Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence attends inauguration of Nankwae Creek Bridge in Myitkyina

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan – Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence delivered an address at the opening of Nankwae Creek Bridge at the archway of the bridge on Myitkyina-Namtee (Tanai) Road in Myitkyina, Kachin State on 15 January. Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Soe Win and officials formally opened the bridge. Lt-Gen Tha Aye, the commander and local people posed for a documentary.

Next, Lt-Gen Tha Aye strolled along the bridge and cordially greeted local people.

The newly-opened Nankwae Creek Bridge is built on Myitkyina-Namtee (Tanai) Road. The 262-foot long and 24-foot wide bridge with four spans is of broad crest type, and can withstand 60-ton loads.—MNA

A discussion at new Yatanarpon ICT city in PyinOoLwin Township

At a time when Yatanarpon Myothit in PyinOoLwin Township is being built into a new ICT city, it is attracting the attention from IT technicians at home and abroad with the holding of ICT exhibitions. The eighth Myanmar ICT Week with over 40 booths staged by local and foreign companies was held from 26 to 30 December 2009.

The Myanmar ICT Week was characterized by the opening of Yatanarpon Cyber Hall, holding of talks on ICT development at the Yatanarpon Teleport Main Building, opening of MCC Training Institute (Yatanarpon) Building and holding of the 5th MCC Franchise Conference.

On my visit to MCC Training Institute (Yatanarpon) on duty, I met with course instructors and trainees and held a round of discussion with them. Principal of MCC Training Institute (Yatanarpon) Mr Chiris Harison in the discussion said that ICT plays a pivotal role in all spheres; that without ICT all could be left behind in development; that it can now be said that a society based on ICT has emerged with the birth of companies like MCC that is applying ICT in various sectors; and that ICT is being applied globally as a tool of learning.

Ma May Zin Htut, a first year student, from PyinOoLwin said, “I joined this course because I am interested in computer technology that is important to everyday life. Holding such ICT exhibitions makes it easy in learning. We find the course convenient, for each of us has to use learning aids. I want to be a computer professional, a career that also suits women. And we are easy to understand the technology since the course is being conducted through on job training (OJT).”

Ma Thanda Soe, first year student from Pyaywbe, told us, “Using laptop individually enables us more effective in learning technology. In practice, we can directly discuss with teachers what we want to know. The lecture is being given step by step based on understanding of learners. Twenty four hours Internet access also helps us find what we want swiftly. I want to be a programmer and then a System Analyst overseas.”

(See page 7)
Final match of Myanmar-Bangladesh volleyball friendly

YANGON, 18 Jan—The final match of Myanmar-Bangladesh volleyball friendly was held at National Indoor Stadium (Thuwunna) here this afternoon. Selected Myanmar men’s team beat selected Bangladeshi men’s team (25-18), (25-16), (16-25) and (25-22). In four matches, Myanmar took three wins and one loss. Bangladeshi team will return home on 19 January.—MNA

The 18th MMMC Pre-conference Laparoscopic Workshop in progress at No (2) Military Hospital (1000-bed).

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—The 18th MMMC Pre-conference Laparoscopic Workshop took place at No (2) Military Hospital (1000-bed) here this morning.

Myanmar medical team led by Head of GI Track and Liver and Bile Track Department Col Daw Than Than Yi provided laparoscopic surgeries to 11 family members of Tatmadawmen in cooperation with Singaporean, Malaysian and Vietnamese professors and surgeons. During the process of performing surgeries, they held direct discussions, answered the queries raised by an audience of 150 through teleconferencing.

Consultant Surgeon Dr. Le Quan Ann Tuan of Vietnam National University Hospital and Professor Kin Fah Chin of Malaysia National University Hospital gave accounts of laparoscopic surgery.

The 18th Defence Services Medical Seminar will start tomorrow at Hsinbyushin Hall of Transit Center in Nay Pyi Taw up to 20 January. —MNA

Refresher Course opened to issue Sa Ma Number

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint addressed the opening of Refresher Course (1/2010) for Issuing Sa Ma Number of Universities of Medicine (1) and (2) at the hall of University of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San Street here on 16 January.

The minister said in his address that the government opens the course to issue Sa Ma Number and Tha Ma Number enabling to pay health care by unidentified doctors. He urged trainees to make utmost effort for public health care services and to abide by medical ethics as they practice the systematic health care procedures. Next, the minister proceeded to University of Dental Medicine (Yangon) in Thingangyun Township and met the rector of the University, officials and trainees.—MNA

18th MMMC Pre-conference Laparoscopic Workshop held

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—The 18th MMMC Pre-conference Laparoscopic Workshop in progress at No (2) Military Hospital (1000-bed).—MNA

Establishment of self-reliant village libraries is a driving force for the process. So far, the number of self-reliant village libraries has reached over 50,000. More libraries are being opened in many villages, and well-wishers continue to donate cash and kind and publications to the libraries. The population of intensive readers is growing owing to the extensive opening of libraries. Sustainable development of the libraries calls for collaborative efforts, which can improve post-literacy practice and the reasoning power of rural folks.

Work in concert to scale up post-literacy programmes

To ensure everyone is literate is one of the fundamental requirements for development of the whole human society. Millions of people are still illiterate in the Third World. Adult literacy campaign is under way as a global vision because the number of adult illiterate people touches more than 700 million.

In Myanmar, literate people account for over 94 per cent in 2009 as a result of effective encouragement to formal and non-formal education plans.

Three R’s skill and continuing education are integral to the non-formal education programme. Now, the nation has seen a large number of community learning centres due to the participation of social organizations and well-wishers. The nation’s literate population is on the increase as a result of literacy campaigns, follow-up literacy programme, and Three R’s courses in borders.

Literacy is, in fact, necessary for human beings, and can improve social relations. People can widen their horizons by reading. So, post-literacy programmes deserves a serious encouragement to formal and non-formal education plans.

The population of intensive readers is growing owing to the extensive opening of libraries. Sustainable development of the libraries calls for collaborative efforts, which can improve post-literacy practice and the reasoning power of rural folks.

Perlsecstives

Tuesday, 19 January, 2010

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize the stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Oppose the well-wishers who continue to donate cash and kind and publications to the libraries.

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Marines exit Iraq in first wave of US forces out

AL-ASAD, 18 Jan—The base loudspeaker no longer wakes them up with calls for blood donors; armored trucks sit idle in neat rows. The US Marines who stood at some of the bloodiest turning points of the Iraq war are packing up and leaving. Among the first troops to invade in March 2003, and the first to help turn enemy insurgents into allies, the Marines will be the first major wave of American forces to go as the US military begins a withdrawal to be completed by the end of next year. For them, as for the rest of the US military, this has been the longest war since Vietnam.

At their peak in October 2008, an estimated 25,000 Marines were in Iraq, mostly in the country’s western Anbar province. Now only about 4,000 remain. They, too, will be gone shortly after the Marines officially hand over responsibility to the Army on Saturday. “The security and stability that exists here is well within the means of the Iraqi security forces to maintain,” Maj Gen Rick Tryon, the Marine commander in Iraq, said in a recent interview. “You don’t need United States Marines to do this at this point. So it’s time, and it’s timely.”

Iraqi police and civilians respond moments after a bombing in Najaf, 100 miles (160 kilometres) south of Baghdad, Iraq, on 14 Jan, 2010. Three explosions, including one caused by a car bomb, rocked the southern city of Najaf at about 5:45 pm near a commercial area, police said. An official in the city’s health department said at least one person was killed and 50 were wounded.—INTERNET

Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan

OTTAWA, 18 Jan — A Canadian soldier was killed in Afghanistan on Saturday, becoming the first Canadian killed in action there in 2010, Ottawa Citizen and Canadian TV reported on Sunday.

The 44-year-old Sgt John Wayne Faught stepped on a buried bomb at about 2 pm local time on Saturday when he conducted a joint foot patrol with Afghan soldiers about 15 kilometres southwest of Kandahar City. No one else was injured.

Faught was a member of the Edmonton-based first Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry, and planned to retire in two years. He is the latest of the 139 soldiers to die in the eight-year-old mission.

Faught’s body was carried by a military transport aircraft back to Canada, with more than 1,000 soldiers bid farewell to him on Sunday.—Xinhua

Somali pirates fight over huge tanker ransom

NAIROBI, 18 Jan—Somali pirates have been fighting over a huge ransom paid to a Greek-owned oil tanker, pirates and a maritime official said. The argument between rival pirate gangs means that the ship, the Maran Centaurus, has not yet been freed, a local group that monitors piracy said.

A ransom of between $5.5m and $7m (£3.4m-£4.3m) is believed to have been dropped on the deck of the tanker. The Maran Centaurus was seized in November with 28 crew members. As the ransom was due to be delivered on Sunday, pirates on board the tanker and others in speedboats were reportedly already tussling, firing weapons at each other. “The argument intensified when the ransom money was brought,” Ahmed Ganey, a member of the gang that hijacked the ship, was quoted as saying by the AFP news agency. “Some of the pirates are on board the ship while others are onshore and refusing anybody to get down or to go on board,” he said.—INTERNET

15 Mexican shipwreck survivors rescued off California coast

MEXICO CITY, 18 Jan—The US Coast Guard and the fire brigade of San Diego city on Sunday rescued 15 undocumented Mexicans and recovered one body in the wake of a Pacific Ocean shipwreck close to the Mexican border, Mexican media reported.

The shipwreck of a 10-metre long boat occurred around 4:30 am local time off the coast near the US town of La Jolla, when the El Nino weather phenomenon produced two meter high waves in the Pacific Ocean off the Mexican state of Baja California and the neighboring US state of California.

A fire brigade spokesman was quoted as saying that 29 lifejackets had been found at the site and it remains unknown there were missing Mexicans.—Xinhua

US drone strike kills 15 in NW Pakistan tribal area

ISLAMABAD, 18 Jan—At least 15 alleged militants were killed in a missile attack in Pakistan’s North Waziristan tribal area, local TV channel reported on Sunday.

A US surveillance plane targeted a house in the North Waziristan area of Shaktori, where at least 15 militants were killed, the private TV GEO News reported.

The US drone missile shelled a hideout in the same area on 14 Jan, fueling the contradictory reports regarding the killing of Pakistani Taliban chief Hakimullah Mehsud. Sources said that the target was a militant compound and the death toll may go up.

There were reports of three to four drones flying in the area while the dead bodies were being removed from the rubble.

After attack against a CIA base in Khost province of Afghanistan, the US has intensified the drone attacks in Pakistan’s North Waziristan as the hit was attributed to the militants based in the area.—Xinhua

In this 18 Aug, 2009 file photo, an unidentified child, wounded in a rocket attack, lays on a bed at the hospital in Jalalabad, the provincial capital of Nangarhar province east of Kabul, Afghanistan.—INTERNET

A US Marine from 3rd Battalion 4th Marines checks an Afghan man at an entry control point at base Delaram in Nimroz Province, southern Afghanistan on 13 Jan, 2010.—INTERNET

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The Maran Cantaurus was seized near the Seychelles.—INTERNET

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Members of Chinese International Rescue Team work at the debris at the headquarters of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) in Port-au-Prince, capital of Haiti, on 15 Jan, 2010. —Xinhua

Cloud theory implies rally at telecom co

BEIJING, 18 Jan—China Mobile Ltd, the world’s biggest telecom operator, may rally 13 percent after breaking out of a so-called “ichimoku cloud” this week, according to technical analysis by BTIG Hong Kong Ltd.

Christian Kielland, head of trading at BTIG, said China Mobile will rally toward the HK$90 level after analyzing the stock using the Japanese method of “ichimoku kinko”, which looks at wave patterns and repeating trends. The stock closed at HK$78.9 last week.

Technical analysts make predictions based on patterns in price charts and market data. Ichimoku kinko, a strategy developed by a Japanese journalist before World War II, translates as “one glance equilibrium chart” because of the cloud-like patterns formed by trend lines that make it easy to understand at a glance.

China Mobile breaking out of the ichimoku cloud is a strong bull signal,” said Kielland. “This stock could be one of the best performers in Hong Kong this year.”

Mazda, Ford to dissolve JV

BEIJING, 18 Jan—Mazda Motor Corp and Ford Motor Co will dissolve their joint venture in China by 2012, a move that would further weaken the ties between the two auto makers, Japan’s Nikkei business daily reported yesterday.

China’s investment in water conservancy projects reaches record high

CHANGSHA, 18 Jan—China’s investment in water conservancy projects reached a record high of 142.7 billion yuan (20.9 billion US dollars) in 2009, Minister of Water Resources Chen Lei said on Sunday. The total spending more than doubled the investment of 65.54 billion yuan in 2008.

Among last year’s spending, 63.7 billion yuan were from the central budget while the rest from provincial-level governments, Chen said. The massive investment last year had pushed forward maintenance and upgrading of 6,124 reservoirs around the country, and helped nearly 61 million people gain access to safe drinking water, said Chen.—Xinhua

Mazda Motor Corp Chief Executive Officer Takashi Yamanouchi attends a news conference for the launch of the remodeled Mazda3 compact car in Tokyo on 11 June, 2009. Xinhua

East Asian, Latin American nations agree on co-op

TOKYO, 18 Jan—Foreign Ministers from 34 East Asian and Latin American nations on Sunday agreed to deepen economic ties at a cooperation forum in Tokyo.

At the end of the Fourth Foreign Ministers’ Meeting of the Forum for East Asian-Latin American Cooperation (FEALAC), the Tokyo Declaration issued said “we share the view that cooperation and mutual learning through sharing experiences and technologies, capacity building, knowledge and lessons, in particular the development and transfer of environmental friendly technology, is beneficial and should be further promoted.”

The environment was a key focus of the meeting, which was organized by FEALAC, a group that was launched to promote deeper political understanding and greater economic cooperation between the two regions.

“We especially noted that the bi-regional trade between East Asia and Latin America has quadrupled, far outpacing the increase of other region-to-region trades in the world,” the declaration noted.

“The links between the two regions and their people, once described as missing, are getting broader and deeper.” At the meeting, foreign ministers agreed that ties could be further deepened.

“We committed ourselves to further strengthening our activities and interactions through the frameworks of FEALAC, in order to make the most of the vast potential in the bi-regional co-operation as well as to jointly tackle major challenges that we face in the world of today and future,” the ministers wrote in the declaration.—Xinhua

UAE recalls J&J drugs after warning from US agency

ABU DHABI, 18 Jan—A massive Johnson & Johnson recall of over-the-counter drugs including pain relievers Tylenol, Motrin and St Joseph, a children’s aspirin, was extended to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) after a warning from the US drug agency, a local business journal reported on Sunday.

McNeil Consumer Healthcare, a unit of the US pharmaceutical giant J&J, said it was voluntarily recalling some 500 batches of the products from the UAE, the Americas and Fiji after customers reported an “unusual, moldy” odor that had been linked to gastrentestinal disorders, including stomach pain, nausea and diarrhea, according to Arabian Business.

Consumers who have an item on the recall list have been urged to stop using the product and contact the company for a refund, the report said.

The drugmaker said it believed that the smell was related to a chemical on wood pallets used to transport and store product packaging material.

“The health effects of this chemical have not been well-studied, but no serious events have been documented in the medical literature,” the company was quoted as saying in a statement. Xinhua

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Half of New Zealanders doubt global warming

WELLINGTON, 18 Jan—Almost half of New Zealanders are not convinced global warming is real, a survey published on Monday suggests.

A New Zealand Herald survey has found that although United Nations experts have grown steadily more certain about climate change, the public is not so sure. Almost one in five of 2296 respondents said global warming had not been conclusively proved.

New Zealand Prime Minister’s science adviser, Sir Peter Gluckman, said the 28 percent figure was not surprising as scientists were not claiming conclusive proof. But he said there was a problem communicating climate science to the public - and scientists and the media were equally to blame.

An online survey was conducted by the Nielsen Company on 10-17 December, 2009, during the UN climate change conference in Copenhagen.

Moderate earthquake jolts SW China province, causing casualties

GUIYANG, 18 Jan—At least seven people were confirmed dead after a moderate earthquake jolted the juncture area of three counties in southwest China’s Guizhou Province on Sunday, earthquake authorities said on Monday.

The quake, measuring 3.4 on the Richter scale struck at 5:37 pm on Sunday, according to China Earthquake Administration.

At least one person was missing and nine others injured, including two seriously, said the Anshun City Emergency Management Office. All the injured are receiving treatment at hospital.

With a depth of about 7 km, the epicenter was detected at 25.6 degrees north latitude and 105.8 degrees east longitude in a juncture area between Guanzling Buyi and Miao Autonomous County, Zhenning Buyi and Miao Autonomous County and Zhenfeng county, according to China Earthquake Administration.

Chinese, Japanese FMs meet on further advancement of bilateral ties

TOKYO, 18 Jan—Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi met on Sunday with his Japanese counterpart Katsuya Okada on further promotion of China-Japan relations on the sidelines of the 4th Foreign Ministers’ meeting of the Forum for an East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC).

During the talks, Yang said that leaders of both nations have met on several occasions and reached a series of consensuses over further deepening bilateral strategic and mutually beneficial relations since the Democratic Party of Japan came to power.

China is ready to work with Japan, in the spirit of the consensus, take favorable opportunities to make fresh headway in advancing the strategic and mutually beneficial relations, said Yang.

The Chinese Foreign Minister said the two sides need to keep high-level exchanges, conduct dialogue and facilitate coordination in fiscal, financial and macroeconomic policies, and promote cooperation in green economy as well as on major international issues such as the financial crisis and climate change.

Okada, for his part, said that the Japanese government is willing to keep high-level exchanges with China, boost Japan-China high-level economic dialogue and cooperation, and facilitate communication and coordination on such issues as climate change.

UN food aid reaches 60,000 Haitian quake victims

UNITED NATIONS, 18 Jan—The United Nations has so far extended food assistance to 60,000 people in the capital of Haiti, which was struck by a catastrophic earthquake last week, with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon expected to touch down in the capital Port-au-Prince on Sunday afternoon.

Within 24 hours of the 12 Jan tremors, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) had started distributing food and ultimately aims to reach 2 million people as part of its emergency programme.

By Saturday night, it had fed at least 60,000 people impacted by the 7.0-magnitude earthquake, which is believed to have affected one third of Haiti’s 9-millon strong population, with ready-to-eat meals.

Given the security and logistical issues in transporting and delivering food in the capital, which was hit hardest by the tremors, WFP flew over Port-au-Prince on Saturday and Friday, as well as conducting on-the-ground inspections, to determine possible locations for food distributions, which require military escorts from the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH).

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Egyptian television crew members wear protective masks during a news conference at the American University in Cairo on 9 June, 2009.

Xinhua
After four decades of war, Angola tries to recover

LUANIDA, 18 Jan—During a visit in August, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton publicly urged the government of Angola to hold “timely” presidential elections. Just four months later, President Eduardo dos Santos announced that presidential elections would be delayed from 2009 to at least 2012.

The move was hardly surprising in Angola, which is seeing considerable economic development but is still ruled by the longest-serving president in sub-Saharan Africa. After four decades of war, peace and a building boom are visibly changing its capital, Luanda. However, even Angola’s friends, let alone its critics, acknowledge it is still a virtual one-party state plagued by corruption and propped up by US, European and Chinese oil companies.

Chinese government wants to recover from floods

CHENGDU, 18 Jan—The Chinese government is stepping up its efforts to rebuild flood-damaged areas, but many residents are still struggling to return to normal life.

China to tackle climate change challenges
to agriculture

BEIJING, 18 Jan—As climate change poses a great challenge to China’s agricultural sector, the government and farmers should tackle it in a scientific and systematic way, Chinese Vice Minister of Agriculture Niu Dan said in an interview with Xinhua.

Climate change has posed great threats to the traditional farming sector, and extreme weather events, such as droughts, floods, hailstorms, tropical storms, have ruined harvests far more often than before, Niu said.

He was in Berlin to attend the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture, held during the 75th international Green Week in Berlin, the world’s largest agricultural and food fair.

“The destructive power of climate change has reminded us of the need to view the issue with a multi-dimensional perspective,” he said.

“We should tackle the challenges by renewing the agricultural system and continuously developing the country’s economy.”

Seeking answers in a forgotten Peruvian quake

LIMA, 18 Jan—It’s been two years since Peru was destroyed, two years since a 7.9-magnitude earthquake killed 596 people and reduced this gritty, poverty-ravaged fishing town to a maze of rubble and garbage and corpses.

In the days just after the quake on Aug. 15, 2007, thousands of rescuers, aid workers and government officials flocked to the area. Millions of dollars in aid flowed in. Plans were quickly drawn up to help survivors, put up tens of thousands of earthquake-resistant homes and rebuild the main regional hospital. Peruvians, they said, would be built anew. They were wrong.

US Ambassador Dan Mozena said it was not his place to pronounce on the presidential vote. “They have their elections when they have their elections,” Mozena said. “They build the democracy they build.”

Internet

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Information Minister attends stake-driving ceremonies for self-reliant libraries, donates publications

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan - Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended a ceremony to drive stakes for construction of Panhlaing self-reliant library. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended a ceremony to drive stakes for construction of Panhlaing self-reliant library. In Palaung Village, Ywashe village-tract, Salingyi Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division, on 14 January afternoon. The minister, officials and donor Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Aruvudha of Maha Thodra Yama Parayi Sarthintaik in Pyigyigadung Township, Mandalay Division, drove stakes at the auspicious time and sprinkled scented water on them.

Next, the minister donated periodicals to the library. Daw Khin Aye and Daw Khin Mya of Palaung village handed over the documents related to the plot (74x47ft) for construction of the library; U Ngwe San and Daw Thein Paing, the documents related to the plot (117x30ft) for construction of village peace and development council office; U Ngwe and Daw Ni, the documents related to the plot (30x30ft) for construction of village peace and development council office; and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Aruvudha donated K 500,000 and the village people K 1 million for construction of Panhlaing library.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended ceremonies to drive stakes for construction of Thuta Phyowai self-reliant library village and for construction of a new building of primary school. He presented publications to the library.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Aruvudha donated K 5 million for San Myawady Monastery in Zitaw village and a set of computer to the local people. On behalf of Hsetee village, townselder U Hla Thaung donated K 3 million and U Aung Kyaw Win K 100,000 for construction of the new school building.

At the stake-driving ceremonies, the minister said that with the people willing to cultivate reading habit, their knowledge of education, health and economy will improve, thereby contributing to their socio-economic life. He then called for participation in maintaining the village self-reliant libraries. — MNA

A discussion at new Yatanarpon ICT city...

(from page 1) Maung Hm Thu Naung, first year student from Yangon, said, “Every student is provided a laptop and OJT six times a week. The training consists of English courses. It is currently found out to be the most popular subject. I joined MCC because I was interested in IT. It was unfamiliar to me before. My interest pushes me into this field. First I found it difficult. Later on, I was able to understand it with the help of teachers and guides. Only when I joined this training institute have my horizon of IT been widened. My ambition is to become an internationally recognized IT expert.”

Ma Myat Thiri Cho, first year student from Yangon said, “I am attending this institute because I take interest in IT. I want to study computer science so that I can be a skilled programmer. The institute is outfitted with full educational facilities. Study hours are from 10 am to 5 pm a day. We can browse any websites we want through high speed Internet connection.”

CEO U Nyein Oo of MCC Group said, “We take pride by doing our bit in human resources development programme in Yatanarpon new technology city. MCC now opens course for B.Sc (Business IT) degrees conferred by University of Greenwich of England. A total of 200 students are attending the course. After three years, the institute will nurture internationally recognized degree holder IT experts who can join IT industries. The main theme of our MCC Group is to produce IT experts.”

MCC Training Institute (Yatanarpon) opens course for B.Sc (Hons) degree conferred by University of Greenwich with changes and developments in IT fields. Yatanarpon ICT city in Pyin Oo Lwin is playing a major role in human resources development. The MCC Training Institute (Yatanarpon) is also nurturing and producing IT experts who can contribute to IT development.

Translation: ZZS (Kyemon: 17-1-2010)
Mandalay Mayor’s Cup Horticultural Show and Competitions on 12 Feb

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan — Mandalay City Development Committee will organize the 8th Mandalay Mayor’s Cup Horticultural Show and Competitions at Kandawgyi Park in Mandalay starting from 12 February.

Winners will be presented handsome prizes at the show. Those who want to enter the competitions at the show are to send their products to the office of the Park not later than at 4 p.m. on 10 February. Further information, contact Parks and Playgrounds Department of MCDC and office of Mandalay Kandawgyi Park (Ph: 02-59171). —MNA

Workshop on Capacity Enhancement of Myanmar Civil Service-2010 (Nay Pyi Taw) opened

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—Workshop on Capacity Enhancement of Myanmar Civil Service-2010 (Nay Pyi Taw), organized by the Civil Service Selection and Training Board and sponsored by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation of Japan was opened at Aureum Palace Hotel, this morning.

Chairman U Kyaw Thu of CSSTB extends greeting at the opening of workshop on Capacity Enhancement of Myanmar Civil Service-2010 (Nay Pyi Taw).—MNA

Chairman of the CSSTB U Kyaw Thu delivered a welcoming address and President of the SPF Dr Akinori Seki presented the opening remarks. The opening ceremony was attended by Members of the CSSTB U Aung Myint, U Hla Myint Oo, U Win Aung, U Soe Oo, U Nye Htun, U Kyaw Aung, directors-general and rectors, resource persons, and participants.

A total of 60 participants from various ministries and government organizations are currently attending the workshop where three main themes focusing on the role of Civil Service in Central and Local Governments, Public Sector and Market-Oriented Economic System, Development Policy and Good Governance will be discussed. It is learnt that the duration of the workshop will be five days up to 22 January. —MNA

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

President of the SPF Dr Akinori Seki addresses workshop on Capacity Enhancement of Myanmar Civil Service-2010 (Nay Pyi Taw).—MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence addresses at the opening of Nankwae Creek Bridge. (News on page 1) —MNA

Photo shows newly opened Nankwae Creek Bridge in Myitkyina. (News on page 1) —MNA

Photo shows newly opened Nankwae Creek Bridge in Myitkyina. (News on page 1) —MNA
higher living standard of the people. With this end in view, Mindon Bridge (Yenatha) was inaugurated on 26 September 2009. It is located at milepost (20/0) on Thayet-Natmeetaung-Kanma road section of Pathein-Monywa road (North) in Kanma Township, Magway Division.

The bridge is of bailey type with concrete foundation and RC bole piles. The 700-foot long bridge with 10-foot and 10.5-inch wide motorway can withstand 13 tons per vehicle.

With the advent of the transport facility, marine products and paddy and rice from Rakhine State may be marketed in Shan State through the Sittway-Anminbu-Magway and Magway-Mandalay-Pynnoolwin-Lashio roads. Marine products from Ayeyawady Division may also be transported to Chin State and Sagaing Division through the Pathindiongwa road and to Kachin State through the Monywa-Shwebo-Myitkyina road. Trucks loading pulses, beans, maize and sesame from Magway Division may be driven to every states and divisions through the cluster of roads. So, the nightmare of transportation will no longer exist for rural dwellers across the nation. They are now living a better life with higher socio-economic status owing to the fruitful result of swift and smooth commodity flow.
Historic Resort Mt Rooster eyes tourism development

BEIJING, 18 Jan—Central China’s Henan province has made it possible to bring one of its unique and legendary scenic attractions, the enchanting Jigongshan, or Mt Rooster, to a wider platform at the 2010 Jigongshan International Cultural and Tourism Presentation Seminar held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 15 January.

The seminar aimed to further showcase the attraction’s rich cultural and historical resources. State and provincial officials, ambassadors from 43 countries and regions, representatives from international organizations, officials from the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and representatives from leading domestic travel service companies attended the seminar.

Discovered by a Norwegian-American in 1902, Jigongshan used to be a glorious summer resort for foreigners at the beginning of last century, when it attracted overseas diplomats and missionaries from 23 countries. More than 500 villas featuring distinguished exotic flavors were built thereafter in the region. Jigongshan was considered an expo of foreign cultures mixed together with historical and cultural heritages, and a place “near heaven.”—Xinhua

S Korea to host its first ever G20 meeting in February

SEOUL, 18 Jan—South Korea will host its first ever G20 meeting in February as the group will have the year’s first gathering in the port city of Incheon, a government official said on Monday.

Senior level policy makers and bank officials including Vice finance ministers and vice governors of central banks from the Group of 20 advanced and emerging economies will convene in Incheon, 50 km west of Seoul, from Feb. 27 to 28 in order to discuss issues pertaining to the global economic recovery and the overall global economic system, the Ministry of Strategy and Finance said.

The gathering will kickstart this year’s G20 meeting, which has also selected South Korea to be the chair of the G20 summit to be held in Seoul this November. South Korea also took over the management of the official website of the G20 finance minister meeting (www.g20.org) from Britain on 1 January, as it will be in charge of the website until the end of the year, according to the official.—Internet

Hi-tech park puts service sector first

BEIJING, 18 Jan—As the only high-tech park in downtown Shanghai, Shibei Hi-Tech Park is actively developing itself as a modern service industry base to keep pace with the city’s rapid growth.

The park was founded in 1992 by the local government of Zhabei District to focus on the information technology, logistics, new energy and new materials industries, which China has given top priority to of late.

It was listed by the Bureau of Shanghai World Expo Coordination as one of the sites in a series of campaigns that promote the theme of Shanghai Expo. The 3.13-sq-km park, which sits on the northern edge of the downtown area, hopes to exploit its geographical advantage and transform itself into a cluster of headquarters of Chinese and foreign enterprises.—Xinhua

Asia’s top Fashion Week opens in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 18 Jan—Hong Kong Fashion Week, Asia’s largest fashion event, opens in the city on Monday, showcasing the industry’s newest collections, looks and products and attracting exhibitors and buyers from all around the world. The 41st edition of Hong Kong Fashion Week for Fall/Winter 2010 and the 8th World Boutique is held from Monday to Thursday at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. The twin events feature altogether over 2,000 exhibitors from 30 countries and regions, a 17 percent increase over last year, as well as close to 5,000 buyers from 39 countries and regions, according to the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. During four days of the two flagship flags of the fashion industry, there will be a series of runway shows, presentations ideas from leading local and overseas designers.

Fair highlights include the Hong Kong Fashion Extravaganza on Monday, featuring four celebrated fashion designers, including Dorrian Ho from Hong Kong, Guo Pei and Xie Feng from the Chinese mainland, as well as Japan’s Yoshikazu Iwaya. The events also offer 25 special seminars to address current fashion topics, including a forecast of 2011-2012 Fall/Winter fashion influences.—Xinhua

Cord blood stem cell transplant hopes lifted

LONDON, 18 Jan—A technique which may eventually remove the need for matched bone marrow transplants has been used in humans for the first time. It is hoped that “master cells” taken from umbilical cords could be used on any patient without rejection. The latest advance, published in the journal Nature Medicine, greatly multiplies the tiny number of cells from the cord ready for a transplant. UK charity Leukaemia Research said this could be the “holy grail” for doctors.

The current system of bone marrow transplantation helps patients who have diseases, such as leukaemia, which affect the stem cells in their bone marrow where new blood cells are grown. Their own bone marrow cells are killed off by aggressive treatment and cells from a matched donor are introduced in their place.

However, a matching donor cannot always be found, despite extensive donor registries held by organisations such as the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust and, even with a carefully matched donor, there is still a risk that the patient’s body will reject the new cells. Cells extracted from umbilical cords could overcome these problems - they do not have the characteristics which would normally trigger immune rejection, so it is likely that cells from a single baby’s cord could be used in any patient, without the need for matching.—Internet

At least three killed in Ukrainian hospital explosion

KIEV, 18 Jan—At least three people were killed as oxygen tanks exploded at a hospital in Ukraine’s eastern city of Luhansk, the Interfax news agency reported on Monday. The blast at Luhansk’s No 7 Hospital partly damaged the hospital building, Interfax quoted a government source as saying.

There may be two more dead under the debris, the source said. Police and rescuers were working at the scene. Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko is due to arrive in Luhansk soon.—Xinhua
I did not ask him those questions, Graham said. But the rescue team said they would not give up any hope of finding more survivors under the rubble of flattened buildings in Port-au-Prince, capital of Haiti. Among the survivors was a 29-year-old American woman, who was pulled alive from a collapsed building in the University of Port-au-Prince on Saturday evening by a U.S. rescue team, after having been trapped there for 97 hours.

Beijing, 18 Jan—Five days after a 7.3-magnitude earthquake battered Haiti on Tuesday, rescue workers have found more survivors in the collapsed buildings amid strong aftershocks.

More survivors found in quake-ravaged Haiti amid strong aftershocks

Beijing, 18 Jan—Five days after a 7.3-magnitude earthquake battered Haiti on Tuesday, rescue workers have found more survivors in the collapsed buildings amid strong aftershocks.

Rescue teams from different countries have already saved more than 70 lives, according to Elizabeth Byrs, the UN spokeswoman. International rescue teams have completed about 60 percent of the search and rescue work in the quake-ravaged Caribbean nation, according to Brazilian media reports.

But the rescue team said they would not give up any hope of finding more survivors under the rubble of flattened buildings in Port-au-Prince, capital of Haiti. Among the survivors was a 29-year-old American woman, who was pulled alive from a collapsed building in the University of Port-au-Prince on Saturday evening by a U.S. rescue team, after having been trapped there for 97 hours.

KOLKATA, 18 Jan—A sculptor in the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu has created a wind instrument—or nadhaswaram—for the first time in stone.

The nadhaswaram is one of the most popular traditional Tamil instruments and is usually made of wood. Sculptor Chinnakkannu used a single piece of hard black granite to make the instrument, which is more than two feet in length. Musicians say that they are amazed at how well it plays.

Chinnakkannu told the BBC that he was inspired to make the instrument by his admiration of temple art and religious sculptures across Tamil Nadu. Hailed as one of the world’s lowest non-brass acoustic instruments, the nadhaswaram is traditionally made from a special variety of wood. The instrument has a range of two and a half octaves similar to the flute.

Chinnakkannu said that making a stone version of the nadhaswaram was fraught with difficulties, not least in finding a suitable piece of stone. However, he said that he was pleased with the result.

New Orleans, 18 Jan—The former top executive of a New Orleans hospital testified Wednesday that he was unaware of a pre-Katrina document suggesting the hospital generator might fail in a flood. Larry Graham was testifying in a wrongful-death trial dating to his tenure as chief executive officer of Pendleton Memorial Methodist Hospital during Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune reported on Saturday.

Graham claimed he had not been informed by Cameron Barr, a hospital vice president, that a generator system could potentially flood with disastrous results, the newspaper said. “That was not my responsibility, and I did not ask him those questions,” Graham said. But records show Barr wrote a 2002 document outlining his concerns. “The first question is, ‘Do we have generators placed to accommodate an emergency flood with 15 feet of water?’ The answer to that question is ‘no,’” the document read.

The system’s failure is at the heart of a wrongful-death claim filed against Methodist and United Health Services, which took over the hospital in 2004, by the family of Althea LaCoste, who was on an electricity-dependent ventilator at the time of the flood. The Times-Picayune said. She survived with manual breathing assistance from hospital staff but eventually died.

India sculptor creates granite ‘woodwind’ instrument

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Paré, 18 Jan—Drones have become synonymous with US military strikes in hotspots like Afghanistan. But now a French firm has built a mini version piloted by an iPhone that brings video games to the streets.

The flying saucer-like AR Drone — AR stands for Augmented Reality — is a small helicopter that can be flown using a smartphone. It is the brainchild of Henri Seydoux, who created the AR Drone with the help of 10 engineers who spent four years developing the drone.

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BIMA VOYNO (051)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOYNO (051) are here by notified that the vessels will be arriving on 19.1.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A. W. P. T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

 SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RAJA VOYNO (917)
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 SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Ministry of Rail Transportation MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDERS

1. Sealed Tenders are invited for supply of the following items in Japanese Yen (or) in United States Dollar (or) in Euro. (must mention the price in FOB basis as well as in CIP Yangon basis)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/T/14/MK(MC)</td>
<td>Meter gauge (including 3 feet 6 inches gauge) refurbished inservice Air conditioned passenger coach with soft seat, (with self power generating diesel engine in each individual passenger coach for lighting and for air conditioning).</td>
<td>20 Nos</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Closing Date/Time - 5.2.2010 (Friday) (12:00) Hours

Tender documents are available at our office starting from 18.1.2010 (Monday) during office hours and for further details, please contact: Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, corner of Thanbyuzayat Street and Merchant Street, Botataung Township, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-291985, 95-1-291994.

Shell signs Iraq oil field deal

Iraq has the world's third largest oil reserves.—Internet

Baghdad, 18 Jan—Oil giant Shell and Malaysia's state-run Petronas oil company finalised a contract on Sunday to develop Iraq's giant Majnoon oil field. In December Shell and Petronas beat a rival bid from France's Total and China's CNPC to develop the 12.6bn barrel field in southern Iraq. The field currently produces just 46,000 barrels per day. Shell and Petronas have pledged to increase that output to 1.8 million barrels per day.

The deal was signed at Iraq's Oil Ministry in the presence of Iraqi Oil Minister Hussian al-Shahristani and Mounir Bouaziz, an executive of Shell Gas and Power.

Spain plans world's first ‘gastronomic university’

Madrid, 18 Jan—Spain is to open the world's first "gastronomic university" complete with a research laboratory to explore the mysterious chemistry of taste. Student chefs will be encouraged to master the craft of "molecular gastronomy" under the tuition of Spain's most celebrated restaurateur, Ferran Adria, and encouraged to use scientific innovation to design the recipes of the future.

Construction began last month on the Basque Culinary Centre in San Sebastian and it will be ready for its first intake of students in September 2011 in a building that is designed to resemble a pile of stacked plates. The university will be the first of its kind to offer a four-year undergraduate degree course in culinary arts taught in English and Spanish and a one-year master’s degree, as well as shorter courses for cooking enthusiasts.—Internet

Somali pirates free Greek tanker

Mogadishu, 18 Jan—Somali pirates have freed a Greek-owned oil tanker, a day after a ransom was delivered aboard the ship, the pirates and officials say. The Maran Centaurus was seized on 29 November with 28 crew members. “She’s free. She’s preparing to sail out” from Haradhere, Andrew Mwangura, of the East African Seafarers Assistance Programme, told AFP.

A ransom of between $5.5m (£3.4m) and $7m (£4.3m) is believed to have been dropped on the deck of the tanker. When it was hijacked, the Maran Centaurus was sailing near the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean, about 1,300km (800 miles) off Somalia.

Its crew is made up of 16 Filipinos, nine Greeks, two Ukrainians and one Romanian.—Internet

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. Second best time is now.
Scientists discover avian influenza outbreak closely related to bird migration

KUNMING, 18 Jan—A research jointly conducted by Chinese and Asian scientists has discovered that highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1) outbreak was closely related to bird migration.

The discovery was revealed at the fifth regional meeting of the Asian Partnership on Emerging Infectious Diseases Research (APEIR), which concluded on Saturday in Kunming, capital of southwest Yunnan Province.

Lei Fumin, researcher of Institute of Zoology with Chinese Academy of Sciences, told Xinhua that the research team had studied avian influenza outbreaks along the bird migration routes in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

The research team consisted of Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, Indonesian and Chinese scientists.

Studies showed that avian influenza outbreaks in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau were frequently coincided with bird migration both in time and location.

EU unlikely to extend emissions cuts

SEVILLE, 18 Jan—The European Union is unlikely to raise its commitment to cut carbon emissions by 30 percent from 2010 until other countries show greater willingness to follow suit, ministers said on Saturday.

The EU has set a target of cutting carbon dioxide (CO2) by 20 percent from 1990 levels over the next decade. It promised ahead of climate talks in Copenhagen in December that it would deepen those cuts to 30 percent if other countries did likewise.

The United Nations has fixed a 31 Jan deadline for countries to commit to emissions cuts and the EU sees no sign that major economies will set comparable targets that soon. “The final evaluation is that it probably cannot be done,” Spanish Secretary of State for Climate Change Teresa Ribera told journalists after a meeting of environment ministers in Seville, Spain. The decision had been widely expected. The EU, which accounts for about 14 percent of the world’s CO2 emissions, is keen to lead climate talks despite its marginalisation at last year’s meeting in Copenhagen.

Mexicans short of swine flu vaccines

MEXICO CITY, 18 Jan—The epicentre of last year’s swine flu outbreak has received less than half of the 30 million vaccine doses it ordered last year. Mexico’s health secretary Jose Angel Cordova said it has struggled to secure enough vaccine because there were no factories in the country producing it. Meanwhile, other nations have started to sell surplus swine-flu vaccines.

“We had to wait in the second line to buy the vaccine, because obviously, the first shipments were for the countries that make the vaccine,” said Cordova. After the first case of the H1N1 virus in the world was confirmed in Mexico last April, drug makers began preparing vaccines to control a potential pandemic.

Pine beetle outbreak may be ebbing

DENVER, 18 Jan—The mountain pine beetles that have been devastating forests in the western United States may have eaten their way through their food supply, scientists say. That means Lodgepole Pine forests in Colorado and Wyoming have a chance to make a comeback, The Denver Post reported.

“I think we’ve seen the worst of it,” Sky Stephens, an entomologist with the Colorado State Forest Service, said. Pine beetles are native to western North America. But the current outbreak, now about 15 years old, is far larger than previous ones, with some scientists blaming rising temperatures because of global warming.

Cal Wettstein, a beetle specialist with the US Forest Service, said the millions of dead trees left by the beetles are a major problem. “We’re still left with the aftermath,” Wettstein said. “We’ve got wildfire threats. The most immediate hazard right now is falling trees. We’ll have falling tree hazards for at least 10 years.”

Mexican scientists study local bird migration

A woman walks past a shop window advertising sales in central Athens, Greek officials are bracing for a European Union grilling next week over faulty national statistics as the country awaits approval of a national crisis plan on its debt-hit economy.

A woman sits in the cockpit of a one-seat Lumeneo car, at the start of the European Motor Show in Brussels, on 13 Jan, 2010.

FDA to study potential BPA risks

WASHINGTON, 18 Jan—US regulators say they “have some concern” about the safety of Bisphenol A, a chemical widely used in food and beverage containers.

The Food and Drug Administration Deputy Commissioner Joshua Sharfstein said the agency will carry out a study of possible health risks of BPA, The Washington Post reported.

“We have some concern, which leads us to recommend reasonable steps the public can take to reduce exposure to BPA,” Sharfstein told reporters in a conference call on Friday.

Research has suggested a link between BPA to cancer, sexual dysfunction, heart disease and other health problems. US health officials have expressed concern about the chemical’s possible impact on fetal development as well as on infants and children, the Post said.

Skin lightening cream often misused

NEW YORK, 18 Jan—Skin-lightening creams can mean severe side effects for people who misuse them or buy counterfeit products, US dermatologists said.

People of African and Hispanic descent, among others, obtain the creams from dermatologists or buy them over-the-counter in beauty shops, ethnic groceries and online, The New York Times reported on Saturday. The creams, with names like Hyprogel and Fair & White, can cause acne when misused and weaken skin, dermatologists said. Mercury, which can damage the nervous system, has been found in counterfeit products.

There is a strong demand for the creams, said dermatologist Erin Gilbert of the Downstate Medical Centre in New York’s Brooklyn borough. Gilbert said she and her colleagues see cases of severe side effects from the creams each week. Many users believe lighter skin will elevate their standing in society, said Evelyn Nakano Glenn, who teaches gender studies at the University of California-Berkeley.

Scientists discover avian influenza outbreak closely related to bird migration

KUNMING, 18 Jan—A research jointly conducted by Chinese and Asian scientists has discovered that highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1) outbreak was closely related to bird migration.

The discovery was revealed at the fifth regional meeting of the Asian Partnership on Emerging Infectious Diseases Research (APEIR), which concluded on Saturday in Kunming, capital of southwest Yunnan Province.

Lei Fumin, researcher of Institute of Zoology with Chinese Academy of Sciences, told Xinhua that the research team had studied avian influenza outbreaks along the bird migration routes in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

The research team consisted of Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, Indonesian and Chinese scientists.

Studies showed that avian influenza outbreaks in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau were frequently coincided with bird migration both in time and location.
Kuranyi proves his worth to fire Schalke second

BERLIN, 18 Jan—Ex-Germany striker Kevin Kuranyi proved his worth by sealing Schalke 04's 1-0 win over Nuremberg on Sunday, to put the Royal Blues second in the Bundesliga, despite nearly being sold over the winter break. The 27-year-old, who is related to one of the biggest names in golf, said:— "I certainly had my chances and I'm happy with the result."—INTERNET

Wenger targets title after Bolton win

BOLTON, 18 Jan—Arsene Wenger insisted his side were now genuine title contenders after goals from Cesc Fabregas and Fran Merida helped them beat Bolton 2-0 at the Reebok Stadium. Sunday’s success left the third-placed Gunners just three points behind Premier League leaders Chelsea and they will go top, on goal difference, if they beat Bolton again at the Emirates Stadium on Wednesday in a fixture re-arranged following the recent cold snap in Britain.

After losing 3-0 at home to Chelsea on 29 November, Wenger’s men were written off as potential champions but have since gone eight matches unbeaten to transform their season.

However, having seen Fabregas mark his return to the Arsenal side in style to help ruin Owen Coyle’s first match in charge of Bolton, Wenger said: “We are now in a quite interesting position that nobody expected us to be in.—INTERNET

Ronaldinho hat-trick puts heat on Inter

ROME, 18 Jan—Ronaldinho plundered a hat-trick as AC Milan crushed 10-man Siena 4-0 on Sunday to close the gap on Serie A leaders Inter Milan to just six points and with the Milan derby to come next weekend.

Milan also have a game in hand meaning they could potentially draw level with the four-in-a-row champions if they were to win next weekend’s crunch clash.

Playing the league’s basement sitters Milan hardly needed a helping hand but they got exactly that as Siena goalkeeper Gianluca Curci was harshly sent off on 10 minutes. Ronaldinho despatched the resulting penalty and Marco Borriello scored on 28 minutes to put the game to bed before half-time before the Liverpool-bound round off the scoring in the second period.

Milan coach Leonardo paid tribute to his Brazilian compatriot and looked forward to the derby.—INTERNET

Ghana blow as Essien injures knee at training

LUANDA, 18 Jan—Ghana star Michael Essien injured his right knee during Sunday’s Africa Cup of Nations clash against Burkina Faso.

A team spokesman said the Chelsea midfielder was taken to hospital for a scan and later rejoined his ‘Black Stars’ teammates as they prepare for a must-win Group B fixture on Tuesday.

“Michael suffered a right knee injury after a collision with a couple of teammates in the training session this morning. “He was taken to a local hospital for a scan and we’ll get the results back tomorrow and then have a clearer idea of whether he can play.”—INTERNET

Black Star of Ghana National football team midfielder Michael Essien

Villa brace helps Valencia close in on Real

MADRID, 18 Jan—David Villa joined Lionel Messi at the top of the goalscoring charts, hitting his 13th and 14th goals, as Valencia moved three points behind second-placed Real Madrid after a 4-1 derby win over 10-man Villarreal at the Mestalla on Sunday.

Argentine Ever Banega opened the scoring in the sixth minute and Villa converted a 28th-minute penalty which he had won.

Villarreal’s centre-back Francisco Kiko was sent off for conceding the spot-kick, giving Valencia a man extra for over an hour.—INTERNET

Samuel Eto’o and Mohamadou Idrissou of Cameroon (R) celebrate after scoring against Zambia during their group stage match at the African Cup of Nations CAN2010 at the Tundavala stadium in Lubango, Angola.—INTERNET

Cameroon edge Zambia in Cup of Nations thriller

LUBANGO, 18 Jan—Cameroon edged Zambia 3-2 in an Africa Cup of Nations Group D thriller at Tundavala Stadium on Sunday to revive hopes of winning the tournament for a fifth time.

Substitute Mohamadou Idrissou headed the 86th-minute winner to complete a late scoring flurry in which Cameroon struck twice within five minutes to snatch the lead only for Zambia to level from a penalty.

Geremi and Samuel Eto’o were the other marksmen for the win while Jacob Mulenga gave Zambia an early lead and captain Christopher Katongo levelled from a spotkick with nine minutes left.

Gabon, who fought out a dour goalless draw with Tunisia in the first half of a double header, lead the pool with four points. Cameroon have three, Tunisia two and Zambia one ahead of the final mini-league fixtures next Thursday.—INTERNET

Safina, Clijsters from Sharapova crashes out

ROMA, 18 Jan—Former champion Maria Sharapova crashed out of the Australian Open on Sunday but there were no dramas for Dinara Safina and Kim Clijsters who spearheaded the charge into the second round.

American Andy Roddick also cruised through, in stark contrast to former world number one Safina who was a shadow of her former self in a 7-6(7/4), 3-6, 6-4 defeat to fellow Russian Maria Kirilenko.

It was a disastrous start to the year for the under-done 22-year-old, seeded 14, who opted to only play exhibitions in Thailand and Hong Kong as a warm-up to the opening Grand Slam of the season.

Playing with the roof closed on the Rod Laver Arena due to rain, which disrupted play on outside courts, she struggled to find consistency against a player ranked 58. “I certainly had my chances and just didn’t execute,” she said.—INTERNET

Ghana blow as Essien injures knee at training

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Milan coach Leonardo paid tribute to his Brazilian compatriot and looked forward to the derby.—INTERNET

Ryan Palmer reacts after tapping in for birdie on the 18th hole and winning the Sony Open golf tournament, on 17 Jan, 2010 in Honolulu.—INTERNET
Two dead, two still trapped in north China colliery flooding

TAIYUAN, 18 Jan.—Rescuers have retrieved two bodies from a flooded coal mine in north China’s Shanxi Province, but two other workers are still trapped underground, local authorities said on Monday.

The flooding occurred at about 4:30 pm Friday in a coal pit run by the Lingshi Coal Mine Co. Ltd. in Lingshi County when six miners were working underground. Two managed to escape. Currently, 260 rescuers are struggling to pump out the water and trying to reach the trapped workers, and 12 pumps have been used, said Wang Shiqiang, deputy director of the rescue headquarters.

“But the underground geological condition is very complicated, and water constantly pours into the flooded tunnel from neighbouring areas, which add difficulty to the rescue work,” he said.

Nan Xiaohua

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Weather

Monday, 18th January, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.
MST. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagon, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in Kachin and Chin States, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Rakhine and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above January average temperatures in Shan State, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, (8°C) above January average temperatures in Kayah State and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Patao, Machanbaw and Lolein (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 17-1-2010 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 18-1-2010 was 62°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 18-1-2010 was 76%. Total sun shine hours on 17-1-2010 was (7.9) hours approx. Rainfall on 18-1-2010 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 wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northeast at (14:30) hours MST on 17-1-2010.

Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy in the Southwest Bay and generally fair in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 19th January 2010:
Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Mon States and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 19-1-2010: Partly cloudy.
Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 19-1-2010:Partly cloudy.
★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

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

People’s Desire

■ We favour peace and stability
■ We favour development
■ We oppose unrest and violence
■ Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

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

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence inspects upgrading of Hpa-an-Kawkareik-Myawady road section

YANGON, 18 Jan—Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win, Chairman of Kayin State PDC Brig-Gen Zaw Min and personnel, on 14 January, met with officers, other ranks and their families at the local battalion of Kawkareik Township and presented sports gear and gifts to them.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and party oversaw roadworks on Hpa-an-Kawkareik-Myawady road section near Kyonedoe village. They also inspected durability of Gyaing (Kawkareik) Bridge and newly-built pontoon bridge near the bridge.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw then inspected roadworks between mile post No. 30/5 and 30/6 and Lunnya quarry at mile post No. 15/7.—MNA

Donations to self-reliant libraries invited

YANGON, 18 Jan—A ceremony to donate property, cash fund, multimedia products and publications to self-reliant libraries in Yangon Division will be held at Basic Education High School No (2) in Sangyoung Township here on 23 January.

Wellwishers may contact Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Office (Ph: 370507) and Yangon Division Office of Information and Public Relations Department at No (22/24) on Pansodan Street (Ph: 371339).—MNA

Mendon Bridge (Yenatha) in service of rural people

The government is building a string of large and small bridges for the rural people to be able to travel from one place to another and transport commodities with peace of mind and to enjoy higher socio-economic status.

Better transport is indispensable in the building of a modern and developed nation and in bringing about (See page 9)

Article: Tin Mar Win & Aye Thanda Thein; Photo: Myanma Alin

Mendon Bridge (Yenatha) in Kanma Township of Magway Division.