Protest walk not the work of Sangha

When there was no response from Kyakhatwaing Monastery, NLD protesters shouted rude and rough words

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept — At about 11.50 am on 18 September about 100 members of the Sangha gathered at U Khanti Tazaung of Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago. Reciting parittas they walked in procession along Bago-Thanatpin Road. On 21 September afternoon, about 140 monks made a protest walk from Shwemawdaw Pagoda to Bago downtown in two groups.

As there are over 1200 members of the Sangha learning Pariyatti at Kyakhatwaing Monastery, the monk protesters tried to approach them again and again. A news agency in Norway tried to organize the Sayadaw of the monastery on line for two times to take part in the protest. The Sayadaw said that something like protest walk is not the work of the members of the Sangha. He did not answer the phone call. He also gave ovada to his monks saying they must live in accord with Vinaya and rules of the Lord Buddha; that they would face legal action if they leave the monastery and take part in the protest.

At 11.45 am on 24 September, about 350 members of the Sangha walked to downtown Bago from the Shwemawdaw in a group. A group of people led by Bago Township NLD joined the protesters. U Aye Myint of the group called Lanpya Kyei rode a motor-cycle in front of the protesters and shouted inproper words which said that every Buddhist must have discipline, urging the onlookers to give applause in support of the monks. The monk and laymen protesters arrived at Kyakhatwaing Monastery at about 2 pm. As the monastery closed its doors, the protesters were not able to organize the monks of the monastery to join them. The protesters circled the monastery compound to organize the monks. When there was no response from inside the monastery, the NLD protesters shouted rude and rough words saying “It is not bed time!”, “Do you wish to be called nuns? We will throw packages of woman’s longyis for you?” “You are hiding because you are afraid. Want to wear bra.” Then they threw water bottles at the buildings inside the monastery. Over 1200 monks were peacefully

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
**Perspectives**

**Wednesday, 26 September, 2007**

**Better public health care to cover the whole country**

Good health is the greatest blessing for man. Only with longevity and good health will it be possible for everybody to be able to do what they want.

The Ministry of Health is now improving health care for the entire people to enjoy longevity and be free from diseases. As part of its drive, it is constructing health infrastructures throughout the country including border areas and constantly producing doctors, nurses, health assistants and midwives.

As a result of fulfilling the requirements whenever needed for uplift of health and fitness of the entire people, Myanmar is free from leprosy and iodine deficiency now. The government is taking preventive measures against the possible outbreak of bird flu.

In the meantime, it is fighting major diseases such as AIDS, TB and malaria in cooperation with local and international organizations. It is also engaged in the tasks for eradication of drug abuse, giving treatment to and rehabilitation of drug addicts.

Now, the entire nation has seen a growing number of hospitals, dispensaries and rural health care centres with more and more doctors, nurses and medical staff. So, the people in various regions have had an easy access to better public health care.

Due to the accelerating of campaigns for disease control, diagnosing diseases and medical treatment to improve the public health standard, the people can enjoy good health and fitness with better life span.

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**Paper-reading session on 29 Sept**

**Yangon, 25 Sept**—Paper reading sessions organized by Technical Division (Architecture) of Myanmar Engineering Society and Myanmar Architects Association will be held at MES Building on Hlne University Campus in Hlne Township, at 2 pm on 29 September.

At the paper reading sessions, U Hsan Oo (Senior Registered Architect, AMA) will read the paper on Wooden Architecture in Myanmar, U Khin Maung Maung (CEC, MES) on Safeguarding of the Wooden Architecture in Myanmar, U Saw Htwe Zaw (Structure Engineer, CEC, MES) on Comparative Structural Analysis of Traditional & Modern Timber Roofs and Daw Chaw Kalyar (Architect, AMA) on Role of Timber in Recent Building Projects. The interested persons may attend the sessions at the venue.

The Registered Architects of AMA who are attending the sessions will be designated as CPD.

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**Officials urged to boost production of quality goods**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 24 Sept**—Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung visited a wood-based products factory of Jewellery Luck Co Ltd in Pyigyiadan Township of Mandalay Division and met with managing director U Aye Tun Shwe and members of board of directors this morning.

At the briefing hall of the factory, managing director U Aye Tun Shwe briefed the minister on production process of sawn timber and plywood, availability of raw materials, requirement of raw materials and generation of power by the use of wood gas.

After hearing the reports, the minister gave instructions on boosting production of quality goods, wider use of wood gas in industrial services and increased production of wood gas as import-substitute item.

In the compound of the factory, the minister looked into logs, sawn timber and plywood. Next, he inspected production of wood gas and gave instructions on emphasis to be placed on fire preventive measures.

Upon arrival at Byanhlwar Textile Factory in Pyigyiadan Township, the minister was conducted by managing director U Tun Naing around the factory.

**Myanmar delegation back from Vietnam**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 24 Sept**—Vice-Chairman of Myanmar e-national Task Force Member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Aung Myint arrived back here today after attending the Vietnam Comm 07 held in Vietnam from 19 to 22 Sept.

The delegation was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by the departmental officials.

The delegation member Managing Director U Tha Oo of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

**Construction Minister meets Chinese guests**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 24 Sept**—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun met with President Ms Luo Yan of CAMCE Company of the People’s Republic of China at the ministry here this morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers U Tint Swe and Brig-Gen Myint Thein of the Ministry, departmental heads and officials of Public Works.—MNA

**Sub-inspector course concluded**


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At the prize presentation, Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win delivered the address on the occasion.

Upon arrival at Byanhlwar Textile Factory in Pyigyiadan Township, the minister was conducted by managing director U Tun Naing around the factory.

A total of 209 trainees attended the course.
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Chavez denies reports of rows with Brazil, blames US**

CARACAS, 24 Sept—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Sunday denied media reports that he clashed with his Brazilian counterpart Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva at a Thursday meeting, saying the United States was behind the reports.

“That is the handiwork of the Empire, but it will never achieve its goal of making us fight,” Chavez said during his Sunday radio and TV show “Hello, President.” At the Thursday meeting, Chavez and Lula, together with their Ecuadorian counterpart Rafael Correa, discussed the building of the ambitious Grand Southern Gas Pipeline: an 8,000-kilometre, 20-billion-US-dollar project intended to link western Venezuela to Argentina, via a main pipeline that crosses Brazil, with branches connecting Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and Ecuador.

Chavez said Venezuela and Bolivia have the largest gas reserves in Latin America and called on South American nations to unite.

“The great goal of the petrochemical revolution is to convert Venezuela into a world petrochemical power,” Chavez said.

Russia’s President Vladimir Putin (R) and Prime Minister Viktor Zubkov meet in Moscow’s Kremlin on 24 Sept, 2007. Zubkov has presented his proposed cabinet team to Putin, Russian news agencies quoted Kremlin Chief Spokesman Alexei Gromov as saying on Monday. —INTERNET

**US soldier killed in bomb attack in Baghdad**

BAGHDAD, 24 Sept—A US soldier was killed and another wounded when a sophisticated armoured-piercing roadside bomb hit their patrol in the Iraqi capital, the US military said on Sunday.

The incident took place when an explosively-formed penetrator (EFP) detonated near their patrol during combat operations in eastern Baghdad, a military statement said.

EFP, also known as explosively-formed projectile, is a shaped charge explosive designed to penetrate armour effectively. They were first developed during World War II.

US officials have accused Iran of providing and training militia in Iraq with these deadly bombs, but Iran denied the accusation.

The latest death brings the number of US soldiers have been killed in Iraq to about 3,798 since the outbreak of the war in 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures. —MNA/Xinhua

**Abducted Italian troops freed in Afghan raid**

ROME, 25 Sept—Two Italian soldiers kidnapped in Afghanistan last week were freed in a raid by NATO-led forces early on Monday, Italy’s Defence Ministry said.

“In a raid by ISAF forces in the early hours of the morning the two soldiers who had been kidnapped last Saturday have been freed in the province of Farah,” the ministry said in a statement, referring to the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force.

The soldiers were wounded during the raid to free them, one of them seriously, the ministry said, adding that they had been taken to a hospital.

Italy has some 2,200 troops in Afghanistan. More than 600 are in western Afghanistan running the regional ISAF command.

The ministry said late on Sunday that it believed the two had been abducted while on patrol, together with two Afghans. —INTERNET

**Greenspan faults Democrats on trade, sees slowdown**

WASHINGTON, 24 Sept—Former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan on Sunday faulted Democrats, including presidential candidate Senator Hillary Clinton, for moving away from former President Bill Clinton’s embrace of globalization.

“They’re taking positions, which he as president veered away from,” Greenspan said on NBC’s “Meet the Press,” speaking about Democrats and a possible White House under Hillary Clinton, who polls show as the Democrats’ front-runner.

Asked how Democrats today were different from the party Bill Clinton led, Greenspan responded; “The whole area of trade... is a very critical issue, because it’s not only the issue of trade.

“It refers to the globalization, and how one views what is the driving force in this world, which creates prosperity.”

Greenspan has been making extensive public appearances to promote his memoir, “The Age of Turbulence,” which was published last week. The book has drawn attention for its criticism of the fiscal policies of President George W Bush.

Speaking about the US economy, Greenspan renewed his assessment that there is a somewhat less than 50 per cent chance of a recession.

“We’re heading towards a slowdown,” he said. “Whether that actually leads to a recession is dependent on things we can’t forecast at this moment... But there is no question that we’ve got significant pressure on home prices.”

The National Association of Realtors estimated earlier this month that the national median sales price for proposed homes should drop 1.7 per cent this year, while the median new-home price should fall 2.2 per cent. —INTERNET

**A Porsche 911 Turbo. A man caught speeding at a British record of 172 miles (277 kilometres) per hour in a Porsche 911 Turbo was jailed for 10 weeks on 24 Sept, 2007. —INTERNET**
Bluetongue case in Britain same as in Northern Europe

LONDON, 24 Sept — Tests have shown that Britain’s bluetongue disease case confirmed later Saturday is the same strain of the disease which has affected animals recently in Northern Europe.

The virus identified Saturday in a cow on a small farm near Ipswich, some 100 kilometres northeast of London, is serotype eight, the northeast of London, is some 100 kilometres small farm near Ipswich, Saturday in a cow on a recent in Northern Europe. 

The strain was previously found in Northern Europe including the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Germany since August 2006, where there have been nearly 3,000 cases of bluetongue, the department said.

If the virus has spread, the department said, it would impose a 20-kilometre control zone around the infected farm, and there would also be a 150-kilometre surveillance zone.

The department said it was not imposing any additional movement restrictions above those currently in force due to the foot-and-mouth outbreak.

The discovery of bluetongue disease came soon after another case of foot-and-mouth disease was confirmed in Surrey on the same day.

Britain’s chief vet officer Debby Reynolds said it remains vitally important that farmers maintain vigilance for this disease and report any suspect cases, particularly as clinical signs may be similar to foot-and-mouth disease.

Bluetongue disease is transmitted by midges, traditionally the Culicoides imicola midge. It is passed from animal to midge, and from midge to animal, but not transmitted from animal to animal.

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Earthquake hits Greek Dodecanese Island, no injuries

ATHENS, 25 Sept — A tremor with a magnitude of 5.6 shook the Dodecanese island of Karpathos in southeastern Greece early on Sunday but causing no injuries, officials said.

“The epicentre of the earthquake, measured at 5.6, was in the sea, southwest of Karpathos Island. Earthquakes of this magnitude are usual in the area,” an Athens Geodynamic Institute official told Reuters.

The fire brigade said the quake was felt on Karpathos but no injuries were reported.

A series of quakes in the past months have shaken western Greece and popular tourist islands, including Zakynthos in the Ionian Sea.

US plans to invite Syria, Arabs to peace meeting

RAMALLAH (WestBank), 24 Sept — US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has told Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas Washington plans to invite six Arab states including Syria to a Middle East peace conference, Abbas’ aides said.

Abbas’ senior aide Nimer Hammad said on Saturday Washington would like Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, plus the Palestinian Authority to attend the US-sponsored conference, expected to be held in November.

Rice held talks with Abbas during her sixth visit to the region last week as part of efforts to prod Israel and the Palestinians closer to an agreement ahead of the conference.

“Rice told President Abbas in their meeting on Thursday that the US plans to invite the Arab states delegated by the Arab League to follow up the Arab peace initiative. These ... states of course include Syria and Lebanon,” Hammad told Reuters. Rice did not say who would be invited to the conference, expected to be held in the Washington area, during her visit. Among the six Arab states, only Jordan and Egypt have full diplomatic relations with Israel. — MNA/Reuters

China seizes on Mattel apology to emphasise safety

BEIJING, 24 Sept — China highlighted Mattel’s apology over its recall of huge numbers of toys on Monday to Press Beijing’s claim that its exports are generally safe and foreign politicians and media have unfairly hyped quality scares.

Before those recalls, a spate of complaints involving unsafe Chinese products ranging from other toys and seafood to toothpaste that entered EU and US markets prompted calls on both sides of the Atlantic for stricter scrutiny of made-in-China goods.

Thomas Debrowski, executive vice president of worldwide operations for toymaker Mattel Inc, apologized on Friday following recalls of about 21 million Chinese-made toys over five weeks.

The recalls stoked US complaints that lax Chinese quality controls threatened foreign consumers.

The vast majority of recalled toys suffered from a design defect that was Mattel’s own fault, Debrowski said.

“The apology, though delayed, should help dispel the suspicion American customers harbour against Chinese-made products,” the China Daily said in an editorial.

“It’s (Mattel’s) reputation will be impaired when the whole truth about the recalls is finally made public.”

Last week Mattel CEO Robert Eckert had to defend his company’s toy safety record as Democratic lawmakers accused him of stonewalling a US congressional probe into production practices in China. — MNA/Reuters

Italian soldiers of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) stand guard near their base in Kabul. — INTERNET
Frankfurt Motor Show draws 1 million visitors

BERLIN, 24 Sept — The 62nd Frankfurt Motor Show, which closed on Sunday, has drawn almost 1 million visitors, the organizers said on Sunday.

At the last show in 2005, some 940,000 people attended the show, the world’s largest event of its kind. “Both the manufacturers and the suppliers are very happy,” said Matthias Wissmann, president of the Association of the German car Industry (VDA). More than 1,000 carmakers and suppliers from 40 countries were represented at the event, which takes place every two years.

Apart from boosting sales, carmakers used the show to demonstrate their commitment to joining the fight against global warming.

At the show, 88 models were shown in public for the first time, along with 172 new products associated with cars. — MNA/Xinhua

Bangladesh Govt to import 50,000 more tons of rice

DHAKA, 24 Sept — Bangladesh Government will import 50,000 tons of rice from the international market in order to meet any possible crisis arising out of the recent floods that washed away the country’s paddies and plantations.

The Ministry of Food and Disaster Management has already started the process for importing rice from the international market, local newspaper The Financial Express reported on Sunday. Sources in the ministry said that the government has set an import target of 400,000 tons of rice this year to create a buffer stock.

Out of the import target, the government has already imported 50,000 tons of rice recently, the sources added. As the recent floods have damaged most of the country’s paddies, there is every possibility of a shortfall in food production this year.

Therefore, the government has decided to import rice to replenish its buffer stock, an official in the ministry said. A private sector contractor has been appointed to import 50,000 tons of rice from India. In the last fiscal 2006-07 (July 2006-June 2007), the government imported over 100,000 tons of rice to meet the local demand in the country, the sources informed. — MNA/Xinhua

First bio-gas toilet complexes inaugurated in Afghanistan

KABUL, 24 Sept — The first batch of bio-gas toilet complexes in Afghanistan, which was funded by the Indian Government, was inaugurated in the Afghan capital Kabul on Sunday. The five Toilet-cum-Sanitation Complexes, which were implemented by the Sulabh International Social Service Organization, use eco-friendly bio-gas digester technology with efficient water treatment plant. Bio-gas produced can be used for cooking, lighting, electricity generation and heating during winter.

The complexes, which also have shower facilities and separate sections for nursing mothers, were funded by the Indian Government with one million US dollars. The Sulabh organization is the largest pan-Indian social service outfit which works to promote environmental sanitation, health and hygiene, non-conventional sources of energy, waste management and social reforms.

The five complexes are now operational in Kabul at five locations on a “pay and use” basis. Every day they would be used by around 4,500 people and generating revenues of some 200 dollars, which are making them totally self-sustaining. — MNA/Xinhua

UAE bans sale, purchase of Germany-produced “Silomat”

ABU DHABI, 24 Sept — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has imposed a ban on the sale and purchase of a Germany-produced cough suppressant named Silomat for safety reasons, local newspaper Khaleej Times reported on Sunday. The UAE Ministry of Health issued the ban on the medicine Silomat including both of its tablet and syrup forms, according to the report.

Silomat, produced by the German pharmaceutical company Boehringer Ingelheim, contains a sedative substance called Clobutinol HCL, which could pose a risk to the health of the user, it was reported.

The Boehringer Ingelheim announced on 31 August to voluntarily withdraw Silomat in Germany and all other countries where the medicine is available. — MNA/Xinhua

Gypsy musicians perform at the Kehli Restaurant in Budapest on 22 Sept, 2007. Gypsy music in restaurants, once one of Hungary’s trademarks, is getting rare, but a new style of Gypsy music is becoming popular at concerts and festivals. — INTERNET

People walk past a sign outside a currency exchange bureau in Paris on 24 Sept, 2007. The dollar hit a record low against the euro for a third straight session on Monday, hurt by worries of further US interest rate cuts and sluggish economic growth in the United States. The euro’s climb to an all-time high above $1.41 has stirred worries about the potential effect on European exports and prompted more criticism of the US Federal Reserve’s policies.

The Financial Express reported on Sunday. The currency was worth around 1.4150 per dollar early in the European session on Monday, down from around 1.4050 late on Friday. — MNA/Xinhua

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Dolphin baby Dolly swims with her mother Delphi in the Delphinarium at the zoo in Duisburg, Germany, recently. The little new dolphin was born on 4 Aug and was shown on Thursday for the first time. Her mother was also born in Duisburg 13 years ago.—INTERNET

New foot-and-mouth case confirmed in Britain

LONDON, 24 Sept—A new case of foot-and-mouth disease has been confirmed on a farm in the Egham area of Surrey in Britain, BBC reported on Saturday.

The case is the sixth in Britain since early August.

Tests were carried out after the animals showed signs of the disease. “Positive test results for foot-and-mouth disease have now been confirmed at the site where it was decided that cattle should be slaughtered on suspicion,” BBC reported quoting a spokeswoman for the Department for the Environment and Rural Affairs, without naming the farm. The disease has been confirmed at three other farms in the Egham area during the last two weeks. Around 40 cattle have been slaughtered on the site which is within the three-kilometre protection zone, according to the report.

The disease has been blamed on the virus escaping from leaking pipes at the nearby Pirbright laboratory site.

Four new cases near Egham have emerged in the last two weeks, just days after the government declared Britain free of the disease following the August outbreak in which two cases emerged.

It was not known whether the latest case was the same strain as the previous cases.

The disease has had a devastating effect on farmers’ sales and their livelihood, but there is some relief that the new case was within the protection zone, the spokeswoman said.

MNA/Xinhua

Diarrhoea kills five in mid-western Nepal

KATHMANDU, 24 Sept—At least five people died Saturday in mid-western Nepal District Kalikot, local leading media group’s website eKantipur reported on Sunday.

In Khim of Kalikot District in Mid-western Development Region, some 400 kilometres west of capital Kathmandu, at least five died due to diarrhoea.

The death toll in the village due to the outbreak of diarrhoea has reached 76 in the last six months. The village is a three-day walk away from the district headquarters, Mamma.

Fifty two among the dead so far were children below eight. The only sub Health Post of the village and critical conditions is not ascertained.

Hundreds of people were displaced last year due to lack of agricultural production as draught hit this unfertile land.—MNA/Xinhua

Over 100 Bangladesh fishermen missing in storm

DHAKA, 24 Sept—More than 100 Bangladeshi fishermen were missing after at least 15 fishing boats sank in a storm in the Bay of Bengal, witnesses and officials said on Sunday.

The Chittagong Port authority issued an international maritime alert advising all ships and fishing boats to remain in shelters until further notice, said Syed Farhad Uddin, the secretary of Chittagong Port.

Bangladesh’s meteorological department said in a special weather bulletin that the monsoonal deep depression, which hit the

Bay of Bengal on Thursday night, was moving north-north-west and had reached India’s eastern coastal state of Orissa.—MNA/Reuters

China, Russia wind up exploration on border mountain

URUMQI, 24 Sept—Chinese and Russian scientists have accomplished a field research at the border mountain of Altai after over three years of hard work, which led to findings of new plant species.

Six botanists from Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and Russian State University of Altai carried out four field expeditions since the joint exploration was launched in 2004 with the approval of the National Natural Science Foundation (NNSF) of China.

After travelling across the low-lying and highland areas, river valleys and Siberian plains of the Altai Mountain, which borders China’s northwestern Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and Russia’s Siberia region, scientists discovered some 22 species that had never been discovered in China and eight others never seen in Russia among a collection of more than 20,000 pieces of plant specimen.

Before the joint investigation, only a Chinese scientist from CAS organized a field trip on the mountain within the Chinese territory in 1955, but the mountain remained rather unacquainted to many researchers in the past 50 years.

The latest joint expedition, the first and largest of its kind in terms of scale and duration, will help to find out the overall plant resources in the mountain area and facilitate joint biological protection and future developing efforts, officials with NNSF said.

Altai, also known as Golden Mountains, winds its way through China, Russia, Kazakhstan and Mongolia for over 2,000 kilometres, boasting more than 2,000 plant species, including 212 endemic and 17 endangered. The mountain range is also an important habitat for rare and endangered animal species such as the snow leopard.

MNA/Xinhua

Plane collision kills two in Poland

WARSAW, 24 Sept—Two light aircraft collided on Sunday in Poland, killing two people, the Polish News Agency reported.

The two planes, heading together from Grojec Airport in central Poland to nearby Pustow Airport, collided in the air. One plane landed with the pilot unhurt while the other crashed, killing two people on board.

Investigators have been sent to find out the cause of the accident.

MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua
Iranian President hits out at Israel, US

New York, 25 Sept — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad accused Israel of occupation and racism on Monday at the start of a visit to New York for the UN General Assembly meeting that has sparked protests and anger.

His comments came after he met leaders of an anti-Zionist Jewish group. Mainstream Jewish groups were among those who condemned an invitation by Columbia University for the Iranian leader to speak later on Monday at its World Leaders Forum.

“We do not recognize that regime (Israel) because it is based on occupation and racism. It constantly attacks its neighbours,” Ahmadinejad said in a video news conference on Monday morning. “It kills people. It drives people from their homes.”

He also took a swipe at the United States, saying: “We oppose the way the US Government tries to manage the world. We think this method is wrong. It leads to war, discrimination and bloodshed.”

“We think talk of war is a propaganda tool. People who talk to have to bring a legal reason for war,” he said.

Ahmadinejad on Monday morning met leaders of anti-Israel, Ahmadinejad, who has called for Israel to be wiped off the map, was denied a request to visit the World Trade Centre site of the 11 September attacks.

Ahmadinejad said in a video news conference from New York with the National Press Club in Washington, citing recent Israeli military action in Syria and Lebanon.

“Israel is a propaganda tool. It makes people talk,” Ahmadinejad said.

Strong quake hits Sumatra Island, no tsunami warning

Jakarta, 25 Sept — A powerful quake with magnitude of 6.0 hit Jambi Province of Sumatra Island on Monday, no tsunami warning was issued, according to Meteorology and Geophysics Agency here.

The quake struck at 15:15 Jakarta Time (0815 GMT) with epicentre at 225 kilometres southwest Sungai Penuh town of Jambi Province and at 30 kilometres under sea bed, an official of the agency named only Sutiyono told Xinhua.

The quake was felt at 2 to 3 MMI (modified metrically intensity) at the town and 2 MMI in Bengkulu Province, he said.

Indonesia is sit on a vulnerable quake-hit zone so called “the Pacific Ring of Fire”, where two continental plates meet causing frequent seismic and volcanic movements.

Models wear creations by Vietnamese fashion designer Hoang Xuan Son during Vietnam Collection Grand Prix 2007 in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 23 Sept, 2007. — INTERNET

Fukuda wins PM vote, to form new Cabinet

Tokyo, 25 Sept — Japan’s Yasuo Fukuda was chosen as Prime Minister by Parliament’s Lower House on Tuesday, ensuring him the nation’s top job and setting the stage to form a Cabinet that must confront a feisty opposition keen to force an election.

A worker walks past the National Grand Theatre in Beijing, on 22 Sept, 2007. China’s futuristic National Grand Theatre will carry out its first test show on 25 September. The first show, which is not open to the public, will be held to test the theatre’s equipment, according to Xinhua News Agency. — INTERNET

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) chose Fukuda, a 71-year-old seasoned moderate, as its leader to revive party fortunes after a disastrous year of scandals and election defeat under Shinzo Abe, who resigned abruptly on 12 September.

The bespectacled Fukuda, a proponent of warmer ties with Japan’s Asian neighbours, bowed and smiled after being voted in as prime minister by the Lower House, where the ruling camp has a huge majority.

In a sign of the battles ahead, the opposition-controlled Upper House was expected shortly after wards to vote for Ichiro Ozawa, leader of the main opposition Democratic Party, but the vote by the more powerful lower chamber takes precedence.

“(The LDP) may deceive the people or they may take makeshift measures, but this will not last long,” Democratic Party lawmaker Kenji Yamaoka told a news conference. “We feel strongly that a change in administration should take place as soon as possible.”

Fukuda, for his part, reiterated that he wanted to discuss policy matters with the Democrats and other opposition parties. “I want to have dignified discussions with the aim of protecting the people’s livelihoods and the national interests,” he told reporters.

US violent crime rises in 2006 with more murders

Washington, 25 Sept — The number of US violent crimes increased in 2006 for the second consecutive year, with more than 17,000 murders nationwide, the FBI said on Monday.

Criminal justice experts have blamed the crime increases on gangs, youth violence, more gun crimes and fewer police on the beat. The experts have been unsure whether the numbers for 2006 represent a temporary upswing or the start of a long-term trend.

The FBI reported an estimated 1.4 million violent crimes nationwide in 2006, an increase of nearly 2 per cent from the previous year. The number of murders committed last year increased by a similar amount from 2005.

An estimated 90 per cent of the murders last year occurred in metropolitan areas, and firearms were used in nearly 70 per cent, the FBI said.

Reacting to the latest statistics, Justice Department spokesman Brian Roehrkasse said that violent crime remained a challenge in some communities.

Residents of Somalia’s capital Mogadishu walk around the Bakara market, on 19 Sept, 2007. The market has been the scene of frequent mortar attacks and heavy gunfights. — INTERNET
learning Pariyatti under the supervision of the Sayadaw. When the protesters were not able to persuade the monks of the monastery they shouted noisily and threw water bottles at the monastery for many times.

They then left the monastery through Kyauk-kyisu Street. As the monk protesters and NLD members threw drinking water bottles at Kyakhatwaing Monastery, 12 window panes of Dakkhina, Ottara, Khemikayon and Khetga building were broken.

Regarding the incident, the Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw sent a letter of complaint to the Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council demanding action to be taken against the protesters. In the complaint letter, the Sayadaw says ‘if any monk who stole or destroyed others property worth 25 pyas (one-fourth of a kyat), it can be said that he has committed one of the four Parajika sins for which he was defrocked from the Buddhist order. So, all the monks who broke the glass committed Parajika sin’.

The Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw was able to keep over 1200 monks under his command and the supervisor Sayadaws followed the five-point Sangha’s manual, eight-point administrative law and other Sangha rules and regulations allowing no involvement in any protests.
Forestry Minister inspects factories in Kyaukse, Mandalay, Kandawgyi Garden in PyinOoLwin

Myanmar delegation attends coordination meeting on aid for trade

Workshop on conservation of environment on sea and coastal region and development held

MAWFA donates cash to Children’s Hospital and Workers’ Hospital

Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament continues
Mubarak voices deep regret over assassination in Lebanon

CAIRO, 25 Sept — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Sunday voiced deep regret over the recent assassination in Lebanon and called for peace and stability in the sisterly Arab country, the Egyptian official news agency MENA reported.

Mubarak, who made the remarks while touring youth housing projects in 6th October City in southwest of Cairo, expressed his hope that such kind of assassinations would stop and the stability would return to Lebanese life.

“Stop it please, for we have enough problems in Palestine, Iraq, Darfur and Somalia,” Mubarak was quoted as saying.

Earlier on Wednesday, Lebanese Christian lawmaker Antoine Ghanem was killed along with some others during an explosion in the Sin el-Fil District, a Christian suburb east of Beirut.

The explosion took place just a week before a Parliament meeting due on 25 September, during which a new head of state will be elected to replace the incumbent President Emile Lahoud.

As for the imminent presidential voting, the Egyptian President said that he hopes the Lebanese would be able to pick their own president.

Lebanon has been rocked by a series of assassinations in recent years. In June, a similar blast in Beirut killed lawmaker Walid Eid and nine others.

UNSG urges Iran to comply with work plan reached with IAEA

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Sept— UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Monday urged Iran to fully comply with the work plan it had reached with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

During his meeting with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who is attending the general debate of the 62nd session of the UN General Assembly, Ban urged Iran to fully comply with the work plan and to contribute to the implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions, according to a readout released by the spokesman’s office.

Iran and the IAEA agreed on 21 August on a working plan to clarify outstanding ambiguities over Teheran’s nuclear programme. However, some Western countries, including the United States, considered it as Iran’s fresh trick to delay UN sanctions.

At the meeting, the UN chief acknowledged Iran’s engagement in favour of peace and security in Afghanistan, and expressed his intention to visit Teheran at the earliest opportune moment at the invitation of Ahmadinejad.

Experts doubt EU plan to block bomb recipes on Web

LONDON, 25 Sept — A European Union proposal to stop people from accessing bomb-making instructions online is fraught with technical difficulties, if not downright unworkable, Internet practitioners say.

EU Justice and Security Commissioner Franco Frattini says he is working on plans that would block Web searches for bomb recipes and obligate Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to prevent access to sites containing them.

At present, crude bomb-making guides are readily available.

“I do intend to carry out a clear exploring exercise with the private sector...on how it is possible to use technology to prevent people from using or searching dangerous words like bomb, kill, genocide or terrorism,” Frattini told Reuters in an interview earlier this month.

Frattini is expected to present his proposals in the next few weeks as part of a package of anti-terrorism measures. They are likely to spur fierce debate over feasibility and cost.

Some in the Internet industry are adamant that such ideas are doomed to fail.

“They will not work because it doesn’t make sense to block something,” Harald Summa, chief executive of the association of German Internet enterprises, Elo, told Reuters.

“If you block it, probably the same content is available on a different site within a minute, so this doesn’t help.”

Other Web industry sources did not dismiss the EU idea out of hand but noted that the precedents are difficult.

Public transports encouraged in Helsinki on Car-Free Day

HELSEINKI, 25 Sept — The Finnish capital Helsinki on Saturday marked its 8th Car-Free Day with a series of activities designed to encourage people to use public transports and reduce traffic jams in the downtown area.

Two of the main streets downtown were closed to traffic on the day from 9 am to 7 pm and discount tickets were offered to bus takers.

Environmental campaigners were out on the street, advocating less driving and more cycling or walking.

The Car-Free Day activity, initiated by France on 22 September, 1998, is now celebrated in over 1,500 cities around the world to save the environment.

Current terror threat in France “indisputably” greater

PARIS, 25 Sept — The bomb attacks in Algeria has “indisputably” raised the level of terrorist threat in France, according to Frederic Pechenard, director general of French national police.

“We do not want to make people panic, but the threat is high today,” warned Pechenard during an interview on Sunday with the weekly newspaper Journal du Dimanche.

Terrorist threat is greater. One reason is France is currently involved in Afghanistan, and the other reason is Algeria, which is just next door to France, is experiencing a difficult period, the national police chief said.

Commuters on Interstate 66 in Fairfax, Virginia, drive under an Ozone alert, in May 2007. Nearly 200 countries have agreed to accelerate the elimination of chemicals that threaten the ozone and exacerbate global warming, the United Nations Environmental Programme announced on Saturday.—INTERNET
US arrests over 120 in biggest steroids crackdown

WASHINGTON, 25 Sept — More than 120 individuals have been arrested in the United States on federal charges in the largest steroids crackdown ever, the Justice Department said on Monday.

Department officials said the arrests stemmed from “Operation Raw Deal,” a nearly two-year international investigation targeting the illegal manufacturing and trafficking of anabolic steroids and the raw materials, mainly from China, used to make the performance-enhancing drugs.

The investigation also targeted the human growth hormone and the insulin growth factor markets, they said. The US operation coincided with enforcement actions in Mexico, Canada, China, Belgium, Australia, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Thailand.

Anabolic steroids aid muscle tissue build-up and are popular with bodybuilders but can cause damage to the heart and liver. Since the investigation began in December 2005, 143 search warrants have been carried out on targets around the United States, resulting in the seizure of 56 steroid labs and of 533 pounds (242 kilos) of raw steroid powder of Chinese origin, the officials said.

20 injured in tram collision in Australia

CANBERRA, 25 Sept — Two trams collided in inner Melbourne, southeast Australia, Monday morning, injuring about 20 people.

One tram derailed after the collision at the intersection of St Kilda Road and Leopold Street in South Yarra of Melbourne, capital of the state of Victoria, AustralianAssociatedPress reported.

Ambulance officers were at the scene treating the injured. A number of Metropolitan Fire Brigade officers, police and Yarra Trams officials also were at the scene.

The accident caused disruption to the tram transportation, with trams between Domain Interchange, St Kilda Road and St Kilda station being detoured.

Two people were trapped, they were being attended to by ambulance officers, police and Yarra Trams officials.

The only person trapped was the driver of the rear tram, the No 6 tram. Both (trams) were heading towards the city or the (Melbourne) University,” he said.

The intelligence the Mexican Embassy was about a possible terrorist bomb attack. Thus the police have reinforced security at major subway stations and public facilities across Seoul and will continue to conduct the search operations,” said the Sampa. — MNA/Xinhua

Developed nations urged to take lead in reducing emissions after 2012

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Sept — Developed countries should continue to take the lead in reducing greenhouse gas emissions after 2012 when the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol expires, Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said on Monday.

Speaking at the thematic plenary on adaptation of the UN High Level Event on Climate Change, Yang said that the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities” should be adhered to in global efforts to address the challenges of climate change.

Developed countries should meet their emission reduction targets set in the Kyoto Protocol, help developing countries build capacity in tackling climate change and continue to take the lead in reducing emissions after 2012, he said.

Developing countries should also take proactive measures and control the growth of greenhouse gas emissions to the best of their ability and in keeping with their particular conditions, he noted.

The top Chinese diplomat stressed that the basic framework established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) must be upheld and the convention, which has played a leading role in global cooperation in climate change, should continue to serve as the framework for future cooperation.

Mitigation, adaptation, financing and technology, being all important means in addressing climate change, should receive equal attention, Yang said.

It is necessary to increase financial assistance and technology transfer to developing countries. But in doing so, one should not put undue emphasis on the role of the market mechanism, he added.

— MNA/Xinhua

Seoul police tighten security amid bomb threat

SEOUL, 25 Sept — Seoul’s local police forces were on temporary alert early Monday after receiving alleged foreign intelligence regarding a possible bombing of several subway stations in the city, the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency (SMPA) said on Monday.

According to the SMPA, the police was tipped off by the Mexican Embassy in South Korea at 9-40 pm Sunday (1240 GMT Sunday) about the possible plot to blow up subway stations in the Yeeoeudo District.

The SMPA mobilized hundreds of special policemen and five bomb-sniffing dogs to conduct an intensive search of all four subway stations and major public buildings in Yeeoeudo until early Monday morning but did not find any sign of a bomb, the police said.

“The intelligence from the Mexican Embassy was about a possible terrorist bomb attack. Thus the police have reinforced security at major subway stations and public facilities across Seoul and will continue to conduct the search operations,” said the SMPA. — MNA/Xinhua

Isuzu recalls 3,000 minibuses in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 25 Sept — Japanese diesel car maker Isuzu recalled 3,000 minibuses sold in Indonesia due to a potential faulty in the braking system, local Press said Monday.

The recall affects minibuses manufactured from October 2006 through July 2007, reported leading economic daily Bisnis Indonesia.

Local subsidiary PT Pantja Motor said the company had discovered imperfect installation of a component in the brake master cylinder that could potentially reduce braking capacity by up to 30 per cent.

The recall reportedly affected similar vehicles sold in Vietnam and the Philippines, the daily said.— MNA/Xinhua

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon opens the United Nations High-level Event on Climate Change at the United Nations General Assembly, in New York, on 24 Sept, 2007. — INTERNET
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV XIANFENG VOY NO (7053)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANFENG VOY NO (7053) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.9.2007 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.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Zambia, IOC to sign sports complex agreement
LUSAKA, 24 Sept—Zambia and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) will sign an agreement here next Wednesday, under which a multi-purpose sports complex will be built in Lusaka, according to Sunday Times of Zambia.

After a board meeting held Saturday in Ndola, the capital of Copperbelt Province, general secretary of the National Olympic Committee of Zambia (NOCZ) Hazel Kennedy said that IOC director for international cooperation and development Thomas Sithole will sign the deal on behalf of the IOC. Kennedy said NOCZ is looking forward to construction work beginning for the multi-million dollars complex, dubbed “sport for hope.”

The Complex will give 5 million US dollars for the complex and the remaining 5 million dollars will come from other international sports bodies.

She said the preparations for the 2011 All-Africa Games which Zambia will host, will begin on Wednesday with a meeting to brainstorm on the formation of an organizing committee.

MNA/Xinhua
Tanzania gets one more woman
commercial pilot

DAE-ES-SALAAM, 24 Sept — With four stripes on her epauletts, Lulu Malima has become yet another woman commercial pilot in Tanzania.

The 28-year-old now flies an 18-seater Twin Otter plane for the Regional Air Services which is based in Arusha of northern Tanzania.

A Regional Air Services statement said on Saturday that Lulu had attended a flying school in South Africa and was first employed by the Regional Air Services in 2006 as a first officer with three stripes.

“She has been through our training programme,” said the statement, “and has come out the other side with four stripes”.

Regional Air Services is a Kenya-registered airline company that operates scheduled flights in northern Tanzania.

Tanzania now has several woman pilots and are training a few more for both commercial and military fleets.

Betty Olotu is the country’s first woman pilot who flew a 32-seater Fokker Friendship plane for the Air Tanzania Corporation back in the 1980s.

Study: Acupuncture works for back pain

CHICAGO, 24 Sept — Fake acupuncture works nearly as well as the real thing for low back pain, and either kind performs much better than usual care, German researchers have found. Almost half the patients treated with acupuncture needles felt relief that lasted months. In contrast, only about a quarter of the patients receiving medications and other Western medical treatments felt better.

Even fake acupuncture worked better than conventional care, leading researchers to wonder whether pain relief came from the body’s reactions to any thin needle pricks or, possibly, the placebo effect.

“Acupuncture represents a highly promising and effective treatment option for chronic back pain,” study co-author Dr Heinz Endres of Ruhr University Bochum in Bochum, Germany, said in an e-mail.

“Patients experienced not only reduced pain intensity, but also reported improvements in the disability that often results from back pain and therefore in their quality of life.” Although the study was not designed to determine how acupuncture works, Endres said, its findings are in line with a theory that pain messages to the brain can be blocked by competing stimuli.

Positive expectations the patients held about acupuncture— or negative expectations about conventional medicine— also could have led to a placebo effect and explain the findings, he said.

After six months, patients answered questions about pain and functional ability and their scores determined how well each of the therapies worked.

Dr Brian Berman, the University of Maryland’s director of complementary medicine, said the real and the sham acupuncture may have worked for reasons that can be explained in Western terms: by changing the way the brain processes pain signals or by releasing natural painkillers in the body.

In the study, the conventional treatment included many methods: painkillers, injections, physical therapy, massage, heat therapy or other treatments.

Illegal use of hydrogen leads
to balloon blast in N-W China

LANZHOU, 24 Sept — Balloon provider had illegally used highly combustible hydrogen in balloons that exploded last Sunday injuring nearly 100 students at a north-west China school, local authorities said on Saturday.

A local company that provided the balloons is responsible for the incident, according to the Gansu provincial Bureau of Work Safety. The firm filled the balloons with hydrogen in stead of helium as required, resulting in the blast, when the students were holding a celebration event.

The use of hydrogen in balloons violated regulations passed by the central government, said Yang Yucheng, an official in charge of policy and regulations with the provincial Meteorological Bureau.
Mike Tyson pleads guilty to drug possession

MESA (Ariz), 25 Sept — Former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson pleaded guilty to drug possession and driving under the influence in an Arizona court on Monday.

He now faces up to three years and nine months in prison for the felony possession charge and up to six months in jail for the misdemeanor DUI count. The 41-year-old boxer is scheduled to be sentenced on 19 November.

Dressed in a light blue shirt and dark blue trousers during a brief appearance in Maricopa County Superior Court, a somber Tyson quickly answered a series of questions by the judge about the plea agreement, responding, “guilty” when asked how he pleaded to each count.

Tyson was arrested in 29 December in Scottsdale, Arizona, after being spotted driving erratically upon leaving a nightclub and nearly colliding with a sheriff’s vehicle, authorities said.

Tyson, who has a long history of legal problems, admitted to using cocaine that day and to being addicted to the drug.

He now faces up to three years and nine months in prison for the felony possession charge and up to six months in jail for the misdemeanor DUI count. The 41-year-old boxer is scheduled to be sentenced on 19 November.

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Corinthians coach leaves after seven games

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 Sept — Ze Augusto became the third coach to leave struggling Corinthians this year when he quit the job on Monday after only seven games in charge.

Corinthians said in a statement that Ze Augusto had left by mutual consent and would return to his previous employment with the youth teams.

He had initially been appointed as caretaker coach to replace Paulo Cesar Carpegiani, who was fired last month, but was given the job on a long-term basis after a 2-0 win over Santos in his second game.

Corinthians, one of Brazil’s biggest and most volatile clubs, quickly changed their minds after a run of four successive defeats, culminating with Sunday’s loss to arch-rivals Palmeiras which left them in the Brazilian championship relegation zone.

Former Brazil goalkeeper Emerson Leao began the year in the hot seat and was replaced by Carpegiani in March.

Brazil, where the season runs from February to December, has one of the highest turnover of coaches in the world and Ze Augusto became the 33rd casualty of the season among the 20 First Division clubs.

The former Argentina forward Ariel Ortega was dismissed in the 85th minute for a second yellow card and substitute Rene Lima was ordered off in stoppage time for pushing an opponent after only three minutes on the field.

Chilean international striker Sanchez, 18, went off after only seven minutes with an injury to his left ankle and team doctor Luis Seveso said first indications were he had suffered ligament damage.

Without their new signing from Colo Colo, who has been an instant hit at the club, River slumped to their first defeat against Tigre since 1947.

Roman Martinez opened the scoring after nine minutes, Matias Gimenez scored the second on the hour and Paraguayan striker Nestor Ayala added two more.

Marco Ruben, Sanchez’s replacement, replied for Daniel Passarella’s team in the 66th minute.

River, enduring their longest title drought since 2007, dropped from third to seventh as the Apertura championship passed the halfway mark.

Prosecutor wants Inter, AC Milan executives tried

MILAN, 25 Sept — An Italian prosecutor has asked a judge to order the president of Inter and the vice president of AC Milan to stand trial for possible false accounting, a judicial source said on Monday.

Inter’s Massimo Moratti and Milan’s Adriano Galliani were placed under investigation in January as part of a probe into suspected false accounting in Serie A football.

A judicial source told Reuters in January that Milan public prosecutor Carlo Nocerino was investigating whether clubs had manipulated their balance sheets by inflating the prices of players they bought and sold.

Both Inter and Milan have rejected any claims of financial irregularity.

The prosecutor also asked for the vice president of Inter, Rinaldo Gheffi, and the club’s former chief executive, Mauro Gambauro, to be ordered to stand trial.

That request, which in Italy does not indicate guilt and does not necessarily lead to criminal charges, will now be examined by a judge.

The Milan prosecutor has questioned whether Inter could have passed the financial tests required to take part in the 2004-2005 Serie A season without improperly adjusting its accounts.

Tennis player Melo handed two-month drugs ban

LONDON, 25 Sept — Brazilian doubles specialist Marcelo Melo has been banned for two months after failing a drugs test, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) said on Monday.

The 24-year-old, who reached the men’s semifinals at Wimbledon with compatriot Andre Sa, tested positive for the banned stimulant isometheptene at Queen’s Club in June.

“The ITF found that there had been no intent on the part of Mr Melo to enhance his sporting performance by the taking of isometheptene and therefore... determined that Mr. Melo should be suspended for a period of two months,” the ruling body said in a statement.

The suspension was backdated to 10 September and will end on November 9. — MNA/Reuters

Rome police arrest 66 armed Lazio fans

Rome, 25 Sept — Italian police have arrested 66 fans of Rome soccer team Lazio, some of them armed with knives, machetes, clubs and knuckle-dusters, in a major crackdown on football hooligans.

Police told a news conference on Monday that the fans had been stopped on Sunday as they set off for a Serie A match against Atalanta in Bergamo. They were later released from custody pending possible charges.

“We managed to avoid the worst of it,” said Lamberto Giannini, head of the special police unit that carried out the arrests.

Italian soccer has been beset by crowd trouble in recent years and is still recovering from the death of a police officer at a Serie A game in Catania in February.

River have 2 sent off, Sanchez injured in 4-1 defeat

BUENOS AIRES, 24 Sept — River Plate’s unhappy season continued when they had two players sent off and lost teenage striker Alexis Sanchez to injury in a 4-1 defeat at promoted Tigre on Sunday.

Former Argentina forward Ariel Ortega was dismissed in the 85th minute for a second yellow card and substitute Rene Lima was ordered off in stoppage time for pushing an opponent after only three minutes on the field.

Norwegian women soccer players train during a training session at the 2007 FIFA Women’s World Cup soccer tournament in Tianjin, China, on Monday, 24 Sept, 2007. Norway plays Germany in the first semi-final on Wednesday. —INTERNET

Oxana Slivenko of Russia celebrates after completing a lift in the women’s 69kg clean and jerk at the world weightlifting championships in Chiang Mai on 24 Sept, 2007. INTERNET

Venezuela’s Alexander Munoz (L) punches Japan’s Kuniyuki Aizawa during their WBA World Super Flyweight boxing title match in Tokyo on 24 Sept, 2007. —INTERNET

Ivo Karlovic of Croatia returns a shot to Feliciano Lopez of Spain during their first round match at the Thailand Open tennis tournament in Bangkok on 25 Sept, 2007. INTERNET
ASLEEP IN JESUS
Mr. JP Maneckshaw @ U Hla Hoon
(85) Years
Son of (Mr. P. Maneckshaw-Daw Khin), beloved husband of (Daw Yin Myat), devoted father of (Daw Saw Yin Myat), devoted husband of (Daw Saw Yin Myat), and uncle of Mr. JP Maneckshaw.

Wednesday, 26 September 2007

Tuesday, 25 September, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, Southwest monsoon has withdrawn from the Deltaic areas. Rain or thunderstorms have been fairly widespread in Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States, isolated in Karen, Kayin and Mon States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Kayah (0.82 inch), Heho (0.67 inch), Taunggyi (0.55 inch) and Sitwaddy (0.47 inch).

Maximum temperature on 24-9-2007 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 25-9-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 25-9-2007 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 24-9-2007 was (3.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 25-9-2007 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, (0.23) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.20) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (122.84) inches at Mingaladon, (127.87) inches at Kaba-Aye and (133.31) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (15) mph from Southwest at (16:30) hours MST on 24-9-2007.

Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy in the North Bay and Central Bay and monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Special feature: According to observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the tropical storm "Francisco" over the South China Sea has downsized into tropical depression and reached over the Gulf of Tonkin. It is centred at about (170) miles Southeast of Hanoi (Vietnam) and is forecast to move Westward.

Forecast valid until evening of 26-9-2007: Weather will be partly cloudy in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions and rain or thunderstorms will be isolated in Kachin, Chin and Kayah States, upper Sagar, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, scattered in Shan, Rakhine and Kayin and Yangon Division and fairly widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%) in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (90%) in the State of the sea: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 26-9-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 26-9-2007: Isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 26-9-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (40%).

WEATHER
According to the (06:30)hr MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady river at Hinthada (1423) cm is exceeded (81) cm above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (1342) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

FLOOD BULLETIN
(issued at 12:30 hr MST on 25-9-2007)

Weather forecast for 26-9-2007
Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas
Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).
Yangon and neighbouring areas
Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Mandalay and neighbouring areas
Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Noteworthy of rainfall
Kawthoung (0.82) inch
Heho (0.67) inch
Taunggyi (0.55) inch
Sittway (0.47) inch

A foreign radio station that always broadcasts exaggerated and made-up stories, in an interview about Pakokku monks’ movement said that it would like monk activists of Mandalay to continue the ongoing movement; and that it would like to urge monks of Mandalay to participate in the movement, thereby accelerating the movement through instigation.

In addition, certain elements are giving calls to some prominent monks residing in the regions in upper Myanmar and lower Myanmar to persuade them to express their support for the movement and allow the monk activists to take part in the protest walks.

Nonetheless, the majority of members of the Sangha who want to lead a peaceful life to carry out religious duties oppose the instigation of internal and external destructive elements and foreign radio stations to cause mass protests and unrest in Myanmar. And the majority of the people are opposed to such activities due to the fact that there will be adverse effects on their work, businesses, and social affairs if the nation faces instability, unrest and violent acts.