**State Peace and Development Council issues the Nay Pyi Taw Development Law**

**The Union of Myanmar**

**The State Peace and Development Council**

**The Nay Pyi Taw Development Law**

(The State Peace and Development Council Law No. 4/2009)

The 14th Waxing of Pyatho 1371 M.E

(29 December, 2009)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following Law:

Chapter 1

Title and Definition

1. This Law shall be called the Nay Pyi Taw Development Law.
2. The following expressions contained in this law shall have meanings given hereunder.
   - **Committee** means the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee formed under this Law;
   - **Head of Office** means the head of the service personnel of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Office;
   - **Reserved Land** means the land determined in order to carry out the future plans by the Government within the limit of Nay Pyi Taw development area.

(See page 10)

**Yangon Command emerges champion of 48th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tourney**

**NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec—**The final match of the 48th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy (Army, Navy, and Air) Football Tourney 2009 was held along with prize presenting ceremony at Nay Pyi Taw Sports Ground No. 1 here this evening. Among the spectators were Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung. Commandant of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, senior military officers (Army, Navy and Air) of Ministry of Defence, officers, and the rank and file of companies and battalions under the Ministry of Defence and their families, managers of the participating teams, footballers, and soccer fans.

(See page 7)

**Li-Gen Thura Myint Aung presents trophy to Yangon Command team.**

**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 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


**PERSPECTIVES**

**Wednesday, 30 December, 2009**

**Safeguard the nation and independence**

Myanmar is an independent and sovereign nation. It has been standing tall among the international community with its own monarch, own race and own culture in successive eras. And the entire national people are to constantly strive for perpetuation of independence and sovereignty.

The colonialists occupied Myanmar after waging three aggressive wars in 1824, 1852 and 1885 on the nation. But, the entire national people fought back the colonialists with nationalist spirit, thus resulting in regaining the independence and sovereignty. Since then, Myanmar has been an independent and sovereign nation.

The entire people are to be well aware of the fact that although the independence can be lost easily, a large number of lives had to be sacrificed to regain it. That is why every citizen is to cherish and value the independence that was regained by sacrificing a lot of lives and sweat.

By nature, Myanmar people cherish their own nation and own race. And they value their own literature, own culture and traditions. Fully equipped with nationalism, they are also the ones who are highly sensitive to being detrimental to national prestige and dignity. With the fine traditions, the entire national people are to continue safeguarding the sovereignty of nation that has been maintained since time immemorial.

At present, the State, the people and the Tatmadaw are making concerted efforts for the emergence of a new democratic nation. In the process, the seven-step Road Map has been laid down and is being implemented step by step. As stability and peace prevails throughout the nation, remarkable progress has been made in economic, education, health and social sectors.

All in all, all the national brethren are to actively participate in the drive for successful realization of the seven-step Road Map, while constantly safeguarding and maintaining the independence and sovereignty, the legacy of ancestors with Union Spirit and nationalistic spirit, for perpetuation.

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**Information Minister inspects MRTV and FM Radio Stations**

**Yangon, 29 Dec**—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan visited FM Radio Station of Myanmar Radio and Television, here, yesterday morning.

After inspecting IT room, administration division, program transmitting division, advertisement and records division, transmission room, editing and studio, the minister spoke words of encouragement to the staff.

He also inspected Mandalay FM Station and Pyinsawady FM Radio Station and spoke words of encouragement.

Next, he oversaw MRTV transmission room, indoor camera room, modern music division, orchestra, outdoor shooting division, radio advertisement division and MRTV-3 transmission division and then spoke words of encouragement.

After looking into MRTV-4 television editing room, studio, video records room, news room, program launching division, DVB-T room, international news editing and translation division, mess, satellite base station and transmission room, he spoke words of encouragement.

At the meetings with service personnel, the minister called for further improvement of the media sector of the nation, counter media attacks designed to degenerate news stories aired by certain foreign radio stations. In compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, the Ministry of Information is stepping up FM radio industry in order that information, entertainment and educative programmes cover the whole nation, he said, calling for effective collaboration between officials concerned and staff members to improve FM radio programmes for the sake of the public.

He also stressed the need of MRTV-4, which informs, entertains and educates not only urban but also rural people, to make concerted efforts to present correct and beneficial news and entertain programmes to the public.

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**Collective cartoon gallery staged in Toungoo**

**Toungoo, 29 Dec**—A collective cartoon gallery covering over 100 works of famous cartoonists of Toungoo was staged at For You Gallery on No. 1 Lane in Toungoo, Bago Division with the permission of Cartoonist Mi Min Lay, Cartoonist Myo Gyi and Cartoonist Ko Ko Zaw on 11 December. Also included in the artistic works are masterpieces of new generation students. The first time showbiz was launched with the aim of ensuring the youths to be civilized and outstanding in studies.

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**Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan views Mandalay FM Station on Pyay Road in Yangon.**—MNA

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**Viewers at the collective cartoon gallery held in Toungoo.**—Kyemon

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**Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views**

**Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation**

**Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State**

**Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy**

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MINISTER

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**President Thein Sein’s speech**

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**Newspapers’ Desires**

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**Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views**

**Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation**

**Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State**

**Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy**
Firecracker found in plane at New York LaGuardia Airport

New York, 29 Dec—A firecracker was found wedged between two seats on a Piedmont Airlines plane at LaGuardia Airport, New York, on Sunday evening, local radio station reported on Monday.

A crew member on board Piedmont Airlines Flight 4126 found the explosive after landing in New York around 7:30 pm on Sunday, local time.

Piedmont Airlines is an American regional airline operating for US Airways Express. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of the US Airways Group.

Thomas Ouellette, of Bonita Springs, Florida, was taken into custody and questioned by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation, says the report.—Xinhua

Afghan civilians killed in military operations

Kabul, 29 Dec—Ten civilians, mostly school children, have been killed during Western military operations in eastern Afghanistan, President Hamid Karzai’s office said on Monday, citing “initial reports.”

Karzai condemned the killings which his statement said took place in Kunar Province, bordering Pakistan, on Saturday.

“Initial reports indicate that in a series of operations by international forces in Kunar Province...10 civilians, eight of them school students, have been killed,” the statement said.

“President Karzai strongly condemns the operation which caused civilian deaths and has appointed a delegation to investigate the incident,” it said.

A senior official in the Afghan government, speaking on condition anonymity, said the death toll could change because investigations are ongoing.—Internet

Venezuelan President denounces aggression attempt of Colombia, US

Caracas, 29 Dec—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Monday accused the governments of Colombia and the United States of plotting an attack against Venezuelan territory to destabilize his government.

Chavez made the remarks during a New Year’s ceremony with the troops of Mara Fort in Zulia state, northwest of the country.

Chavez said that Colombia began a war of words by alleging that in Venezuelan territory were hidden leaders of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in camps protected by the Venezuelan Army and the National Guard (Police).

Chavez said that the allegation is not true and his government will not accept any alien military forces nor guerrillas in its territory.—Xinhua

UN food agency says shocked at killing of staff member in Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Dec—The identity of the slain WFP warehouse security guard, an Afghan national who had been working with the agency since July, will not be released for his family’s protection, the officials said.

“I am shocked and saddened by this terrible loss,” WFP Executive Director Josefa shear said in a statement.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the family, friends and colleagues of this dedicated man whose courage and commitment have contributed to our ability to provide food assistance to the hungry in southern Afghanistan,” she added.—Xinhua

Suicide attack on Pakistani Shiites kills 33

Karachi, 29 Dec—The death toll from an overnight suicide attack on a Shiite Muslim procession in Pakistan’s biggest city rose on Tuesday to 33, in violence blamed on extremists trying to hamper the fight against militants by sparking a sectarian war.

Angered over Monday’s attack, Shiites set fire to buildings and dozens of vehicles in Karachi, a sign of frustration by the minority sect, which has suffered frequent attacks by Sunni extremist groups who regard them as heretical.

TV footage showed firefighters struggling to extinguish blazes on Tuesday. Sagheer Ahmed, the Provincial Health Minister, said the death toll from the attack had risen to 33. Pakistani television stations said that three people who were hospitalized died overnight of their injuries.—Internet
Indonesian President says to cut unemployment to 5%, poverty to 8% in 2014

JAKARTA, 29 Dec—Indonesia aimed to reduce its unemployment rate to about 5 percent in 2014, from the current figure of 7.87 percent, on the back of good economic prospects, the country’s President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said here on Monday.

President Yudhoyono, who was re-elected on 8 July for his second term, vowed to decrease poverty rate from 14.5 percent now to over 8 percent at the end of his tenure in 2014. “We want the unemployment at the end of 2014 to be no more than 5 or 6 percent, and poverty rate at the range of between 8 to 10 percent,” said Yudhoyono at the State Palace.

Indonesia has recovered from the fallout of the global financial routs, which has hit the country’s industries and exports, causing massive layoffs. With strong economic fundamentals, the country has registered high economic growth in the region during the crisis, while the others suffered from strong contraction.

Sale of Toyota cars slumps 55% in Zambia

LUSAKA, 29 Dec—Japan’s Toyota has recorded a slump in the sale of its vehicles in Zambia, local newspaper The Times of Zambia reported on Monday.

Toyota Zambia said it has recorded a drop in sales by 55 percent this year compared to 2008, according to Times. The company’s national sales manager Neil Stewart said the company had felt the effects of the global financial meltdown, with reduced sales in the first 10 months of 2009 when it sold between 80 and 90 motor vehicles per month compared to 2008 when it sold more than 100 units per month.

He said the period was challenging because the pass-through effects of the financial crisis, which reduced the buying power by both individuals and organizations, hit the entire economy.

Audi plans euro 7.3 billion investments through 2012

FRANKFURT, 29 Dec—Audi AG said on Monday it plans to spend euro 7.3 billion ($10.51 billion) on plant upgrades, new products and technology research as it moves to expand its number of customers worldwide and increase market share.

Audi, based in Ingolstadt, and a unit of Volkswagen AG, said it plans to spend that amount from 2009 to 2012 and will increase the number of models from its current 34 to a planned 42 by 2015.

Of the investment, about euro 5.9 billion will go toward new products and future technologies, or about 80 percent of its planned spending.

“With our planned investments in new products and mobility concepts — for example, electric propulsion — we are creating a basis for our company’s future growth,” said Axel Strotbek, who oversees finance and technology in Kuala Lumpur.

Notebook computers seen on display at the World Congress on Information Technology in Kuala Lumpur.

INTERNET

Putin launches first section of Pacific oil pipeline

VLADIVOSTOK, 29 Dec—Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin on Monday launched the first section of the Eastern Siberia-Pacific Ocean (ESPO) pipeline.

“It is an important event for Russia. It is a strategic project, which enables (Russia) to enter new markets in the Asia-Pacific region,” Putin said at the launching ceremony held at an oil terminal in the port of Kozmino near the Pacific city of Vladivostok.

Putin activated the oil pipeline transportation system, allowing oil pumping to the first tanker.

“This is an excellent New Year gift to Russia,” said Putin as cited by news agencies.

The first leg of the ESPO project has cost 360 billion roubles (12.1 billion US dollars), while another 60 billion roubles (2 billion dollars) has been spent on construction of the Kozmino terminal.

The ESPO pipeline, running from Taishet in eastern Siberia to Nakhodka, is more than 4,000 km long.

In February, Russia and China signed deals on the construction of an ESPO branch toward China and long-term Russian oil supplies to China.

The branch, which runs from Skovorodino to China’s northeastern city of Daqing, is expected to come on line in October 2010.

Economic uncertainty clouds prospects for British house prices in 2010

LONDON, 29 Dec—There is uncertainty over the likely state of the British housing market in 2010 with experts on Monday making contrary predictions.

Hometrack, which collates and interprets data for the housing and residential industries, has issued a gloomy prediction — house prices will fall in 2010 by 1 percent.

Hometrack says pressures on household incomes, rising unemployment and a bumpy economic recovery are all likely to offset the inflationary pressure on prices created by a shortage of sellers.

Hometrack’s director of research Richard Donnell told the Guardian newspaper: “While economic growth is expected to pick up in 2010, rising unemployment and slow growth in household incomes is set to act as a drag on demand.”
EU, UNRWA ink fund deal to support health programme in Gaza

GAZA, 29 Dec—The UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and the European Union (EU) signed on Monday an agreement providing 5.5 million euros in support of the UNRWA’s health care programme in the Gaza Strip.

The new funds represent a crucial response to the agency’s financial crisis, and will enable it to maintain the current moderate level of its health care activities and guarantee measures to boost the quality of its health care services, according to a statement by the international organization.

The UNRWA’s commissioner general, Ms Karen Abu Zayd, and the European Union (EU) representative to UNRWA, Mr Christian Berger, signed the agreement at a UN-run clinic in Gaza city.

This agreement comes as a follow-up to last week’s agreement, which was also signed between the two parties to provide 10 million euros for the UNRWA in the war-torn territory.

According to Ms Karen Abu Zayd, the new agreement was crucial, given the financial shortfall the agency suffering from, “the deficit will affect our basic education and health services for the whole region.”—Xinhua

Four die in Mexico light plane crash

MEXICO CITY, 29 Dec—A light plane crashed in the western Mexican state of Jalisco on Monday, killing four people onboard. Mario Guerrero Delgado, a spokesman of the Civil Protection Department, said the Cessna plane fell down at 12:00 (1800 GMT) near a ranch near the town of Jilotlan de los Dolores.

Delgado said all four people onboard were found dead inside the plane.

The authorities said the plane took off from the town of Zapotilitic in Jalisco but did not say where it was due to land.

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Russian nuclear sub resubmes service after repairs

VLADIVOSTOK, 29 Dec—Russian nuclear submarine Nerpa, which is set to be leased to India, resumed naval service on Monday after repairs from damage sustained during a trial voyage last year.

A ceremony was held in the town of Bolshey Kamen in Russia’s far eastern Primorye region, where the shipbuilding plant repairing the submarine was located. The Russian Pacific Fleet’s commander, Vice Admiral Konstantin Sidenko, attended the ceremony.

A plant official was quoted by news agencies as saying that the reliability of the submarine had been confirmed in tests.

The repair work has cost an estimated 65 million US dollars. The submarine will be leased to India’s navy for 10 years, starting from spring 2010.—Xinhua

Shanghai builds China’s largest civil aircraft final assembly base

SHANGHAI, 29 Dec—Construction of China’s largest civil aircraft final assembly base began on Monday in the Pudong New Area of Shanghai, said a spokesman with the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China Ltd (COMAC).

The base, located to the south of the Shanghai Pudong International Airport, is expected to cover 2.67 million square metres, the largest of its kind in China, said Jin Zhuanglong, general manager of the COMAC.

China launches national Internet television

BEIJING, 29 Dec—China on Monday launched its national Internet TV station, China Network Television (CNTV).

The online station currently includes three major channels of news, sports and entertainment and an online community where users can upload self-made video content and communicate with each other.

With five overseas mirror sites, CNTV now covers countries and regions including Europe, North America, Southeast Asia, Middle West and Russia.

Mainstream media must actively expand themselves to new media area to improve their capacity of communica- tion, said Li Changchun, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, at the opening ceremony.

Li said that establishment of the station is a major landmark event for China’s traditional media in their effort to advance into online media. It will help to promote the construction of a modern communication system of wide coverage and advanced technology in the country.

The online station is wholly owned by China Central Television.

29 al-Qaeda suspects arrested in Yemen

SANAA, 29 Dec—Yemen had arrested 29 suspected al-Qaeda members and will continue to hunt down other members of the terror network, government officials said on Monday.

Al-Qaeda had planned to attack oil facilities, government buildings and the British embassy, said Yemen’s National Security Chief Ali Mohammad Al-Ansi. Yemen’s Foreign Minister Abu Bakr Abdullah Al-Kurbii said the recent months have seen enhanced cooperation between his country and the United States, and the US information had been a “key element” in Yemen’s anti-terror operations.

Al-Qaeda claimed on Monday that it was behind the failed Christmas Day attempt to bomb a US-bound plane, Dubai-based Al-Arabiya news channel reported.

In a statement, al-Qaeda said that their “Nigerian brother,” 23-year-old Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, had broken all US security barriers in getting on board a flight from Amsterdam to Detroit on 28 Dec.

The man had tried to destroy the plane carrying 289 people with an explosive device obtained from al-Qaeda, but failed due to a “technical fault,” the report quoted al-Qaeda as saying.

Xinhua

Xinhua
Independence and reconstruction of the nation

Sai Thiha

Myanmar’s independence will soon turn 62nd anniversary. Independence is sovereignty of a nation and its people, or self-administration for peace and development of own country and people. It is common knowledge that Myanmar and its people once lost self-administration for more than 100 years.

In colonial days, the people were at the mercy of the aliens. The people had no shape a better administration for more than 100 years. The people rose against the colonial rule. The people rose against the colonialist government in physical and mental by determining to set themselves free. Therefore, all possible ways were sought for the entire people to set themselves free. Only with formation of national armed forces inspired by the nationalistic fervour of the entire people would there be signs of regaining independence.

The purpose of forming national armed forces to regain independence was to enable the motherland to keep abreast of other world countries in terms of development, in other words, to enable the people to work hard in harness to reconstruct the nation. That became increasingly apparent in the Anti-Fascist Resistance. The commanders of military commands who were playing a leadership role and engaging in the Anti-Fascist People’s Freedom League held a conference in Bago on 12 August 1945 and issued a declaration as follows:

The following declaration was issued at the meeting of senior military officers of Bamar Tatmadaw. (Dated 12-8-1945) 11 AM

“Now, Fascist Japanese troops have offered to surrender to us because they are in no position to repulse the combined attacks of our Tatmadaw and multinational allies.

“The war will soon be up, but the affairs of our people still have a long way to go. Our Tatmadaw and all who wish to regain independence have been trying at risk to our lives to address the whole affairs of the country. So, we need to keep on working together with those who will play a leadership role in order to make a good headway.

“The entire Tatmadaw members, and those who showed brilliant performances, risking life and limb have been trying our best to regain independence, not in the interest of a handful of people alone or our personal gains. Here, we, with all seriousness, would like to make that known to those who will lead the nation and the people.

“Therefore, we solemnly request that those who will lead the country and the people remain united, join the Anti-Fascist People’s Freedom League, and work together in reconstructing the country.”

1. General Aung San Commander-in-Chief
2. Colonel Lei Kyi Deputy Commander-in-Chief
3. Colonel Zeya Colonel General Staff
4. Colonel Ne Win Commander of Frontier Lines
5. Major Maung Maung Commander of Command No (1)
6. Major Aung Gyi Commander of Delta Region Command
7. Major Kyaw Zaw Commander of Command No (4)
8. Major Ye Htut Commander of Command No (6)
9. Major Aung Commander of Command No (7)
10. Captain Alar Waka Commander of Upper Myanmar

Today is the most opportune time for the entire people to work together in the process of building a modern, developed nation, which is to be handed from one generation to another.

More dreadful danger

The imperialists took away King Thibaw, Myanmar Monarch, in 1885 but they could not suppress nationalism which gained strength instead.

In the post-Independence years, neo-colonialism was employed to indirectly subjugate the nation by diluting nationalism through the influence of isms and decadent culture. That danger is more dreadful because you would not know you are being enslaved.

The declaration reflected that the Tatmadaw gave serious attention to national politics; that many of Tatmadaw members and those who were anxious to regain independence had sacrificed their lives for the national cause, so those (politicians) who would lead the nation and the entire people were required to work more closely in order to expedite the campaigns; that independence struggles were in the interest of the entire people, not a handful of people alone; and that therefore those (politicians) who would lead the nation and the entire people were urged to join the Anti-Fascist People’s Freedom League (national politics) to make concerted efforts in independence struggles and nation-building tasks (reconstruction of the nation).

Yet, when independence was within the touching distance, political parties collapsed into factions. Party political movements were running high, stemming from dogmatism, personality cult and vying for power. Despite winning massive support from the public, the AFPFL, the coalition of the national forces, saw its political parties breaking away from it. Before the issues related to the party politics had effects to the people, the nation managed to regain independence through consolidated unity of the people. With a view to shaping Myanmar into a new nation, the remaining national political forces took vows on 4 January 1948, as follows:

1. We, from this time on, will see to the policy laid down by our founding father General Aung San who was a driving force for us to regain independence.
2. We, from this time on, will remain loyal to the Union of Myanmar.
3. We, from this time, will enjoy the fundamental rights and shoulder responsibilities of independent citizens.
4. We, from this time on, will maintain consolidated national unity we have achieved due to excellent performances of General Aung San.
Yangon Command emerges champion of 48th Defence Services

(from page 1)

In the final match, Yangon Command won over Southern Command 3-1. This was followed by prize presentation ceremony. Senior military officers presented cash awards to winners Yangon Command, second prize winner Northern Command and third prize winners Camp Commandant Office (Navy), Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin presented prizes to best players of the tournament and Yangon Command which won fair play award.

Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, on behalf of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief, presented champion shield and replica jubilicated shield to Yangon Command team.---MNA

Independence and reconstruction of the nation

(from page 6)

5. We, from this time on, will ensure equality among the people, irrespective of status and location.
6. We, from this time on, will never treat unfairly, and will resist being treated unfairly at risk to our lives.
7. We, from this time on, will abide by the law of the nation.
8. We, from this time on, will safeguard our country and independence at risk to our lives.
9. We will relay the duties from one generation to the next for ensuring perpetuity of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar till the world exists. We hereby make this known to all. Today, we have launched the building of a new nation. Our independence and our loyalty to the nation will exist till the world does.

We will honour the code of conduct that world independent nations exercise properly, as ours is an independent nation. We love our independence, and we will honour independence of other countries. We favour peace, so we will join hands with other congenial countries to safeguard the world peace.

Our declaration shall come to the knowledge of the entire world.

(From Independence Declaration)

The Independence Resolution from the Independence Declaration calls for harmonious cooperation based on loyalty and a sense of duty for State security, national defence, consolidated national unity, and nation-building. If politicians served as exemplars in following the resolution strictly, so will the entire people.

However, Myanmar political issues or split stories posed disruptions to the drive for State stability, peace and development. The nation regained independence from the colonialists by just proving consolidated national unity. However, disunity among national forces sparked internal armed insurgency. Nation-building tasks were stopped from making headway by insurgency and infra disputes among political parties for 14 years from 1948 until 1962. The Union was thus leading to collapse, let alone national reconstruction.

Sai Thiha

Again the nation tried to build itself with Socialism according to the policy laid down in the pre-independence period. Myanmar, which had ever practised parliamentary democracy system for 14 years did not get along with the one-party system. When many of the Socialist countries around the world were poised to transform themselves to different systems, Myanmar was also under excessive pressures. Accordingly, Myanmar had to turn to the market economic system and the multiparty democracy system under the leadership of the Tatmadaw in national politics.

The Tatmadaw government that has played a leadership role in national politics since 1988 laid down national policies, State objectives and the Tatmadaw in national politics.

The Tatmadaw government that has played a leadership role in national politics since 1988 laid down national policies, State objectives and the State’s seven-step Road Map, and since then, it has been implementing them. In addition, it has been improving infrastructures in various sectors till today.

Myanmar has faced bitter experiences in the political arena for more than 60 years or since independence. It is fair to say that today is the most opportune time for the entire people to work together in the process of building a modern, developed nation, which is to be handed from the entire people to work together in the process of building a modern, developed nation.

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I have noticed and read a motto regarding environmental conservation and afforestation that goes “The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.” Over 60 years ago, independence struggles and national reconstruction were put in the fore. Reconstruction of the whole nation was still available, but all measures were taken as far as possible to achieve the goal. The people managed to ensure non-disintegration of the Union and further cement national solidarity. Now, almost all the infrastructural buildings have been constructed for proper evolution of multiparty democracy system and the market economy. Therefore, I would say today is the most opportune time for the people to work in practice for democratization.

Translation: MS

POEM:

Always safeguard independence

* Unyielding and ready to retaliate
* With firm resolve
* And no hesitation
* Sacrificing lives and blood
* Daring so much were nation’s sons
* Noble enough to risk lives

* Come hell or high water
* Never let any part of precious land be lost
* On the correct route to independence
* Having love for race and country
* Indivisible were national races
* They made maximum efforts
* Till independence was regained
* Never moved they
* By any coercion, cajoled or flatter
* Motherland they cherish always
* Never let any part of precious land be lost
* Warding off all those trying to weaken country
* Safeguarding motherland with noble mind

* O., the national people of Myanmar
* In harmony and union
* Safeguard the invaluable independence
* The lesson we have had that
* Freedom can be lost
* All of a sudden
* But will have to make
* Lots of sacrifices
* To regain freedom
* Nay forget the past
* In which fell we into quagmire
* And live under enslavement
* For years of many
* Taking the past as a lesson
* We must keep in fore
* The task of safeguarding independence

(Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trs)

(Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day)

Translation: MS

(From page 1)
Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:

Energy sector contributing to national progress and socio-economy of the people

Safeguard independence and sovereignty through might of patriotism

Therefore, since its assumption of State responsibilities in 1988, the Tatmadaw government has invited foreign investments in the energy sector to increase the production of oil and natural gas. Now, there are 47 blocks of onshore oil and natural gas fields, 26 blocks of offshore oil fields in Myanmar territorial waters along the Mottama, Taninthayi and Rakhine coasts and 18 blocks of offshore deep sea oil fields, and exploration is beings carried out in cooperation with foreign companies under joint ventures.

TOTAL, a French company, UNOCAL of the United States and PTTEPI from Thailand have invested in Yadana natural gas project, a block off the Mottama coast, and are carrying out exploration work.

Similarly, Petronas of Malaysia, Nippon oil company of Japan and PTTEPI of Thailand have invested in Yedagun project, a block off the Taninthayi coast, and are carrying out exploration and production work in a joint venture with Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise.

If we look at the situation of the energy sector before 1988, we will find that there were 19 onshore oil fields and 250.91 miles of onshore oil and natural gas pipeline. This shows that there was no offshore oil and natural gas production before 1988 and it was hard to fully meet the domestic demand for energy. There is plenty of oil and natural gas reserves onshore as well as offshore, but they could hardly be exploited.

In addition, the government is trying to explore natural gas reserves inland in the nation. New natural gas reserves have been found in Kyaukkhwe, Apyauk, Nyaungdon, Thargyitaung, Sabai and Indaw regions. Therefore, we will have natural gas enough not only for domestic consumption but also for export. I feel delighted at the thought that the socio-economic status of the people will become higher.

Up to now, we have 12 onshore oil fields and five new offshore oil fields. And 1717.74 miles of oil and natural gas pipeline has been laid. Therefore, there are 1968.65 miles of onshore oil and natural gas pipeline and 426 miles of offshore natural gas pipeline, totaling 2394.65 miles, from lower Myanmar to Kyaukse region in upper Myanmar.

(See page 9)
Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:

Energy sector contributing to national progress and socio-economy of the people

(from page 8)

Development of energy sector of the whole nation from 1988 to 2009

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Sr</th>
<th>State/Division</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Oil Field Exploration</td>
<td>field</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(A)</td>
<td>Oil Field (Onshore)</td>
<td>field</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B)</td>
<td>Oil Field (Offshore)</td>
<td>field</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Oil and Natural Gas</td>
<td>Mile</td>
<td>250.91</td>
<td>1968.65</td>
<td>1717.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pipeline Length</td>
<td>(A) Onshore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) Offshore</td>
<td>Mile</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>342.00</td>
<td>342.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Offshore</td>
<td>Mile</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>84.00</td>
<td>84.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Mile</td>
<td>250.91</td>
<td>2394.65</td>
<td>2143.74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Crude Oil Production</td>
<td>Bbl</td>
<td></td>
<td>3044414</td>
<td>3044414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(A) Offshore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Bbl</td>
<td>6165641</td>
<td>6279880.00</td>
<td>114239</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Natural Gas Production</td>
<td>mmscf</td>
<td></td>
<td>348131.00</td>
<td>348131.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(A) Offshore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As for the energy sector of Myanmar, inland oil and gas fields produce more than 9300 barrels of crude oil and more than 100 million cubic feet of natural gas per day. Besides, offshore Yadana and Yadagun gas reserves produce over 100 million cubic feet a day.

Thanks to the efforts the government is making in the long-term interest of the nation, more oil and gas are being explored in new inland fields namely Kyaukkhwet, Aphyauk, Nyaungdon, Thagyitaung/Sabai and Indaw.

To explore new offshore oil reserves along Rakhine Coast, Mottama Coast and Taninthayi Coast, the government is cooperating with the companies of Russia, China, India, Singapore, Malaysia and South Korea. Such efforts are being made in order to see development of the future nation and improvement of people’s socio-economy. At a time when global nations are facing energy shortages, Myanmar has been able to relieve its energy crisis thanks to the correct leadership and farsightedness of the Head of State.

In trying to achieve the people’s goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the energy sector is trying to gain speed in building factories, workshops and transport facilities in accord with the market economy that can help improve the socio-economy of the people. With new gas blocks in Myanmar, the nation will not only enjoy its self-sufficiency of gas but also export the surplus, thereby contributing to national development as well as people’s socio-economic improvement.

(Translation: NN+WH+ST)

Carbondioxide plant (Thanlyin).

Shwe Natural Gas Project offshore Rakhine State.

Energy Exploration of States and Divisions in Myanmar
(Comparison between 1988 and 2009)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>State/Division</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Taninthayi Division</td>
<td>Bbl</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3044414</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Magway Division</td>
<td>field</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Yangon Division</td>
<td>Bbl</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2823</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Ayeyawady Division</td>
<td>Bbl</td>
<td>178435</td>
<td>220271</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Natural Gas Production</td>
<td>mmscf</td>
<td>15972.23</td>
<td>22523.2045</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Offshore)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Natural Gas Production</td>
<td>mmscf</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>865.96</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Onshore)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Projects to be implemented

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Inland Oil and Gas Exploration Project</td>
<td>New oil wells are being drilled at interior oilfields in Kyaukkhwet, Letpanto, Htauksarbin, Pyay, Shwepyitha, Nyaungdon, Aphyauk, and Maubin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Shwe Project</td>
<td>Ongoing at offshore blocks A1 and A3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Zawtika Project</td>
<td>Ongoing at offshore block M-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Magway-Pyawbwe-Pinpet Gas Pipeline Project</td>
<td>All pipelines have been laid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Pyawbwe-Nay Pyi Taw-Yeni Gas Pipeline Project</td>
<td>Launched in April 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Yadana-Yangon Gas Pipeline Project</td>
<td>The 24-inch diameter pipeline is 165 miles long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>LPG Plant Projects</td>
<td>Constructed in Nyaungdon, Kyunyuang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Oil Refinery Project (50000 barrels of crude oil will be refined a day)</td>
<td>Being built in Myotha, Mandalay Division</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter II

Formation

3. In order to carry out the development works effectively within the Nay Pyi Taw development area, the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council shall:
   (a) form the Committee comprising a minimum of 5 members to a maximum of 9 members,
   (b) in forming the Committee, it shall do so with suitable citizens and determine the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Committee simultaneously.

4. The Chairman of the Committee is the Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw.
5. The Vice-Chairman of the Committee is the Vice-Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw.
6. The Head of Office is the Joint Secretary of the Committee.
7. The Committee shall be directly responsible to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council.

Chapter III

Functions and Duties of the Committee

8. The Committee shall, within the limits of Nay Pyi Taw development area, lay down policy, give guidance, supervise or implement in respect of the following functions and duties:
   (a) drawing up civil plans and establishment of new towns;
   (b) administering lands in accordance with the existing laws;
   (c) constructing, repairing, and maintaining roads and building number;
   (d) determining and re-determining the territorial limit of the Nay Pyi Taw development area, the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council.

Chapter IV

Powers of the Committee

10. The powers of the Committee are as follows:
   (a) demarcating and re-demarcating the territorial limit of the Nay Pyi Taw development area;
   (b) carrying out the development works in accordance with the existing laws, rules, regulations and by-laws with funds owned by the Committee;
   (c) determining taxes and duties and rates in respect of development works and revising, assessing and collecting thereof;
   (d) leasing the buildings and lands owned by the Committee and evicting the tenants who violate any of the terms and conditions;
   (e) using money obtained by lease of buildings or lands or by other means, for the development works in accordance with the existing regulations and by-laws;
   (f) carrying out works contributing to development by communicating with local and foreign organizations or persons;
   (g) taking loans or grants from the Government or from local and foreign organizations;
   (h) carrying out development works by forming necessary sub-committee according to the type of development works;
   (i) carrying out by applying advanced modern technologies and systems to enable to carry out the development works more effectively;
   (j) safeguarding to prevent trespass in the reserved lands by any person, organization and department and managing systematically the project works carried out only with the permission of the Government on such reserved land;
   (k) safeguarding and managing to prevent trespass in the committee-owned land by any person, organization or department;
   (l) coordinating with the Ministry of Forestry in order to determine the forest land limit within the limit of the Nay Pyi Taw development area;
   (m) coordinating with the Ministry of Defence in order to determine the cantonment area within the limit of the Nay Pyi Taw development area;
   (n) prohibiting and inspecting to prevent breaking, clearing, removing and the trees grown naturally within the limit of the Nay Pyi Taw development area, perennials, edible plants, shady trees grown in state-owned estates, trees and flower plants grown on left and right sides of the road, road islands, road embankments without the permission of the committee;
   (o) prohibiting and inspecting to prevent trespass and construction by any person, organization and department within the area determined within the limit of the Nay Pyi Taw development area;
   (p) exercising powers conferred from time to time by the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council.

Chapter V

Finance

11. The Committee shall subsist on its own funds. If it is necessary, assistance from the Government may be taken for the fund desiring to fulfill. In addition, it shall also take responsibility of its financial management.

12. The Committee shall open a separate bank account for its funds and has the right to expend for development works.

13. The Committee may manage in a suitable manner to increase the fund.

14. The Committee shall open a separate bank account for foreign currency accurred by it and may expend for the development works in accordance with procedures and regulations.

15. The Committee shall:
   (a) after scrutinizing the annual budget estimate drawn up and submitted by the Head of Office, submit it to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council and obtain approval. Moreover, it shall be reported to the Government for the funds necessary to obtain assistance from the Government.
   (b) submit the annual financial condition and audit-report within 90 days after expiry of the financial year to the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council.

Chapter VI

Organizational set-up

16. The Committee shall, based on the functions and duties, draw up the necessary organizational set-up with the approval of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council.
The Union of Myanmar

The State Peace and Development Council

The Nay Pyi Taw Development Law
(The State Peace and Development Council Law No. 4/2009)
The 14th Waxing of Pyatho 1371 M.E
(29 December, 2009)
(from page 10)

17. The Committee may, in drawing up the organiza-
tional set-up under section 16, include in the set-
up the following service personnel contributing to
the development works after consultation with
the relevant government departments and organi-
zations:
(a) service personnel carrying out the function
relating to precautionary measures against
disease and public health;
(b) service personnel carrying out the function
of precautionary measures against fire hazards;
(c) members of the Development Police Force
and other service personnel of the Committee
who carrying out the duty of security and
maintenance of discipline.

18. The Committee:
(a) has the right to appoint service personnel
within the organizational set-up in accordance
with the existing regulations and bye-laws;
(b) may appoint by transfer, service person-
nel who can carry out the development works
effectively in coordination with the
relevant government departments and or-
ganizations;

19. The Committee may, for enabling supervision of
service personnel, delegate powers relating to person-
nel affairs to the Head of Office as may be necessary.

Chapter VII

Maintaining the Fund and Auditing of Accounts

20. The Committee shall, for enabling the Head of
Office to maintain the accounts systematically and
to ensure the necessary procedures, take care of
accounts in coordination with the Auditor
General.

21. The Head of Office shall
(a) compile and maintain accounts in accord-
ance with the procedures on accounts as
prescribed by the Committee;
(b) accept the audit of the person assigned duty
by the Auditor General, in respect of the
accounts compiled and maintained under sub-
section (a).

Chapter VIII

Actions taken by Administrative Means

22. The Committee may, if the holder of the license,
registration certificate or permit issued under this
Law contravenes any of the stipulated conditions
or if he is convicted by the prescribed Court under
this Law, pass upon the license holder, permits
holder, or registration certificate holder any of the
following administrative order:
(a) warning;
(b) imposing stipulated fine;
(c) suspending the license, registration certifi-
cate or permit, for a limited time;
(d) cancelling the license, registration certificate
or permit.

23. If there is failure to pay the imposed fine under the
administrative order, it shall be recovered as if it
were an arrears of land revenue.

Chapter IX

Offences and Penalties

24. Whoever violates or fails to comply with any rule
made by the Committee under this Law shall, on
conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a
term not exceeding one year or with fine not ex-
ceeding kyats two hundred thousand, or with both.

25. If a person convicted under section, continues to
violate or fails to comply with such rule, he shall
be punished with fine which may extend from a
minimum of kyats ten thousand to a maximum of
kyats fifty thousand for each day during which the
violation or failure continues.

26. Whoever violates or fails to comply with any
condition or any order issued by the Committee
under this Law shall, on conviction, be punished
with imprisonment for a term not exceeding three
months or with fine exceeding kyats one hundred
thousand or with both.

27. If a person, convicted under section 26, continues
to violate or fails to comply with such condition or
order, he shall be punished with fine which may
extend from a minimum of kyats ten thousand to
a maximum of kyats fifty thousand for each day
during which the violation or failure continues.

Chapter X

Miscellaneous

28. The public and the public service personnel shall
abide by the orders, bye-laws and directives issued
by the Committee since being duty bound to protect and
preserve the works for cleanliness, tidiness,
pleasantness, beauty, greenery and luxuriance within
the limit of the Nay Pyi Taw development area;

29. The Committee shall, in performing its functions
and duties in exercising its powers, carry out
works involving the nature of policy, or special
plans to be implemented within the development
area of Nay Pyi Taw only after obtaining the
permission of the Chairman of the State Peace and
Development Council.

30. The Committee shall operate under its own name
and common seal and shall have perpetual succes-
sion and power to sue and be sued in its corporate
name.

31. The Committee is entitled to sue the responsible
department and organization if it does not receive
the reasonable value for its own immovable
property that are transferred to the state.

32. In order to have speedy trial and disposal of
development cases in which proceedings have
been instituted for the violation of any rules, bye-
laws or orders issued under this Law, the Com-
mittee shall carry out in coordination with the
Supreme Court and Office of the Attorney-Gen-
eral for the opening of Courts and Law Offices
at appropriate places within the Nay Pyi Taw devel-
opment area.

33. The administrative order or decision passed by the
Committee under the section 22 shall be final and
conclusive.

34. The Committee may in carrying out development
works apply the existing Development Commit-
tee's Law, rules, regulations, bye-laws, proce-
dures, notifications, orders and directives made
thereunder, in so far as they are not contrary to the
objectives and concepts of this Law.

35. The funds and movable and immovable property
owned by the previous Township Development Committees and Nay Pyi Taw Development
Committee, within the Nay Pyi Taw development area works in the process of execution, works which have been completed, assets and liabilities shall devolve respec-
tively on the Committee.

36. (a) In executing instruments regarding transfer of
immovable property situated within the
Nay Pyi Taw development area, the person
chargeable with stamp duty shall pay the
excess percentage of stamp duty as prescribed,
in addition to the value of stamp duty to be paid
under the Myanmar Stamp Act
(b) The Committee shall carry out in consulta-
tion with the Ministry of Finance and Revenue to transfer and obtain the excess value of the
stamp duty under sub-section (a).

37. The Committee may, in carrying out its functions
and exercising its powers, assign duties to any
relevant subordinate Department or by forming a
body or to any person, if necessary.

38. In implementing the provisions of this Law, the
Committee may:
(a) issue necessary rules with the approval of the
Chairman of the State Peace and Develop-
ment Council;
(b) issue necessary procedures, bye-laws, notifi-
cations, orders and directives.

Sd./ Than Shwe
Senior General
Chairman
The State Peace and Development Council

“Get me out of here!”
A bungling Australian car thief was
nabbed after accidentally locking
himself in the vehicle he was trying
to steal, police said.

Police were called to a house in
Adelaide after two thieves were heard
trying to steal a car.

On arrival they were surprised to
find a 53-year-old man hiding inside
the vehicle.

A second thief was found hiding
in nearby bushes.

“A’ll go take a nap first before I
finish my robbery”
A court in Qingyuan county,
Liaoning Province, sentenced an ex-
convict to six years in prison for
attempted robbery, as he tried to commit
the crime immediately after being
released from prison in November.

The accused, surnamed Zhang, left
for Qingyuan county soon after being
released from the county prison.

With no cash for food, Zhang barged
into a 48-year-old woman’s house,
hoping to steal some money. The woman,
however, convinced Zhang that he
looked very tired and should take a nap,
promising him to give him some money
once he woke up.

The woman tied the intruder with a
rope as soon as he slept off and phoned
the police.

Tai Shan, Washington DC’s beloved
giant panda, plays in the snow at the
Smithsonian National Zoo in
Washington. Tai Shan is scheduled
to depart for China in early 2010.

“In the New Light of Myanmar” Wednesday, 30 December, 2009

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 30 December, 2009
KHARTOUM, 29 Dec—The Sudanese Health Ministry has confirmed five A/H1N1 flu deaths, 145 cases were confirmed in the country, Khartoum’s Al-Abdula daily reported on Monday.

The paper quoted Undersecretary of the Sudanese Ministry of Health Kamal Abdul-Ghader as saying that “all cases came from outside Sudan.”

CRANE CRASH KILLS FIVE, INJURES ONE IN S CHINA

SHENZHEN, 29 Dec—Five people were killed and one another was injured seriously after a crane collapsed at a construction site in southern Chinese city of Shenzhen on Monday, local government said.

The accident took place at about 3:40 pm at the construction site in Shenzhen’s Bao’an District, the city government said in a statement. It did not reveal the identities of the victims. The injured is being treated at a local hospital and described in stable condition.
Exposure to tobacco smoke in childhood increases risk of early emphysema in adulthood

Los Angeles, 29 Dec—Children regularly exposed to tobacco smoke at home were more likely to develop early emphysema in adulthood, a new study suggests. The conclusion was based on analysis of CT scans of 1,781 non-smokers without clinical cardiovascular disease recruited from six communities in the United States. Those reporting childhood exposure to tobacco smoke (ETS) were somewhat younger, with an average age of 61; were more likely to be non-Hispanic white; and less likely to have been born outside the United States. These differences were statistically controlled in the analyses.

Approximately half of the participants in this large multiethnic cohort had at least one regular cigarette smoker in their childhood home. Participants with more childhood ETS exposure had more emphysema-like lung pixels; an average of 20 percent of scan pixels were emphysema-like for those who lived with two or more smokers as a child, compared with 18 percent for those who lived with one regular smoker, or 17 percent for those who said that they did not live with a regular inside smoker as a child.

This finding by researchers at Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health suggests that the lungs may not recover completely from the effects of early-life ETS.

Stress can take a toll on first responders

St Louis, 29 Dec—First responders are equipped and trained to handle various emergency situations but workplace stress can take a toll on their emotions, US researchers say.

Dr Maggie Greenberg of Saint Louis University School of Medicine says different people react to traumatic situations differently. It’s not uncommon to experience a broad range of emotions — it’s actually quite normal and healthy, Greenberg says.

The challenge with first responders is that they are trained to deal with high-intensity situations without emotionally reacting so the aftermath can be that much more devastating. Additionally, those who have experienced some type of trauma in the past are more likely to react adversely to a traumatic event, Greenberg says.

Some normal reactions include being in shock, feeling sad, acting more emotional, having intrusive thoughts about an incident and behaving in a hyper-vigilant manner, Greenberg says.

These should fade over time. However, when one’s day-to-day routine is frequently sidetracked by such reactions, this may be evidence of major distress, Greenberg says.

Some signs of psychological distress include constant anxiety, inexplicable crying, erratic behaviour, isolation, and the increase use of drugs and/or alcohol. This distress may require professional treatment, Greenberg says.

Folk handicraftsmen make “Tiger Shoes”, traditional Chinese cloth shoes for children, in Taoshan Township in Hanshan County, east China’s Anhui Province, on 28 Dec, 2009. The “Tiger Shoes” sold well in the local market as the Chinese lunar New Year of Tiger is nearing. — Xinhua

Computer sci environment may repel women

Seattle, 29 Dec —The stereotype of computer scientists as nerds who stay up at night coding and have no social life may drive women from the field, US researchers suggest.

“When people think of computer science the image that immediately pops into many of their minds is of the computer geek surrounded by computer games, science fiction memorabilia and junk food,” lead author Sapna Cheryan, a University of Washington assistant professor of psychology, says in a statement. “That stereotype doesn’t appeal to many women who don’t like the portrait of masculinity that it evokes.”

Cheryan set up four experiments involving more than 250 female and male students who were not studying computer science. The students were exposed to classrooms, offices and rooms that contained objects stereotypically associated with computer science such as Star Trek posters, video game boxes and Coke cans, or non-stereotypical items such as nature posters, art, a dictionary and coffee mugs.

The objects help create what Cheryan calls ambivalent belonging, the feeling a person fits or doesn’t fit in somewhere.—Internet

Brain training for fun, not mental fitness

Cologne, 29 Dec —Brain training — crossword puzzles, for example — is recommended for those who enjoy it, researchers in Germany say.

The researchers at the German Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care, say brain training can lead to improvement in the specific ability it is aimed at but there is no scientific proof brain training improves overall mental fitness. The study, published at informedhealthonline.org, concludes there is no need for people to push themselves to do brain training if it is not enjoyed.

“Doing exercises like trying to find symbols on a computer screen as fast as possible can actually improve your reaction time, but scientific studies have shown that brain training only leads to an improvement in the specific ability that it is aimed at. So if you learn to find symbols quickly, it does not mean that you will be able to remember names better too,” Peter Sawicki says in a statement.

New Zealand youth unhealthys

Wellington, 29 Dec — New Zealand youth suffered some of the worst health outcomes in the developed world, but funding for their health services is “tenuous”, according to a new report released on Tuesday.

The New Zealand Ministry of Health-commissioned report said that New Zealand youth have higher rates of mental illness, suicide, teen pregnancy and suffered more injuries than young people in other Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries.

However, fragmented and tenuous funding models for dedicated youth health facilities meant they were struggling to meet demand and provide adequate services for their clients, the report said.

Xinhua

Internet
Redknapp sets Spurs’ sights on Champions League

LONDON, 29 Dec—Tottenham Hotspur manager Harry Redknapp insisted his side could qualify for the Champions League after Luka Modric returned to inspire their latest victory.

Croatia midfielder Modric and England forward Jermain Defoe were on target in a 2-0 London derby win over West Ham at White Hart Lane on Monday that lifted Spurs into the top four of the English Premier League.

If they stay there until the end of the current campaign, Spurs will play in next season’s edition of European club’s football’s premier tournament.

Super-sub Diouf rescues Rovers

BLACKBURN, 29 Dec—El Hadji Diouf rescued Blackburn as the Senegal striker came off the bench to earn a 2-2 draw against Sunderland on Monday.

Sam Allardyce’s side were heading for defeat when Darren Bent scored his second goal of the game midway through the second half at Ewood Park.

Bent’s double had come either side of an equaliser by Blackburn’s Morten Gamst Pedersen and it needed Diouf’s strike with 13 minutes remaining to bail out the hosts, who remain two points behind mid-table Sunderland.—Internet

Mancini’s Manchester City grab second straight win

LONDON, 29 Dec—Carlos Tevez scored twice to enable Roberto Mancini’s Manchester City to record a second straight victory at White Hart Lane on Monday that lifted them level on points with Aston Villa and gave Mancini a perfect gift in Christmas holiday as the new manager tasted sweet two wins in three days following Saturday’s 2-0 win over Stoke City.

Argentine striker Tevez finished a neat move in the 33rd minute before Spain midfielder Javier Garrido caught Wolves cold on a freezing night with a brilliant curling and low free-kick in the 69th minute.

Former Manchester United forward Tevez rounded things off four minutes from time with a well-taken second goal as City recorded a second straight clean sheet under their Italian manager.—Internet

Toni eager to join AS Roma

ROME, 29 Dec—Bayern Munich’s Italian international Luca Toni says he is only willing to consider a move to AS Roma on Monday.

The 2006 World Cup winner has been out of favour in Bayern under new coach Louis van Gaal in the season.

“I’ll say it again, I won’t consider any club apart from Roma,” Toni was quoted as saying in the Corriere dello Sport on Monday.

The 32-year-old wants regular starts to help him seek a place in Marcello Lippi’s Italy squad for the Euro 2012.—Internet

Jerome helps in-form Birmingham defeat Stoke

STOKE, 29 Dec—Birmingham extended their unbeaten run to 11 Premier League matches as Cameron Jerome’s second half strike clinched a 0-1 win over Stoke on Monday.

Alex McLeish’s side have now equalled the club’s longest run without a defeat in the top-flight—a record stretching back to 1908—thanks to Jerome’s scrambled winner at the Britannia Stadium.

A remarkable streak of seven wins and four draws has lifted unfancied Birmingham up to seventh place in the table and has Blues fans dreaming of European football next season.—Internet

Chelsea players celebrate their 2-1 victory over Fulham after their Premier League match at Stamford Bridge. With the win Chelsea increased their lead at the top of the Premier League to five points.—INTERNET

Kaka declares himself fit for Real

Real Madrid’s Brazilian midfielder Kaka has declared himself recovered from a hernia injury that has kept him sidelined since early this month.

“I am much better, I am healed,” he told Spanish media in Sao Paulo, where he has been resting, before returning to Madrid late Sunday to rejoin his teammates after the Christmas break.

Kaka, a 65-million-euro summer signing from AC Milan, did not join the other players at a training session on Monday afternoon but instead did exercises in the gym, Real said.

If his recovery is confirmed this week, he could be called up to the squad to face Osasuna in the league in Pamplona on Sunday.

Other Real stars resumed training Monday, including Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal, the world’s most expensive player, and Frenchman Karim Benzema, who Spanish media said was involved in a traffic accident while on holiday on the Indian Ocean island of La Reunion.—Internet

Everton end barren home spell against Burnley

LIVERPOOL, 29 Dec—Everton won at Goodison Park for the first time since September as they beat 10-man Burnley 2-0 here on Monday, a result that made it nine Premier League games without a win for the visitors.

Substitute James Vaughan struck seven minutes from time for David Moyes’ men following Marouane Fellaini’s cross before South Africa’s Steven Pienaar added a second goal in stoppage time. By that stage Burnley had long been a man down against their Lancashire rivals after defender Steven Jordan was sent-off for a second yellow card midway through the second half.

Victory saw Everton climb five points away from the relegation zone. Yakubu went close for Everton early on, his shot hitting the post and Burnley keeper Brian Jensen then had to make a diving save to deny Russian midfielder Diniyar Bilyaletdinov.

But the home match Burnley were still very much in the game only for Jordan to get himself dismissed for a reckless tug on Pienaar’s shirt.—Internet

Burnley’s Scottish midfielder Kevin McDonald(R) challenges Everton’s South African midfielder Steven Pienaar during their English Premier League football match in Liverpool.

Everton won 2-0.—INTERNET
Yahoo ditched once popular services and websites. flourished in 2009, most notably Facebook and closure in January. Yahoo’s Briefcase had been like Google Docs increased in popularity. Another replaced with Google Latitude. Google Notebook friends and interesting venues nearby. Dodgeball then notified them of crushes, friends, friends’ networking software provider for mobile devices. would be open-sourcing the product but would “no longer actively develop the Jaiku codebase” leaving January 14, 2009 it was announced that Google Twitter, was not shut but will be left to flounder. On Websities that died in 2009

BEIJING, 29 Dec— While some websites have flourished in 2009, most notably Facebook and Twitter, others have fallen by the wayside. Many sites that died were relatively small enterprises. But even the big Internet giants, Google, Microsoft and Yahoo ditched once popular services and websites. January saw Google’s changes to Jaiku and Dodgeball. Jaiku, a social networking, micro-blogging and livestreaming service comparable to Twitter, was not shut but will be left to Founder. On January 14, 2009 it was announced that Google would be open-sourcing the product but would “no longer actively develop the Jaiku codebase” leaving development to a “passionate volunteer team of Google’ers”. Dodgeball was a location-based social networking software provider for mobile devices. Users would text their location to the service, which then notified them of crashes, friends, friends’ friends and interesting venues nearby. Dodgeball was shut down by Google in March 2009 and replaced with Google Latitude. Google Notebook was also shutdown for new users as cloud services like Google Docs increased in popularity. Another cloud service owned by Yahoo also announced its closure in January. Yahoo’s Briefcase had been deemed somewhat useless by many observers.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 30 December, 2009

WEATHER

Tuesday, 29th December, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, Rain have been scattered in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Kachin State, lower Sagen, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C)below December average temperatures in Shann and Rakhine States, Magway Divisions, (7°C) to (8°C) below December average temperatures in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) (4°C) above December average temperatures in Mon State and Taninthay Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-4°C), Leilem (-3°C), Namami (-1°C), Heho (0°C), Pinlaung (1°C), Lashio, Mogok and An (2°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Myeik (2.44) inches.

Maximum temperature on 28-12-2009 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 29-12-2009 was 57°F. Relative humidity on (09:30) hours M.S.T on 29-12-2009 was 63%. Total sun shine hours on 28-12-2009 was (9.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 29-12-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kab-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.69) inches at Mingaladon, (122.09) inches at Kab-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northeast at (16:30) hours M.S.T on 28-12-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 30th December 2009: Except for the possibility of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division and weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (40%) .

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-12-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-12-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-12-2009: Generally fair weather.
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

Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:
Energy sector contributing to national progress and socio-economy of the people

Article: Arkar Hein
With economic and social development of a country, its demand for energy usually increases. As developing countries in the world are striving for greater economic development, their need for energy is getting bigger. Also in Myanmar, the Ministry of Energy is implementing the government’s policy on energy to meet the nation’s demand for energy. On 25 December, I read a newspaper report on the laying of a natural gas pipeline across the Hlin River. As I often notice such news items in the newspaper, I have

Photo shows Yedagun Natural Gas Project.

SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL 62nd ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE DAY

Byline
Poem
Always safeguard independence
* Unyielding and ready to retaliate
  Our patriotic forefathers
  With firm resolve
  And no hesitation
  Sacrificing lives and blood
  Daring so much were nation’s sons
  Noble enough to risk lives
  Restored they independence

Cartoon