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Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Sri Lankan President

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb — On the occasion of the 62nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka which falls on 4th February 2010, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Sri Lankan counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb — On the occasion of the 62nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka which falls on 4th February 2010, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. — MNA

Chaungmange Dam benefiting local farmers in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township

Article & Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sethmu)

Looking forwards to the increase of various agricultural produce and the greening of regions, the government is striving for implementation of small- and medium-scale dam and reservoir projects in a short time. In so doing, a dam was built near Pannyaosan Village of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township by damming Chaungmange Creek. The irrigation facility was named Chaungmange Dam.

The purpose of building Chaungmange Dam was to irrigate about 8,000 acres of farmland in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township by generating 50 kilowatts for supply of electricity to surrounding villages of the dam.

We the news crew of Kyemon Daily, together with Staff Officer U Chan Nyein of Construction (5) of Irrigation Department made a trip to Chaungmange Dam. At the briefing hall, Staff Officer U Aye Kyu and Deputy Staff Officer U Maung Myint explained facts about the irrigation facility.

Chaungmange Creek was dammed with the earth embankment to store 91,770 acre-feet of water at its highest level. The dam supplies water to 8000 acres of farmlands in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township through 10 miles long main canal.

Photo shows water control tower and storage of water at Chaungmange Dam.
The longest bridge on Ayeyawady

Transport facilitation is a must for regional as well as national all-round development. Hence, the government has been building many new railroads and motor roads and bridges spanning natural watercourses large and small in the entire country. It is also building bridges on the Ayeyawady River to help boost trade between the west bank and the east bank.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein on 1 February 2010 inspected Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) project encouraging workers to complete the project on schedule and making arrangements for timely arrival of construction materials.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) will link Letpanchepaw village in NyaungU Township on the east bank and Pakokku on the west bank. As the main structure will be over two miles long it will become the longest bridge in Myanmar. It will be a reinforced concrete facility installed with steel frames supporting a railroad flanked by a one-way motor road on either side.

The bridge will be on Pakokku-Myingaing-Mytilanche-Phyu-Tambe-Kyauktada-Taungtha-NyaungU railway which is in planning stage. The facility will help accelerate commodity flow in the region thereby enhancing the marketability of local products.

Construction began with greater acceleration, and machinery and construction materials have already arrived at the project site. Bored piling is now under way. The project staff on their part are striving to complete the facility on schedule and in accord with the set standard.

Minister visits cotton purchasing depots

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton purchase depot, Win Thuzar Shop, the four cotton milling machines, and storage of cotton at Cotton Mill (Taungtha) under the Myanmar Textile Industries in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Division, on 1 February.

On his inspection tour of Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton purchasing depot at Cotton Mill (Mahlaing), the minister called for minimizing the wastage and preventive measures against fire. He also visited Payawbwe Myoma cotton purchasing depot and Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton purchasing depot at Yamethin Cotton Mill. — MNA

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspects products of Yamethin Cotton Mill. — MNA

IEM Co opens show room

Manager Vikrant Malhotra of Su-Kam Power Systems Ltd explains opening of IEM Co Ltd Show Room. — MNA

Photo Contest to commemorate Ngwehsaung Beach 10th Anniversary

YANGON, 3 Feb—The sub-committee for organizing Ngwehsaung Beach photo contest of Myanmar Hoteliers’ Association (Ngwehsaung Zone) will hold Ngwehsaung Beach 10th Anniversary Photo Contest with the sponsorship of Myanmar Photographic Society.

Each contestant may submit four photos, not smaller than the size of (10 x 14) and not larger than that of (12 x 18). The contest is open and the participants may claim responsibility on their works. Original negatives and files of the award winning photos may be submitted within seven days after declaring the winners. The first prize is K300,000, the second K200,000, the third K100,000 and the consolation prize is K50,000. The photos may be posted to the Myanmar Photographic Society at No. 27-29 on 35th Street in Kayuikata Township, Yangon, not later than 1 March. One may contact MPS for further details. — MNA
US and allies kill, injure Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb— There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 3 February reached 700205 and the total number of seriously injured people reached 1264402 according to the news on the Internet.

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Casualties of Afghan people in invasion of NATO troops led by US

KABUL, 3 Feb— The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

A number of Afghan people are killed and injured due to invasion of the NATO troops led by the US.

According to the Internet news, a total of 32556 Afghan people were killed and 38336 injured seriously as from the day when the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 3 February.

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<td>Seriously injured Afghan people</td>
<td>38336</td>
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Situation in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb— Following are security developments in Iraq at 1530 GMT on Tuesday.

Mosul— Iraq security forces backed by US troops killed one suspected insurgent and arrested two others in a raid southeast of Mosul, 390 kilometres (240 miles) north of Baghdad, the US military said. Gunmen shot dead one person inside his house in western Mosul, police said. Gunmen hurled a hand grenade at a police patrol, wounding three people including a policeman, in central Mosul, police said. Gunmen killed a drive inside his car in eastern Mosul, police said.

Baghdad—A roadside bomb wounded three Shi’ite pilgrims in the Zafaraniya District of southeastern Baghdad, and Interior Ministry source said.

Taji— A bomb attached to a car wounded a policeman in the town of Taji, 20 kilometres (12 miles) north of Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said.

Garma— A roadside bomb injured five policemen in the town of Garma, 30 kilometres (20 miles) northwest of Baghdad, police said.—MNA/Reuters

Two US service members killed by bomb in Afghanistan

KABUL, 3 Feb—NATO forces say that two US service members were killed in a bomb strike in southern Afghanistan.

The international military coalition said the attack happened on Tuesday but did not provide further information. The military typically holds back details on attacks until families have been informed.

Volatite southern Afghanistan has seen increasing violence over the past 12 months with an increase in NATO forces, particularly deaths and injuries from planted bombs targeting vehicles of international forces or soldiers on foot patrols.

President Barack Obama has ordered an additional 30,000 US troops to Afghanistan to turn back the resurgent Taleban. In all, three US service members have died this month.

Thirty American troops died in January, compared with 14 in the same month of 2009.—Internet
Medvedev calls for improved investment climate in Russia

MOSCOW, 3 Feb—Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on Tuesday called on the government to work out measures to improve the country’s investment climate, Russian news agencies reported.

Medvedev said the global economic recovery will create favourable conditions for a rise in foreign investment.

“Our economy will be able to receive it in the necessary amounts if investment conditions in our country are better than those of our competitors,” Medvedev was quoted as saying by RIA Novosti.

In particular, the President proposed to scrap quotas on skilled foreign specialists, offer tax refunds to construction and exports, and ease Customs clearance for engineering and hi-tech companies. Russia, whose economy is heavily dependent on energy resources, was hard hit by the global economic downturn as oil prices collapsed late 2008.

Latest data from the Federal State Statistics Service showed Russia’s gross domestic product contracted 7.9 percent last year.

UN chief urges for joined hands in nuclear disarmament efforts

UNITED NATIONS, 3 Feb—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday praised the role of international political, military, business and faith leaders in pushing for the phased elimination of all nuclear weapons with a global campaign to build public and political support.

“Our economy will be a crucial part of this bigger picture,” he said in a video message to the Global Zero World Summit in Paris. “You are helping to create real public pressure for change.” Some 200 dignitaries are expected to attend the three-day meeting, including former US Secretary of State George Shultz, Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt, Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim, and Queen Noor of Jordan.

Argentine protests British plan for oil drilling in Malvinas Islands

BUENOS AIRES, 3 Feb—The Argentine Foreign Ministry lodged a protest with Britain on Tuesday over the European country’s drilling plan in the north of the disputed Malvinas (Falkland) Islands.

Argentina “strongly rejects the UK’s attempts to authorize exploration and exploitation operations of hydrocarbons in the Argentine continental platform area,” said the protest issued by the Foreign Ministry.

It also said “Argentina reaffirms its right of sovereignty on the Malvinas Islands, Georgias of the South, and Sandwich of the South, and the maritime spaces around them, which are integral part of its national territory.” According to the protest, the British “new unilateral move” is just like the actions of Britain in 2007, which caused Argentina to end a joint declaration with Britain over cooperation activities outside the South Atlantic coast. The Argentine Foreign Ministry, however, called on Britain to “restore negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a solution to their dispute.”

Indian Navy to induct MiG-29K on 19 Feb

NEW DELHI, 3 Feb—The Indian Navy is to induct Russian-made MiG-29K combat jets into its marine fleet for aircraft carrier Admiral Gorshkov on 19 Feb in the western state of Goa, where the ship is currently docked, Defence Ministry sources said.

“On 19 Feb, a squadron of four fighter jets will be deployed on Admiral Gorshkov. The squadron has been codenamed Black Panthers. The Navy acquired the fighter jets in December last year.”

The induction ceremony will take place at Goa’s INS Hansa naval base. A Russian team is in the base to help with the induction,” the sources said.

Somali violence uproots 80,000 civilians in January alone

UNITED NATIONS, 3 Feb—The United Nations refugee agency on Tuesday reported that a sharp rise in violence in Somalia in January left nearly 260 civilians dead, in addition to uprooting over 80,000 and causing widespread destruction.

According to local sources, intense clashes between government forces and militia groups fighting in the strife-torn central regions have also left 253 civilians wounded. All of this “makes January the deadliest month since last August,” Andre Amorim, and Queen Noor of Jordan.

Medvedev, Mustard, and Queen Noor of Jordan

Indonesia, S Korea agree on citizen protection

JAKARTA, 3 Feb—Indonesia and South Korea have signed an agreement on citizens protection that will allow both Indonesians living in Korea and South Koreans living in Indonesia to file complaints regarding local public service to their host country’s ombudsman office, local media reported here on Tuesday.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in Jakarta on Monday by chairman of Indonesia’s Ombudsman, Antonius Sujata, and his South Korean counterpart, Lee Jae-oh, of the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC), The Jakarta Post said.

China, India stoke energy bond

BEIJING, 3 Feb—To ensure their rapid economic development and rise in international status, both China and India have paid great attention to energy security in recent years.

As two major developing countries in the world, China and India are working to cooperate in the energy sector in line with common benefits. This relationship helps to avoid bitter competition between the two, reduce unnecessary use of diplomatic and economic resources and dilute impacts from the global financial recession.

Ultimately, this bond could ensure their economic recovery and growth in the post-crisis era. Heading into this year, the global recession—triggered by the United States financial meltdown—seems to be nearing its end. In the new year, new emerging economies such as China and India will lead the recovery, becoming the engine of global growth. The energy cooperation between China and India is going to attract more eyes again. India, however, has very poor energy resources.—Xinhua

US submarine to join search of crashed Ethiopian airliner

BEIJUT, 3 Feb—A US submarine will join the search work of an Ethiopian airliner which crashed into the Mediterranean Sea off Lebanon’s coast a week ago, according to the newspaper. The passenger plane crashed into the sea shortly after takeoff from Beirut in a fierce storm on 25 Jan, killing 90 people on board.

The report quoted Lebanese Transportation and Public Works Minister Ghazi Aridi as saying that the submarine has set off and should be in Lebanese waters in the next few days.—Xinhua

Russia launches cargo spaceship to “ISS”

MOSCOW, 3 Feb—Russia launched a cargo spaceship from the Baikonur space centre in Kazakhstan early on Wednesday, the Mission Control Centre outside Moscow said. The Progress M-04M freighter atop a Soyuz-U carrier rocket blasted off at 06:45 am Moscow Time (0345 GMT), said spokesman for the Mission Control Valery Lyndin.

The freighter will separate with the rocket some nine minutes after blastoff and begin a two-day flight in automatic mode, said the spokesman. It is expected to dock with the International Space Station (ISS) on Friday. The Progress M-04M freighter is to deliver some 2.5 tons of food, water, fuel and scientific equipment to ISS astronauts.—Xinhua

UN food programme reaches 850,000 quake-hit Haitians

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 3 Feb—The food distribution programme organized in quake-hit Haiti by United Nations agency the World Food Programme (WFP) has reached 850,000 people, WFP spokesman Marcus Prior told Xinhua on Tuesday.

“We distributed to 112,000 on the first day and 212 by the end of Monday,” Prior said over telephone. “We had 14 sites opened on Tuesday, up from 12 yesterday,” he said.

The WFP is distributing 25 kilogramme bags of rice to female heads of households across Port-au-Prince, via a 15-day programme that began on Sunday. The programme aims to reach 2 million people during two weeks.

Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics ceremony podium unveiled

VANCOUVER, 3 Feb—The natural wood and acrylic glass podium designed for the Vancouver 2010 medal presentations was unveiled on Tuesday in downtown Vancouver, along with the dramatic “haute-couture-meets-sport” costumes medal presenters and athlete escorts will wear.

The individual and team podiums, 23 in all, have a fluid and organic design, echoing the undulating peaks and ridges of the Coast Mountain Range.

Each one is assembled from more than 200 pieces of precision-cut wood hewed from the forests of British Columbia, renowned internationally for their towering red cedars and Douglas firs.

“When the best winter athletes in the world step onto these magnificent podiums in mere days, they will also be standing on the shoulders of countless people who’ve helped them achieve their dreams,” explained John Furlong, CEO of the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC).—Xinhua

A poster of movie actress Gong Li is seen on a street in Berlin, capital of Germany, on 2 Feb, 2010. The 60th Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) will kick off in Berlin on 11 Feb. —Xinhua

Tigers devour their meal—a yak — in a wild animal park in Changzhou city, East China’s Jiangsu Province, on 28 Jan, 2009. A frightened yak ran out of its breeding area and entered that of the fierce animals by accident. It jumped into a pool for cover, but still couldn’t escape the fate though zoo staff arrived immediately for its rescue. —Xinhua

Rescuers wait in speed boat off Moluccas Islands on Tuesday. —Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

4-2-2010 NL.pmd 2/3/2010, 3:26 PM
Vietnam, Czech vows to reach new height of cooperation

HANOI, 3 Feb—Tran Quang Dung, an official of Vietnam’s southern Ho Chi Minh City municipal government said on Tuesday that Vietnam and Czech will renew cooperation commitments and figure out new targets for the friendship relations between the two countries, the Vietnam News Agency reported.

Dung made the statement at a reception to mark the 60th anniversary of the establishment of Vietnam-Czech diplomatic relations held at the Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam Embassy.

Dung expressed thanks to the kindly support of Czech in fields of education, healthcare and providing official development assistance.

Dung spoke highly of Czech’s decision to name Vietnam in the list of 12 prioritized foreign countries having economic, diplomatic relations with Czech in 2010. It will help the bilateral cooperation come out with more fruitful and practical results.

Dung expected that the two countries will reach high consensus on the establishment of official development strategic partnership between Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam and Brno, capital city of Czech.—Xinhua

Crew in hijacked UAE ship seek global intervention

NAIROBI, 3 Feb—Crew members in a hijacked Panama-flagged cargo ship being held off Somaliland’s port of Berbera port are appealing for international intervention to have them released, a maritime official said on Tuesday.

Andrew Mwangura, East Africa’s Coordinator of Seafarers Assistance Progras-mmes (SAP) said the 14 seafarers in the UAE-owned Ro-Ro MV Leila have run out of food and one crew member had to be taken already to Hargeisa for medical treatment.

“The crew had run out of food and one crew member had to be taken already to Hargeisa for medical treatment. “The crew member recognized the men from sẽmominimal by police, they called police for help with a flat tire,” he said. “We have created web pages on popular Internet portals to post images public to choose a ‘boyfriend’ for Mei Lan according to their physical appearance, character, living habits and experts’ suggestions on the match,” he said.

Meanwhile, the base is asking the public to choose a “boyfriend” for Mei Lan as she had reached mating age, he said. “We have created web pages on popular Internet portals to post images public to choose a “boyfriend” for Mei Lan according to their physical appearance, character, living habits and experts’ suggestions on the match,” he said.

“Suggestion is helpful, but the court case is pending. The crew was already to Hargeisa for medical treatment. The period of food and one crew member had to be taken already to Hargeisa for medical treatment. The allowed for international in-ervention and robbery made the calls to extort money from the banks.

The man has been remanded and the case is being investigated, he added.

Several banks in Penang were tensioned after receiving bomb-threat calls in January.—Xinhua

8.1m pounds for Picasso work not seen since 1967

A Picasso masterpiece not seen in public for more than four decades has sold at auction for 8.1 million pounds — more than twice the expected price.

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Two white whales blow heart-shaped bubbles in the water at the Harbin Polarland in Harbin, capital of northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province.

NEWS ALBUM
Australian scientists claim breakthrough in infant death syndrome

SYDNEY, 3 Feb—An Australian-led study of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) on Wednesday announced a major breakthrough by confirming a lack of serotonin was the common factor with babies who die from the condition.

Researchers at the University Medical Centre in Groningen, the Netherlands, asked parents to choose their child’s body shape from seven different sketches.

Among the parents with normal weight children, 97 percent chose a “lighter” sketch than the data provided indicated.

The same was true of 95 percent of the parents of overweight children and 62 percent of the parents of obese children.

Parents of normal weight children tended to think their child was one sketch slimmer than the child’s measurements indicated and parents of obese children often chose sketches that were three slimmer.

Half of the mothers of the obese children in the study said their obese child was normal weight as did 39 percent of the fathers.

“Our findings point to the need for health education programmes that encourage parents to recognize what is a normal healthy weight for their children and work with health professionals to tackle any weight problems,” study researcher Pieter Sauer said in a statement.

“The findings came when the researchers asked parents to choose a child’s body shape from sketches that were different in proportions of body fat,” Sauer said.

The study, published in Acta Paediatrica, involved 800 parents of 439 children.

Five percent of the children were overweight, 4 percent were obese and the rest were normal weight.

Parents see their children skinnier

GRONINGEN, 3 Feb—Dutch researchers say parents often see their children as leaner than their child’s actual measurements indicate.

Researchers at the University Medical Centre in Groningen, the Netherlands, asked parents to choose their child’s body shape from seven different sketches.

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Genetic link to navigational skill found

BALTIMORE, 3 Feb—US researchers say genes played a role in the navigational skill of “reorientation.”

Study leader Barbara Landau of The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore says reorientation is a skill shared by human toddlers, rats, birds and fish, and involves the ability to mentally visualize surroundings and figure out location.

Landau and colleagues tested people with a rare genetic disorder — Williams syndrome — and found they cannot use this basic navigational skill. Named for its discoverer — Dr JCP Williams of New Zealand — the syndrome occurs when a small amount of genetic material is missing from one human chromosome.

People who have the syndrome show extreme sociability and verbal adroitness but have difficulties assembling simple puzzles and copying basic patterns.

“Although we are quite far from understanding the links between the specific genes that are missing in Williams syndrome and the behaviour they show, such as failure to reorient, it is clear that the missing genes ultimately have some effect on the brain,” Landau said in a statement.

New Zealand, US researchers to jointly explore underwater volcanoes

Wellington, 3 Feb—New Zealand Crown Research Institutes are to research a South Pacific chain of underwater volcanoes in partnership with a United States organization.

The New Zealand Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS Science) and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) will use equipment provided by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, to explore a chain of volcanoes stretching more than 1000 km northeast from White Island, located in the Bay of Plenty, New Zealand.

The research found that stem cells can rescue nerve cells by direct contact

STOCKHOLM, 3 Feb—the Swedish medical university Karolinska Institutet (KI) announced on Tuesday that their scientists had shown how transplanted stem cells can connect with and rescue threatened neurons and brain tissue.

“The new report, co-authored by several international research groups and led by KI, shows that stem cells transplanted into damaged or threatened nerve tissue quickly establish direct channels, called gap junctions, to the nerve cells,” said KI in a statement.

The research found that stem cells can actively bring diseased neurons back from the brink via cross-talk through gap junctions, the connections between cells that allow molecular signals to pass back and forth, said the statement.

It pointed out that the study also found that the nerve cells were prevented from dying only when these gap junctions were formed.

The results were obtained from mice and human stem cells in cultivated brain tissue, and from a series of rodent models for human neurodegenerative diseases and acute brain injuries, the statement said, adding that the results point the way to new possible treatments for brain damage and neurodegenerative diseases.
I am one of the ordinary people. I am complacent about my lifestyle: leading a peaceful life with my private business. I read, listen to the radio, and watch TV regularly on account of my habit of learning internal and international affairs. So, I somewhat keep in touch with what is going on at home, and in the world.

I have noticed that these days, BBC, VOA, RFA and DVB are stepping up their broadcasts designed to break up the Tatmadaw. Besides, they have begun to drive a wedge among the members of the Myanmar Police Force. The nearer the 2010 election is drawing, the more the internal axe-handles in complicity with certain foreign radio stations air a wide variety of fabricated stories with the intention of disrupting the 2010 election, peace, stability and national development. I believe that has posed a grave danger to the nation and the people. Therefore, I feel I have come under a responsibility to write an article in order that such groundless news stories will come to the light of the people.

In the meantime, they are found desperate to unsettle the talks to transform the peace groups into border guard forces for lasting peace, by airing complete fabrications. In like manner, they are airing news stories on political prisoners, human rights, freedom of press, and affairs of anti-government political parties very regularly and repeatedly. The theme of their broadcasts remains unchanged: the government is bad; the nation and the people are living below the poverty line; and the government is oppressing a certain political party.

Here, I notice that there is no element of truth in their broadcasts about the government. Apparently, why they are doing so is nothing more than deceiving the people into misunderstanding the government, discouraging the people, and creating public panic. With great relish, they are entertaining and adding exaggerations to the stories they have provided by internal axe-handles in spite of their knowledge that the stories are baseless. In my opinion, they are pursuing a long-term plot to neo-colonize our country.

To be honest, those story-teller radio stations are not happy with the people leading a peaceful life with a prosperous future. They are anxious to make the people stay in a state of panic under doubts; create public outrage, stemming from crises; to weaken and eliminate the Tatmadaw which, in collaboration with the people, guards the motherland against dangers; to see the people taking to the streets under the leadership of some people who rely on external elements, and even the nation facing an 88 unrest-like incident. So, the people are to notice the fact that behind their broadcasts are clever schemes to achieve their goals and serve their own interests.

Now, internal axe-handles and certain foreign radio stations are trying to hinder the 2010 election. It has become clear that they are speeding up their efforts to disrupt the important turning point of the nation and the people. Only if they can disrupt the election will it be possible for them to keep their hopes alive.
Chaungmange Dam benefiting local farmers in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township

Article & Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sethmu)

Chaungmange Dam contributes to the local people in producing grain of triple cropping on the increasing farmlands in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township, to the better transportation and to the uplift of living standard of the local farmers by enabling them to earn more income. As such, all the local people are to help maintain Chaungmange Dam and other irrigation facilities for their durability.

Translation: TTA

Kyemon: 2-2-2010

A small-scale hydropower plant at embankment of Chaungmange Dam to supply power to nearby villages.

(from page 1)

The implementation of the dam project commenced in October 2004 and it was put into service on 12 July 2006. Officials explained salient points of the dam, and they said that the dam has a catchment area of 103 square miles and 75,000 acre feet of inflow water on average annually.

The dam has two sections of 96 feet high earthen embankments—2150 feet long main embankment and 450 feet long saddle dike. The dam can store 15,300 acre feet of still water and 3148 acres of water surface area. The irrigation facility completed in November 2006 has 10 miles long main canal with 126 canal structures. The main canal can supply water to the farmlands through farming drains.

Staff Officer U Chan Nyein explained that a plan was adopted to irrigate 1452 acres of farmlands against the target of 3000 acres of summer paddy. After harvesting monsoon paddy, local people will grow mung bean, he added. They cultivate summer paddy in March after harvesting mung bean.

With a view to achieving success in production of summer paddy, irrigation water will be supplied to farmlands in March, he said.

In the past, Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township grew mung bean after monsoon paddy. At that time, the local farmers were unable to put their farmlands under summer paddy. At present, they are enjoying fruits of triple cropping such as monsoon paddy, mung bean and summer paddy thanks to Chaungmange Dam.

Hsinohn Lake, a regulating irrigation facility for Chaungmange Dam, is located near DY-3 and DY-4. Therefore, a plan is under way to store water from Chaungmange Creek for agricultural purpose. Moreover, water supply canals will be dug in 2010-2011 to irrigate 5000 acres of farmlands.

In Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township, the irrigated area of Yananagumyin Dam is next to that of Chaungmange Dam. The irrigated area of Madun Dam in the township will extend to the south of Yonbin Creek. Likewise, the irrigated area of Chaungmange Dam can be extended to the north of Yonbin Creek.

Furthermore, we saw a 50-kilowatt hydropower plant on the canal to supply electricity to the surrounding villages.

Translation: TTA

Kyemon: 2-2-2010

A canal of Chaungmange Dam.

Story-telling foreign radio stations (1)

The Dabwint

(from page 8)

While the unrest was gathering momentum, Christopher Gunness conducted a made-up interview to fuel the riots of mobs. The broadcasts about the interview are featured in detail in the book “Skyful of lies of, BBC, VOA, AIR Broadcasts, and rubettals Against Them”. The truth is that on 28 July 1988, BBC correspondent Christopher Gunness conspired an interview in collusion with Nay Min, Htay Aung, Htay Kywe, and Ko Ko Latt who claimed themselves as 88 generation students. They deceived and took student Ma Aye Nyein Thu of Kamayut Township, who at that time was serving as a voluntary Red Cross member at Yangon General Hospital, to Sangyoung and introduced her to Christopher Gunness. Then, they pressured her to play a role in the question and answer programme as they had already planned.

So, she had to comply with their wish, saying in the interview that she was a student, and was put behind bars in Insein Jail; and that there other female students and her generation students. They deceived and took student Ma Aye Nyein Thu of Kamayut Township, who at that time was serving as a voluntary Red Cross member at Yangon General Hospital, to Sangyoung and introduced her to Christopher Gunness. Then, they pressured her to play a role in the question and answer programme as they had already planned.

The well-planned interview was aired on the evening of 6 August 1988 by BBC. The interview was so effective that the mobs out of control, thus culminating in the 8-8-88 unrest, which absolutely tarnished the image of the nation. It is, therefore, fair to say that the 1988 mass protest was completely due to the fabrications manufactured by internal axe-handles and certain foreign radio stations to disgrace Myanmar, and bring about untold miseries to the nation and the people.

Translation: MS
### Workshop on Review of Forest Management Project held

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung addresses the opening of Workshop on Review of Forest Management Project.—MNA

In the afternoon session, Retired Director-General U Tin Hla presided over the meeting and assistant directors of Toungoo, Katha and Thayawady District Forest Departments presented the papers on forest management project. It was also attended by directors-general, rectors, deputy directors-general, pro-rectors of the ministry, officials of FREDA, ECCDI, BANCA and WCS, chairmen and members of Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Association and guest. The workshop will continue tomorrow.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Feb.—The opening of Workshop on Review of Forest Management Project organized by Forest Department of the Ministry of Forestry took place at Ingyin Hall of the Office of the Director-General of the department here this morning with an address by Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung.

Acting Director-General U Aye Myint Maung presided over the workshop. Retired Director-General U Shwe Kyaw, Director U Sein Tun, Director Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw and Deputy General Manager U Myo Myint read out the papers and held discussions with the participants.

### Those from US and British embassies visited NLD (HQ) 34 times in January

YANGON, 3 Feb.—The National League for Democracy (Central) has kept in touch with the US and Britain Embassies and is following their instructions. The people are criticizing such act of the NLD and keeping a watchful eye on it.

Those from US and British embassies visited the NLD (Headquarters) on West Shwegondine Street here 34 times in January 2010. During their visits, they met with CEC members of the party and gave small and large envelopes and parcels to the latter.—MNA

### Nippon Noodle Factory opened

YANGON, 3 Feb.—The opening of Nippon Noodle Factory was held at the factory in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone, Shwepyitha Township on 26 January.

Managing Director U/Thin Htwe of Ngu Shwewah Co. Ltd and Director U Soe Win Tun opened the factory.

The managing director extended greetings and gave accounts of the factory.

Next, the managing director and party conducted those present round the factory.

The production capacity of the factory is 50,000 boxes of noodle per day.—MNA

### Toddy palm, a gift to arid regions in Myanmar

(from page 16)

Pacific regions. Toddy palm is of two groups: female palm and male palm, from both of which juice can be extracted. A toddy palm is 60 to 100 feet high.

In Myanmar, toddy palm thrive in Ayeyawady, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi divisions, and Mon State apart from Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing divisions in central Myanmar. In particular, it grows thickly in arid regions.

All five parts of toddy palms are beneficial to Myanmar people. It is a reliable perennial palm for tropical scale in hilly regions in far-flung areas.

A toddy palm yields juice when it is at the age of 15 years in wet areas, and at the age of 18 years on the sandy and gravel soil. Its lifespan is more than 100 years.

In arid regions, a grove of toddy palms has 100 female and male palms. On average, 15 to 20 viss of jaggery can be produced from the juice of toddy palm a year. About 13 tons of firewood is used to boil the juice from 100 toddy palms to make 2000 viss of jaggery. A viss of jaggery is sold for about 400 kyats in jaggery-producing regions.

Toddy palm leaf is used in roofing buildings; toddy palm seed, in making snacks such as faluda; inner part of its fruit, in making traditional Myanmar snacks; its root can be consumed after being boiled or baked; and young toddy palm leaf, in making mats, baskets, and hats. Toddy palm stem is very hard and it becomes harder if it is soaked in water, so it is used to build boats, and it can be used as a pillar of large buildings. Toddy palm is resistant to harsh climate patterns and soils.

Indeed, arid regions are blessed with toddy palms. So, further research on toddy palm should be done in the interest of country people.

Translation: MS Kyemon: 29-1-2010

### KSS special menu 2010 introduced

YANGON, 3 Feb.—KSS Group of Companies held Special Menu 2010 introduction ceremony along with lucky draw programme at Traders Hotel here on 30 January evening.

Managing Director U Tun Myint of KSS Trading & Manufacturing Co Ltd extended greetings and explained about new special food menus for 2010.

The managing director, Director Daw Aye Aye Nyunt and guests picked out six lots to nominate the luckiest persons to enjoy Chaungtha vacation.

KSS Trading & Manufacturing Co Ltd, manufacturing and distributing nutritious and fresh foods, have won International Quality Crown Award 2005 (London), 25th Golden Europe Award for Quality New Millennium Award 2010 (Paris) and QC 100 Certified Company awards.

Managing Director U Tun Myint and Director Daw Aye Aye Nyunt choosing lucky draw winners by chance.—MNA

Byline & Photo: Win Hlaing Oo (MPCE)
Japan gets 14 complaints over Toyota Prius brakes

Tokyo, 3 Feb—The Japanese government said on Wednesday it has received 14 complaints in Japan about brake problems with Toyota's popular Prius hybrid, the latest in a spate of quality troubles for the automaker as it grapples with massive recalls in the US.

The Japanese company's sales are being battered in the US after recalls of top-selling models to fix a gas pedal that can stick in the depressed position. The new Prius gas-electric hybrid, which went on sale last year, is not part of the recalls, which extend to Europe and China and cover nearly 4.5 million vehicles.

The 14 complaints included an accident in July 2009, in which a Prius crashed head on into another car at an intersection. Transport Ministry official Masaya Ota said two people were slightly injured in the accident.

“The complaints involve the new Toyota Prius model, and the vehicles were all made in Japan,” Ota said. “Prius drivers complained brakes were not so sharp.”

The US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has received about 100 complaints involving the brakes of the Prius new model. Two involved crashes resulting in injuries. The ministry ordered Toyota Motor Corp, the world’s No 1 automaker, to investigate the complaints. The other 13 cases happened from December to January 2010.

Ota said the ministry has yet to receive a formal report on the complaints from Toyota.

German retail sales keep declining during slow economic recovery

Berlin, 3 Feb—German retail sales fell 1.8 percent in 2009 and are expected to fall 0.5 percent in 2010, even the whole economy is on a way of recovering, according to the data released on Tuesday.

German retail sales decreased by 1.8 percent in 2009 compared with 2008, according to provisional statistical results, German Federal Statistical Office (Destatis) said. Retail sales for 2010 in Germany is expected to fall 0.5 percent compared with 2009, said Stefan Genth, Chief executive of German retail industry group HDE at a Press conference in Berlin.

The turnover of retail sales in 2009 amounted to 392.1 billion euros, 6.5 billion euros less than in 2008, said Genth.

“The result is a little bit better than we could expect in light of the crisis,” Genth said. —Xinhua

Consumer prices in OECD zone up 1.9% in December 2009

Paris, 3 Feb—The Paris-based Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) announced on Tuesday that consumer prices in the OECD zone had risen by 1.9 percent by December 2009.

On a month-on-month basis, prices remained stable in December, compared with a rise of 0.1 percent in November 2009, the organization said in a report.

By December 2009, consumer prices for energy had gone up by 8.5 percent, following a rise of 2.4 percent in November, while the prices of food had fallen by 1.0 percent, less than the figure of 1.1 percent in November. Excluding food and energy, consumer prices rose by 1.6 percent in the period, compared to a rise of 1.5 percent in November 2009, the report said.

In the United States, the consumer price index had increased by 2.7 percent by December 2009. Consumer prices in Japan had decreased by 1.7 percent by December while in the OECD area the figure rose by 0.5 percent on average between 2008 and 2009 after a growth of 3.7 percent between 2007 and 2008. The OECD said consumer energy prices declined by 10.5 percent between 2008 and 2009, after an increase of 12.3 percent between 2007 and 2008. —Xinhua

Airbus sees recovery in air traffic in 2010

Singapore, 3 Feb—Europe’s aerospace giant Airbus said on Wednesday it sees a recovery in global traffic volume in 2010, saying the global economy has already recovered from a recession.

“Everybody was talking about recession... but we actually think we are coming out the other side,” Airbus sales chief John Leahy told reporters at the Singapore Airshow.

A drop in global passenger demand led Airbus, a unit of Aerospace and Defence giant EADS (EAD.PA), and rival Boeing (BA.N) face their worst annual orders last year in at least 15 years. —Internet

Airbus CEO Tom Enders speaks to media during a Press conference at the Singapore Airshow on 3 Feb, 2010 in Singapore. —Internet

News Corp reports 2Q profit on ad recovery

Los Angeles, 3 Feb—News Corp, whose 20th Century Fox movie studio is still riding the tail wind of “Avatar” in movie theatres, said on Tuesday it is earned $254 million in the most recent quarter, thanks to an advertising recovery.

“Avatar” was released late in the just-ended fiscal second quarter, so the company booked much of the costs of releasing it, but little of the profit. News Corp said half of the film's profits — which analysts expect could hit around $400 million — will boost results in the current and following quarter.

The movie’s $2 billion plus box office gross is the biggest in history, and it has maintained the No 1 spot at the box office for seven straight weeks.

That, plus a recovery in the local TV advertising market, prompted News Corp to increase its operating profit outlook for the fiscal year ending in June. Its shares were down 23 cents, or 1.8 percent, at $12.53 in after-hours trade.

News Corp shared expenses and thus profits on “Avatar” and the company expects to share about half of the risk with investors again on a sequel to the 3-D film that is being discussed but has not been agreed upon yet. —Internet

A Toyota Motor Corp worker gives the final examenation on an newly assembled Prius at Toyota Tsutsumi Plant in Toyota, central Japan. Internet

Internet
Pilot mistake caused deadly US plane crash

WASHINGTON, 3 Feb—A pilot who pulled instead of pushing a control column and an inattentive crew led to a US commuter flight to crash last year, killing 49 people on board and one on the ground, a probe showed.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said in its report on Tuesday that the pilot’s “inappropriate response” to a warning mechanism on a Continental commuter flight from Newark, New Jersey to Buffalo International Airport in New York state on 12 February caused the plane to plummet to the ground.

“However, the captain inappropriately pulled aft on the control column and placed the airplane into an accelerated aerodynamic stall from which the airplane did not recover.”—Internet

HK holds int’l aeronautical meteorology meeting

HONG KONG, 3 Feb—More than 100 world experts in aviation meteorology are taking part in the 14th session of the Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology (CAeM) of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) which began in Hong Kong on Wednesday.

The session, which continues until 10 Feb, marks the first time a major international meeting on aeronautical meteorology has been held in Asia.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Secretary-General of WMO Michel Jarraud highlighted issues that had significant impact on providing aviation weather services in the 21st century.

These included the development of the New Terminal Forecast for the wider terminal area of busy airports, the implementation of a quality management system for aviation weather services and addressing the link between aviation and climate.

Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of Hong Kong Rita Lau commended the Hong Kong Observatory for its dedication to the provision of quality aviation weather services which upheld Hong Kong’s position as a leading aviation hub in the region.

CAeM is a technical commission of WMO looking after the application of meteorology to aviation with the objective of providing meteorological support to meet the requirements of aviation for safe, economic and efficient air navigation.

The commission is held every four years to discuss the progress and future development in the provision of aviation weather services.—Xinhua
A southern Sudanese girl collects sorghum grain spilled from split bags that were earlier airdropped from the United Nations World Food Programme in the state of Jonglei, in 2009. The number of hungry people in southern Sudan has quadrupled since last August to some 4.3 million because of conflict and drought, the UN emergency food agency said on Tuesday.  

African leaders wrap up summit  

Addis Ababa, 3 Feb — African leaders wrapped up a three-day summit on Tuesday, calling for action on coups against all authors of unconstitutional change, including those that rejected the guidance provided by Security Council Resolution 1871 (2009) and 1873 (2009) and those that unilaterally unseated duly elected heads of state.  

Participants stand up for the African Union anthem during the closing ceremony of the 14th summit of AU in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, on 2 Feb, 2010. The 14th summit of AU concluded here on Tuesday with African leaders pledging that they would take concrete measures to development Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the continent. —Xinhua  

Half population of southern Sudan short of food  

Juba, 3 Feb — Almost half the population of southern Sudan is facing food shortages because of conflict and drought, a four-fold rise in the numbers needing aid since last year, officials said on Tuesday.  

Internal conflict and incursions from the (Ugandan rebel) Lord’s Resistance Army together with drought have made almost half the population of the south short of food, southern Sudan Agriculture, Forestry and Livestock Minister Samson Kajeiro said in a statement.  

A total of 4.3 million people need food aid in the oil-producing south, up from around 1 million last year, the UN said.  

A surge in tribal fighting has killed more than 2,500 people since the beginning of 2009, aid groups say, and seasonal rains were weak across much of the underdeveloped region.  

A census released last year showed a total Sudanese population of 39.15 million, with 31.26 million living in the mainly Muslim north and 8.26 million in the south. The south contests the census saying it undercounts southerners.  

The UN’s World Food Programme (WFP) said violence had forced 350,000 to flee their homes in 2009, leaving them dependent on food aid.  

Last year’s poor seasonal rains also destroyed harvests, and the area was bracing for this year’s rains which could disrupt transport, it added.  

“Some spikes in the number of hungry people in southern Sudan comes just ahead of the rainy season when roads become blocked and communities are cut off from food assistance,” Leo van der Velden, coordinator for the UN’s World Food Programme (WFP) in the south, said in a statement.  

UN chief pleased to see next formal talks on Western Sahara to be held next week  

United Nations, 3 Feb — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Tuesday that he is pleased that the parties have agreed to meet in the next set of informal talks on Western Sahara on 10-11 Feb and “he encourages the parties to make further progress and urges focused and productive discussions,” the statement said.  

Several rounds of UN-led talks, bringing together representatives from Morocco and the Frente Polisario, held in 2008 resulted in the parties agreeing to continue negotiations in good faith toward a solution to the issue. However, such talks failed to bridge their differences.  

Fighting broke out between Morocco and the Frente Polisario after Spain’s colonial administration of Western Sahara ended in 1976.  

Morocco has presented a plan for autonomy, while the Frente Polisario’s position is that the territory’s final status should be decided in a referendum on self-determination that includes independence as an option.
Bordeaux beat Sedan to set up repeat of 2002 final

PARIS, 3 Feb—French champions Bordeaux will play fellow First Division side Lorient in the League Cup semi-finals in what is a rematch of the 2002 final after beating Second Division strugglers Sedan 1-0 here on Tuesday.

A 50th minute goal by Yoann Gouffran - who was one of 11 changes to the starting line-up made by coach Laurent Blanc following the league leader’s 0-0 draw with Boulogne-sur-Mer last Saturday - was enough to see off the ‘Wild Boars’ who had ousted Bordeaux at the same stage on penalties in 2008.

There was to be no repeat of those heroics this time especially after the visitors were reduced to 10 men in the 61st minute when Sedan’s Australian defender Ante Rozic was sent-off for a second bookable offence, just two minutes after his first offence.

Top seed Monfils serves warning at S Africa Open

JOHANNESBURG, 3 Feb—Top seed Gael Monfils lost the toss and first two games before unleashing his service power to crush Dominik Hrbaty 6-2, 6-1 and reach the second round of the South African Open on Tuesday.

The 23-year Frenchman ranked 13 in the world was clearly stung by the early form of the veteran Slovak and lost just one of the remaining 13 games at the Montecasino entertain-10ment centre in a leafy, upmarket northern suburb.—INTERNET

County march on as Palace sink Wolves

LONDON, 3 Feb—League Two’s Notts County continued to fly the flag for English football’s fourth tier by dumping Notts County’s English defender Stephen Hunt (L) celebrates with Notts County English midfielder Ben Davies at the final whistle after Notts County had beaten Wigan Athletic 2-0 during the FA Cup Fourth round replay football match at The DW Stadium, Wigan.—INTERNET

Top seed Gael Monfils of France

Chelsea held 1-1 at Hull in English Premier League

LONDON, 3 Feb—Chelsea’s lead in the English Premier League was limited to just two points when they were held 1-1 at Hull City on Tuesday.

Defender Steven Mouyokolo gave Hull a surprise lead in the 30th minute and Didier Drogba scored in his 20th goal to equalize 12 minutes later.

The draw kept Chelsea on top of the 20-team standings with 55 points, two points clear of defending champions Manchester United. Arsenal were third with 49. Hull were still in the relegation zone but levelled on 21 points with the three teams immediately above it.

Also on Tuesday, Premier League strugglers Wolves and Wigan were knocked out of the FA Cup after losing fourth-round replays to lower-league sides.

Crystal Palace defender Danny Butterfield scored a hat-trick in seven second-half minutes to give the League Championship side a 3-1 win over Wolves, while Wigan were humiliated 2-0 by visiting Notts County of the fourth tier.—Xinhua

Raul resigned to life on the Real bench

MADRID, 3 Feb—Real Madrid captain Raul Gonzalez said Tuesday he has come to terms with his new role as a substitute.

“It’s not an ideal situation for any player. For 15 years I have won practically everything, and in the last three months I have played less. Sooner or later I had to come to this point,” he told a news conference.

The 32-year-old Real icon, who with 66 goals is still the Champions League’s top scorer, had been a regular in the first team since he made his debut with the club at 17.

But coach Manuel Pellegrini has left him on the bench in recent months in favour of France’s Karim Benzema and Argentina’s Gonzalo Higuain, and he has scored only five goals in 26 matches this season.—INTERNET

Luck works for ‘Black Cats’ with Benjani loan deal

SUNDERLAND, 3 Feb—Struggling Premier League side Sunderland added some much needed firepower to their out of form strikeforce on Tuesday with the loan signing of Zimbabwean international Benjani Mwaruwari from rivals Manchester City.

“The Black Cats” got the benefit of the doubt from the Premier League over signing the 31-year-old even though they failed to process the required paperwork before Monday’s 1700 GMT transfer deadline.

Sunderland boss Steve Bruce - whose side have been in freefall after a winless run of 11 games - had blamed technical problems for the delay.

Kone goes on loan to Hanover

HANOVER, 3 Feb—Sevilla’s Ivorian international striker Arouna Kone has joined struggling Bundesliga club Hanover on a six-month deal, the German club said Tuesday.

The 26-year-old arrives on a 1.2-million-euro loan deal as Hanover - who are third from bottom - look for a boost after five straight losses. He joins compatriots Didier Ya Konan and Constant Djakpa at the north German club.

Hanover have also signed Brazilian midfielder Elson on loan from Stuttgart until the end of the season.

Murray, Del Potro confirmed for Marseille

Marseille, 3 Feb—Number three Andy Murray and US Open champion Juan Martin del Potro will top the bill at the 512,750-euro ATP Marseille event on February 15-21, organisers announced on Tuesday. France’s Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, last year’s champion, will compete alongside countrymen Gael Monfils and Gilles Simon, the 2007 winner, and Swedish world number eight Robin Soderling.

“We first chose young French players and we have the top three of the moment,” said tournament director Jean-Francois Caujolle.

“Awards, we wanted the top five players in the world. Knowing that (world number one Roger) Federer is unavailable, we opted for Murray, who in my opinion is the best on this (indoor hard) surface, where he’s better than (Rafael) Nadal.

“Del Potro is also very strong on this surface and he preferred to play in Marseille than in the Argentine Championship (in Buenos Aires).”—INTERNET

Chelsea’s Ricardo Carvalho (R) challenges Hull City’s Anzaki during their English Premier League soccer match at Hull, northern England on 2 Feb, 2010.—INTERNET

Sevilla’s Ivorian international striker Arouna Kone, seen here in 2009, has joined struggling Bundesliga club Hanover on a six-month deal, the German club said Tuesday.

Top seed Monfils of France

Top seed Gael Monfils serves warning at S Africa Open

Top seed Monfils of France

Top seed Gael Monfils serves warning at S Africa Open
Militant killed in gunfight in India-controlled Kashmir

SRINAGAR, 3 Feb — Indian Army troopers and police in a joint operation Wednesday killed a militant in a gunfight in India-controlled Kashmir, defense officials said.

The gunfight broke out late Tuesday night in Charthal-Nadal forest area of Mendhar area of Poonch district, 220 km northwest of Jammu, the winter capital of India-controlled Kashmir.

“So far one militant has been killed in the operation and gunfire is still on,” said an army official posted in the area.

According to defense officials the operation was launched on a tip-off about the presence of militants in the area.

“The gunfight broke out after militants fired upon the contingents of army and police. The fire was retaliated and the confrontation is going on since morning,” the official said.

The official also claimed recovery of an assault rifle and some ammunition from the possession of the slain militant.

January has witnessed a spate in violence and militant activities across the region.

A cycle-rickshaw puller moves the wreckage of a car to a scrap yard in the eastern Indian city of Siliguri on 2 February 2010.

WEATHER

Wednesday, 3rd February, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagain and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3 °C) to (4 °C) below February average temperatures in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagain, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (8 °C) below February average temperature in Chin State, (3 °C) to (4 °C) above February average temperatures in Taninthayi Division and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-2 °C), Loilem (0 °C), Nansam (2 °C) and Pinlaung and An (3 °C) each.

Maximum temperature on 2-2-2010 was 55°F. Minimum temperature on 3-2-2010 was 58°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 3-2-2010 was 61%. Total sun shine hours on 2-2-2010 was (10) hours approx.

Rainfall on 3-2-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (4) mph from North at (15:30) hours MST on 1-2-2010.

Bay inference: 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 4February 2010: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy in Shan, Chin and Mon States, upper Sagain and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in the extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-2-2010: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-2-2010: 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

Toddy palm, a gift to arid regions in Myanmar
Byline & Photo: Win Hlaing Oo (MPCE)

In the Myanmar society, jaggery (palm sugar) is used as an ingredient in making foods such as snacks and jams and in compounding traditional medicines. Toddy palm juice is also used in making sugar, in place of sugarcane. Myanmar people, especially rural folks take the liquid made by boiling ginger and jaggery, when they are sick.

Mon and Shan nationals call toddy palm, Tan. Toddy palm is of about 1500 species including coconut, areca nut, dani (nipa palm), salu, and date, and they are native to Asia, Africa, America, and

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<tr>
<th>Significant night temperatures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Haka</td>
<td>(-2°C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loilem</td>
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<td>Namsang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinlaung and An</td>
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BBC, VOA, RFA and DVB have never ever aired authentic news stories. To be frank, they have hardly stood the side of the truth since 1988.