National Convention will resume at Nyaunghnapin Camp on 10 October

All the NC delegates are to report not later than 7 October

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends work coordination meeting

3/2006 of NCCC, NCC Work Committee, NCC Management Committee

Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses the work coordination meeting (3/2006).

Joint Secretary of Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered an address that it was the 3/2006 coordination meeting of NCCC, NCC Work Committee and NCCC Management Committee.

All the delegates of eight NC delegate groups will be invited to the National Convention, except those who have passed away, those who could no longer serve the duties of delegates of the National Convention on the grounds of illness and old age, and delegates of State Service Personnel who have retired.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Rural folks have now access to clean water

The government has laid down and is implementing projects for development of border areas and national races, the 24 special development regions and the five rural development tasks.

The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs held the 12th cash donation ceremony recently for the supply of clean water in rural area.

From the first to 11th cash donation ceremonies, altogether 1,649 wellwishers donated over K 1,306 million, US$ 76,752, Euro 770 plus FEC 10,012. The generous donations went to sinking of 1,655 tubewells in three arid divisions and 461 tubewells in other states and divisions, totalling 2,116.

From 2000-2001 fiscal year up to July of 2006-2007 fiscal year, altogether 7,776 villages out of 8,042 in three arid divisions have been provided with clean water, representing 97 per cent coverage of the project. Likewise, 8,490 villages out of 15,183 villages in other states and divisions have now access to clean water, accounting for 56 per cent coverage of the project.

Tasks for the supply of potable water in rural area are being implemented with added momentum. As of 2005-2006 financial year, villages in 30 townships — seven townships in Sagaing Division, 12 townships in Magway Division and 11 townships in Mandalay Division as well as the whole Pakokku District have been able to enjoy the fruits of water supply project.

Thanks to generous donations of the wellwishers, most of the villages have now access to clean water, and to the wellwishers, they have gained a great deal of merits out of their contributions.

North Okkalapa BEPSs benefit from donation of Yangon Division USDA

**CEC member of USDA Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin donates desks to Basic Education Primary Schools in North Okkalapa Township through responsible persons. — YCDC**

**Yangon, 9 Sept — Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association donated desks to fifteen Basic Education Primary Schools in North Okkalapa Township on 7 September.**

At the donation ceremony held at No 18 Basic Education Primary School in North Okkalapa Township, CEC member of USDA Mayor of Yangon Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin handed over 300 desks to school heads of primary schools in the township.

At the ceremony, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin accepted 1,064 membership applications of USDA heads of primary schools in the township.

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Dhamma Gonyaung Sayadaw will deliver sermon in Zigon

**YANGON, 8 Sept — Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Dhamma Gonyaung Monastery Kammathanacariya Sayadaw of Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha Ashin Tejinda of Mingaladon Township will deliver the sermon from 9 to 24 September at Mingalayama KaniU Mahas Sasana Yeiktha in Zigon, Bago Division. — MNA**

Course on international trade opens

**YANGON, 9 Sept — The educational affairs committee of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry launched its course on international trade No 5 at the UMFCCI training centre on Bo Sun Pat Street, Pabedan Township, here, on 5 September.**

UMFCCI General Secretary Chairman of the educational affairs committee U Sein Win Hlaing delivered an address. Joint Secretary-2 of the committee U Tun Aung clarified the subjects prescribed for the text. Altogether 58 trainees are attending the 10-day course. — MNA

MAF preparing for international level archery championships

**YANGON, 9 Sept — Myanmar Archery Federation tries hard in its preparatory tasks to get success in the Third World Ranking Asian Circuit Archery Championship and the Second SEA Archery Championship to be held in Myanmar from 2 to 7 November and the XV Asian Games in Doha, Qatar in December.**

The Third World Ranking Asian Circuit Archery Championship will be held from 2 to 6 November and the Second SEA Archery Championship, from 6 to 7 November at the shooting range of MAF at Kyaukkaeskan Ground. Men’s and women’s singles and team recurve and compound events will be included in the championships.

All members of Asia Archery Federation and seven members of SEA Archery Federation have been invited to participate in the championships.

In the XV Asian Games, MAF will take part in the men’s team recurve event. — NLM
Chavez accuses Washington of financing opposition candidates

CARACAS, 8 Sept — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Wednesday accused Washington of financing Venezuelan opposition presidential candidates.

The opposition’s presidential candidates have met “in secret” with US officials, Chavez told thousands of his supporters during a campaign speech in west of Venezuela.

“I know where they eat reina pepiada (a Venezuelan dish),” said Chavez. He accused opposition candidates of receiving money and orders from Washington, but without mentioning names of those receivers.

Brian Penn, a spokesman for the US Embassy in Venezuela, denied Chavez’ accusation, saying “we do not support (any Venezuelan) political candidates”.

Chavez, who is racing for reelection in the presidential vote scheduled for 3 December, has repeatedly accused Washington of backing the opposition.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (Rear) attends class with pupils of grade five at Huangchenggen Primary School in Beijing, capital of China, on 7 Sept, 2006. Wen Jiabao visited teachers and pupils at the school on 7 Sept ahead of China’s 22nd National Teachers’ Day, which falls on 10 Sept...—Xinhua

12-year-old girls win gold medal with dust-sucking sandals

KEMAMAN, 8 Sept— Sweeping the floor may have been considered dull and tiring for three primary school classmates. But it gave Jenny Foo, Yap Jim Hui and Wang Hui Shan, all 12, the inspiration to come up with an innovative slipper that not only helps solve their problem, but also won them a gold medal.

They beat students from more than 100 schools from 16 countries to win the award at the International Invention Exhibition 2006, held in Seoul, South Korea in July.

The Standard Six pupils from Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (Cina) Chukai submitted an entry called ‘Sandal with Dust Removing Ability’. These are slippers with colourful frills on the side and a valve on the soles that helps suck dust from the floor.

The wearer needs only to apply pressure to the sandals and this can be done by just walking.

“We looked for a way to make our chore more fun and save lots of time. After using the slippers we found that the floor was very clean,” Foo said, adding that it took them two weeks to finish the project. —Internet

Most Americans see Iraq separate from war on terror

WASHINGTON, 8 Sept — Despite the Bush Administration’s assertion that Iraq serves as the central ground for the war on terror, the latest survey showed how most Americans think the two were separate things.

The poll, released by CNN Wednesday, found 53 per cent of respondents did not think the war in Iraq was part of the war on terror while 45 per cent did.

Another survey conducted by Pew Research Centre showed two-thirds said their countries were less respected by other countries than they were before and 68 per cent picked the Iraq war as a top reason for it.

The same poll also found by 45 per cent to 32 per cent, Americans were more likely to think the best way to reduce terror threat is to cut, not add, US military presence overseas.

The poll results came out at a time when US President George W Bush is making a series of speeches to highlight the issue of national security, a traditional strong area for the Republicans, two months ahead of the midterm elections. — MNA/Xinhua

Albanian artist enters “Guinness Book” with biggest nail portrait

TIRANA, 8 Sept — An Albanian artist has entered the Guinness Book of World Records by making the world’s biggest nail portrait of Leonardo da Vinci.

Saimir Strati, 40, used nearly 500,000 industrial nails and created a three-dimensional portrait of Italian Renaissance master Leonardo da Vinci on an 8 square-metre wooden board.

“I can officially confirm that we have new record for the largest nail mosaic of eight square metres,” Scott Christie, a Guinness jury, told reporters in Tirana on Wednesday. “This is not just the biggest painting of its kind, it also has artistic value as the most beautiful done so far by an artist.”

In the last 24 days, the artist laboured for up to 12 hours a day, overseen by specialists and cameras.

The artist hammered out the portrait in the hall at Tirana’s pyramid-shaped International centre of culture, which is used to be the museum of Albanian late leader Enver Hoxha.

The Guinness Book entry mentions that the work is a mosaic of eight square metres, but without mentioning the kind, it also has artistic value as the most beautiful done so far by an artist. — MNA/Xinhua

12-year-old girls win gold medal with dust-sucking sandals

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Villagers stand on the lip of the crater of Mount Bromo as they try to catch offerings thrown by a Hindu worshipper during the annual Hindu Kasada festival in Pasuruan, East Java, on 7 Sept, 2006. An alert has been issued for Mount Bromo, an active volcano in East Java, after increasing signs of volcanic activity, an official said on Wednesday. —Internet
Kabul suicide bomb hits US convoy

LONDON, 8 Sept — A suicide car bombing in Kabul has killed at least 16 people, as NATO military chiefs were set to discuss a plea for more troops for Afghanistan.

The attack on a US military convoy occurred near the American embassy, killing two US soldiers and injuring two others, the US military said.

It came hours before talks got under way in Poland, where NATO generals are expected to seek 2,000 more troops.

NATO forces in the south face mounting casualties in clashes with the Taliban. The Kabul blast targeted a US military convoy hitting a Humvee, a military spokesman told the BBC.

Local hospitals said nearly 30 people had been wounded. A BBC correspondent at the scene said debris and body parts had been scattered over a wide area by the force of the blast, which was felt across the city.

Fire aboard Russian nuclear sub kills two

MOSCOW, 8 Sept — A fire broke out aboard a Russian nuclear submarine belonging to the Northern Fleet late on Wednesday, killing two of its crew, Interfax news agency quoted Navy sources as saying on Thursday. Interfax said the submarine was anchored north off the Rybachy Peninsula near the Finnish border when it caught fire.

The agency said there was no threat of a radiation leak. The submarine was now being towed to the port of Vedyayevo, a base for Russian submarines in the Barents Sea, Interfax said.

Well-known Sudanese journalist found dead

KHARTOUM, 8 Sept — A famous Sudanese journalist who was kidnapped by unknown armed men has been found dead, an Interior Ministry source said on Wednesday.

“The police has found Mohamed Taha’s beheaded body,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Taha, Editor-in-Chief of al-Wifaq newspaper, which is considered as having close ties with the government, was taken by a group of armed men from his house in north Khartoum on Tuesday night. Local media quoted his family as saying that the armed men bundled Taha into a car outside his home and sped off towards central Khartoum.

Over 900 children kidnapped in N India in five years

PATNA (India), 8 Sept — An official report said here Wednesday that 904 children have been abducted for ransom in the past five years in north Indian state Bihar. According to the report submitted by Bihar Chief Secretary G S Kang to the Patna High Court, of the kidnapped children, 40 kids were killed as their parents failed to give enough money to kidnappers. And among the rest, the police managed to find 766 children whereas 98 were missing, it said.

Patna, the capital of Bihar State, has seen most of the victims among all 38 districts in the state, with 475 kids abducted for ransom. The present government, taking office in November last year, had promised to improve the security situation.

Parents urged to act on children’s diets

AUSTRALIA, 8 Sept — The South Australian Government says parents need to stop finding excuses and do something to improve the diets of their children.

A Health Department survey has found that 20 per cent of children under the age of 12 eat junk food or unhealthy snacks at least once a day.

Other data has shown that not enough fruit and vegetables are being eaten.

The Health Minister, John Hill, says while parents need to take action, the Government will also be doing its bit.

“We’re working with school canteens over the next year or so,” he said.

“Junk food will be removed from school canteens and they’ll be offering healthy nutritious alternatives and we’re working through at the moment how we can manage that.”

Mr Hill says the results for of the nutrition survey are not good for adults either.

“A very small percentage of adults are in fact eating the recommended daily amounts,” he said.

“They’re supposed to have five servings of vegetables a day and only 12.5 per cent of adults reach that.”

A woman holds a kite while attending a kite festival in Teheran on 7 Sept, 2006. — INTERNET

Cartoon figures made for the Halloween celebrations are on display at the Hong Kong Disneyland in Hong Kong, south China, on 7 Sept, 2006.—XINHUA
China ready to promote cooperative ties with Brunei

BEIJING, 7 Sept — Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing held talks with Brunei Foreign and Trade Minister Prince Mohamed Bolkiah on Tuesday, vowing to promote bilateral friendly and cooperative ties.

Li spoke highly of the remarkable achievements scored in various fields in China-Brunei cooperation since the two nations forged diplomatic ties, saying China would make joint efforts with Brunei to push forward the bilateral ties.

Mohamed Bolkiah also hailed the relations between the two nations and reaffirmed Brunei’s adherence to the one-China principle.

He said the development of the bilateral ties is not only in the interest of both nations and peoples, but also beneficial to the peace and development of the region.

The two sides exchanged views on cooperation in many fields, including economy and trade, and other international and regional issues of common concern.

After the talks, Li and Mohamed Bolkiah signed an MoU on tourism cooperation between China and Brunei.

Mohamed Bolkiah arrived in Beijing on Saturday for an official visit to China as Li’s guest. — MNA/Xinhua

Male DNA detected in 70-year-old Chinese woman

NANNING, 7 Sept — A 70-year-old married woman in south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region has been told she possesses an XY chromosome which technically makes her a man.

The astonishing test result was revealed lately by the Liuzhou Workers Hospital in the city of Liuzhou after the woman, surnamed Cao, underwent surgery to have tumours removed from her groin.

Cao felt a small lump in her right groin in 2004. But she did not visit a doctor until another lump appeared on her left groin several months ago.

Cao agreed to have them removed and during the surgery, the doctor found tiny sperm duct-like vessels and testicle interstitial cells on the tumours and asked the woman to have a chromosome test.

The outcome of the test showed Cao’s chromosome to be XY and medically speaking she is a man, said the hospital. According to the doctor who performed the surgery, surnamed Lu, Cao has the same physical characteristics as regular women.

Despite her efforts, she was never able to become pregnant. Cao and her husband then adopted a boy. — MNA/Xinhua

Thai elephant camp pays tribute to Crocodile Hunter

AYUTTHAYA (Thailand), 7 Sept— An elephant camp in Thailand which iconic TV naturalist Steve Irwin planned to visit next month held a tribute to the Australian “Crocodile Hunter” killed by a stingray barb in a freak accident.

About 20 mahouts and a bull elephant attended a memorial service for Irwin at the Ayutthaya Elephant Palace, 80 kilometres (50 miles) north of Bangkok, laying a wreath in front of a poster of him, having a minute of silence and reading a tribute.

“Steve lived life as if on the wing of the dragon,” said Princess Rang-sinopdol Yugala, sitting on an elephant covered with a red piece of cloth of the type used in ancient wars. “His spirit matched our ancient Thai warriors who fearlessly rode the great musth elephants into battles,” she said.

Irwin was popular in Thailand, where his show appears on a cable network and the story of his death was on the front pages of all Thai tabloids and prominent in television news shows. — MNA/Reuters

Japanese youth delegation visits China

BEIJING, 7 Sept— Vice-chairman of China’s National People’s Congress (NPC) Standing Committee Jiang Zhenghua met here Tuesday with visiting Japanese youth delegation consisting of 156 members from all circles of life.

These youth representatives, headed by Yuko Obuchi, a congresswoman of the Japanese House of Representatives, are organized by four institutes, namely Japan-Seinendan Council, Japan-China Friendship Association, Cabinet Office and National Council of Youth Organizations of Japan. During their stay in China, these youth delegates will visit different places and have exchange activities with young Chinese. — MNA/Xinhua

4th suspect detained over Moscow market blast

MOSCOW, 7 Sept— A fourth suspect had been arrested for his alleged involvement in the explosion at Moscow’s Cherkizovsky Market which killed 11 people and injured scores more last month, the city prosecutor’s office said on Wednesday.

Nikolai Korolyov, 25, has been charged with ethnically motivated murder and giving assistance in plotting the blast, a spokesman for the office was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying.

The explosion ripped through the Cherkizovsky market on 21 August, killing 11 people, including two children, and injuring 55 others.

The market is occupied mostly by businessmen from Central Asia and the Caucasus region.

Russian prosecutors said the blast was most likely a hate crime.

Three suspects had been detained earlier, and Moscow police chief Vladimir Pronin said they may have been involved in eight other explosions. — MNA/Xinhua
China urges peaceful settlement of Iranian nuclear issue

BEIJING, 8 Sept—Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said here Thursday that China holds the position of peacefully settling the Iranian nuclear issue through negotiations and dialogues. "China has never changed such a policy," Qin told a regular Press conference when asked to make comments on whether China will alter its stance over the Iranian nuclear issue. Zhang Yan, director-general of the Arms Control and Disarmament Department of China’s Foreign Ministry, will attend a meeting on the Iran nuclear issue in Berlin on 7 September. MNA/Xinhua

Singapore hunts for serial cat killer

SINGAPORE, 8 Sept—Singapore is on the hunt for a serial cat killer who has slaughtered at least 20 felines in the past two weeks. The cats were found dumped in bushes and drains, with their throats slit. "It is really disturbing because in terms of frequency, there is nearly one cat getting killed every day," Dawn Kua, director of operations at the Cat Welfare Society, told Reuters. Kua said the group had lodged a police complaint and had organized about 15 volunteers to keep a lookout for the cat killer. The Cat Welfare Society and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals have also set up a joint reward of 2,000 Singapore dollars (1,277 US dollars) for anyone who can help arrest the culprit. In Singapore, animal abuse is punishable by a maximum jail term of one year and a fine of up to 10,000 Singapore dollars. MNA/Reuters

France rejects “war on terror”

PARIS, 8 Sept—France issued an implicit criticism of US foreign policy on Thursday, rejecting talk of a “war on terror.” Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin, speaking in Parliament, expressed these views on global terrorism, while President Jacques Chirac backed France’s claim to the international front rank, with a fresh defence of his country’s nuclear arsenal. Villepin noted Chirac’s strong opposition to the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 and said the Arab state had now sunk into violence and was feeding new regional crises. “Let us not forget that these crises play into the hands of all extremists,” the prime Minister said in a debate on the Middle East. “We can see this with terrorism, whether it tries to strike inside or outside our frontiers,” he added. “Against terrorism, what’s needed is not a war. It’s, as France has done for many years, a determined fight based on vigilance at all times and effective cooperation with our partners. “But we will only end this curse if we also fight against injustice, violence and these crises,” he said. Villepin’s remarks, which came a day after US President George Bush admitted that the CIA had interrogated dozens of terrorism suspects in secret foreign locations, did not explicitly mention the United States. But his rejection of language employed by Bush, who often uses the expression “war on terror” underlined the long-standing differences between Paris and Washington. In separate remarks, Chirac stressed that France was committed to maintaining a nuclear arsenal of its own. MNA/Reuters

Fire traps 31 at Highland Gold Russia mine

MOSCOW, 8 Sept—Fire broke out on Thursday at a gold mine in Russia’s Eastern Siberia owned by Highland Gold, trapping more than 30 miners while others crawled to safety through a tunnel. The fire was sparked by welding work in the central shaft of the Darasun mining complex in the remote Chita Region on the Chinese border, where 64 workers were underground, emergency officials said. Local officials said rescuers were trying to reach trapped miners and bring them to the surface through a horizontal tunnel linked to a second vertical shaft, five kilometres (three miles) away from the blaze. “Thirty-three people have been rescued and 31 are still trapped in the mine,” said a spokeswoman for the branch of the Emergencies Ministry in Chita, located 5,000 kilometres (3,100 miles) east of Moscow. “We have no information on any dead or injured, because we have no contact with the trapped miners,” she added. MNA/Reuters

Armed robbers kill guard, snatch $8m at Guatemala’s airport

MEXICO CITY, 8 Sept—Armed robbers on Thursday killed a security guard and grabbed eight million US dollars belonging to private banks at Guatemala’s La Aurora International Airport. The gang, armed with AK-47 semi-automatic rifles and handguns, attacked a truck carrying some 22 million dollars, which was in the custody of Guatemala Central Bank officers at airport’s No 7 entry ramp, reports from Guatemala’s capital Guatemala City quoted Interior Minister Carlos Vielman as saying. Authorities had blocked the airport and suspended flights. The national civil police were also interrogating airport security staff and possible suspects, Vielman said. Communications Minister Eduardo Castillo said the heist was “an isolated incident” that did not indicate a more widespread security problem in the country. — MNA/Xinhua

An Iranian Saeqeh jet flies during a war game in the northwest of Iran on 6 Sept, 2006. —XINHUA

An American teacher receives a banner written by students to greet him for the Teachers’ Day in Shangyu City, east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 8 Sept, 2006. With the coming of the Teachers’ Day, which falls on 10 Sept, many foreign teachers working in China have received blessings and gifts from their students. —XINHUA

A soldier from the 2nd corps of engineers of the French Foreign Legion holds an axe as he attends a ceremony to open a bridge they built in Damour, south of Beirut, on 8 Sept, 2006. —INTERNET
Myanmar has a long history with solid background but lack of comprehensive record of some events left behind legend-like parts in the chronicle. Hence, there always has been the guidance to put on record the present-day nation-building endeavours as thoroughly as possible.

The on going nation-building tasks the government has been implementing day in, and day out since 1988 are enormous, benefiting the nation to the degree greater than ever in every aspect. A large quantity of completed facilities and others under construction or in planning stage will surely serve the nation’s interest in various sectors till future generations.

Historic duty

The Tatmadaw government headed by Senior General Than Shwe emerged in September 1988 to discharge the historic duty of saving the nation from deteriorating situation, while initiating the national rebuilding task. The government’s historic duty is colossal in magnitude, numerous in quantity and delicate in essence.

It started the historic duty by coping with problems such as lawlessness, interruption of transport and public anxiety resulting from lack of security the 1988 unrest had brought to the nation. Then came the national development project, with transport facilitation and security as the priority, and involving the task of setting up every facility necessary in rebuilding the nation. At the same time, the government commenced its political, economic and administrative reforms in conformity with the public wish, paving the way for adopting multi-party system and market economy in harmony with the national requirements after abolishing the socialist economy and the single party system.

As the historic duty covers the government’s main duties as well as its reforms for long-term national interest, we should not view it as an ordinary caretaker, but a government that has introduced reforms heading toward a new era and adopted a new system.

Only the correct outlook on the Tatmadaw’s historic duty will enable us to understand well its nation-building endeavours.

It is a herculean task the government has been implementing all along the journey, full of hardships, financial and technological limitations and political instigation from inside and outside the nation, during the period from 1988 till today.

Every day from dawn to dusk, all responsible personnel including the leadership are busy discharging duty task at desk or field inspection tours in the interest of the nation, with concentration so deep and enthusiasm too strong that they sometimes even seem totally unaware of the time.

Stability of the State and unity

We all know that endeavours for bringing peace and stability and the rule of law to the nation is no easy task. However much a system is good, national peace and stability and the rule of law are always the fundamental requisites no one can ever deny as superstructure is impossible without a firm foundation. Hence, the time, during which the government was striving to provide all the rural and urban areas with legal and administrative protection, has become an unforgettable part of our history.

The government, the people and the Tatmadaw then were able to overcome all barriers with consolidated efforts setting an example showing that even in times of emergency, difficulties can be overcome with mutual trust, understanding and sincere cooperation.

Once, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe in his guidance said, “It is the duty of all the persons possessing patriotism and the love for race to collectively safeguard national peace and stability with the devotion to the country’s development through concerted efforts made with peace of mind.” The guidance serves as the beam of light defeating the dark forces. Besides, light also shows the correct path.

Apart from political stability and peace and security, national consolidation is also needed for emergence of a tranquil, modern and developed state. The government, it has always been the government to set up and implement the national goal.

National race groups that discarded the armed struggle line for various reasons have returned to the right time. They have regained national races status and dignity beginning 1989. Myanmar has been able to re-consolidate national solidarity as the national race armed groups have responded to the government’s sincere goodwill and forbearance from the positive point of view with trust and understanding. Peace is prevailing in almost all the border areas where the national people live. The peace groups have now realized that unity and harmony, not disagreements will enhance national prestige and national strength.

At a time when peace was gaining momentum, the nation formed a new ministry for the development of border areas and national races. What is more, the work of laying down and implementing special border area development projects has been supervised by State level officials. The re-consolidation awakens all the entire national people such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Shan, Paluang, PaO, Kokang, (Wa), Mon, and Rakhae; their mutual trust, understanding, sympathy and cooperation reaching new heights marking a milestone in history and a great victory in cementing the internal strength.

In accord with the Head of State’s guidance “We all must pay a serious attention to the national re-consolidation as it is an integral part of our sincere goodwill to collectively build a modern developed nation where peace, stability and unity flourish. The national re-consolidation is today’s historic duty that concerns not only the Tatmadaw, but also the entire nation” the national unity comes forth with great strength.

Another landmark in history is the unprecedented success we have achieved in the practical implementation of the special plan covering the border area development project. The government clearly proves its sincere goodwill and generosity with K 84,750 million it has spent on the economy, education, health and transport of the national brethren of hinterlands. The acceptance of the historic duty that befalls on it at the turning-point of history and the ability to choose the right direction in discharging this duty till its successful completion are all the historic Tatmadaw government’s fine traditions.

It is also the fine tradition that leads the government to set up and implement the national goal “Building of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state” and the national policy “Our Three Main National Causes” at the right time.

The practical way the government has paved and the directives its has given enable us a triumphal march to the goal in the spirit of oneness and give birth to the four political objectives, the four economic objectives and the four social objectives.

History bears witness to the realistic endeavours of the Tatmadaw government as the entire national people are harmoniously taking part in the development undertakings, while upholding the national conviction, objectives and work programmes as the components of the national policy formed as the country’s foundation.
National Convention will resume at...

Management Committee. He said that as he had already told the 2/2006 coordination meeting held on 2 September 2006 that the National Convention would be reconvened in the second week of October 2006, the National Convention will resume at Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, on 10 October (Tuesday), 2006.

The Secretary-1 went on to say that all the delegates of eight NC delegate groups will be invited to the National Convention, except those who had passed away, those who could no longer serve the duties of delegates of the National Convention on the grounds of illness and old age, and delegates of State Service Personnel who had retired. The invitation cards will be sent to the NC delegates one month ahead in accord with the rules and regulations, beginning 10 September 2006. In this regard, the task for invitation has been coordinated with officials of States and Divisions. All the NC delegates are to report to Nyaunghnapin Camp, not later than 7 October (Saturday), 2006.

He added that the National Convention Convening Management Committee is to make arrangements to welcome the NC delegates at the airport, ports, bus terminals and railway stations and accommodate them at Nyaunghnapin Camp, and provide them with meals and health facilities. Furthermore, he stressed the need to systematically carry out security of the Nyaunghnapin Camp and the NC delegates by drawing the detailed plans.

National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman U Aye Maung and Secretary U Thaung Nyunt reported on tasks to be submitted to the National Convention.

Vice-Chairmen Maj-Gen Than Htay and Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu of the NCC Management Committee also reported on the matters to be submitted to the National Convention.

National Convention Convening Management Committee is to make arrangements to welcome the NC delegates at the airport, ports, bus terminals and railway stations and accommodate them at Nyaunghnapin Camp, and provide them with meals and health facilities.

Myanmar Observer Delegation to attend 27th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization Work Committee and General Assembly

YANGON, 9 Sept — A Myanmar Observer Delegation led by Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, member of National Convention Convening Commission and National Convention Convening Work Committee left Nay Pyi Taw by air to attend the 27th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization Work Committee and General Assembly held its annual general meeting (2006) at its office this morning. It was attended by USDA CEC member Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, executives of Yangon Division and Yangon East District USDAs, departmental staff and members of social organizations and wellwishers. After the opening ceremony, the deputy minister delivered a speech and presented prizes to outstanding youth members. Next, the CEC member and officials accepted cash donations. He also donated K 50,000 for the township association and presented prizes to ward USDAs. At the second session of the meeting, Secretary U Soe Win submitted papers and reports of the Township USDA. Later, those present took part in the discussions and the presiding chairman of the meeting approved one matter and passed two resolutions. — MNA

Dagon Myothit (North) USDA holds annual general meeting

YANGON, 9 Sept — Dagon Myothit (North) Township Union Solidarity and Development Association held its annual general meeting (2006) at its office this morning. Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin was accompanied by Supreme Court Judge U Tin Aye, member of National Convention Convening Work Committee. The delegation was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Chief Justice U Thein Soe, Supreme Court Judge Dr Tin Aung Aye and officials. — MNA

Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin being seen off by officials at Nay Pyi Taw Airport. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko presents prize to an outstanding youth. — MNA

Deputy Attorney-General U Aye Maung. — MNA

Chief Justice U Aung Toe. — MNA

U Thaung Nyunt. — MNA

Those present took part in the discussions. The Secretary-1 reviewed the reports and gave concluding remarks. — MNA

The Secretary-1 reviewed the reports and gave concluding remarks. — MNA
World First Aid Day observed

YANGON, 9 Sept—Yangon Division marked World First Aid Day (2006) at the University of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San Street in Lammadaw Township, here, this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Yangon Command Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win delivered a speech, and presented the first prize for organizing permanent members best to Thakayta Township, the second prize to Bahan Township, and the third prize to Twantay Township.

Chairperson of Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai, wife of the commander, presented certificates of honour to Red Cross members who won first prizes in 2006 World Red Cross Day commemorative competitions.

Regional development tasks supervised in Mandalay, Magway Divisions

NAI PYI TAW, 9 Sept—Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met Mandalay Division USDA Executive U Bo Ny, Yamethin District USDA Secretary U Myint Swe, secretaries and executives of Yamethin and Pyawbwe Township USDA’s at the hall of Soap Factory (Yamethin) in Yamethin on 7 September evening.

The Secretariat Member heard reports on public welfare tasks and future tasks presented by district and township secretaries and executives, and attended to their needs.

On 8 September morning, the Secretariat Member met with local people and students at the compound of Basic Education Primary School No 77 in Natmauk Township.

At the hall in Natmauk, the Secretariat Member presented prizes to outstanding students and teachers. Departmental heads under the Ministry of Industry-1 also gave prizes to other outstanding students. The Secretariat Member presented 100 desks for 18 schools through Township Education Officer Daw Khin Oo. In Myothit of Magway Division, the Secretariat Member also awarded prizes to outstanding students, and 150 desks for BEPSs in the township through officials.

Next, he met with the Myothit USDA Secretary and executives.

Let’s maintain genuine national traditions

* With our own palace and monarch
  The historical tradition and traits of our nation’s letters flourished.
  We composed various kinds of verse and prose.
  We had standardized song and dance.
* From basic songs to classical
  Songs set against regal settings
  Like Ramona, Gandama Taung
  And Myanmar’s traditional themes.
* The epic Eunawa
  Songs set against mythical settings
  Htoo-machana that unrivalled classic
  And those composed by Myawady Mingyi
* Songs about pagodas and trappings
  This one which is of great fame
  Also such instrumental verses of Yayazagi
  Sein Beda
* The Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
  In the air and drawing close
  Cultural youths and dames get ready
  To sing and dance, to participate.
* They practise the traditional movements
  How to be supple and appear
  Dainty, and how to play instruments
  Maintain the national traditions.

(Yangling 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions)

Pho Yan Naing (Kyaukgyi) (Trs)

CEC Member attends Pyapon District USDA AGM

YANGON, 9 Sept—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Central Executive Committee member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, accompanied by officials met with local people of Thetaw village in Bogalay township on yesterday morning.

The CEC member heard reports by local people and attended to the needs.

At the office of Township General Administration Department, the CEC member also met with local people, and heard reports on progress of development tasks and presented K 2 million for social organizations in the township.

The CEC member visited two primary schools and a high school in the township and fulfilled the requirements.

The CEC member and officials presented awards to 23 outstanding students. The CEC member and wellwishers presented over K 1.5 million for Pyapon District USDA to a responsible person.

At Kyakklat Township, the CEC member met with service personnel and USDA executives.

He heard reports on matters related to the development tasks of the township and attended to the needs.

CEC member of USDA Forestry Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung presents prize to an outstanding student. — FORESTRY
MMCWA (Central) launches Nutrition Week 2006

YANGON, 9 Sept — The Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) launched the ceremony to mark Nutrition Week 2006 at the multi-functional building of MMCWA at the corner of Thanthuma and Parami Roads in South Okkalapa Township this morning.

It was attended by Vice-President of MMCWA Daw Aye Aye and CEC members, Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai and members, CEC members of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, responsible persons of UN agencies, officials of the Ministry of Health and guests.

Vice-President Daw Aye Aye delivered an address. Director Dr Soe Tint of Health Department explained matters concerning development of nutrition. Dr Daw Wai Mar Mar Tun of Health Department gave lectures on nutrition development of expectant mothers and children.

Vice-President Daw Aye Aye presented iodine test kits to Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai. After the ceremony, those present viewed test on iodine content in the salt.

Before the ceremony, iodized salt, medicines and pamphlets were distributed to expectant mothers.

Guests to the Nutrition Promotion Week commemorative ceremony for 2006 view test of iodized salt. — MNA

First aid course opened

YANGON, 9 Sept — A first aid course, organized by Myanmar Red Cross Society was opened to mark the World First Aid Day at the building of YWCA this morning. The course opening ceremony was attended by MRCS Secretary Dr Tun Sein and executives, representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and guests.

Treasurer of MRCS U Tin Htun and Ms Kajai of the federation made speeches. A total of 48 trainees are attending the course that will last 14 days.

Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee holds 15/2006 meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept — Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee held its 15/2006 meeting at the Nay Pyi Taw Command yesterday.

Present were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lin Wai, chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rule Enforcement Supervisory Committee and members of sub-committees and departmental officials. The commander spoke on observing traffic rules, reduction of traffic accidents and supervision by officials concerned.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee Lt-Col Kyaw Soe reported on actions taken against vehicles that violate the traffic rules in townships in Nay Pyi Taw. Officials also reported on work done. Afterwards, the commander fulfilled the requirements. The meeting ended in the evening. — MNA

Minister receives Malaysian guests

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw received Malaysian Ambassador Dato Shaharuddin bin Mohd Som at the ministry here on 7 September.

Present at the call were the officials of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications. — MNA

Energy Minister receives foreign ambassadors

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi received Philippine Ambassador Mme Phoebe A Gomez, Laotian Ambassador Mr Chanthavy Bodhisane, Malaysian Ambassador Mr Dato Shaharuddin bin Mohd Som, Bruneian Ambassador Pehin Datu Inderasugara Brig-Gen (B) Dato Hj Mohd Yusuf bin Abu Bakar and Charge d’Affaires Mr Philemon Arobaya of Indonesian Embassy at the minister’s office here yesterday evening.

Present also at the call were Deputy Director, managing directors and officials of the ministry. — MNA

F & R Ministry receives WB Executive Director

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Sept — Executive Director Mr Herwiadjatmo of the World Bank paid a call on Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun at his office here yesterday afternoon.

Also present at the call were Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and officials. — MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for China

YANGON, 8 Sept — A Myanmar Delegation led by U Khin Maung Lin, Director-General of Directorate of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce on 6 September left here by air for China to attend the 10th China International Fair for Investment and Trade under the Ministry of Commerce on 6 September.

The delegation was accompanied by Deputy Director U Kyaw Zaw of Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Executive of UMFCCI and General Secretary of Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Association U Aye Lin. — MNA
China-ASEAN commemorative summit to upgrade bilateral partnership

BEIJING, 9 Sept — China will host a commemorative summit between China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in late October, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

Chinese experts on international studies believe that the summit will push the China-ASEAN strategic partnership to a new level.

This will be the first time leaders of ASEAN members and China meet in China, which shows their intention to push forward bilateral relations, said Shen Shishun, an expert with China Institute of International Studies.

“Chinese and ASEAN leaders will probably review the development and achievements of the bilateral relations and set out the future bilateral cooperation,” he said, adding that China will put forward concrete suggestions for further deepening the bilateral relations.

The summit, commemorating the 15th anniversary of the establishment of China-ASEAN dialogue relations, will be held on 30 October in Nanning of South China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and leaders from ASEAN countries will attend the summit.

“The summit meeting will serve as a milestone in the development of China-ASEAN relations,” said Zhai Kun, an expert with China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations.

China and ASEAN countries have conducted fruitful cooperation in fields of politics, economy and trade, security and culture during the past 15 years.

11.4 kilos of ivory confiscated in Lusaka

LUSAKA, 9 Sept — The Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) has confiscated recently 11.4 kilos of ivory from a market shop in Lusaka. Times of Zambia reported Thursday. The owner of the shop has since been arrested and remanded in police custody, according to the newspaper.

ZAWA public relations officer Maureen Mwape was quoted as saying here Wednesday that ZAWA officers recovered three grinders and a polisher used in processing the ivory into various ornamentals.

Mwape also said that in another incident three men were arrested for being in possession of leopard skin.

Korean pine nut may offer help for obesity

NUSA DUA (Indonesia), 8 Sept — New research indicates that an extract from the Korean pine nut could be effective in treating obesity by suppressing the appetite, an expert on obesity said on Friday.

“We have a lot of new drugs that are in the pipeline and this is very encouraging,” said Denise E. Bruner, an obesity expert from the United States.

She said US research showed that pinolenic acid extracted from Korean pine nut could dampen the appetite.

“They looked at a group of women who had pine nut versus a group who didn’t and they saw there’s weight loss and they felt full longer,” Bruner told Reuters on the sidelines of an anti-ageing conference in the resort island of Bali.

The levels of two hormones that act as appetite suppressors, cholecystokinin and glucagons-like peptide, increased by 65 per cent and 25 per cent respectively in the subjects, she said.

She also said she was encouraged by a new obesity drug produced by French company Sanofi Aventis, called Accompia, also known as Rimonabant, that has been approved recently in the United Kingdom.

A band member performs at a puppet opera show during the Hungry Ghost Festival in Singapore on 7 Sept, 2006. — INTERNET
A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SEA MERCHANT VOYNO (699)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOYNO (699) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.9.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon provide for the examination of damage by independent surveyors to be carried out daily from 8 am and up to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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PHONE NO: 256908/378316/376797

S Korea to boost all-around cooperation with China

SEOUL, 8 Sept— South Korea is looking forward to boosting an all-around cooperation with China to contribute to the regional peace and prosperity, said Lim Chae-jung, speaker of the National Assembly, on Thursday.

Lim made the remarks when meeting with Liu Yunshan, a member of both the Central Committee Political Bureau and the Central Committee Secretariat of the Communist Party of China (CPC), in Seoul. The bilateral ties between South Korea and China have been fast developing in the fields of politics, economy, society and culture, Lim said.

South Korea is satisfied with the fast-developing relations with China and is willing to maintain the momentum, Lim said.

The leaders of China and South Korea have kept an active exchange of visit and greatly boosted the mutual trust during the past several years, Liu said.

China and South Korea are widening exchanges and cooperation in economy, culture, education, technology and environment, said Liu, adding that the two neighbours carried out successful cooperation over international and regional affairs.

China will join efforts with South Korea to push forward the bilateral ties to contribute to the peace, development and co-operation in the region.

Singer Tyson Ritter of the band All-American Rejects leads models down the runway at the end of the John Bartlett fashion show in New York on 8 Sept, 2006. — Internet

Chile seeks free trade with Australia, Thailand, Malaysia

SANTIAGO, 8 Sept— Chile hopes to start free trade talks with Australia, Thailand and Malaysia at an early date, so that the country could become a trade bridge linking Asia, Oceania and Latin America, Foreign Minister Alejandro Foxley told media on Thursday.

To pursue this goal, he plans to lead a team of businessmen and government officials to visit Australia in November, Foxley said.

“We plan to go with a large group of business people to Australia, and hopefully speak more seriously about the possibility of a free trade agreement,” Foxley said. He added that he was also having preliminary talks with Thailand and Malaysia on the same topic.

WASHINGTON, 8 Sept— While most Americans focus on the threat of another aviation attack like the 11 September hijackings, the US Government is quietly working to prevent something far worse — a catastrophic strike with a weapon of mass destruction.

Five years after the 11 September attacks killed nearly 3,000 people, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff has once again bolstered aviation security in high-profile fashion in response to a failed plot in Britain to blow up US-bound planes.

But in a sign he fears other, more devastating attacks, Chertoff has also made his department focus on worst-case scenarios which could include nuclear or biological weapons.

Some analysts say the government is still not spending enough money to address such threats.

“An improvised nuclear device would be devastating with potentially hundreds of thousands of casualties and... the damage would run in the trillions of dollars,” said Vayl Oxford, director of the department’s Domestic Nuclear Detection Office.

“One of the concerns we have is that a weapon could be manufactured inside the US,” Oxford said. His office is trying to protect against such a US-built weapon being brought into locations such as major cities where it could cause a great deal of damage.
Construction start on world’s second highest airport in Sichuan

KANGDING (Sichuan Province), 8 Sept — Construction began on Thursday on what will be the world’s second highest airport in Kangding, a predominantly Tibetan region in southwest China’s Sichuan Province. The airport will stand 4,280 metres above sea level, second in height only to the airport in Qamdo, Tibet.

With a budget of 960 million yuan (about 120 million US dollars), the new airport will have a 4,000-metre-long runway and will be capable of handling planes such as the Boeing 737-700 series and Airbus A319s, according to Wu Hesheng, general manager of the Zhongnan Airports Construction Corporation, builder of the Kangding Airport.

Plans for the airport were first drawn up 13 years ago but the go-ahead for the construction was only given last May. It will begin service in 2008 and is designed to handle 330,000 passengers and 1,980 tons of cargo and mail annually.

Due to its rough terrain and high altitudes, the western region of Sichuan was notorious for being difficult to access in ancient times.

Li Bai, a famed poet from the Tang Dynasty (618-907), wrote that travelling in Shu State (present-day Sichuan Province) was more difficult than going to the heaven.

South Korean movie monster gobbles up box office

SEOUL, 8 Sept — A new movie monster has emerged from the waters of South Korea to cause chaos in the streets of Seoul, set a new box office record and raise concern about pollution at US military bases in the country.

The South Korean movie “The Host” became South Korea’s all-time box office champion in early September, selling more than 12.3 million tickets since its release just over a month ago in a country of 48.3 million. It has a chance of being the first South Korean film to take in more than 100 million US dollars and is expected to be a hit across Asia.

“The Host” opens with toxic chemicals down the sky, gobbles up box office and is expected to be a hit across Asia. Scientists have identified 189 mutated genes that may cause breast and colorectal cancers, according to a study published on 7 Sept, 2006 in Science. —XINHUA

Two-thirds of Chinese say commercial ads “not trustworthy”

BEIJING, 8 Sept — An on-line survey found that two-thirds of respondents said advertisements are “untrustworthy.”

The survey, sponsored by the China Consumers’ Association, conducted the investigation among 12,927 netizens and found that two-thirds of them, or 67.8 per cent, said they had been victimized by fake and illegal advertisements.

In the first half of this year, the association received 5,483 complaints about false advertising, which prompted the association to carry out the on-line survey, which ran from 23 June to 18 August this year.

Small advertisements, which are posted outside on trees, walls or bus stops, were considered the least trustworthy. TV advertising ranked second most untrustworthy, and on-line advertising came third.

The respondents said medical products, health food and medicine were the most untrustworthy ads followed by beauty services and cosmetic products.

Meanwhile, 41.3 per cent of the surveyed said the media that publishes advertisements should be held responsible for the consequences resulting from fake and illegal advertising. More than 32.6 fake advertisers should be banned from advertising.

Solar power to shine in coming decades

OSLO, 8 Sept — The tiny solar power industry is booming and could generate 2.5 per cent of world electricity by 2025 in a shift from fossil fuels, a report by a business group and environmental lobby Greenpeace said on Wednesday.

“The solar power...would represent the annual output from 150 coal-fired power plants” by 2025, the European Photovoltaic Industry Association (EPIA) and Greenpeace said.

The report said photovoltaic systems, which turn sunlight into power, now generate 0.05 per cent of world electricity and could rise to 2.5 per cent in 2025, the main horizon for the report, and then leap to 16 per cent in 2040.

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Snap in strap-on motor caused India rocket crash

BANGALORE (India), 8 Sept — A malfunctioning strap-on motor caused the crash of an Indian rocket carrying the country’s heaviest satellite, the state-run space agency said on Wednesday.

The rocket carrying a 2.2-ton telecommunications satellite veered off course a minute after a textbook launch in July. It burst into flames a few seconds later and fell into the sea as a flaming wreck, stunning the country’s space establishment.

The Indian Space Research Organization said an investigation into the crash did not find any design fault in the rocket known as the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle.

“The primary cause for the failure was the sudden loss of thrust in one out of the four liquid strap-on motors,” the space agency said. These are external motors which give thrust during the take off stage.
Sharapova stuns Mauresmo to reach final

NEW YORK, 9 Sept— Russian Maria Sharapova reached her first US Open final when she beat world number one and top seed Amelie Mauresmo 6-0, 4-6, 6-0 on Friday.

The former Wimbledon champion took advantage of an error-strewn performance from Mauresmo to set up a final against second seed Justine Henin-Hardenne of Belgium.

"I'm not done yet," Sharapova said after the semifinal.

"(At the end of the second set) I went to change. I just thought, it's alright, it's one set all, you haven't lost the match yet, and I just kept going.

"I am thrilled to be in the final. I had a horrible record against Amelie and that ended today, and I have a horrible record against Justine, so I hope that's a good omen."

After racing through the first set in 24 minutes for the loss of only 10 points, Sharapova suddenly found herself in a dogfight when Mauresmo, varying her game well, hit back to take the second set thanks to one break.

But just as quickly, the Frenchwoman's form deserted her and Sharapova tore through the third set, conceding just seven points as she moved into the final.— MNA/Reuters

Henin-Hardenne battles back to reach final

NEW YORK, 9 Sept— Second seed Justine Henin-Hardenne recovered from a set and 4-2 down to beat 19th seed Jelena Jankovic 4-6, 6-4, 6-0 on Friday and reach the US Open final.

The 2003 champion, who struggled as she served 12 double faults, went on to become the first woman since Martina Hingis in 1997 to reach all four Grand Slam finals in the same year. In her first Grand Slam semifinal, the 21-year-old Jankovic played aggressively and took advantage of her sub-dured Belgian opponent to lead by a set and 4-2.

But, after missing a point for 5-2, the nerves seemed to get to the Serbian and Henin-Hardenne won 10 straight games as she eased through to a clash with world number one Amelie Mauresmo of France in a third-seeded Russian Maria Sharapova.— MNA/Reuters

Carrick poised for United debut

MANCHESTER, 9 Sept— Michael Carrick will make his full debut for Premier League leaders Manchester United against former club Tottenham Hotspur at Old Trafford on Saturday, manager Alex Ferguson confirmed on Friday.

Carrick joined United from Tottenham in July for a fee that could rise to 18.5 million pounds (34.66 million US dollars) but is yet to start a match after sustaining an ankle injury in pre-season.

The 25-year-old midfielder is now fully recovered and after one substitute's appearance for United will get the chance of an early meeting with his former employers. "I think he will be glad to get it over with. I think anybody playing for the first time against their old team will want to get it out of the way," Ferguson told reporters.

"He owes a lot to Tottenham. They took the chance on him at West Ham when maybe others didn't."

Carrick has a key role to play for Ferguson's side, particularly following United's failure to land top target Owen Hargreaves from Bayern Munich before the transfer window closed.— MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Riding the momentum from his best result of the season a fourth place finish at the Deutsche Bank Championship, Rose laid the foundation for his 63 with a sizzling front nine that included six birdies and a bogey on the par four 12th.

The American then followed with five birdies, completing his round by draining a six-footer for par on the 18th.

Rose, Furyk share lead at Canadian Open

ANCASTER (Ontario), 9 Sept— Briton Justin Rose and American Jim Furyk carded course record seven-under 63s to share the first round lead at the Canadian Open on Thursday.

Furyk, one of four US Ryder Cup players competing at the Hamilton Golf and Country Club, began his day in style holing out from 120 yards for an eagle on the par four 12th.

The American then followed with five birdies, completing his round by draining a six-footer for par on the 18th.

Rose, growing up an Arsenal fan and had always played or loyalty. "The 25-year-old left back, who grew up an Arsenal fan and had always played with the club hierarchy since he was caught talking secretly to Chelsea months ago, in a much-publicized "tapping-up" scandal.

"I am not a greedy person. I've not come here out and often acrimonious transfer from Arsenal to billionaire-backed Chelsea had been motivated by money. Speaking after his first full training session since joining the champions from their north London rivals, Cole said: "I am not a greedy person. I've not come here for the money. I've come here to win things."

"It's not all about the money and greed or loyalty." The 25-year-old left back, who grew up an Arsenal fan and had always played for them, has had an awkward relationship with the club hierarchy since a he was caught talking secretly to Chelsea months ago, in a much-publicized "tapping-up" scandal.

"I'm not done yet," Sharapova said after the semifinal.

"(At the end of the second set) I went to change. I just thought, it's alright, it's one set all, you haven't lost the match yet, and I just kept going.

"I am thrilled to be in the final. I had a horrible record against Amelie and that ended today, and I have a horrible record against Justine, so I hope that's a good omen."

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But just as quickly, the Frenchwoman's form deserted her and Sharapova tore through the third set, conceding just seven points as she moved into the final.— MNA/Reuters

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Poland may launch probe into CIA prisons

Warsaw, 9 Sept — Poland may launch an inquiry into the existence of secret CIA prisons on its soil after the United States admitted it held terrorist suspects in jails abroad, a senior official said on Thursday.

US President George W Bush said on Wednesday the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had interrogated dozens of suspects at undisclosed overseas locations.

Poland was accused by a Council of Europe report in June of being one of the countries where such detention centres had been established and the European Parliament urged Poland on Thursday to answer the accusations.

Poland’s conservative government, which took power last September, has repeatedly rejected the accusations, saying it had been assured by its leftist predecessors that such prisons never existed.

Poland is one of Washington’s leading allies in Europe. It is being considered as a potential location for a US antimissile defence system.

MNA/Reuters

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Sunday, 10 September, 2006

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

WEATHER

Saturday, 9 September, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Kachin State, upper Sагaing and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Chin State, isolated in Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Kachin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (5.94) inches, Machanban (4.13) inches, Toungoo (2.16) inches, Katha (2.13) inches, Hkamti (1.49) inches, Mandalay, Kyauktaw and Myeik (0.79) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 8-9-2006 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 9-9-2006 was 79°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 9-9-2006 was (85%). Total sunshine hours on 8-9-2006 was (6.7) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 9-9-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls 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 (7) m/h from Southwest at (22:00) hours MST on 8-9-2006.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weak elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10-9-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Kachin State, upper Sагaing and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay Division and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Weak monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 10-9-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 10-9-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 10-9-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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Earthquake Report

(issued at 14:15 hours MST Today)

A strong earthquake of intensity (6.5) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar about (2300) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory was recorded at (10) hrs (43) min (12) sec MST on 9th September, 2006.
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National race groups that discarded the armed struggle line for various reasons have returned to the legal fold one after another in dignity beginning 1989. Myanmar has been able to re-consolidate national solidarity as the national race armed groups have responded the government’s sincere good-will and forbearance from the positive point of view with trust and understanding. Peace is prevailing in almost all the border regions where the national people are living. The peace groups have now realized that unity and harmony, not disagreements will enhance national prestige and national strength.