**Established 1914**

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Wednesday, 14 November, 2007

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

**Four political objectives**

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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

**Four political objectives (continued)**

- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

**Four economic objectives (continued)**

- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
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**UPNO declares Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, NLD not legal to represent ethnic groups**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Nov—** It is learnt that the United Nations Secretary General’s Special Adviser Mr Gambari released a statement in Singapore on behalf of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on 8 November.

Regarding the points enumerated in the statement, the Union Pa-Oh National Organization released an announcement today.

A translation of the announcement is as follows:

**UNION PA-OH NATIONAL ORGANIZATION (U.P.N.O)**

98, Merchant Street, Taunggyi

Date: 13th November, 2007
Letter No. 004 / Na Nga Ta / (2007)

**Announcement**

The Union Pa-Oh National Organization registered as a political party at the Multi-party General Election Commission on 1 November 1988, and it is still standing as a legal political party.

The objectives of our party are to ensure perpetual existence of the Union of Myanmar, to forge national solidarity, and to cooperate with other national races for improvement of Pa-Oh national people’s economic, social and cultural affairs.

In accordance with our policies, we attended the National Convention to contribute towards the prescribing of rights of national races including that of Pohnpei. (See page 8)

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**PNO rejects Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s statement implying that she will represent national races**

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Regarding the points enumerated in the statement, the Pa-Oh National Organization released an announcement today.

A translation of the announcement is as follows:

**PA-OH NATIONAL ORGANIZATION (PNO)**

Central Headquarters, Taunggyi

Letter No. 03/384/sa-ya-ya/htoo (6)
Date: 13th November 2007

**Announcement**

The Pa-Oh National Organization made peace with the Government in 1991 and has been carrying out regional development works. It also participated in the delegate group of other invited persons in the National Convention.

As PNO coordinated at the National Convention for gaining self-administered zone, fundamental principles have been adopted for Pa-Oh Self-Administered Zone comprising Pinlaung, Hsinseeng and Hopong townships. Similarly, Wa, (See page 8)

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**Lt-Gen Myint Swe visits Mid-Year 2007 gems, jade and pearls emporium**

YANGON, 13 Nov — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected jade lots displayed at Mid-year 2007 gems, jade and pearls emporium at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township, here, today.

First, Secretary of Central Committee for Organizing Myanmar Gems Emporium Managing (See page 9)

**Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects jade lots displayed at Mid-Year 2007 gems, jade and pearls emporium. — MNA**

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

Wednesday, 14 November, 2007

Nurture younger generation systematically to achieve national goal

In Myanmar, the education sector gets a serious attention. The government is laying down and putting into action various programmes for advancement of modern science and technologies and teaching modern science subjects to and nurturing the younger generation.

Now, not only the youth in the cities of states and divisions but also those in special development regions, which are strategic for the Union, have an easy access to higher education.

As human resource development lies at the heart of the tasks for building a new nation, efforts are to be made to turn out more intellectuals and intelligentsia.

Students should be trained and nurtured since they are in the primary school to imbue them with nationalistic fervour and patriotic spirit.

Nation-building tasks will come to fruition all the more and the national goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation will be achieved in a short time by training and nurturing the younger generation in the education sector.

Nationalities Youth development training schools and women’s vocational training schools in Kachin State inspected

YANGON, 13 Nov — Deputy Director-General of Education and Training Department U Win Aung inspected Nationalities Youth development training schools and women’s vocational training schools in Myitkyina, Bhamo, Putao, Dawhpony an and Donban townships in Kachin State from 4 to 11 November.

The deputy director-general held a meeting with responsible personnel of the schools and viewed students learning at the schools and living conditions of the students. He also visited basic and advanced vocational training courses, rattan/bamboo ware courses, knitting courses, plantations at the schools, bedrooms, teaching rooms and lecture halls, and fulfilled the requirements and presented awards to the outstanding students.

MNA

Winners get prizes in Bago Division PDC Chairman’s Cup women’s aerobic contest

YANGON, 13 Nov — The prize presentation of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Chairman’s Cup women’s aerobic contest was held at the city hall in Bago on 2 November, attended by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and wife Daw Sao Non Khun San, chairperson of the Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee.

The commander and wife and guests viewed performance of prize-winning teams.

The commander presented championship cup to Toungoo District and Daw Sao Non Khun San and officials gave prizes to other winning teams.

The commander delivered a speech on launching of Bago Division National Immunization Days 2007 on 3 November.

The commander and wife and officials gave polio oral vaccines to infants and children under 5. They also gave them toys.

Altogether 745,253 children were given polio oral vaccines in 28 townships of Bago Division on 3 to 5 November.

MNA

Minister inspects Ahtet Paunglaung Hydro Power Project in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana

NAI PYI TAW, 13 Nov — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min and Deputy Minister U Myo Myint inspected Ahtet Paunglaung Hydro Power Project in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana on 10 November.

The project is being implemented on Paunglaung River 26 miles east of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.

At the meeting with officials concerned, Minister Col Zaw Min urged them to step up their efforts for the construction during the opening season. He also stressed the need for minimizing loss and wastage, thrifty use of construction materials and work-site safety.

Upon completion, the project will have a combined capacity of 140 megawatts and is expected to produce about 411 million kwh per year.

MNA

Health Minister meets Japanese Ambassador

NAI PYI TAW, 13 Nov — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint met Japanese Ambassador Mr Yasuaki Nogawa and party at his office, here, today.

At the meeting, they discussed matters on cooperation in health sector and provision of technology, medical equipment, financial assistance and vaccination.

MNA

MMA meeting 1 December

YANGON, 13 Nov — The Central Leading Committee of Myanmar Medical Association will hold its third meeting at the meeting hall of MMA on Theinbyu Street in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 1 December.

Members of the Central Leading Committee have been invited to attend the meeting without fail, it is learnt.—MNA

Don’t smoke
Bangladesh’s Jessore District, 140 southwest of capital and 30 others injured as a bus fell into roadside ditch in road accident

A large plume of smoke rises above east London. A huge fire broke out on 12 Nov, 2007 in a disused building on the site for the 2012 London Olympic Games, officials said.—INTERNET

A woman holds up a pocket watch made for France’s Marie Antoinette at Jerusalem’s LA Mayer Museum of Islamic Art on 11 Nov, 2007. This museum has works.—INTERNET

Iran central bank brushes off US banking sanctions

The Prime Minister has dismissed US sanctions on Iranian banks as “psychological warfare” and said they would not prevent Teheran from finding other routes for meeting its banking needs.

The United States added more Iranian banks and also Iran’s Revolutionary Guards to a list of institutions under sanctions last month to isolate the country over what Washington says is an attempt to build atomic bombs and alleged support for terrorism.

The Iranian Government denies the charges and has brushed off the impact of US and UN sanctions, although executives say doing business in Iran is becoming increasingly difficult as some foreign banks back away from trade deals and financing.

“These (sanctions) are more psychological warfare,” Iranian central bank Governor Tahmasb Mazaheri told reporters during a conference, the state broadcaster’s website reported.

“The world is big and having no cooperation with one country does not stop Iran’s banking activities,” he added.

Many international banks, in particular those based in Western countries, have reduced their activities, including US dollar bank accounts held by Iranians abroad and stopping cash transfers in dollars and other currencies to Iran.—MNA/Reuters

Six Russian sailors rescued by Ukrainian ship

A Ukrainian ship has rescued six sailors of a Russian freighter smashed by a severe storm off the Ukrainian port of Ketch on Sunday, but the fate of the other five was unclear, the Emergencies Ministry said.

According to reports of the Interfax-Ukraine news agency, another Russian freighter Vera Voloshina carrying farming machines from Romania to Russia was stranded in the Black Sea near Ukraine’s eastern Crimea. Fifteen of its crew have been evacuated, but four others stayed on the ship for doing reparative works.—MNA/Xinhua

11 killed in Mexico mudslide, 14 still missing

The rescue workers identified the bodies discovered Sunday as sisters Laura and Liliana Hernandez Cruz, aged 10 and 7 respectively. Antonio Ovalia, a resident who survived the tragedy, believes his nine family members are buried under the mud and rubble of his house, which has been completely destroyed.

Authorities said it would take at least a month to remove the barriers to the Grijalva River’s course, which was fully blocked by the disaster. The mudslide, resulting from days of heavy rain, overwhelmed the fishing and farming town last Sunday.

Juan de Grijalva neighbours Tabasco State, where the worst floods in 50 years have caused three deaths. —MNA/Xinhua

Israeli police raid Govt offices in Olmert probes

Israel central bank brushes off US banking sanctions

A huge fire broke out on 12 Nov, 2007 in a disused building on the site for the 2012 London Olympic Games, officials said.—INTERNET

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Juan de Grijalva neighbours Tabasco State, where the worst floods in 50 years have caused three deaths. —MNA/Xinhua
Russian oil tanker sinks in Black Sea, spilling fuel

MOSCOW, 12 Nov — A Russian oil tanker split in half in a fierce storm in the Kerch Strait leading to the Black Sea on Sunday, spilling at least 2,000 tons of fuel oil, Interfax reported.

“It is a large-scale environmental disaster which will take a long time to deal with. But in a year, and even in a more distant future the impact of the damage will be felt,” Interfax quoted Vladimir Shlyyak, head of the ECO-Zashchita, a public environmental protection watchdog, as saying.

A photo by the Ukrainian Emergencies Ministry shows the Russian-owned “Vera Voloshina” cargo ship near the Crimean resort of Sudak. The bodies of three sailors washed ashore on Monday after a ferocious Black Sea storm wrecked five ships, spilling 2,000 tonnes of oil in the environmentally sensitive waters, officials said. —INTERNET

Whirlwinds kill one in Bali, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 13 Nov — Whirlwinds on Sunday hit a number of areas in Denpasar and Gianyar districts in Bali, Indonesia, killing one person and injuring tens of others, devastating hundreds of houses and toppling many trees.

The worst-hit areas during the natural disaster which occurred at about 05:30 am local time following heavy rains were Banjar Tengah, Ketewel, Gianyar districts, Antara news agency reported.

Provisional data showed that at least 22 people were injured in the calamity and six of them had to undergo treatment at a public hospital in Gianyar. MNA/Xinhua

Greek Coast Guards save 280 illegal migrants on ship

ATHENS, 12 Nov — Greek Coast Guards towed a Turkish cargo ship carrying 280 illegal migrants to shore on Sunday after it experienced mechanical problems in rough seas off the coast of southwestern Greece, Coast Guard officials said.

The ship had sailed from the Turkish coast and was heading for Italy when it sent out a distress signal about 11 miles west of the Peloponnese city of Katakolo, in the Ionian Sea. Police sources said most of the migrants were Iraqis and 12 of them were children. They said they had paid 2,000 US dollars each for their passage to Italy.

The captain and 15 crew members were arrested and will appear before a public prosecutor.

In the past four years almost 400,000 illegal migrants, mainly from Asia, have tried to cross into EU member Greece, many of them on their way to central and northern Europe. MNA/Reuters

Eight dead as train hits van at railway crossing in N-W China

SHENYANG, 12 Nov — Eight people are dead after the van they were travelling in was hit by a cargo train on a railway crossing in northeast China’s Liaoning Province on Saturday.

The accident was reported at around 2:00 pm before a public prosecutor.

Saturday in the mountainous Fengcheng City, about 200 kilometres east of the provincial capital Shenyang, according to local railway authorities.

The van had passed several vehicles waiting at the crossing, where the red light was on to warn drivers of a coming train, and the driver had continued on to the crossing apparently hoping to pass before the train.

The train driver saw the van in the distance and pulled the emergency brake, but it was too late, said a source with anonymity.

Five people died at the scene and three others died later at hospital, he said. The train driver was unhurt. MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian man dies of bird flu

JAKARTA, 12 Nov — An Indonesian man from Riau Province on Sumatra Island has died of bird flu, taking the country’s death toll from the disease to 91, a Health Ministry official said on Saturday.

It was not clear if the 31-year-old man who died on Tuesday had been in contact with sick fowl, the most common way ofcontracting the disease, Health Ministry spokeswoman Lili Sulistyowati said by telephone text message. Another official at the ministry’s bird flu centre said the man, who had been suffering from a cough, fever and breathing difficulties, died while being transferred from a local hospital in Duri District to a hospital in Pekanbaru, the provincial capital. “It is not clear about his contact with sick fowl, but our investigation team has been there,” said Joko Suyono at the bird flu centre.

Bird flu is endemic in bird populations in most parts of Indonesia, where people often keep backyard chickens for meat and eggs or to supplement income.

Indonesia, which has had the most number of human deaths from the H5N1 virus globally, has had 133 confirmed human cases of the disease. MNA/Reuters

A rare 18K gold, enamel and diamond-set hunter case “tact” watch, made by Swiss watchmaker Breguet for Josephine Bonaparte, Empress of France and sold to her in 1800 is seen during a Christie’s jewellery auction. —XINHUA

Pooja Chitgopeker of India and Miss Fire Angela Gomez of Spain smile to the crowd during the coronation night in Manila on 11 Nov, 2007.—XINHUA
China to become NZ’s 3rd largest tourism market by 2013

BEIJING, 12 Nov—China will become New Zealand’s third largest market in terms of inbound tourists after Britain and Australia by 2013, said Ed Sims, group general manager of Air New Zealand.

To meet growing demand, Air New Zealand would increase the number of its aircraft flying to the Chinese Mainland to four by 2013, including two Boeing 777s and two 787s, said Sims.

Last month the airline company increased its Shanghai-Auckland service from three flights to five flights per week, increasing the transport capacity by 65 per cent on the route.

Currently, for every eight Chinese tourists flying to New Zealand, there are only two New Zealanders travelling to China.

Bangladesh to explore new markets for exporting manpower

DHAKA, 13 Nov—Bangladesh Government Sunday spelled out a seven-point strategy to explore new markets and expanding existing ones for its workforce as the country earns growing remittance from expatriate workers.

Some 475,000 workers were dispatched this year fetching 5.31 billion US dollars in last 10 months, which is about 20 per cent higher than that of last year.

Foreign Adviser Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, who is also in charge of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment Ministry told a Press briefing that the government has taken initiative to explore new labour markets in Norway, Sweden, Russia, Romania, Poland and Canada.

The adviser who just concluded his visit to Norway and Sweden said Norway, rich in oil industry, requires engineers with command over English language while Sweden is enacting new legislation to recruit workforce from outside Europe.

Besides, he said the European Union is introducing Blue Card system to recruit skilled manpower in the wake of aging population and falling birth rate in EU countries — MNA/Xinhua

Emirates signs $34.9b contracts for 120 Airbus, Boeing planes

ABU DHABI, 13 Nov—Emirates Airline on Sunday announced a historic civil aviation aircraft order for a 120 Airbus A350s, 11 A380s, and 12 Boeing 777-300ERs, worth an estimated 34.9 billion US dollars in list prices. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al-Maktoum, Emirates’ Chairman and Chief Executive, announced the massive order at the 10th Dubai Airshow, which opened on Sunday.

He has signed the contracts with Airbus and Boeing Commercial Airplanes.

The agreement with Airbus comprises firm orders for 50 A350-900s and 20 A350-1000s, plus 50 options for the A350-900. The first A350 will be delivered to Emirates in 2014.

Dubai-based Emirates also firm’d up orders on the eight A380s for which it had signed letters of intent earlier this year, and placed firm orders for an additional three of the double-decker aircraft, bringing its total firm order for the A380s to 58.

The contract with Boeing is for 12 firm orders of the 777-300ERs, valued at 3.2 billion dollars. With this new order, Emirates now has 57 Boeing 777s pending delivery and is set to become the world’s largest 777 operator in the next few years.— MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

Afghan Govt hopes to attract $1b investment in 2007

KABUL, 12 Nov—The Afghan Government hopes to attract more than one billion US dollars of investment throughout the year 2007, head of government-backed Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA) said Saturday.

“We are hopeful to attract more than one billion US dollars capital investment throughout the current year and we would announce at the end of year the exact figure of investment in the country this year,” Omar Zakhilwal told newsmen at a Press briefing here.

The figure of investment in 2006, according to Zakhilwal, was regis-tered at one billion US dollars, mostly in the field of reconstruction run by private sector.

Singapore to step up energy industry investment

SINGAPORE, 13 Nov—Singapore has been striving to develop its energy industry in recent years, aiming to increase the value-added of the energy sector from current 20 billion to 34 billion Singapore dollars (about from 13.8 billion to 23.4 billion US dollars) by 2015.

It will also triple the employment in the industry from 5,700 to 13,500, Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang unveiled here on Monday. To do so, a six-point national energy policy framework will be implemented to balance economic competitiveness, energy security, and environmental sustainability.

These strategies will bring together the government, industries, businesses and households to adopt practical and effective measures on energy use.— MNA/Xinhua

Japan’s toy giant Tomy employee displays a cubic moneybox with LCD display “Blank of Life”, only for Japan’s 500yen (5 USD) coin and to save up to 100,000 yen (1,000 USD) in the box. The piggy bank “explodes” and scatters coins if users fail to save for a long time. —INTERNET

The French Air Force aerobatic team “Patrouille de France” performs during the 2nd day of the 2007 Dubai Airshow at Dubai airport. —INTERNET

To further encourage foreign investors and boost trade and economic activities in the country, the agency has arranged 40 Afghan companies to attend the International Trade Fair to be held in India from 14-27 November.

Employees of Samsung Electronics display the world’s first flash memory chips based on 30-nanometer production technology during a news conference in Seoul recently. —XINHUA
Slovenian Prime Minister visits Shanghai
SHANGHAI, 12 NOV — Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Jansa arrived in east China’s Shanghai Saturday, continuing his official visit in China.

Slovenia has just established a representative office in Shanghai for its entrepreneurs and investment activities.

At the opening ceremony of the office Saturday afternoon, Jansa called on more Chinese entrepreneurs to invest and conduct economic and trade cooperation in his country.

He met with Slovenian business people later Saturday and toured the Huangpu River of Shanghai.

It is Jansa’s first China visit since he assumed the office of Prime Minister in 2004. — MNA/Xinhua

Ukraine, WB sign loan for power modernization
KIEV, 12 NOV — Ukraine and the World Bank signed a 200-million-US-dollar loan deal on Friday for modernizing its power transmission system.

According to the agreement signed by Ukraine’s Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Bohko and director of the World Bank in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova Paul Birmingham, the loan term is set for 17 years with a four-year grace period.

In addition, the Eastern European country should pay 0.25 per cent of the loan in a one-time commission.

The first part of the loan is expected to deliver in 2008.

Birmingham said that the deal is important for Ukraine economically, as well as politically.

Birmingham pointed out that Ukraine has become the first country to sign a deal with the World Bank since the latter lowered its loan interest rates.

He said the funds would help Ukraine in modernizing its electricity transmission system.

As reported, the direct recipient of the loan is the Ukrainian national energy company Ukrenergo.

Egypt hosts four-way summit on Mideast issues
CAIRO, 12 NOV — A four-way summit grouping leaders of Egypt, Sudan, Iraq and Yemen was held here on Sunday on the latest developments of the Mideast region.

The meeting among Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, Iraqi President Jalal Talabani and Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh was held at the presidential palace in Cairo.

The Mideast situation, particularly the pre-parations of a US-initiated international conference on Mideast peace, were high on the agenda of the four leaders’ meeting.

Egypt is seeking to unify Arab ranks ahead of the US-proposed Mideast peace conference, which was scheduled to be held later this year in the United States.

According to the scientists, the early chocolate drinks were probably alcoholic brews, or beers, made from the fermented pulp of the cacao fruit, rather than the frothy chocolate-flavored drink made from the seed of the cacao tree.

“The earliest cacao beverages consumed at Puerto Escondido were likely produced by fermenting the sweet pulp surrounding the seeds,” the scientists wrote in Monday’s online edition of Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. According to the study, the cacao drinks were a status symbol and might help to form stratified societies. — Internet

Chocolate drinks 3,100 years ago may taste like beer
BEIJING, 13 NOV — The earliest chocolate drinks were invented at least 3,100 years ago and were probably a beer-like beverage instead of the sweet treat people now crave, according to a study released Monday.

Researchers led by John Henderson of Cornell University studied the remains of pottery vessels dating from about 1100 BC in Puerto Escondido, Honduras.

They discovered that the residues in the pottery vessels contained a chemical compound that comes exclusively from the cacao plant — the source of chocolate. This finding revealed that the ancient peoples of Central America were drinking cacao beverages some 500 years earlier than previously known.

According to the scientists, the early chocolate drinks were probably alcoholic brews, or beers, made from the fermented pulp of the cacao fruit, rather than the frothy chocolate-flavored drink made from the seed of the cacao tree.

“The earliest cacao beverages consumed at Puerto Escondido were likely produced by fermenting the sweet pulp surrounding the seeds,” the scientists wrote in Monday’s online edition of Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. According to the study, the cacao drinks were a status symbol and might help to form stratified societies. — Internet

Six dead, three injured in tricycle-train collision in N-W China
XI’AN, 12 NOV — Six people were killed and three were critically injured after a farming vehicle they rode collided with a train at a railway crossing in northwest China on Sunday.

The accident occurred around 9 am Sunday at an unguarded railway crossing in Heyang County in Shaanxi Province, when a farming tricycle with nine people aboard crashed with a passing train, according to local railway authorities.

Four of the nine were killed at the scene and two others died in hospital.

The other three, who were seriously injured, are still receiving emergency treatment in hospital.

The cause of the accident is still being investigated. Unguarded railway crossings are common in China, posing a threat to motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

An artist’s rendering of the Galileo system in an undated image. Britain must try to prevent the European Union satellite navigation system from going ahead until its costs, risks and benefits have been thoroughly assessed, lawmakers said on Monday. — Internet
British man charged with possessing explosives

LONDON, 13 Nov — British police charged a Yorkshire man on Sunday with possessing explosives. Risk analyst Peter Stephen Hill, 23, of Skipton, North Yorkshire, is due to appear at Leeds Magistrates’ Court on Monday after being charged under the Explosive Substances Act 1883.

Charges against him say Hill had “an explosive substance, namely component parts including sodium chlorate, sugar, hexamine tablets, matches, bearings, a metal hollow tube and acetone”.

Hill was arrested in Leeds on Wednesday by Metropolitan Police officers, and a domestic and a business property were searched in Skipton.

MNA/Reuters

Picasso sketch worth $650,000 stolen in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 13 Nov — A sketch by Pablo Picasso, valued at 650,000 US dollars, was stolen from a house on the outskirts of Mexico City, local media reported on Sunday.

A thief broke into the house in a posh area and made off with a metallic suitcase holding the sketch, which was not named nor described.

Also stolen was 90,000 US dollars in cash and a collection of luxury watches, according to the state-run news agency Notimex.

Picasso, one of the most recognized figures of 20th Century art, was one of the founders of the Cubist movement.

MNA/Reuters

Twelve miners trapped in central China

ZHENGZHOU, 13 Nov — Twelve miners have been trapped in a coal mine in central China’s Henan Province after a gas outbreak on Monday morning, sources said.

The outbreak occurred at about 3:00 am when 24 miners were working underground in the mine in Pingdingshan City. Twelve miners have managed to escape, said the sources with the Pingdingshan Coal Co., Ltd.

Rescue work is under way. Shi Jichun, vice-governor of Henan, has rushed to the mine to guide rescue operations.

MNA/Xinhua

2 NATO soldiers killed, another injured in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 Nov — Two soldiers of NATO-led International Security Assistance Force were killed and another wounded while conducting an operation in eastern Afghanistan on Monday, said an ISAF statement.

An ISAF’s convoy was struck by an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations, the statement added.

The names and nationalities of the deceased are being withheld pending next of kin notification as in accordance with ISAF policy.

No one claimed responsibility for that incident so far.

Some 55,000 foreign troops are being deployed in this country for keeping security and fighting militants.

MNA/Xinhua

The Union Solidarity and Development Association is established with sons and daughters of national people to serve the interests of the State and the people. Thus, young members have to make sustained efforts to enable the Association to remain as a reliable national force, while dedicating themselves to the nation-building tasks and national political processes the government is implementing for national development.
UPNO declares Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, …
(from page 1)
Pa-Oh nationals in the constitution. The representatives of our party hold discussions thoroughly with the representatives of the eight delegate groups that represent the entire people, and adopted basic principles and detailed basic principles. In the process, the delegate groups hold discussions thoroughly and comprehensively to achieve solutions acceptable to all, and cooperated and coordinated to settle all disagreements in the interests of the people. Therefore, we would say that according to Myanmar’s political situations, the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted are the most suitable ones for the nation. The Union Pa-Oh National Organization strongly believes that the forthcoming constitution bestows more rights on national races if compared with previous constitutions.

Our party considers that discussions held between Minister U Aung Kyi, who is assigned duties as Minister for Relations by the government, and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi are a symbol of positive development for national re-consolidation and we welcome this. We notice that the statement released abroad on behalf of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi by the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Adviser Mr Gambari stipulates some points that imply that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy (NLD) will represent ethnic groups. We hereby announce that statement is not legal because they did not seek our opinion to do so.

We assume that the statement is designed to use the complicate and delicate affairs of national races in Myanmar just in the interests of NLD. Ours is a party that stands with own policies, objectives and concepts. The Union Pa-Oh National Organization is not a follower of any individual or party. Thus, we announce that we do not accept the offer of the said statement.

We consider that the meeting between the government and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is intended to build national re-consolidation between the government and her. The Union Pa-Oh National Organization strongly welcomes the government’s formation of the Commission for Drafting State Constitution. We hereby announce that we support the way to draft the constitution with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted, and we will continue to contribute towards the implementation of the State’s seven-step Road Map hand in hand with the government and the entire people.

For Executive Committee

U Khun Maung Tok
Joint-Secretary
Union Pa-Oh National Organization

Mr Pinheiro meets officials of
Myanmar Human Rights Committee

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov — Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro of UN Human Rights Commission and party met with officials of Myanmar Human Rights Committee here at 11.30 am today.

At the meeting, Chairman of Myanmar Human Rights Committee Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo explained measures being taken for human rights in Myanmar.

Afterwards, officials of MHRC replied to questions raised by Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro and party.

Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro and party also met with officials of the Union Solidarity and Development Association at the Nay Pyi Taw City Hall, those from NGOs at the Royal Kumudra Hotel, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung at the latter’s office, and Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha at the latter’s office separately.

In the evening, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe hosted a dinner in Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro and party at the Thingaha Hotel.

PNO rejects Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s …
(from page 1)
Kokang, Danu, Palaung and Naga nationals attained Self-Administered Division or Self-Administered Zone. In addition, fundamental principles and detailed basic principles have been adopted to provide appropriate legislative, administrative and judicial powers to Regions and States. Thus, it can be found that fundamental principles and detailed basic principles adopted by the National Convention provide rights for the national races as never before when compared with previous Constitutions.

After the successful completion of the National Convention, the Government has formed the 54-member Commission for Drafting State Constitution. Therefore, the implementation of the seven-step Road Map can now be continued with momentum.

While there emerge good conditions for the national re-consolidation and democratization, the meetings between Minister U Aung Kyi who has been appointed and assigned duty as Minister for Relations and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi started. We, the PNO, welcome them. We assume that these meetings are meant for the national re-consolidation between the Government and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. However, in the recent statement by Mr Gambari on behalf of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, there are some points implying that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will represent the national races. It is found that the statement was issued with individual desire and it is not official. We declare that the PNO rejects the invitation mentioned in that statement.

The Shan State Special Region (6) supports the forthcoming Constitution formulated with fundamental principles and detailed basic principles adopted by the National Convention. We declare that we will continue to participate steadily in the implementation of the seven-step Road Map.

(U Aung Kham Htii)
Chairman
Pa-Oh National Organization (PNO)

Taunggyi to hold ICT Exhibition

YANGON, 13 Nov—ICT Exhibition will be held at the city hall in Taunggyi, Shan State, from 16 to 18 November. In the exhibition, IT companies in Yangon and Mandalay and Taunggyi will put on display IT equipment and other technologies.

Minister U Soe Tha holds talks with Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro and party. — MNA

Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro and party hold talks with officials of Myanmar Human Rights Committee. — MNA
Individual qualification, spirit and performance key to success of educational projects

Special refresher course No 29 for basic education teachers

Minister Dr Chan Nyein greets trainees at opening of the special refresher course No 29 for basic education teachers in PyinUlcwin. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov — The special refresher course No 29 for basic education teachers was opened at the Central Institute of Civil Services (Upper Myanmar) in PyinUlcwin on 13 November and on behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thitha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein delivered an opening address.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Chan Nyein said the government is making efforts for improvement of the skills of service personnel as part of efforts for transition to the e-government system by making the best use of information technology in the management sector of the government. Regarding the education sector, necessary infrastructures have been built to establish e-Education system and e-learning centres and multimedia classroom have also been set up at schools and students are being trained at those rooms.

After upgrading the curriculum of the basic education sector, the government has made necessary arrangements for improvement of teaching and learning skills of teachers and students.

While attending the special refresher course, trainees are to work hard to sharpen their teaching skills improve their qualifications.

Plans for promotion of national education standard was not laid down by one person. Teachers, experts and responsible officials of the education sector held discussions and laid down plans for the promotion of the national education standards and have worked hard together to promote the education standard.

Teachers, experts, responsible officials, students and their parents, members of board of trustees of schools and members of social organizations have been participating in implementing the plans. Today the functions of education have become wider and its objectives have also noble. Scholars and teachers cannot implement the educational tasks only in the school campuses. All the entire people are to make concerted efforts for realization of the objectives, he said.

He said all the teachers are to make strenuous efforts for efficiency of every individual and collective performances.

With the revitalization of Myanmar traditional cultural customs, social values and norms the prestige of teachers and their right guidance and teaching become dynamic and effective and these advantages can bring about prosperity of the students and better future for the country. The minister urged the teachers not only to teach the students but to nurture them to possess qualification of the citizens and to have the sense of duty and nationalistic spirit. He also called on them to participate in community welfare tasks.

Minister Dr Chan Nyein cordially greeted them. Altogether 1,287 teachers are attending the five-week course. Also present on the occasion were Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soc Naung, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, deputy ministers, members of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee, departmental officials, the rector and protectors of CICS (Upper Myanmar), departmental officials and trainees. — MNA

Donations for World Vipassana Pagoda in Mumbai on 25 November

YANGON, 13 Nov — A ceremony to present cash for the World Vipassana Pagoda, a replica of Shwedagon Pagoda, being built in Mumbai, India will be held at the Dhammajoti Vipassana Meditation Centre on Ngahtatgyi Pagoda Road in Bahan Township on 25 November (1st Waning of Tazaungmon). The upper reliquary enshrining ceremony of the pagoda will be held on a grand scale on 2 December (8th Waning of Tazaungmon), it is learnt.— MNA

Officials seek ways to boost export at Kawthoung Trade Camp

YANGON, 13 Nov — Officials of Kawthoung Border Trade Camp and export/import companies on 3 November held a meeting to discuss matters on boosting quantity of export goods at the camp.

At the meeting, Deputy Director U Wint Tin, In-charge of the camp, discussed matters on ways for boosting quantity of export goods to meet the target for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, seeking export markets and boosting manufacturing products. Local authority, officials concerned and responsible personnel of export and import companies reported on condition of trading services at the camp. — MNA

No longer want to be members of NLD

YANGON, 13 Nov — A total of 14 members from Pathein and Myaung townships/National League for Democracy resigned from the party of their own accord on 19 and 20 September respectively.

A member of Pathein Township NLD and 13 members of Myaung Township, Sagaing Division, NLD sent their resignation letters to NLD Headquarters and local authorities on 19 and 20 September respectively.

In their resignation letters sent to Pathein Township and Sagaing Division Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commissions, they said they quit NLD of their own volition as they no longer wanted to be members of NLD.

Those who resigned from NLD were U Hla Than Kyaw of Pathein Township, U Soe Min, U Hein Win and U Aung Toe of Parentma Village, Myaung Township, U Saw Kyi, Daw Yi, U Win Sein, Ma Khin Myo Win, Ma Win Win Maw, Ma Win Win Khang, Ma Wai Wai Lwin, U Kyi Aye, U Than Nang and Daw Nwe of Aitha Village, Myaung Township. — MNA

IT talks in Shan State

YANGON, 13 Nov — A mobile team comprising executive members of Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Scientists Association, Myanmar Computer Industry Association and Myanmar Computer Enthusiasts Association will attend IT exhibition in Taunggyi on 16 November with the aim of propagation of IT in Myanmar.

The team will hold talks on information technology at Taunggyi Education College and Basic Education High School No 1. Similar talks will be held in Shweyaung and Inlay (Heywa) on 17 November and BEMS and BEHS in Aungban and Kalaw on 18 November.— MNA

Fourteen of Pathein, Myaung Townships NLD quit
World Diabetes Day

As usual, World Diabetes Day for this year 2007 is going to be celebrated on November 14. World Diabetes Day is the primary global campaign for raising public awareness of diabetes. It aims to inform the public of the causes, symptoms, complications and treatment associated with the condition. World Diabetes Day serves as an important reminder that the incidence and prevalence of diabetes is increasing all over the world and will continue to do so unless action is taken immediately.

World Diabetes Day was introduced in 1991 in response to concern over the escalating incidence of diabetes around the world. Since then, it has grown in popularity every year and now brings together more than 350 million people worldwide—children and adults with and without diabetes, health care professionals, decision makers, and the media.

World Diabetes Day is celebrated every year on 14 November. The date was designated as it is the birthday of Frederick Banting, who along with Charles Best, first conceived the idea which led to the discovery of insulin in October 1921. Insulin is a hormone produced by pancreas and it plays an important role in the pathogenesis of diabetes mellitus. It is also important medication for the treatment of diabetes mellitus. Previously World Diabetes Day was celebrated worldwide by the activities organized by the International Diabetes Federation with the support of World Health Organization. The peculiarity of this year is that it is to be celebrated for the first time as one of the United Nations observed days.

On 20 December 2000, the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution 61/225. This landmark Resolution recognizes diabetes as “a chronic, debilitating and costly disease associated with major complications that pose severe risks for families, countries and the entire world.” Resolution 61/225 designates 14 November, World Diabetes Day, as a United Nations Day to be observed every year beginning in 2007.

The United Nations has shown its commitment to the fight against diabetes by throwing its support behind World Diabetes Day and by highlighting the global impact of the disease. This is the first time that a non-communicable disease has been recognized as posing as serious a global health threat as infectious epidemics like malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

The passage of the Resolution is a major achievement for all people living with or at risk of diabetes. However, it is just the first step in the struggle to reverse the diabetes epidemic and save lives.

UN Resolution 61/225 establishes the global agenda for the coming fight against the diabetes pandemic by encouraging all nations to develop national policies for the prevention, care and treatment of diabetes. The diabetes world must unite for diabetes and make sure that all nations follow through on this commitment.

Over 246 million people are living with diabetes. Without concerted action to fight the disease, this figure will reach 380 million within a generation.

To mark the passage of the United Nations World Diabetes Day Resolution, a version of the diabetes circle, the icon established by the ‘Unite for Diabetes’ campaign, has been adopted for World Diabetes Day. The circle is a simple icon that can be easily adapted and used.

The significance of the symbol is overwhelmingly positive. Across cultures, the circle symbolizes life and health. The colour blue reflects the sky that unites all nations and is the colour of the United Nations flag. The blue circle signifies the unity of the global diabetes community in response to the diabetes pandemic. Show your support for World Diabetes Day by using the logo as widely as possible.

Each year World Diabetes Day is centered on a theme related to diabetes. Topics covered in the past have included diabetes and human rights, diabetes and lifestyle, and the costs of diabetes. Recent themes include:

2004: Diabetes and Obesity
2005: Diabetes and Foot Care
2006: Diabetes in the Disadvantaged and the Vulnerable
2007: Diabetes in Children and Adolescents
2008: Diabetes in Women

The theme for World Diabetes Day 2007 and 2008 is Diabetes in Children and Adolescents.

The World Diabetes Day campaign in 2007 and 2008 aims to:
- Increase the number of children supported by the IDF life for Child Program
- Raise awareness of the warning signs of diabetes
- Encourage initiatives to reduce diabetic ketoadsosis and distribute materials to support these initiatives
- Promote healthy lifestyles to help prevent type 2 diabetes in children

Diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood. It can strike children of any age, including infants and toddlers. Yet diabetes in children is often diagnosed late, when the child has very high, potentially life-threatening, blood glucose levels. Sometimes it can be mistaken for something else, such as the flu.

In many parts of the world, insulin, which children with type 1 diabetes must take to survive, is not available because of cost or geography. As a result, many children die of diabetes, particularly in low and middle-income countries. In 2007 and 2008, World Diabetes Day aims to raise awareness of the rising prevalence of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes in children and emphasize the importance of early diagnosis and education to reduce complications and save lives.

To be able to achieve the objectives of this year World Diabetes Day and to reduce the number of death due to diabetes in children and adolescents, it is necessary to cooperate among health care providers, policy makers, diabetes patients and their families.

In conclusion, I would like to welcome World Diabetes Day 2007 by calling for fight, with concerted effort, against diabetes which is now threatening the health of the people all over the world.

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US anti-war veterans arrested in Veteran Day event

WASHINGTON, 13 Nov — Several anti-war veterans have been arrested when they protested being excluded from a Veteran Day event in Boston, Massachusetts, according to a TV report on Monday.

About 15 members and supporters of a group called Veterans for Peace were arrested on Sunday when they refused to leave the event sponsored by the American Legion.

The American Legion also reportedly rejected the group’s request to have a speaker at the event.

Boston police confirmed the arrests but did not specify on exact number. The detainees were later released on bail.

A Vietnam War veteran and group member, Winston Warfield, told the TV that they are viewed as traitors by a lot of veterans because “we’re opposed to the US invasion of Iraq, we’re opposed to the planned invasion of Iran.”

The US federal, state and city offices as well as public schools are closed on Monday in observance of Veterans Day, an official national holiday in the United States, but for US veterans, there are more reasons to worry rather than celebrate.

According to a WCVB report released on Monday, many US soldiers who suffer from the post-traumatic stress disorder after returning from Iraq and Afghanistan were immediately redeployed to the war-torn countries, against the US military policy that soldiers with serious psychiatric problems could only be sent back to the war zone if they were stable for at least three months.

Apart from being tortured by horrible war memories, many veterans were also struggling to find themselves homes.

According to a report released on November 8 by the Homelessness Research Institute, more than 25 per cent of the homeless population in the country are military veterans.

About 44,000 to 64,000 veterans are classified as “chronically homeless” — homeless for long periods or repeatedly, the report said.

The concerns about homeless veterans was echoed by another poll by Gallup.

Among 1,005 veteran respondents, 61 per cent believe that veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts are at least as likely to become homeless as veterans of previous wars, the poll shows.

US anti-war veterans arrested in Veteran Day event

The US anti-war veterans arrested in Veteran Day event in Boston, Massachusetts, according to a TV report on Monday.

The police source released shocking statistics: every year, an estimated 70,000 school-aged offenders enter the youth justice system; 18 to 20-year-olds constitute 42 per cent of all first time offenders; the most likely person to have a knife is a boy of 14-19; the total of young offenders in custody has been above 2,500 every month since April 2000 and 1,504 of those in custody now are 16 or younger.

The commission, chaired by former Conservative Party leader Iain Duncan Smith, will launch a strong attack on the institutions in London for not investing more of their profits in the inner-cities, the report said.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, left, shakes hands with China’s Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, during an official meeting in Teheran, Iran on 13 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

Hewlett-Packard sign on a HP building. India’s Tata group and Hewlett-Packard said Tuesday they had built the Asia-Pacific region’s most powerful supercomputer in a major boost to scientific research in India. —INTERNET

Crocodiles escape from Vietnam’s farm due to floods

HANOI, 13 Nov — A number of crocodiles have escaped from a farm in Vietnam’s central Khanh Hoa Province after their cages were damaged by flash floods, local newspaper Saigon Liberation reported Monday.

An identified number of big and small crocodiles in nearly 40 cages in the farm in Khanh Vinh District raised by local corporation Khanh Viet have been on the loose after the two floods damaged the cages on November 10. The farm houses some 5,000 crocodiles, including around 500 parent ones.

As of November 11, local soldiers, military men, the firm’s staff and residents had shot dead and caught alive a total of 29 crocodiles, including nine adult ones. They are still searching for the reptiles on the loose.

The corporate officials said it is very difficult for the domestic crocodiles to survive and reproduce in natural environment.

The police source said the taxi driver was shot in the chest on Saturday by a convoy travelling through the Utaifiya area of west-central Baghdad. He could not identify the security contractor involved in the incident.—MNA/Reuters

Foreign security guards kill Iraqi driver

BAGHDAD, 13 Nov — Guards from a foreign security firm shot dead a taxi driver in Baghdad over the weekend, a senior Iraqi police source said on Monday, in the latest killing of civilians by contractors who protect dignitaries in Iraq.

DynCorp International, a private Virginia-based company which protects US Embassy officials in Iraq, reported firing at a car as its guards escorted a convoy through Baghdad around midday on Saturday, US and DynCorp officials said.

Greg Laguna, a spokesman for the firm, said the company was not aware of any injuries or deaths.

An ancient royal citadel is seen submerged in floodwaters in Vietnam’s central Hue City on 12 Nov, 2007. Tens of thousands of homes were submerged in central Vietnam, the fifth major floods since August in which hundreds of people have died, roads and railways inundated, crops damaged and water-borne diseases spread. —INTERNET

Report says Britain has “broken society”

LONDON, 13 Nov — Britain is in danger of creating a “lost generation” of wayward teenagers responsible for soaring levels of guncrime and drug and alcohol abuse, according to a report in the Daily Telegraph on Monday.

The commission for Social Justice, a Tory-backed group, claimed that Britain’s “broken society”, a toxic combination of family breakdown and school failure, is creating a violent and anti-social youth culture, the paper reported.

The concerns about homeless veterans was echoed by another poll by Gallup.

Among 1,005 veteran respondents, 61 per cent believe that veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts are at least as likely to become homeless as veterans of previous wars, the poll shows.
FBI finds stolen Spanish maps in global hunt

MADRID, 12 Nov—The FBI has returned two 15th Century world maps stolen from Madrid’s national library this year. The rare maps were found by an FBI agent working in the New York art world where they can sell for hundreds of thousands of dollars in auctions, police said.

They were some of 19 illustrations stolen in August by a Uruguayan man who walked into the national library posing as a researcher and tore pages out of a compilation of century world geography by Greek scholar Claudius Ptolemy.

The two maps handed over to Spain were taken from the library this year. The rare maps were found by an FBI agent working in the New York art world where they can sell for hundreds of thousands of dollars in auctions, police said.

The maps inspired Columbus to head west in search of India, only to land in the Americas in 1492, and only a handful still exist.

The robbery led to the resignation of the national library’s director and prompted an international search for the thief and his 500-year-old treasure.

Cesar Gomez Rivero, the 60-year-old charged with the robbery, surrendered eight stolen maps to police in Argentina via his lawyer. The FBI said he is on the run for the thief and his 500-year-old treasure.

Three killed in violence in northern Iraq

Mosul (Iraq), 12 Nov—Three people were killed, including an Iraqi Army officer, and 15 others wounded in two attacks in Mosul City, the capital of Nineveh Province, a provincial police source said on Saturday.

“An不知道 what served in Iraq, and other soldiers, Defence Minister Phil Goff said. Ferrara graduated from the US Military Academy in 2005 and had been serving in Afghanistan for about five months.

NZ DM’s nephew killed serving in Afghanistan

WELLINGTON, 13 Nov—A nephew of New Zealand’s Defence Minister has been killed in Afghanistan while serving with the US Army, the minister said in a statement on Monday.

Lieutenant Matthew Ferrara, who was born in the United States and held dual New Zealand citizenship, was killed in an ambush along with five other soldiers, Defence Minister Phil Goff said.

MFN/Reuters

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MNA/Reuters
Egypt to limit number of visitors to Tutankhamun’s tomb

CAIRO, 12 Nov — The Egyptian Government on Sunday decided to limit the number of visitors every day to protect the tomb of King Tutankhamun in the Southern Egyptian city of Luxor, the Egyptian MENA news agency reported.

The decision was announced by Egyptian Minister of Culture Farouq Hosni, who said that only 400 people will be allowed every day to visit the tomb of King Tutankhamun starting from 1 December, the report said.

This was part of the Egyptian Cultural Ministry’s plan to protect royal tombs in the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens in the West Bank in the monument-rich Upper Egyptian city of Luxor, which is located some 700 kilometers south to Cairo.

For his part, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities Zahi Hawass said that the visitors will be divided into two groups one in the morning and the other in the evening, adding that the tomb will be closed from 12 am till 1 pm every day.

On 4 November, the ancient Egyptian Pharaoh Tutankhamun’s mummy was moved from a sarcophagus covered by a gilded coffin to a temper-ment and humidity-controlled showcase on display to the public for the first time at the King’s tomb to protect the ancient boy King’s mummy from further damage due to the heat and humidity caused by increasing visitors.

“Harry Potter” series are the most re-read books

LONDON, 12 Nov — Nearly 80 per cent of Britons have re-read a book, with the Harry Potter series the most likely to be picked up again, a survey revealed on Friday.

Some of the books that are re-read for pleasure are classics such as Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice and Charlotte Bronte’s Jane Eyre.

But others in the top 10 include JRR Tolkien’s The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit as well as Dan Brown’s “The Da Vinci Code”.

People said they returned to the same books because they are fantastic stories of which they never tire, they find something new in each reading, it is comforting, they can relate to the characters and it cheers them up.

The research carried out for Costa showed 77 per cent of the 2,000 readers questioned had revisited a book, while 17 per cent said they had re-read a favourite more than five times. The survey also showed 43 per cent knew whether they are going to finish a book after the first chapter. — MNA/Reuters

Astronomers locate sun’s twin

BEIJING, 12 Nov — Astronomers say they have found the sun’s long-lost twin.

The star HIP 65948 is about 200 light-years away, it is now considered to be the best “solar twin” in the known candidates. Astronomers Jorge Melendez of the Australian National University and Ivan Ramirez of the University of Texas at Austin discovered the new star with a telescope at the McDonald Observatory in Texas.

The mid-sized star is one of many in the Draco the dragon constellation and may be a billion years older than the sun, which is middle-aged at 4.6 billion years.

Searches for solar twins are important, the astronomers said, because the sun is used as a baseline for other studies. But our own solar power plant is too close and too bright to study like distant stars. — Internet

Mexico reports $5b losses in Tabasco flood

MEXICO CITY, 12 Nov — The flood-hit southeastern Mexican state of Tabasco has suffered losses of at least $5 billion pesos (about five billion US dollars), the local government said on Sunday.

In a separate statement, the National Farm Workers’ Federation, one of Mexico’s largest unions, estimated that crop damage alone could near five billion dollars, as the region’s largest harvest — papaya, banana, cocoa and corn crops — was ruined by the floods.

The National Trade Chamber, Canaco, reported that 12,000 businesses in Tabasco state capital Villahermosa lost a total of more than nine billion pesos (about 900 million dollars) in trade.

Gilberto Segovia, spokesman in Tabasco for the National Water Commission, said that more destruction could be found with the receding of floodwaters.

“Damage to infrastructure is only going to increase,” he said.

State governor Granier Melo has told media that one million people remain homeless, nearly half the population of Tabasco.

The flooding began on 29 October after Tropical Storm Noel dumped the worst rain seen in 50 years over Tabasco and neighbouring state Chiapas, which trapped thousands of residents on the roofs of their homes, flooded 17 Tabasco towns completely and forced the evacuation of 250,000 people to emergency shelters.

The deluge has drawn worldwide concern.

The Chinese Red Cross on Sunday delivered a $30,000-US-dollar cheque to its Mexican counterpart.

The deluge has drawn worldwide concern.

A passer-by walks past an electronic board displaying falls in share prices in Tokyo, on 12 Nov, 2007. Japan’s Nikkei average hit its lowest level this year on Monday, hurt by exporters including Honda Motor following the yen’s sharp rise against the dollar and big losses on Wall Street. — Internet
ITALY OFFICIALS MEET OVER SHOOTING, RIOTS

Milan, 13 Nov—Italian soccer authorities are meeting on Monday to discuss measures aimed at tackling widespread fan violence sparked by the shooting of a Lazio supporter by rioters in Rome on Sunday. The authorities are desperate to avoid a repeat of Sunday’s violence, which mirrored riots outside a Catania match in Sicily in February, where a policeman was killed.

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Lokomotiv Moscow sack coach after poor season

Moscow, 13 Nov—Lokomotiv Moscow sacked coach Anatoly Byshovets on Monday one day after ending the most disappointing season in their recent history.

Despite having one of the biggest budgets in Russian soccer, the railway side finished in seventh place, their worst showing since 1992 when the Russian championship was founded after the break-up of the Soviet Union.

The Russian Premier League club named reserve trainer Rinat Bilyaletdinov as their caretaker coach. Byshovets became the second high-profile coach in Russia’s topflight to lose his job in two days after Leonid Slutsky parted company with FK Moscow despite leading them to fourth place, their best ever finish.

Byshovets, 61, was appointed a year ago with the goal of finishing in the top two that would have guaranteed them a place in the Champions League.

Ibrahimovic wins Swedish Golden Ball Award

Stockholm, 13 Nov—Inter Milan’s Zlatan Ibrahimovic won the Swedish Golden Ball award for footballer of the year on Monday. It was the 26-year-old striker’s second Golden Ball. He won the award for the first time in 2005.

“I am incredibly proud to receive this second time. It’s not just my prize. It also belongs to my Swedish fans, especially all the kids out there,” said Ibrahimovic. Ibrahimovic has not scored for the Swedish national team for two years but has shown impressive club form for Inter Milan, helping the side to the Serie A title last season while scoring 15 goals. — MNA/Reuters

Ronaldo set to celebrate Flaminio’s goal against Reading at the Madejski Stadium in Reading on 12 Nov, 2007. — Xinhua

Arsenal players (in red) celebrate Mathieu Flamini’s goal during their English Premier League soccer match against Reading at the Madejski Stadium in Reading on 12 Nov, 2007. — Xinhua

Boca thrash Velez on torrid afternoon for La Volpe

Buenos Aires, 13 Nov—Boca Juniors stayed hot on the heels of Argentine championship leaders Lanus by thumping Velez Sarsfield 4-0 at the Bombonera on Sunday on an unhappy afternoon for visiting coach Ricardo La Volpe. With three matches each to play, the win kept Boca three points behind surprise leaders Lanus, who moved closer to their first domestic title by winning 4-1 at Rosario Central on Friday.

Velez coach La Volpe was given a hostile reception by the Boca crowd on his return to the club where he was coach for four months last year.

The former Mexico coach was jeered and insulted as he walked across the pitch to take his place on the bench. Boca fans have still not forgiven La Volpe after their team, needing one point from their last two games to win last year’s Apertura championship, lost both and were beaten by Estudiantes in a title playoff.

La Volpe resigned immediately afterwards.

Boca striker Martin Palermo compounded La Volpe’s misery by heading in two trademark goals, both from Hugo Ibarra crosses, before halftime. — MNA/Reuters

Niang double gives Marseille 2-1 win at Lyon

Paris, 13 Nov—Two goals by Mamadou Niang and a superb display by goalkeeper Steve Mandanda hauled Olympique Marseille out of the relegation zone with a 2-1 victory at Ligue 1 leaders Olympique Lyon on Sunday.

Marseille now are 17th in the standings with 14 points from 14 games, while six-time champions Lyon, who had not lost in their previous 10 league matches, are top on 31 points. Lyon lead Nancy by three points but the Lorraine side, who were held to a goalless draw at Paris St Germain on Saturday, have a game in hand.

Lyon, with France striker Karim Benzema on the bench, made a dream start on seven minutes. A Nadir Belhadj effort was superbly parried by Mandanda, only for Juninho to follow up and head the ball into an empty net. — MNA/Reuters

Roger Federer of Switzerland hits a return to Fernando Gonzalez of Chile at the Masters Cup tennis tournament in Shanghai on 12 Nov, 2007. — Internet

Federer of Switzerland hits a return to Fernando Gonzalez of Chile at the Masters Cup tennis tournament in Shanghai on 12 Nov, 2007. — Internet

Barcelona World Race teams (L-R) Delta Dore, Paprec-vitac and Temenos II compete in Barcelona on 11 Nov, 2007. — Xinhua
Report says 2 foreigners infected with cholera in Vietnam

HANOI, 13 Nov — A Belgian female tourist and a Japanese person have contracted cholera in Vietnam, which has hit 202 people in the country, local newspaper Pioneer reported on Monday.

Specimens from the 36-year-old tourist, who vomited many times and had diarrhea after travelling from southern Ho Chi Minh City to Hanoi capial, was initially tested positive to cholera virus. She is now being treated at the Hanoi-based Tropical Disease Hospital.

Some foreign tourists in the same group with her have shown similar but less serious symptoms. They, after flying from Ho Chi Minh City to Hanoi, travelled to northern Quang Ninh Province.

The Japanese person, who earlier ate tofu and raw shrimp paste and drunk beer in a street-side restaurant in Vietnam, was initially reported to have contracted cholera virus. The person’s health is recovering.

Now, specimens from the two foreigners are being thoroughly tested for cholera virus at the country’s National Epidemiology and Hygiene Institute.

Thai guard accused of killing sleepy colleagues

BANGKOK, 13 Nov — A Bangkok security guard has been arrested for allegedly beating to death eight guards who slept on the job and3 badly injuring eight others in a year-long killing spree, police said on Sunday.

“I used to wake them up, but they scolded me. So I’ve remained enraged since then,” Wittaya Jakhun, 30, was quoted as saying by the Bangkok Post after his arrest on Saturday. Wittaya, a guard at a Bangkok hospital, told police he would cruise the streets of the Thai capital during his off hours, looking for sleeping guards who for not doing their pay.

He shook them awake but if they kept on dozing, he beat them with an iron pipe, a wooden stick, and a mobile phone we believe belonged to one of his victims,” Assawan said of Wittaya’s arrest.

Police began hunting Wittaya after they obtained his picture from a security camera that recorded the July murder of Jakrapol Masmees, a guard at a Bangkok car dealership.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring areas

Weekly weather summary

WEATHER

Tuesday, 13 November, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan State, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3ºC) to (4ºC) below November average temperatures in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (3ºC) above November average temperatures in Kachin State, Bago Division and (5ºC) above November average temperatures in Mandalay Division and about November average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Pathein (0.74 inch) and Co Co Island (0.24 inch). The significant night temperatures was Haka (4ºC). Maximum temperature on 12-11-2007 was 95ºF. Minimum temperature on 13-11-2007 was 74ºF. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 13-11-2007 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 12-11-2007 was (7.8) hours approx.

Rainfall on 13-11-2007 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 Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (15:30) hours MST on 12-11-2007.

Bay influence: Yesterday’s cyclonic storm “SIDR” over the Southeast Bay has moved Northnorthwest direction and has intensified further in to a severe Cyclonic storm. According to the observations at (09:30) hours MST today, the severe Cyclonic storm lay centered at (275) miles Westsouthwest of Co Co Island and if it forecast to intensify further and move initially North-Northwest direction and recurves later North-Northwest direction. Weather is cloudy in the Southeast, Central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 14-11-2007: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be widespread in Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Division, isolated in Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (69%) State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times Deltic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed (gusts) squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of rain or thunderstorms in the Rakhine Coastal area.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 14-11-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%)

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-11-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%)

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-11-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%)

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People’s Desire

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

☆ 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

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

☆ Due to violence and unrest
  Only ordinary people have to suffer
  Daily wage earners become jobless
  Poor business for shopkeepers and vendors
  Taxi drivers and trishaw men have hard times
  Stores and restaurants have to be kept closed

☆ Due to violence and unrest
  Only the notorious neo-colonialists benefited
  Colonialist-funded media and expatriates earning dollar rewards
  Only saboteurs reap the benefits

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