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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

**Four political objectives**

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

**True patriotism**

- It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

**Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to King of Cambodia**

**NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov —** On the occasion of the 54th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2007, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia. — MNA

**Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein**

**NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov —** At the invitation of Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, a Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein on his departure for the Lao PDR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was seen off by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe at Nay Pyi Taw Airport, here, at 9 am today.

Together with Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of the SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Members of the SPDC Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ve Myint, Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hnin, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Senior Military (See page 8)

**For education promotion and human resources in border areas**

The people have to do their bit in implementing the entire people’s ultimate goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline, upholding the State’s objectives and Our Three Main National Causes. — PAGE 7

**UNSG’s special adviser Mr Gambari arrived in Myanmar on 3 November to pay second visit in 2007**

**NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov —** Myanmar not only practises a foreign policy of extending friendly relations with regional and global countries but also regards cooperation with the United Nations as an important part of its foreign policy. Mr Gambari, the special adviser to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, paid his first visit to Myanmar from 29 September to 2 October. He arrived (See page 10)

**Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.**
Self-reliant village libraries broaden the horizons of rural people  

The number of self-reliant village libraries across the nation is growing. Knowledge that is gained by reading books from libraries can make a significant contribution towards improving the living standards of the people. So, the government has placed emphasis on establishment of more and more libraries.

Development of human resources and high education standard of the people lies in the heart of building a modern and developed nation. Only with human resources and people’s high education standard, will it be possible for the nation to pick up development momentum. Mobilizing the participation of local people, libraries are being opened extensively not only in cities but also in rural areas.

Out of 61,949 villages across the nation, more than 50,000 have got self-reliant libraries so far. The achievement is largely due to three strengths namely the State, local people and wellwishers.

In the Age of Knowledge, the establishment of self-reliant village libraries enhances post-literacy campaigns, and those who love reading and literate adults can do reading continuously. Moreover, that can broaden the horizons of the people and contribute to the agriculture, livestock and health sectors.

Therefore, regional social organizations, the people and service personnel have to make sustained efforts for the progress of the village libraries so as to widen the horizons of rural folks.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein felicitates Cambodian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 54th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2007, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia. — MNA

People of Kawthoung in Taninthayi Division and Langkho in Shan State (South) denounce recent protests

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Nov — People of Kawthoung in Taninthayi Division and Langkho in Shan State who favour peace and stability of the State, the rule of law and community peace and tranquillity on 24 October and 3 November walked in procession in their townships concerned by expressing their desire to denounce the September protests as they believed that the protests that occurred in September were aimed at harming peace and security of the people.

They walked in procession in accord with the law after seeking permission from the authorities concerned.

Over 10,000 residents in Kawthoung Township of Taninthayi Division holding placards and shouting slogans walked in procession and expressed their desire in the township on 24 October.

On 3 November, some 8,000 people of Langkho Township in Shan State (South) holding placards that read “Support the State Constitution”, “We favour stability” written in both Myanmar and Shan languages and shouting slogans walked in procession and expressed their desire in the township. — MNA

Local people of Kawthoung Township express their desire to denounce recent protests. — MNA

UMFCCI officials meet German guests

YANGON, 8 Nov — Joint-General Secretary of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Tun Aung, Central Executive Committee members U Tun Kyi and U Tin Ko Ko, Executives Dr Thin Nwe Win, U Paw Hein and U Aung Khin Myint met Managing Director of AKA Bank in Frankfurt Dr Hans Jeorg Todt and official of Ostastatischer Verein e.V Hamburg Dr Monika Staerk of German Asia-Pacific Business Association of Germany, here, this afternoon.

At the meeting, they discussed promotion of mutual trade between the two countries, opportunities to invest in energy and industrial sectors and exchange of economic information. — MNA
Tourists visit the Giza pyramids in Cairo, capital of Egypt on 7 Nov, 2007. Egyptian Minister of Tourism Zohier Garranah said that over 10 million tourists of various nationalities would visit Egypt in 2007. The ministry’s plan was to boost the competitiveness of Egypt’s tourist sites through improving services extended to tourists. —Xinhua

Train collides with bus in central Thailand killing three

BANGKOK, 8 Nov—A bus fell into a ditch after it collided with a train in Thailand’s central province of Samut Sakhon on Tuesday afternoon, killing three aboard the bus, rescuers said.

The mini bus of the Sunflower Kindergarten, was rushing to across the railway near Thung Si Thong Station in Bang Nam Fue District while a Bangkok-bound train collided with it.

The bus fell into a nearby ditch after the crash. Witnesses said half of the bus has plunged into water.

Rescuers from the local emergency organization told local FM 100 Traffic Radio that at least two three-year-old girls and a baby-sitter on the bus was killed on the spot.

The driver of the bus was severely injured in the accident and was rushed to a nearby hospital. —Xinhua

C American nations warn against AIDS among young people

MANAGUA, 8 Nov— Central American nations clinched an agreement on Tuesday aimed at stepping up measures to rein in the spread of HIV and AIDS in the region, especially among young people.

Central American nations have made “limited and sporadic” progress in terms of curbing the spread of HIV/AIDS, said the agreement after a three-day regional AIDS meeting concluded in the Nicaraguan capital, Managua. The fifth Central American Conference on AIDS opened on Sunday under the theme “For Equality, Diversity and Non-discrimination”.

The countries in the region are required to honour their commitments and put into effect related policies in favour of AIDS patients, and prevent the spread of the virus especially among young people, according to the agreement.

Central America is experiencing the highest HIV and AIDS rates in Latin America, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) said Monday in a statement.

The official figure shows that there are 1.7 million people with HIV/AIDS in Latin America and the Caribbean region, of whom 750,000 are under 24. In Central America, there are 210,000 people living with HIV/AIDS.

“At 2010 the Central American epidemic could reach an infection rate of 2 per cent in the adult population,” UNAIDS said.

During the meeting, representatives from Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala signed a joint declaration on education of AIDS prevention.

MNA/Xinhua

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

UN expert urges France, Chad to probe children case

GENEVA, 8 Nov—A UN expert on child trafficking urged the French and Chadian authorities on Tuesday to make full investigations into an attempt by a French NGO to transfer 103 children from Chad to France for alleged adoption.

“I call upon both Chadian and French authorities to fully investigate and shed light about the circumstances surrounding the capture of the children,” said Juan Miguel Petit, the UN special rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

Some members of the French NGO, named Arche de Zoe, were arrested in Chad on 25 October, following its alleged attempt to abduct and transfer 103 children to France for alleged adoption.

MNA/Xinhua

Brazilian police arrest 34 death squad members

BRASILIA, 8 Nov—Brazilian police on Tuesday arrested 34 suspected members of death squads allegedly responsible for hundreds of murders in the country, detectives said. The arrests took place in the laboatoa dos Guararapes region of the northeastern Brazilian state of Pernambuco, police said. The detainees included police officers, soldiers, business people and lawyers.

The death squads have killed street children, the homeless, thieves and people who are deemed a menace to society. Human rights organizations said they also targeted union members, students and rural workers.

MNA/Xinhua

At least seven dead in Finland school shooting

TUUSULA (Finland), 8 Nov—At least seven people died when a gunman opened fire at a school in southern Finland on Wednesday, hours after a video was posted on YouTube predicting a school massacre.

A teacher at Jokela High School told Reuters the gunman was one of its pupils. “At this moment its seven (deaths) or more, higher,” Dr Eero Hirvensalo, the head of the medical response team, told Reuters.

The YouTube video, set to hard-driving music, shows a still photo of a school that appears to be Jokela High School. The photo then fragments to reveal a red-tinted picture of a man pointing a gun at the camera.

Three people were wounded in the shooting, according to early reports.

MNA/Reuters

A giant turtle is seen while sunbathing on an islet in Hanoi lake, on 5 Nov, 2007. A mystical giant turtle crawled out of a Hanoi lake this week to sunbathe, one of its longest recorded appearances in recent years. —Xinhua

Destroyed houses are seen in San Juan de Grijalva, Mexico, on 7 Nov, 2007. A landslide crashed down on San Juan Grijalva, home to about 600 people on Sunday night. Residents said they were awakened by a loud rumbling as mud and rocks rolled down from surrounding hillslopes. —INTERNET
Schwarzenegger orders review of California wildfire response

LOS ANGELES, 8 Nov—California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger ordered on Tuesday a special panel to examine the state’s response to last month’s devastating wildfires, which had destroyed more than 2,000 homes during a week-long rampage.

The Blue Ribbon task force on wildfires, made up of fire officials and other experts, would study how the state could do better to battle fires and whether authorities should allow home and business construction in fire-prone areas.

The panel, which was set up in 2003 after wildfires destroyed thousands of homes in Southern California, would make recommendations to ensure the improvement of the state’s future fire response, Schwarzenegger’s spokesman Aaron McLeer said.

“The governor believes the state did a great job in its response to the fires, but we should always be asking ourselves what additional steps we need to take to do even better,” said the spokesman.

More than 20 wildfires, some started by grounded power lines in extremely dry, windy weather conditions, raged across Southern California out of control two weeks ago, threatening neighbourhoods in many mountain areas and forcing hundreds of thousands of people to flee their homes.

Canada Defence boss caught in Afghan rocket attack

OTTAWA, 7 Nov—Canadian Defence Minister Peter MacKay had a narrow escape while visiting Afghanistan on Tuesday as rocket landed near him, Peter MacKay had a narrow escape while visiting Afghanistan on Tuesday as rocket landed near him, CBC television said that within minutes of the attack a Black Hawk helicopter evacuated MacKay to safety at the Kandahar air base.

Gunmen kill provincial council member in northern Iraq

MOSUL (Iraq), 7 Nov—Unidentified gunmen shot dead a member of the provincial council of Nineveh in the provincial capital of Mosul on Tuesday, a police source said.

“Aref Yousif Qunber, the Nineveh council member and chairman of the council’s culture and information committee, was killed when gunmen in two cars intercepted his convoy in northeastern Mosul on his way to work in the morning,” Brigadier Abdul Kareem al-Jubouri, head of the provincial police operation, told Xinhua.

One of Qunber’s bodyguards was also killed in the attack and another was wounded, Jubouri added.

Qunber is a key local leader for the Supreme Islamic Iraqi Council, headed by the powerful Shiite leader Abdul Aziz al-Hakim.

Qunber’s death brings the number of the council’s members killed in the province to 13 since its establishment in 2005.

Mosul, some 400 kilometres north of Baghdad, has long been the hotbed of insurgency since the US-led invasion broke out in 2003.

Flood death toll in Vietnam rises to 70

HANOI, 7 Nov—Floods, which have hit Vietnam’s central region since 29 October, have killed 60 local people and left 10 others missing, according to the Central Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Prevention on Tuesday.

Of the total fatalities, 13 were reported in Phu Yen Province, 10 in the provinces of Binh Dinh and Quang Ngai each, and nine in Quang Nam Province.

To minimize human losses, nearly 80,700 people have been evacuated from the flooded localities, said the committee.

The Central Hydro-meteorology Forecast Centre said a new wave of floods could hit the region in the next two to three days, because typhoon Peipah with wind speed of 103-117 kilometres per hour is forecast to hit the region and cause torrential rain.

Natural disasters, including typhoons and hails, killed 339 people, left 274 people missing, and injured 2,065 others in Vietnam in 2006.

The estimated losses totalled 18.6 trillion Vietnamese dong (nearly 1.2 billion US dollars) in the year.
ECONOMIC NEWS

Dubai Co acquires first airport handling business in Europe

Abu Dhabi, 8 Nov — Dnata, a Dubai-based air travel services provider, has acquired the Swiss-based Jet Aviation Handling, which represents its first airport handling business in Europe, local newspaper Khaleej Times reported on Wednesday.

The acquisition of Jet Aviation Handling, the airport handling division of Switzerland’s leading business aviation services company Jet Aviation Group, is Dnata’s third new airport handling acquisition in 2007 following the recent announcements of joint ventures in Australia and China, the report said.

With the acquisition of Jet Aviation Handling, Dnata now has airport handling operations at 16 airports in six countries, including Australia, Singapore, China, Pakistan, the Philippines as well as the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

“Jet Aviation Handling provides quality service to its airline customers in Switzerland and will be a perfect fit with our businesses in Dubai, Singapore, Australia and elsewhere,” Dnata’s Vice-President Stewart Angus said.

Jet Aviation Handling provides airline and cargo handling to over 60 airlines at Zurich and Geneva international airports in Switzerland. It offers the full-range of handling activities including passenger services, lounge, baggage, ramp, load control, communications, cargo and station control.

EU to make huge investment in Northern Ireland

Brussels, 8 Nov — The European Commission adopted on Tuesday three programmes involving investment in Northern Ireland as part of Cohesion policy for 2007-2013 to support its peace and reconciliation process.

The European Union’s investment worth 724 million euros (about 1.03 billion US dollars) will be made available through the three programmes — the PEACE III programme, the cross-border cooperation programme with Ireland and Scotland, and the Regional Competitiveness and Employment programme for the province, a news release from the EU said.

ExxonMobil builds second petrochemical plant in S’pore

Singapore, 7 Nov — The American petrochemicals giant ExxonMobil started building its second petrochemical plant in Singapore on Tuesday.

The project is expected to come on-stream in early 2011. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Jurong Island, next to the company’s existing petrochemical project.

The new petrochemical project will produce one million ton-a-year of ethylene, and 450,000 ton-a-year of polypropylene, as well as 300,000 tons of specialty elastomers.

Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said at the ceremony that ExxonMobil’s decision to embark on its second chemical plant here reflects its confidence that Singapore will continue to provide a stable and conducive business environment over the long-term. He also pointed out that it will further boost to the city-state’s position as a regional chemical industrial base for the world’s leading players.

The output of the entire chemicals cluster is now 74 billion Singapore dollars (about 51 billion US dollars).

UAE airline enters into partnership with Australian carrier

Abu Dhabi, 8 Nov — Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), has entered into a partnership with the Australia-based carrier Virgin Blue to provide its customers with access to more destinations in Australia, local newspaper Gulf News reported on Wednesday.

The agreement will enable Etihad’s customers to travel seamlessly from Abu Dhabi in its flights to both Sydney and Brisbane and then connect on to 22 cities across Australia, the report said. “The close cooperation with Virgin Blue will enhance significantly the travel experience and potential destinations for our customers flying to Australia,” Etihad’s CEO James Hogan said.

“Etihad strives to make as many global destinations available to our customers whether it is opening up new routes of our own or through strategic interline agreements with other airlines, such as the Virgin Blue deal,” he added.

With about 32 per cent of Australia’s domestic market, Virgin Blue is currently the second largest airline in the country and the third most profitable low-cost airline in the world. — MNA/Xinhua

The Frozen Haute Chocolate is unveiled at the Serendipity-3 restaurant in New York on 7 Nov, 2007 after Guinness World Records researchers determined the 25,000 US dollars frozen hot chocolate was the most expensive dessert in the world. — Xinhua

Indonesia boosts economy in small medium enterprises

Jakarta, 8 Nov — Indonesia increased the role of small and medium enterprises in boosting economy, Indonesian Minister said here on Tuesday.

State Minister for Small and Medium Enterprises, and Cooperation Surya Dharma Ali made the statement after meeting with Indonesian Vice-President Jusuf Kalla at the presidential office here.

The Minister said that the government decided to initially provide 1.6 trillion rupiah (some 800 US dollars) to develop or build their business, he said.

Critics appear that the government increased business for small medium enterprises in boosting Indonesia’s economy in the future.

A visitor looks at a hybrid car named ‘Shanghai’ on display at the China International Industry Fair on 7 Nov, 2007, in Shanghai, China. — Internet

The New Light of Myanmar Friday, 9 November, 2007

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 9 November, 2007
US Congress sets ultimatum on subpoenas for White House

WASHINGTON, 7 Nov— The US Congress offered the White House one last chance Monday to comply with subpoenas for documents and testimony from Chief of Staff Josh Bolten and former White House Counsel Harriet Miers.

“I have written to you on eight previous occasions attempting to reach agreement on this matter,” House Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers Jr (D-Mich.) wrote in a letter Monday to White House Counsel Fred Fielding.

Conyers said he was seeking to resolve the conflict one last time even as he filed a contempt citation with the House.

“As we submit the committee’s contempt report to the full House, I am writing one more time to the White House one last time even as we file a contempt resolution,” he wrote Conyers.

Conyers asked the House clerk Monday at 2 pm.

Bolten and Miers were subpoenaed earlier this year as part of the Congress’ ongoing investigation into the US attorney firings.

The Conyers letter is the 9th in a series asking President George W Bush to respond to the subpoenas. The Judiciary Committee passed contempt resolutions against Miers and Bolten at the end of July after they did not respond to subpoenas issued earlier this year.

— MNA/Xinhua

New versions of curry ingredient to fight cancer

HONG KONG, 8 Nov— Scientists in Japan have created two synthetic versions of an ingredient in curry that is noted for its potential to fight cancer.

Some studies have suggested that curcumin, the yellowish component in turmeric that gives curry its flavour, can suppress tumours and that people who eat lots of curry may be less prone to the disease. However, curcumin loses its anti-cancer attributes quickly when ingested.

The scientists wrote in the latest issue of Molecular Cancer Therapeutics that they had synthesised two variations — GO-Y030 and GO-Y031 — which have proved more potent and lasting than natural curcumin. They tested them in mice with colorectal cancer and found that they worked far better.

“Our new analogues (synthetic versions) have enhanced anti-growth suppressive abilities against colorectal cancer cell lines, up to 30 times greater than natural curcumin,” said Huyoshi Shibata, associate professor at Tohoku University’s Institute of Development, Ageing and Cancer.

“In a mouse model for colorectal cancer, mice fed with five milligrammes of GO-Y030 or GO-Y031 fared 42 and 51 per cent better, respectively, than did mice in the control group.”

Like curcumin, the two synthetic versions may be able to fight other cancers, such as gastric cancer and cancer of the breast, pancreas and lung, they added.

— MNA/Xinhua

Nigeria sues tobacco firms for $44b in damages

ABUJA, 8 Nov— Nigeria has filed a suit against three tobacco companies seeking $3.4 trillion naira (44 billion US dollars) in damages for public health costs for treating smoking-related diseases, court papers obtained on Wednesday showed.

The suits are a larger sum than Nigeria’s annual federal budget.

The suit is against the world’s second largest cigarette maker, British American Tobacco (BAT), Altria unit Philip Morris International, and Nigerian firm International Tobacco Ltd.

The investment unit and local subsidiary of BAT are also named in the suit. The companies could not immediately be reached for comment. The suit has been filed at a Federal High Court in the capital Abuja, which has fixed a first hearing for 14 January.

It follows similar legal actions by three Nigerian state governments which filed for 38.6 billion US dollars in damages in May.

— MNA/Reuters

Korean man dies in Vietnam, suspected of contracting bird flu

HANOI, 8 Nov — A 33-year-old man from South Korea died of pneumonia with bird flu-like symptoms in Vietnam’s southern Can Tho City, local media reported Wednesday.

The man named Lu Chin-chu, whose wife is from the city’s Co Do District, died on Tuesday afternoon, 11 hours after being admitted to the Can Tho General Hospital, said Youth newspaper.

Specimens from the patient are being tested for bird flu virus strain H5N1.

His father in South Korea is suffering from pneumonia with bird flu-like symptoms, according to his relatives in December 2003.

Since then, 100 people in the country have been recorded with H5N1, 46 of whom died, reported Vietnam News newspaper.

The majority of human cases have been exposed to infected poultry.

— MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam reports cholera, two die of diarrhoea

HANOI, 8 Nov — Two elderly people have died in a province near Hanoi as health officials said on Tuesday that some cases of cholera had been confirmed among nearly 800 people suffering severe diarrhoea in northern Vietnam.

The state-run newspaper Hanoi Moi (New Hanoi) quoted Health Minister Nguyen Quoc Trieu as saying “cholera bacteria is emerging in eight out of 11 infected localities”.

Official’s in Ha Tay Province were quoted by the online edition of Saigon Giai Phong (Liberation Saigon) as saying two people aged 72 and 87 had died among 185 infections in the province, about 60 kilometres (35 miles) southwest of Hanoi.

Two other people had died of suspected diarrhoea in Nghe An Province, said Dan Tri (People’s Knowledge) online news.

People suffering from diarrhoea have been taken to hospital in 11 provinces and cities, including Hanoi.

— MNA/Reuters

A Ming blue and white flask bianhua Yongle is auctioned with the price of 1 million pound at Christie’s auction of Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art in London, on 6 Nov, 2007.— Xinhua

Over 10,000 red lanterns are lightened along the Nanning River of Jiangjou Scenic Spot in Guiyang, capital of southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 8 Nov, 2007, to celebrate the local tea fair.— Xinhua

Fielding to respond by 9 November.

The move does not mean the House will ever vote on the contempt citation, but it gives Democratic leaders the option to bring the resolution up if and when they decide to vote on it.

Conyers planned to file the citation with the House clerk Monday at 2 pm.

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— MNA/Reuters
For education promotion and HR development in border areas

Myint Soe (Na Ta La)

The development of a region rests much on smooth transport, infrastructures, foundations, for economic growth, and high education and health standards of the people.

With this context, the government is putting earnest efforts into the border areas and national races development projects that cover above-mentioned points. As a result, border areas have seen a large number of infrastructures necessary for development and are enjoying rapid progress.

Regarding the drive for raising the education standard of national races living in border areas and turning out more and more intellectuals and intelligentsia of national races to maintain and promote the already-achieved development momentum, Chairman of the Central Committee for Progress of Border Areas and National Races Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, at the meeting of the Central Committee held on 29 March 2004, gave guidance on necessary measures to be taken for improving the living conditions of local people, ensuring sustainable progress of border areas, and producing human resources in the areas.

For promoting the education standard of the entire nation, the government is implementing the plan ‘Education For All’ by combining formal education and non-formal education for literacy of all people irrespective of age, status and wealth, and for continuing education for those who have become literate. It is also taking steps for raising the education standard of the people and producing human resources in border areas in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State such as opening and upgrading of basic education schools, establishment of colleges, degree colleges and universities, and opening of short-term three “Rs” courses specially designed to improve the education standard of national races.

Moreover, for ensuring human resources development in border areas, the Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs is opening nationalities youth development training schools, vocational training centres for women, and Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges, and training and nurturing the youth of national races in far-flung areas.

The objectives of the nationality youth development training schools are as follows:
(a) for the youth of national races, to enhance national unity and equip themselves with Union Spirit, while pursuing education,
(b) to be convinced of and uphold Our Three Main National Causes — Non-disintegration of the Union,Non-disintegration national solidarity, and Perpetuation of sovereignty,
(c) to understand and preserve the culture, traditions and customs of national races,
(d) to rekindle the youths’ spirit of contributing towards development of border areas and improving the living standard of national races,
(e) to inculcate the youth with the spirit of participating with might and main in the building of a peaceful, modern and developed nation,
(f) to engage in tasks for development of their own regions after completion of the education.

To ensure that the youth of national races in border areas do not miss opportunities to pursue education for various reasons, responsible persons are making field trips to the region concerned, collecting orphans, youth without mother, youth without father in poverty and helping them attend nationality youth development training schools. The government has opened two nationality youth development training schools each in Myitkyina and Mindat, and one each in Bhamo, Putao, Kunlon, Tangyan, Kengtung, Loikaw, Hakha, Tiddim, Hkamti, Leshi, Lahe, Sittway, Kyakaung (Yangon), Matupi, Kanpetlet, Pakokku, Kalay, Falam, Thantlang, Tonzung, and Hpa-an totalling 27. In 2007-2008 academic year, 278 students are pursuing primary education, 1611, middle school education, and 693, high school education in these schools. The government provides all expenses for the students. The students who have passed matriculation examination can pursue higher education in Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges. Under the plan laid down by the government, schoolgirls who have passed matriculation examination may join nurses training schools, midwifery training schools, or four- year courses of the University for Development of National Races.

In accordance with the guidance of Senior General Than Shwe, technical institutes were opened in Laukkai, Panhsan and Mongla in 2006. The courses of the institutes include mechanics and welding in addition to carpentry, masonry, steel fixing, and drawing. Furthermore, to enable the youth in border areas to pursue vocational education to earn their living, the government opened a vocational training school / car servicing workshop in Sittway in 2000. There, they can learn subjects of mechanics, basic electrical, electronic, and welding.

The people are therefore duty-bound to build and strengthen national vigour, national solidarity, national economy, and international level human resources and safeguard national interests to enable the motherland to stand tall in the world.

Today, the world has seen rapid changes in various sectors. So, only people with high education standard, high intellectual power and strong nationalistic spirit are capable of protecting and promoting national interests effectively. This being the case, the government is taking measures continuously to promote the education standard of the youth in border areas and to ensure development of human resources.
**Senior General Than Shwe sees off...**

*(from page 1)*

Officer-in-Charge, the Director-General of SPDC Office, heads of departments and officials and charges d'affaires of Laotian and Vietnamese embassies saw off Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Myanmar goodwill delegation comprises Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thim, Director-General of Government Office Col Thant Shin, Director-General of Political Department U Pe Than Oo, Director-General of Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw and departmental officials. — MNA

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**Trainees receive skills for dried vegetable production in ROK**

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — Ministry for Agriculture and Irrigation delivered the 2nd communal Kathina robes offering ceremony at Tezasakki Meditation Centre in Ward 3 of Nay Pyi Taw Lwe this morning.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and wife Daw Myint Myint Ko, departmental heads, guests and families of staff attended the ceremony. The ceremony was opened by reciting Nomo Tassa three times. Next, the minister and the congregation received the Five Precepts from Maha Kammathana giriya Bhaddanta Vijaya, and members of the Sangha recited Parittas. Then, the minister and wife offered Kathina robes and alms to members of the Sangha. Later, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vijaya delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

The minister and wife offered ‘soon’ to members of the Sangha. A total of K5,749,990 and offertories were donated at the ceremony. — MNA

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**Story telling contest held**

YANGON, 8 Nov — A story telling contest for Basic Education Primary School students was held at Nay Pyi Taw here yesterday. It was jointly organized by MRTV of Ministry of Information and No 3 Basic Education Department of Ministry of Education.

No 2 Basic Education High School, Dagon won the first prize; BEHS No. 3 of Mingala Taungnyunt the second prize; BEHS No. 2 of Kamayut the third and BEHS No. 1 of Lammadaw the consolation prize. Officials of MRTV and members of boards of trustees of the schools presented prizes and gifts to winners. — MNA

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**Construction Ministry offers Kathina robes**

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — The Myanmar boxing team led by President U Win Myint of Myanmar Boxing Federation arrived back here by air yesterday morning after taking part in the Pre-SEA Games 6-country boxing tournament in Thailand from 2 to 6 November. They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by officials of the Ministry of Sports, executives of MBF and relatives.

The Myanmar boxing team bagged one gold, four silver and three bronze medals. In the competitions, Hnin Ei Swe secured one gold medal in the women’s 50-kilo class, Hnin Moh Moh Naing, one silver in the women’s 52-kilo class, Chaw Su Aye, one silver in the women’s 48-kilo class, Than Htuk, one silver in the men’s 57-kilo class, Soe Yazar, one silver in the men’s 60-kilo class, Wai Phyo Tun, one bronze medal in the men’s 48-kilo class, Min Mo, one bronze in the men’s 51-kilo class and Sai So Myat, one bronze in the men’s 54-kilo class. — MNA

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**Old students of Ahlon BEHS No 1 to pay respects to old teachers**

YANGON, 8 Nov — The old students of Basic Education High School No 1 of Ahlon Township will organize the 14th ceremony to pay respects to old teachers in conjunction with a get-together at Golden Duck Restaurant at 8th mile junction in Mayangon Township, from 10 am to 12 noon on 4 December (National Day).

The old teachers have been invited to attend the ceremony. The old students are to attend the ceremony without fail whether they receive the invitation cards or not and those wishing to donate cash and kind may contact Ko Cho Myint, Tel: 095151557, Ko Taing Kyaw, Tel: 503372, U Mya Soe, Tel: 228239, Ma Kyin Hlaing, Tel: 524705 and Ma Phy Phy Sein, Tel: 526187. — MNA

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**Foreign Affairs Minister felicitates Cambodian counterpart**

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov — On the occasion of the 54th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2007, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr HOR Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia. — MNA

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**Myanmar boxers win one gold, four silver, three bronze medals**

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**Trainees receive skills for dried vegetable production in ROK**

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Nov — Ministry for Agriculture and Irrigation offered Kathina robes to students of Basic Education High School No 1 of Ahlon Township, from 10 am to 12 noon on 4 December (National Day). The old teachers have been invited to attend the ceremony. The old students are to attend the ceremony without fail whether they receive the invitation cards or not and those wishing to donate cash and kind may contact Ko Cho Myint, Tel: 095151557, Ko Taing Kyaw, Tel: 503372, U Mya Soe, Tel: 228239, Ma Kyin Hlaing, Tel: 524705 and Ma Phy Phy Sein, Tel: 526187. — MNA
Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than calls for boosting agricultural production in Shwegyin, Ottwin

—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence called on local authorities and farmers in Shwegyin, Bago Division, to make more efforts for boosting the production rate of paddy, beans and pulses and oil crops in the region.

There are sufficient rice and edible oil for local people in Shwegyin Township and local people are to step up their efforts to exceed the current production rate, he said at the meeting with departmental officials and local people in Shwegyin on 6 November.

According to the reports to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than at the meeting, a total of 70,758 acres have been put under rubber in Toungoo, Bago and Thataway districts in 2007-2008 and arrangements have been made to grow more on 100,000 acres.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than went to Shwegyin Township along with Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Mng Than and departmental officials.

At the meeting, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also called for reaching the plantation target of rubber in the township where rubber grows well and urged authorities concerned to provide quality strains of rubber and agricultural technology to local farmers and private firms.

Moreover, he also urged local farmers to extend the cultivation of physic nut plants from manageable scale to commercial scale.

Bio diesel can be extracted from the seed of physic nut.

Regarding the education sector, teachers and officials concerned are to work together to promote the education standard in the region, he said. He also urged the departmental officials to go to grass-root levels and to work together with local people to implement the development tasks in accordance with the five rural areas development tasks.

Shwegyin Township exceeded the 50,000 acres plantation target of rain-fed paddy in 2007-2008 cultivation season. The township set its target of over 30,000 acres of paddy to be grown with the supply of irrigation water this summer and to grow over 17,000 acres of oil crops. So far, 20,014 acres of rubber and 14,000 acres of physic nut have been grown in the township.

During his tour of Shwegyin, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also visited the 100-bed hospital in the township and inspected patient wards, X-rays unit and operation room and provided cash assistance to patients.

On his tour of Ottwin, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and town elders.

At the meeting, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than called for extended cultivation of paddy and oil crops. He also stressed the need for cultivation of sunflower as mixed-cropping in beans plantation to support the sufficiency of edible oil in the region.

As bio-diesel extracted from physic nut can be used in agricultural machinery, local farmers are to expand the physic nut cultivation from manageable scale to commercial scale as well as rubber and sugar cane.

Ottwin Township exceeded its target plantation of paddy this rainy season. Arrangements have been made to grow 6,700 acres of paddy in the summer, 16,478 acres of oil crops and 36,000 acres of beans and pulses in the township.

A total of 8, 670 acres of physic nut and 2,176 acres of sugar cane have been grown so far in the township.

Minister receives Thai Ambassador, Chinese guests

—Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min received Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bansom Bunnag at the meeting hall of ministry, here, at 9 am today.

Likewise, the minister received Vice-Chairman of Norinco International Company from the People’s Republic of China Mr Chan Di Fan at 9.30 am today.

Also present at the calls were Deputy Minister U Myo Myint, directors-general of departments under the ministry.

They cordially discussed mutual cooperation in production of hydropower.

CSSTB holds communal Kathina robes offering ceremony

—The second communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of Civil Service Selection and Training Board was held at the hall of CSSTB, here, this morning.

Shweyattaung Myint Taw Pyinmana delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general and rectors of departments and universities, the head of office and staff families.

Minister Col Zaw Min receives Ambassador of Thailand Mr Bansom Bunnag. — MNA

No longer wish to join the party

Four members of Mongpan Township SNLD quit

—A ceremony to present letters of resignation of Mongpan Township Shan Nationalities League for Democracy members U Sai Ohn Kyaw, U Tun Aung, U Lon Sayay Laung and U Sai Ohn Pwint of Shan State (South) of their own volition to Mongpan Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission was held at the subcommission office in Mongpan on 29 September.

In the letters to the subcommission, they said that they had lost interest in tasks of the SNLD. They no longer wished to join the party, of their own accord. — MNA
Mr Gambari concludes visit on 8 November, after meeting State level officials, political parties, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and civil societies

(from page 1) in Myanmar for the second time on 3 November.

In addition to cooperating with the UN, Myanmar is working hard with added momentum to realize democratic reforms, as aspirted by the majority of the people. The Commission for Drafting State Constitution was formed on 18 October to realize the third step of the State’s seven-step Road Map. Now, plans are under way to draft the constitution.

Simultaneously, the government is striving for national reconsolidation. With a view to implementing the democratic reforms in a peaceful way through the seven-step Road Map and ensuring harmonious cooperation for restoration of peace and stability and national development, the State Peace and Development Council released Announcement No 1/2007 to hold discussions with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. The points stipulated in the Announcement are fundamental for the prevailing situations. However, she has not made any response to the Announcement yet. The government thus released Announcement No 2/2007 and appointed Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi as Relations Minister to liaise with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

On 25 October, Minister U Aung Kyi met with her for the first time. Arrangements were made to hold the second meeting as the agreement reached at the first meeting. However, she requested to postpone the meeting, giving an excuse that she was not getting well with an ingrown finger nail.

During August and September when the nation saw protest marches, the government had to tackle in accordance with the law the incidents in which some people violated the law and the protest marches were turning to unrest and violence. Unavoidably, the government had to call in those who got involved in the marches, some of whom were artless people, for questioning. Now, all those who were not relevant to the violent acts and violation of law have been released. And those who are suspicious of the violent and terrorist acts are being questioned. Now, peace and stability have been restored and the conditions have come to normalcy throughout the country including Yangon and Mandalay. So, the curfew and all security forces have been withdrawn.

The government is taking measures for restoration of peace and stability, democratic transition and national reconsolidation. In accordance with its policy of cooperating with the UN, the government accepted the proposal that Mr Gambari would visit Myanmar for the second time in the first week of November, instead of the second week, during which the visit was due initially. So, he arrived in Myanmar on 3 November.

During his visit, he held discussions with Prime Minister General Thein Sein; with the SPDC Spokes Authoritative Team; led by Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsuan; and with the Minister for Foregn Affairs, the Ministers for Labour and the Minister for National Planning and Economic Development. The discussions focused on matters to lift the sanctions imposed against Myanmar that hinder progress towards cooperation for Myanmar’s socioeconomic growth, and on programmes to continue discussions to form a commission to carry out the processes.

Governmental officials concerned explained to Mr Gambari the true situation about the case of UNDP Resident Representative Mr Charles James Petrie. An agreement has been reached to appoint a person as an acting resident representative of UN agencies. Moreover, matters related to the coming to Myanmar of a representative from ICRC and UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Council Mr Pinheiro, their arrival time and work programmes were discussed.

Mr Gambari suggested the release of news about the discussions between Relations Minister U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and to do so has been agreed in accord with the wishes of both sides.

At the request of Mr Gambari, some members of the Commission for writing the constitution (draft) led by Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsuan met him. It has also been agreed that among the people who have been called in for questioning for their involvement in the recent protests, those who are found to be guiltless of violating the law are to be released.

In addition, Mr Gambari got a chance to meet delegates of national races and civil societies such as the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Myanmar Red Cross Society in Nay Pyi Taw.

He was also allowed to meet the members of Union PaO National Organization, National Unity Party and National League for Democracy at 9 am, at 9.45 am and at 10.45 am respectively today in Nay Pyi Taw.

At 12.30 pm, Mr Gambari left Nay Pyi Taw for Yangon and at 1.35 pm, he met with the Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee at Wirazya Mingln Daruma Thabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill.

Next, he met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at Seinle Kantha Guest House at 4 pm today and left for Singapore by air at 4.45 pm.

Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr Ibrahim Agboola Gambari meeting with Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. — MNA

Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr Gambari shakes hands with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. — MNA

Relations Minister U Aung Kyi is scheduled to meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi again tomorrow. At the request of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, she will be allowed to meet the members of NLD Central Executive Commit-tee on the same day.

As desired by the people, the government will continue carrying out democratic reforms in accordance with the seven-step Road Map. And it will also continue striving earnestly for national reconsolidation in true cooperation with the UN Secretariat. — MNA
Polish PM designate wants to end its milky mission in Iraq

WARSAW, 8 Nov — Poland’s October parliamentary election winner — Civic Platform (PO) leader Donald Tusk said here on Tuesday that he wants to make changes to the country’s military mission in Iraq in 2008. Tusk, who is expected to be designated Prime Minister by the President this week, said that in “agreement with our most important ally, the United States”, Poland will change the character of its presence in Iraq.

Tusk added that there is growing conviction in international opinion that the entire mission in Iraq “must bring better effects, maybe at a lower cost, especially as far as the number of victims is concerned”, Polish PAP news agency reported him as saying.

There are currently 900 Polish soldiers stationed in Iraq. Polish President Lech Kaczyński has approved a prolongation of the Polish mission in Iraq until the end of 2007. MNA/Xinhua

Thailand approves budget for ceremonies to mourn tsunami victims

BANGKOK, 8 Nov — The Cabinet of Thailand on Tuesday approved five million baht (14.7 million US dollars) for holding ceremonies to remember those killed by tsunami three years ago. Prachasun Chanasongkram, the assistant spokesman of the government, was quoted by The Nation news network as saying that the Cabinet approved the budget during its weekly meeting on Tuesday.

Prachasun said the Cabinet also assigned Dhippavee Meksawan, the Prime Minister’s Office Minister, to be in charge of organizing the ceremonies. The ceremonies will be held on December 26 and Princess Ubolrat will be invited to chair the ceremonies.

Thailand was one of the countries devastated by the December 26, 2004 tsunami. A total of 5,226 people were confirmed dead during the disaster in Thailand’s six southern coastal provinces, together with 11,279 injured, and 2,914 missing. MNA/Xinhua

Diesel exhaust associated with higher heart attack, stroke

WASHINGTON, 8 Nov — Increased roadway pollution produced by diesel fuel in vehicles is leading to a cascade of conditions that could result in heart attack or stroke, researchers reported on Tuesday at the American Heart Association’s Scientific Sessions 2007.

British and Swedish researchers found that diesel exhaust increased clot formation and blood platelet activity in healthy volunteers — which could lead to heart attack and stroke. “The study results are closely tied with previous observational and epidemiological studies showing that shortly after exposure to traffic air pollution, individuals are more likely to suffer a heart attack,” said Andrew Lucking, lead author of the study.

“This study shows that when a person is exposed to relatively high levels of diesel exhaust for a short time, the blood is more likely to clot. This could lead to a blocked vessel resulting in heart attack or stroke.” The double-blind, randomized study included 20 healthy men, 21 to 44 years old.

They were separately exposed to filter air (serving as a control) and to dilute diesel exhaust at 300 microgrammes per metre cube (mcg/m3), a level comparable to curbside exposure on a busy street. MNA/Xinhua

Egypt finds six smuggling tunnels near Gaza border

ISMAILIA, (Egypt), 8 Nov — Egyptian security forces discovered six smuggling tunnels linking Egypt with the Gaza Strip this week, including one with an entrance concealed in a private home, security sources said on Wednesday.

One tunnel was found in a house used by a Palestinian resident of the Egyptian border town of Rafah who told police of the location of four other tunnels. The sources said the tunnels appeared not to have been used for some time. A sixth tunnel, found in an agricultural area, contained large quantities of cigarettes and tobacco used in traditional Arab water pipes.

Israel has accused Egypt of not doing enough to stop smuggling into Gaza. Egypt has said weapons, ammunition and drugs smuggling through the tunnels have fallen since the Islamist Hamas movement took control of the Gaza Strip in June.

The Anak Krakatau (Child of Krakatau) volcano sends up powerful clouds of hot gases and rocks on 7 Nov, 2007 in the Sunda Straits between Java and Sumatra, Indonesia. Sending a boom echoing across the bay, the volcano known as the ‘Krakatau’s Child’ unleashes another eruption, but while impressive, the eruption was nothing compared to what took place in 1883 at this spot, when Anak Krakatau’s predecessor blew apart in one of the most devastating eruptions in recorded history. — INTERNET

Strong earthquake jolts Bangladesh

DHAKA, 8 Nov — A strong earthquake, measuring 6.0 on the Richter Scale, jolted southern and southeastern Bangladesh on Wednesday afternoon, causing panic among the people and creating cracks in many buildings. But no serious damage or casualty was reported, officials said.

The epicentre of the tremor, felt at 01:13 pm local time (0713 GMT), was about 253 kilometres southeast of capital Dhaka City. Residents in the tremor-shook areas said that strong earthquakes were felt in the country’s southeastern Chattogram, Cox’s Bazar, Bandarban, Khagrachhari, Comilla and Noakhali districts at about 01:10 pm local time, which lasted for 20-25 seconds. — MNA/Xinhua

Whale washed ashore in Colombo

COLOMBO, 8 Nov — A massive whale washed ashore and died off the coast of Sri Lankan capital Colombo Tuesday morning.

Witnesses said the whale was still alive when it was found near the beach in the Wellawatte District of Colombo about 10 a.m. (0430 GMT), but the huge mammal died quickly.

Experts say the whale, about eight metres in length, might have been seriously wounded at sea before it was washed ashore.

Officials from the Fisheries Ministry said they will investigate what had happened to the whale.

Sri Lanka is situated within the International Whaling Commission’s protected zone in the Indian Ocean. — MNA/Xinhua

Widespread attacks abroad. — MNA/Reuters

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Sri Lanka is situated within the International Whaling Commission’s protected zone in the Indian Ocean. — MNA/Xinhua

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TRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FRIENDLY SEA VOY NO (12)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRIENDLY SEA VOY NO (12) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 9.11.2007 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 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.

PHONE No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (191)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (191) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 9.11.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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.

PHONE No: 256908/378316/376797

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M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L., for SCHERING CORPORATION
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 9 November 2007

Saudi Arabia donates 60,000 tons of rice to Bangladesh

Dhaka, 7 Nov—Bangladesh said on Monday it had received 60,000 tons of rice donated by Saudi Arabia for distribution among people affected by recent floods.

“The rice will be distributed among 2.1 million flood-affected families beginning from Tuesday,” Foreign Secretary Touhid Hossain told reporters after hosting a visiting Saudi Arabian official.

The rice is part of a 50-million-US-dollar donation promised earlier by Saudi Arabia, he said.

Saudi Arabia also sent five cargo planes loaded with foodstuffs, blankets, tents, medicines and milk powder in August.

MNA/Reuters

ADB provides Bangladesh $150m

Dhaka, 7 Nov —The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is extending a financial assistance package of over 150 million US dollars that will better equip the Bangladesh Government in its fight against corruption.

The assistance will also enable the government to establish a system of good governance that will pave the way for more rapid and inclusive economic growth, private news agency UNB reported Tuesday.

ADB is providing a 150-million-US-dollar loan to be disbursed in three tranches over a period of four years for the good governance programme of Bangladesh.

A release from Manila Tuesday said ADB is also extending a 1.5-million-US-dollar grant for a technical assistance programme that will enhance the capability of concerned agencies in implementing policy reforms and effectively manage the good governance programme.

Denmark’s Human Rights and Good Governance Programme is providing a one-million-US-dollar grant, while the Bangladesh Government is extending 500,000 to complete the financing for the technical assistance.

“Corruption is a telling indicator of poor governance in developing countries, and this has been in evidence in Bangladesh as well over the years,” Gambhir Bhutta, senior governance specialist of ADB’s South Asia Department was quoted as saying.

Surveys conducted by organizations inside and outside the country have highlighted this problem, including that corruption adversely impacts not only the economy at the macro level, but also individuals and households at the micro level, particularly those in the low-income brackets.—MNA/Xinhua

Passengers injured in train shake in New Jersey

New York, 8 Nov — A rapid transit railroad linking Manhattan, New York with New Jersey was temporarily disabled on Tuesday after a train started shaking on track, injuring dozens of passengers, local media reported.

The incident occurred as the Port Authority Trans-Hudson (PATH) train was approaching the Journal Square station, Jersey City just before 2:00 pm (1900 GMT).

Some passengers suffered bumps and bruises. After it happened, the train was stopped by a conductor and taken out of service.

PATH is a rapid transit railroad operated by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. It is one of the few rapid transit systems in the world that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

MNA/Xinhua

Xinhua

World Pie Championship judge John Young poses with two scotch pies for photographers during the judging of the competition in Dunfermline, Scotland on 7 Nov, 2007. The competition, now in its ninth year has five former world champions and over seventy bakers and butchers taking part.

MNA/Reuters

The New Light of Myanmar
Microsoft to build $500m data centre in Ireland

DUBLIN, 7 Nov—Microsoft Corp said on Tuesday it will spend 500 million US dollars on building a new European data processing centre in Ireland.

Microsoft said in a statement the planned Dublin centre will house tens of thousands of servers providing information and Web-based applications to Internet users.

Construction will begin later this month with the centre expected to be completed by 2009. “This is the first ‘mega data centre’ deployment outside the US, specifically targeted for the growth and performance of Windows Live services,” said John Mangelaars, Vice President, Microsoft Online Services Group, Europe, Middle East and Africa.

The firm said an additional “substantial” investment was planned to kit out the centre with server technology. The 51,000-square-metre facility will deliver Windows Live services and store data for the company’s online services businesses such as MSN and Windows Live.

Industry sources said the highly automated facility would create around 20 jobs. Microsoft employs 1,200 staff in Ireland at another site in Dublin.

MNA/Reuters

Study shows being overweight is not all bad

NEW YORK, 7 Nov—Being overweight is not all bad, carrying some excess pounds actually appears to protect against some causes of death, according to a US federal research published Wednesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

In the new research, the analysis is based on the health statistics that federal scientists collected between 1971 and 2004, including cause-of-death data from 2.3 million adults from 2004. The researchers used widely accepted federal definitions of “overweight” and “obesity” based on body mass index. A body mass index, or BMI, of between 25 to 30 classifies someone as overweight, including about one-third who are obese. Flegal said the new findings should not encourage people to be overweight or change any public health recommendations.

“In the United States, some two-thirds of the population are classified as overweight, including about one-third who are obese,” said Katherine M Flegal, a senior research scientist at Atlanta, who led the study.

Though the study did not examine why being overweight might guard against dying from some diseases, Flegal said earlier research has suggested that extra heft might supply the body with vital reserves to draw upon to fight illness and aid recovery.

“People need to know that even as soon as three years after diagnosis might be too long a wait,” Flegal said.

“Follow-up visit one to six months after diagnosis might be too long a wait,” Flegal said.

“Our findings suggest that even as soon as three months may be too long for some children,” said Dr Hemant Sharma, a pediatric allergist at Johns Hopkins Children’s Center in Baltimore.

Sharma studied 150 urban children with asthma aged two to six, and found nearly half with the mildest asthma on an initial visit were far sicker just three months later, requiring a change in their medication. “Asthma behaves even more unpredictably than we expected,” Sharma said in a telephone interview.

MNA/Reuters

Study shows city kids with asthma need frequent checkups

CHICAGO, 7 Nov—Young children with asthma who live in cities may need to see their doctors four or more times a year to avoid dangerous flare-ups or trips to the emergency rooms, US researchers said on Monday.

The research, appearing in the journal Pediatrics, suggests new US asthma guidelines that call for a follow-up visit one to six months after diagnosis might be too long a wait.

“Our findings suggest that even as soon as three months after diagnosis might be too long a wait,” Flegal said.

“Follow-up visit one to six months after diagnosis might be too long a wait,” Flegal said. "But it is associated with less mortality than expected." —Internet
Manchester United's Ronnye bored by Dynamo's approach

The English international maintained his rich form with a ninth goal in his last nine games for club and country when he added to efforts by Gerard Pique, Carlos Tevez and Cristiano Ronaldo as United maintained a 100 per cent start in Group F.

But Rooney took more satisfaction from the outcome than the performance as Kiev's defensive attitude left them without a point at the bottom and eliminated from the competition.

United manager Alex Ferguson said he understood Rooney's reaction, telling a news conference: "It can sometimes be quite tedious to break them down. I think Dynamo Kiev came with a game-plan to make sure they were not embarrassed.

"They have got a massive game against Shakhtar Donetsk on Sunday and I think they were looking for a result to give them some confidence for that," he added, referring to their home fixture with the Ukrainian league leaders.

"It took time for us to really open up the game. We needed a break and we got that for the first goal and after that I felt we were more comfortable," said Ferguson.

"The second goal was an excellent piece of football and in the second half we could have scored more. They could have had two or three goals but I was happy with the scoreline of 4-0." — INTERNET

Barcelona stroll to victory over Rangers

Barcelona, 8 Nov — Goals from Thierry Henry and Lionel Messi earned Barcelona a 2-0 win over oustached Rangers in their Champions League Group E match at the Nou Camp on Wednesday.

Former Arsenal striker Henry put Barca ahead in the sixth minute when he bundled the ball in at the far post with a little help from his fellow. Messi also pounced just before the break after Ronaldinho had sliced through the Scottish team's defence.

The win left the Catalans firmly in control of the group with 10 points from four games.

Rangers remain second with seven points, one ahead of Olympique Lyon, despite suffering their first defeat. Walter Smith's men are assured of at least a place in the UEFA Cup.

"This was a game we could have won 5-0 or 6-0," Barca coach Frank Rijkaard told a news conference. "But in general I'm very happy with the result. This was an important step forward."

Smith was philosophical about the defeat.

"We're always disappointed to lose but we can't have any complaints given the way the game went," he said.

"We are delighted we will be playing European football after Christmas, given how hard this group was." — INTERNET


Players of the Italian team block the ball during the match against Japan at FIVB Women's World Cup 2007 in Osaka, Japan, on 7 Nov, 2007. — INTERNET

FIFA proposes solution to Irish football row

ZURICH, 8 Nov — FIFA has sent a letter to the football associations of Northern Ireland and Ireland suggesting that players from either side of the border should have a free choice about who they play for.

The proposal was formulated by FIFA's legal committee in response to a long-running argument between the two bodies over the selection of international players.

Currently, players born in Northern Ireland are generally eligible to turn out for Ireland provided they have not yet played a competitive match for Northern Ireland but the same does not apply in reverse. Under the new suggestion put forward by world soccer's governing body, players born south of the border and holding Irish nationality could choose to play for Northern Ireland.

— MNA/Reuters

Arsenal through to last 16 with draw in Prague

PRAGUE, 8 NOV — Slavia Prague held Arsenal to a well-deserved 0-0 draw in Champions League Group H on Wednesday but it was enough for the Gunners to reach the last 16.

Slavia, out to make up for a 7-0 rout by Arsenal at the Emirates Stadium two weeks ago, showed plenty of fight and could have asked an upset had they taken their chances.

The draw left Arsenal top with 10 points from four matches, ahead of Sevilla with nine, Slavia with four and Steaua Bucharest without a point after four defeats.

The Premier League leaders failed to create any clearcut scoring opportunities but manager Arsene Wenger was satisfied with the outcome.

"The result is quite positive, because we qualified, we did not concede a goal and we came here to qualify and the defensive performance was good. The offensive performance was average," he told a news conference.

"I feel Slavia felt humiliated after the first 7-0 and they defended very well tonight. They were determined not to concede a goal and our tempo was not high enough to create space for chances." — MNA/Reuters

Slavia Prague’s Michael Tavares (L) and Matej Krajcik (R) try to stop Arsenal’s Denilson during their group H Champions League football match at the Rosicky Stadium, in Prague. The match ended in a 0-0 draw. — INTERNET

Ferguson celebrates 21 years as United's loyalty pays off

LONDON, 8 NOV — Alex Ferguson celebrated 21 years in charge of Manchester United on Tuesday as the head of his union lamented that today's managers were not given the chances the Scot enjoyed in his early years at Old Trafford.

As Ferguson took the

plaudits, Chris Hutchings began looking for work after he was sacked on Monday having had just six months and 13 games to make his mark on Wigan Athletic.

The contrast was not lost on Frank Clark, head of the League Managers' Association.

"It took him a while to turn it around at Manchester United and that's a lesson," he said of Ferguson. "I'm not sure you would get that length of time today but it just proves the value of giving your manager a bit of time and help to turn things around."

— MNA/Reuters

Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates after scoring against Dynamo Kiev during their UEFA Champions League football match in Manchester. —INTERNET

Manchester United still alive after 4-2 win over Stuttgart

LYON (France), 8 NOV — Olympique Lyon kept alive their hopes of reaching the Champions League knockout phase by eliminating VfB Stuttgart with a 4-2 home victory on Wednesday.

Lyon, who had lost their two opening games, are third in Group E with six points from four games, one point behind second-placed Rangers after the Scottish side lost 2-0 at leaders Barcelona. Stuttgart have no points.

"We knew that it would be difficult against such a side, who attack a lot," said Lyon coach Alain Perrin. "When we were at 3-2, we did not really know what to do, we did not know whether we had to keep pushing or sit back."

The home side made a bright start with Hatem Ben Arfa, perfectly set up by Kim Kallstrom, opening the scoring in the sixth minute at the conclusion of a swift movement.

Swedish midfielder Kallstrom doubled the tally on 15 minutes when he fired home a Sidney Govou cross from the right.

Stuttgart, who have won their last two Bundesliga games after a poor start to the season, reacted strongly a minute later.

— MNA/Reuters

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China Eastern’s jet tyres burst on landing in HK, nobody hurt

SHANGHAI, 8 Nov — Two tyres on an Air China A330-300 passenger aircraft operated by the Shanghai-based China Eastern Airlines burst when it landed at Hong Kong on Tuesday, and none was hurt, the company said in a statement.

The accident happened at about 11:25 am when the flight MU701 from the Shanghai Pudong International Airport arrived at Hong Kong International Airport, the statement said.

The accident did not affect the normal operation of the Hong Kong Airport, it said.

The cause of the burst tyres is under investigation, it added.

The statement did not disclose the number of people on board the aircraft, and the mobile phone of a spokeswoman for China Eastern in Shanghai was unanswered.

In January, four tyres on a Boeing 737-300 operated by the company’s Shaxi branch burst while landing in Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport.

None of the 49 passengers and crew members on board was hurt, but the aircraft was forced to shut down for more than four hours.

The general manager and two vice general managers of the Shaxi branch were demoted after the accident.

Mass grave of 22 bodies found in western Iraq

RAMADI (Iraq), 8 Nov — US and Iraqi forces have discovered the remains of some 22 corpses buried in a mass grave in Iraq’s western province of Anbar, a provincial security source said on Tuesday.

The gruesome finding came as a joint US and Iraqi forces were conducting a military operation against the al-Qaeda militants since Saturday in the Tharthar area west of Ramadi City, police colonel Jaber Nayf from the provincial told Xinhua.

The area, where the mass grave found, has long been under control by the al-Qaeda terrorist network, the source said, adding that the security forces believe the victims were previously kidnapped and killed by the al-Qaeda fighters.

On Sunday, a security source told Xinhua that the Iraqi police and anti-Qaeda fighters discovered these 46 buried in a mass grave in the Tharthar area.

The security forces also found a scrapyard of dozens of civilian cars that the forces believe the al-Qaeda militants previously seized, the source from the provincial anti-Qaeda Awakening Council said.

It was not immediately clear whether the anti-Qaeda discovery announced on Sunday is the same case announced Tuesday by Colonel Nayf, a provincial security source.

Uganda gets $33.6m credit from World Bank

WASHINGTON, 8 Nov — The World Bank on Tuesday approved an International Development Association (IDA) credit worth $33.6 million US dollars to support infrastructure development in Uganda.

The funds will go to the Kampala Institutional Infrastructure Development Project (KIIDP), which aims to improve the institutional efficiency of Kampala City Council (KCC), said a statement released by the World Bank.

Kampala, Uganda’s capital city, is the hub of Uganda’s economic, political and administrative activities.

Weather

Thursday, 8 November, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:00 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Mandalay, Magway and Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (4°C) to (5°C) below November average temperatures in Chinten, upper Sagaing, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) above November average temperatures in Kachin, Kayin and Mon States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Magway (0.43) inch and Taungdwingyi (0.20) inch. The significant night temperatures was Haka (4°F).

Maximum temperature on 7-11-2007 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 8-11-2007 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 8-11-2007 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 7-11-2007 was (3.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 8-11-2007 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (136.46) inches at Mingaladon, (140.75) inches at Kaba-Aye and (144.29) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Kaba-Aye (Kaba-Aye) was (7) m/s from Northeast at (15:30) hours MST on 7-11-2007.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 9-11-2007: Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, isolated in Mon State, Mandalay, Magway and Yangon Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.


Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-11-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (40%).


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People’s Desire

☆ We favour stability.
☆ We favour peace.
☆ We oppose unrest and violence.

Who are the winners, who the losers from violent protests?

☆ Due to violence and unrest
   Peace-loving people have to live in state of alarm
   Learning of students disrupted
   Commodity flow stagnant
   Vendors have hard times
   Passenger transport services delayed

☆ Due to violence and unrest
   Only the notorious neo-colonialists benefited
   Instigators covertly earning dollars
   Expatriates and ax-handles living in luxury
   Followers of colonialists earning handsome dollar rewards

☆ RFA, VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies
☆ RFA, VOA and BBC saboteurs, watch your step!
☆ The public be warned of
   killers in the air waves —
   RFA, VOA and BBC

☆ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
☆ BBC lying
   VOA deceiving
   RFA setting up hostilities
☆ Beware! Don’t be bought by those ill-wishers