National unity is the most essential requirement for the perpetuation of the sovereignty of the State which is resided by over one hundred national races. Although we have different faiths and traditions, all the nationalities are the citizens of the Union of Myanmar with the same characteristics such as kindness, helpfulness, patience, bravery, and patriotism. True patriotism means not to harbour narrow-minded nationalism, but to have the true patriotic spirit desirous of working together for the perpetuation, progress and prosperity of the nation.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(from the address at the graduation parade of the 11th Intake of Defence Services Medical Academy)

Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:
EP-2 Ministry endeavouring for soonest supply of newly generated power to entire nation

For development of the economy of the State, the electric power plays a major role in building infrastructures for the agriculture and industrial sectors. Electricity is also essential for the daily life of the people. Therefore, after 1988, the government built power grid and main power supply stations in the country as part of efforts for supplying power to areas with no access to it and for timely supply of power from increased generation to the people.

The country’s demand for electricity had dramatically jumped if compared with the consumption before 1988 as factories and industries had mushroomed across the country when investment from home and abroad had flowed into the industrial sector as the country had practiced the market economy.

Yenwe Hydropower Plant.

YANGON, 1 Jan—The Leading Committee for Cleaning and Upgrading Yangon held the meeting 1/2010 at the hall of Yangon City Development Committee this morning. In his instructions, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence urged the Leading Committee and the Work Committee to harmoniously strive for upgrading Yangon to meet the international standard in their respective sectors.

(See page 2)
PERSPECTIVES
Saturday, 2 January, 2010

Actively participate with concerted efforts for development of nation

The industrial sector plays a key role in development of the country. In striving for building an industrialized nation, it is necessary to establish industries. Therefore, the State has established industrial zones by organizing a large number of the manageable and commercial scale industries at one place. With a view to improving the industrial sector, the government has been establishing factories and workshops. On 31 December 2009, a ceremony to open the Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory and the Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory took place at Thagara in Industrial Region of Thagara in Yedashe Township, Bago Division. The construction of Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory commenced in October 2006. At present, the factory project has completed construction task, installation and test-running of the machinery and test production.

The plan is under way to manufacture about 760 units of three types of engines namely 6V 128 zc, 8V 128 zc and 12V 128 zc at the factory yearly. The factory will produce diesel engines for vessels of inland and coastal waterways, power generators, motor vehicles and heavy machinery. The Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory was constructed in May 2007, and at present, the factory project has completed construction of the factory buildings, machine equipment and test-running. The factory plans to produce about 50 sets of 100-kilowatt, 500-kilowatt and 2000-kilowatt Francis turbines and generators per year. Hence, the factory will satisfy the demand of hydropower turbines and generators depending on the availability of water resources across the nation.

As emphasis is being placed on industrialization in building a modern and developed nation, technocrats are to actively take part in both government sector and private sector at full capacity.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe...
(from page 1)
Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Chairman of the Leading Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials reported on tasks of work committee and providing of necessary assistance for works. After attending to the needs, Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave concluding remarks.—MNA

Dy Foreign Affairs Minister arrives back from Bangladesh

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Jan—The Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint arrived back by air this morning after attending the Fourth Consultations between the two Foreign Ministries of Myanmar and Bangladesh which was held from 29 to 30 December 2009 in Dhaka, the People’s Republic of Bangladesh. The Fourth Consultations between the two Foreign Ministries of Myanmar and Bangladesh was held at the conference hall of the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry in the morning of 29 December 2009. The Consultations was co-chaired by Deputy Minister U Maung Myint and his counterpart Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh H.E Mr. Mohamed Majarul Quayes. They had a cordial discussion on cooperation between the two countries in a wide ranging areas of energy, transport and communications, economic and trade, agriculture, tourism and security and development in the common border areas. In the evening on the same day, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Majarul Quayes, Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh, hosted a dinner in honour of the Myanmar delegation. The dinner was also attended by ASEAN Ambassadors in Dhaka and high-ranking officials from the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry and other related departments.

In the morning of 30 December, Deputy Minister U Maung Myint and members of Myanmar Delegation paid a courtesy call on H.E Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Members of the Myanmar delegation, Deputy Director-General U Hau Do Suan of the Political Department and Deputy Director-General U Win Naing of the Consular and Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also arrived back from Dhaka together with the Deputy Minister.—MNA
Suspected drone attack kills three in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 1 Jan — A missile strike targeted a house in northwest Pakistan believed to be housing militants late Thursday, the latest in a string of suspected US drone attacks on the region, Pakistani intelligence officials said. Three people were killed and two were wounded in the attack, one of the officials told CNN.

The house was located in the largely autonomous tribal district of North Waziristan, near the rugged border with Afghanistan. The border area has been the scene of heavy fighting between Pakistani forces and the Taliban, the militia that is also battling US forces in Afghanistan.

The US military routinely offers no comment on reported drone attacks. However, it is the only country operating in the region known to have the ability to launch missiles from remote-controlled aircraft.— Internet

Iraqi officers stand near destroyed vehicles following two bombings in the western city of Ramadi, 100 kms (60 miles) from the capital Baghdad. Blasts in central and western Iraq killed 30 people and wounded 100.

DPRK’s dailies publish 2010 New Year Joint editorial

PYONGYANG, 1 Jan — Rodong Sinmun and Chongnyonjonwi on Friday published a joint editorial titled “Bring about a decisive turn in the people’s standard of living by accelerating the development of light industry and agriculture once again this year that marks the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Workers’ Party of Korea” on the occasion of the New Year. Excerpt of the editorial is as follows:

“This year (2010) marks the 65th anniversaries of the founding of the glorious Workers’ Party of Korea and the country’s liberation.

The anniversary of the founding of the WPK will be an important occasion for demonstrating the mounting national spirit and morale of the Korean Army and people, who are adding brilliance to the already shining exploits performed by President Kim Il Sung in building the Party and carrying out the revolutionary cause of Juche and the human cause of independence, and are speeding up the building of a thriving socialist nation on the strength of the single-minded unity around the leadership of the revolution.

The might of the country’s economy, including the heavy industry, was strengthened in the flames of the gigantic great upsurge, setting up a springboard for the country, already a politico-ideological and military power, to justifiably reach the status of an economic giant.

Now, based on the brilliant achievements of the great revolutionary upsurge, the Party is unfolding unprecedentedly grand plans and operations to bring about a decisive turn in the people’s standard of living.— MNA/ KCNA

Deadliest year in Mexico’s war on drugs

 Mexico City, 1 Jan — Mexico ended 2009 with a record number of drug-related deaths, greatly surpassing the then-record tally reached in 2008, unofficial counts indicate. The government has not released official figures, but national media say 7,600 Mexicans lost their lives in the war on drugs in 2009. Mexican President Felipe Calderon said earlier this year that 6,500 Mexicans died in drug violence in 2008. Officials say more than 15,000 Mexicans have died since Calderon declared war on drug cartels shortly after taking office in December 2006. Some observers, such as former US House Speaker Newt Gingrich, have likened the situation to a civil war. The vast majority of the deaths have been among criminals, not civilians, Calderon and other Mexican officials have said repeatedly.

Ciudad Juarez, across the border from El Paso, Texas, leads all other Mexican cities in the number of deaths, news reports say. There were more than 2,575 slayings in the city in 2009, according to a tally by TV station XHJ. Juarez Mayor Jose Reyes Ferriz told CNN he could not confirm that number but that it sounded correct.

In addition, Al-Basha, Saba and state-run news agency Yemennet reported. It did not say when the raids took place.— Internet

Al Qaeda ‘most dangerous’ arrested

SANAA, 1 Jan — A man described as “one of al Qaeda’s most dangerous members” was arrested in Yemen, the Yemeni military, an embassy official and state-run news agency Saba said. Mohammed Abdu Saleh al-Haudali, 35, is “one of the most dangerous terrorists wanted by the security forces,” according to a Yemeni military Web site, citing a security source. Al-Haudali was arrested on Wednesday in the village of Deer Jaber in the Bajel District, northeast of the Yemeni capital of Sanaa, said Mohammed Al-Basha, spokesman for the Yemen Embassy in Washington. Al-Haudali exchanged fire with security forces before his arrest, Saba reported, citing Hodeidah Province security officer Abdul-Wahab Al-Radhi. However, the Yemeni military site quoted the security source as saying al-Haudali was caught when he attempted to open fire on authorities.

In addition, Al-Basha told CNN, Mohammed Ali Al-Henk, “a wanted al Qaeda operative,” was captured in the Arhab District north of Sanaa. Yemeni air forces have raided al Qaeda hideouts in Sanaa along with Abyan and Shabwa governorates, killing dozens of al Qaeda suspects, Saba reported. It did not say when the raids took place.— Internet

Two French journalists kidnapped in Afghanistan

KABUL, 1 Jan — Two French reporters have been kidnapped north-east of the Afghan capital Kabul, Afghan officials say. They say the journalists were seized in Kapisa Province, along with three Afghans travelling with them.

French Defence Minister Herve Morin, who is visiting Afghanistan, said he had had no news of two journalists since Wednesday. Their identity is unclear. Media sources in Paris said they work for the French TV Channel FR3. According to provincial police chief Matiullah Safi, the journalists and the Afghans accompanying them were abducted in the Shinak District of Kapisa Province, 120km (70 miles) from Kabul.— Internet
China central bank chief Zhou says 2010 is key

BEIJING, 1 Jan — China’s central bank governor has called 2010 a key year in China’s fight to overcome the financial crisis. The head of the People’s Bank of China, Zhou Xiaochuan, said in a message to employees that its credit policy next year would be a relaxed one.

China is, in fact, one of the countries least affected by the global financial crisis, analysts point out. Its own economy grew by about 9% last year, as many other key world economies were in recession. They are still expected to struggle to make growth, whereas China says it will grow by 8% this year. That has been its target for some years — and one that it has consistently overshoot.— Internet

Turkmenistan to resume gas deliveries to Russia in early January

MOSCOW, 1 Jan — Turkmenistan will resume natural gas supplies to Russia on 9 Jan, 2010, Russia’s state gas monopoly Gazprom said on Thursday.

"Turkmenistan is our strategic partner and we are very glad that we have managed to agree (on) all the terms. Turkmen gas supplies will restart at 10:00 a.m. (0700 GMT) on 9 Jan," Gazprom spokesman Sergei Kupriyanov said on Echo Moskovy radio.

Gazprom and its Turkmen counterpart Turkmengaz clinched a deal on the sidelines of Russian President Dmitry Medvedev’s visit to the Turkmen capital on 22 Dec, ending a months-long gas dispute between the two former Soviet states.

Under the new contract, Turkmenistan will supply Russia with up to 30 billion cubic metres of natural gas annually at European-level prices. Turkmengaz cut off gas deliveries to Russia in early April after a pipeline explosion. The Central Asia state accused Russia of failing to warn that it was reducing gas imports, a move that resulted in a buildup of pipeline pressure and caused the blast. — Xinhua

Vietnam’s growth picks up pace

HANOI, 1 Jan — Vietnam’s economy grew at its fastest rate in two years in the fourth quarter, helped by government spending. Hanoi’s Statistics Office said economic growth expanded by 6.9% in the final three months of the year. That compares to 6.04% in the previous quarter.

In a statement, it said the economy “had passed the most difficult period”. The government took measures worth about $88bn ($58bn) to boost growth, including subsidies in the first part of the year.

The government also said it must “firstly continue to actively prevent the return of hyperinflation and the existing potential inflationary factors”. In November, the central bank raised rates and devalued the currency in an attempt to control inflation, which ran at a rate of 6.52% in December. Last year an overheating economy pushed it up to 26%.— Internet

Germany to gain market share by producing more smaller cars

BERLIN, 1 Jan — To gain more market share, German automakers will produce more smaller cars next year, automotive industry leader said on Thursday. German carmakers need to hold and further strengthen their position at global stage to counter an anticipated decline at home market after the termination of domestic scrappage scheme, said Matthias Wissmann, President of the German Association of the Automotive Industry (VDA).

“Now we are attacking in the small car segment, with cars that only use about three litres of fuel for 100 kilometres,” Wissmann said. VDA estimated that sales could decline from more than 3.8 million vehicles in 2009 to between 2.75 million and 3 million in 2010. Wissmann said special factors helped the German car industry grow this year and the market was expected to return to normal next year. — Xinhua

China and ASEAN free trade deal begins

BEIJING, 1 Jan — A new free trade area comes into effect on Friday, incorporating China and the six founding members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). These countries include Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. They plan to eliminate tariffs on 90% of imported goods. This will reduce the cost of trade and is likely to lead to an expansion of cross border commerce between the countries concerned. In terms of population it will be the largest trade area in the world, with nearly 1.9bn people and it includes some of the leading export driven economies. Chinese manufacturers will gain and so will South East Asian exporters of raw materials.

Those countries are also likely to gain access to cheaper materials and components from China. But there have been warnings from South East Asia that some industries are not ready to compete with China and that jobs will be lost.— Internet

Britain plans Europe’s fastest rail service

LONDON, 1 Jan — The British government has received plans for a high-speed railway linking London with Britain’s second largest city Birmingham in the West Midlands which, if built, would be the fastest in Europe.

High Speed Two (HS2) — the company set up to advise the government on the development of high-speed rail services between London and Scotland — delivered the report to the Department of Transport.

HS2 was asked by the government to first look at where existing capacity is under most pressure, between London and the West Midlands.— Internet

Visitors and guests gather at the Tokyo Disneyland to view the annual Disney characters’ procession in Urayasu, near Tokyo, Japan, on 1 Jan, 2010. — Internet

Workers dispatch a wind driven generator at the new base of Dongfang Steam Turbine Co, Ltd in Bajiaojing Town of Deyang City, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, on 30 Dec, 2009. — Xinhua
Three Turkish sailors aboard tank hijacked by Somali pirates

ANKARA, 1 Jan—Three Turkish sailors were among the 26 crew members on board a British-flagged tanker which was hijacked by Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden, Turkish officials said on Thursday.

The 8,000-ton St James Park was seized by the pirates on Tuesday when the chemical tanker was sailing en route to Thailand from Spain, the officials said.

The tanker was the first merchant vessel to be hijacked in the Gulf of Aden in nearly six months.

The British-flagged ship is operated by an Israeli company and the pirates have not yet made any contact with the Israeli company for ransom, officials said.

Hostages captured by pirates usually have to wait for two to three months for ship owners to pay the ransom and secure their freedom, officials added.

Piracy has become rampant off the coast of Africa, especially in the waters near Somalia, which has been without an effective government since 1991.

An estimated 25,000 ships annually cruise the Gulf of Aden, off Somalia’s northern coast.

Two home-made bombs explode in different banks in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 1 Jan—Two home-made bombs exploded on Thursday in banks of the municipalities of Toluca and Metepec in the State of Mexico, center of the country, causing damages inside and outside the buildings, the police said.

The police of the State of Mexico said that the home-made bombs exploded at 3:18 am local time (0918 GMT), in the banks Banocomer and Banamex, without causing injuries.

The first bomb exploded in Bancomer branch in Toluca, capital of the State of Mexico, some 400 metres from the General Prosecutor’s Office of Justice of the State of Mexico.

This explosion broke the windows of the bank, destroyed the ATM area and made 10 lamps to fall down. The other explosion was in Banamec branch in Metepec, some 300 metres from the General Director of Public Security building and the Public Ministry Agency.

Taleban militants behead six ex-colleagues in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 1 Jan—A group of armed militants have raided a house in southern Afghanistan’s Urugzan Province, beheading six former militants and wounds another.

The provincial police chief Juma Gul Humat said on Thursday, “A group of extremist Taleban rebels attacked a house on Wednesday night in the provincial capital of Trinkot and beheaded six of their former friends who were moderate and opposing the war.”

Humat also told Xinhua that another former militant was injured in the incident and has been taken to hospital for medical treatment.

Taleban, which often target pro-government figures, has so far made no comment on the brutal and bloody incident.

Two killed in train accidents in US

San Francisco, 1 Jan—Two people were killed on Thursday morning in separate incidents involving Caltrain, a commuter rail system serving the San Francisco Bay Area in the United States, local media reported.

A woman was hit by a train and killed at about 5:50 am as she walked across Caltrain tracks in Santa Clara station.

Hours later, a train struck a small pickup truck at Auzerais Avenue in San Jose, killing the male driver inside.

Including the two deaths ahead of New Year’s Eve, a total of 19 people have been killed in 2009 while crossing Caltrain tracks, only one shy of the record 20 fatalities in 1995, Caltrain spokeswoman Christine Dunn said.

The past year also saw high-profile teenager suicides along Caltrain route in Palo Alto, where four students from the same Gunn High School took their own lives separately by stepping onto Caltrain tracks.

“This has been a very difficult year for Caltrain,” Dunn was quoted by the San Jose Mercury News as saying.

“The impacts of these tragedies weigh heavily on our employees. Caltrain continues to work diligently to educate the public about safety around railroad tracks,” she said.—Xinhua

Moderate quake hits Tibet

BEIJING, 1 Jan—An earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale jolted Xigaze in southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region on Friday morning, according to the national seismological network.

The quake struck at 10.22 am Beijing time.

With a depth of about 10 km, the epicenter was detected at 30.9 degrees north latitude and 84.0 degrees east longitude in Zhongba County.

No injuries or deaths have been reported.—Xinhua

Aftershocks hit California-Mexico border following magnitude-5.8 quake

LOS ANGELES, 1 Jan—Aftershocks continued to hit the California-Mexico border on Thursday morning, following the magnitude-5.8 earthquake that struck the region one day earlier.

There have been more than 12 aftershocks measuring above magnitude 3.0 in the area, with most centering in Mexico near Mexicali and the town of Guadalupe Victoria, according to the US Geological Survey.

The magnitude-5.8 quake hit the region on Wednesday morning. Residents along the border reported intense shaking but no major damage or injuries from the main quake.

The border area is considered a seismically active region, but quake experts said the 5.8 temblor is the kind of quake seen about once a decade.

The city manager of Calexico, California, about 22 miles (35.2 kilometres) from the quake’s epicenter, said there was some heavy shaking for 15 seconds. But he said things quickly got back to normal.

The quake was felt over a wide section of the Southwest, including San Diego, Phoenix and Tijuana. It occurred at 10:48 am about 23 miles (36.8 kilometres) south of Calexico and 20 miles (32 kilo-metres) from Mexicali.—Xinhua

Moderate earthquake shakes Guatemala

MANAGUA, 1 Jan—An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale shook Guatemala early on Thursday morning, with no immediate reports of casualties or damage, the Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies (INETER) said.

According to the INETER, the quake’s epicenter was located some 489 km northwest of Guatemala City. It occurred at 4:12 am local time (1012 GMT).

The earthquake had a depth of 25 km, and “it was an event related to a local failure,” the INETER said on its website.

All Items from Xinhua News Agency
Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:

New landmark in Myanmar history

Chit Naing (Psychology)

Myanmar regained independence from the British government on 4 January 1948. The Union of Myanmar declined the British offer to grant the nation Dominican status, and invitation to the British Commonwealth. Myanmar stood as independent, sovereign nation. It was them independent politically, but Myanmar people were still impoverished in terms of economy.

The country was on the edge of collapse due to some narrow-minded political leaders without broad political view. In particular, the majority of the people went through the hell of evil consequences of armed revolts. Local people did not dare to live in the rural areas due to armed insurgency and lawless acts. They were in poverty in urban areas.

Anyhow, Myanmar managed to put an end to internal armed insurgency. Successive governments worked for national development. In the period of 62 years, the nation has not been able to achieve the development rate of China and India yet, still lagging behind other countries in development. The nation was hunted for colonization for 62 years (1824-1885); it fell under alien rule for 62 years (1886-1947), and it has struggled for 62 years (1948-2009).

Nearly the lifespan of a man does not take long, but the current of history keeps on flowing.

Till today, subversives are still threatening the nation. However, according to the objective conditions, it is impossible Myanmar will become a minion of other countries. Myanmar is capable of standing on its own feet, and building itself up. That is comprehensible to all.

(See page 7)

The people have taken 62 years to reach the top of the hole in which they came under the process of colonization for 62 years, and were in dire straits for 62 years. Now, they are out of the hole in the year of 2010. Why are some persons trying to get into the hole again? We have to try to transform the nation from old to new system.
Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:

New landmark in Myanmar history

(from page 6)

The people gave top priority to non-disintegration of the Union. All have built national unity for a couple of decades for ensuring non-disintegration of national solidarity.

We safeguard our country at risk to our lives for perpetuation of sovereignty. I want all to take lessons from past events. The people have taken 62 years to reach the top of the hole in which they came under the process of colonization for 62 years, and were in dire straits for 62 years. Now, they are out of the hole in the year of 2010. Why are some persons trying to get into the hole again? We have to try to transform the nation from old to new system.

“The State Peace and Development Council laid down the seven-step Road Map in 2003, and it is in pursuit of it. In May 2008, the constitution was approved through a referendum. “The interest of the people in Myanmar in political affairs is that they look forward to some positive changes after the 2010 election. They do not want revolution, either.”

Professor Robert H Taylor
Political scientist
Perspective, The Voice, 17-12-2009

The people trust the Tatmadaw government. The government managed to make peace with 17 major and 20 small national race armed groups rising against successive governments. It has showed its benevolent attitudes and goodwill towards them. It does not speak much, but has great tenacity in carrying out prudent projects that need great patience.

The government has not done much to refute the accusations of internal and external anti-government elements, because accusations alone cannot work well to break the nation into parts. The government does not harbour grudge, nor does it have any intention to retaliate.

Let it be, but –
Anything that can harm the public interest is not acceptable to it. It is opposed to the sanctions that have adverse effects to the life of the people. No government wants any forms of attacks designed to harm the socio-economic life of the people. It is under a duty to dissuade those foreign countries from imposing unfair sanctions against Myanmar.

With little cooperation and support from abroad, the government has been building roads and bridges and improving the infrastructures at the unprecedented level. Thanks to the river-spanning bridges, national races have more access to amicable relations between them.

And as a result of hundreds of dams, reservoirs, sluice gates, river water pumping stations, and underground water tapping stations, there has been a sharp increase in outputs of crops. Over the past 20 years, the living standard of countrymen and women has been far better than that previously.

Whatever it is, the Independence Day enters 62nd anniversary in 2010, and I am confident Myanmar will soon see a landmark, surmounting various forms of disruptions.

May the independence of Myanmar remain perpetual! (Hailing the Independence Day)

Translation: MS
oriented economic system since 1988. The establishment of new towns and industrial zones by the government, housing projects and use of electric powered household goods by the people had increased the demand for power supply. The rapid development of the country has triggered the dramatic rise in demand for power supply. To fulfill the requirements in the power sector, the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 has implemented the power supply projects and the ministry has taken the first priority to supply power to industrial zones. The government has established industrial zones across the country as part of efforts for building a modern developed State. The following are industrial zones across the country.

**Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:**

EP-2 Ministry endeavouring...

(from page 1)

Though there were small-scale factories and industries in the past, today’s factories and industries have enormous capacity and run at full capacity. The increased number of factories and industries with sizeable number of workers has made enormous demands for electricity. Besides, use of electric powered household goods and escalators and elevators at high-rise housing have caused the spirally upward consumption of power. Following is the required amount of electricity in the power supply network to sufficiently supply power to the people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Counting</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>31-12-2009</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Industrial Zones</td>
<td>Nos.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(A) Industrial Zone</td>
<td>Nos.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(B) Sub-Industrial Zone</td>
<td>Nos.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Industries</td>
<td>Nos.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9,702</td>
<td>9,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Private Industries</td>
<td>factory</td>
<td>26,690</td>
<td>43,784</td>
<td>17,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Cottage Industries</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10,438</td>
<td>10,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>State-owned factories</td>
<td>under Ministry of Industry-1</td>
<td>factory</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>State-owned factories</td>
<td>under Ministry of Industry-2</td>
<td>factory</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(A) constructed</td>
<td>factory</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(B) Under construction</td>
<td>factory</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now, power plants only can generate 556 megawatts due to decrease in producing electricity of hydropower plants in summer when fewer water can be stored and decrease in generating capacity of some old power plants although the amount of electricity demand is 1555.25 megawatts. A total of 856 megawatts of electricity is being produced and distributed averagely including 300 megawatts from Shweli (1) Hydropower Plant of Ministry of Electric Power No (1). So, the Ministry of Electricity No (2) is distributing electricity alternately to the public from the national power grid by setting groups in order to keep balance between supply and demand of electric power.

Demand for electric power increases year after year while arrangements are being made to build more power plants with the aim of producing more electricity. The government put first priority in building mega structures. There are 16 hydropower plants which are under construction – four plants will emerge in 2010, five in 2011, three in 2012, one in 2015 and three later in the year of 2015. It is learnt that electricity will be in surplus in 2015 as the projects which are targeted to finish in 2010/2011 will fulfill the demand for electric power.

**Projects to be implemented**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name of project</th>
<th>Location in states/divisions</th>
<th>Generating capacity (megawatts)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Myitsone</td>
<td>Shan</td>
<td>4100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yinan</td>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Khaunglanphu</td>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>2700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Piza</td>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wuhsauk</td>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Chipawe</td>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>2800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Laza</td>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>1900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tapein (2)</td>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hatgyi</td>
<td>Kayin</td>
<td>1360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dayai</td>
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Khabaung Hydropower Plant.
While the government is implementing new hydropower projects, the Ministry of Energy is building a 24-inch wide pipeline from Yadana Natural Gas Platform to Yangon, 179.64 miles – 93.16 miles offshore and 86.48 miles onshore – at the cost of US$ 270 million for supplying enough natural gas to natural gas-fired power plants. The pipeline installation will be completed in 2010, and natural gas-fired power plants in Yangon can produce more electricity soon.

The people on their part are to be careful in consuming electric power to avoid unnecessary wastage while the projects are under way, in response to the efforts the government is making for adequate supply of electric power to the public. The government and the people are to remain harmonious in pursuing the goal of building a modern, developed nation based on the electric power.

Translation: AMS+VM
Yanpe Dam supplying irrigation water to eastern Magway Division

Byline & Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sathmu)

(from page 16) The irrigation system of Yanpe Dam opened in February 2001, in Taungdwingyi Township of eastern Magway Division. We went to Assistant Director’s Office of the Irrigation Department (Maintenance) whence we proceeded to Yanpe Dam together with Staff Officer U Win Lwin through Taungdwingyi Pyay Road. Yanpe Dam is supplying irrigation water through left and right channels to farmlands for growing monsoon and summer paddy successfully. Yanpe Dam is situated Watkathay Village, Taungdwingyi Township of Magway Division. With the length of 9100 feet dam, it can store 35,140 acre feet of water. Saddle dyke (1) is 1500 feet long, saddle dyke (2), 6000 feet long and embankment of the dam is 78 feet high. The dam is supplying 10,000 acres of irrigable area to grow summer and monsoon paddy, groundnut, sesame, and beans and pulses. Having 10,000 acres of original irrigated area, the dam in 2006-2007 was able to supply water to 6488 acres of irrigated area through the right channel and 3512 acres through left channel to meet targeted acreage. Magway Division was designated to grow one million acres of monsoon paddy in 2006-2007. So, the channel extending by two feet at foot post No. 10200 can fully supply water to extended 800 acres since 2007. The irrigated area of Yanpe Dam is 4852 acres of monsoon paddy and 3563 acres of summer paddy in 2002-2003, 7440 acres of monsoon and 915 acres in 2003-2004, 7440 acres of monsoon and 915 acres of summer in 2004-2005, 8715 acres of monsoon and 1523 acres of summer in 2005-2006, 10,000 acres of monsoon and 908 acres of summer in 2006-2007, 1080 acres of monsoon and 1720 acres of summer in 2007-2008 and 10,000 acres of monsoon and 1772 acres of summer in 2008-2009. In 2009-2010, 10,821 acres of monsoon paddy have been grown and efforts are being made to hit targeted acreage for summer paddy. Groundnut, sesame and beans and pulses are to be cultivated on the fields where not suitable for growing summer paddy. Arrangements are being made to transform the croplands into farmlands, explained the staff officer. The dam is called Yanpe, that is to say damming Yanpe creek. The Yanpe creek, where King Duttabaung waged the war against Princess Punhiwa, is famous as a historical place in the course of Myanmar history. With strong current, the Yanpe creek enjoys an enormous amount of inflow water. Construction on Yanpe Dam began in 1999-2000 and completed in 2000-2001 by spending on the sum of 1692.60 million kyats. The dam was handed over to the Irrigation Department (Maintenance) on 26 November 2003. Yanpe Dam which is the facilitator of eastern Magway Division is now contributing to the targeted acreage of the whole division to grow one million acres of monsoon paddy. All in all it is the duty of local people to maintain the channels, the spillway and water control tower, and the sluice gate of the dam for their sustainability.

Translation: ZZS

For youth and the future

New diesel locomotive handed over

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Jan—A ceremony to hand over the new diesel locomotive built by Insein Locomotive Shed of Myanmar Railways with the own design was held at Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station, here, this morning. It was attended by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Then Swe, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin and officials.

Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min and ministers view new diesel locomotive.

Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min and ministers view new diesel locomotive.

General Manager (Mechanical and Electrical) U Tun Oo of MR reported on manufacturing of modern diesel locomotive from the Insein Locomotive Shed. General Manager (Factory of Insein) U Saw Valentine handed over documents related to the locomotive to Divisional Mechanical Senior Engineer U Toe Ni. The technicians of Insein Locomotive Shed built the new locomotive based on the structure of the locomotive bought from the People’s Republic of China in 2008.

Tobacco kills.

IAHVS graduates pay respects to old faculty members

YANGON, 1 Jan—the second respect paying ceremony and the get-together party of the graduates of Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science (1972-78) was held at M-3 Food Centre in Bahan Township on 27 December 2009. Old students presented cash and gifts to old faculty members. On behalf of the old faculty members, retired Rector Dr. Maung Maung Sagave worded thanks. On behalf of the old students, Director Dr Ohn Kyaw spoke words of thanks. Later, Dr Ohn Kyaw explained the social and general matters.
China to launch epidemiological investigation of swine flu

BEIJING, 1 Jan—China will launch a nationwide epidemiological investigation of A/H1N1 influenza next year in a bid to provide more scientific data for further prevention and control measures.

According to a circular released by the Ministry of Health on Wednesday, the research will be focused on 12 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions including Beijing, Shandong and Henan. A total of 54,000 people, 4,500 for each province, will be surveyed.

The research will be carried out in three time periods: next January, from March to April and from August to September.

Experts with the ministry said that currently a large number of patients only have slight flu symptoms and many potential infection cases exist, which means the official number of flu cases can no longer reflect the actual epidemic situation in the country.

According to the experts, the country is in urgent need of understanding the infection level in different age groups in different time periods in order to map out further prevention and control plan.

Also, a serum epidemiological investigation will be launched next year across the country, sampling 400 people for each of the 31 provinces, municipalities, autonomous regions and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps.

Russia approves charter flights from Georgia

MOSCOW, 1 Jan—Moscow has authorized the first direct flights between Russia and Georgia since a brief war between the two countries in August 2008, the Russian Transportation Ministry said on Thursday.

“Georgian Airways will be allowed to run Tbilisi-Moscow charter flights on 8-10 Jan and Tbilisi-St Petersburg-Tbilisi flights on 9 and 10 Jan,” the ministry said. The ministry added that the resumption of regular flights still requires negotiations.

Direct flights between Tbilisi and Moscow were halted in 2006 over a spy row between the former Soviet neighbours. The flights were resumed after a short time in 2008, but were suspended again after the five-day Caucasus war.

French public debt records new high in third quarter

PARIS, 1 Jan—France’s public debt hit a record high in the third quarter following a series of governmental stimuli measures, the official statistics bureau INSEE said on Wednesday.

The public debt reached 1.46 trillion euros (2.1 trillion US dollars) after a 29.4-billion-euro (about 42.28-billion-dollars) increase during the July-September period.

It accounted for 75.8 percent of the country’s domestic gross product (GDP).

INSEE predicted the public debt would continue to rise, and could amount to 77.9 percent of the GDP in the fourth quarter as the government maintains extra spending in a bid to deal with the economic crisis.

Massive governmental spending contributed much to France’s leading recovery from the crisis in the second quarter. But the heavy debt was also likely to slow the country’s long-term development.

Boy, three, shoots young cousin dead with father’s gun

RAYVILLE, 1 Jan — An off-duty police officer’s three-year-old son has reportedly shot and killed a three-year-old cousin with his father’s gun in the US.

Police were called to a house in Rayville, Louisiana at 2.30 pm local time yesterday, the News-Star reported.

Sheriff Charles McDonald said the children—a boy and a girl—were playing out front of the house when the off-duty officer went to get something out of his car. While he was turned, the boy walked up and picked up the officer’s firearm, which was in the driver’s side door.

Small plane crashes in Indonesia, killing two

JAKARTA, 1 Jan—A small plane crashed in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province on Thursday morning, killing a pilot and a technician, an official said here.

The plane used for spraying germ fell at 8.50 am (0150 GMT) in front of a hospital in Ketapang town of the province, head of the crisis centre of Indonesian Health Ministry Rustam Pakaya said. “The pilot and the technician are dead,” he told Xinhua over phone.

Evacuation has been under way, he said.

The Head of Public Communication of the Transportation Ministry Bambang S Ervan told detikcom online news that the victims are pilot Sigit Sudiario and technician Winarno.

Bambang said that the plane was just registered in the ministry two years ago.

The head of West Kalimantan’s Health Department Subah said that the operation of the hospital runs normally after the incident that damaged a part of the hospital.

“Only the roof of the emergency installation was heavily damaged,” said Subah.

According to Subah, the plane also fell on one of the hospital’s cars.

The spokesman of the National Committee of Transportation Safety JA Barata said that his office is still collecting information related to the incident.

2010 Shanghai World Expo website to open English version

SHANGHAI, 1 Jan—The English version of the 2010 Shanghai World Expo website was scheduled to open on Friday, the New Year’s Eve, said an official with the preparation committee.

Citizens can log in at www.expo.cn to see the Expo’s 3.28 square-km garden and more than 150 exhibition halls, according to the committee.

The website launched its Chinese version in November. It will be updated regularly with information about the Expo which opens in May next year.

The 2010 Shanghai World Expo will last from 1 May to 31 Oct, 2010.
**Brazilians Storms and Landslides Kill at Least 18**

**Rio de Janeiro, 1 Jan**—Heavy rains have caused floods and landslides in Brazil, leaving at least 18 people dead. Officials said that most of the deaths occurred as shanties collapsed under mud or rain in the greater Rio de Janeiro area. One of the worst incidents was in Jacarepagua, in western Rio area, where a family of five died in a landslide. The state has been hit by 24 hours of downpours threatening new year celebrations on Copacabana Beach.

Some 200 people had to flee their homes in Baixada Fuminesa, in northern Rio, after three rivers burst their banks. The authorities have urged people in vulnerable areas to move to safety even if it means abandoning their homes. Weather forecasters expected the rains to continue throughout Thursday.

**Man Faked Own Cremation for $1.5m, Say Police**

**Seoul, 1 Jan**—South Korean police have arrested a man who faked his own death—and cremation—to secure insurance payouts totalling 1.8 billion won ($1.5 million). Police said a man named Chung, 51 and his wife, Ahn, 49, hatched the scheme after their business in Indonesia ran into trouble.

The wife made life insurance claims to six Korean companies after reporting that her husband had died in a motorcycle accident on Batam Island in Indonesia. The Korea Times said the couple bribed Indonesian doctors to supply a death certificate and submitted it to the Korean Embassy in Jakarta. Ahn also videotaped a “cremation ceremony” for Chung to bolster her claim.

A policewoman in Seoul’s Namdaemun District said they have also issued a warrant for the couple’s nephew after becoming suspicious about the cremation.

**Body Mistakenly Cremated**

**Prospect, 1 Jan**—A grieving family learned their 95-year-old great-grandmother had been cremated when they found a stranger’s body in her casket, and a funeral home is being investigated in the incident.

Relatives of Aurelie Tuccillo noticed the wrong body when they arrived at the Buckmiller Brothers Funeral Home in Connecticut for calling hours on Tuesday night.

Police said on Wednesday that state and local officials found Tuccillo had “inadvertently been cremated.”

Funeral home owner Wayne P Buckmiller calls the mix-up “a most unfortunate incident.” He says the home is working with the family to resolve the situation.

The state Department of Public Health is also investigating the incident.

**Police Vehicles and Ambulances Are Parked Outside the Sello Shopping Centre in Espoo**

A lone gunman shot dead his former girlfriend and then gunned down four of her work colleagues in a rampage at a Finnish shopping mall on Thursday before turning his weapon on himself.

**Police Mark Caution**

**Best Western International, Inc.** (a Corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Arizona, United States of America) of 6021 North 24th Parkway, Phoenix, Arizona, 85018, USA, is the owner of the following Trade Mark Aztec Hotel.


In respect of “Hotel, motel and resort hotel services”. 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.P.O.B.L.

BEST WESTERN INTERNATIONAL, INC.

P.O. Box 60

Yangon

Dated: 2 January 2010

**Police Identify the Killer as 43-Year-Old Ibrahim Shkupolli**

**Espoo, 1 Jan**—A lone gunman dressed in black killed five people, including four in a crowded shopping mall, before returning home and taking his own life on Thursday. It was the third such massacre in Finland in about two years, and once again raised questions about gun control in a Nordic country where hunting is popular.

Police identified the killer as 43-year-old Ibrahim Shkupolli, an ethnic Albanian immigrant from Kosovo who had been living for several years in Finland, and the national tragedy cast a pall over the nation’s New Year’s Eve celebrations.

Shkupolli killed his ex-girlfriend, a Finnish woman, at her home, and four employees of the Prisma grocery store at the Sello shopping mall in Espoo, six miles (10 kilometres) west of Helsinki, the capital. It was unclear whom he shot first. The former girlfriend, who was 42, had also worked at the same Prisma store, was unclear whom he shot first. The former girlfriend, who was 42, had also worked at the same Prisma store, when they found a stranger’s body in her casket, and a funeral home is being investigated in the incident.

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**Gang Member Faked Own Death to Get Him a Ride to a Bar**

**St Petersburg, 1 Jan**—Authorities say a Florida man who called police dispatchers claiming that he had been beaten and shot at was hoping the tale would get him a ride to a bar.

Instead, 37-year-old Gregory Oras is facing charges of misusing the emergency call system and battery of a law enforcement officer.

The St Petersburg Times said an arrest report says Oras called police dispatchers three times before his arrest. He told the dispatchers he had a broken nose and bleeding ears, and claimed people were shooting at him.

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Cambodia’s dengue fever death toll sharply falls this year

PHNOM PENH, 1 Jan — The number of reported cases of dengue fever rose in 2009, but fatalities significantly fell from 2008 due to improved public awareness, local media reported on Thursday, citing health officials.

Ngan Chantha, director of dengue control at the Health Ministry, was quoted by the Cambodia Daily as saying that there were 11,625 cases of dengue fever and 36 deaths from the disease this year, compared to 9,245 cases and 65 deaths last year.

“We intervened by disseminating information through the media, spraying mosquito insecticide and training doctors and nurses to help dengue victims properly.”

“People understand the disease and how dangerous it is, but they still don’t change their behavior,” he said, referring to the need to keep homes free of places where mosquitoes can breed.

Most of this year’s dengue infections occurred in high-density areas in provinces including Kompong Chnam, Kandal, Siem Reap and Kampot, as well as the capital Phnom Penh, Chantha added.

Singapore commits to eco-friendly shipping

SINGAPORE, 1 Jan — The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) said on Thursday that the country has started eco-friendly shipping.

The island-state has deposited its Instrument of Accession to the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001 (AFS Convention) with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), according to a statement by the MPA. The AFS Convention was adopted at the IMO on 5 Oct, 2001, and became effective on 17 Sept 2008. When it enters into force for Singapore on 31 March, 2010, the country will join 40 other countries to be a party to the AFS Convention.

The Convention will apply to ships registered with Singapore and also to ships calling at the Port of Singapore. MPA Chief Executive Lam Yi Young said, “As one of the world’s busiest port, protection of the marine environment is of great importance to Singapore.”

China’s Antarctic expedition team finds first meteorite at Glove Mountain

A scientist of Chinese 26th Antarctic expedition team explores at the foot of Mason Peak, the summit of Grove Mountains in Antarctica, on 30 Dec, 2009.—Xinhua

GLOVE MOUNTAIN, 1 Jan—China’s 26th Antarctic expedition team discovered its first meteorite at Antarctica’s Glove Mountain Wednesday afternoon.

The team found the meteorite at the southern foot of Glove Mountain’s peak, said Dr Hu Sen, a researcher at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. “It is highly probable (that it is) a Chondrite judging from the failure surface,” said Hu, adding that the meteorite weighed 221.5 grams. Efflorescence makes it hard for meteorites to stay in densely populated areas, Hu explained, but they could last for millions of years in Antarctica’s dry, cold weather. Many of such meteorites were stopped by the mountains as they were carried along by running glaciers, he said.

Therefore, a lot of meteorites could be found around the Antarctic mountain areas.—Xinhua

Indonesia sets target to plant 1.6 billion trees each year

JAKARTA, 1 Jan—Indonesia set a target to plant 1.6 billion trees each year in its reforestation efforts to overcome the devastation of forest areas that takes 500,000 hectares each year, an Indonesian senior official said on Thursday.

“The new tree planting programme would initially be implemented next year and is expected to be continued in the following years,” Production Supervision Deputy at Forestry Ministry Hadi Daryanto was quoted as saying by the Antara news agency, when accompanied the forestry minister’s visit in West Bali National Conservation Park (TNBB).

“The ministry would implement various tree planting methods aimed at preserving the natural forest areas,” he added.

According to the deputy, Indonesia has 126.8 million hectares of forest area that consisted of natural conservancy area 32.4 million hectares, limited log production 21.6 million hectares, conversion forest 23.2 million and production-conversion forest 14 million hectares.

Due to the high cost to finance the programme, the government would involve the public to take part in the reforestation programme.

—Xinhua

‘Raid’ to seize DNA of Argentina media heirs

BUENOS AIRES, 1 Jan—Lawyers for young heirs of an Argentine media empire say police raided their homes amid suspicions they were victims of state-organized forced adoption. The alleged raid took place a day after Felipe and Marcela Noble complied with a court order and gave blood samples.

The pair were adopted by media mogul Ernestina Herrera de Noble in 1976. Campaigners allege that they are the offspring of political prisoners who gave birth while in custody during the country’s period of military rule. They believe the biological parents of the siblings were killed in prisons and their babies were then taken by the state.

Under the country’s former regime, babies were often given to families considered loyal to the military. The Noble family’s lawyer Jorge Anzorreguy says that both toothbrushes and hairbrushes were seized during the raid at their homes on the outskirts of Buenos Aires. The raid, he alleges, was carried out under an order of Argentine officials who refused to confirm or deny that the raid took place.

Mr Anzorreguy described 33-year-old Marcela as “surprised” at the raid.

—Internet
**SPORTS**

Ferguson delighted with Man United’s young stars

**Manchester, 1 Jan** — Sir Alex Ferguson enters a new year and new decade as manager of Manchester United confident the future of the club is in safe hands.

A new generation of young stars have been given their opportunities in the first half of the current campaign and Ferguson has promised he will retain his policy of using a relatively inexperienced side for the first leg of United’s eagerly-anticipated League Cup semi-final with Manchester City next week.

Ferguson is confident the current crop of emerging talent is on a par with any in his 23 years in charge at Old Trafford, an impressive claim given the quality of young players associated with his club.

“I think the young players are doing well here,” Ferguson insisted. “Their progress has been good and they are getting their opportunities,” said Ferguson, citing Wednesday’s 5-0 thrashing of Wigan — a result that left the champions just two points behind English Premier League leaders Chelsea — as evidence. “Danny Welbeck came on in our game against Wigan. Rafael was outstanding in that game and showed fantastic energy and desire to do well.”

**CSKA Moscow signs VVV Venlo’s Honda**

**Tokyo, 1 Jan** — CSKA Moscow have acquired Japanese international Keisuke Honda from VVV Venlo, as the Russian giants look to boost their squad ahead of the knockout stages of the UEFA Champions League, according to the latest reports.

The 23-year-old midfielder signed an estimated nine million-euro (12.9 million-dollar), four-year contract, Jiji Press and other news media said.

In a posting on his web site, Honda said on Thursday: “I would not go if there was even one percent of doubt inside me.”

Known as a dead-ball specialist with a tough physical presence, Honda has scored 24 goals in 67 games for Venlo since joining the Dutch outfit in January 2008, following four seasons with J-League side Nagoya Grampus.

He has also scored three goals in 10 games for Japan since making his international debut in June 2008 during World Cup qualifying. Dutch giants PSV and Ajax were seen as among the most likely buyers of the Japanese star, who had also previously suggested he was interested in him. — Internet

**Soderling, Ferrer reach semis at Abu Dhabi invitational**

**Abu Dhabi, 1 Jan** — Robin Soderling of Sweden and David Ferrer of Spain advanced to the semi-finals of the season-opening Abu Dhabi invitational tournament on Thursday. Soderling ousted Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland 7-6 (4), 7-6 (2) and Ferrer rallied to beat sixth-ranked Nikolay Davydenko 2-6, 6-2, 6-4 at the Zayed Sports City.

Soderling will take on top-ranked Roger Federer in the semi-finals on Friday, while Ferrer faces No. 2 Rafael Nadal. Federer and Nadal both had first-round byes in the six-player invitational tournament, which is not part of the ATP tour calendar. Soderling, who is 0-12 against Federer in his career, took a 5-1 lead in the first set before Wawrinka started returning better, but the Swede’s booming serve proved decisive in both tiebreakers.

Davydenko, who won the season-ending ATP World Tour Finals in London last month, said he felt effects of a recent illness and struggled to maintain his concentration. Davydenko still dominated the first set before losing his serve in the fourth and eighth games of the second as the Spaniard levelled the match. — Xinhua

**McCarthy ready to quit Rovers as World Cup looms**

**London, 1 Jan** — South Africa star Benni McCarthy is ready to leave Blackburn Rovers before the January transfer window to boost his chances of representing his country on home soil at the 2010 World Cup finals.

The 32-year-old, who joined the English Premier League side from Portuguese club Porto for 2.5 million pounds in July 2006, feels he is becoming a peripheral figure at Ewood Park under manager Sam Allardyce.

“I’d like to stay in England. This is a great league,” McCarthy told Thursday’s Lancashire Telegraph. “I’m just unhappy with my situation and need to feel wanted again. I’m not getting any younger but I know I can still make an impact. This is a very big year for me.

To come from South Africa and have the chance to play for my country in the World Cup is massive. — Internet

**Portsmouth dealer players’ salaries**

**London, 1 Jan** — Crisis-laden Premier League bottom club Portsmouth said on Thursday their player’s December salaries would be cut.

“Portsmouth Football Club expects to pay their first team squad’s December salaries on Tuesday, 5 January,” said a club statement.

“The club has been speaking to the Professional Footballers’ Association and the players have been informed. The club has been assured of receipt of funds by Tuesday and the owner (Ali Al-Faraj) and board have been working hard on resolving the short-term delay.”

This is the third time this season Portsmouth has been unable to pay players’ wages on time after similar delays in September and November. Portsmouth are in trouble both on and off the field and have to head into 2010 four points adrift at the bottom of the table following on Wednesday’s 4-1 home defeat by Arse nal at Fratton Park. — Xinhua

**Bayern Munich’s Italian World Cup winner Toni Luca Toni is being lent to Serie A club AS Roma for the rest of the season, the German giants said on Thursday.**

“Luca Toni asked the board of Bayern Munich in personal talks to lend him to AS Roma until the end of the season for personal reasons,” Bayern said in a statement.

“He wants to realize his biggest aim, playing for Italy in the 2010 World Cup finals, with regular appearances in Serie A.”

The 32-year-old’s move comes as little surprise, with the Italian saying publicly on numerous occasions that he wanted to leave Bayern following a breakdown in relations with Bayern’s Dutch trainer Louis van Gaal. — Internet

**Toni shoots for World Cup with AS Roma move**

**Berlin, 1 Jan** — Bayern Munich’s Italian World Cup winner Luca Toni is being lent to Serie A club AS Roma for the rest of the season, the German giants said on Thursday. Toni asked the board of Bayern Munich in personal talks to lend him to AS Roma until the end of the season for personal reasons, Bayern said in a statement.

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The 32-year-old’s move comes as little surprise, with the Italian saying publicly on numerous occasions that he wanted to leave Bayern following a breakdown in relations with Bayern’s Dutch trainer Louis van Gaal. — Internet

**Veron voted best soccer player in Latin America for 2009**

**Rio de Janeiro, 1 Jan** — Argentine midfielder Juan Sebastian Veron was voted the best soccer player in Latin America for 2009, Uruguayan newspaper El Pais announced on Thursday.

Veron beat Humberto Suazo of Chile and Ecuador’s Edison Mendez to pick up the honour. Journalists from all over the American continents took part in the poll.

Brazili striker Adriano led his country’s players with 17 votes, ranking 20th. The continent’s best coach of the year went to the head coach of the Chilean national soccer team, Marcelo Bielsa.

The Dream Team of the Americas include Miguel Pinto (Universidad de Chile-CHI), Reasco (LDU-EQU), Desabato (Estudiantes-ARG), Otamendi (V Villez Sarfield-ARG), Medel (Boca Juniors-ARG/Mendoza), Suazo (Monterrey-MEX) and Bieler (LDU-EQU). — Xinhua

**Kaka returns to training**

**Madrid, 1 Jan** — Real Madrid’s midfielder Kaka returned to a training session on Thursday after one-month staying away with a hernia, the Spanish club said.

“Kaka appears to have recovered from his sports hernia and today got his first feel for the ball in several weeks. He and Cristiano Ronaldo teamed up during the second of the session to work on various drills,” the club said in a statement.

Real holds two more training sessions before it faces Osasuna in the league on Sunday in Pamplona and it is not yet clear if the 27-year-old will be called up for the squad for that match.

Real have won all four of their matches in Kaka’s absence, leading some in the Spanish media to suggest that Real play better without the 65-million-euro (93.5 million-dollar) summer signing from AC Milan. Real went into the Christmas break two points behind leaders and champions Barcelona in the La Liga. — Xinhua

**CSKA Moscow have acquired Japan international, 23-year-old midfielder Keisuke Honda from VVV Venlo**

**Tokyo, 1 Jan** — CSKA Moscow have acquired Japanese international Keisuke Honda from VVV Venlo, as the Russian giants look to boost their squad ahead of the knockout stages of the UEFA Champions League, according to the latest reports. — Internet

**Real Madrid’s Kaka.**

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**Manchester United’s Danny Welbeck (R) craves a path through the Wigan defence.**

**Internet**
Chelsea targets David Villa.

Chelsea set to break the
bank with sensational
£40m swoop for Valencia
star David Villa

London, 1 Jan—
Chelsea are poised to
make a stunning £40m
bid for Valencia star
David Villa.

The Blues are set
to pay Villa more than
£10m a year, as they
search for a way to
boost their forward
options for the second
half of the season.

Didier Drogba is
away at the Africa Cup
of Nations, Chelsea
want to land Villa as
they chase glory in
both the Premier
League and European
Cup.

The Londoners
have already
approached Valencia,
according to the
Express, in a bid to fend
off competition from
title rivals Manchester
United and Spanish
giants Real Madrid.

Chelsea owner Roman
Abramovich, who earlier this week
paid off the club’s huge
debts, is prepared to
bankroll the deal.

Internet

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 2 January, 2010 15

WEATHER

Friday, 1st January, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.
M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain has been
isolated in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather
has been partly cloudy in Shan, Rakhine and Mon States,
Mandalay and upper Sagaing Divisions and generally fair
in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (6°C)
below January average temperatures in upper Sagaing
and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) below January average
temperatures in Chin State and Bago Division, (3°C) to
(4°C) above January average temperatures in Mon State
and Taninthayi Division and about December average
temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night
temperatures were Pinlaung and Loilem (-1°C), Namhsan
and Hakha (2°C) each, Heho and An (3°C) each, Katha and
Pindwin (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 31-12-2009 was 90°F.
Minimum temperature on 1-1-2010 was 53°F. Relative
humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 1-1-2010 was 73%.
Total sun shine hours on 31-12-2009 was (8.8) hours
approx.

Rainfall on 1-1-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-
Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon.

Forecast valid until evening of 2nd January 2010:

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for
2-1-2010:

Partly cloudy .

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for
2-1-2010: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for
2-1-2010: Fair weather.

Weather outlook for first weekend of January 2010:

During the coming weekend, weather will be generally fair
in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.
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

Yanpe Dam supplying irrigation water to eastern Magway Division
Byline & Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sathmu)

The government is making all-out efforts in seeking ways and means to ensure water for agriculture and drinking in arid regions.

Magway Division is located in arid zone. For ensuring equitable development of eastern and western regions of the division, the government has been building infrastructures in all sectors including roads and bridges.

Our news crew made a study tour of Yanpe Dam. (See page 10)

SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL 62nd ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE DAY

New landmark in Myanmar history
Byline & Photos: Khit Naing (PSYCHOLOGY)