright hours. Degree of certainty is (80%).

MNA

INSIDE

To implement the adult literacy campaign and non-formal education programme, Asian and Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU) of Japan helped establish the Myanmar Literacy Resource Centre in the Myanmar Education Research Bureau as a non-governmental organization, that has been implementing the non-formal education programmes and continuing education programmes.