PWDs to participate in society as equal members, contribute to the economic and social goals of the State
Myanmar National Plan of Action on PWDs (2010-2012) developed, implemented
International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2010 observed

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement observed the ceremony to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2010 at Myanmar International Convention Centre in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw District today.

It was attended by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe, Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, deputy ministers, departmental heads, resident representatives of UN agencies, officials of NGOs and INGOs, and the disabled.

Minister U Maung Maung Swe said in his address that the United Nations designated the 3rd December every year as International Day of Persons with Disabilities. As the Union of Myanmar is a member State of the United Nations, Myanmar

Minister U Maung Maung Swe making a speech at the ceremony to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2010.

Residents of Mawlamyinegyun enjoying better life

Article: Tin Htwe (MNA);
Photos: Ko Htwe

Thanks to Yazudaing Bridge No. 1 and No. 2, Yangon has easy access to Mawlamyinegyun by land. However, we the news crew of Kyemon Daily made a trip to Mawlamyinegyun recently by Bala Minhtin vessel to take experience on travelling of waterway.

On arrival at Mawlamyinegyun, weather was fine. We saw public residences and buildings in a row along Strand Road and enjoyed fresh and breeze air there.

Private ships of Yangon-Mawlamyinegyun route berthed at the jetty to waiting for loading cargos onboard. We witnessed rice mills with high chimneys as better businesses of the area.

Yazudaing, Kywechan, Ayeyawady, Sawke, Tonble rivers and Anan Creek are flowing through Mawlamyinegyun Township. Local people are enganged in growing coconut, areca nut, banana and betel plantations.

Photo shows neat and tidy building of Affiliated Basic Education Middle School in Kyaunghtauk Village in Mawlamyinegyun Township.
People to participate in keeping towns and villages clean and pleasant

Neat and tidy task at towns and villages plays a key role in building a modern and developed nation. The people are to abide by prescribed disciplines to be able to keep towns and villages clean and pleasant.

Entire people are to follow the disciplines as good citizens in line with the saying that discipline is value of human being. Everybody is to practise the prescribed disciplines.

As the State is carrying out the upgrading and renovation of many roads for development of urban and rural areas, drivers are to abide by traffic rules for the decline of traffic accidents.

All the people are to avoid the activities on throwing of garbage and spitting of betel spittle on the roads without disciplines and sales of goods at public venues. Only when everybody deeply follows the prescribed disciplines, will more modern and pleasant towns and villages emerge.

If the people undertake dredging and unblocking of drains for proper flow of water, they will enjoy fruits of healthy environment.

If it is necessary to build parks and gardens, grow shade trees and flowery plants and carry out landscaping for ensuring lush and green environments in towns and villages, the people will have the opportunity to enjoy relaxation at greening environments.

Nowadays, keeping the towns and villages clean and pleasant is very important in modernizing urban and rural areas. As such, all the people are to work in concert for undertaking sanitation and beautifying tasks at towns and villages through their collaborative efforts by abiding by prescribed disciplines.

MBE Network to conduct courses in early January

YANGON, 3 Dec—A press meets on opening of courses, jointly-organized by Myanmar Business Management Network and KV Zurich Business School, took place at Chatrium Hotel here this evening.

MBE Network Chairman U Myint Maung Tun extended greetings and Secretary Daw Lin Lin Tin Tun gave accounts of arrangements made for the courses.

Next, Managing Director Mr. Niklaus Brockhaus of Ineduco Foundation of Switzerland explained facts about KV Zurich Business School, Daw Aye Aye Mu of MBE education committee, the courses, and answered the queries raised by those present.

MBE Network’s free courses—three-month financial management course, two-month development of small and medium scale enterprises and one-month small loan industry course—will be opened in early January.

Thames to conduct Diplomas in Business and Marketing

YANGON, 3 Dec—Thames Management Centre (Yangon) will conduct the Diploma in Business and Diploma in Marketing soon.

The Diploma in Business course comprises four subjects on computer application, accounting fundamental, essentials of management skills, and communication skills at work. The Diploma in Marketing consists of subjects on computer application, marketing studies, consumer behaviours studies, and interpersonal skills.

The courses will last four months each.

For detailed information, contact Thames Management Centre, on the second floor of Myaynigone Plaza on Bagaya Road in Sanyoung Township, Yangon (Tel: 01-525971, 501450 and 706740).

MBE Network Chairman U Myint Maung Tun extends greetings at press conference on conducting training courses.

Commander attends World AIDS Day commemorative ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec — The ceremony to mark the World AIDS Day was held at Nursing University (Yangon) in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon yesterday, attended by Chairman of Yangon Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than.

First, the commander made an opening address and presented prizes to winners in GK and essay contests to mark the World AIDS Day.

Next, officials awarded winners in GK, painting, poster and cartoon competitions.

The head of Yangon Region Health Department gave accounts of tasks being carried out for combating the disease.

After the ceremony, the commander and party viewed the commemorative booth and presented cash and kind to the victims.

The commander attended the ceremony to hand over agricultural loans to beans and pulses growers in Kyauktan Township.

After delivering addresses by the commander, an official reported on works carried out and handed over agricultural loans to a local grower.

After the ceremony, the commander cordially greeted beans and pulses growers and observed samples of various kinds of beans and pulses, pesticides and different kinds of fertilizers.

MBE Network: MNA

Industry-1 Minister U Aung Thaung visits Myanmar Umbrella Factory.

YANGON, 3 Dec—Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected the Myanmar Umbrella Factory under the Cottage Industries Department on Yangon-Insein Road in Hline Township this morning.

He called for exceeding the target of production of quality umbrellas.

On arrival at the Bicycle Factory (Yangon) under the Cottage Industries Department, he inspected manufacturing conditions, products, passenger and cargo trishaws, various brands of bicycles, sports equipment, and potentials for producing electric trishaw. He stressed the importance of innovations and quality control.

MBE Network: MNA

Industry-1 Minister to conduct courses in early January

YANGON, 3 Dec—A press meets on opening of courses, jointly-organized by Myanmar Business Management Network and KV Zurich Business School, took place at Chatrium Hotel here this evening.

MBE Network Chairman U Myint Maung Tun extended greetings and Secretary Daw Lin Lin Tin Tun gave accounts of arrangements made for the courses.

Next, Managing Director Mr. Niklaus Brockhaus of Ineduco Foundation of Switzerland explained facts about KV Zurich Business School, Daw Aye Aye Mu of MBE education committee, the courses, and answered the queries raised by those present.

MBE Network’s free courses—three-month financial management course, two-month development of small and medium scale enterprises and one-month small loan industry course—will be opened in early January.

Thames to conduct Diplomas in Business and Marketing

YANGON, 3 Dec—Thames Management Centre (Yangon) will conduct the Diploma in Business and Diploma in Marketing soon.

The Diploma in Business course comprises four subjects on computer application, accounting fundamental, essentials of management skills, and communication skills at work. The Diploma in Marketing consists of subjects on computer application, marketing studies, consumer behaviours studies, and interpersonal skills.

The courses will last four months each.

For detailed information, contact Thames Management Centre, on the second floor of Myaynigone Plaza on Bagaya Road in Sanyoung Township, Yangon (Tel: 01-525971, 501450 and 706740).

MBE Network Chairman U Myint Maung Tun extends greetings at press conference on conducting training courses.

MNA
Militants attack NATO truck in Pakistan, kill driver

PESHAWAR, 3 Dec—Taliban militants in northwest Pakistan attacked a NATO supply truck before dawn on Thursday, killing the driver and damaging the vehicle, police said. Militants opened fire on the vehicle with assault rifles in Suki village in Mardan, police said, a district neighbouring the northwestern capital Peshawar. The driver’s assistant told police they had loaded the truck in Karachi with a 10-wheel vehicle destined for NATO troops and were en route to Kabul.

“The driver was killed on the spot. It was a NATO supply truck and was carrying a 10-wheel vehicle for NATO in Afghanistan,” Iftikhar Khan, a police official in Mardan, told AFP by telephone. There was no claim of responsibility for the attack but intelligence officials blamed the Taliban. Pakistan shut its main northwestern border crossing to NATO supply vehicles on 30 September for 11 days after a cross-border NATO helicopter assault killed two Pakistani soldiers.

The bulk of supplies and equipment required by foreign troops in Afghanistan is shipped through the Khyber region, although US troops increasingly use alternative routes through central Asia. Scores of NATO supply vehicles were destroyed in gun and arson attacks while Pakistan’s Khyber crossing was shut, as Taliban militants stepped up efforts to disrupt the route and average US drone strikes in Pakistan’s tribal belt.— Internet

Baghdad blasts wound 12, including five policemen

BAGHDAD, 3 Dec—Five policemen were among a dozen people wounded Thursday in separate rush-hour bombings in Baghdad, authorities said, in a reminder of continuing violence in Iraq. Officials said all three blasts were caused by roadside bombs, and two appeared to target police patrols. Iraqi security forces have faced heightened threats across the country as US troops prepare to leave.

The first explosion came at 7:30 am local time and targeted a police patrol in the Sunni Muslim neighbourhood of Ghazaliyah in the capital’s west. Officials say three policemen and two passers by were wounded. A medic at Yarmouk Hospital confirmed the casualties. Fifteen minutes later, the second bomb stuck near a bus station in central Baghdad. Hospital and police officials said four bystanders were hurt.

And in the southeastern Baghdad suburb of Jisr Diyala, a Shiite area, another police patrol hit a roadside bomb, which wounded two officers and a passer-by and wrecked the police car. A medic from Zafaraniyah hospital confirmed the casualties. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

Companies beware: The next big leak could be yours

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Dec—WikiLeaks’ release of secret government communications should serve as a warning to the nation’s biggest businesses: You’re next.— INTERNET

Iraq calls for swift execution of terror suspects

BAGHDAD, 3 Dec—Iraq’s interior minister has called for the death penalty for a group of 39 al Qaeda linked suspects even before they have been put on trial for allegedly plotting to bomb targets in Baghdad.

Jawad al Bolani says he is confident the men will be found guilty. He spoke to reporters as authorities showed off the prisoners, who were handcuffed and wore orange prison jumpsuits, at a Baghdad Press conference on Thursday.

The prisoners made no comments. Al-Bolani says that sentencing the men to death quickly would ensure they are not released by security forces and also serve as a deterrent to militants. Al-Bolani says the 39 are being held as suspected operatives of the Islamic State of Iraq, an al Qaeda wing, from the western Anbar Province.— Internet

Woman’s beloved Shih-Tzu killed in attack

WOODSIDE, 3 Dec — Linda Bleich was enjoying an afternoon walk with her Shih Tzus — Zoe, 8, and Anya, 5 — at Woodside Elementary School on Sunday when she noticed a man with a large dog. When she asked whether the dog was aggressive, he said he didn’t know, that it was the first time he’d had the dog out. But Bleich and the dogs “walked on our merry way, not realizing a man would bring a dog to a school that might be dangerous,” she said.

As they walked back around the schoolyard in Woodside, Bleich saw the man sitting on a bench next to the gym and the 100-pound dog pulling at his leash. “In a split second, the dog was on Zoe and there was nothing I could do,” Bleich said on Wednesday. Zoe, the runt of the litter and the love of Bleich’s life, was killed before her eyes.

“I felt horrible for her,” said San Mateo County Deputy Sheriff Andrew Armando, who is investigating the incident. “It was brutal.” Armando said he and another deputy are trying to locate the dog and its owner to try to prevent other dogs or people from getting hurt.

File photo shows Pakistani drivers driving through the famous Khyber Pass as they carry supplies for NATO and US-led forces into Afghanistan. Taliban militants in northwest Pakistan attacked a NATO supply truck before dawn Thursday, killing the driver and damaging the vehicle, police said.— Internet

A patrol car damaged by a roadside bomb attack is towed away in Baghdad, Iraq, on 2 Dec, 2010. Iraqi authorities say rush-hour bombings in Baghdad have wounded several civilians and police officers. Internet

Companies beware: The next big leak could be yours

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Dec—WikiLeaks’ release of secret government communications should serve as a warning to the nation’s biggest businesses: You’re next.— INTERNET

Iraq calls for swift execution of terror suspects

BAGHDAD, 3 Dec—Iraq’s interior minister has called for the death penalty for a group of 39 al Qaeda linked suspects even before they have been put on trial for allegedly plotting to bomb targets in Baghdad.

Jawad al Bolani says he is confident the men will be found guilty. He spoke to reporters as authorities showed off the prisoners, who were handcuffed and wore orange prison jumpsuits, at a Baghdad Press conference on Thursday.

The prisoners made no comments. Al-Bolani says that sentencing the men to death quickly would ensure they are not released by security forces and also serve as a deterrent to militants. Al-Bolani says the 39 are being held as suspected operatives of the Islamic State of Iraq, an al Qaeda wing, from the western Anbar Province.— Internet

Woman’s beloved Shih-Tzu killed in attack

WOODSIDE, 3 Dec — Linda Bleich was enjoying an afternoon walk with her Shih Tzus — Zoe, 8, and Anya, 5 — at Woodside Elementary School on Sunday when she noticed a man with a large dog. When she asked whether the dog was aggressive, he said he didn’t know, that it was the first time he’d had the dog out. But Bleich and the dogs “walked on our merry way, not realizing a man would bring a dog to a school that might be dangerous,” she said.

As they walked back around the schoolyard in Woodside, Bleich saw the man sitting on a bench next to the gym and the 100-pound dog pulling at his leash. “In a split second, the dog was on Zoe and there was nothing I could do,” Bleich said on Wednesday. Zoe, the runt of the litter and the love of Bleich’s life, was killed before her eyes.

“I felt horrible for her,” said San Mateo County Deputy Sheriff Andrew Armando, who is investigating the incident. “It was brutal.” Armando said he and another deputy are trying to locate the dog and its owner to try to prevent other dogs or people from getting hurt.

The Internet homepage of Wikileaks is shown in this photo taken in New York, on 1 Dec, 2010. WikiLeak’s release of secret government communications should serve as a warning to the nation’s biggest businesses: You’re next.— INTERNET

Iraq calls for swift execution of terror suspects

BAGHDAD, 3 Dec—Iraq’s interior minister has called for the death penalty for a group of 39 al Qaeda linked suspects even before they have been put on trial for allegedly plotting to bomb targets in Baghdad.

Jawad al Bolani says he is confident the men will be found guilty. He spoke to reporters as authorities showed off the prisoners, who were handcuffed and wore orange prison jumpsuits, at a Baghdad Press conference on Thursday.

The prisoners made no comments. Al-Bolani says that sentencing the men to death quickly would ensure they are not released by security forces and also serve as a deterrent to militants. Al-Bolani says the 39 are being held as suspected operatives of the Islamic State of Iraq, an al Qaeda wing, from the western Anbar Province.— Internet

Woman’s beloved Shih-Tzu killed in attack

WOODSIDE, 3 Dec — Linda Bleich was enjoying an afternoon walk with her Shih Tzus — Zoe, 8, and Anya, 5 — at Woodside Elementary School on Sunday when she noticed a man with a large dog. When she asked whether the dog was aggressive, he said he didn’t know, that it was the first time he’d had the dog out. But Bleich and the dogs “walked on our merry way, not realizing a man would bring a dog to a school that might be dangerous,” she said.

As they walked back around the schoolyard in Woodside, Bleich saw the man sitting on a bench next to the gym and the 100-pound dog pulling at his leash. “In a split second, the dog was on Zoe and there was nothing I could do,” Bleich said on Wednesday. Zoe, the runt of the litter and the love of Bleich’s life, was killed before her eyes.

“I felt horrible for her,” said San Mateo County Deputy Sheriff Andrew Armando, who is investigating the incident. “It was brutal.” Armando said he and another deputy are trying to locate the dog and its owner to try to prevent other dogs or people from getting hurt.
Japan’s new vehicle sales plunge 30.7% year-on-year in November

TOKYO, 3 Dec — Japan’s domestic new vehicle sales plummeted 30.7 percent from a year earlier as a government subsidy programme for eco-friendly cars expired in September, the Japan Automobile Dealers Association said in a report on Wednesday. According to the association, domestic vehicles sales, excluding those of mini vehicles, dropped to 203,246 units in the recording period, marking the third successive month of decline and the sharpest drop on year in three years. November’s decline follows a 26.7 percent fall 34.3 percent to 96,874 units.

According to automakers, Toyota Motor Corp., the world’s largest carmaker, sold 24,075 new vehicles, excluding those of its new vehicles, those of its models plunging 33.5 percent to 178,463 units, although truck sales in November rose marginally to 24,075 sold in the same month a year earlier. Bus sales fell 20.8 percent to 701 units, marking the third straight year-on-year drop following a 25.4 percent fall in the previous month.

Regarding specific automakers, Sales of Toyota’s Lexus models dived 58.0 percent to 1,938 units in the recording period and Honda Motor Co saw a drop of 37. 6 percent to 32,294 units. Meanwhile, Nissan Motor Co fell 21.3 percent in November, selling 31,486 new vehicles.

Stampede victims in Cambodia receive donation from TV funds

PHNOM PENH, 3 Dec—Families of 83 victims of stampede accident who originally lived in Phnom Penh received donations from TV funds on Wednesday. The distribution of the donations by generous people across the country and abroad collected by Bayon Television, was presented by Hun Mana, director general of Bayon Television and a daughter of Cambodia’s Prime Minister Hun Sen. Other government officials who also presented the gift on behalf of the prime minister included Kep Chupetna, governor of Phnom Penh. Each of the 83 victims in Phnom Penh received 7 million riel (about 1.70 US dollars), and additional 3,561 US dollars. The distribution of the donations in cash was the first time in a series of distributions around the country until all 351 victims by the accident receive them.

Similar fund is being collected by Cambodian Television Network (CTN). Prime Minister Hun Sen said each victim might receive about 12,000 US dollars through donations from all sources including the 5 million riel (about 1.200 US dollars) provided by the government.

Ailing Mexican airline to resume flights in two weeks

MEXICO CITY, 3 Dec — The bankrupt airline Compania Mexicana de Aviacion may restart flying in the second half of December, Mexico’s Labour Minister Javier Alarcon said on Wednesday. “The three unions involved and investor PC Capital will sign new labor contracts in the next few days,” Alarcon told state news agency Notimex. “With these, operations will be 100 percent normalized in January.”

The airline stopped flying on 28 Aug after being granted bankruptcy protection due to 400 million dollars of debt. PC Capital has promised to pay all workers a redundancy fee in cash, short-term debt and shares. After relaunch, the airline will only resume 30 of its 100 airlines originally, including six U.S. routes and no more than five within Mexico.
Snowfall disrupts northern Europe’s airports and roads

LONDON, 3 Dec — Heavy snowfall has caused disruption across northern Europe, closing airports and bringing traffic to a standstill. In Poland, eight homeless people died as temperatures fell below -20C (-4F). Airports were closed in the UK, France and Switzerland. Dozens of flights were affected in Germany and Spain. Prominent figures including Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero faced delays as they headed to Zurich for the Fifa World Cup vote.

In the Russian Capital, Moscow, temperatures dropped to -23.6C (-10.5F), the lowest on record for 1 December since 1931. In Poland it was even colder, with the eastern city of Bialystok registering temperatures of -26C (-14.8F). Police in the country appealed to the public to get in touch if they found any homeless people living outdoors after eight homeless men were found frozen to death. — Internet

Answers sought in northern Wis hostage situation

MARENETTE, 3 Dec — Sam Hengel was by all accounts the least likely of 15-year-olds to bring two pistols, knives and more than 200 rounds of ammunition into his social studies class, taking several of his closest friends and other terrified classmates hostage before shooting himself to death. He was a good student with extracurriculars such as Boy Scouts and Taekwondo. A hunting and fishing enthusiast, he had a lot of friends and police don’t believe he was bullied. He loved his gadgets and the Green Bay Packers.

As law enforcement try to figure out what may have led Hengel to take over his Marinette High School classroom for more than six hours Monday and ultimately take his own life, family and friends say they’re at a loss. “I was devastated. He was just an exemplary kid,” said Henry Johnston, one of Hengel’s scout leaders. “That question ‘why’ is just a question there’s no answer for at this time.”

Defect maybe caused superjumbo engine to blow up

SYDNEY, 3 Dec — Australian investigators on Thursday identified the source of an oil leak that caused a superjumbo engine to blow apart in mid air last month, and said a suspected manufacturing defect in the Rolls Royce engine was to blame. They warned airlines the potential flaw could cause engine failure.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau recommended the three airlines that use Rolls Royce’s massive Trent 900 engines on their A380s go back and conduct more checks now that it had pinpointed the problem area. Three airlines fly a total of 20 the Airbus planes.

Earlier warnings blamed an oil leak for a fire and subsequent chain of failures that sent heavy parts flying off an engine on a Qantas A380 shortly after it took off from Singapore on 4 Nov, the most serious safety problem for the world’s largest and newest jetliner. The ATSB, which is leading the international investigation into the Qantas breakup, added some specifics on Thursday, saying a section of an oil tube that connects the intermediate pressure bearing structures of the engine was the danger area.

NZ holds memorial service for 29 dead coal miners

WELLINGTON, 3 Dec — New Zealand held a national remembrance service Thursday for coal miners killed in an explosion last month, with a line of 29 black-draped tables each bearing a fallen miner’s helmet, lamp and name. Pike River mine was rocked by an explosion 19 Nov, trapping the 29 miners. A second major blast five days later dashed hopes any of the workers had survived. The men’s bodies have still not been recovered.

Two more explosions have occurred since, including one Sunday that shot flames into the air, signaling a raging underground coal fire that continues to burn. More than 10,000 mourners attended the somber, open-air service under a sunny sky at Greymouth’s Onomo Racecourse on South Island.

People across New Zealand paused for a two minute silence before the service. Flags flew at half staff on government buildings nationwide. Victims’ families placed photos, tributes and personal items — including clothing, a rugby ball, surfboards, a guitar and a cricket bat — alongside the miners’ helmets on the tables.

112 Venezuelans stranded in Panama Airport

PANAMA CITY, 3 Dec — 112 Venezuelan passengers were forced to spend 24 hours at the Tocumen International Airport due to adverse weather conditions in Venezuela, the airport press office said on Tuesday. The Venezuelan passengers were heading to Caracas on Monday night on a Venezolana de Aviacion flight that could not take off due to poor weather conditions in Caracas, said a statement by airport authorities. Authorities said some of those who were affected spent the night in the airport terminal, while others were transferred to hotels in the capital.

Airport authorities said if the weather improves in Venezuela, the 112 passengers could leave this afternoon to return to their country, although everything depends on the weather in Caracas.

Venezuela on Tuesday declared a state of emergency in Caracas and in Vargas and Miranda states, as a result of the strong rains in the country since last Monday. The total death toll has risen to 23 by Tuesday. — Xinhua
Central bank takes centre stage in EU debt crisis

LONDON, 3 Dec — The European Central Bank appears set to keep its special measures to flood banks with cash and could even step up purchases of govern-ment bonds to help countries contain a debt crisis that threatens to spiral out of control even after last weekend’s bail-out of Ireland.

A new boost for the European Commission from Thursday’s ECB meeting would be a far cry from what was planned just a week or two ago and certainly was not on the agenda at last month’s gathering.

Expectations the bank will step up its efforts, while keeping its benchmark interest rate unchanged at the record low of 1 percent, are one sign of how quickly the debt crisis has sharpened worries that a financially weak member of the eurozone such as Portugal might join Greece and Ireland in needing a bailout and, even more dangerous, that larger countries such as Spain might run into trouble as well.

After last month’s policy meeting, Trichet gave every indication that the central bank was looking at calling time on several props for the financial system introduced since the crisis took hold in August 2007.

Indonesia, Singapore join in air fighting training

JAKARTA, 3 Dec — Indonesian and Singaporean air forces on Wednesday are joining in an air fighting exercise titled “Elang Indopura 16/10”, forces on Wednesday are joining in an air fighting exercise titled “Elang Indopura 16/10”, Antara News Agency reported here. Indonesian Air Force’s spokesman First Marshal Bambang Samoedro said the exercise would be a far cry from what was planned just a week or two ago and certainly was not on the agenda at last month’s gathering.

According to Samoedro, the training is aimed to increase fighting pilots’ capability in conducting joint air operation and to enhance cooperation between both countries, especially their air forces.

Japan watchdog approves Yahoo-Google deal

TOKYO, 3 Dec— Japan’s anti-monopoly watchdog has approved a tie-up between Yahoo Japan Corp and Google Inc but warned it will keep checking for possible violations.

The commission said Thursday it didn’t see any problems as long as the two companies continued to be separate and offered distinctive services.

Yahoo Japan has said it plans to launch a search service using Google’s search and advertising technology here by the end of this year. Online shopping site Rakuten Inc had asked the Fair Trade Commission to look into the deal, announced in July, to see if the partnership might hinder competition and growth in the Japanese Internet.

Yahoo Japan has more than a 50 percent share of the Japanese Internet search services market, and Google around 40 percent, according to Japanese research firm Video Research Interactive Inc Google dominates the lucrative Internet search market worldwide. It generates income by charging advertisers to display links along with search results.

Gunmen break into house, kill two, wound three in S Philippines

COTABATO CITY, 3 Dec — Two members of a family were killed while three others were wounded in a shooting staged by unidentified gunmen late Tuesday in southern Philippines, police said Wednesday morning.

A group of gunmen forcibly entered the house of the victims in the township of Impasug-ong in Bukidnon Province of the country’s restive southern region of Mindanao and shot them, said Provincial police Commander Senior Superintendent Nerue Bermudo. Killed in the shooting were Richa Montera, 50, and Randy Armojalla Ayunon, 25 while wounded and brought to hospital were couple Linda and Joahara Richa and their daughter Analisa. Police are investigating the incident, said Bermudo.
It was very heartening to read the news that the government is working hard for HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care services; that about 30 specialist hospitals have been established and the government has granted permission to 11 NGOs and 21 INGOs to care people living with HIV/AIDS; and that Specialist Hospital (Thakayta) provides HIV/AIDS patients with accommodations in addition to treatment.

Following the discovery of HIV virus in the US in 1981, the world came to notice that HIV/AIDS is the most dangerous disease. Then, it became the most deadliest disease for human beings. Now, about 33.4 millions of people around the world are infected with HIV. When the virus first came to the information of the international community, HIV infection was just among intravenous drug users and homosexuals. Now, the virus has spread to people who are not likely to be infected.

Regarding HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care services, Myanmar has been taking measures of all aspects in combination as a national duty since 1985. World countries are trying to try their best to address this issue. The virus is so powerful that the international drive to produce drugs that can prevent and cure the disease is still at the stage of experiment despite varieties of attempts for more than two decades. Mostly, HIV positive people fail to receive treatment earlier as they keep their conditions secret from others due to possible social stigma, which is a barrier. Therefore, the government has issued many mottoes, urging the people to show empathy towards people living with HIV and AIDS and their families and to give psychological support without stigma and discriminations. The age group that is more likely to be infected with the virus represents young people, so HIV/AIDS has adverse effect not only on health but also social affairs, economy and development. HIV/AIDS prevention is high on World countries’ list of priorities. Myanmar is also combating the disease as a national duty. AIDS Day commemorative activities are implemented on 1st December and following 7 days. The theme for this year is “Stop AIDS, Keep the Promise. Avoid Stigma and Discrimination: Towards Universal Access”.

In Myanmar, an HIV surveillance team was formed in 1985. The first HIV positive person in Myanmar is a seaman who arrived back in the nation in 1988. Only in 1991 did Myanmar see AIDS patient. Since then, Myanmar has designated HIV/AIDS as one of the major diseases of the national health plan. In 1989, the National Health Committee formed the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Central Committee comprising the Ministry of Health and related ministries and local NGOs. At the same time, the committee formed work committees and subcommittees at the state/region, district and township levels. Myanmar launched HIV Sentinel Surveillance in 1992. So, it could bring a gradual decline in HIV prevalence of 0.61% from 0.94 per cent. Now, there are about 74,000 patients who need ART treatment in Myanmar. Myanmar began Anti-retroviral Therapy in 2005, and up to 2009, it had given treatment to over 21,000 patients. It is learnt that there is no country in the world that can provide treatment to all patients who need ART treatment. HIV/AIDS Project under the Disease Control Division of the Department of Health is designed to keep HIV/AIDS under control. National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS (2006-2010) is being implemented in collaboration by related departments, local and international NGOs, and UN agencies. HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care services are being carried out in accordance with the 13 strategies as 10 major programmes, as follows:

- Local authorities, related departments and social organizations are raising awareness about the disease.
- Educational talks on health and correct behaviors are being given to the people.
- Courses can be conducted for community health staff across the nation for early treatment for sexually transmitted diseases regarding prevention of HIV infection through sexual relations. The task is being carried out in clinics and hospitals. Cent per cent targeted condom promotion programme was launched in two border townships in 2010: Kayitkhone and Taungkone along the Pyay and Bago that cope with heavy traffic.
- The drive has covered 170 townships.
- Programmes to prevent HIV spread through intravenous drug abuse are being implemented by departments and social organizations across the nation especially in Kachin State and Shan State (North).
- Programmes for mother-to-child HIV prevention were launched in two border townships: Kayitkhone and Taungkone in 2010, and now in 210 townships and at 38 hospitals.
- Laboratory tests are done across the nation to ensure that blood for blood transfusion is safe.
- TB/HIV programmes and voluntary confidential counselling and testing services are being provided by HIV/AIDS control groups and TB control groups for TB/HIV.
- Treatments are also given to cure the diseases that follow AIDS.
- HIV education for life is taught as part of curriculum in schools across the nation in cooperation with related ministries especially the Ministry of Health. Tasks for prevention of HIV infection among intravenous drug users are being carried out in cooperation with the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control of the Ministry of Home Affairs; and tasks for social assistance and care, in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. In addition, seven UN agencies, 18 local social organizations and 22 INGOs are working together in line with the directives adopted by the Ministry of Health.
- Prevention of HIV infection is being carried out along Myanmar-Thai borderline as a special project.
- Future programmes are being laid down through annual reviews. The AIDS(STD) control project of the Department of Health will implement the strategic plan (2010-2015) through the review of the strategic plan (2006-2010) in cooperation with related departments, local and international NGOs, and UN agencies.

ART treatment has been given since 2005. Now, ART treatment is available in 30 hospitals under the Ministry of Health. ART treatment was given to 15,191 patients in 2008 and to 21,138 patients in 2009 in cooperation with such 13 INGOs: NAP, Alliance, AZG, AMI, FX, JOM, Malteser, WDM, MSF-CH, PSL, Consortium, UNION and AHRN. In Yangon, AIDS patients are given treatment in specialist hospitals in Waibargi, Mingaladon and Thakayta. Well-wishers and other organizations may work hand in hand with the government in helping and caring any HIV/AIDS patients. In this regard, every performance must meet health standards; must not cause public worries about spread of diseases following AIDS; and must be effective for patients. To ensure that HIV/AIDS patients receive perfect health care, community-based door-to-door health care has been given in cooperation with local NGOs since 2006. The drug has picked up momentum in 2010. The health care is being provided in Hlaingthaya Township, Yangon Region, on Fridays. In the past, it was said that HIV/AIDS was incurable. Now, there have not been any medicines that can cure the disease. But, now ART is easily available that can prevent HIV virus proliferation. And patients can receive voluntary confidential counselling and testing services at centres for HIV infected victims. So, HIV/AIDS patients do not need to feel downhearted, and if they receive consolation and health care systematically and have correct behaviours, they can keep getting on well with others, like other patients with chronic diseases. Moreover, those with HIV may extend a helping hand to the Department of Health concerned in HIV/AIDS prevention and control, treatment and care services.

Owing to effective encouragement and directives given by the government, the leading role played by the Ministry of Health, and participation of many organizations in HIV/AIDS prevention and control, treatment and care services, HIV infection rate in individuals between age group of 15-49 years was on the gradual decrease in 2010. In order to sustain the gradual fall in HIV infection rate and to keep HIV/AIDS disease out of the public health problem, the entire people including the Ministry of Health, related ministries, local and international NGOs, HIV-positive people and their families should beef up disease prevention and control tasks, raising public awareness about the disease, and giving sustainable treatment in order that Myanmar will be gradually free from HIV/AIDS. I am confident that the noble plan will be successful because it is being implemented with genuine goodwill and effective methods.

Translation: MS
PWDs to participate in society...

(from page 1)

celebrates the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3rd December annually with the aim of promoting the dignity and morale of persons with disabilities, access to get equality and opportunities as able persons. This year, today is the 17th anniversary of International day of Persons with Disabilities.

The theme of this year is “Keeping the Promise: Mainstreaming Disability in the Millennium Development Goals towards 2015 and beyond”. The Organizing Committee translated the English version.

PWDs to participate in society...

population of Myanmar, in other words, 1.3 million persons are PWDs. Out of the population of PWDs, around 70% have mobility difficulties, the rest having sensory or mixed impairment.

Hence, with the aim of that PWDs have increased mobility, access and opportunity to be able to participate in society as equal members, and contribute to the economic and social goals of the state as active and responsible citizens. Myanmar National Plan of Action on PWDs (2010-2012) has been developed and is now being implemented.

The Government cannot alone carry out rehabilitation and development programmes of PWDs. Therefore, the entire people need to participate in these programmes. Department of Social Welfare is implementing disability programmes in collaboration with local NGOs comprising of PWDs themselves such as Myanmar Disabled Persons Organization, Myanmar Physically Handicapped Association, Yangon Deaf Association, Mandalay Deaf Association, Family Network of mentally retarded children’s parents, Eden Centre for Disabled Children, Blind Massage Foundation and Shwe Mintha Foundation.

In addition, international agencies such as UNDP, UNICEF, APCD, TLM, JICA, LIDS, World Vision, Asia Mind, Action-Aid and Japan Heart are also participating in the implementation of disability programmes enthusiastically.

These days, at the time when the Government is implementing Education for All programmes, Inclusive Education programme has developed disabled children’s access to learning education among normal students in normal schools. The disabled children from the various disabled schools in some States and Regions who have finished basic primary level education through special education are learning education in respective Basic Education Middle Schools and High Schools, keeping abreast of the able children.

At present, a total of 801 disabled children are studying in Basic Education Middle Schools and High Schools and a total of 31 disabled persons are also attending the Universities and Colleges respectively. Moreover, six disabled persons are attending the postgraduate courses. The love and affection of the teachers from the Ministry of Education who take responsibility for teaching the disabled students which is more difficult than teaching the normal students are very great and noble.

Myanmar Sports Federation for the Disabled is striving for emerging the outstanding disabled sport-persons.

In the 22nd disabled sports competition held in last September, a total of 302 sports-persons from the 13 disabled organizations participated in the competitions such as athletics, sitting volleyball, table tennis, swimming, badminton, chess and golf.

The outstanding disabled sports-persons are sent to the International Sports & Games. Myanmar disabled sport-persons were able to uplift the dignity and honour of the nation by winning two gold medals, six silver medals and seven bronze medals in the Special Olympic for Intellectual Disability held in Singapore in June 2010.

A total of 740 visually impaired persons from the blind schools and blind associations from Yangon, PyinOoLwin, Meiktila, Sagaing and Monywa took active part in the 19th Yangon Mayor’s Trophy Walking Competition for the blind which was held to mark the International White Cane Day held on 15th October 2010. This campaign not only expresses their dignity and self-reliance but also changes the wrong attitude and view of the other people upon PWDs. Therefore, I would like to urge PWDs to actively participate in such a movement in coming years.

English version.

At the beginning of Information and Technology (IT) era, late 20th century, the movements conducted disability survey at 108,000 households in all States and Regions. According to the survey, it is found that 2.3% of the total

UNDP Resident Representative Mr Bishow B Parajuli reads out message of UNSG.

MNA

Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Sports Minister Thura U Aye Myint, SWRR Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myint and the UNDP Resident Representative presented awards to outstanding disabled children.

Director-General U Soe Kyi of Social Welfare Department and Chairman U Myat Thu Win of Shwe Mintha Foundation (Myanmar) awarded disabled persons who tour Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw 243-miles trip with wheelchair and bicycle to hail International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2010.

United Nations Development Programme Resident Representative Mr Bishow B Parajuli read the message sent by the UN Secretary-General.

MNA

Minister U Maung Maung Swe is presenting prizes to an official of a school that won outstanding award. MNA

Minister U Maung Maung Swe views documentary photos to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2010. MNA
Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Dec—Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein addressed the coordination meeting on basic education sector held at the ministry here this morning.

In his address, the minister focused on improving education standard, scoring higher pass rates in matriculation exam and developing brilliances.

The directors-general of Nos (1), (2) and (3) Basic Education Departments and the education officers submitted their reports.

The deputy minister and officials presented supplementary reports.

The minister then left necessary instructions.

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint this afternoon opened the 4th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament 2010 at Nay Pyi Taw Volleyball Ground, here.

In the first-day match, Industry-2 Ministry beat Culture Ministry.

Among the spectators were Minister Dr Chan Nyein addresses work coordination meeting on basic education sector of the Ministry of Education.—MNA

MWAF observes World AIDS Day 2010 in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—The Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation observed the 2010 World AIDS Day at its hall in Dekkhinathiri of Nay Pyi Taw District yesterday afternoon.

In his address, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo said that every year World AIDS Day commemorative activities are undertaken across the nation on 1st December. Appropriate slogans are laid down for implementing World AIDS Day commemorative activities. This year slogan is “Stop AIDS, Keep the Promise. Avoid Stigma and Discrimination: Towards Universal Access”.

According to UNAIDS report 2009, a total of 33.3 million individuals have been living with HIV and AIDS globally in 2009. Of them, about a half of infected persons were women, and over 7000 persons per day or five persons per minute are infected HIV. A total of 2.6 million individuals had been infected with HIV and 1.8 million individuals had died during 2009 alone. All over the world, highest mortality of individuals between age groups of 15-49 years is due to AIDS.

In some countries, life expectancy is now declining because of AIDS.

The HIV/AIDS control project of Health Department is joining hands with ministries concerned, internal and international social organizations, UN agencies and community-based organizations in undertaking 10 main tasks, and has achieved remarkable progress in prevention against HIV in Myanmar.

As awareness has been raised on HIV/AIDS for various population groups at prostitutes, men STD patients, expectant mothers and blood donors in Myanmar since 1992, infection rate of HIV has been declining gradually. As such, HIV infection rate at prostitutes declined from 38% in 2000 to 18.38% in 2009 and at HIV among intravenous drug users from 62.7% in 2000 to 47.5% in 2009.

With regard to infection of HIV in Myanmar, WHO, UNAIDS, related government organizations and social organizations estimated that Myanmar has achieved a gradual decline in HIV prevalence of 0.94% in 2000, and 0.61% in 2009. HIV/AIDS control project, UNICEF, UNFPA and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association join hands in taking prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV in 210 townships and 38 general hospitals up to 2010. Voluntary confidential counseling and testing services have been provided to 0.28 million expectant mothers and fed 3438 of 4225 expectant mothers with ART. In conclusion, the deputy minister urged all the organizations to take part in the HIV preventive measures across the nation.

Next, the deputy minister and party viewed documentary photos on movements of MWAF in HIV/AIDS control task in States and Regions.

Afterwards, President of MWAF Dr Thet Thet Zin delivered an address. Project Manager Dr Khin Ohnmar San of HIV/AIDS control project gave talks on prevention against HIV/AIDS.

Also present on the occasion were Patrons of MWAF Daw Nila Myint, President of MWAF Daw Ni Ni Win, CEC MWAF Daw Khin Mi Mi, Vice President of MWAF Daw Khin Mi Mi Thet, President of MMCWA Daw Ni Nilar Thaw and party, officials of WHO, UNICEF and UNAIDS and responsible persons.—MNA

4th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-ministry Volleyball Tournament commences

MINISTER Thura U Aye Myint addresses opening of 4th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-ministry Volleyball Tournament 2010.—MNA

Armed group members exchange arms for peace

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—Upholding Our Three Main National Causes, the State Peace and Development Council has made earnest efforts for ensuring national reconsolidation and is undertaking equitable development for all parts of the nation. Realizing correct activities and genuine goodwill of the government, the armed groups exchanged arms for peace individually and in groups after understanding their wrong acts.

A 21-member group led by Major Let Kaing of KNU/KNLA Peace Council, bringing along with one 60mm Commando mortar, one M-16, one M-79, one 9-bolt rifle, three MA-7 grenade shells, five 40mm grenade shells, 30 rounds of M-16 and one M-16 magazine on 27 November 2010, and a 13-member group led by Major Mahn Thein bringing along with four AK-47, three Carbinies, one M-16 short barrel, one M-16 long barrel, one Winchester long barrel, one sniper rifle, 15 assorted magazines and 151 rounds of ammunition on 1 December exchanged arms for peace in South-East Command area.

Officials of the respective military units and camps warmly welcomed 34 persons who exchanged arms for peace and provided necessary assistance for them. There are still members of armed groups who want to exchange arms for peace.—MNA
Thandwe District achieves progress in regional development

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Dec—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Soe Thein on 28 November visited the local battalion in Thandwe and gave instructions to officials. Accompanied by departmental officials, the commander looked into maintenance of Thandwe-Taungup Road and thriving monsoon paddy and rubber plantations on both sides of the road. He viewed paving of road section at mile post No. 6/1 on Taungup-Maei Road.

At Pyinwun camp in Maei Township, the commander heard reports on progress of roadworks on Taungup-Maei section and Maei-Kyaunkpyu section presented by officials and attended to the needs.

Residents of Mawlamyinegyun enjoying better...

(from page 1)
The township grows monsoon and summer paddy and cold season crops. In 2009-2010 financial year, the township put 221,742 acres of land under monsoon paddy and 90,078 acres under summer paddy. A total of 32 rice mills and 139 small-scale rice mills contribute to rice export of the township to Yangon and other regions.

Mawlamyinegyun Township has been facilitated with 16 miles long Mawlamyinegyun Maubin gravel road, four miles and five furlongs long Mawlamyinegyun-Bogale gravel road, and nine miles and three furlongs long Mawlamyinegyun-Kyaunkpyu gravel road. The township has 230 feet long Kyaukpi Bridge, 1835 feet long Yazudaing Bridge No. 1 and 540 feet long Yazudaing Bridge No. 2 in addition to 17 bridges of under 180-ft length.

With regard to communications sector, the township has been provided with one post office, one telegraphic office, one telephone office, 700 auto-telephones, 396 CDMA-450 telephones and 400 prepaid local mobile phones.

In the education sector, the township has four Basic Education High Schools, two BEHS branches, five Affiliated BEHSs, three BEMSs, four BEMS branches, 14 Affiliated BEMSs, 192 BEPSs, six BEPS branches, 30 Affiliated BEPSs, 64 Post-Pri-mary Schools and 32 monastic education schools.

Two township hospitals, one-station hospital, 44 rural dispensaries, one maternal and child care centre, one traditional medicine clinic and 16 private clinics are providing health care services to the local people.

The new hospital (100-bed) being built by TZTM Co in Gyongyonkya Village will be opened soon. The one-storey RC facility is located on 57,200 square-feet of area, and the hospital will have four patient wards.

In an interview, Executive Officer U Thet Aung and Senior Engineer U Aung Soe of Mawlamyinegyun Township Development Affairs Committee explained that the township had 53 lakes, 69 rainwater tanks and 40 tube-wells before cyclone Nargis. A total of 122 lakes, 256 rainwater tanks and 115 tube-wells are now providing potable water to the local people.

The committee is carrying out development tasks, construction of traffic islands and growing of landscapes for beautifying the township.

Mawlamyinegyun Township that was hit by storm Nargis two years ago is gaining momentum in reconstruction tasks. Forgetting past bitter experiences in Nargis, the local people are enjoying fruits of development in all aspects.

Photo shows 5000-gallon-capacity rainwater tank Kyaunghtauk Village.

Yazudaing Bridge No. 1 stretching across Yazudaing River.

Beautifying tasks undertaken by Mawlamyinegyun Township DAC.

Mawlamyinegyun Township Development Affairs Committee explained that the township had 53 lakes, 69 rainwater tanks and 40 tube-wells before cyclone Nargis. A total of 122 lakes, 256 rainwater tanks and 115 tube-wells are now providing potable water to the local people.

The committee is carrying out development tasks, construction of traffic islands and growing of landscapes for beautifying the township.

Mawlamyinegyun Township that was hit by storm Nargis two years ago is gaining momentum in reconstruction tasks. Forgetting past bitter experiences in Nargis, the local people are enjoying fruits of development in all aspects.

*****

Translation: TTA

Myanma Alin: 27-11-2010

JAPAN EMPEROR’S BIRTHDAY: Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein and wife being welcomed by Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Takashi Saito and wife at the reception to celebrate Japanese Emperor’s birthday held at the ambassador’s residence on 3 December.—MNA
UN urges global switch to low-energy lightbulbs

CANCUN, 3 Dec—The United Nations on Wednesday urged a global phase-out of old-style lightbulbs and a switch to low-energy lighting that it said would save billions of dollars and combat climate change.

About 40 countries already have programmes to switch from incandescent lightbulbs, the UN Environment Programme, or UNEP, said in a report issued on the sidelines of UN climate talks in Cancun.

Generation of electricity for lighting, often from burning fossil fuels, accounts for about 8 percent of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions, it said. A shift to more efficient bulbs would cut electricity demand for lighting by 2 percent.

A review of 100 nations showed huge potential for savings and carbon cuts from a shift to low-energy bulbs, according to a study backed by UNEP and lighting groups Osram and Philips.

Indonesia, for instance, could save 1 billion US dollars a year and cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 8 million tonnes a year, the equivalent of taking 2 million cars off the road, it said.

It said Brazil could save 2 billion US dollars a year, Mexico 900 million US dollars, Ukraine 210 million US dollars and South Africa 280 million US dollars.

All would also make big cuts in emissions.

MNA/Reuters

For climate talks, a thousand-mile journey starts with one step

CANCUN, 3 Dec—Although expectations for a legally binding deal from the UN climate change conference currently underway here have been kept in check by negotiators, chances for progress remain. However, even small progress needs big efforts from both developed and developing countries. Developed nations, which have historical responsibilities for climate change, must bear the brunt of efforts to curb emissions of greenhouse gases blamed for global warming and climate change.

In terms of historical emissions, industrialized countries account for roughly 80 percent of the carbon dioxide buildup in the atmosphere to date. Since 1950, the United States has emitted a cumulative total of roughly 50.7 billion tons of carbon, while China and India — 4.6 times and 3.5 times more populous — have emitted only 15.7 and 4.2 billion tons, respectively. Annually, more than 60 percent of global industrial carbon dioxide emissions originate in industrialized countries, where only about 20 percent of the world’s population resides, according to the Washington DC-based World Resources Institute (WRI).

In addition, much of the growth in emissions in developing countries results from the provision of basic human needs for growing populations, while emissions in industrialized countries contribute to growth in a standard of living that is already far above that of the average person worldwide. This is clearly illustrated by large contrasts in per capita carbon emissions between industrialized and developing countries. Per capita emissions of carbon in the US are over 20 times higher than in India, 12 times higher than in Brazil and seven times higher than in China.

Xinhua

China hits five-year plan target for emissions reduction

BEIJING, 3 Dec — China’s chief negotiator to the UN climate change talks in Cancun has said that since 2006 the country has emitted 10 percent less pollution than the previous five years. Xie Zhenhua, deputy director of the National Development and Reform Commission, made the remarks before leading the 70-strong Chinese government delegation to Mexico for the talks.

China had hit its emissions reduction goal a month ahead of schedule and would finish the overall energy target on time, Xie said at a conference held in Beijing on Monday and Tuesday.

China’s 11th Five-Year Programme (2006-2010) on national economic and social development set a target to reduce the total pollutant emissions by 10 percent and energy consumption per 10,000 yuan of gross domestic product (GDP) by 20 percent. China reduced energy consumption by the equivalent of 490 million tonnes of standard coal and cut carbon dioxide emissions by 1.13 billion tonnes in the four years from 2006 to 2009, but he gave no total figure for how much energy was consumed or for emissions.

To achieve the goals, China has conducted a nationwide campaign to eliminate energy-consuming and polluting facilities in industries such as electricity generating, steel making and coal-related production.

From 2006 to 2009, China had an average annual GDP growth rate of 11.4 percent, while the average annual energy consumption growth rate was 6.8 percent, said Xie.

Xinhua

Moderate quake strikes Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 3 Dec — An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.2 jolted Sumatra island of Indonesia on Wednesday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency of Indonesia said. The quake struck at 07:50 am Jakarta Time (0050 GMT) with its epicentre at 4 km southwest Prapat of North Sumatra and a depth at 160 km, the agency said.

Xinhua

‘Trillions’ of Earths orbit red stars in older galaxies

LONDON, 3 Dec — Astronomers say the Universe may contain three times the number of stars as is currently thought. Their assessment is based on new observations showing other galaxies may have very different structures to our Milky Way galaxy. The researchers tell the journal Nature that more stars probably means many more planets as well - perhaps “trillions” of Earth-like worlds.

The Yale University-led study used the Keck telescope in Hawaii. It found that galaxies older than ours contain 20 times more red dwarf stars than more recent ones. Red dwarfs are smaller and dimmer than our own Sun; it is only recently that telescopes have been powerful enough to detect them.

According to Yale’s Professor Pieter van Dokkum, who led the research, the discovery also increases the estimate for the number of planets in the Universe and therefore greatly increases the likelihood of life existing elsewhere in the cosmos.

“There are possibly trillions of Earths orbiting these stars,” he said. “Red dwarfs are typically more than 10 billion years old and so have been around long enough for complex life to evolve on planets around them. It’s one reason why people are interested in this type of star.”

INTERNET

Red sky at night: The view from a planet in our galaxy (left) but planets in older galaxies (right) are bathed in a rosy glow from the many red stars in the night sky (artist’s impression).—INTERNET

The Yale University-led study used the Keck telescope in Hawaii. It found that galaxies older than ours contain 20 times more red dwarf stars than more recent ones. Red dwarfs are smaller and dimmer than our own Sun; it is only recently that telescopes have been powerful enough to detect them.

According to Yale’s Professor Pieter van Dokkum, who led the research, the discovery also increases the estimate for the number of planets in the Universe and therefore greatly increases the likelihood of life existing elsewhere in the cosmos.

“There are possibly trillions of Earths orbiting these stars,” he said. “Red dwarfs are typically more than 10 billion years old and so have been around long enough for complex life to evolve on planets around them. It’s one reason why people are interested in this type of star.”

INTERNET

People queue outside a social welfare office in Limerick, central Ireland. The country’s coalition government unveiled a four-year plan last week which signalled spending cuts worth 10 billion euros and tax rises worth five billion euros.—INTERNET

Emirates Airlines planes are parked at the Dubai International Airport in the Gulf emirate. Talks between the United Arab Emirates and Canada over granting Emirati carriers more routes have been “exhausted,” the minister of economy said in statements published on Saturday.—INTERNET
Infant mortality in Brazil down 67.5% in past 30 years

RIO DE JANEIRO, 3 Dec—Brazil’s infant mortality rate dropped 67.5 percent in the past three decades, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) announced on Wednesday. Between 1980 and 2009, infant mortality in the country dropped from 69.12 to 22.47 deaths per 1,000 live births.

Most of those deaths (67.3 percent, from 90 percent in 1980) occurred during the child’s first month of life, while the rest (32.7 percent, from 40.7 percent in 1980) took place between the first month and the first year of life. The decrease in infant mortality after the child’s first month of life is due to several factors, the IBGE stated, such as mass immunization and incentive to breastfeeding programmes, the monitoring of pregnant women and newborns, and more widespread access to basic sanitation.—Internet

Hatching a cheap way to live in Beijing

BEIJING, 3 Dec—Ever imagined what it would be like to live inside a giant egg? Dai Haifei, 24, a newly graduated architect, decided to make his own egg-style home after being unable to afford Beijing’s sky-high rental prices. The two-meter high house with two wheels underneath is made from sack bags on the outside wall, bamboo splints on the inside and woodchips and grass seeds in between. “The seeds will grow in the natural environment and become soil,” Dai explained.

Dai was inspired to build the 6,427 yuan ($964) home after attending the 2010 Shanghai Biennale Exhibition where he was attracted by a novel architectural project called “City’s egg” earlier this year. “I was impressed by the green-notion of building a house like that, especially in cities like Beijing where rental price for a fresh graduate is a huge burden,” Dai said.

He moved the house steps away from his office where he would stay until midnight before going to sleep inside the “egg.” There’s only one bed, a water tank and a lamp inside the house. “I feel good living here though it’s simple, and a bit cold sometimes, what important for me, is - it saves me a lot of money!” Dai told a reporter.—Xinhua

Deforestation in Brazil’s Amazon drops to decade low

RIO DE JANEIRO, 3 Dec—Deforestation in Brazil’s Amazon rainforest region totaled 6,451 square km between August 2009 and July 2010, the lowest level since 1988, official figures showed on Wednesday. According to Gilberto Camara, director of the National Institute of Space Research (INPE), the figure was 14 percent down from 7,600 square km in the previous corresponding period.

Brazil has been striving to reduce deforestation in the rainforest region through Prodes (Amazon Deforestation Monitoring Project), which uses satellite technology to monitor areas that suffer deforestation, and calculates the annual figures. Environment Minister Izabella Teixeira called the figures “fantastic”, saying Brazil was moving closer to the target of reducing deforestation in the Amazon by 80 percent by 2020 — a goal set by the Brazilian government at the United Nations Climate Change Summit in Copenhagen last December.—Internet

Brain scans accurate at spotting autism

CHICAGO, 3 Dec—US researchers are closing in on an accurate test for autism, a finding that could lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment. The test, which uses conventional magnetic resonance imaging or MRI machines, detected 94 percent of individuals with a high-functioning form of autism, they reported on Thursday.

“These results are the best yet in the search for a biological basis in terms of being able to distinguish those with and without the disease,” said Nicholas Lange of Harvard Medical School, who directs the Neurostatistics Laboratory at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Massachusetts. He said the findings, published in the journal Autism Research, were very preliminary, but if confirmed in several more and larger studies, they might replace current subjective tests now used to diagnose the disorder.—Internet

An autistic child looks out from behind a chair at a consulting centre for autism in Amman, on 30 March, 2010.—Internet
‘Person of interest’ in Chasen death kills self

LOS ANGELES, 3 Dec — Detectives investigating the slaying of Hollywood publicist Ronni Chasen tried to ask questions of a “person of interest” in the lobby of a Los Angeles residence hotel, but the man pulled out a handgun and killed himself, police said. The Beverly Hills detectives were serving a search warrant at the building about 6 pm Wednesday when they located the man and attempted to speak with him.

LAPD Capt Kevin McClure said the man pulled the weapon and shot himself. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Beverly Hills police Chief David Snowden told The Associated Press in an e-mail that the man “was a person of interest only” in Chasen’s death. Police spokesman Tony Lee emphasized at a news conference that the murder investigation was not over.

Terri Gilpin, a building resident, said she was taking a nap when she heard a single shot fired. “I thought it was backfire, but I was kind of half-asleep, in a drowsy state of mind,” she said. “It was kind of like a pop.” Gilpin said she saw blood splattered on the lobby floor of the Harvey Apartments. The building has about 170 units with rents starting at about $625 a month, 25-year-old resident Terry Pendergrass said.—Internet

Four heritage sites in Cyprus, Italy granted “enhanced protection” by UNESCO

PARIS, 3 Dec — Three World Heritage sites in Cyprus and fourth in Italy have been given “enhanced protection” status by the cultural property protection council of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recently, the Paris-based UN organization said on Tuesday.

The Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict endorsed this decision in its fifth meeting at UNESCO Headquarters from 22 to 24 Nov, the organization said in a statement. These sites are Choirokoitia, Paphos (sites I and II) and the Painted Churches of the Troodos Region in Cyprus and Castel del Monte in Italy. “Enhanced protection status reinforces the legal measures in place to prevent such terrible losses to the world’s cultural heritage,” said Nout van Woordenberg, the committee chairman.

Mostar Bridge in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Old city of Dubrovnik in Croatia were valuable cultural heritage sites destroyed in conflicts, according to the UNESCO. “Enhanced protection” is one of the features of the 1999 Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. This protection outlaws using or targeting cultural sites in times of conflict by any means and identifies intentional attacks as criminal offenses.—Internet

Thieves in Spain rob art van, including Picasso

MADRID, 3 Dec — Spanish police and media say hooded thieves have stolen a van containing some 20 pieces of art reportedly including works by Picasso, Colombian artist Fernando Botero and Spanish sculptor Eduardo Chillida. A police official said Thursday the van was taken from a warehouse in near the town of Getafe on Madrid’s southern outskirts. The official spoke condition of anonymity in line with department rules.

Police refused to say exactly what was stolen but the Spanish newspaper El Mundo and other media said it included a Picasso drawing, and paintings, engravings and sculptures from some of the other artists. The daily ABC said the art was valued at least (EURO)5 million ($6.6 million).

The Crisoloto transport company responsible for the van had no immediate comment on the reported theft.—Internet

Town that Disney built has 1st killing in 14 years

CELEBRATION, 3 Dec — Celebration, Disney’s master-planned, picture-perfect central Florida community, has never reported a homicide in its 14-year existence until this week.

Residents of the town five miles south of Walt Disney World woke Tuesday to the sight of yellow crime-scene tape wrapped around a condo near the Christmas-decorated downtown, where Bing Crosby croons from speakers hidden in the foliage. A 58-year-old neighbour who lived alone with his Chihuahua had been slain over the long Thanksgiving weekend, Osceola County sheriff’s deputies said.

The community’s famous friendliness is what brought investigators Matteo Giovi and itto’s body. Neighbours hadn’t seen the victim for days, so they filed a missing person’s report, then went into his condo a day later and found him.

A few years ago, a resident joked with a reporter that Celebration would feel like real town when a bike was stolen. Now, it has an unsolved killing on its hands. With 11,000 residents, Celebration is something of anomaly in Central Florida. There’s no suburban sprawl the entire place is reminiscent of a twee New England Village.—Internet

Kathmandu Int’l Mountain Film Festival to be held in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 3 Dec — The 8th Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival (KIMFF), organized by Himal Association, is going to be held from 9 to 13 December in Nepali Capital Kathmandu. According to a Press release of the Himal Association, 62 films covering a wide array of subjects including conflict, culture, climbing, wildlife, environment, globalization, gender, development and lifestyles will be screened back-to-back at the City Hall and the Nepal Tourism Board.

The festival received over 330 entries from 62 countries this year, of which 62 films from 35 countries have been selected for the festival. Twenty films will be screened in the International Competition category, 36 in the International non-competitive category, and six films in Nepal Panorama category, according to the organizers. The top three films in the international competitive category will receive cash awards of 1,500, 1,000 and 500 US dollars respectively.

A three-member international jury comprising British climber and author Terry Gifford, Chinese filmmaker Li Wenming and British climber David Durkan will judge the best films. KIMFF 2010 will feature several satellite programmes including a photo exhibition “Manang: 30 Years After” by Czech photographers father and son duo Michal Thomas and Zdenek Thoma and slide presentations/lecture, film-making workshop, animation workshop and alternative book exhibition.

KIMFF 2010 coincides with the International Year for Rapprochement of Cultures and the International year of Biodiversity.

Konovalova Daria reacts after winning the “Miss Russia 2010” beauty contest in Moscow, Russia, on 1 Dec, 2010. The final of the “Miss Russia 2010” pageant was held here Wednesday.

Xinhua

Kathmandu Int’l Mountain Film Festival to be held in Nepal

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 4 December, 2010

XINHUA

XINHUA

INTERNET

INTERNET

INTERNET

INTERNET

INTERNET
Russia will host World Cup in 2018, Qatar in 2022

ZURICH, 3 Dec — Picture soccer fans parading on Red Square in the Cold War’s darkest days. Imagine high-tech air-conditioned stadiums chilled so players and spectators don’t keel over in the sweltering desert heat of the Middle East. For all the allegations of corruption and rigged voting that have been leveled lately against FIFA, the governing body of world soccer, the much-maligned group certainly has a taste for adventure.

In taking the World Cup to the uncharted lands of Russia in 2018 and tiny but oil-wealthy Qatar in 2022, FIFA — like the International Olympic Committee — is leading the charge for the argument that sports can reshape history and influence the destinies and the way people and nations are seen by the rest of the world. — Internet

Clijsters captures WTA Player of the Year award

ST PETERSBURG, 3 Dec — Kim Clijsters, whose five titles in 2010 included her second US Open crown in a row, was named the WTA Player of the Year in awards voting announced by the tour on Wednesday. The 27-year-old Belgian, who also won the award in 2005, won at Brisbane, Miami, Cincinnati and the season-ending WTA Championships in Dubai as well as taking her third title at Flushing Meadows.

Just one year after making a comeback following a break to rest injuries and start a family, Clijsters was voted the top honor in a balloting of players as well as the Player Service award for supporting women’s tennis off the court. “It’s really nice to win the Player of the Year award just one year after making a comeback,” Clijsters said.

Born in Belgium, Clijsters began playing tennis at age six. She turned professional in 1998. She won a total of four Grand Slam singles titles, four Grand Slam doubles titles, one WTA singles title, one WTA doubles title, one Fed Cup and one Olympic gold medal.

From car honks to Twitter, Russia revels in World Cup

MOSCOW, 3 Dec — President Dmitry Medvedev wrote “Hurraay!” on his blog Thursday and his prime minister hailed both his country and FIFA as Russia rejoiced in the honor of finally being picked to stage the World Cup. “Hurray! Victory!” Medvedev wrote in his Twitter account moments after the FIFA 2018 vote in Zurich was broadcast live on most Russian television channels.

Medvedev quickly added that all of Russia needed to do now was break its decades-long run of under-performance at the world’s most-watched event. “Now we have to really prepare the way we stage the World Cup. And, of course, put up a deserving performance.”

Medvedev wrote: Arctic chills across European Russia kept most of the festivities indoors as only a few dozen braved the -25 Celsius weather to launch celebratory paper lanterns from Moscow’s Sparrow Hills. The announcement caught many Muscovites in the traditional traffic jams that choke most of this city’s arteries at almost any time of day. But happy honks rose over the city at around 6:30 pm (1530 GMT) as news of the decision spread.

Liverpool progress in Europa League despite Reina howler

PARIS, 3 Dec — Liverpool reached the Europa League last 32 on Thursday with a 1-1 draw at Steaua Bucharest, but a blunder by Spanish goalkeeper Pepe Reina allowed the Romanian to claim a crucial point which put them closer to the next round.

Milan Jovanovic headed Roy Hodgson’s team ahead after 19 minutes from a Ryan Babel cross but Eder Bomfim equalised on the hour mark when his header slipped under Reina’s dive.

Sotiris Kyrgiakos almost claimed all three points for a Liverpool side showing eight changes from their last outing, but his header hit the crossbar.

Reina admitted he had been at fault for Steaua’s goal. — Internet

Tiger Woods takes the lead in his tournament

THOUSAND OAKS, 3 Dec — Those streaks of good play from Tiger Woods keep getting a little longer. In one of his most complete rounds of the year, Woods missed only two greens and putted for eagle four times Thursday on his way to a 7-under 65 for a one-shot lead over US Open champion Graeme McDowell and Rory McIlroy in the Chevron World Challenge.

Wood's four putted on the 18th hole before an old flail crept into his new swing. He popped up his tee shot, forcing him to pitch out from behind a tree and two-putt from 50 feet to escape with bogey. Even so, he matched his best score of the year, and was atop the leaderboard for only the second time in his troublesome season.

About the only club that didn’t cooperate was his new putter, although that’s nothing new. — Internet

Davis Cup dream in reach for Serbia’s Djokovic

BELGRADE, 3 Dec — Novak Djokovic will carry the hopes of Serbia in the Balkan nation’s first ever Davis Cup final against nine-times former winners France at the 16,000-capacity Belgrade Arena this weekend. The world number three is seen here as a solid bet to won both his singles rubbers, leaving his team-mates free to add the clinching point in one of the three remaining ties. But with both captains in two minds about their choice of a second singles player and the doubles scenario too close to call, it could go all the way on Sunday. Djokovic has been the driving force behind Serbia’s rise as a Davis Cup power and this year he has a perfect five wins out of five played as the Serbs stormed past the United States, Croatia and the Czech Republic. — Internet

Chelsea reach Wilkins compensation deal

LONDON, 3 Dec — Chelsea have reached a compensation agreement with Ray Wilkins just a few weeks after the English champions sacked him as their assistant manager. Wilkins, a former Chelsea captain and ex-England midfielder, was told his contract, due to expire at the end of the season, would not be renewed and would be terminated with immediate effect.

Chelsea sacked Wilkins last month, prompting him to hire lawyers, but have now reached what both sides say is an “amicable” resolution.

Milan Jovanovic (R) of FC Liverpool fights for the ball with Banel Nicolin (L) of Steaua Bucharest during the Europa League group K football match in Bucharest. — Internet

People launch lanterns in Moscow as they celebrate Russia’s victory in their bid to host the 2018 World Cup. — Internet

A local supporter waves the Russian national flag as he celebrates after FIFA President Joseph Blatter announced on 2 December, in Zuirch, that Russia would host the 2018 World Cup.
UK hostage death in Afghanistan blamed on US grenade

LONDON, 3 Dec — A US grenade killed a British hostage in Afghanistan during a rescue attempt, and members of the US-led rescue team have been disciplined for not reporting full details of the operation, Britain said on Thursday. Landing on a steep mountainside in pitch darkness, US forces had thrown a grenade after coming under attack, but it inadvertently killed 36-year-old aid worker Linda Norgrove, Britain’s foreign minister said.

“It became apparent that Linda had been taken into the gulley into which the grenade had been thrown and where her body had now been discovered,” Foreign Secretary William Hague said, announcing the findings where her body had now been discovered,” Foreign Secretary William Hague said, announcing the findings.

The investigation team had access to the provisional post mortem results, of a US-UK probe into the operation. “The investigation by police and the MoD has concluded that Linda Norgrove died as a result of her injuries,” Hague said.

Secretary Hague added that the probe would continue and he said a report would be published. He added: “This is an investigation in which we will not pre-judge the findings.”

The findings were announced on the same day that a High Court judge opened a separate investigation into the British military's actions in Afghanistan, in a case brought by the family of aid worker John Cantlie.

Judge Brian Hesse said the case had been brought before the court, asking it to decide whether the British government had a duty to investigating the Continue reading...

Forecast valid until evening of the 4th December 2010: Expectation light rain are likely to be isolated in Taninthay Region and weather will be generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong Easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthay Coast. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated light rain in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-12-2010: Generally fair weather.

Weather Outlook For First Weekend Of December 2010: During the coming weekend, weather will be generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region and partly cloudy Yangon Region.

FORECAST FOR THE NORTH OF THE BAY OF BENGAL: N.B. From 4th to 21st December, generally fine weather will prevail in the area.

The Weather Outlook for the First Weekend of December 2010 is on the following pages.

WEATHER

Friday, 3rd December, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan and Rakhae States, Bago and Yangon Regions and generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Kachin, Southern Shan and Mon States, Taninthay Region, (6°C) above December average temperatures in Eastern Shan State and (3°C) below December average temperatures in Chin State and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Regions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Machanbaw, Pinlaung and Mindat (5°C) each and Katha (6°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded was Kawihoing (0.24) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw
Maximum temperature on 2-12-2010 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 3-12-2010 was 64°F. Relative humidity at (09-30) hours MST on 3-12-2010 was (74%). Rainfall on 3-12-2010 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)
Maximum temperature on 2-12-2010 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 3-12-2010 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09-30) hours MST on 3-12-2010 was (70%). Total sunshine hours on 2-12-2010 was (9.3) hours. Rainfall on 3-12-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (82.76) inches at Mingaladon, (96.34) inches at Kaba-Aye and (108.62) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Northeast at (18:30) hours MST on 2-12-2010.

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

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (4-12-2010)(Saturday)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transmissions Times</th>
<th>Local Transmission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversea Transmission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Transmission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Opening</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* News</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* School for the Blind (Kyi Myint Daing)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* News</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Secret Palaces for Yummy food (Myeik Noodle)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* News</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Let’s have a choice the most graceful dresses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* News</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Debate about Computer &amp; Internet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Oversea Transmission

* Opening
* News
* School for the Blind (Kyi Myint Daing)
* News
* Secret Palaces for Yummy food (Myeik Noodle)
* News
* Let’s have a choice the most graceful dresses
* News
* “Record Album”: Will You Favour Me, Four Year In Mandalay
* Debate about Computer & Internet
* News
* Mularsheedi we Love!
* Fantastic Scenic Sunsets of Myanmar
* News
* Music Gallery
* News
* The Wachet Jivitadana Sanga Hospital
* News
* Travelling on the Chin Mountain Ranges
* Myanmar Movie ‘Night Walker’
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

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

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

Model paddy plot harvested in Monghsat Township, for right monsoon paddy production

Knowledge Garden library opened in Kayangyi Village of Twantay Township

Monghsat, 2 Dec—Chairman of Monghsat District Peace and Development Council U Thaung Tin Htwe, together with Assistant Director U Tin Aung Kyi of District Settlement and Land Records Department, Assistant Director U Kyaw Thein of District Planning Department, Township PDC Chairman U Naing Aye, Staff Officer U Win Min of Township Settlement and Land Records Department, Staff Officer U Kyaw Soe Win of Township Planning Department, Staff Officer U Nyan Kyi Oo of Irrigation Department, and Township Manager U Sai Shwe Than of Township Myanmar Agriculture Service, attended the monsoon paddy harvesting ceremony at a farm at holdings No. 103, field No. 20 in North Melswam Ward of Monghsat Township on 27 November.

Harvested paddy strain at the ceremony was “Emahta” (high yield) with the per acre yield of 70.29 baskets.

Knowledge Garden library opened in Kayangyi Village of Twantay Township

Yangon, 2 Dec — A new library was opened in Kayangyi Village in Twantay Township in Yangon South District on 24 November.

Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Thant Zaw Han, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Thet Oo and Village PDC Chairman U Maung Htwe formally opened the “Knowledge Garden” library.

The head of Township IPRD explained the purpose of opening libraries at the ceremony, followed by book donation ceremony where Township IPRD, Township War Veterans Organization donated 150 books, 180 copies of dailies and 12 copies of journals through the village PDC chairman. The cost of the building is over K 2.7 million.

Model paddy plot harvested in Monghsat Township, for right monsoon paddy production

Owing to effective encouragement and directives given by the government, the leading role played by the Ministry of Health, and participation of many organizations in HIV/AIDS prevention and control, HIV infection rate in individuals between age group of 15-49 years was on the gradual decrease in 2010.