

Headline **Last Week**
Date **27 Sep 2009**
MediaTitle **Sunday Star**
Section **Nation**
Journalist **N/A**
Frequency **Weekly**
Circ / Read **320,964 / 1,072,000**

Language **English**
Page No **L-35**
Article Size **411 cm²**
Color **Full Color**
ADValue **15,380**
PRValue **46,141**



<SUNDAY

Rebel base seized

Philippine soldiers backed by air strikes seized the Abu Sayyaf group's main base on the southern island of Jolo, killing 19 rebels in a complex laced with bunkers and trenches. Hundreds of soldiers, supported by OV-10 Bronco planes, fought for more than six hours to dislodge about 200 Abu Sayyaf rebels from the fortified hills.

<MONDAY

Stimulus effect

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the government's two stimulus packages totalling RM67bil are on track and beginning to have a positive impact on the economy. To date, he said, a total of 83,939 projects have been awarded.

Zelaya returns

Deposed Honduran President Manuel Zelaya made a dramatic return to its capital city, Tegucigalpa, and took shelter from arrest at the Brazilian embassy. All utilities were shut off, while police and soldiers set up a ring of security in a 5km perimeter of the embassy. All the nation's international airports and border posts were closed and roadblocks set up to keep Zelaya supporters from massing for protests.

<TUESDAY

Selcat spat

Certain Selangor Pakatan Rakyat members criticised PAS' Datuk Dr Hasan Ali over his outbursts, among them to revamp the Select Committee for Competency, Accountability and Transparency (Selcat). Hasan was singled out as the "only problem" in the partnership forged after the last general election.

Varsity rating

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin advised prospective students to check on the status of private universities and university-colleges before enrolling. He said it would be compulsory for all institutions of higher education to participate in the Rating System for Malaysian Higher Education Institutions (Setara) programme next year.



Dusty down under

A pall of red dust blown in from the Outback clogged the skies over Sydney, and other areas in the eastern parts of New South Wales, Australia, leaving a coat of red dust over outdoor surfaces.

EAEG call revived

Japan's Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama made a message of reconciliation to China, asking President Hu Jintao to work together for an EU-style East Asian community. The proposal is similar to the idea mooted by former Malaysian prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, which was met with resistance at the time from the United States, Japan and some Asean nations.

<WEDNESDAY

New approach on Myanmar

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said the Obama administration has decided to engage directly with Myanmar's junta as part of international efforts to promote democracy in the military-run state. Clinton made the announcement at the United

Nations after meeting with her counterparts from a number of countries trying to convince the authoritarian regime to reform, allow dissent and release political prisoners, including Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

<THURSDAY

Watery moon

India's maiden moon mission Chandrayaan-I detected evidence of water across the lunar surface. The Moon Mineralogy Mapper (M3), a NASA instrument onboard Chandrayaan-I, detected wavelengths of reflected light that would indicate a chemical bond between hydrogen and oxygen in materials on the thin layer of upper soil.

High-placed debts

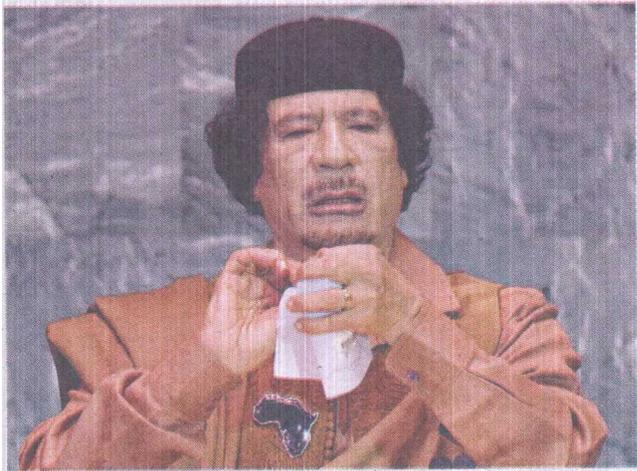
National Higher Education Fund Corporation chief executive Yunus Abd Ghani said professionals, celebrities and public figures are among the 26,000-odd people who owe the fund a whopping RM400mil. The corporation has disbursed RM18bil in loans since it began operations in 1997.

HIV vaccine

Researchers in Bangkok revealed that an experimental vaccine has prevented infection from the AIDS virus for the first time. Many scientists thought such a vaccine might never be possible. The vaccine cut the risk of becoming infected with HIV by more than 31% in the world's largest AIDS vaccine trial of more than 16,000 volunteers.

Headline **Last Week**
Date **27 Sep 2009**
MediaTitle **Sunday Star**
Section **Nation**
Journalist **N/A**
Frequency **Weekly**
Circ / Read **320,964 / 1,072,000**

Language **English**
Page No **L-35**
Article Size **411 cm²**
Color **Full Color**
ADValue **15,380**
PRValue **46,141**



Long speech

Muammar Gaddafi, in his first address to the United Nations in 40 years as Libya's ruler, spoke for one hour and 35 minutes - way over the allotted 15-minute time limit. He touched on subjects ranging from the assassination of US President John F. Kennedy, the US invasion of Grenada and free medicine for the world's children. He also condemned the veto power held by

the five permanent members of the council and tore the cover of his copy of the UN charter.

Applications open

The Education Ministry's matriculation division issued a statement advising students to apply for the 2010/2011 matriculation programme now through their schools or via the Internet. The closing date is Oct 10. The fee is RM6 for applications done via the Internet and RM10 for students who apply through their school.

<FRIDAY

Cancer vaccinations

Health Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said the Health Ministry would provide annual human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination against cervical cancer (cancer of the cervix) to an estimated 300,000 13-year-old girls in Malaysia beginning next year. He said RM150mil would be spent annually for the vaccine.

PKA sues

The Port Klang Authority (PKA) filed RM920mil suits against Kuala Dimensi Sdn Bhd, the turnkey contractor for the Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ) project, and the project consultant BTA Architect, over key development and supplemental agreements signed between Feb 2003 and Nov 2006.