**Myanmar Broilers Entrepreneurs Association holds 2nd AGM**

YANGON, 9 Dec—The Myanmar Broilers Entrepreneurs Association of the Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation held its second annual general meeting at Myanmar Fisheries Federation in Insein Township here this afternoon.

It was attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, heads of department, chairmen, vice-chairmen and executives of the Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation and its congenial associations.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe delivered an introductory speech.

Those responsible presented work progress. The secretary of the association read out the annual financial statement for approval.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe awarded outstanding persons.

The commander accepted the donations of the well-wishers and presented them certificates of honour.

**Dahseik river water pumping project in Langkho Township for regional development**

Langkho District, one of the districts in Shan State (South), is proud of itself for possession of cool weather and pleasant and scenic plains and mountain ranges. The long Thanlwin River across Kayah State flows through Langkho and Homein. And then it continues to flow round the Langkho District. The Langkho District is situated to the east from Taunggyi District and to the south from Loilem District.

Originally, the Langkho District was located in Loilem District. On 2 August 2004, it was divided into Loilem District and Langkho District. Homain of Mongpan Township of Langkho District was reconstituted in Langkho Township in 2005.

The creeks near Homein, branching off from Thanlwin River greatly contribute to greening of Langkho District. Sharing border with Kayah State and Thailand, Langkho District consists of Langkho, Maukmai, Mognai and Mongpan Townships. With the population of over 100,000, the district is formed with six towns, 34 wards, 48 village-tracts and 667 villages. The main livelihood of the local inhabitants is agriculture.

Dahseik river water pumping project stands at Dahseik Village. We got there after travelling along Mongpan-Langkho Road.

The project sufficiently supplies surrounding villages with water for agriculture.

The villages of Langkho and Mongpan Townships enjoy water supply for agriculture, thereby growing monsoon paddy, summer paddy and edible oil crops to meet targeted acreage.

In addition to monsoon and summer paddy, groundnut and sunflower were cultivated as main crops.

Land reclamation was carried out not only on plain regions but also on hilly regions. So, Langkho and the

*(See page 7)*

**Let’s collectively eliminate mankind’s enemy**

In reality, a developing nation like Myanmar does not have the means and capacity to produce precursor chemicals.
**Perspectives**

Thursday, 10 December, 2009

Do more research and apply research findings in major economic sectors

As Myanmar is a country rich in natural resources, the government is taking steps for long-term use of agricultural, aquatic and forest resources necessary for national development.

In our drive for development of national economy, food security and export of food surpluses, special emphasis should be placed on increased production of food, market development, increased participation of the private sector and modernization of local and foreign trade industries.

To be able to do research on the agriculture, meat and fish and forest sectors, a firm and secure national agricultural research system should be established. Only then will researchers, educators, farmers and all those involved in all production processes be able to coordinate their work and use research findings effectively and agricultural, meat and fish and forest products will be in surplus.

Efforts will have to be made in order that the agriculture, forest, livestock breeding and fisheries sectors, major economic sectors of the nation, will be able to ensure national food security and employ advanced technologies effectively in producing safe and hygienic foods.

Research seminars should be held regularly and, if research findings thoroughly discussed at these seminars are applied in the agriculture, meat and fish and forest sectors, it will contribute a lot to national economic development.

**UMFCCI President leaves for Japan**

**Yangon, 9 Dec—**Under the programme of 21st Century Opinion Leader Invitation Program organized by Japanese government, President U Win Myint of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry left for Japan by air on 7 December.

He was seen off by Vice-President U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin of UMFCCI, Secretary General Dr Maung Maung Lay and officials at Yangon International Airport.

The president of UMFCCI will discuss with officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Hiroshima Province government, JETRO, JCCI, AOTS, Japan ASEAN Center, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

**MWAF marks World AIDS Day 2009**

**Yangon, 9 Dec—**The XXV SEA Games was opened today. Myanmar women’s Sepak Takraw team won a gold medal for the country. At the events, Myanmar women’s team stood first with 690 points, Vietnam second with 650 and the Philippines shared third place with Indonesia.

Myanmar men’s Sepak Takraw team won one silver medal. Ya Min Kay Khine won one gold in women’s singles Taekwondo from the Poomsae (pattern) event, and San Shein Thet won one silver medal in men’s singles Taekwondo from the Poomsae (pattern) event. Thaw Zin Han and Ma Chaw Kha Kylar won one bronze in Poomsae events.

**MWAF Daw Mya Theingi presents third prize to the Insein Township representative.**

**Yangon, 8 Dec—**Organized by Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, World AIDS Day 2009 Commemorative Ceremony was held at the meeting hall of MWAF office on Thanlwin road in Bahan Township here this morning. It was attended by the director-general of Medical Research Department under the Ministry of Health, the patron, the president and CEC members of MWAF, CEC members of Maternal Child Welfare Association, the chairperson and members of Yangon Division WAO, responsible persons from UN Agencies and guests.

Director-General Daw Khin Pyone Kyi of Medical Research Department extended meetings and President of MWAF Professor Dr Myint Kyi delivered an address.

Next, Patron of MWAF Daw Mya Theingi awarded first prize winner Kyi Min Kha of Kyauktan Township, second Shwepyitha Townships and CEC members of Kyauktan and Country Coordinator Dr Sun Gang of UNAIDS (Myanmar) to Kyauktan and Botataung Townships.—MNA

**President U Win Myint of UMFCCI seen at the airport before departure for Japan.**

—MNA
Some of the deadliest attacks in Iraq

Baghdad, 9 Dec — Some of the deadliest militant attacks in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003:

- 2 March, 2004 — Coordinated blasts from suicide bombers, mortars and planted explosives strike Shiite Muslim shrines in Karbala and in Baghdad, killing at least 181 people.
- 18 April, 2007 — At least 183 are killed when four large bombs explode in mainly Shiite locations of Baghdad.
- 7 July, 2007 — A suicide truck bomb kills 160 in a Turkmen village south of Kirkuk.
- 14 Aug, 2007 — Four suicide truck bombs detonate simultaneously in the small village of Qahataniya, killing more than 500 Yazidis, a Kurdish-speaking sect and religious minority.
- 19 Aug, 2009 — Suicide bombers hit the Finance and Foreign ministries, killing more than 100 people.
- 25 Oct, 2009 — Two powerful car bombs explode in downtown Baghdad, killing at least 155 people in an apparent attempt to target the fragile city’s government offices.
- 8 Dec, 2009 — A series of coordinated attacks strike Baghdad, killing at least 127.

Afghan govt’s says NATO attack killed six civilians

Kabul, 9 Dec — The Afghan government said NATO forces killed six civilians during a pre-dawn operation in eastern Afghanistan. NATO disputed the allegation, saying only militants died.

Hundreds of people marched on the provincial capital to protest the raid, and an official said one demonstrator died on Tuesday in clashes with police.

International forces have pledged to avoid civilian deaths in recent months, but insurgents often live among villagers making them vulnerable during night time raids.

Some Afghans have expressed fear that the 30,000 additional US troops slated to start arriving in days will result in more violence and civilian casualties.

US Defence Secretary Robert Gates promised Afghans during a visit to the country on Tuesday that the US will do all it can to keep civilians out of the line of fire.

“Our top priority remains the safety of civilians,” he said at a joint Press conference with Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

Invasion of US and allies kills, injures Iraqi people

Baghdad, 9 Dec — There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 9 December reached 699664 and the total number of serious injured people reached 1262864, according to the news on the Internet.

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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The total number of seriously injured people</td>
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A wounded teacher is rushed to the hospital after a bomb exploded outside a Baghdad elementary school in the Shiite enclave of Sadr City. Baghdad, Iraq, on 7 Dec, 2009. —INTERNET

Eleven Taleban militants killed as massive operation continues in S Afghanistan

Kandahar, 9 Dec — As the joint US and Afghan military operation entered its fifth day, 11 Taleban militants were killed in a single day Tuesday in the troubled Helmand Province, Commander of Afghan forces in southern region said. “During cleanup operation in Nawzad District 11 rebels have been killed since early morning today,” General Shir Mohammad Zazai told Xinhua. Five more militants were wounded and four others have been arrested, he added.

He also stressed that there were no causality on the troops. Two heavy cars, tens of assault rifles, over 200 mines and some 100 kg of explosive material have been recovered from Taleban hideouts, Zazai contended.

Casualties of Afghan people in invasion of NATO troops led by US

Kabul, 9 Dec — The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

A number of Afghan people are killed and injured due to invasion of the NATO troops led by the US.

According to the Internet news, a total of 32381 Afghan people were killed and 38083 injured seriously as from the day the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 9 December.

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<td>2</td>
<td>Seriously injured Afghan people</td>
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Millions in US drink dirty water

NEW YORK, 9 Dec—Millions of people drink dirty water in the United States due to the flawed water treatment system, The New York Times reported on Tuesday.

“More than 20 percent of the nation’s water treatment systems have violated key provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act over the last five years,” according to The New York Times report, citing US federal data available on the paper’s website.

US law requires communities to deliver safe tap water to local residents. But since 2004, the water provided to more than 49 million people has contained “illegal concentrations of chemicals” like arsenic or radioactive substances like uranium, as well as dangerous bacteria often found in sewage, says the report.

“Regulatory records show that fewer than 6 percent of the water systems that broke the law were ever fined or punished by state or federal officials,” says the report, adding these include those at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which has ultimate responsibility for enforcing standards.

UN Secretary-General’s message on Human Rights Day 10 December, 2009

Following is the text of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s message on Human Rights Day, on 10 December:

No country is free of discrimination. We see it everywhere, in many forms: old and new, covert and blatant, public and private. It may appear as institutionalized racism, as ethnic strife, as episodes of intolerance and rejection, or as an official national version of history that denies the identity of others.

Discrimination targets individuals and groups that are vulnerable to attack: the disabled, women and girls, the poor, migrants, minorities, and all those who are perceived as different.

These vulnerable people are frequently excluded from participating in the economic, political, cultural and social lives of their communities. The bigotry that stigmatizes and excludes them can be exploited by extremists. In some countries, we are witnessing the rise of a new politics of xenophobia. But these victims of discrimination are not alone. The United Nations is standing with them, committed to defending the rights of all, and particularly the most vulnerable. That is our identity and our mission.

The international human rights community continues to counter bias and hatred. Public awareness has led to global treaties offering legal protection from discrimination and unequal treatment.

But abstract commitments are not enough. We must continue to confront inequality and intolerance wherever they are found.

On Human Rights Day, I invite people everywhere, at all levels, to join the United Nations and human rights defenders around the world in the fight against discrimination.—UN

Russia to develop advanced missile systems by 2016

MOSCOW, 9 Dec—Russia will complete the development of advanced missile systems by 2016, the commander of Russia’s Strategic Missile Forces (SMF) said on Tuesday.

“The future missile group will consist of two components — standby stationary missile systems with a high level of combat readiness and long-endurance missile systems,” Commander Andrei Shvaichenko said at a conference marking the 50th anniversary of the SMF.

Shvaichenko said the SMF would commission advanced missile systems while keeping the existing systems operational until their extended service life expires.

“By the end of 2016, the missile systems with extended service life will account for no more than 20 percent of the total, while the share of new missile systems will be about 80 percent,” Shvaichenko said.

Silo-based missiles constitute 45 percent of Russia’s total ballistic missile arsenal, but they carry about 85 percent of nuclear warheads deployed by the SMF, he said.—Xinhua

Illicit drug trade threatens world security

UNITED NATIONS, 9 Dec—United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday denounced drug trafficking as a leading threat to international peace and security at the opening of a Security Council session here.

“Drug trafficking does not respect borders,” he said. “Most of all it does not respect people.”

Burkina Faso, which presides over the 15-nation Council for the month of December, organized the open debate to raise awareness of the challenge posed by increasing illicit cross-border and cross-regional drug trafficking.—Xinhua

Peru army plans arms purchase, tests Chinese tanks

LIMA, 9 Dec—Peru’s military is close to a deal to buy tanks from China, the Defence Minister said on Tuesday.

Rafael Rey told The Associated Press that the army is testing MBT-2000 tanks brought from China, but wants a better-equipped model of the tank. Peru showed the tanks in a parade on Tuesday.

Rey didn’t say how many tanks Peru would buy. The Lima newspaper La Republica reported that it plans to buy 80 to 120 tanks and has evaluated Chinese, German, Russian, Ukrainian and Polish models.

The Defence Minister later told RPP radio that Peru is also planning to look at naval and air force purchases as well.

A military commission recommended that Peru buy Brazilian Super Tucano fighter planes. “These planes are very simple to operate but have advanced technology,” Rey said.

Peru President Alan Garcia has pushed for a disarmament pact in South America as weapons purchases in Venezuela, Brazil and Chile and a US military expansion in Colombia fuels a budding arms race.

Student opens fire in Va classroom; no injuries

WOODBRIDGE, 9 Dec—A 20-year-old student opened fire in a community college classroom, but did not hit anyone and was arrested in a hallway, police said on Tuesday.

No injuries were reported following the afternoon shooting at Northern Virginia Community College’s campus in Woodbridge, about 25 miles south of Washington, DC.

Jason Michael Hamilton, 20, of Manassas was later charged with attempted murder and discharging a fire arm in a school zone and was being held without bond. Whether Hamilton had hired an attorney was not immediately clear.—Internet

In this photo released by Andina Agency, soldiers wait on their tanks before a military parade in Lima, on 8 Dec, 2009. —INTERNET

A view of the Monetary Authority of Singapore headquarters in the city state. Private-sector economists in the tiny south east Asian nation have tipped an average 5.5 percent economic growth for 2010, beating official forecasts of 3-5 percent, the Internet said.—Xinhua

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Mercosur Summit ends without agreement on regional trade, pushes for FTA with EU

MONTEVIDEO, 9 Dec—The Common Market of the South (Mercosur) summit finished on Tuesday with few results achieved on regional trade issues but with vows to push for a free trade agreement with the European Union (EU).

At the 38th Summit of Mercosur, member countries of the bloc, formed by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, failed to reach a consensus on the elimination of the current double charge of the common external tariff (AEC). This means that any product that enters any member country of the trade block must be subjected to another tariff if it is transferred to another member country.

However, Argentine President Cristina Fernandez, who now holds therotary presidency of Mercosur, said during the summit that she would relaunch the negotiations with the EU to reach a commercial agreement.

The bloc also issued a statement condemning the elections held on 29 Nov in Honduras, as it considered them “illegitimate” for having been held under a de facto government.

Meanwhile, the bloc hailed the recent elections held in Bolivia and Uruguay: Bolivian President Evo Morales was reelected, and Jose Mujica won Uruguay’s presidency.

British industrial and manufacturing production both flat for October

LONDON, 9 Dec—Official figures released on Tuesday show that industrial production and manufacturing production in the UK were both flat for October.

The figures from the Office for National Statistics, the government’s statistical arm, said industrial production in Great Britain was unchanged in October from the previous month. However, compared to the same month last year, production fell 8.4 percent. Economists had forecast a 0.4 percent monthly rise and a 7.7 percent year-on-year decline.

Manufacturing output was also flat in October, recording a 7.8 percent fall from the level seen in October 2008. Economists had forecast a 0.4 percent monthly rise and a 7.2 percent annual fall.

Construction of International Airport in Nepal’s Pokhara inaugurated

KATHMANDU, 9 Dec—Nepali Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation Sharad Singh Bhandari inaugurated the construction work of an international airport in Pokhara city, 200 km west of the capital Kathmandu, local media reported on Wednesday.

“The preliminary survey and the grading work would be completed with 1.5 million rupees (around 20,200 US dollars). Up to 50 million rupees (around 675,600 US dollars) will be spent on the construction of the airport,” Bhandari said at the inauguration ceremony on Tuesday, quoted by the local newspaper Himalayan Times.

According to the Himalayan Times, the Nepali government had allocated 106 ropanis (around 5.6 hectare) of land for the airport some 34 years back.

The airport is being constructed as an alternative to the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu.

Indonesia to import 500,000 tons of white sugar in 2010

JAKARTA, 9 Dec—Indonesian Trade Ministry has decided to purchase 500,000 tons of white sugar next year to meet rising demand as this year’s output is forecast to miss target, the ministry said in a statement here on Tuesday.

The ministry said that Indonesia’s purchases would be conducted from 1 Jan to 15 April, 2010.

“To guarantee sufficiency up to crushing season in 2010, it is necessary to import 500,000 tons of white sugar,” the statement said. The rising demand from households and industries could not be met by the limited supply of raw sugar.

The country, a big sugar consumer in southeast Asia, revised down its white sugar output target from an earlier prediction of 2.9 million tons to 2.7 million tons, according to Agriculture Ministry.

Indonesia, which imports sugar from Australia, Thailand and Brazil, imports more than 2 million tons of raw sugar annually to produce refined sugar for industrial use.

Siemens inks 2 b yuan green deals with Chinese partners

BEIJING, 9 Dec—Siemens AG, Europe’s largest engineering company, has signed orders worth 2 billion yuan (394 million US dollars) and other agreements with Chinese partners this week, most of which are for environmentally friendly products and solutions.

The orders cover a wide range of the company’s portfolio in China, including energy, transportation and health care, reported China Daily on Wednesday.

“A large part of this amount (2 billion yuan) is for products from Siemens’ environmental portfolio,” the company said in a statement.

These orders show that growth of the market for environmental technology is strongest in emerging countries such as China, said Peter Loescher, president and CEO of Siemens. More than 50 percent of the future growth of Siemens in China would be related to green technology.

Vietnam’s export of coffee increases in first 11 months

HANOI, 9 Dec—Vietnam exported 1.02 million tons of coffee in the first 11 months of this year, up 15.5 percent year-on-year, said a report of the General Statistics Office of Vietnam on Wednesday.

With this export volume of coffee, the country brought in 1.51 billion US dollars, down 17.4 percent from the same period last year, said the office.
Old book smell indicates its condition

British scientists say they've discovered the musty odor produced by old books can be used to assess the book's condition and help preserve it.

Researchers from University College London, led by Matija Strlic, say they've developed a test that can measure the degradation of old books and historical documents based on their smell.

The non-destructive "sniff" test could help libraries and museums preserve a vast collection of paper-based objects, some of which are degrading rapidly due to advancing age, the scientists said.

Bread, grass favorite smells

A British polling company said its list of Britain’s favourite smells includes freshly baked bread, clean sheets and freshly mowed grass in the top three spots.

OnePoll.com said its survey of 4,000 Britons also found respondents were fond of odors from flowers, freshly ground coffee, fresh air after rain, vanilla, chocolate, cooked fish with fries and cooking bacon.

The respondents gave their least favorite smells as vomit, body odor, public toilets, trash bins, wet dogs, cigarettes and smelly feet.

Worker apologizes for chicken licking

A former employee at a British grocery store apologized for videotaped shenanigans including licking raw chickens.

Adeel Ayub, 60, apologized for his actions in the videos, which were taken before he left the company in 2006, after he was forced out.

The videos include footage of Ayub of Tokyo, Japan.

NEWS ALBUM

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Adeel Ayub, 60, apologized for his actions in the videos, which were taken before he left the company in 2006, after he was forced out.

The videos include footage of Ayub licking raw chickens that were returned to shelves, urinating into a trash bin, destroying items earned by the store, slashing coworkers’ clothing and setting off fire extinguishers.
Mines Minister receives Chinese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec—Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received Chairman of China Non-Ferrous Metal Mining & Construction (Group) Co Ltd (CNMC) Mr Luo Tao and party at the ministry here this morning.

Also present at the call were the directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint receives Chairman Mr Luo Tao of CNMC.—MNA

Dahseik river water pumping project in Langkho Township for regional development

(from page 1)

Mongpan Townships have been successful in agriculture resulting from emergence of Dahseik river water pumping project.

As a result, agriculture, education, health sectors in the district are getting developed. Today, Langkho District’s economy is growing at high speed. Moreover, the local people are also making earnest efforts for their region’s prosperity. On the whole, all those benefits have been largely due to emergence of the Dahseik river water pumping project.

Translation: ZZS
(Kyemon: 4-12-2009)

Farmer U Bya Yaw Han’s two-acre summer paddy model field seen in Mongpan Township of Langkho District.

True patriotism

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Lit-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence awards a prize winner at 2nd annual general meeting of Myanmar Broilers Entrepreneurs Association. (News on Page-1)——MNA

Yangon, 9 Dec—Literary Talks on Sarsodaw Day held

YANGON, 9 Dec—Organized by Writers and Journalists Association of Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Literary Talks to mark Sarsodaw day was held at BEHS-7 in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 23 November.

On the occasion, Chairman of township Writers and Journalists Association Tekkatho Soe Yin made a speech, and Vice-Chairman Dr Thet Swe read out message sent by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association. After that, Writers Chit Naing (Psychology), Chit San Win and Kaung Thant gave talks. On 24 November, Chit Naing (Psychology) and Letwintha Saw Chat gave talks at the BEHS-1 Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Chit Naing (Psychology), Chit Oo Nyo and Chit San Win at the BEMS-23 Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 28 November, Chit Naing (Psychology), Letwintha Saw Chit and Dr. Khin Maung Nyo at the BEHS-3 in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 29 November.—MNA

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Farmer U Bya Yaw Han’s two-acre summer paddy model field seen in Mongpan Township of Langkho District.
I felt very encouraged to watch the news on TV about the ceremony to incinerate narcotic drugs seized in Eastern Shan State held at the sports ground of the state in Kengtung. Similar ceremonies have been held many times in states and divisions and in Yangon. That indicates the government has been trying to ward off the menace of narcotic drugs as a national duty.

The list of 20 narcotic drugs producing countries the media in the US issued in September alleged that Bolivia, Venezuela and Myanmar failed to cooperate in the fight against trafficking of drugs over the past 12 months. I wonder from which sources they got the statistics to compile the list, because the accusation was not based on objective conditions in Myanmar.

In fact, Myanmar has been constantly striving with whatever resources it has for wiping out narcotic drugs in the interest of the entire mankind. In order to expedite the tasks, Myanmar fully cooperates with the international community through friendly relations.

As a result, Myanmar managed to annihilate some international narcotic drug gangs in cooperation with China and Thailand. In the first case, 591 kilos of heroin blocks were seized, and in the second case, 496 kilos of heroin blocks, totalling more than 1000 kilos (over one ton), and that great success won international recognition.

Since the mid 1970s, Myanmar has launched major operations with a lot of manpower and funds to combat narcotic drugs, including Operation “Moe Hein”, Operation “Nga Ye Pan” and Operation “Taung Yan Shin”. At that time, Myanmar received foreign assistance to some extent in the fight against narcotic drugs. However, since late 1988, the assistance has been ceased unilaterally.

Myanmar has been fighting constantly narcotic drugs with or without assistance. With the determination to eradicate narcotic drugs by 2014, Myanmar is now in pursuit of the 15-year Drug Elimination Plan (from 1999 to 2014). The government has been searching and exposing production, transportation and trafficking narcotic drugs, while trying to curb growing and production of poppy. From 1988 to 2008, Myanmar managed to reduce poppy sown acreage by over 800,000, and establish more than 600,000 acres of perennial and seasonal crops in the poppy fields. Therefore, Myanmar saw a drastic fall in poppy production, which was recognized by the UN.

As a result of serious attention to anti-narcotics measures, a total of 20 occasions of drugs destruction were held in Yangon with another 47 in States and Divisions where the drugs were being seized since 2006. In Kengtung in Shan State (East), seized drugs were destroyed four times: one time in 1997, two times in 2006, and another one in 2009, totalling four. So, the recent destruction was the fifth occasion.

From 29 June 2009 to date, there were significant incidents where drugs were being searched, exposed and seized in Eastern Shan State. The seized narcotic drugs, stimulant tablets, precursor chemicals and related equipment in the period were 6,998,554 tablets of ATS, 819,756 kilos of heroin, 10,045 kilos of ICE, 156,318 kilos of raw opium, 0.18 kilo of ATS powder, 0.394 kilo of pseudo ephedrine, 0.031 kilo of opium oil, 0.018 kilo of dried opium bits. The street value of the seized narcotic drugs, precursor chemicals and affiliated paraphernalia amounted to over 93 billion kyats (over 93 million US dollars). That is very huge in value.

Now, the government is closely cooperating with the local population in stepping up measures to suppress the transport and use of precursor chemicals which are the key substance used in manufacturing ATS tablets. Thus, it has reached to a point that precursor chemicals are not easily available and drugs dealers are now using all available avenues to smuggle pharmaceutical drugs that contains pseudo ephedrine from a neighbouring country. Ephedrine, the key chemical required to manufacture ATS can be extracted from this pharmaceutical product, the government concentrated efforts on combating smuggling of pseudo ephedrine.

In reality, a developing nation like Myanmar does not have the means and capacity to produce precursor chemicals—only the industrialized countries can do it. As such, these chemicals are brought in from neighbouring countries and though they are being smuggled in as pure chemicals in the past, recent developments had prompted manufactures to smuggle them under the guise of pharmaceutical products. Consequently, countries within the region are exchanging information to combat the changing trends resulting in seizures of pseudo ephedrine drugs used for extracting raw chemicals. In this context, Myanmar has achieved considerable success. After a case on narcotic drugs is exposed, further investigation is made into it to seize the accomplices in order to root out the case.

If there are no raw chemicals known as precursor, there will be no psychotropic drugs. Myanmar cannot overemphasize the importance of collaboration and cooperation with neighbouring countries to deter the tide of precursor chemicals changing its flow illegally into our country. Here, it is also required of neighbouring countries to cooperate with Myanmar with all seriousness. Preventing such precursor chemicals evolving into life threatening substances known as narcotic drugs has doubtlessly prohibited the production of narcotic drugs in a huge quantity.

Myanmar fervently believes that it is the responsibility of the nation to strive utmost in combating and eradicating narcotic drugs. With this serious and intense endeavour, it has laid down two strategies and three tactics. The two strategies are (1) to combat narcotic drugs with all possible ways and means, designating drug elimination as a national duty, and (2) to improve the socio-economic life of national races in border areas and to put an end to poppy farming. In order to achieve the two strategies, Myanmar applied for combating and eradicating narcotic drugs: supply elimination, demand elimination, and law enforcement. In compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, the 15-year drug elimination plan starting from 1999 to 2014 is in the process of being implemented. As the plan had now reached the tail end of the second 5-year phase of its duration, it is fair to say that the nation’s anti-narcotic drugs movements are in full swing. The government is scaling up law enforcement measures to combat the menace of drugs and to curb its production, and at the same time it is cooperating with UNODC to reduce the demand for drugs. UNODC had proclaimed that “No individual, family, or community is safe where illicit drugs take control.” In compliance with the proclamation, nationwide campaigns had been launched to inform and educate the communities on the hazards of drugs and are lending treatment and rehabilitation services for drug users who want to end their habits.

The government will have to see to the three tactics for eradication of narcotic drugs, mobilizing the participation of the people. The strength and wisdom of our people will be utilized continuously and vigorously in working towards prevalence of peace, tranquility, law and order. At the same time, it will continue to strive relentlessly to achieve the targets prescribed in the aforesaid 15-year drug eradication plan.

As a matter of fact, the process of narcotic drugs elimination is the concern of the entire mankind and the whole world. Therefore, Myanmar alone cannot achieve the success. It needs to cooperate with the international community. Now, Myanmar is accelerating cooperation with neighbours and regional countries in the anti-narcotic drugs campaigns. To put it in a nutshell, Myanmar is very active with decisive aim in the fight against narcotic drugs. Therefore, I wish international community and the people would know that the accusations on narcotic drugs against Myanmar are groundless. The international community should provide technological assistance and get involved in the programmes to alleviate poverty of poppy farmers in order that Myanmar will achieve greater success in implementing the ongoing tasks for drug elimination and curbing poppy production. If so, Myanmar’s drive to combat narcotic drugs that pose a threat to the future of the entire mankind will yield better results.
Media responsible for conducting check and balance of three pillars and helping way of thinking and ideology of people right and correct

Youth of today force of future

Information Minister meets trainees of Journalism Course No. 3/2009

YANGON, 9 Dec— Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met trainees of Journalism Course No. 3/2009 conducted by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association at its hall on the second floor of Sarpay Beikman Building on Merchant Street, here, yesterday.

Also present on the occasion were departmental heads of the Ministry of Information and officials, the Vice-Chairman-1 of MWJA and CEC members, members of the course supervisory committee and course instructors.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said it can be seen that the youth are playing a role in all sectors of the international community. He added that, indeed, youth are the force of the State in the future as a Myanmar saying goes: ‘Today’s youth are the future’s force’. The force or strength is essential for development of a nation or a race, he said. He added that nowadays, there are over 200 countries with different sizes of areas and populations across the world. Every country has to build the forces namely economic force, organizational force and defence force to be able to stand as a sovereign and independent state, he said.

The minister pointed out that the countries are standing as sovereigns by further consolidating these forces.

Forces to wipe out interferences of powers

Moreover, he added that the countries have to take the international support as an additional force. Only then, will the country be equipped with the four forces to wipe out the interference of powers, he said. The minister noted that if a country applies the proper ratio of quantity and quality of the youth, the genuine forces will emerge in it. He stressed the need for the youth to forge patriotic spirit because the quantity and quality of youth alone is not enough for the country.

Three main pillars

He continued to say that today, Myanmar is in the process of transition to a new democratic nation. He pointed out that three main pillars namely legislative pillar, judicial pillar and executive pillar are essential for a democratic nation. Likewise, he added that the media, called the fourth pillar, plays a pivotal role in the country. However, the minister said that these pillars are not enough for the nation.

The fifth pillar

Indeed, the people who play the most important role in a nation should be taken into consideration as the fifth pillar, he noted. He continued to say that the media are responsible for conducting check and balance of three pillars and for helping the way of thinking and ideology of the people right and correct. A review of the history in the past centuries showed that the countries have to be equipped with a sense of spirit which can guide them to carry out non-extremal national interests.

Promote national interests

The minister also said that he wanted the trainees of the journalism course to become the media men who can promote the national interests of the country. The country worked only for profits, he said. Therefore, the future media men should become the ones who can promote the national interests. The Head of State gave guidance to build a constant learning society with the aim of promoting qualifications which is necessary in the knowledge age.

Within everyone’s reach

Regarding the skills, he said. In conclusion, he urged the trainees to work hard to become media men who can promote the national interests of the country. Afterwards, Minister of Information, Taw Hlaing met the trainees of the journalism course.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan views journals and documentary photos published by trainees.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meets the trainees of Journalism Course (3/2009).—MNA

Get-together of YIE graduates of 1969 batch on 24 Dec

YANGON, 9 Dec— The graduates (1969 batch) of Yangon Institute of Economics will hold the 11th get-together and the 40th anniversary convocation at Western Park Restaurant on Kandawgyi Myeyadethakyun, here, at 4 pm on 24 December.

Invitation was extended to all graduate of 1969 batch without fail.

For more information, dial Major Khin Maung Win (Tel: 544284), U Kyi Soe (Tel: 09-5155270) and U Hla Toe (Tel: 0980-31992).—MNA

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Bicycle Factory (Kyaukse)

Byline: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Myo Min Thein (Mayangon)

The Bicycle Factory (Kyaukse) produces 28-inch bicycles for men, 28-inch bicycles for women, 26-inch bicycles for women, 24-inch electric bicycles, 24-inch bicycles for women, and 18-inch electric bicycles. The factory can produce all kinds of bicycle parts with domestic materials including frame, fork, mudguard, chain guard, rim, carrier, spoke of nipple, saddle, brake assembly, steering assembly, bell, handle bar, hub assembly, free wheel, stand, and chain.

On arrival at the briefing hall of the factory, the minister heard reports on the situation of getting raw materials, progress in construction of buildings, arrival of machines and undertaking of project works presented by Factory Manager U Saw Aung. Managing-Director U Soe Yi made a supplementary report.

The minister inspected the progress in construction of the buildings, kilns, warehouses and project works.

The glass factory is designed to develop high quality glass with local resources, to flourish modern glass production technologies, to uplift the living standards, to save foreign exchange and to increase job opportunities for locals.

The minister met with factory managers and officials of Kyaukse Industrial Region at Kyaukse Cement Factory. He called for meeting set standards in production, greening around the factories, and minimizing waste.
Fierce winter storm pounds dozen US states

BEIJING, 9 Dec—A fierce winter storm battered more than a dozen US states on Tuesday, bringing heavy snow and howling winds to the Midwest. Winter storm warnings were likely to be issued in New England by Wednesday.

The storm already blanketed much of the mountain west and drenched Southern California with rain. The storm also brought 100 mph winds to New Mexico.

Flight were affected in the Midwest and West, as hundreds of flights were cancelled at O’Hare International Airport in Chicago and all departures were cancelled out of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Several flights into and out of Reno-Tahoe International Airport were delayed or cancelled.

The storm also produced high winds and a possible tornado near Lake Pontchartrain, the National Weather Service said. —Xinhua

Students brave the snow on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Omaha, in Omaha, Neb, on 8 Dec, 2009, as a winter storm travels through the region.—Xinhua

DPRK reports nine cases A/H1N1

PYONGYANG, 9 Dec—Nine cases of A/H1N1 flu were reported from Sinju and Pyongyang of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), the official KCNA new said on Wednesday, citing the Ministry of Public Health. It was the first report of the flu breaking out in the country. “The relevant organs is further perfecting the quarantine system against the spread of this flu virus while properly carrying on the prevention and medical treatment,” the KCNA said.

No further details about the cases of the flu were disclosed by the brief dispatch, which said checkup stations were increased throughout the country and efforts were made to the medical treatment of the cases.

Xinhua

Ninety proteins govern human genes

CHAMPAIGN, 9 Dec—A US-led team of scientists says it’s discovered genetic differences between humans and chimpanzees are governed by about 90 transcription factors.

The researchers, led by University of Illinois Professor Lisa Stubbs, said transcription factors are proteins that promote or inhibit the activity of many genes, including the transcription of genes into messenger RNA that guides the production of specific proteins needed by cells.

The scientists said the transcription process allows organs or tissues to adaptively respond to environmental changes or internal needs.

The authors note humans share at least 97 percent of their genes with chimpanzees. Although prior studies identified differences between humans and chimps in gene expression, Stubbs said the new study clarifies how the genetic activity is coordinated by transcription factors.

“Our very strong bias is to believe that these transcription factors are involved in specification and traits that make species unique,” Stubbs said.—Internet

Low emissions diesel truck engine created

MUNICH, 9 Dec—German scientists say they have developed a diesel truck engine that emits barely measurable emissions.

Researchers at the Technical University Muenchen, led by Professor Georg Wachtmeister, say they’ve also developed a probe that allows them to take samples directly from the combustion chamber while the engine is running. That, they hope, will allow them to determine precisely how soot forms, with the aim of developing new methods for emissions control.

The researchers said their goal is to design and fine-tune their engine so it complies with new European Union emission limits without resorting to a catalytic converter.—INTERNET

Kenyan police arrest man with 100,000 bullets

NAIROBI, 9 Dec—Kenyan police on Tuesday said they arrested a suspected weapons smuggler with up to 100,000 bullets and an assortment of guns, a huge cache in a country with stringent gun laws.

Police recovered the weapons and ammunition in two raids carried out late Monday on the suspect’s house in the capital, Nairobi, and on a business site in the western town of Narok, Police Commissioner Matthew Iteere said.

Ever since violent clashes killed more than 1,000 people following Kenya’s 2007 presidential election, human rights groups have claimed that the communities that fought the 2007-2008 conflict with machetes, bows and arrows were arming themselves with military-grade weapons in anticipation of possible conflict during the country’s 2012 election.

The recovery on Monday of such a large cache of munitions may lend credence to the claims, which the government has dismissed, though Iteere said it was too early in the investigation to speculate what the weapons were meant for. —INTERNET

United Airlines splits huge order between Airbus, Boeing

NEW YORK, 9 Dec—United Airlines unveiled on Tuesday a multi-billion-dollar aircraft order evenly split between Airbus and Boeing, a move to help the US carrier upgrade its aging fleet. The US airline said it expected to take delivery on 50 future twin-aisle, wide-body planes between 2016 and 2019 as it phases out older Boeing aircraft.

United said it placed firm orders for 25 Airbus 350 XWBs and 25 Boeing 787 Dreamliners, and took options on the purchase of 50 more of each aircraft.

Analysts said United was able to use the economic downturn and fierce competition between the two manufacturers to get a bargain on the aircraft. At list prices, this first order for United since 1998 represents roughly 10 billion dollars: about six billion for Airbus and four billion for Boeing.—INTERNET
Centre for Human Resource Development (Yangon University of Foreign Languages)
Invitation for Application to Attend Foreign Language Courses

The Centre for Human Resource Development (Yangon University of Foreign Languages) will open evening courses on Chinese, English, French, French (Translation and Interpretation), German, Japanese, Korean, Russian and Thai.

Commencement date of course: 28-12-2009
Commencement date for submission of applications: 22-12-2009
Closing date for applications: 24-12-2009

Application to be submitted to: Yangon University of Foreign Languages
Days: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
Time: 5:20-7:00 p.m.
Education qualification: Matriculation Passed
Enquiry: Student’s Affairs Section YUFL [Phone: 514371 (Ext-202)]

Childhood trauma hurts adult health

LONDON, 9 Dec—Traumas as a child live on into adulthood as health risk factors, British researchers suggest. Lead author Dr Andrea Danese of King’s College London and colleagues say negative childhood experiences—abuse, neglect, social isolation and hardship—alter physiological and mental health into middle age and beyond.

Adults maltreated as children were twice as likely to suffer major depression and chronic inflammation, the study says. Children who grew up poor or socially isolated were twice as likely to show metabolic risk markers—a risk factor for heart disease—by age 32. After the analysis controlled for family history and other established risk factors, it showed that adults who had two or more of the adverse childhood experiences were nearly twice as likely to have disease risk factors as those who hadn’t suffered in childhood.

“In this study, we observed that childhood experiences may affect health in old age, regardless of the risk factors that health policies are currently targeting,” Danese says in a statement.

Therefore the promotion of healthy positive experiences for children is a necessary and potentially cost-effective target for the prevention of age-related disease. The study is published in Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine. —Internet

A man walks past a billboard for energy-saving light bulbs at a home-decor shop in Beijing. As the world’s top producer of energy-efficient light bulbs, China is seen as pivotal to greater worldwide acceptance of environmentally-friendly lighting. —Internet

French firm looks to buy UK’s Camelot

PARIS, 9 Dec—French lottery group La Française des jeux (FDJ) is looking into buying British company Camelot which runs Britain’s National Lottery, it has been reported.

Economic daily Le Figaro Economique and Les Echos said FDJ had until early 2010 to make a bid, but the two newspapers said the deal was far from certain.

Le Figaro Economique said Virgin founder Richard Branson, who has twice tried to buy Camelot, had teamed up with Dutch private company People’s Postcode Lottery in a third bid.

Other potential candidates included Indian lottery Sugal & Damani, and Italy’s Lottomatica, number one in Europe ahead of Française des jeux, along with investment funds.

Les Echos said the candidature of a public monopoly to buy a cross-Channel private company could raise some eyebrows.

Asked by AFP about the possibility of such an operation, FDJ refused to comment.—Internet

Eating more dairy linked to fewer fibroids

BOSTON, 9 Dec—US epidemiologists found increased dairy intake reduced the risk of uterine fibroids in African-American women.

Researchers at Boston University Medical Centre said their study, published in the American Journal of Epidemiology, found high dairy intake was inversely associated with the risk of uterine fibroids—benign tumors of the uterus—in African-American women.

Fibroid incidence was reduced by 30 percent among women who had four or more dairy servings a day versus women who had less than one serving a day.

“Although the exact mechanisms are unclear, a protective effect of dairy consumption on uterine fibroids is plausible, as calcium, a major component of dairy foods, may reduce cell proliferation,” study lead author Lauren Wise said in a statement. “This is the first report showing an inverse association between dairy intake and fibroid risk. If confirmed, a modifiable risk factor for fibroids, a major source of gynecologic morbidity, will have been identified.”—Internet

High levels of toxins found in moist snuff

MINNEAPOLIS, 9 Dec—US researchers found high levels of toxins in the smokeless tobacco product called moist snuff—placed between lip and gum.

“Urgent measures are required from the US tobacco industry to modify manufacturing processes so that the levels of these toxicants and carcinogens in US moist snuff are greatly reduced,” the study authors said in a statement.

Study leader Irina Stepanov of the Masonic Cancer Centre at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and colleagues said prior to their discovery that at least eight polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons are present in smokeless tobacco, only trace amounts of one of the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons had been reported to be present in smokeless tobacco.

The study, published in Chemical Research in Toxicology, found out of the 23 samples of this category of tobacco products tested, 23 different polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons were found—one of which were classified as carcinogens.—Internet

Britain to teach school kids safe online surfing

BELFAST, 9 Dec—British Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced every school child is to be taught how to surf safely online, according to news reports on Wednesday.

Members of the British government are worried about the risks youngsters face logging onto the video websites and social networking websites, such as YouTube, Facebook and MySpace, unsupervised.

Children as young as five years of age will be told “zip it, block it, flag it” in a new Internet safety campaign to be taught in primary schools. The new strategy will target children directly, rather than their parents.

As an IT era edutainment, “zip it, block it, flag it” is made as a clarion call similar to “bop it, twist it, pull it” in the Bop It traditional audio toy game in Britain.

The message is to tell children to be careful not to reveal private information online, to block suspicious e-mails from stranger or unknown sites and to report any other thing that is considered to be suspicious.—Xinhua

An employee works on a Fiat car assembly line in Tychy, Poland. Opposition to a plan for EU nations to provide funding to third world nations affected by global warming proved intense in France, Germany, Italy and eastern EU powerhouse Poland behind an argument over setting figures.—Internet

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Google Chrome launches Mac version to Apple users

BEIJING, 9 Dec — After Google released the beta version of its Internet surfer Google Chrome in September last year for Microsoft users, Google Tuesday launches the Mac version of it to Apple users. The release of Google Chrome has largely challenged Microsoft Window’s Internet Explorer in the past year. While it still lags behind IE, Google Chrome’s simplicity, speed and functionality has attracted many users already. The move last year enabled third-party developers to study the underlying source code and help port the browser to Mac OS X and Linux.

Xinhua

Spices may help prevent breast cancer

ANN ARBOR, 9 Dec — The spices turmeric and pepper may help prevent breast cancer by limiting the growth of stem cells — cells that fuel a tumor’s growth, US researchers say. Current chemotherapies do not work against these cancer stem cells, which is why cancer recurs and spreads. Eliminating the cancer stem cells may be the key to controlling cancer, says Dr Madhur Kakarala, clinical lecturer in internal medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School and a research investigator at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

Researchers at the university’s cancer centre found that when the dietary compounds curcumin, derived from the Indian spice turmeric, and piperine, derived from black peppers, were applied to breast cells in culture at the equivalent of about 20 times the potency of what could be consumed through diet, they decreased the number of stem cells while having no effect on normal differentiated cells. — Internet

S Korea to ban smoking in public places from 2011

SEOUL, 9 Dec — South Korea will move to ban smoking in public places, both indoor and outdoor, from 2011 in a bid to reduce the country’s smoking rate, the Health Ministry said on Wednesday.

According to the Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs, the government is aiming at bringing down the nation’s smoking rate from 47 percent at present to 20 percent in the target year.

The ministry also said to take measures to allow regional governments to implement anti-smoking policies, as well as launching a concerted campaign at schools and military installations to limit cigarette purchase.

Xinhua

Brazil may reduce deforestation by 90 percent by 2020

BRASILIA, 9 Dec — Brazil may surpass the initial goal of reducing Amazon deforestation by 80 percent by 2020, and instead reduce it by 90 percent, Brazilian Environment Minister Carlos Minc said on Tuesday.

The input of resources from the Amazon Fund, the approval of the Climate Change Fund, and the resources to be brought by the Facility Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), among others, may allow Brazil to exceed the 80 percent target, the minister said while presenting the National Programme for Reduction and Replacement of Fire in Rural Areas and Forest areas (Pronafogo).

“I think we can reach 90 percent reduction in deforestation over the same period.” — Xinhua

Scientists decode human genome for the first time in India

NEW DELHI, 9 Dec — Indian scientists claimed they have successfully decoded the human genome for the first time in India, a breakthrough which puts the country in the select list of six nations to have achieved the medical feat, local media reported on Wednesday.

A team from the Indian Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology in New Delhi, led by Dr Sridhar and PhD student Vinod Scaria, has mapped the Human Genome Sequence of a 52-year-old male, paving the way for predictive healthcare and the possibility of identifying why certain people do not at all respond to certain medications, and what diseases a particular gene carrier or a population is likely to develop.

“The human genome sequence is like a map of the human body. Through this map, we can tell what leads to what. We can use this map to predict mutations in the gene, like predicting how a certain person may get a certain disease. We can predict for instance, who will get the common bipolar disease or single nuclear polymorphism,” IGIB director Dr Rajesh Gokhale told reporters on Tuesday. — Xinhua

Exercise reduces death rate in prostate cancer patients

WASHINGTON, 9 Dec — As little as 15 minutes of exercise a day can reduce overall mortality rates in patients with prostate cancer, according to findings presented at the American Association for Cancer Research Frontiers in Cancer Prevention Research Conference, held 6-9 Dec in Houston.

“We saw benefits at very attainable levels of activity,” said Stacey A. Kenfield, epidemiology research associate at the Harvard School of Public Health and lead author of the study. “The results suggest that men with prostate cancer should do some physical activity for their overall health.”

Researchers assessed physical activity levels for 2,686 patients enrolled in the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study, both before and after diagnosis (men with metastases at diagnosis were excluded).

Men who engaged in three or more hours of Metabolic Equivalent Tasks a week — equivalent to jogging, biking, swimming or playing tennis for about a half hour per week — had a 35 percent lower risk of overall mortality. Specific to walking, the researchers found that men who walked four or more hours a week had a 23 percent lower risk of all-cause mortality compared to men who walked less than 20 minutes per week. — Internet

Xinhua

A Peregrine Falcon, who was found injured with a broken wing, eats pigeon perched on the hand of zoo trainer Erin Stone during a flying and hunting training session at Balmoral beach on Sydney December 9, 2009. After two months of veterinary treatment at Taronga zoo the peregrine falcon’s wing was successfully re-aligned and the training to release it is becoming to an end. — Internet
ESPN signs 35 million pounds FA Cup deal

London, 9 Dec—US-based satellite broadcaster ESPN has signed a four-year deal worth some 35 million pounds (57 million dollars) to televise the FA Cup, England’s governing Football Association (FA) announced on Tuesday.

The deal, which will start ahead of the 2010/11 season, will run in parallel with the FA’s existing agreement with terrestrial broadcaster ITV to cover the FA Cup and England international matches.

Both ITV and ESPN will have the right to show the FA Cup final live.

The FA Cup is the world’s oldest knockout football competition and, in common with the English Premier League, attracts a global following.

Michael Owen’s hat-trick: Gift for his 30th birthday

Beijing, 9 Dec—The English professional striker Michael Owen made his hat-trick in a Champions League game against the German team Wolfsburg Tuesday, only a few days before his 30th birthday next Monday.

His three goals gave an injury-ravaged side a 3-1 victory away to last year’s Bundesliga champion Wolfsburg and ensured that Manchester United progressed to the last 16 of the Champions League as winners of group B.

Owen’s place in Capello’s English squad for the World Cup finals in South Africa next summer is far from assured, but he surely has caught the Italian’s eyes with his first hat-trick for four years in his Manchester United career, altogether the fourteenth of his whole soccer career.

“My getting three goals will probably grab the headlines, but it was a great team performance,” Owen, who turns 30 on next Monday, said. “I was playing deep with us having so many players out and we were trying to protect the back four.”

“I was attacking the penalty box, he’s on the shoulder, he’s making runs across defender, his timing of runs is fantastic,” smiled the United boss.

Bayern sink Juve to reach Champions League knockout stage

London, 9 Dec—Bayern Munich dominated the match away to Juventus to reach the UEFA Champions League knockout stage with a sensational 4-1 win on Tuesday.

Bayern, who had to win their last match in Group A to qualify for the last 16, suffered one goal down as David Trezeguet fired into the net a Claudio Marchisio pass on 19 minutes.

But the Bundesliga giants managed to fill up the gap in minutes later when goalkeeper Hans-Jorg Butt scored from the penalty spot after Ivica Olic was fouled in the box.

The visitors maintained their momentum after the break and Olic gave them lead on 52 minutes as the Croatian striker slammed in the rebound after Daniel Van Buyten’s header was parried by Juve keeper Buffon. With seven minutes remaining, Gomez added a third for Bayern before Tymoshchuk shot home in the stoppage time.

The victory ensured Bayern enter the knockout stage as the second finalists in Group A, following top finishers Bordeaux, who had secured their last 16 place ahead of the 1-0 win over Maccabi Haifa.

Cristiano Ronaldo fires Real Madrid into last 16 of Champions League

Madrid, 9 Dec—Cristiano Ronaldo scored two goals that helped Real Madrid assure its place in the last 16 of the Champions League with a 3-1 win away to Olympique Marseilles.

The Portuguese international once again showed his enormous value to his team, which qualified as leader of Group C.

Real Madrid went into the game knowing that only a defeat by 3-0 or more would see them knocked out of the competition.

Couch Manuel Pellegrini decided to leave French striker Karim Benzema on the substitutes’ bench, despite Benzema’s goal against Almeria at the weekend.

Meanwhile midfielder Rafael Van der Vaart was in the side, playing in a midfield position behind Gonzalo Higuain and Ronaldo. Former Real Madrid defender Gabriel Heinze started the game in the heart of the Olympique defense.

Ancelotti sweats over Essien injury

London, 9 Dec—Carlo Ancelotti faces a nervous wait to discover how long he will be without Michael Essien after the Ghana midfielder limped off with a hamstring injury during Chelsea’s 2-2 draw against APOEL Nicosia.

The Italian admitted Essien, who faces a nervous wait to discover how long he will be without Michael Essien after the Ghana midfielder limped off with a hamstring injury during Chelsea’s 2-2 draw against APOEL Nicosia.

Ancelotti said. “We hope it’s not a big problem. I think he will not be able to play on Saturday.”

Blues boss Ancelotti was already frustrated after watching his side fail to win for the third successive match thanks to a sloppy display capped by John Obi Mikel’s costly mistake.

And the prospect of being without Essien, one of the few Chelsea stars to emerge with any credit from Tuesday’s Champions League draw with the Cyprus riot champions, ensured he left Stamford Bridge in a foul mood.

The Italian admitted Essien, who limped off soon after scoring a thunderous first half equaliser, is certain to miss Saturday’s home game against Everton and a scan on Wednesday will reveal if the midfielder tyro will be sidelined for much longer.

“Michael has a problem with his leg. We will look at him over the next few days and check on him on Tuesday,” Ancelotti said. “We hope it’s not a big problem. I think he will not be able to play on Saturday.”

Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo (L) kicks the ball as Olympique Marseilles’ Gabriel Heinze (R) looks on during their Champions League soccer match at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille on 8 Dec, 2009.

Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo (L) kicks the ball as Olympique Marseilles’ Gabriel Heinze (R) looks on during their Champions League soccer match at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille on 8 Dec, 2009.

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Finnish-German research predicts faster than expected sea level rise

Helsinki, 9 Dec — A Finnish-German research predicts that global sea levels could rise by as much as 1.9 meters by the end of this century, much faster than expected, Finnish media reported Tuesday.

Martin Vermeer of Helsinki University of Technology in Finland and Stefan Rahmstorf of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in Germany reported Tuesday.

Since 1990, sea levels have been rising at 3.4 millimeters per year, twice as fast as on average over the 20th century. And the sea level would rise increasingly quickly as the globe got warmer, said the scientists.

The rise threatens the existence of many coastal metropolises as well as small island countries.

To avert the threat, greenhouse emissions should be significantly cut as soon as possible, warned the scientist.

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Yangon, and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Shan and Mon States, Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below December average temperatures in Chin States and Yangon Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Kachin State and about December average temperature in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-2°C), Namhsan(5°C), Tiddim and An (6°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 8-12-2009 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 9-12-2009 was 58°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 9-12-2009 was 72%. Total sun shine hours on 8-12-2009 was (7.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 9-12-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.69) inches at Mingaladon, (122.09) inches at Kaba-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northeast at (12:30) hours MST on 8-12-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 10th December 2009: Isolated light rain are possible in Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty (40%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 10-12-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-12-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-12-2009: Partly cloudy.
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop  
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy  
Riots beget riots, not democracy  
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed
By broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Bicycle Factory (Kyaukse)

Byline: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Myo Min Thein (Mayangon)

Today, the government has established a large number of industrial regions with the aim of generating more job opportunities and manufacturing import-substitute goods on a large scale.

Under the Ministry of Industry-1 are cement plant, quality fire brick factory, plastic factory, bicycle factory, sewing machine factory, shoe factory, vest factory, candy factory and steel ware factory in Kyaukse Industrial Region.

Kyaukse Industrial Region is on Yangon-Mandalay Highway, five miles east of Kyaukse. So, it is convenient to distribute its products.

In an interview, Manager U Soe Ni of Bicycle Factory (Kyaukse) told the Myanma Alinn, “The Ministry of Industry-1 signed an agreement with Samra International (P) Limited of India on 30 July 2001 to produce seven types of bicycle parts in Kyaukse Industrial Region. The factory was opened on 10 April 2002.

In order to produce 15 more kinds of bicycle parts, we dealt with Laxmi International on 19 March.

Electric bicycles in Bicycle Factory (Kyaukse).