Today, neo-colonialists are practising various forms of neo-colonialism such as interfering in the internal affairs of other countries, putting pressure on and coercing other countries to serve as their minions, and resorting to all possible ways of forcing a government to serve as a puppet that will dance to their tune with the intention of harming the sovereignty of their targeted countries.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From the message sent on the occasion of the 61st Anniversary Independence Day)
Continue marching towards a new nation

Today is the first day of the year 2010 and, on this auspicious day of the New Year, the New Light of Myanmar wishes people all over the world peace, prosperity and happiness. And we fervently hope that the entire national people of Myanmar will be able to serve the interests of the nation better from this day on.

Myanmar has existed with its own culture and traditions throughout successive ages in history. The people of Myanmar are now striving for modernization and development of the nation, preserving their cultural heritage.

The national people of Myanmar have been living in unity and amity, through thick and thin with mutual understanding based on Union Spirit. Their common goal is the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation and they are unitedly working to realize it.

Nowadays, the government is building networks of railroads and motor roads, including river-crossing bridges, the length and breadth of the Union for parallel development of all the regions in it. Smooth and easy transport and communications between one region and another will bring about further regional development and cement unity and amity among national people.

If the more peaceful and stable the nation has become, the more happiness and freedom the national people will be able to enjoy. For this, we will have to realize the value of independence and defend our national sovereignty so long as the world exists. And we would like to call on the entire national people to continue marching towards a new nation with new spirit in the New Year.

**IBTC OPEN Golf Championship on 7-10 January**

**Yangon, 31 Dec—** Organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA and mainly sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd, the sixth leg of Myanmar Golf Tour 2009-2010 IBTC OPEN Golf Championship (Taunggyi) will be held in Taunggyi in Shan State on 7-10 January.

Professional golfers and amateurs with handicap 0-12 will be qualified to participate in the championship. St Andrew and regional rules will be applied in the championship and those who scored hole-in-one will be awarded handsomely.

The golfers may contact (ph: 09 5017049, 09 20537671) and register at Ayetharyar Golf Resort not later than 2 pm on 5 January.

The championships were mainly sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd (IBTC) together with co-sponsors Air Bagan Ltd, KBZ Bank Ltd, Hotel Yangon, KM Golf Centre, HAN Golf Masters Pte Ltd, Myanmar Thitaa Trading Co Ltd, Bay of Bengal Resort (BOB), LINAX, T-Home, CEPSA Lubricants, ACCEL International Co Ltd (Canon), Imperial Jade Purified Drinking Water, Lifeline Co Ltd, GP Watch and Ayetharyar Golf Course (Danyi-agon).—MNA

**People’s Desire**

* 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

**Stakes driven for Emporium Hall in Nay Pyi Taw**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 31 Dec—** Stakes driving ceremony for Maniyadan Emporium Hall of Ministry of Mines was held at the site chosen for the construction of the hall near Gems Museum in Zaibuthiri Township yesterday morning.

The hall is designed to be modern and magnificent and built for gems trading under the guidance of the Head of State.

Present on the occasion were: Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe, managing director of Myanmar Gems Enterprise and officials, Chairman of Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association and officials, entrepreneurs and guests.

The ministers and party took position at designated places, drove the stakes and sprinkled them with scented water.

At the briefing hall, the ministers and deputy minister heard the reports on the construction of the hall submitted by the chairman of MGEA. The ministers, deputy ministers and experts discussed the needs.

The ministers and the deputy minister viewed the scale model of Emporium Hall. The hall will be built by Htoo Trading Co Ltd under the supervision of MGEA.

**EP-1, Htoo Trading sign MoU to cooperate in hydropower projects**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 31 Dec—** The MoU signing ceremony between Hydropower Administration Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. (1) and Htoo Trading Co Ltd to cooperate in Upper Hsetawgyi and Htakha hydropower projects through B.O.T system was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Electric Power No. (1) here on 29 December.

It was attended by the Minister for Electric Power No. (1) Col Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No. (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, deputy ministers, directors-general, managing directors and officials.

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**MoU signing ceremony between Hydropower Administration Department under Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and Htoo Trading Co., Ltd in progress.**—MNA
The New Light of Myanmar

War-weary Afghans foresee more violence in 2010

KABUL, 31 Dec — Conflict-plagued Afghan people like years ago do not pin much hope on the coming year and they predict to see more violence in 2010.

Having almost similar view, the hapless Afghans including experts, ordinary and officials believe that 2010 will not be better than the preceding one. “2010 will be a tough year for Afghanistan as from one side the international troops will increase their strength, and on the other, the armed oppositions would expand their activities in an efforts to disperse the troops,” political analyst Waheed Muzghda told Xinhua.

He said that in summer, traditionally fighting season in Afghanistan, both Taleban and the security forces would do their best to boost their influence and strengthen their grips. This will eventually lead to further fatalities on the non-combatants. “Despite troop surge in 2010, the situation will not be different from 2009 and even worse than that,” he said.

Muzghda, an eminent analyst, anticipated strain in US-Afghan relations in 2010, saying Washington is against holding Afghan parliamentary elections, while Kabul has set May as the timeline for the polls. —Xinhua

Five Canadians killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 31 Dec — Four Canadian soldiers and one Canadian journalist have been killed in a bomb explosion in southern Afghan province of Kandahar.

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) issued a Press release Thursday saying that the incident occurred four kilometres south of Kandahar city on Wednesday when an improvised explosive device went off near a patrolling armoured vehicle carrying those Canadians.

A 2,800-strong Canadian contingent was based in Kandahar to battle the Taleban militants. Wednesday's fatality brought the death toll of Canadian troops in Afghanistan to 138.

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Taliban claim blasts that kill 13 in Afghanistan

KABUL, 31 Dec — The Taliban claimed responsibility Thursday for two separate bomb attacks in Afghanistan that killed eight Americans, five Canadians and an Afghan in a surge of violence in the war-battered country. A U.S. congressional official said CIA employees were believed to be among the victims of a suicide blast at an American base in the volatile east.

The explosion at the Forward Operating Base Chapman base in Khost province on Wednesday killed eight American civilians and one Afghan, the worst loss of life for the U.S. in the country since October.

Separately, four Canadian soldiers and a journalist imbedded in their unit were killed Wednesday by a roadside bomb in the southern Kandahar province, the bloodiest single incident suffered by that country’s military in 2009. —Internet

Bomb kills 6 militants in Iraq’s Diyala

BAQUBA 31 Dec — Six Shiite worshippers were killed and 18 others injured when a bomb explosion hit their procession in Diyala Province on Wednesday, a provincial police source said.

The attack took place in the town of Khalis, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, when the worshippers were taking part in the religious ritual of Ashura, said the source who declined to be named.

Ashura marks the death of Prophet Mohammed’s grandson Imam Hussein, who was killed and buried in Karbala in 680 AD. It usually takes place on the 10th day of Muharam, the first month in the Islamic lunar calendar. During the annual Ashura commemorations, mourners, generally dressed in black, took to the streets or gathered in mosques to grieve over the death of Hussein. —Xinhua

11 suspected Taleban militants killed in W Afghanistan

KABUL, 31 Dec — Clash between suspected Taleban militants and Afghan-NATO forces in western Afghanistan’s Herat province claimed lives of 11 militants on Wednesday, an official said on Thursday.

“Militants laid ambush on the Afghan army, police and NATO-led forces when they were on patrol in Kishki Kohna District on Wednesday and troops returned fire killing 11 rebels including their commander Mullah Abdul Raqi,” Ghulam Farooq Rustahi, district chief of Kishki Kohna, told Xinhua.

Three other militants were detained by the joint forces, he added. —Xinhua

Bomb blasts kill 23 in Central Iraq

IRAQ, 31 Dec — Twin bombing attacks have killed at least 23 people, and wounded more than a hundred others, in Iraq’s central Anbar Province.

A car bomb exploded on Wednesday morning outside the provincial council in the city of Ramadi. The governor of Anbar province, Qassim Mahmmad Abid, was injured in the attack.

Police, say the governor was inspecting damage caused from the first bomb when he was caught in the second bomb blast.

Anbar is one of Iraq’s strategically important provinces, as it was a former stronghold of the al-Qaeda linked insurgency. —Internet

Iraqi officers look at the damage to parked vehicles following two bombings in the western city of Ramadi, 100 km (60 miles) from the capital Baghdad. Blasts in central and western Iraq killed 80 people and wounded the Anbar provincial governor on Wednesday, the latest in a series of attacks against government targets in recent months. —Internet

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Anbar is one of Iraq’s strategically important provinces, as it was a former stronghold of the al-Qaeda linked insurgency. —Internet
South Korea to continue free trade drive in 2010

SEUL, 31 Dec—South Korea will seek to expand global free trade network next year, continuing its drive to strike free trade deals with the world’s major economies, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade said on Thursday.

The country will make best use of the so-called comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) with India, slated to take effect next year, the ministry said.

It will also continue pushing for the ratification of free trade pacts it signed with the European Union and the United States, respectively, it added.

Both Seoul and Washington are awaiting legislative approval for the free trade deal signed in June 2007, as conflicting industrial interests mixed with political implications have long blocked its ratification in both countries.

South Korea will launch a research to be conducted jointly by the industrial, governmental and academic sectors on feasibility of free trade deal among South Korea, China and Japan, three regional economic powerhouses, the ministry said.

Seoul and Tokyo re-

Cuba’s most famous resort welcomes 1 mln tourists in 2009

HAVANA, 31 Dec—Varadero, Cuba’s most famous resort, welcomed 1 million tourists this year, a source from the Cuban tourism sector said on Wednesday.

Velo Barberra, an expert on commercialization and communication at the Tourism Ministry in Varadero, said that 40 percent of the tourists visiting Cuba went to Varadero.

Varadero is also known as the Blue Beach, and lies 140 km from Havana.

Barberra added that more than 86 percent of the hotel rooms in Varadero belong to the four- or five-star category, which together with the more than 20 km of beaches have made it one of the most popular tourist destinations in the Caribbean.

Besides, Varadero offers various services including restaurants, cafes, boats, an airport and shops.

In the 1950’s, there were only 15 hotels and many hostels in Varadero. Now, Varadero has 48 hotels, and investments here continue to increase.

China to become the world’s third largest wind power producer

BEIJING, 31 Dec—China will become the world’s third largest wind power producer this year, an official with the National Energy Administration (NEA) said on Wednesday.

The country’s installed wind power capacity would total 20 million kilowatts (kw) this year, said Shi Lishan, deputy with New Energy and Renewable Energy Bureau of the NEA. The capacity was 764,000 kw by the end of 2004 and increased to 12 million kw in 2008.

The estimated figure will lift China to the third place following the United States and Germany.

China has now a complete industrial chain in wind power industry, Shi said. The country was not capable of producing complete wind energy generator equipment in 2003.

However, technology remained the bottleneck of Chinese wind power development, Shi said.

Turkey, Israel ink civil aviation deal

ANKARA, 31 Dec—Turkey and Israel have signed an agreement that enables more than one airline companies to operate flights between the two countries, the semi-official Anadolu news agency reported on Wednesday.

The deal also includes new flight destinations and removes frequency restrictions, the agency said, citing a statement from Turkish Transportation Ministry Civil Aviation Directorate General.

Turkish and Israeli civil aviation executives held negotiations in Ankara on Monday over the new agreement as a previous civil aviation deal signed in 1951 could not meet demands of current conditions, the report said.

Turkey will lift China to the third place following the United States and Germany.

Opel sells 31% more cars in Germany in 2009

BERLIN, 31 Dec—Opel car sales in Germany in 2009 increased by 31 percent over 2008, thanks to the government’s incentive scheme, the company said in a statement on Wednesday.

Opel sold around 339,000 vehicles in its home market in 2009, according to 8.9 percent of its total market sales, against 250,274 the previous year and a four-year high.

Under the incentive scheme, the government provided 2,500 euros (3,600 US dollars) to consumers who traded in cars at least nine years old on new vehicles.

However, Opel sales could slump by about 90,000 vehicles, or 27 percent, in 2010 due to the end of the government’s incentive programme, said Ferdinand Dudenhoeffer, director of the Centre for Automotive Research at the University of Duisburg-Essen, reported by the local media. In September, Opel was set to be sold by its US parent company General Motors (GM) to the Canadian auto parts group Magna International and its Russian partner Sberbank.

However, GM reconsidered the importance of Opel and Vauxhall, a GM-owned British car manufacturer, to its global strategy and cancelled the deal in November.
Putin says anti-crisis measures for 2009 primarily accomplished

MOSCOW, 31 Dec—The Russian Government has by and large implemented its anti-crisis measures for the outgoing year, said Prime Minister Vladimir Putin on Wednesday.

“The active phase of the crisis is over, it has been overcome and starting from the second half of the year (Russian) economic growth resumed,” said Putin at this year’s last meeting of the government presidium.

Summarizing the past year as a “difficult” one that saw a slump of the gross domestic product (GDP) by 8.5 percent, Putin said nonetheless the government had managed to curb inflation and stabilize the ruble rate while making it predictable.

Preliminary estimates showed that the Russian GDP would grow by three percent in 2010, he added.

A/H1N1 pandemic death toll rises to 12,220, says WHO

GENEVA, 31 Dec—The global death toll of the A/H1N1 pandemic influenza has risen to at least 12,220, an increase of over 700 in a week, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a weekly update on Wednesday.

The death toll in the Americas remains at some 6,670, with no new deaths reported in the past week. But more deaths were recorded in all the other five regions, notably in Europe and the Western Pacific, the UN agency said.

According to the WHO’s tally, A/H1N1 pandemic deaths in Europe increased more than 300 from a week ago, reaching at least 2,422, while the number of deaths in the Western Pacific rose to 1,249, from 1,030 last week.

The pandemic death numbers in South-East Asia, East Mediterranean and Affica increased to 1,056, 693 and 130 respectively.

The New Mexico state government spent 175,000 US dollars subsidizing the government spent 175,000 US dollars subsidizing the government.

The US Transportation Security Administration (TSA) notification of next of kin.”

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Mexico airport boosts security after US air incident

MEXICO CITY, 31 Dec—Mexico City International Airport has boosted security in the wake of the 25 Dec incident on a Northwest Airlines flight bound for US city Detroit from Amsterdam.

Travellers told Mexican broadcasters on Wednesday that they were subjected to physical searches as they were waiting to board their aircraft and their luggage was searched, sometimes more than once. Airport staff told media they were at the second highest alert level.

US confirms death of eight Americans in Afghan blast

WASHINGTON, 31 Dec — The US State Department confirmed on Wednesday the death of eight Americans in a suicide blast in Afghanistan.

Department Spokesperson Ian Kelly said the eight died in an attack at the Forward Operating Base Chapman in Khost Province, southern Afghanistan.

However, Kelly didn’t say whether those killed were military personnel or civilians, saying the department is “withholding further details pending notification of next of kin.”

Mexico City suspends service to US city

The New Mexico state government spent 175,000 US dollars subsidizing the government.

Mexico has suspended flights to the northern Mexican city of Chihuahua to Albuquerque, a city in the southern US state of New Mexico, because of low passenger interest, officials told Mexican television on Wednesday.

AeroMexico’s three flights a week will be cancelled from next week, Daniel Jiron, an official from Albuquerque’s Sunport International Airport, told Mexican broadcasters, adding that occupancy rates were 20 percent or less.

A visitor gazes at the exhibit painting during the 2009 China A Hundred Paintings Exhibition in Jingling, slated from 29 Dec, 2009 to 7 Jan, 2010, at the Jiangsu Provincial Art Museum in Nanjing, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 30 Dec, 2009.—Xinhua

Venezuela blames US for destabilizing Iran

CARACAS, 31 Dec—Venezuela on Wednesday blamed the United States for destabilizing Iran by instigating violent protests in the Asian country. The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry said in a statement that Venezuela rejects the destabilization attempts “promoted by the government of the United States against the government and people of Iran”.

“Venezuela is surprised that a group of countries led by the North American Empire are echoing a campaign to divide and spread violence among Iranians, in contravention of the fundamental norms of peace, non-interference and respect for sovereignty,” the foreign ministry said.

A visitor gazes at a fossil during a dinosaur exhibition in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, 29 Dec, 2009. The dinosaur exhibition shows the fossils and models of the dinosaurs which lived in remote antiquity in north Argentina’s San Juan Province.—Xinhua

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Xinhua
Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:

Independence resolution: to have stronger sense of patriotism

Moe Swe Aung (Energy)

The dramatic achievement of the nation is due to the combined efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. Now, the State Constitution (2008) of the Union of Myanmar has been approved in order that the people’s representatives can exercise the sovereign powers in line with the principles in a bid to transform the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic one.

Myanmar’s Independence Day falls on 4 January 2010 on which the nation has regained independence from the colonialists and become a sovereign nation for 62 years. Since 3rd century BC, Myanmar has been a sovereign nation with own monarchs of feudal city states such as Beikthano, Hanlin, Thuvunnaubumi, Tagaung, Vesali, and Srekestra.

Historic evidences show that despite being located between India and China, the two giants in area, either has very long cultural history and largest populations, Myanmar has been able to preserve own culture and traditions. Myanmar is bounded by China with a population of 1.3 billion million in the north, by India with a population of 1.1 billion million and Bangladesh with a population of 140 million in the west, by Laos in the east, and by Thailand with a population of more than 65 million in the southeast. Myanmar has about 5200 miles long border, and sharing borderlines with China for 1357 miles; with India for 857 miles; with Bangladesh for 152 miles; with Laos for 128 miles; and with Thailand for 1314 miles, totalling over 3800 miles.

As Myanmar shares borders with the two giants and occupies a geographically strategic location, its most crucial national interest is to ensure perpetuity of independence and sovereignty. Our ancestors founded the First Myanmar Empire under the leadership of King Anawrahta (1044-1077) in Bagan Period; the Second Myanmar Empire under the leadership of King Bayinnaung (1551-1581) in Toungoo Period; and the Third Myanmar Empire under the leadership of King Alaungpaya (1752-1761) in Konboung Period. That reflects the fact that Myanmar stood tall with fine traditions amid the international community.

Now, Myanmar’s independence has turned over 60 years. Our ancestors showed a strong sense of responsibility by getting firmly involved at risk to lives in wars against aliens including First Anglo-Myanmar War (1824), Anti-Fascist Resistance, and national liberation struggles. Myanmar lost sovereignty, following the aggressive wars waged by the colonialists. Completely inspired by a sense of freedom, the people of various national races bravely fought back the colonialists with Union Spirit, and patriotism to regain independence. After regaining independence, Myanmar people should have stepped up nation-building tasks. Instead, the nation saw internal armed insurgency, resulting from disunity among national brethren. State instability had a strong negative impact on productivity, trade and loss of job opportunities.

Myanmar stood as a least developed country in the period of 40 years from 1948 to 1988 due to lack of national unity along with defects and loopholes in the then economic system. Then, Myanmar was on the verge of losing sovereignty, and the deteriorating conditions of the nation forced the Tatmadaw to take up State responsibilities unavoidably. The Tatmadaw government launched reforms to reconstruct the nation. In the process, it held peace talks with national race armed groups to restore stability and peace, the most fundamental requirement for generating a better future of the nation. As a result, 17 major and many small national race armed groups returned to the legal fold. The regions in border areas regained stability and peace, and local people could engage in agricultural farming on a wider scale, reclaiming vacant and fallow lands.

The achievement is largely due to successful restoration of internal peace for which previous government worked in vain. With stability and peace, the Tatmadaw government is implementing the 24 Special Regions Development Project, the Border Areas Development Project and the Rural Development Project it has adopted for development of the whole nation.

Regarding the agricultural sector, the sown acreage of the nation increased from 19.9 million in 1988 to 29.32 million in 2008-2009. The government constructed 228 dams, 322 river water pumping stations, and 7962 underground water tapping stations, and reconstructed small dams and lakes. As a result, the percentage of utilizing farmlands was 171.1 in 2008-2009, compared with 120 in 1988. During the same period, the utilization of underground water increased by 17 percent.

The dramatic achievement of the nation is due to the combined efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. Now, the State Constitution (2008) of the Union of Myanmar has been approved in order that the people’s representatives can exercise the sovereign powers in line with the principles in a bid to transform the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic one.

POEM:

Myanmar, the Thaki race
* From Bagan, Pinya
  Inwa, Toungoo, Nyaunghyan also
  Till Kouboung dynasty
* Lived the Thaki under own sovereignty
  Religion flourishing
* Having lots of irrigation works and farms
  And the brilliant Tatmadaw
* Food so plenty
  Country in prosperity
* With pride and courage
  So brave the Thaki race
* Race and religion
  Traditions and culture
All were noble heritage
Honourable and admirable
Proclaimed themselves “Myanmar”
* The Thaki prolonged their glory
* Our noble offspring
  Serving they dutifully
People’s interest and prestige
And benefits of religion
* Delay they the duty
To successive generations
With sacrificing spirit
Protect and safeguard country
With unity they write history
On this planet Earth
Myanmar sparkling with dignity
And signs of victory
With glory the Thaki live
Forever in this world
Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day
Zaw Min Min Os (Trs)
Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:

Independence resolution: to have stronger sense of patriotism

Moe Swe Aung (Energy)

Objectives of the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day (2010)

* All the national people to constantly join hands for ensuring the perpetuity of independence and sovereignty of the State,
* All the national people to collectively strive for non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity,
* All the national people to harmoniously make all-out efforts to build up a modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation in accordance with the new State Constitution that has been approved by the votes of the great majority of the people,
* All the national people to cooperate in realizing the States seven-step Road Map with Union Spirit and patriotic spirit.

Enjoying the fruits of Independence

In post-Independence period, people had to travel in discomfort by road and by boat in constant fear of insurgents.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council today, they can fully enjoy the fruits of Independence along with peaceful, modern and developed new nation.

Translation: MS

*****
Prime Minister General Thein Sein will attend…

(from page 1)

ministers, officials of the Chinese Embassy, experts from the People’s Republic of China, factory managers and staff of the industrial region. At 7.30 am, a ceremony to open Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory was held at the archway of the factory.

The commander and Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein formally opened the factory. The Prime Minister unveiled the plaque of the factory and sprinkled scented water on it.

Lt-Gen Ko Ko, the commander and the minister also sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

Next, the Prime Minister and party posed for documentary photo. Afterwards, the Prime Minister viewed operating of forging shop, machine shop No. 2, heat treatment shop, foundry shop and machine shop No. 1 by applying modern technology, fitting of engine parts, works being done at Engine Testing Control Room, and display of machine parts and multi-purpose diesel engines manufactured by the factory.

Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and officials conducted the Prime Minister round the factory.

At 8.20 am, the ceremony to open Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory was held at its archway. The commander and the minister cut the ribbon to open the factory. The Prime Minister unveiled the plaque of the factory and sprinkled scented water on it.

Lt-Gen Ko Ko, the commander and the minister also sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

The Prime Minister looked into operating of machines at Punching Shop, Assembly Shop and Rivet Welding Shop by applying modern technology and display of hydropower turbines, generators and machine parts manufactured by the factory. The minister and officials reported on production of the factory.

The Ministry of Industry-2 commenced construction of Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory in October 2006 and completed construction tasks, installation of machinery, test-running and test production.

(See page 9)
Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends…

(from page 8)

The factory will manufacture 700 units of 6V 128 ZC, 8V 128 ZC and 12V 128 ZC engines yearly to be used at inland waterways and coastal vessels, power plants, automobiles and heavy machinery. Construction of Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory started in May 2007. The construction tasks, installation of machinery and test-running works have finished at the factory.

The factory will produce 50 pairs of 100-kilowatt, 500-kilowatt and 2000-kilowatt Francis turbines and generators yearly. As such, the factory will fulfil the demand of hydropower turbines and generators to be used at the water resources of the country.

After attending the factories opening ceremonies, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Cement Plant (Nay Pyi Taw) construction project being implemented by Myanma Ceramics Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1 near Thawuthti of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung reported on progress of the plant project, requirements of raw materials and availability of raw materials in the region of the plant.

The Prime Minister inspected progress in construction of plant buildings and installation of machinery at the plant.—MNA
Patriotic literati including...

(From page 16)

Force, departmental heads, members of the Myanmar Historical Commission, members of the Scrutiny Committee for Selecting the Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award and National Literary Award, the Scrutiny Committee for Selecting the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award, doyen literati, members of the reference committee, social organization members, journalists from the private journals, prize winners and their families, guests and staff of the departments and enterprises under the ministry.

U Hla Win of Myanma Radio and Television acted as MC together with Co-MC Daw San San Yin of MRTV.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-1 expressed his pleasure for the opportunity to honour literati who have earnestly served the interest of the State and the people and the Myanmar literary profession with the might of pen.

Of the over 10,000 different kinds of works, namely, books, journals and magazines, published yearly, prizes were presented for 14 categories in accord with the norms. Of the nearly 2000 books published in 2008, 10 were selected for National Literary Award and of the 205 manuscripts, 29 were selected for Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards. This year, the eighth Lifetime Achievement Literary Award will be presented to the winner for his dedication in the literary field in his whole life.

Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards have been presented annually with the aim of publishing literary works beneficial to the nation and the people, helping bring out new men and women of letters, putting on record books on Myanmar lifestyles and promoting books on new thoughts, knowledge and advanced techniques appropriate to their respective societies. However, foreign media, turning a blind eye to their achievements, are always slandering, defaming and making fabricated accusations against them. Therefore, it is a historic duty for literati to rebut the unfounded accusations of foreign media, to help the entire people to see the internal and international developments in the right perspective and to be able to march steadily on the path of national interests and to organize them with literary power for preservation and development of national culture.

It is also important for literati to prevent the infiltration of alien culture and extinction of national characteristics with national literary and cultural power. And it is also necessary for them to take an active part in building a strong and united Union in line with political, economic and social objectives.

The ability of human resources in Myanmar will become higher if the reading power of rural people becomes greater as the majority of the nation’s population live in rural areas. Therefore, in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, self-reliance libraries have been opened in almost all villages across the Union in order that rural people can seek knowledge. At present, the Myanmar literati are to strive for introducing the Myanmar culture to the international community while preserving the Myanmar cultural heritage without losing its original styles. At the same time, efforts are to be made for broadening the horizon of Myanmar readers with the knowledge of Myanmar and world classic literature and contemporary literature.

The Secretary-1 urged literati to join hands for taking part in the activities of political, economic and social sectors of the State and to develop the correct idea and concepts of the people.

He also urged them to collectively carry out improvement of knowledge and technology in building a modern nation while preserving the fine tradition of cultural heritage; to organize (See page 11)
Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo gave the first prize to Nay Myo Thant, the second to Thu Thein and the third to Ni Ni Naing (Thatong) in the novel genre of the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win presented the first prize to Myelat Min Lwin, the second to Maung Cheint and the third to Naing Myo Thitsa (Namtu) in the collected short stories genre.

Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint awarded the first prize to Maung Han Tint (Pinlebu), the second to Yan Naing Oo and the third to Zaw Myo Han (Ngathanggyaung) in the collected poems genre.

Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo presented the first prize to Than Tun (Mawlamyine) in the general knowledge (arts) genre, the second to Maung Moe Yan and the third to Kanaung Maung Hsan Thit.

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint gave the first prize to Lu Lay (Delta), the second to Dr Aye Kyaw (Medical research Department) and the third to Dr Myint Than (Nyaunglebin) in the general knowledge (science and applied science) genre.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint presented the Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo awards Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award winner literati Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein. — MNA

Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presents first prize to Myat Wai Toe (Institute of Education) in Myanmar culture and fine arts literature genre. — MNA

Minister U Nyan Win presents first prize to Myelat Min Lwin in collected short stories genre — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo presents first prize to Than Tun (Mawlamyine) in General knowledge (arts) genre. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presents first prize to Maung Han Tint (Pinlebu) in collected poems genre. — MNA

Patriotic literati including… (from page 10)

the people with correct idea and concept by using the literature as dynamic media power; and all the literati to harmoniously strive for durability of the cultural and literary heritage of the nation with Union Spirit.

The Secretary-1 presented the Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award to doyen literati Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein and gave the National Literary Awards to Yen Nwe Par in the belle-letter genre, Kyu Kyu Thin in the selected short stories genre, Myat Wai Toe (Institute of Education) in the Myanmar culture and fine arts literature genre, Yenammee Maung Manug Kyi in the child literature genre and Kyunsinnyaw Saw Khet in the youth literature genre.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presented the National Literary Awards to Taw Kaung Min in the translation (general knowledge) genre, Win Htut Zaw in the translation (aesthetics) genre, Dr Dagon in the general knowledge (arts) genre, Dr Kyaw Tint in

the general knowledge (science) genre and Aung Soe in the general knowledge (applied science) genre.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo gave the first prize to Nay Myo Thant, the second to Thu Thein and the third to Ni Ni Naing (Thatong) in the novel genre of the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

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Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint presented the Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo awards Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award winner literati Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein. — MNA

Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presents first prize to Myat Wai Toe (Institute of Education) in Myanmar culture and fine arts literature genre. — MNA

Minister U Nyan Win presents first prize to Myelat Min Lwin in collected short stories genre — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo presents first prize to Than Tun (Mawlamyine) in General knowledge (arts) genre. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presents first prize to Maung Han Tint (Pinlebu) in collected poems genre. — MNA

first prize to Thaung Nyunt Thit, the second to Shwe Hinthu (Mandalay University) and the third to Maung Soe Htak (Thonze) in the belle-letter genre.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein awarded the first prize to Ma Aye Chan (Myanmarrsar), the second to Minbu Aung Kyung and the third to Myint San in the Myanmar culture and fine arts literature genre.

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint gave the first prize to Min Naing Lay (Lammadaw), the second to Theikpan Soe Myint Naing and the third to Soe Tin Htoo (Manbin) in the child literature genre.

Chief Justice U Aung Toe presented the first prize to Khin La Pyae Wun, the second to Maung Khaing Khant and the third to Nanda Khin (Thakkalame) in the youth literature genre. (See page 12)
Patriotic literati including…
(from page 11)
Attorney-General U Aye Maung awarded the first prize to Zin Min (Thameinhtaw) and second prize Maung Hsanda (Lewe) in the drama literature genre.
On behalf of the winners, Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award winner Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein spoke words of thanks.
After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 and party posed for documentary photo together with Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein.
Later, the Secretary-1 and party had a documentary photo taken together with the National Literary Award winners and the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award winners.—MNA

Information Minister hosts dinner in honour of literary award winners

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan host a dinner in honour of Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award winner, National Literary Award winners, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award winners and members of scrutiny committee in Shwe Eainthe Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone here this evening.
The dinner was also attended by Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, heads of the departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Information, literati, Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), vice-chairmen, CEC members, members of scrutiny committee of Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award, award winners and guests.—MNA

“Is it so warm in here I’ll postpone my plan to steal”
Police in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan Province, arrested a suspected car thief, who was found sleeping inside a vehicle in September.
The suspect said he decided to sleep in the car because “it was too cold outside”.
Luo, the owner of the car, found the unidentified person sleeping in his vehicle and phoned the police.

Snowball gang’s hit and run on cop car
Two police officers sheltering inside their patrol car were subjected to an onslaught of snowballs thrown by dozens of teenagers, an internet video showed.
The mobile phone footage posted on YouTube captures a crowd of shouting youngsters surrounding a police vehicle and aiming fire in Crawley, West Sussex.
The mobile phone footage posted on YouTube captures a crowd of shouting youngsters surrounding a police vehicle and aiming fire in Crawley, West Sussex.

A student drives a designed auto in Xiamen University of Technology in Xiamen City, southeast China’s Fujian Province. An auto show was held during the auto design competition held by Xiamen University of Technology on Tuesday on which 11 varied newly designed vehicles attracted many visitors.

FM felicitates Cuban counterpart
NAY PYI TAW, 1 Jan—U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla, Minister of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Cuba, on the anniversary of the Liberation Day of the Republic of Cuba which falls on 1 January 2010.—MNA

Monthly talks for January 2010 of UMFCCI on 2 Jan
YANGON, 31 Dec—With the sponsorship of Dagon International Co Ltd, the monthly talks for January 2010 of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will take place at the UMFCCI Office Tower at No. 29, Minye Kyawswa Road in Lannadow Township at 2 pm on 2 January.
Professor Dr Aung Tun Thet will give talks on Ethical Leadership, Ethical Organization. Chairmen, executives and members of brother associations of the UMFCCCI and any interested persons may attend the talks.—MNA
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (003)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (003) are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 1.1.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claim Day.

SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

INVITATION FOR TENDER
TENDER NO. BRIDGE/PKU/2000-2010/NPT/ST-004
1. Sealed Tender is invited by Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar for the supply of Steel Trusses and Accessories for AYEYAWADY BRIDGE (PAKOKKU) Motor-cum-Rail Construction Project across Ayeyawady River on Nyaung-Pakokku Road in Magway Division.
2. Tender application form of PAKOKKU BRIDGE (including Technical Specifications, Terms of Tender, Tender Schedule and Offer Form) can be purchased with USD 3000.
3. The Payment for tender application must be paid to Public Works’ Account No. S E E 0105, Myanmar Economic Bank (2) through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
4. The Tender document can be obtained from Bridge Division, Building No.(11), Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar only with the Payment Receipt to Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
5. Tender should be submitted to the above address not later than 16:30 hours on 5th March, 2010.
6. For further detail information, Please contact Telephone No. 067-407276, 407466.

China arrests 4 foreigners over heroin haul
BEIJING, 31 Dec—Four foreigners may face execution in China over a big seizure of heroin, a Hong Kong newspaper reported on Thursday, after China and Britain clashed over the execution of a Briton found guilty of drug smuggling.

The four were among nine people arrested over 144.5 kg (318.6 pounds) of heroin found by police in Shenzhen, the far southern Chinese commercial city next to Hong Kong, in August, the Beijing-backed Ta Kung Pao newspaper reported.

“The (Interior) Ministry will continue tracking down this type of criminals,” said the report, which cited Shenzhen officials. It did not specify the nationality of the four foreign suspects, who were arrested in September after detectives uncovered and then tracked the shipment of drugs from Pakistan.

The disclosure came after China executed a British national, Akmal Shaikh, on Tuesday for smuggling heroin, and highlights China’s role as a market and shipment point for illegal narcotics. Shaikh’s family and the British government decided his death, saying Chinese courts ignored evidence he was mentally ill and had been duped by a smuggling gang.—Internet

High-speed railways link China’s west to outside world
GUANG, 31 Dec—In the small village of Basha with only 2,000 residents in southwest China, 56-year-old Wu Laoguan lives a peaceful, rustic life interrupted by the occasional tourist.

Although well-prepared for the Southeast Asian ethnic group makes the mountainous village increasingly a tourist attraction, the plowman never travels far, nor does he have much connection with the outside world, except when he is asked by excited visitors to take a photo together.

He still wears handmade cloth and keeps the topknot hairstyle, a tradition of local Miao men. However, the serene but rather isolated life of Wu and his fellow villagers may be changed soon.

Xinhua

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. Second best time is now.

Yemeni forces raid al-Qaeda hideout, clashes erupt
SAN‘A, 31 Dec—Yemeni forces raided an al-Qaeda hideout and set off a gunbattle Wednesday as the government vowed to eliminate the group that claimed it was behind the Christmas bombing attempt on a US airliner.

The fighting took place in an al-Qaeda stronghold in western Yemen, haven for a group that attacked the US Embassy here in 2008, killing 10 Yemeni guards and four civilians. A government statement said at least one suspected militant was arrested during the clashes.

“The (Interior) Ministry will continue tracking down al-Qaeda terrorists and will continue its strikes against the group until it is totally eliminated,” Deputy Interior Minister Brig Gen Saleh al-Zawari told senior military officials at a meeting in Marib, another province believed to shelter al-Qaeda fighters.—Internet

Google loses Canadian Groove domain name claim
OTTAWA, 31 Dec—A Canadian company behind a search engine called Groovle.com has won a case filed against it by online search giant Google. Google said the domain name was used by the small business, 207 Media, was too similar to its own, but mediators the National Arbitration Forum disagreed.

In the complaint, Google asked for the judges to rule that 207 Media transfer the domain name over to it. But three judges appointed by the forum refused the request. They said the name was not similar enough to confuse people and the word ‘groovle’ was more closely linked to “groovy” or “groove” rather than Google.

The judges also refused to examine other claims made by Google, including that the Canadian business had no “legitimate” interest in the domain name and had registered it in “bad faith”. The entrepreneurs behind Groovle.com said they had used the site for more than two- and-a-half years without any complaints by Google.—Internet

Invitation To Sealed Tender
Thipaw Gypsum are required from Loading Site at Amarapura Jetty (Amarapura Township, Mandalay Division) to transport to Kyankhin Cement Factory (Kyankhin Township, Ayeawady Division)
Sealed Tenders are invited on the Closing date of (15.1.2010). Tender Forms and documents are available at the Industrial Raw Material Planning Department, Myanma Ceramic Industries, Ministry of Industry (1), Office No. 41, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who purchased Tender document officially. (For further details, Contact telephone number 067-408361)

Myanmar Ceramic Industries

This is only the second time such a complaint by Google has been rejected.—Internet

TRADE MARK CAUTION
BEST WESTERN INTERNATIONAL, INC. (a Corporation organised and existing under the laws of the State of Arizona, United States of America) of 6201 North 24th Parkway, Phoenix, Arizona 85016 U.S.A. is the owner of the following Trade Mark:

BEST WESTERN
Reg. No 1799/1992
in respect of “Hotel and motel services; reservation services for hotels and motels”

A fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark in any manner whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

WIN MU TIN M.A. H.G.P. D.B.I. for BEST WESTERN INTERNATIONAL, INC.
P.O. Box 60, Yangon

Date: 1 January 2010

A security worker monitors bags as they enter an explosive detection system at Oakland International Airport, California. Full body scanners, being considered in light of the failed bomb plot on a Northwest Airlines Flight on Christmas Day, are very expensive and cost around a million dollars each.—Internet
**SPORTS**

**Man United, Arsenal win to keep chase upon Chelsea**

Manchester United’s Rafael Da Silva (3rd L) shoots to score during their English Premier League soccer match against Wigan Athletic in Manchester, northern England on 30 December, 2009. — Xinhua

LONDON, 31 Dec—Top clubs Manchester United, Arsenal all won on Wednesday at the English Premier League to push upon leader Chelsea heading into the 2010.

Manchester United routed Wigan 5-0 and Arsenal thrashed Portsmouth 4-1 to keep on chase of Chelsea, whose advantage was cut into two points ahead of second-placed United.—Xinhua

**Wenger considers striker signing despite Arsenal romp**

PORTSMOUTH, 31 Dec — Arsene Wenger could sign a striker in the January transfer window despite Arsenal breaking the 50-goal mark for the season with a resounding 4-1 victory at lowly Portsmouth. Eduardo, Samir Nasri, Aaron Ramsey and Alex Song all got on the scoresheet for the Gunners at Fratton Park on Wednesday to leave Arsenal within four points of leaders Chelsea with a game in hand.

Yet Wenger concedes he is limited in his striking options with Nicklas Bendtner and Robin van Persie injured and Theo Walcott struggling to reach a high level of fitness.

Out-of-favour AC Milan forward Klaas-Jan Huntelaar is a potential loan target for Wenger, who admits he is surprised that a team without so many attacking talents remains the Premier League’s leading scorers.

**Nadal in ‘a little bit’ worse shape for 2010 season**

MADRID, 31 Dec — Spain’s world number two Rafael Nadal, whose injuries have raised fears over his long-term future, says he will start the 2010 tennis season in “a little bit” worse shape than he did last season. “I believe that this year I’ll arrive a bit more on the short side than at the start of last season,” he said in an interview published Wednesday in Spanish sports Daily AS, adding his preparation “has been short but good”.

“The results will be what they are but right now my hope is to win everything.—Internet

**Carragher believes Liverpool are back on track**

LIVERPOOL, 31 Dec — Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher believes his side’s dramatic win over Aston Villa proves the Reds are still a force to be reckoned with in the race for a top four finish. Rafa Benitez’s sixth-placed side moved to within four points of fourth-placed Tottenham after Fernando Torres scored in injury time to clinch a 1-0 victory at a snowy Villa Park on Tuesday.—Internet

**Ribery reportedly in 55 mln euro Real move**

BERLIN, 31 Dec — Bayern Munich’s French international Franck Ribery is set for a 55-million-euro move to Real Madrid next summer, a year before his contract at the German giants expires, a report said on Wednesday.

According to the German specialist website ran.de, the move was hammered out in August between Bayern and the Spanish club at the time of Dutch star Arjen Robben’s transfer to Munich.—Internet

**In-form Rooney targets best ever goal tally**

MANCHESTER, 31 Dec—Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney believes he will beat his best ever goal tally for a single season after inspiring Sir Alex Ferguson’s side to a comprehensive 5-0 demolition of Wigan.

Roberto Martinez’s Wigan held United at bay in the opening stages at Old Trafford on Wednesday before Rooney took over and United cruised home to close the gap on Premier League leaders Chelsea to just two points.

Rooney broke the deadlock for the home side with a fine finish - his 15th of the season - and the England star believes he can overtake his 2006-07 season total when he netted 23 times for United. “I hope so. If I don’t score eight goals between now and the end of the season, something is seriously wrong,” Rooney said. Internet

**Woods had ‘fat lip’ 4 days after accident**

ORLANDO, 31 Dec — Tiger Woods had a “fat lip” but no other visible facial injuries when he met with Florida state troopers four days after the accident outside his home, according to a television report. Florida Highway Patroling spokeswoman Kim Montes told WESH TV in Orlando on Wednesday that Woods and his attorney met with troopers on 1 Dec.

**Danish cycling star switches allegiance to New Zealand**

WELLINGTON, 31 Dec — Cyclist Linda Villumsen, who won the time-trial bronze medal for her native Denmark at this year’s world road racing championships, declared Wednesday she has switched allegiance to New Zealand.

The 24-year-old, who officially became a New Zealand citizen earlier this week, said her first target for her adopted country was to win selection to race at the Commonwealth Games in New Delhi next October.

Villumsen first visited New Zealand as a 17-year-old to attend school in Auckland and has returned regularly ever since.

Earlier this year she signalled her intention to change countries — telling the Danish newspaper Ekstra Bladet that “New Zealand has been part of me for many years” — and said she had received a lot of support since.

“I feel that this support is giving me something more than I have had before,” said Villumsen, who finished fifth in the women’s road race at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing.

**Arsenal’s Eduardo (left) jumps for the ball against Portsmouth’s midfielder Aaron Mokoena during their Premier League match at Fratton Park in Portsmouth.**

Internet

**Manchester United’s Rafael Da Silva (3rd L) shoots to score during their English Premier League soccer match against Wigan Athletic in Manchester.**

Internet

**Arsenal’s Sami Nasri (R) scores a goal against Portsmouth during their English Premier League soccer match at Fratton Park in Portsmouth on 30 December, 2009.**

Internet

**Tiger Wood**

Montes and other FHP officials did not immediately return several phone messages and e-mails from The Associated Press.

Internet

**Spain’s world number two Rafael Nadal, whose injuries have raised fears over his long-term future, says he will start the 2010 tennis season in “a little bit” worse shape than he did last season.**

Internet

**Liverpool’s Jamie Carragher**

Internet

**Bayern Munich’s French international Franck Ribery**

Internet

**Danish cyclist Linda Villumsen, who won the time-trial bronze medal for her native Denmark at this year’s world road racing championships.**

Internet

**Cyclist Linda Villumsen, who won the time-trial bronze medal for her native Denmark at this year’s world road racing championships.**

Internet
Xinhua launches TV news network

BEIJING, 31 Dec— China Xinhua News Network Corporation (CNC), a TV news network owned by Xinhua News Agency, will broadcast in the Asia-Pacific region and some European countries, starting from 1 Jan, 2010.

“The launch of the CNC is an important move for Xinhua to enrich the agency’s business sectors, and embrace the multi-media world,” Xinhua President Li Congjun said at a launching ceremony in Beijing Thursday.

The newly launched CNC World News channel will broadcast TV programs in Chinese around the clock, including news events and special news bulletins. The CNC Finance and Business channel will be launched simultaneously.

The CNC World News also plans to broadcast English programs from July, 2010. News pieces in bulletins. The CNC Finance and Business channel will broadcast in Asia-Pacific region and some European countries, starting from 1 Jan. 2010.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 1 January, 2010

WEATHER

Thursday, 31st December, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Tanintharyi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, Upper Sagar and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Kachin and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below December average temperatures in Chin and Northern Shan States upper sagain, Magway and Bago Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Mon State and Tanintharyi Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loleim (-3°C), Namhsan (-2°C), Pinlaung (-1°C), Heho (1°C), Lashio and An (2°C) each. Putao and Haha (3°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myeik (0.08) inch.

Maximum temperature on 30-12-2009 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 31-12-2009 was 52°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 31-12-2009 was 62%. Total sun shine hours on 30-12-2009 was (9.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 31-12-2009 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 South at (10:30) hours MST on 30-12-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 1st January 2010: Weather will be partly cloudy in Mon State, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-1-2010: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-1-2010: Partly cloudy.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas
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

Patriotic literati including monks help preserve and promote literary heritage

Secretary-1 attends ceremony to present literary awards to winners for 2008

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec—A ceremony to present the Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award, the National Literary Award and the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award for 2008 to the winners was held at the hall of the Ministry of Information, here, this morning, with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs, the Chief of Myanmar Police (See page 10)

Independence resolution: to have stronger sense of patriotism

Myanmar, the Thaki race
*From Bagan, Pinya Inwa, Toungoo, Nyaungyan also Till Konboung dynasty Lived the Thaki under own sovereignty