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Four economic objectives
- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four social objectives
- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Effective use of manpower and heavy machinery required in order to complete the tasks in a timely manner
Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects Pathein-Thalupkhwar-Mawtinsun Road Project, regional development tasks in Labutta Township

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan
Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Lt-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe, ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads and officials, left Pathein by helicopter for Ngapudaw and arrived in Ngayokekaungtaung village in Ngapudaw Township at 8:15 a.m yesterday.

They were welcomed there by departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people. The Prime Minister inspected land preparation on road section from mile post Nos (54/4) to (60/4) being carried out by Naing Group Co. Ltd on Pathein-Thalupkhwar-Mawtinsun Road Project and heard reports on progress presented by officials.

At the briefing hall of Pathein-Thalupkhwar-Mawtinsun Road project being implemented by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction, the Prime Minister heard reports on regional development tasks presented by officials.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe made supplementary reports.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported to the Prime Minister on Pathein-Thalupkhwar-Mawtinsun Road which will be built section by section by the ministry in cooperation with the companies, arrival of heavy machinery and stockpiling of gravel.

(See page 8)

Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects roadworks on Pathein-Thalupkhwar-Mawtinsun road.—MNA

12-1-2010 NL 8/20/18, 12:32 PM
Bridges for regional and national development

Ayeyawady Division is a region where there are many rivers and creeks. Therefore, in the past, the people there had to rely on the waterway as a means of transport. Now, the government is building river-crossing bridges and up to now it has built 48 bridges more than 180 feet long.

The Head of State has given guidance on construction of a network of 10 highways in the storm-hit areas in Ayeyawady Division. On 9 January, Yazaunga Bridge (2) on the Maubin-Yazaunga highway section of No (1) highway was opened.

As Mawlamyeyung is situated on an island, it had to depend on the waterway for transportation. Now, with the opening of Yazaunga Bridge (2), the people there can travel easily to Shwetaungmahw, Kyaiikpi, and Mawlamyeyung.

In addition to motor roads, railways are being built in Ayeyawady Division. One is an 87-mile-long railroad that will link Pathein, Darka, Einme, Pantauw, Nyaungdon, Hlinethaya and Yangon and another one is a 48-mile-long railroad that will link Hinthada, Zalun, Danubyu and Nyaungdon. Therefore, the people in Ayeyawady Division will be able to travel to other regions by boat or by car or by train.

The government is building the transport infrastructure necessary for development of the economic, social, education and health sectors. Therefore, we would like to call on the people in Ayeyawady Division as well as in the entire Union to work in concert with the government for regional and national development.

AGM of Myanmar Geo-Science Society to be held on 23 Jan

YANGON, 11 Jan—Organized by Myanmar Geo-Science Society, the 6th annual general meeting and 1st respect paying to elder geologists by old students who had graduated from 1969 to 2009 academic year will be held at Excel Treasure Hotel in Shwegondine here on 23 January. The association has requested to make donation through its members, old students and Myanmar Geo-Science Society (ph-509674 ~ 609674).

Those wishing to make donation may contact committee members Dr Tin Hu Ky (ph-095153441, 681407), Professor U Hla Kyi (ph-580115), U Tin Kyaw Thaung (ph-09502518), U Kyaing Sein (ph-099925215, 056-21877), U Yaw Maung Thaung (ph-095183934, 202802), U Aung Kyaw Tun (ph-095473150), Professor Dr Dewa Aung (ph-543509), Dr Cho Cho Aye (ph-095184650, 078205), U Thaung Tin (ph-02-31248, 092001598), U Nay Lin Aye (ph-099925215), U Nay Lwin (ph-095187030), U Soe Thura Tun (ph-09514008), Daw Hlar Hlar Aung (ph-01-552901) and Professor Dr Cho Cho Aye (ph-095184650).

The remaining old students are to make contact Myanmar Geo-Science Society and its committee members as fast as possible. In addition, any geologists who are at the age of 70 years on 31 December are reminded to register to be paid respects.

Commander attends opening of station hospital and tarred road

NAVPYI TAW, 11 Jan—A ceremony to open 16-bed station hospital was held in Kyauktaw village, Pauktaw Township on 7 January, attended by Chairman of Rakhlone State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, Rakhlone State level departmental personnel, members of social organizations, locals, and media.

First, officials formally opened the station hospital and the commander unveiled the signboard of the hospital.

Foreign Affairs Minister back from India

NAVPYI TAW, 11 Jan—Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back in Yangon on 11 January after attending the 5th North-East Business Summit, which was held on 8 and 9 January in Kolkata, India.

During the Business Summit, agro-based food processing industry of India’s North-Eastern Region, promotion of tourism in the region, potential economic opportunities for the North-Eastern Region arising from the recent signing of the ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement were focused.

Minister U Nyan Win attends the 5th North-East Business Summit.—MNA

MNA
Six foreign troops killed in Afghan fighting

KABUL, 11 Jan—Six NATO service members, including three Americans, were killed Monday in Afghanistan, making it the deadliest day for the international force in more than two months.

The Americans died in a firefight with militants during an “operational patrol” in southern Afghanistan, U.S. military spokesman Col. Wayne Shanks said.

The deaths raised to at least 10 the number of U.S. service members killed in Afghanistan so far this year, according to an Associated Press tally.

A French officer was killed during a joint patrol with Afghan troops in Alasay, a valley largely under insurgent control that NATO is trying to reclaim.

NATO said another service member was killed in the clash but did not release the nationality. It said a sixth service member was killed by a roadside bomb in the south.

The previous deadliest day for foreign forces was Oct. 27 when eight U.S. troops were killed.

Seven CIA agents and a Jordanian intelligence officer also were killed by a suicide bomber on Dec. 30.

The year has gotten off to a particularly bloody start for the NATO-led force; last week, four Americans and one British service member were killed in a single day.—INTERNET

Search for 11 missing continues after vessel collision in E China

FUZHOU, 11 Jan — The search for 11 people missing after a vessel collision continued around the coast near Putian City in east China’s Fujian on Monday, the third day since the accident.

“We have 230 people involved in the search at sea and 500 people combing the sea and small islets,” said an officer surnamed Chen with the Putian Maritime Affairs Bureau. He said a helicopter and 17 vessels were involved in the search.

The accident occurred when a freighter and a fishing boat collided 12:35 pm on Saturday off Putian’s Nanri Island, causing the fishing boat, Minshiyu 3785, to sink. Two of the 14 crew were rescued, and one has been confirmed dead.

Wang Huaying, one of the two rescued, said they were about to cast the net for fishing, when the freighter suddenly ran into the boat. — Xinhua

US service member killed in southern Afghanistan

KABUL, 11 Jan — NATO says an American service member was killed in a bomb explosion in southern Afghanistan.

NATO says in a statement that the death occurred on Sunday. Lt Nico Melendez, a U.S. spokesman for the military alliance, confirmed that the service member who was killed American.

No further details were immediately available.—INTERNET

Seven Qaeda suspects arrested near US Embassy in Yemen

SANAA, 11 Jan — Yemeni anti-terror forces have arrested seven suspected members of an al-Qaeda-linked sleeper cell in a quarter, adjacent to the US Embassy in Sanaa, a higher-ranking security official of Interior Ministry said on Sunday.

The anti-terrorism forces on late Tuesday raided a house at Sawan quarter, and captured three members of the family Esam, Majid and Kamal al-Houri, the official said on condition of anonymity. One of al-Houri members was reportedly killed in Iraq three years ago, as he was fighting alongside al-Qaeda. The house and the US Embassy are all located in Sawan District in Sanaa.

A tip from an observant security officer in the area also led to the arrest of another four suspected members from the same quarter, said the official.

Yemen has recently launched a large-scale anti-terrorism campaign against al-Qaeda affiliate in Yemen following the failed attempt to blow up a Detroit-bound flight which al-Qaeda claimed responsibility.

The Interior Ministry announced last week that its anti-terror units captured three al-Qaeda’s suspected members in a security operation carried out in the Arhab District, some 40 km north to the capital. — Xinhua

Nine wounded in Baghdad bombings

BAGHDAD, 11 Jan — Nine people were wounded in two bomb explosions in Baghdad, including one targeted at a politician convoy, an Interior Ministry source and the politician said on Monday.

An explosive charge attached to a vehicle which was part of the convoy of Izzat al-Shabander, an independent lawmaker, detonated in the morning in Jadriyah District in central Baghdad, wounding three of his bodyguards and two bystanders, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Shabander was not in the convoy when the attack occurred, the source said.

“I can confirm that terrorists attacked my convoy. I wasn’t there, but I knew that three of my bodyguards were wounded, one of them lost a leg,” Shabander told Xinhua by telephone without elaborating.

In separate incident, a roadside bomb went off late on Sunday night near a police patrol, wounding three policemen in Suliekh district in northern Baghdad, the ministry source added.

Sporadic attacks continue in Baghdad as part of recent security deterioration which shaped a setback to the efforts of the Iraqi government to re-store normalcy in the country ahead of the country’s national polls slated for 7 March. — Xinhua
Volkswagen sales surge 36.7% in 2009

BEIJING, 11 Jan — German auto giant Volkswagen AG posted a 36.7 percent surge in 2009 China sales to maintain the top position it has held for more than 20 consecutive years.

The company said in a recent statement that it sold a total of 1.4 million vehicles on the Chinese mainland and in Hong Kong last year, with sales of its three locally built brands all hitting record highs.

In 2009 Volkswagen sold about 1.12 million of its namesake brand cars, up 32.4 percent from the previous year.

The company attributed the rise largely to its popular new models, especially the Passat New Lingyu, New Bora, as well as its cutting-edge Audi brand. Sales of its Audi brand rose 32.9 percent over a year earlier.

while its recent arrival Skoda more than doubled sales to 122,566 units.

The company also sold 118,118 Nibras, 122,566 Audis, 484 Bentleys and 118 Lamborghini in China last year.

The automaker now expects to further tap the Chinese market and nearly double its nationwide sales to 2 million over the next decade.

Indonesia, Japan agree to boost cooperation on investment

JAKARTA, 11 Jan — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and his Japanese counterpart Nareshima promised to continue the cooperation with Japan in various sectors.

Indonesia needs investment to build massive infrastructure to spur economic growth with an target of 6.6 percent a year within the next five years.

Indonesia has seen Japan as one of the sources of investment to build roads, bridges, ports and other infrastructure facilities.

The Indonesian president said he needs investment from Japan to achieve the economic growth target and in this case Japan is ready to continue the cooperation with the Indonesian side.

Naoshima told a joint meeting.

Indonesian Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu said Japan seemed to be interested in investing in Indonesia's infrastructure and some new sectors such as energy.

Volkswagen Group sold 1.12 million of its namesake cars in 2009 as well as 58,941 Audis, 122,566 Skodas, 484 Bentleys and 118 Lamborghinis.

3D TVs to boost TV market in 2010

BEIJING, 11 Jan — Many TV giants are displaying a new generation of TVs — the 3D TVs, in one of the biggest electronic shows in the world, the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, to boost the market, according to news reports on Monday.

Panasonic expects to sell 1 million 3D TVs in 2010, hoping the new technology will satisfy consumers' latest curiosity. “It’s a challenging market. We need something to kick us out of this,” said Panasonic’s Eluke Tsyuzyaki.

Many CTOs eye this year as really a breakthrough year for the 3D screen technology, as the latest 3D movie “Avatar” has topped world box office for weeks since its release.

According to statistics, 3D movies will be made in 3D, double the number from last year.

The boom in the 3D movie market, as pointed out by Jeffrey Katzenberg, the head of Dreamworks Animation, “While 3D has taken many years to penetrate in the movie theatres, I believe 2010 is the year it will begin to enter the living rooms.”

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Vietnam rakes in $1.3 b from coal export in 2009

HANOI, 11 Jan — Vietnam’s coal export turnover reached $1.33 billion US dollars last year, a drop of 4.5 percent year-on-year, according to the General Statistics Office of Vietnam on Monday.

The country shipped overseas 25.14 million tons of coal in 2009, up 30 percent over a year earlier.

China was the largest export market of Vietnam’s coal in 2009, followed by the Republic of Korea, Japan and Thailand.

The Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade forecasts coal export turnover this year at $1.15 billion US dollars, down eight percent year-on-year.

File photo shows participants wearing special glasses for a 3D TV watch a 3D movie through LG Electronics’ 3D TV during the company’s 3D television strategy presentation at LG Electronics’ R&D centre in Seoul on 15 Dec, 2009.— Xinhua

HK toy exports earn 88.55 billion HK dollars

HONG KONG, 11 Jan — Hong Kong’s toy exports went down 10 percent to 88.55 billion HK dollars (11.35 billion US dollars) in the first 11 months of 2009, according to figures released by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council on Monday at a toys and games fair.

Exports to Russia fell 57.1 percent while exports to Czech rose 58.2 percent. Exports to the US dropped 23.6 percent and that to the European Union dipped 8 percent.

As for baby products in the first 11 months of 2009, the exports reached approximately 6 billion HK dollars (726 million US dollars). Its top export markets were the US, the UK, Macao, Italy and France.

The 36th Hong Kong Toys and Games Fair, Asia’s largest toy show, opened on Monday featuring about 2,000 exhibitors from 38 countries and regions.

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All Items from Xinhua News Agency
Vietnam to host 20th AFIC meeting in June this year

HANOI, 11 Jan—Vietnam will host the 20th meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Furniture Industries Council (AFIC) in June 2010, said a report of the information center of the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade on Monday.

The meeting will draw participation of seven AFIC members, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The meeting is to discuss measures to promote the wood and furniture industry of each participating country in 2010 and the trend of the world market on furniture in coming years, according to the Handicraft and Wood Industry Association of Ho Chi Minh City, the Vietnamese member of the AFIC. The ASEAN has become one of the world’s top three wood and furniture exporters with furniture exports of about 12 billion US dollars in 2008, according a report of the AFIC. In the first nine months of 2009, members of the regional trade organization raked in about 7.12 billion US dollars from wood and furniture exports.

The 19th AFIC meeting was held in December 2009 in Singapore.

World’s largest consumer electronics show concludes in Las Vegas

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—The 2010 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) concluded in Las Vegas on Sunday. It drew about 330 new exhibitors and impressed visitors with major technology trends.

“The innovations unveiled this week at the 2010 International CES brought new optimism and opportunity to our industry and the global economy,” said Gary Shapiro, president and CEO of Consumer Electronics Association, the organizer of the show. “This show exceeded expectations with its innovation, optimism and excitement.”

Cutting-edge technology trends wowed crowds throughout the show floor including advancements in 3D technology, mobile DTV, tablets, netbooks, eReaders, apps, connected TVs, embedded internet technologies and green technology. Major innovations included Lenovo’s IdeaPad U1 Hybrid, Microsoft’s Project Natal and Sprint’s 4G network.

One of the hottest topics at the show is 3D television. The CEA estimates that 2.2 million 3-D sets will be sold in 2010 and that by 2013 more than 25 percent of all televisions sold will be 3-D TVs.

Another positive surprise in the consumer electronics industry has been devices that play Blu-ray disks.

Northern California earthquake causes limited injuries

SAN FRANCISCO, 11 Jan—Humboldt, a county in northern California hit by a 6.5-magnitude earthquake on Saturday, survived the disaster pretty well with only one major injury reported so far, authorities said on Sunday.

The quake struck off the coast of northern California at about 4:27 pm on Saturday (0027 GMT on Sunday), and was centered at about 47 km from Eureka, a city in Humboldt County, which lies about 400 km north of San Francisco, according to the US Geological Survey.

Dozens of people came to local hospitals for emergency care after the quake but their injuries were all minor except for one person who suffered a broken hip. Humboldt County Administrative Officer Phillip Smith-Hanes told a Press conference in Eureka, reported Times-Standard, a daily newspaper head-quartered in the city.

S Korean military to ban use of USB flash drives

SEOUL, 11 Jan—South Korean military plans to ban the use of USB flash drives starting as early as next year after it builds a new system to transfer data, local media reported on Monday.

The country’s Ministry of Defence will put 2.8 billion won (2.5 million US dollars) into developing an alternative system to end the use of the portable storage device in transferring data, an unnamed ministry official was quoted as saying by Seoul’s Yonhap News Agency.
Al-Qaeda offers exchange for French hostage

CAIRO, 11 Jan – An al-Qaeda’s North Africa offshoot has demanded the release of four of its members in exchange for a French hostage it kidnapped two months ago. Al-Qaeda in the Maghreb said in a statement posted on an Islamic militant Web site on Monday that their only condition for the freeing of Pierre Camatte is the release of four of their group arrested by Mali several months ago. “We give France and Mali 20 days from the date of issuing this statement to respond to our legitimate demand otherwise the two governments will be fully responsible for the French hostage,” it said in its statement dated on Sunday.

The group announced last month its kidnapping of Camatte in Mali on 25 Nov and three Spaniards in Mauritania five days later. — Internet

Egypt registers eight more A/H1N1 flu deaths

CAIRO, 11 Jan — Egypt on Sunday reported eight more death cases of influenza A/H1N1, bringing the nationwide death toll to 195, said the Health Ministry in a statement. The death cases came from the governorates of Giza, Beheira, Port Said, Alexandria, Beni Suef, Cairo and Qalyubiya respectively, said the statement, without giving more details.

Up till now, Egypt has reported more than 14,000 cases of the novel flu, according to the Health Ministry.

Egypt confirmed its first influenza A/H1N1 death case on 19 July.

A 28-year-old Egyptian woman, who was back from Saudi Arabia after making Umrah (pilgrimage to Mecca at any time of the year), died of the flu virus. — Xinhua

Chinese car park makes space for women only

A shopping centre in China has opened a car park that offers women drivers bigger-than-normal parking spaces to accommodate what it sees as their special needs.

Wang Zheng, an official at the Wuxiang Tiancheng shopping centre in Hebei Province’s Shijiazhuang city, told AFP the women-only parking lot aimed to address women’s “strong sense of colour and different sense of distance.”

The spaces are “one metre wider than normal parking spaces,” Wang said, adding that the mall had “installed signs and security monitoring equipment that corresponded more to women’s needs.”

Driving in China is notoriously dangerous, with nearly 73,500 people killed in road accidents last year, or just over 200 fatalities per day, according to police statistics.

Teen chess genius is game’s youngest no 1

A teenager who can think 20 moves ahead in a chess match has become the game’s youngest ever number one.


Norwegian Magnus Carlsen, 19, has been called the ‘Mozart of Chess’. He is listed at the top of the World Chess Federation’s rankings for January with 2,810 points, five ahead of his nearest rival, Bulgarian Veselin Topalov.

His coach is the HYPERLINK “http://uk.news.yahoo.com/cfc/russia.html” Russian chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov, who took the top spot himself at the age of 20.

Carlsen, who can remember every detail of matches he played six years ago, dismissed comparisons to troubled chess genius Bobby Fischer.

“Bobby Fischer was obviously one of the greatest chess players of all time - one of the inventors. The difference between him and me, for example, is that he was obsessed with chess in a way that is not healthy and that’s a line I don’t intend to cross.”

A crowd watches a new luxury cruise liner “Aidablu” leave the dockyard in Papenburg in the German state of Lower Saxony. The 252-metre-long ship can house more than 2,000 guests. It features 7 restaurants, 13 bars and a vast health spa. The “Aidablu” is the fourth of six planned cruise liners by the Aida shipping company in Rostock.

New crab species looks berry like a fruit

A new species of crab that looks like a strawberry has been discovered in China.

Chinese Marine biologist Professor found two of the creatures. He said: “One was dead while the other was dying when they were found on a beach.”

They are similar to a species that lives around Hawaii, Polynesia and Mauritius, but the new crabs have clam-shaped shells with white polka dots, which make them distinct.

Both are female and the biggest measures 2.5cm across. Although the crabs are now dead, they have been made in to specimens for further study.

The Professor’s discovery has been confirmed by another specialist. He is now writing an essay on the new species.

A vendor suns dry his fish along a busy street in Manila, on 11 January, 2009, before selling at a stall in a street market. The vendor sells the dried fish at 20 pesos (45 cents) for three pieces. — Internet

Sunk Australia WWII hospital ship Centaur

LONDON, 11 Jan — An Australian World War II hospital ship, the Centaur, has been seen for the first time since it sank more than 60 years ago with a loss of 268 lives.

Images of the wreck, more than 2km (1.3 miles) below the sea, were captured by a remote-controlled underwater camera.

The ship’s location was discovered last month following a hi-tech search.

Australia says the ship, which went down in Mel, 1943, was torpedoed by the Japanese. Japan says the circumstances surrounding its sinking are unclear.

The search team found the ship on 20 December off the Queensland coast, about 30 miles due east of the southern tip of Moreton Island.

Favourable conditions allowed the crew to send down a camera on a remotely-operated submersible vehicle over the weekend. Further dives are planned.

A Chinese man walks past a car park that offers women drivers bigger-than-normal parking spaces.

Police seek woman who trashes Mo McDonald’s

Police in Kansas City, Mo, are looking for a woman who went on a rampage at a McDonald’s because she didn’t like her hamburger.

Police say the woman caused thousands of dollars in damage on 27 Dec when she became upset that the restaurant wouldn’t refund her money.

Employees had offered to replace her hamburger, but the woman refused and demanded her money back.

Police released a video showing the woman throwing a sign and a bucket of water over the counter and pushing off a glass display case and three cash registers. She then cursed and fled.

The Centaur was clearly marked as a hospital ship. — Internet

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Third Traffic Rules Educative Show and Competition crowded with visitors

Byline: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Tin Soe

Third Traffic Rules Educative Show and Competition organized by Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee of Nay Pyi Taw continued for the third day with a view to reducing traffic accidents and raising public awareness at Aung Mingala car park in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana on 8 January.

At the show and competition, Traffic Police Force put on display traffic accidents; Nay Pyi Taw. And other booths at the show are of Directorate of Road Administration, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Information and Public Relations Department, and booth on sales of vehicles made in industrial zones, electronic and communication devices booth, and agricultural items booth.

Nibban Electric & Electronics sold its products of refrigerators, water heater and cooler, speakers, video games, step-up transformers, inverters, antennas and TV at special price. The show and competition disseminating knowledge was densely crowded with public and students. At the booth of Ministry of Education conducting traffic rules puzzle programme, students were jostling.

Headmaster U Ngwe Zin from Thabyegon post primary school explained to our Myanma Alin news crew, “At our Education Ministry booth, we organize the contest for traffic rules. Over 1000 students from basic education schools come here to take part in the contest at primary, middle and high school levels. We hold the contest according to numbers of students jostling at Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee booth.

A student takes part in puzzle programme at Education Ministry booth.

Visitors at electronic sales booth.

A student of Grade-4 from Kyaukchat post primary school explained to our Myanma Alin news crew, “I am Maung Nyan Phone Myint and at Grade-7 at No. 5 Basic Education High School in Nay Pyi Taw. I receive knowledge of traffic rules to come to this show. Now I know that I have to step on pedestrian crossing when cross the road and to be on pavement when I walk on the road.”

Another student said, “My name is Ma Myat Noe Han and attending Grade-7 at No. 5 BEHS in Nay Pyi Taw. I receive knowledge of traffic rules because of this show.”

The next student named Maung Sann Lin Aung told us, “I study in Transport Planning Department, issuing of vehicle license and rules for car owners; Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, progress of roads and roundabouts in Grade-4 from Thittat post primary school in Nay Pyi Taw. I am sure to obtain knowledge of traffic rules because of my presence here. There have been sorrowful traffic accidents due to motorcyclists who don’t wear helmets. Everyone should follow the rules.”

The Third Traffic Rules Educative Show and Competition with entertainment and special sales programmes was alive with a teeming crowd. All in all, that show and competition aims to help the public and students not only in taking education on traffic rules but also in broadening their knowledge.

Translation: ZZS

Maung Nyan Phone Myint and students, Grade-7, No. 5 BEHS Nay Pyi Taw.

Translation: ZZS

Ma Myat Noe Han, Grade-7 from No. 5 BEHS Nay Pyi Taw.

Translation: ZZS

Maung Sann Lin Aung, Grade-4 from Kyaukchat post primary school in Nay Pyi Taw.
After holding discussions on the reports, the Prime Minister called for completion of task on schedule with the fully use of manpower and heavy machinery, making arrangements systematically in carrying out the tasks, effective use of manpower and heavy machinery with a view to complete the tasks in time and setting assignment of technicians to the companies by Public Works for durability of roads which are under construction.

Then the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Chaungwa village in Labutta Township by helicopter where they were welcomed by departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people. The Prime Minister cordially conversed with them and gave words of encouragement.

The Prime Minster oversaw cyclone shelter being built by Shwe Thanlwin Co. At the briefing hall, officials of the company reported on progress in construction of cyclone shelters at Chaungwa and Pyinkhayaung villages. Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein made a supplementary report. After hearing reports, the Prime Minister attended to the needs. On his way to 3rd Mile Myothit in Labutta Township by helicopter, the Prime Minister looked into construction of cyclone shelters at Pyinkhayaing, Thingangon and Zinywelay villages. The Prime Minister oversaw construction of office buildings, school, hospital and staff quarters in a motorcade.

In meeting with departmental officials and responsible persons of the companies at the briefing hall, the Prime Minister heard reports on work progress presented by officials. (See page 9)
Effective use of manpower and heavy machinery...

(from page 8)

Next, Region In-Charge Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt reported to the Prime Minister on progress of construction of housing complex for local people in Labutta Township, land reclamation and allotment of plots to local people at 3rd Mile Myothit, progress in construction of office buildings, roads and jetty and tasks for supply of water and electricity. Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe made supplementary reports. Then the Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements. Afterwards, the Prime Minister inspected 3rd Mile Myothit Lake and heard reports on inflow of water into the lake presented by officials. The Prime Minister oversaw progress of construction of Labutta District General Administration Department Office at the 3rd Mile Myothit. Then the Prime Minister and party left there for Pathein by helicopter. —MNA

Goal of building a new nation will be brought to fruition in the near future

Special Refresher Course No (16) for Faculty Members opened

YANGON, 11 Jan—The Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township, here, opened its Special Refresher Course No (16) for Faculty Members at its assembly hall “Yadana Thenga” this morning.

Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, on behalf of Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, delivered an address.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, deputy ministers, members of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, heads of department, the rector, pro-rectors and faculty members of the institute, officials and trainees.

In his speech, Minister U Thaung said that faculty members are the ones who nurture themselves as well as younger generations for development of human resources in advanced technology. He said that he was glad that faculty members, who help generate a better future of the nation by working in the higher education sector are in refresher courses like that one with broader national outlook, concept and conviction to be able to shoulder education tasks to their utmost.

The government is working hard in all sectors, upholding Our Three Main National Causes and pursing the political, economic and social objectives for the Union of Myanmar to be able to keep abreast of other nations. Since its assumption of State duties according to the objective conditions and national requisites, the Tatmadaw government has given main priority to State stability, community peace, and the rule of law.

After regaining national reconsolidation, for which successive previous governments worked in vain due to various reasons, the government has been implementing the State’s seven-step Road Map to fulfill the public wish: to build up a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

It is implementing the 24-Region Special Development Project, the Border Areas and National Races Development Project, and the Rural Areas Development Project as part of the drive for boosting national economic growth and development of human resources which lie at the core of building a modern, developed nation.

Besides, it has been constructing river-crossing bridges, railroads and roads to form a transport network covering the whole nation for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the Union, and cementing amicable relations and friendships between national races.

A large number of dams and river water pumping stations were built for development of the agricultural farming. As a result, the output of rice, is on the increase year by year.

In the meantime, the government has established 18 industrial zones across the nation and given encouragement to private-owned industries for industrial development.

It is also stepping up implementation of major projects such as hydropower projects, gas-fired power station projects, grid projects, and power house projects to boost generation of electric power necessary for industrial development and promoting the living standard of the people.

In building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the government pays serious attention to improvement of morale, self-discipline and education of the youth.

Today, the remaining steps of the State’s seven-step Road Map are ongoing, and the goal of building a new nation will be brought to fruition in the near future. Teachers and students are to have a strong sense of Union Spirit or true patriotism. In conclusion, he urged teachers to inculcate the students with correct conviction and concepts of noble national duties. —MNA
On arrival at Hinthada, the Prime Minister cordially greeted departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people who were waiting to welcome him.

The Prime Minister and party then arrived at Hinthada railway station and went to level crossing near Takalay ward in Hinthada by train. There they were welcomed by departmental officials, members of social organizations and community elders.

The Prime Minister then inspected the axis of Hinthada-Zalun-Danubyu-Nyaungdon (across Ayeyawady river) section of Hinthada-Nyaungdon (across Ayeyawady river) and heard reports presented by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.

In meeting with departmental officials, members of social organizations and locals, the Prime Minister said that the government is building transport facilities in states and divisions that contribute to flourishing of living standard of local people.

When Hinthada-Zalun-Danubyu-Nyaungdon-Yangon railroad is completed, Hinthada will enjoy easy access transportation and swift commodity flow with Yangon and Pathein. Utilizing the good infrastructures, local people are in need of improving their living standard as well as the regional development.

Next, the Prime Minister and party left there for Hinthada station by train.

The Prime Minister and party arrived at construction site of Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon), near Kykanthak Village, Nyaungdon Township, being undertaken by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction. There, they were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe and officials.

The Prime Minister inspected digging RCD bore pile at pillar RP-19. Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Chief Engineer U Tint Lwin of Special Group-5 reported arrangements for construction of the bridge to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister then viewed alignment of the bridge and condition of the current and later gave necessary instructions.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) is located 8000 feet upstream from Bo Myat Tun Bridge. The bridge is of RC type beams with 2256 metres long main bridge and 17 metres high clearance. The construction of the bridge on Yangon-Pathein Road, spanning Ayeyawady River is aimed to have smooth transport of motorway along with railroad.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back in Yangon at 11.45 am.—MNA

**Bangladeshi Volleyball team arrives in Yangon**

Selected Bangladeshi men’s volleyball team led by Manager Mr. Md. Fazia Rabbi arrived here by air this morning for Myanmar-Bangladesh volleyball friendly. They were welcomed by personnel of Sports and Physical Education Department, Vice-President U Thein Win and executives of Myanmar Volleyball Federation at Yangon International Airport.

The team comprises one chief trainer, assistant trainer, trainer and officials and 12 athletes, totalling 17.

It is learnt that Bangladeshi volleyball team is preparing to participate in South Asia Volleyball events to be held on 29 January.

The volleyball friendly will be held at 3 pm on 12 January at National Indoor Stadium-1 (Thuwunna) and volleyball fans may enjoy the match free.

**MCBA holds annual meeting**

The 13th annual meeting of Myanmar Customs Brokers Association was held at UMFCCI Office Tower in Lanmadaw Township, here, on 27 December.

The meeting chairman U Myo Thant, chairman of MCBA, made an opening speech on the occasion. Next, Vice-President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Aung Lwin and Director U Myo Myint Thein of Customs Department and patron of MCBA U Maung Maung also delivered addresses on the occasion.

Next, the master of ceremonies read out the annual report of the executives board for 2009-2010 and the budget and sought approvals. Afterwards, the meeting chairman ended the meeting with his concluding remarks.
Polar bears near shore as ice vanishes

ANCHORAGE, 11 Jan—
A 27-year study of polar bears in the southern Beaufort Sea showed them spending more time on land and open water as ice disappeared, officials said.

Between 1979 and 1987, 12 percent of bear sightings were associated with no ice. Between 1997 and 2005, however, 90 percent of bear sightings were associated with no ice, said Karyn Rode, a polar bear biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Anchorage, Alaska.

As sea ice disappeared, more bears were seen near shore in the southern Beaufort Sea, Rode said in a recent issue of the journal Arctic. Many scientists blame the warmer temperatures associated with climate change for the disappearance of the sea ice.

The number of bears sighted steadily near shore increased from 138 bears between 1979 and 1987, to 271 bears between 1988 and 1996, and 468 bears between 1997 and 2005, Rode said. The bear observations and ice conditions were recorded as part of a bowhead whale survey conducted annually in the southern Beaufort Sea.

Pine beetle turns trees to carbon emitters

VANCOUVER, 11 Jan—
Canadian researchers say the pine beetle has killed so many trees, the forests of British Columbia now put more greenhouse gases into the air than the province’s human population.

By February 2008, when the province’s premier Gordon Campbell praised the forests as a sink for greenhouse gases, that was no longer true.

“We have few natural allies in our fight against climate change that are more important than our forests,” the Campbell government said in a policy speech.

The problem is that the carbon plants take in during their lives returns to the atmosphere when they decompose.

Cell phone usage may cut Alzheimer’s risk

BEIJING, 11 Jan—
Long term cell phone usage may not only prevent Alzheimer’s, it may even reverse some of the effects of the disease, a new study was quoted as saying by media reports on Sunday.

In mice prone to an animal form of Alzheimer’s disease, long-term exposure to electromagnetic radiation typical of cell phones slowed and reversed the course of the illness, according to the study conducted by researchers from the University of South Florida.

The findings provide “striking evidence for both protective and disease-reversing effects” of long-term exposure to radiation at cell phone levels, researchers said.

The study also suggested that even the “normal” mice showed improved memory cognition. But some experts cautioned that the science in the study is still very early.

A tourist is attracted by a giant pumpkin at a farmland in Salar Autonomous County of Xunhua, northwest China’s Qinghai Province, on 8 Jan, 2010. —Xinhua

‘Shaming’ may make it hard to quit smoking

VANCOUVER, 11 Jan—
The stigma surrounding smoking may lead patients to hide their tobacco use from doctors, making it more difficult for them to quit, Canadian researchers say. In a report, University of British Columbia researchers say years of anti-smoking laws and anti-smoking campaigns have amounted to a public shaming of smokers, the National Post reported.

“People are made to feel really, really bad about their smoking and are treated quite badly, but feel quite helpless in quitting,” lead author Kirsten Bell, a medical anthropologist told the Post. “They feel really negatively about themselves, but quitting seems like an impossibility … They’re not really given much support.”

Anti-smoking advocates maintain policy-makers have strived not to victimize smokers and say anti-smoking campaigns have helped cut the Canadian smoking rate to 20 percent from a high of 30 percent in 1960.

Study finds snowballing effect in memory loss disease

LOS ANGELES, 11 Jan—
Researchers have found a snowballing effect in the Alzheimer’s disease and are proposing early preventive treatment for effectiveness.

The findings of the study, conducted by the New York University’s Langone Medical Centre, was published in the January issue of the Alzheimer’s & Dementia journal.

The study, involving 213 adults with and without subjective cognitive impairment (SCI) over an average of seven years, found that 54 percent of the SCI adults had aggravated into mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and even full-blown dementia, or long-term memory loss.

The study also found that only 15 percent of the non-SCI adults had developed MCI or dementia.

“The findings indicate that a significant percentage of people with early subjective symptoms may experience further cognitive decline, whereas few persons without these symptoms decline,” Barry Reisberg, lead researcher at the Langone Medical Centre.

This is the first study to use mild cognitive impairment as well as dementia as an outcome criterion to demonstrate the outcome of SCI as a possible forerunner of eventual Alzheimer’s disease,” the lead researcher added.

Researchers can now hopefully work out potential preventive therapy of the eventual Alzheimer’s disease, popularly known as the senile dementia, as “these intriguing results more fully describe the possible relationship between early signs of memory loss and development of more serious impairment.” —Xinhua
Youth now have more mental health issues

CHICAGO, 11 Jan.—A new study has found that five times as many high school and college students are dealing with anxiety and other mental health issues than youth of the same age who were studied in the Great Depression era.

The findings, culled from responses to a popular psychological questionnaire used as far back as 1938, confirm what counselors on campuses nationwide have long suspected: more students struggle with the stress of school and life in general.

“It’s another piece of the puzzle — that yes, this does seem to be a problem, that there are more young people who report anxiety and depression,” says Jean Twenge, a San Diego State University psychology professor and the study’s lead author. “The next question is: what do we do about it?”

Though the study, released on Monday, does not provide a definitive correlation, Twenge and mental health professionals speculate that a popular culture increasingly focused on the external — from wealth to looks and status — has contributed to the uptick in mental health issues. Pulling together the data for the study was no small task. Led by Twenge, researchers at five universities analyzed the responses of 77,576 high school or college students who, from 1938 through 2007, took the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory, or MMPI. — Internet

NATO chopper makes emergency landing in Taleban hotbed

KABUL, 11 Jan.—A helicopter of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) made an emergency landing in southern Afghanistan’s Helmand Province on Monday. A Press release issued by the ISAF said, “During a landing this morning at a base in Helmand Province, an ISAF helicopter and its crew experienced a hard landing.”

The helicopter needs repair and no crew member was injured, said the Press release. The investigation was underway, said the release, adding that no proof of enemy involvement has been found so far. Helmand, a hotbed of Taleban fighters and notorious for poppy growing, has been the scene of increasing insurgency. — Xinhua

Cities struggle to find new uses for auto plants

WIXOM, 11 Jan.—Henry Ford’s great-grandson arrived at the shuttered auto plant to brag about a plan to revive the vast empty space: Investors would transform it into a modern factory to make solar panels and high-tech energy systems instead of Town Cars and Thunderbirds.

“I can’t imagine a better way to reuse the facility,” Bill Ford said during his visit to the former Wixom Assembly plant in September. Several months later, a plan that exists only on paper is still awaiting final approval. The plant is still vacant, just like scores of other cavernous auto factories across the nation that have never been redeveloped.

An Associated Press analysis illustrates the scope of the problem: Of 128 manufacturing plants in North America closed since 1980 by the Detroit Three automakers and their largest suppliers, three of every five now sit idle. At their peak, these roaring engines of economic activity employed hundreds of thousands of people, mostly well-paid union members on the assembly line and white-collar engineers in windows offices above the factory floor. Those 128 plants had a payroll of 196,000 workers at the time they closed. Today, only 36,500 people work at those sites that have been redeveloped, and at only three of the revived plants does the number of employees match or exceed the number in their carmaking past. — Internet

Despite dangers, some get illicit silicone shots

NEW YORK, 11 Jan.—Clara Tolentino was terrified when her 43-year-old sister died last year after getting liquid silicone injections to add a bit more shape to her buttocks. The 35-year-old Tolentino had good reason to be. In 2006, she paid $2,000 to get liquid silicone injections, too.

“I didn’t do it as many times as my sister ... But I was afraid,” said the Dominican woman who lives in the Bronx. “I was afraid that something was going to happen to me.”

Her sister, Fiordaliza Pichardo, died in March. According to an autopsy, about 1,400 milligrams of silicone were in her lungs. Fresh injection sites dotted her thighs and buttocks. The New York City medical examiner’s office said the cause of death was silicone pulmonary embolism. In the United States, liquid silicone is not approved for cosmetic injections. It can kill, disfigure and cause long-term health problems. Still, it is avidly sought on the black market by untrained providers for those women who desire rounder breasts, buttocks and more shapely thighs. — Internet

Japanese women in kimonos take pictures of themselves as they celebrate the Coming of Age Day at Toshimaen amusement park in Tokyo on 11 Jan, 2010. Youths across Japan are honoured with special coming-of-age ceremonies when they reach the age of 20. — Internet

The old General Motors auto plant is slowly being taken apart to make room for the new Tinker Aerospace Complex, in Oklahoma City. — Internet
Chemical fears over plastic products

CANBERRA, 11 Jan — The consumer group Choice on Monday urged the Australian food industry to phase out plastics containing potentially harmful chemicals.

It said there is an urgent need to label products such as cling wrap and baby products that may contain the chemical bisphenol A.

“PVC (an amorphous plastic) is used to make the gaskets that seal glass jars used for foods such as pasta sauces,” Choice spokesman Christopher Zinn said.

“There are safer alternatives, which should be used instead.”

“Choice believes the evidence, while far from conclusive, can no longer be ignored,” Choice noted.

Concerned consumers should avoid food packaging and baby products with the voluntary identification code three (for PVC) and seven (a catch-all category that includes polycarbonate and plastics that can’t be easily identified).

Light worsens migraine sufferers’ pains

BEIJING, 11 Jan — Scientists in Harvard Medical School have found the reasons why light can worsen migraine sufferers’ pains, according to reports in Monday’s journal Nature Neuroscience on line.

The scientists from Beth Israel Deaconness Center, an affiliate of Harvard Medical School, made an experiment by probing two groups of migraine-suffering blind individuals. Twenty blind people were divided into two groups, one totally blind and the other legally blind. The first group was unable to see images or to sense light and therefore could not maintain normal sleep-wake cycles. In the second group, although they were unable to perceive images, they could detect the presence of light.

After studying these two groups of blind people who have migraine headaches, the researchers found out that light triggered a reaction in a group of brain neurons that remained active for some time. Nearly 85 percent of migraine sufferers are highly sensitive to light, a condition known as photophobia, but until now, nobody understands why this is so, the reports said.

Kookonesuo can heal buluri ulcer

MAMPONG, 11 Jan — A team of researchers at Asante Mampong, a farming community in Ghana, have found that cold bark extract of Kookonesuo (spathodia campanulata) could heal buruli ulcer. The cold bark extract, they said, applied dermatologically or on the skin, heals buruli ulcer in the post-macular phase, but does not regenerate lost tissues.

In the research, which was a pre-test carried out on four people medically diagnosed as buruli ulcer patients over a one-year period, the team also found that the plant had anti-bacterial property. The stability was, however, suspected.

Jacob Amoah, district pharmacist of the Mampong District Hospital and head of the research team that also included two medical doctors, announced this in an interview with the Xinhua News Agency in Mampong on Sunday.

Airbus A380 fails to take off due to technical problem

SEOUL, 11 Jan — A luxury airliner Airbus A380 was grounded at the Incheon International Airport on Sunday due to a technical problem in its fuel tank, local media reported on Monday.

The Dubai-bound plane scheduled to take off late Sunday was found to have a technical defect and the flight was canceled at the last minute, the first such case since the Dubai-based carrier Emirates launched South Korea’s first A380 service last December, Seoul’s Yonhap News Agency said.

Some 420 passengers protested the last-minute notice and stayed at nearby hotels, Yonhap said. The Incheon International Airport Corporation did not confirm the report.
**SPORTS**

**Rodrick storms to Brisbane victory**

Brisbane, 11 Jan.—American Andy Roddick held off a magnificent fight-back from Radek Stepanek to claim a thrilling 7-6 (7/2), 7-6 (9/7) victory in the final of the Brisbane Interna-
tional on Sunday. Stepanek saved six match points in the sec-
ond set tie-break but couldn’t save a seventh and when he served a double fault at 7-8 Roddick claimed the first title of the year. Roddick seemed to be headed for a straightforward victory when he won the first set and led 5-1 in the second. But in a match reminiscent of the women’s final on Sat-
urday when Justine Henin came back from an almost identical position against Kim Clijsters, Stepanek stormed back against an increasingly agitated Roddick.

**Defensive disasters cost Juve in Milan thrashing**

Rome, 11 Jan.—Defensive horror shows at three corners saw AC Milan humil-
iate Juventus 3-0 at Turin’s Stadio Olimpico and all but end their rivals’ Serie A title hopes and leave coach Ciro Ferrara’s job on the line. The victory meant Milan jumped to sixth in the table and moved to within eight points of leaders Inter. Milan responded to move 11 points ahead of Real.

**Mesmerising Messi hat-trick sends Barca top**

Madrid, 11 Jan.—Lionel Messi scored a sensational hat-trick as champions Barcelona nudged Real Madrid off the top of the table crush-
ing Tenerife 5-0 away on Sunday for their first vic-
tory of 2010.

Barca scored three times in a destructive nine minutes with Balón D’Or winner Messi scoring two of them (36, 45) before clinching his hat-trick with a monumental curler late in the second half to join Valencia’s David Villa on 12 goals at the top of the goalscoring charts.

“‘It was complicated for us at the beginning but we scored some quick goals and that changed things,” said Messi, “I am delighted with my three goals and more impor-
tantly the team won, however, it is a bit unfair on Tenerife.’”

Real Madrid had leap-
frogged Barca with a 2-0 home win over Real Ma-
lorca earlier on Sun-
day but Pep Guardiola’s side responded to move back to the summit two points ahead of Real.

**Dutch defender Hooviel bound for Celtic**

Glasgow, 11 Jan.—Scottish champions Celtic are set to make 26-year-old Dutch defender Jos Hooviel their first signing of the new year. Press re-
ports said on Monday the AIK Solna player will cost in the region of 2 million pounds and he will be given the role of replacing Scotland defender Gary Caldwell who is heading to Middlesbrough to join former Hoops boss Gor-
don Strachan.

Hooviel told the Daily Record: “I think my style of play will be good for the Scottish league and I can do a very good job for Celtic; It should be some-
ting special for me to play for Celtic because they are a big, classic club.”

“In many ways, they are like AIK to me because they have a big and passionate following of supporters. “All the towns of Glasgow speaks about football. It’s a massive in-
terest to everyone. It will be a very good move for me.”

AIK won the double in Sweden recently but have fallen on hard times financially. Hooviel joined the club on a free transfer 12 months ago.

AC Milan’s Brazilian forward Ronaldinho (R) celebrates with teammates after scoring against Juventus during their Italian Serie A football match at Turin Olympic Stadium.

Real Madrid’s sporting director wants more goals

Madrid, 11 Jan.—Real Madrid’s Director of Foot-
ball Jorge Valdano said his side should have beaten Mallorca by more than two goals on Sunday night. Goals from Gonzalo Higuain and Esteban Granero gave Real Madrid comfortable win against the team fourth in the table, but Cristiano Ronaldo and Kaka missed easy chances to have made the score line more convincing on a snowy night in the Spanish capital.

“It was a difficult night in terms of the weather, but the win could have been by a bigger margin,” said Valdano. “We showed a good attitude with the play and by creating chances. We deserved to score more and once again in defence we were impeccable,” he said.

The Monday edition of sports paper Diario AS.

**Federer to miss Kooyong Classic**

Sydney, 11 Jan.—World number one Roger Federer will not play in this week’s Kooyong Classic in Melbourne, preferring to practise before ahead of next week’s Aus-
tralian Open, tournament official said on Monday. Tournament Director Colin Stubs said he had been holding the eighth and final spot in the eight-
player exhibition event open for Federer, but the Swiss opted not to take up his place in the draw. Stubs said Federer’s manager, Tony Godick, contacted him early Mon-\nday to say that the 15-time Grand Slam champion would not take up the op-
tion of eighth spot in the field. Federer, who is bid-
ing for his fourth Australian Open, was defeated by Russian Nikolay Davydenko in the semi-
inals at the Qatar Open last week before heading to Melbourne. Federer is scheduled to have a hit on the Australian Open’s Rod Laver Arena on Tuesday.

S Korea’s Samsung Electronics to sponsor 2010 African Cup of Nations

Seoul, 11 Jan.—Samsung Electronics, Co. South Korea’s top electronics brand, announced Monday its agreement with the Confederation of African Football (CAF), the African football representative, to be an official sponsor of the Orange Africa Cup of Nations (ACN), ANGOLA 2010 this month.

Under the agreement, which is part of a four-year agreement set to conclude in 2012, the CAF will fea-
ture the Samsung brand in its “Samsung Fair Player Award” presented after each match and at the end of the tournament, while providing enormous promotion opportunities at product exhibitions, hospitality programmes, and outdoor advertisements throughout the tournament, the company said.

Samsung, on the other hand, will supply elec-
tronics and telecommunications equipment for smoother operation of the Orange ACN 2010, it said.

“Through our sponsorship of the Orange Africa Cup of Nations, Samsung will connect with loyal and dedicated football fans, ensuring that the Samsung brand gains ongoing exposure and recognition in the African region,” said Gyehyun Kwon, Vice President and Head of Worldwide Sports Market-
ing at Samsung.

**To be continued...**

Xinhua

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**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

Tuesday, 12 January, 2010

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Marriage a headache for 41 pct single women in China

BEIJING, 10 Jan—About 41.2 percent of single women in China were worried that they might not be able to find a right person to get married, according to a recent survey.

The figure was almost five times lower in men as only 8.1 single men interviewed admitted that they had the same worry, said the survey, which lasted three years and attracted more than 2.02 million respondents. The survey also said that some 40 percent women admitted they had high expectations for their future husbands. But 44 percent said they would not lower their standards just in order to get married.

The respondents, reached either by random visits in the street or by online questionnaire, averaged at about 30 years old. “Many single people especially women are confused in their criteria of a suitable spouse under the pressure from society and work,” Fan said.

Xinhua

People fish for trout through holes in a frozen river in Hwacheon, about 20 km (12 miles) south of the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas, northeast of Seoul 10 January 2010. The annual ice festival expects to see 1,000,000 people attend, which lasts for three weeks from 9 Jan, 2010.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule
(12-1-2010) (Tuesday)

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Local Transmission
* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights
* Golden Mandalay Hill
* New Railways for Inter-region Transport
* Floral Lovers’ Paradise (National Kandawgyi Gardens)
* Myanmar Traditional Snack “Khaw Poat”
* Let ’s Sing Together
* Traditional Custom of Kadu National Race
* Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission
* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights
* Golden Mandalay Hill
* Spirulina Products
* Floral Lovers’ Paradise (National Kandawgyi Gardens)
* Myanmar Traditional Snack “Khaw Poat”
* Let ’s Sing Together
* Traditional Custom of Kadu National Race
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Thihathana Throne
* Mee Hsu Khan Folk Songs
* Towards Pontaung Ponmya Yaw Region (Part-I)
* Culture Stage
* Have a Jaggery...after your meals...
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Native home of the Khamne
* Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

WEATHER

Monday, 11th January, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. MST. During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayin, Rakhine and Mon States and Lower Sagraing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (4°C) below January average temperatures in Kayin State, (6°C) below January average temperatures in upper Sagaing Division,(3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Kayah and Kayin States, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (-1°C), Namsam (1°C), Haka (3°C), Putao, Pinlaung and Katha (4°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Myeik (0.16) inch.

Maximum temperature on 10-1-2010 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 11-1-2010 was 64°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 11 -1-2010 was 69%. Total sun shine hours on 10-1-2010 was (9.2) hours approx. Rainfall on 11 -1-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum winds speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northwest at (18:30) hours MST on 10-1-2010.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 12th January 2010: Rain is likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Shan and Mon States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%). State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

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

Prime Minister inspects Pathein (Begarat)-Einme section of Yangon-Pathein railroad project and construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon)

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan—Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Lt-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe, ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department and personnel, left Pathein for work site of Pathein (Begarat)-Einme section of Yangon-Pathein railroad project in helicopter this morning.

They were welcomed there by district and township level departmental officials. At the briefing hall of Pathein (Begarat)-Einme railroad construction site, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min reported to the Prime Minister on pre-engineering work, land survey and earthworks and role of assigned companies for construction of Pathein (Begarat)-Einme-Pantanaw-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) railroad.

The Prime Minister assessed the reports and gave instructions. The Prime Minister then inspected earthworks being carried out with the use of heavy machinery near Singaung village in Pathein (Begarat)-Einme section of Yangon-Pathein railroad.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) is located 8000 feet upstream from Bo Myat Tun Bridge. The bridge is of RC type beams with 2256 metres long main bridge and 17 metres high clearance.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) Project.—MNA