Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend graduation dinner of DSA 53

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

Senior General Than Shwe attends the graduation dinner of No. 53 Intake of the Defence Services Academy in PyinOoLwin.—MNA

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

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

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

Sunday, 12 December, 2010

A patriotic Tatmadaw

The Graduation Parade of No.53 Intake of the Defence Services Academy was held at the convocation hall of the DSA in PyinOoLwin on 10 December.

Delivering an address at the graduation parade, Senior General Than Shwe, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, said: “The milestones in the two decades of nation-building history where no sector remains without development are the proof that demonstrates the depth of the goodwill of the Tatmadaw that has charged its duties for the people. You comrades must, as members of the people’s Tatmadaw, observe these traditions of the Tatmadaw and provide assistance and support to the new government that comes to power in order to achieve national development. At the same time, you are to serve your principal duty, the strengthening of national defence, and continue standing as the patriotic Armed Forces.”

In successive periods, the Tatmadaw always protected the State and the people. And no matter what contingencies arose, the Tatmadaw was on the people’s side. Now it is also making nation-building endeavours by laying down the political, economic and social objectives, upholding Our Three Main National Causes.

The Tatmadaw worked strenuously for community peace and tranquillity and the rule of law. All illegal armed groups in the country were invited to return to the legal fold. As a result, many of them are now joining hands with the State to work for regional development. With national reconsolidation among the national people, development infrastructures were built for national development.

In promoting national economy, efforts were made for all-round development of other sectors of the economy, based on agriculture. All requirements, including adequate supply of irrigation water and extended construction of dams and reservoirs, have been fulfilled and as a result, acreage of cultivable land has increased. Annually, more than 1500 million baskets of paddy are produced. All sectors such as forestry, electricity and industry have improved, and networks of roads, railroads and bridges have been built nationwide. Significant progress has also been made in the education and health sector.

In a couple of decades, the Tatmadaw has built development infrastructures with added momentum for a new nation. These are the milestones in history that prove the goodwill efforts of the Tatmadaw. With its fine traditions, the Tatmadaw will remain as a patriotic one for the nation and the people while promoting the national defence.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, said: “The milestones in the two decades of nation-building history where no sector remains without development are the proof that demonstrates the depth of the goodwill of the Tatmadaw that has charged its duties for the people. You comrades must, as members of the people’s Tatmadaw, observe these traditions of the Tatmadaw and provide assistance and support to the new government that comes to power in order to achieve national development. At the same time, you are to serve your principal duty, the strengthening of national defence, and continue standing as the patriotic Armed Forces.”

In successive periods, the Tatmadaw always protected the State and the people. And no matter what contingencies arose, the Tatmadaw was on the people’s side. Now it is also making nation-building endeavours by laying down the political, economic and social objectives, upholding Our Three Main National Causes.

The Tatmadaw worked strenuously for community peace and tranquillity and the rule of law. All illegal armed groups in the country were invited to return to the legal fold. As a result, many of them are now joining hands with the State to work for regional development. With national reconsolidation among the national people, development infrastructures were built for national development.

In promoting national economy, efforts were made for all-round development of other sectors of the economy, based on agriculture. All requirements, including adequate supply of irrigation water and extended construction of dams and reservoirs, have been fulfilled and as a result, acreage of cultivable land has increased. Annually, more than 1500 million baskets of paddy are produced. All sectors such as forestry, electricity and industry have improved, and networks of roads, railroads and bridges have been built nationwide. Significant progress has also been made in the education and health sector.

In a couple of decades, the Tatmadaw has built development infrastructures with added momentum for a new nation. These are the milestones in history that prove the goodwill efforts of the Tatmadaw. With its fine traditions, the Tatmadaw will remain as a patriotic one for the nation and the people while promoting the national defence.

Mass walk activities organized in second week of December

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—The mass walk activities for second week of December 2010 started in front of Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market this morning. Departmental heads, service personnel, staff families and people totaling over 8700 participated in the activities that finished in front of the Myanma Gems Museum.

Service personnel, staff family members and people participate in mass walk activities for second week of December 2010.—MNA

Cash donated for Pakistani flood victims

YANGON, 11 Dec — Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung addressed cash donation ceremony for Pakistani flood victims at Yangon branch of the ministry here this afternoon.

Religious Affairs Ministry donated K 0.5 m; Buddhist associations totally K 2.5 m; Hindu associations totally K 1,513,001; Islamist associations totally K 1 m; and Christian associations totally K 1 m through the minister who returned certificates of honour to the wellwishers.—MNA

Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung accepts cash donation for Pakistani flood victims from a wellwisher.—MNA

X’mas mas special sales of Technoland

YANGON, 11 Dec—Technoland organizes the X’mas mas special sales from 1 to 31 December. Its showrooms display desktops, laptops, netbooks, all-in-one, projectors, Macbooks, iMacs, iPods, iPads, iPhones and accessories. As lucky draw programme, the customers can get buying card worth K 5.5 million.

Showroom (1) of Technoland is kept open at 186-188 on Maha Bandoola Park Road, Kyauktada Township, Tel: 01-7302437, 01-73024328 and 01-73041734; showroom (2) at No. 98 on Inya Road, Kamayut Township, Tel: 01-500747 and 514303; showroom (3) on 78th street between 39th and 40th streets in Mahaungmye Township, Tel: 02-91024802, 02-91024819 and 09-2016125.—MNA

Showroom of Technoland seen with visitors at special sales.—MNA

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

**Baghdad, 11 Dec—** Police captured four gunmen after a shootout in Saddam Hussein’s hometown Friday following a drive-by attack on a security checkpoint that killed two guards, officials said.

Also Friday, a roadside bomb killed two people in Baghdad. The gunbattle took place in Tikrit, some 80 miles (130 kilometers) north of the capital, where armed men in a speeding car opened fire on a checkpoint. The assailants fled into a fruit orchard, and were captured after a shootout with police.

**India testfires Agni II plus missile**

**New Delhi, 11 Dec—** India Friday testfired its nuclear-capable intermediate-range ballistic missile Agni II plus missile off the coast of the eastern state of Orissa, highly placed sources said.

“Agni II plus is an upgraded version of Agni II surface-to-surface missile which was testfired from Integrated Test Range at Wheeler Island off the coast of Orissa at 10:00 am local time. Initial reports suggest that the test has been successful but we are waiting for more data to establish this because the missile was testfired at inclement weather,” the sources said.

Agni II plus is a modified version of the Agni II strategic missile developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization. It’s more accurate and powerful than its predecessor. The missile is able to hit targets in between 2,500 km and 3,000 km, thus bridging the gap between Agni II missile which has a target of 2,500 km and Agni III missile having a range of 3,000 km.—Xinhua

**Iran condemns attacks against nuclear scientists**

**United Nations, 11 Dec—** Iran strongly condemns the attacks killing Iranian nuclear scientists over the past weeks as “terrorist attacks,” the Iranian permanent representative to the UN, Mohammad Khazaee, said in an open letter to UN leaders issued here Friday.

Khazaee said Iran is deeply concerned over “such cruel, inhuman and criminal acts of terrorism against the Iranian scientists.”

The Iranian ambassador made the statement in his letter to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, General Assembly President Joseph Deiss, and Susan Rice, the US ambassador to the UN who holds the rotating Council presidency for December.

The letter came after major powers — five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany and Iran agreed on Tuesday to meet again next month on the dispute of the Iranian nuclear programme.

Teheran denied the Western allegations that it is developing nuclear weapons, insisting its nuclear programme is only for peaceful purpose.

“While reiterating the peaceful nature of Iranian nuclear activities, I would like to emphasize that Iran would not compromise over its inalienable right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and any kind of political and economic pressures or terrorist attacks targeting the Iranian nuclear scientists, could not prevent our nation in exercising this right,” Khazaee said.

The Iranian ambassador also noted that UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the Security Council are “expected to uphold responsibilities in condemning these inhumane terrorist acts and to take effective steps towards elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.”

On 29 Nov, two Iranian prominent physicists, Majid Shhriari and Fereydoun Abbasi Davani, were targeted in two separate terrorist attacks in the Iranian capital of Teheran. Shhriari was martyred as a result and Abbasi Davani and his wife were seriously injured.

In January this year, Professor Massoud Ali Mohammadi, who is also an Iranian scientist, was assassinated in front of his house.—Internet

**Roadside bomb kills 15 Afghan civilians**

**Kandahar, 11 Dec—** Fifteen Afghan civilians were killed when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in the country’s southern Helmand Province, authorities said on Saturday.

The incident happened on Friday in the Khan Neshin District of Helmand, said provincial spokesman Dawud Ahmadi. No further details were available. “It was a newly planted mine,” said Ahmadi. Violence in Afghanistan is at its worst since the Taleban were overthrown more than nine years ago with record casualties on all sides of the conflict, despite the presence of almost 150,000 foreign troops.

Ordinary Afghans have borne the brunt of the fighting. According to UN figures, 1,271 civilians were killed in the first six months of this year, a 21 percent jump on the same period in 2009. This year has also been the deadliest for foreign troops since the war began in late 2001. Around 680 troops have died so far in 2010 compared to 521 for all of 2009. Around 2,250 foreign troops have died in Afghanistan since the start of the war.

Last month, NATO leaders agreed to hand control of security in Afghanistan to Afghan forces by the end of 2014 and said the NATO-led force could halt combat operations by the same date if security conditions were good enough. But some US and NATO officials have said the spike in violence and problems in building up a capable Afghan army and police force to take over could make it hard to meet the 2014 target date set by President Hamid Karzai.—MNA/Reuters

**Situation in Afghanistan**

**Kabul, 11 Dec—** Following are security developments in Afghanistan at 05:00 GMT on Saturday.

**Paktia—** An airstrike by the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) killed seven employees of a road construction company overnight, said Paktia Deputy Governor Abdur Rahman Mangal.

He said the workers had been in tents beside a road near the provincial capital of Gardez when the incident happened. No further details were available. ISAF said they were looking into the incident but declined further comment.

**Kunduz—** A suicide bomber using a police vehicle attacked an Afghan National Army convoy on Saturday, wounding five soldiers and three women who were in the area, said Char Dara District Chief Abdul Wahid Omnaheil.

Fifteen civilians were killed on Friday when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in Khan Neshin District of Helmand Province, said provincial spokesman Dawud Ahmadi.

**Kandahar—** Fifteen civilians were killed on Friday when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in Khan Neshin District of Helmand Province, said provincial spokesman Dawud Ahmadi.
New microchip card for US purchases in Europe

Travelex solves that problem by kiosk. A new prepaid smart card from street, paying for highway tolls or being unable to use a US-issued credit card. You may have had the frustrating experience of travelled to Europe recently, you may have had the frustrating experience of being unable to use a US-issued credit card for automated transactions, like renting a bike from a stand on the street, paying for highway tolls or buying a train ticket from an unmanned kiosk. A new prepaid smart card from Travelex solves that problem by utilizing the microchip and PIN technology that is standard in credit cards in Europe, making it easier to pay for things when traveling abroad.

Internet

New York, 11 Dec—If you've travelled to Europe recently, you may have had the frustrating experience of being unable to use a US-issued credit card for automated transactions, like renting a bike from a stand on the street, paying for highway tolls or buying a train ticket from an unmanned kiosk. A new prepaid smart card from Travelex solves that problem by utilizing the microchip and PIN technology that is standard in credit cards in Europe, but not here.

The new Cash Passport card can be bought in either euros or pounds from Travelex retail stores. They will also be sold online next year from the http://www.USTravelex.com website, which also lists Travelex retail store locations.

The cards are preloaded with an amount of money you choose at an exchange rate of 3.75 to 11.5 percent. The more money you load, the lower the exchange rate.

“Thank goodness. Such a headache when travelling in Europe,” tweeted Leyla Farah when she read about the new product.

Farah, a social media specialist with a soon-to-be-launched site called HotelHostess.com that offers trip advice for women, later elaborated in a phone interview that she had been unable to use a US credit card to rent a bike on the street in Paris or to make small purchases from corner kiosks in Spain.

Internet

China says inflation up 5.1 percent in November

BEIJING, 11 Dec—China’s inflation surged to a 28-month high in November, officials said Saturday, despite government efforts to increase food supplies and end diesel shortages.

The 5.1 percent inflation rate was driven by a 11.7 percent jump in food prices year on year.

The news comes as China’s leaders meet for the top economic planning conference of the year and as financial markets watch for a widely anticipated interest rate hike to help bring rapid economic growth to a more sustainable level.

“I think this means that an interest rate hike of 25 basis points is very likely by the end of the year,” said CLSA analyst Andy Rothman.

China took the unusual move of releasing the inflation news on a Saturday, giving the markets time over the weekend to digest the news.

“So obviously we knew we were in for quite a large number,” said Alastair Thornton, China analyst for IHS Global Insight. Economists had forecast that China’s inflation rate would likely rise to over 5 percent in November.

China tried to calm the inflation news. “As long as all departments and regions conscientiously implement the 16 measures by the State Council for making prices stable, prices should be kept basically stable in the near future,” said Sheng Layun, spokesman for the National Statistics Bureau.

Beijing is trying to rein in food prices by launching efforts to increase production of vegetables and other basic goods. Authorities are cracking down on hoarding and speculation they say are partly to blame for the price rises.

Internet

Exports at two major US ports approach pro-recession record

Los Angeles, 11 Dec—Spurred by demand from developing countries like China, India, Indonesia and Malaysia, exports at Los Angeles and Long Beach ports are on track to approach the records set before the global recession, newly released figures showed.

Through October, the L.A. and Long Beach ports have moved 2.8 million export-carrying cargo containers, up 20 percent from the same period last year, according to figures published on Friday by its website.

If that pace continues through the end of the year, the two ports will handle about 3.4 million containers, which would rank second only to the 3.5 million moved in 2008, the report said, quoting figures from the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp (LACEDC) which focuses on international trade.

The increase in exports was mainly driven by growing demand from new middle-class consumers in China, India, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and other countries, said Ferdinando Guerra, an associate economist at LACEDC.

“The middle class in these countries have begun to thrive,” Guerra said.

“They countries are not really in recovery because they did not suffer as much as we did in the recession and their consumers are in a much better position overall.” Imports are growing rapidly too, but both ports will fall well short of their 2007 best, according to the report.

Internet

Oil falls on China’s tightening policy, stronger dollar

New York, 11 Dec—Crude prices Friday broke below 88 US dollars a barrel as China raised bank reserve requirement and positive economic data lifted dollar.

China’s central bank on Friday raised bank reserve requirement by 50 basis points for the third time in a month to counter inflation.

Investors are afraid that China is expecting a slower economic growth, and crude oil demand would drop down.

On Friday, the dollar got a lift as the preliminary December reading of consumer sentiment rose to its six-month high of 74.2 and US trade deficit for October narrowed to its lowest level in nine months of 38.7 billion dollars. Stronger dollar also pressured oil price.

Light, sweet crude for January delivery fell 58 cents to 87.79 US dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile.

Internet

Hot air balloons participate in the Hot Air Balloons Festival in Leon, Mexico, on 9 November, 2010.

Xinhua

Rovio turns to apps billing after Angry Birds hit

HELISSEL, 11 Dec—Finland’s Rovio Mobile, known for its Angry Birds puzzle video game, unveiled on Friday payment software that gives mobile telecom operators a chance to win a share of booming app store business.

Mobile operators have struggled to grab a piece of the mobile applications market worth $4.1 billion last year, according to research firm Chetan Sharma — as consumers pay with credit cards directly to Apple Inc or Google Inc. Rovio said it would start to roll out its payment solution in early 2011 for Android phones sold by Finland’s top mobile carrier, Elisa, for purchasing additional features in Angry Birds. “This gives operators some revenue, compared to none. We are going to open it up to all other developers,” said Peter Vesterbacka, head of Rovio’s business development in North America.

Vesterbacka said the company had seen strong interest toward payment software, which enables simple purchasing charged on a user’s phone bill.

Xinhua

A frozen tree in the forest in Reims, France, a day after a heavy snowfall caused major traffic disturbances in the country. icy roads paralyzed much of the Paris region on Thursday after the heaviest snow in a quarter of a century, while harsh weather in Germany hit flights and prompted major delays in rail travel.

Internet

Xinhua

Explosions

Oil falls on China’s tightening policy, stronger dollar

New York, 11 Dec—Crude prices Friday broke below 88 US dollars a barrel as China raised bank reserve requirement and positive economic data lifted dollar.

China’s central bank on Friday raised bank reserve requirement by 50 basis points for the third time in a month to counter inflation.

Internet

Hot air balloons participate in the Hot Air Balloons Festival in Leon, Mexico, on 9 November, 2010.

Xinhua

Rovio turns to apps billing after Angry Birds hit

HELISSEL, 11 Dec—Finland’s Rovio Mobile, known for its Angry Birds puzzle video game, unveiled on Friday payment software that gives mobile telecom operators a chance to win a share of booming app store business.

Mobile operators have struggled to grab a piece of the mobile applications market worth $4.1 billion last year, according to research firm Chetan Sharma — as consumers pay with credit cards directly to Apple Inc or Google Inc. Rovio said it would start to roll out its payment solution in early 2011 for Android phones sold by Finland’s top mobile carrier, Elisa, for purchasing additional features in Angry Birds. “This gives operators some revenue, compared to none. We are going to open it up to all other developers,” said Peter Vesterbacka, head of Rovio’s business development in North America.

Vesterbacka said the company had seen strong interest toward payment software, which enables simple purchasing charged on a user’s phone bill.

Xinhua

A frozen tree in the forest in Reims, France, a day after a heavy snowfall caused major traffic disturbances in the country. icy roads paralyzed much of the Paris region on Thursday after the heaviest snow in a quarter of a century, while harsh weather in Germany hit flights and prompted major delays in rail travel.

Internet

Xinhua
NASA’s Odyssey to become longest serving orbiter at Mars

LOS ANGELES, 11 Dec—NASA’s Mars Odyssey orbiter will have worked longer at Mars than any other spacecraft in history, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) announced on Thursday.

On 15 Dec, the 3,340th day since that arrival, Odyssey will pass the Martian career longevity record set by its predecessor, Mars Global Surveyor, which operated in orbit from 11 Sept, 1997 to 2 Nov, 2006, according to JPL in Pasadena, Los Angeles.

After entering orbit around Mars on 24 Oct, 2001, Odyssey made its most famous discovery—evidence for copious water ice just below the dry surface of Mars—during its first few months, JPL said.

After finishing its radiation-safety check for future astronauts before the end of its prime mission in 2004, Odyssey’s missions were extended, enabling the spacecraft to achieve many accomplishments that would not have been possible otherwise, JPL said.

“The extra years have allowed us to build up the highest-resolution maps covering virtually the entire planet,” said Odyssey Project Scientist Jeffrey Plaut at JPL.

The orbiter’s longevity has given Odyssey scientists the opportunity to monitor seasonal changes on Mars year-to-year, such as the cycle of carbon-dioxide freezing out of the atmosphere in polar regions during each hemisphere’s winter, according to JPL.

“It is remarkable how consistent the patterns have been from year to year, and that’s a comparison that wouldn’t have been possible without our mission extensions,” Plaut said.—Xinhua

Hospitals to report blood infections

WASHINGTON, 11 Dec—Hoping to erase a troubling legacy of preventable infections and deaths, most US hospitals on 1 Jan will begin reporting the number of patients who contract bloodstream infections following their treatment in intensive-care units.

The information about infections involving catheters will be made public on a government website later in 2011, giving consumers a fast, easy way to see which hospitals best protect patients from one of the most lethal, yet avoidable medical conditions.

Catheters are tubes used to draw blood or provide fluid or medication to patients. They’re commonly inserted into a patient’s large vein, usually in the chest, neck, arm or groin, and can remain in the body for several weeks. Infections result if bacteria or germs travel through the line and into the bloodstream.

Nearly 250,000 bloodstream infections occur each year in US hospitals due to catheters, and they contribute to roughly 12,000 patient deaths annually. But research shows that nearly all the infections are preventable when safety measures are used consistently by hospital staff.

The new reporting requirement for the infections is technically voluntary. But if any of the nation’s 4,300 acute-care hospitals don’t comply, they would lose 2 percent of their Medicare funding beginning in fiscal year 2013.—Internet

Australian scientists in peanut allergy treatment breakthrough

SYDNEY, 11 Dec—Australian scientists have identified peanut proteins that could be translated into the world’s first treatment for the often lethal food allergy, said Professor Robyn O’Hehir from Melbourne’s The Alfred hospital and Monash University on Friday. The research identified some “dominant fragments” of peanut proteins that lab tests showed were able to interact with immune cells from an allergic person to build tolerance with no sign of triggering anaphylaxis.

“These dominant fragments are the best candidates for a peanut allergy vaccine,” said O’Hehir who led the research.

“Immunotherapy is commonly used to treat people who are allergic to wasp and bee stings, where protein extracts from the venom are given in increasing doses to desensitize the individual,” O’Hehir said.

“Until now, peanuts have been regarded as too dangerous an allergy-provoker to try immunotherapy, however the latest discovery overcomes this problem,” O’Hehir said the peanut proteins could be translated into a therapy being tested clinical trials within three years and, if proven safe and effective, a world-first treatment could follow “within five to seven years.”—Xinhua

Bone drug Zometa flops in breast cancer study

SAN ANTONIO, 11 Dec—One of the most promising new approaches for fighting breast cancer took a stunning setback Thursday when a major study showed that a bone-building drug did not stop cancer from returning or extend life for most women fighting the disease. However, the drug Zometa did seem to help certain postmenopausal women. Its maker, Novartis AG, is considering further study, but will suspend plans to expand it beyond its current use as a treatment for patients whose cancer has spread to the bone.

“Ten years of work and to have essentially a therapy that’s a comparison that wouldn’t have been possible without our mission extensions,” Plaut said.—Xinhua

A meteor shower lights up the sky over the Mexican volcano Popocatepetl near the village San Nicolas de los Ranchos in Mexican state of Puebla in the early hours of 14 December, 2004. The shower, named Geminid because it appears to originate from the constellation Gemini, lit up the sky with dozens of shooting stars per hour. —Internet

Assistant Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Howard Koh, listens as Surgeon General Regina Benjamin announces her report “How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease,” on 9 Dec, 2010, during a news conference at the National Press Club in Washington. —Internet

Proton launch postponed due to failure

MOSCOW, 11 Dec—The next launch of the Proton-M carrier rocket with an European KA-SAT telecommunications satellite slated for 20 Dec was postponed, Interfax news agency reported on Friday. Interfax quoted a source from Baikonur Cosmodrome as saying the control centre “decided to suspend the launch until the investigation of the failed launch concludes.” Russian Space Agency Roscosmos said on Friday that the investigation on the failed Sunday launch would be completed before 17 Dec. Thus, the source was also quoted as saying that if the temporary ban on Proton launches could be lifted in the next few days, “the commercial launch of the European satellite would be conducted before the end of the year.” On 5 Dec, three navigation satellites launched with the Proton-M carrier rocket crashed in the Pacific Ocean off Hawaii Islands after falling off course.

According to the preliminary investigation reports, the failed launch might be caused by over-fueling of the upper stage. Russian deputy prime minister Sergei Ivanov Monday said that “the satellites themselves have nothing to do with this failure.”—Xinhua

A meteor shower lights up the sky with dozens of shooting stars per hour.
Brazil’s industrial employment stable for third consecutive month

RIO DE JANEIRO, 11 Dec—Brazil’s industrial employment level was stable in October compared to September, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) said on Friday.

The industrial employment grew 4.2 percent compared to October 2009, the ninth consecutive rise. In the first 10 months of 2010, the industrial employment was up 3.4 percent from the same period last year.

In November 2009 to October 2010 period, the employment levels were up 2.3 percent, keeping an upward trend started in December. The figures are the highest since November 2008.

The number of paid hours to industrial workers was down 0.8 percent from September and up 4 percent year on year. In the first 10 months, paid hours were up 4.2 percent compared to the same period in 2009; while in November 2009 to October 2010 period, the indicator was up 3.1 percent.

Indonesia reports bird flu, influenza A/H1N1 cases

JAKARTA, 11 Dec—Indonesian Health Ministry has reported one bird flu case and one influenza A/H1N1 case in West Java Province, spokesperson of the ministry Tri Tarayati said here on Thursday.

A 21-year-old woman had been treated in Hasan Sadikin Hospital in Bandung the capital of the Province for having bird flu (H5N1) and a 7-year old girl has also got medical treatment at the hospital for having A/H1N1 influenza virus, the spokesperson said.

The woman has started having medical treatment at the hospital since 22 November and the girl on 17 November, she said. “All the laboratory test show that they are positive on bird flu and swine flu.”—MNA/Xinhua

Volkswagen eleven-month sales surpass last year’s sales figure

FRANKFURT, 11 Dec—Europe’s biggest carmaker Volkswagen AG (VW) said Friday that its group eleven-month sales advanced 13 percent to 6.59 million, as it anticipated annual deliveries in 2010 would exceed 7 million for the first time.

With the 6.59 million units sold in 11 months, VW managed to exceed total deliveries for the full year 2009 of 6.29 million units. The company outperformed the trend on global automobile markets, benefiting from the upturn on most major automobile markets such as China, total deliveries of which for January to November reached 1.82 million units, up 37.8 percent compared with the same period of 2009.

Sales in Asia-Pacific region as a whole enjoyed an even stronger growth rate of 38.6 percent. The Group also reported continued high growth in the US, delivering 325,600 units, up 21.3 percent. Western Europe (excluding Germany) grew to 1.71 million units, while Central and Eastern Europe grew 9.8 percent. Growth in Russia was particularly positive with a rise of 36.3 percent. Domestically, the VW Group delivered 950,000 units, down 19 percent in the period to November, whereas the overall market contracted 25.2 percent due to the effects of the scrappage premium.—Xinhua

A car is covered with snow in Berlin, Germany, on 10 Dec 2010. The cold weather brought snowfall as well as travel difficulties to the same parts of the country. —Xinhua

Jordanian soccer violence leaves 250 hurt

AMMAN, 11 Dec—Around 250 people were injured in Amman on Friday in clashes between fans after Jordan’s largest Palestinian soccer team beat rival local team, hospital staff said.

Matches between the rival teams have a long history of violence, mirroring the divisions between the country’s majority Palestinians and native Jordanians, mostly tribes who inhabited the East Bank of the River Jordan before the influx of Palestinians after the creation of Israel in 1948.

Witnesses said the violence erupted after the Palestinian Widad team, won a crucial match 1-0 against the Jordanian Faisali team to qualify them for the domestic league. Riot police fired teargas and sealed off the stadium’s exits, triggering a stampede in which a large metal fence separating the crowds from the playing field collapsed, witnesses said.

Deputy Prime Minister and official spokesman Ayman Safadi told the state news agency Petra the authorities intervened to restore order after bottle throwing from inside the stadium. He said 150 people, including 25 police officers, were taken to hospital with injuries. Hospital staff said at least 250 to 300 were injured. —MENA/Reuters

Chefs present their creations during Chinese chef of the Year Competition in Greater Vancouver, Canada, on 6 Dec. 2010. The competition was staged in Greater Vancouver on Monday by the Chinese Restaurant Awards, a non-profit organization which promotes Chinese cuisine in North America.—Xinhua

Frost kills four overnight in Poland, total 70

WARSAW, 11 Dec—Four more people froze to death in Poland overnight, the Interior Ministry spokeswoman said on Friday, bringing the death toll to 70 since the start of severe winter weather in late November.

After several days of mild frosts, temperatures are expected to fall again to around -10 Celsius across Poland next week, which will probably increase the death toll farther. The meteorology institute IMGW has also warned there may be blizzards in northern parts of the country. —MENA/Reuters

Milan Expo 2015 seen to boost foreign investment in Italy

MILAN, 11 Dec—The annual assembly of the Association of Foreign Banks in Italy (AIBE) kicked off here on Friday, paving the way for an increase in foreign investment in view of Milan Expo 2015.

According to a statement released by Milan municipality, representatives of international banks, chambers of commerce and consulates attended the assembly in the presence of Milan Mayor Letizia Moratti.

AIBE is a non-profit association created in 1984 to represent the interests of foreign banks in Italy, analyze the trends related to international finance and dialogue with institutions.

“The collaboration between Milan municipality and AIBE is significantly increasing in view of the important infrastructures, technologies and environment projects related to Milan Expo 2015, which is a major opportunity to attract international investments in Milan,” Moratti said. The mayor stressed the importance of relations with foreign banks.

It is also thanks to its recently increased international drive that Milan has won the bid to host the next world exposition, Moratti added, recalling a protocol recently signed by Expo 2015 and AIBE aimed at boosting projects, and sensitizing foreign financial institutions based in Italy. Milan and its surrounding territory, she noted, hosts the offices of main Italian and foreign financial institutions.

According to official statistics, Milan is home to over 280,000 companies, 3,000 of which are multinationals, and destination of over 40 percent of Italy’s foreign direct investment.—Internet

12-12- 2010 NL.pmd 12/12/2010, 2:22 AM
Myanmar, our country

In Myanmar, the people are called under the name of their home towns. For instance, residents of Myeik, Mawlamyne, Hpa-an, Kentung, Yangon, Sittway, Falam, Magway, Bago, Loikaw, Taunggyi, Mandalay, Sagaing and Bhamo are called Myeikthar, Mawlamyinitthar; Hpa-anthar, Kentungthar, Yangonthar, Sittwaythar, Falamthar, Magwaythar, Bagothar, Loikawthar, Taunggythar, Mandalaythar, Sagaingthar and Bhamothar respectively. They are, indeed, the same, Myanmars. In like manner, any Myanmar people staying or living in the US, Canada, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Australia, Singapore or Malaysia are Myanmars because they were born in Myanmar and they are descendants of Myanmar people. It is impossible that they can discard all of Myanmar traditions, customs, lifestyle and characters.

Therefore, in times of emergency in which Myanmar traditions and culture are under threats, national brethren stick together far more than usual. Even if there is a conflict between siblings or relatives, the conflict does not last long. If and when necessary, they become united again and are hypersensitive to any forms of harms posed to their relations.

Now, the 2010 elections have been freely and fairly held owing to combined efforts the people had made with reviews, patriotic spirit, and Myanmar characters. Maybe, some people cast votes with personality cult and made wrong choices, but the image Myanmar has projected to the international community regarding the elections is very positive.

Myanmar people have embraced the unique opportunity to decide their future through the suffrage. However much external elements made comments on the elections and sowed hatred among the people, they have showed that they remain cohesive.

Representatives-elect have dealt with the people and understood their duties and what they have failed to do in the public interest. What important in that regard is that the entire people build unity among them and do their best. They have to do in unison in the political arena.

Each and every citizen has to remedy their past mistakes and shape the future with genuine goodwill, good ideas, correct decisions, code of moral conduct, and uprightness. Suppressing grudge, animosity, power-craving and conceit, the people should work hard with renewed efforts and views.

Due to great generosity shown to others, irrespective of wealth and race, Myanmar people take only a short time to return to normal, following fires, floods, natural disasters, earthquakes and storms. Whether they receive relief supplies or not, the people successfully cope with various forms of hardships with internal strength, contributions made by families and relatives, and advice given by venerable monks. In times of emergency, social organizations such as Fire Services, Red Cross Societies, women’s affairs organizations and maternal and child welfare associations at all levels, voluntary funeral service associations, health care associations, volunteers and individuals never fail to show self-motivation, generosity, compassion and loving-kindness.

To implement the election results for the future of the nation is not much difficult. So, pessimists should have stopped making comments and extended a helping hand. Myanmar expatriates in foreign countries who are attacking the government through radio stations should have shared their experiences, advanced technologies and knowledge to the motherland, instead of leveling accusations against the government. Entrepreneurs should have combined efforts greater than ever in harmony without rapaciousness to help boost national economy and raise the status of the nation with higher per capita income.

We should have stopped putting all the blame on individuals in the face of adversities, classifying them into people, politicians, intelligentsia and businessmen. We should do everything possible to scale up national development, harnessing natural resources, land and water sources, and using labour and machinery in combination.

We should work out plans to relay fine traditions in order that younger generations can learn etiquettes and code of moral conduct.

Every country admires their State Flags and National Anthems. Each National Anthem is full of national character. In addition, we have to take over national duties. So, I would like the entire people to be citizens who admire State Flag and National Anthem.

Many periods and systems were in the dim and distant past. Myanmar is a land full of natural beauty including the river Ayeyawady, mountain ranges around the nation, lush and green forests and woodlands. Moreover, Myanmar people are by nature just and upright with four cardinal virtues, and preserves fine traditions. And Myanmar is a land where Theravada Buddhism is as bright as the sunshine at noon. So, the more a citizen views the conditions of the nation delicately, the more he will cherish and adore the Myanmar society.

- Buddha Sasana in Myanmar with famous pagodas such as Maha Myat Muni Buddha Image, the Shwedagon Pagoda, and Kyaiktiyo Pagoda,
- Myanmar soil in which the people adhere to the duties of parents, teachers, pupils, children, relations and friends and warm attachment to one another,
- Myanmar lifestyle in which members of a family show loving-kindness and good relations between them,
- Myanmar society in which the people give help and have sympathy and care for one another,
- Myanmar full of cultural heritage, code of moral conduct and auspiciousness,
- Myanmar, a land, where the people show respects to one another,
- Myanmar, a land, where people of different religious faiths live in harmony.

Surely, if the people work together with the representative-elects to shape their future, they will achieve national goals and will be able to create a better society in the next five years.

Let’s strive for our country to be able to stand tall with rural and urban development in the international community. Let’s safeguard beautiful land, waters and fine traditions inherited by our forefather. Let’s work hard together with a sense of duty and nationalistic spirit.

Let’s make concerted efforts to ensure that Myanmar will be—
- a modern, developed country,
- a discipline-flourishing country,
- a country with high intellectual power of its people,
- a land of cultural heritage, fine traditions and customs,
- a land where Buddhism flourishes.

Let’s exert goodwill, loving-kindness, perseverance to the best of our ability. Let’s pursue our future goals. Let’s build a nation full of four cardinal virtues, deterrent principles of shame and fear to do unhonorable acts, and auspiciousness.

Let’s guard the Union made up of various national races such as Shan, Chin, Kachin, Mon, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin, Danu, Palaung, PaO, Wa, Inntha and Akha to future generations as national heritage, and to transform the Union into a modern, developed and peaceful land. Let’s take solemn vows to build a new nation.

In conclusion, I would like to urge the people to give help to each other and keep working hard despite unfair accusations leveled by many destructive elements under the influence of certain countries in order to surmount diverse acts designed to disrupt the nation from progress.

Translation: MS
Mountaineers of Mali snow-capped mountain honoured

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—A ceremony to honour a 31-member team led by Secretary Dr Khin Maung of Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Federation that successfully scaled on the peak of 15631 feet high Mali snow-capped mountain located in Putao District, was held at the hall of the Ministry of Sports yesterday morning.

Leader of the team Dr Khin Maung recounted their experience in climbing the mountain.

Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint decorated climbers with brooches of two stars and gifts to them.

The minister hosted a lunch to them.

The mountaineering team comprised 16 students of Yangon University of Medicine, Dagon University, Institute of Economics, Mandalay University of Foreign Languages, Yadanabon University, University for Veterinary Science and Magway University and 15 experienced climbers from MHMF. MNA

Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint presents gifts to a responsible person of Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Federation.—MNA

Gusto to conduct JAVA/JEE courses

YANGON, 11 Dec—As good opportunity for IT enthusiasts, Gusto computer technological training school will conduct programming courses to trainees to be able to seek jobs of Java/JEE developers.

Gusto classifies JAVA/JEE courses at two levels. Those having basic programming knowledge may attend the course. Those with lack of programming knowledge may attend the course after completion of programming fundamental course.

Interested persons may contact Gusto computer technological training school at No. 26 on 14th street (lower block) in Lanmadaw Township, Tel: 224496 and 09-8628806. MNA

A&I Minister participates in Meeting on Importance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo attends High Level Round Table on Importance of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Meeting Climate Change Challenges, Enhancing Food Security and Addressing Agrobiodiversity Erosion in Rome of Italy.—MNA

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo attends High Level Round Table on Importance of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Meeting Climate Change Challenges, Enhancing Food Security and Addressing Agrobiodiversity Erosion in Rome of Italy.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo attended the High Level Round Table on the Importance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Meeting the Climate Change Challenges, Enhancing Food Security and Addressing Agrobiodiversity Erosion at Flag Hall of FAO in Rome of Italy.

At FAO meeting hall, the minister met Vice-President of International Fund for Agriculture Development Ms Yukiko Omura at 9 am on 8 December.

The minister and party arrived back in Myanmar on 9 December morning. MNA

Prime Minister U Thein Sein accepts cash donation for construction of Chamber of Bodhi Pakkhiya Buddha Image from a wellwisher. (News on page 16)—MNA

Objectives of 63rd Anniversary Independence Day

(a) All the national people to constantly join hands for ensuring the perpetuity and sovereignty of the State

(b) All the national people to collectively strive for non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity

(c) All the national people to work in concert for building a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic new nation as the multiparty democracy general elections have been held successfully

(d) All the national people to make collaborative efforts with the Union Spirit and the patriotic spirit for further strengthening the already achieved stability and peace, security, prevalence of law and order, unity, development and democratization process with momentum

(e) All the national people to have greater awareness in warding off all destructive acts to disintegrate the Union and the national unity as the perpetuity of the Union plays a crucial role in building the Union of Myanmar

Objectives of 63rd Anniversary Independence Day

(a) All the national people to constantly join hands for ensuring the perpetuity and sovereignty of the State

(b) All the national people to collectively strive for non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity

(c) All the national people to work in concert for building a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic new nation as the multiparty democracy general elections have been held successfully

(d) All the national people to make collaborative efforts with the Union Spirit and the patriotic spirit for further strengthening the already achieved stability and peace, security, prevalence of law and order, unity, development and democratization process with momentum

(e) All the national people to have greater awareness in warding off all destructive acts to disintegrate the Union and the national unity as the perpetuity of the Union plays a crucial role in building the Union of Myanmar

A&I Minister participates in Meeting on Importance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo attends High Level Round Table on Importance of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Meeting Climate Change Challenges, Enhancing Food Security and Addressing Agrobiodiversity Erosion in Rome of Italy.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo attended the High Level Round Table on the Importance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Meeting the Climate Change Challenges, Enhancing Food Security and Addressing Agrobiodiversity Erosion at Flag Hall of FAO in Rome of Italy.

At FAO meeting hall, the minister met Vice-President of International Fund for Agriculture Development Ms Yukiko Omura at 9 am on 8 December.

The minister and party arrived back in Myanmar on 9 December morning. MNA

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo attends High Level Round Table on Importance of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Meeting Climate Change Challenges, Enhancing Food Security and Addressing Agrobiodiversity Erosion in Rome of Italy.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo attended the High Level Round Table on the Importance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Meeting the Climate Change Challenges, Enhancing Food Security and Addressing Agrobiodiversity Erosion at Flag Hall of FAO in Rome of Italy.

At FAO meeting hall, the minister met Vice-President of International Fund for Agriculture Development Ms Yukiko Omura at 9 am on 8 December.

The minister and party arrived back in Myanmar on 9 December morning. MNA
Prime Minister attends donation ceremony…
(from page 16)
Venerable Monk Kavisara gave sermons to the congregation who then shared merits gained.
After the ceremony, the Prime Minister viewed diamond-shaped flowers made of gold and steel and festoon to be installed in the chamber. Construction of the chamber is under way and 75 per cent of floor and ceiling tiling has been completed. The remaining tasks are flooring of the platform, wall building, construction of stairs to the archway, Myanmar arts and crafts, connection of power lines and sanitation.
Wellwishers who want to make donations may contact Head of Office of the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Ph: 067-406008). Head of Office of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee (Ph: 067-414610), Director of State Parriatti Sasana University (Yangon) (Ph: 095001475) and Director of State Parriatti Sasana University (Mandalay) (Ph: 095135837).
The wellwishers continue to make cash donations for construction of the chamber and more cash donation ceremonies will be held.

MNA

Bodhi Pakkhiya Buddha Image.—MNA

Congregation led by Prime Minister U Thein Sein receives Five Precepts from Sangha members.—MNA

Hotels and Tourism Minister U Soe Naing accepts cash donation from a wellwisher.—MNA

Transport Minister U Thein Swe accepts cash donation from a wellwisher.—MNA

AGM of four fishery associations on 19 December
YANGON, 11 Dec — Under the leadership of Myanmar Fisheries Federation, Myanmar Fisheries Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Marine Farmers Association, Myanmar Aquafeed Association and Myanmar Freshwater Farmers Association will hold annual general meeting at the hall of the federation in Insein Township on 19 December. Members of four associations are to attend the meeting without fail.

MMA to hold respect-paying ceremony
YANGON, 11 Dec — Organized by Women’s Chapter of Myanmar Medical Association Yangon, the 28th Respect-paying Ceremony to the elders will be held at MMA Hall (A) in Mingala Taungnyunt here on 18 December. Doctors are invited to pay tribute to senior doctors aged 73 and above living in Yangon.—MNA

Sports Minister Thura U Aye Myint accepts cash donation from a wellwisher.—MNA
Malaysia ranked 6th in Asia with high obesity

PUTRAJAYA, 11 Dec—Malaysia is ranked sixth among Asian countries with high adult obesity rate, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). Malaysian Health Minister Liow Tiong Lai told a press conference in Malaysia's federal administration centre here on Wednesday that the weight of Malaysian students was also on an increasing trend.

While 20.7 percent of Malaysian students were overweight in 2001, Liow said that the National Health and Morbidity Survey 2006 had forecast that the percentage would rise to 26.5 in 2007. The survey, third of its kind, is done every 10 years in Malaysia, with the first one done in 1986. Liow said that 60 percent of Malaysians aged 18 and above had a body mass index (BMI) of over 23.

The BMI is a heuristic measure of body weight based on a person’s weight and height. While the range between 23 and 24.9 indicates overweight, averaging above 25 means obese. Liow said that it was critical for the Malaysian government to tackle the problem as obese individuals encountered higher risks of developing chronic diseases, which would in turn affect the country’s productivity.

The minister also pointed out that Malaysians poor eating habits was worrying as their high consumption of fat and meat would lift their body weights, resulting in them developing diseases such as diabetes, heart attack, kidney disease, high cholesterol and high blood pressure.—Xinhua

Teen found near Boston likely fell from plane

BOSTON, 11 Dec—A Massachusetts prosecutor said Friday it’s likely that a North Carolina teen whose mutilated body was found in a Boston suburb fell from the sky after stowing away in an airplane’s wheel well.

Norfolk District Attorney William Keating cited evidence including a handprint in the wheel well, clothes strewn along the plane’s flight path and an autopsy report indicating the teen fell “from a significant height.”

Keating said Friday that he’d informed federal transportation safety officials about the apparent airport incident. —Xinhua

Japanese electronics giant Yamada Denki opens first store in China

SHENYANG, 11 Dec—Yamada Denki, Japan’s largest consumer electronics retailer, Friday opened an outlet in Shenyang, capital of northeast China’s Liaoning Province. It is the first store ever built in China by the Japanese consumer electronics retailing giant.

The seven-floor store has a total floor space of 24,000 square metres and is located at Zhongjie, a bustling business district in Shenyang. It’s on par with the company’s flagship store, LABI 1, in Tokyo. “We want to distinguish Yamada from other home appliance chain stores in China by offering the idea of leisure shopping,” said Todao Ichimya, president-director of Yamada Denki.

He said shoppers would find 1.5 million items for sale at the newly opened store - ranging from home appliances, cosmetics, toys to daily essentials. He said Yamada planned to open its second China store in north China’s Tianjin Municipality in June next year. “We expect the number of our business outlets across China will amount to five over the next three years,” he said. —Xinhua

A shop owner waits for customers at Christmas market in Toronto, Canada, on 7 Dec, 2010. The city is in a festive mood as Christmas draws near.—Xinhua

New images confirm the moon is shrinking

ERIE, 11 Dec—The unchanging moon humans gaze up at every night may be slightly smaller than the one our ancestors saw, recent research by US scientists suggests.

Darren Williams, associate professor of astronomy at Penn State Erie, says new high-resolution images released by NASA show distinctive cliffs, called lobate scarps, all over the surface of the moon, evidence that the moon is getting gradually smaller.

The moon had a molten crust for millions of years but it slowly cooled and solidified, Williams said.

Scars observed near the moon’s equator prompted theories of moon shrinkage in the 1970s. The new images provide the first evidence that the scarps occur uniformly across the entire surface of the moon, supporting the idea that the moon has shrunk evenly all the way around, Williams said.

“It’s a great example of direct observation of a theoretical idea,” he said.

Williams said moon gazers needn’t worry about the moon disappearing completely.

“The most the moon has probably shrunk is just a few kilometres in a billion years,” Williams said, a change barely noticeable from Earth.—Internet

China auto sales jump 27 percent in November

SHANGHAI, 11 Dec—China’s auto sales powered ahead in November, jumping 27 percent to 1.7 million vehicles as car buyers rushed to beat expected increases in license plate fees in some cities.

The rebound after a slowdown during the summer pushed sales for the year to 16.4 million vehicles, up 34 percent from the year before, the government-affiliated China Association of Automobile Manufacturers said in a notice Thursday on its website.

While American automakers celebrate signs of a long-awaited revival in US car sales, China’s strong growth suggests it will retain its status, acquired last year, as the world’s biggest market by sales of new vehicles.

Sales of passenger cars surged 29 percent over a year earlier to 1.34 million, CAAM reported.

Internet
Hydrogen buses ready for UK’s first zero-emission route in London

LONDON, 11 Dec— Hydrogen buses which emit only water were unveiled Friday in London, which would welcome more such buses to create UK’s first zero-emission bus route. The buses will be phased into service on 18 December, and there would be a fleet of eight in the next year, creating a zero-emission route in central London, which takes in popular tourist attractions such as the Tower of London and the South Bank of the Thames River.

Using the latest hydrogen fuel cell technology, the buses emit nothing but water vapor, which condensed into water in the show on Friday because of the cold weather.

Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, said: “These buses are a marvel of hydrogen technology, emitting water rather than belching out harmful pollutants. They will run through the most polluted part of the city, through two air pollution hotspots, helping to improve London’s air quality.”

Another advantage of the hydrogen buses is that they are quiet, without noises from traditional engines. Transport for London (TfL) has operated trial buses from 2003 to 2007, and it is said passengers preferred the quieter hydrogen buses than traditional buses.

A hydrogen refueling site, which is the largest in the UK, is also unveiled on Friday in east London. Six more refueling sites are planned in the capital over the next two years, as the number of hydrogen powered vehicles are expected to achieve 150, including buses and taxis, by 2012.

So far, the hydrogen buses are funded by the government.—Internet

Singapore’s GIC doubles stake in China’s CICC

SINGAPORE, 11 Dec— The Government of Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC) said Thursday it has more than doubled its stake in Beijing-based China International Capital Corporation (CICC). The state agency increased its holding in the leading Chinese investment bank to more than 16.35 percent from 7.35 percent after it bought up part of the shares held by Wall Street giant Morgan Stanley, a spokeswoman said.

CICC was founded in 1995 by China Construction Bank and Morgan Stanley, which invested 35 million dollars in the joint venture at the time. Apart from GIC, global asset manager Kohlberg Kravis and Roberts, private investment firm TPG and insurance group Great Eastern Life also bought Morgan Stanley’s 34.3 percent stake in CICC.

CICC chairman Li Jiange welcomed the development, saying in a statement: “The change in our shareholding will have a very positive strategic impact on CICC and benefit its long-term development. “The introduction of some of the most prominent international institutional investors will help CICC in its future business development and international expansion.” The CICC statement did not mention the amount paid by GIC, which typically does not release such information.—Internet

Israeli air force raids Gaza after mortar fire

GAZA CITY, 11 Dec— The Israeli air force bombed four sites in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip on Thursday, causing no casualties, Palestinian security officials said. The air raids came after Palestinian militants fired several mortars into southern Israel from Gaza late Wednesday, wounding one person, the military said.

“There were four or five mortars that landed near Kerem Shalom,” an army spokeswoman said, adding that one Israeli was moderately wounded. Militants also fired a rocket which hit an empty house, the army said. The air strikes hit three sites in central Gaza and one on the outskirts of Gaza City, Palestinian officials said.

The military confirmed it had targeted a weapons-making and arms storage facility in central Gaza, and had also attacked two “terror hubs” in the north of the territory in response to the rocket fire. According to an Israeli army count, Palestinian militants have fired more than 200 rockets or mortar rounds at the Jewish state from the coastal strip since the start of this year.—Internet

Sydney wins UNESCO film award

SYDNEY, 11 Dec— Sydney has been named the second international UNESCO City of Film, Australia’s New South Wales (NSW) Minister for the Arts Virginia Judge announced the UNESCO award here on Thursday. The UNESCO award means Sydney becomes only the second international City of Film, behind Bradford of the United Kingdom.

It is recognition of the city’s long history of film making and film infrastructure, Judge said. The award has the potential to provide a major boost for the city’s motion picture industries but filmmakers said a major infrastructure upgrade is needed to make the most of it.

Judge, who backs the idea of creating a moving image centre in Sydney, similar to the one in Melbourne, said there is no reason why it could not happen.—Xinhua

Pacific whales shows evidence of pollution

LUBBOCK, 11 Dec— US researchers say they’ve found evidence of exposure to harmful chemicals and pesticides in Pacific Ocean-dwelling sperm whales. Researchers from Texas Tech University tested tissues from whales from all five Pacific regions for DDT, the fungicide hexachlorobenzene, and 30 types of poly-chlorinated biphenyls, known to cause endocrine disruption and neurotoxicity, a university release said Wednesday.

“Our findings provide a unique baseline for global assessment of pollution exposures and sensitivity in the sperm whale, a globally distributed and threatened species,” Celine Godard-Coddin, an assistant professor at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health at Texas Tech, said. Whales were tested in five regions of the Pacific: the Gulf of California, Mexico, the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador; Pacific waters between the Galapagos Islands and Kirribati (Pacific Crossing); Kirribati; and Papua New Guinea.

“Nothing of this scope has been done for an ocean-wide level,” Godard-Coding said. Sperm whales are important sentinels of ocean health, she said, as they bioaccumulate and biomagnify fat-soluble pollutants because they are massive and long-lived. Sperm whales can weigh up to 50 tons and live up to 70 years.

Internet

Singapore’s imposing business district is seen by night. The city state’s government investment corporation has said it has more than doubled its stake in Beijing-based China International Capital Corporation.
Italian police cracks down on Mafia-Ndrangheta joint venture

**MILAN, 11 Dec**—Italian police arrested 49 alleged mafia associates Friday on suspicion of crimes involving international drug trafficking and racketeering, Milan tax police said in a statement.

According to investigators, a sort of “business central” was created between the Sicilian Mafia and the Calabrian Ndrangheta, the two most powerful crime syndicates in Europe, to import 600 kilograms of pure grade cocaine from Panama into the Italian northern city of Livorno.

The cargo, destined to families linked to the Ndrangheta and organized crime, was supposed to reach the port on a ship carrying bananas and pineapples in 2007, but the operation failed.

The joint venture was also allegedly aimed at laundering money with the help of entrepreneurs and well-known building contractors based in Milan, who have been arrested too.

The police seized assets estimated at a total value of over 50 million euro (66 million US dollars) throughout the country including 115 residences and land sites, and more than 40 cars and motorcycles.—**Xinhua**

Panama Canal reopens after 17-hour suspension

**PANAMA CITY, 11 Dec**—The Panama Canal reopened on Thursday after its first 17-hour closure since the 1999 US invasion, due to heavy rains.—**Xinhua**

India industrial output growth rebounds to 10.8%

**MUMBAI, 11 Dec**—Indian industrial production rebounded sharply and grew as much as 10.8 percent in October 2010 compared with the same period of last year, said a state- ment released Friday by Indian Central Statistics Office. The index again demonstrated significant fluctuations since July and shot higher against econo- mists’ average growth of 8.5 percent for October. The double-digit growth of industrial output will put more pressure on Indian central bank to curb still high inflation via interest rate hikes in the coming months. Mining, manufac- turing and electricity sec- tors reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively. Transport equipment and parts saw the highest growth of 39.5 percent in October with leather and fur products sec- tor and other manufacturing industries sector up 26 per- cent and 24.6 percent. Still, wood products and furni- ture sector continued to de- cline 25.7 percent with jute and other vegetable fibre textiles sector down 0.5 percent. Basic goods, capital goods and inter- nal coal industries sector reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively. Transport equipment and parts saw the highest growth of 39.5 percent in October with leather and fur products sec- tor and other manufacturing industries sector up 26 per- cent and 24.6 percent. Still, wood products and furni- ture sector continued to de- cline 25.7 percent with jute and other vegetable fibre textiles sector down 0.5 percent. Basic goods, capital goods and inter- nal coal industries sector reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively. Transport equipment and parts saw the highest growth of 39.5 percent in October with leather and fur products sec- tor and other manufacturing industries sector up 26 per- cent and 24.6 percent. Still, wood products and furni- ture sector continued to de- cline 25.7 percent with jute and other vegetable fibre textiles sector down 0.5 percent. Basic goods, capital goods and inter- nal coal industries sector reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively. Transport equipment and parts saw the highest growth of 39.5 percent in October with leather and fur products sec- tor and other manufacturing industries sector up 26 per- cent and 24.6 percent. Still, wood products and furni- ture sector continued to de- cline 25.7 percent with jute and other vegetable fibre textiles sector down 0.5 percent. Basic goods, capital goods and inter- nal coal industries sector reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively.

First underwater robot crossing Atlantic on display

**WASHINGTON, 11 Dec**—The first underwater robotic vehicle that has crossed an ocean basin is on display at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Wash- ington. The robotic glider, also known as RU27, can dive to depths of 200 meters to collect data such as temperature, salinity, currents and den- sity. This helps scientists better understand how the ocean works and how the ocean and the climate are changing, processes that directly impact all life on Earth.

Scientists and students from Rutgers University launched the transatlantic glider, dubbed “the Scar- let Knight” in honour of the school’s mascot, off the New Jersey coast in spring of last year. They and their Spanish col- leagues from Puertos Del Estado (the Spanish Port Authority) recovered the glider off the Spanish coast after seven months at sea and brought it ashore. One year later, it is laid as a centerpiece within the Sant Ocean Hall at the Smithsonian Museum.—**Xinhua**

Pakistan children participate in an activity at Family Centre on 9 Dec, 2010. The Family Centre is one of five associations extended along Gaza Strip and run by the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) in present- ing educational programmes for children.—**Xinhua**

Colombian rescuers find 53 bodies after landslide

**BOGOTA, 11 Dec**—Colombian rescuers have found 53 bodies after a landslide in the northwest of Colombia, official sources said on Thursday.

Regional Director of the Administrative Depart- ment for the Prevention and Attention to Disasters John Freddy Rendon told **Xinhua** that to the moment the rescuers have found 53 bodies, who were buried in a landslide in Bellon town ofAntioquia depart- ment.—**Xinhua**

Workers debug on a yacht for the 2010 Hainan In- ternational Boat Show in Haikou, capital of south China’s Hainan Prov- ince, on 10 Dec, 2010. The boat show, which displays more than 60 yachts from home and abroad, kicked off in Haikou on Friday.—**Xinhua**

One-in-three in Asia risks developing Osteoporosis at age 35

**SINGAPORE, 11 Dec**—From age 35, one-in-three people in Asia could be at risk of developing oste-oporosis, results analyzed from 2.1 million bone scans conducted by global dairy nutritional firm Fonterra showed on Fri- day. According to the re- gional bone health check, 50 percent of Asian adults were classified at risk by their 50’s. At age of 25, 25 percent are already in the “at risk” category.

Presenting the results at the International Osteo- porosis Foundation’s (IOF) first Asia Regional Osteoporosis Meeting in Singapore, Joanne Todd, Fonterra’s Senior Health Platform Manager said: “Osteoporosis, a disease causing bones to break- down and fracture, is not just a health issue affect- ing the elderly.—**Xinhua**

India industrial output growth rebounds to 10.8%

**MUMBAI, 11 Dec**—Indian industrial production rebounded sharply and grew as much as 10.8 per- cent in October 2010 com- pared with the same period of last year, said a state- ment released Friday by Indian Central Statistics Office. The index again demonstrated significant fluctuations since July and shot higher against econo- mists’ average growth of 8.5 percent for October. The double-digit growth of industrial output will put more pressure on Indian central bank to curb still high inflation via interest rate hikes in the coming months. Mining, manufac- turing and electricity sec- tors reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively. Transport equipment and parts saw the highest growth of 39.5 percent in October with leather and fur products sec- tor and other manufacturing industries sector up 26 per- cent and 24.6 percent. Still, wood products and furni- ture sector continued to de- cline 25.7 percent with jute and other vegetable fibre textiles sector down 0.5 percent. Basic goods, capital goods and inter- nal coal industries sector reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively.

Transport equipment and parts saw the highest growth of 39.5 percent in October with leather and fur products sec- tor and other manufacturing industries sector up 26 per- cent and 24.6 percent. Still, wood products and furni- ture sector continued to de- cline 25.7 percent with jute and other vegetable fibre textiles sector down 0.5 percent. Basic goods, capital goods and inter- nal coal industries sector reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively. Transport equipment and parts saw the highest growth of 39.5 percent in October with leather and fur products sec- tor and other manufacturing industries sector up 26 per- cent and 24.6 percent. Still, wood products and furni- ture sector continued to de- cline 25.7 percent with jute and other vegetable fibre textiles sector down 0.5 percent. Basic goods, capital goods and inter- nal coal industries sector reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively.

Transport equipment and parts saw the highest growth of 39.5 percent in October with leather and fur products sec- tor and other manufacturing industries sector up 26 per- cent and 24.6 percent. Still, wood products and furni- ture sector continued to de- cline 25.7 percent with jute and other vegetable fibre textiles sector down 0.5 percent. Basic goods, capital goods and inter- nal coal industries sector reported year-on-year growth of 6.5 percent, 11.3 percent and 8.8 percent, re- spectively.
Walking helps hospitalized seniors

LOS ANGELES, 11 Dec—Hospitalized elderly patients who take even short walks around a hospital unit tend to leave the hospital sooner than their more sedentary peers, a new US study published on Friday suggests.

In the study, researchers at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) collected data from 162 hospitalized patients over age 65, each patient fitted with a pager-sized “step activity monitor” attached to his or her ankle — an electronic device capable of counting every step the patient took.

“Using these monitors, we were able to see a correlation between even relatively small amounts of increased mobility and shorter lengths of stay in the hospital,” Steve Fisher, a UTMB Health assistant professor, said in the study published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) on its website.

Fisher found this effect after we used a statistical model to adjust for the differing severities of the patients’ illnesses,” said the study.

Clinicians have long recognized the importance of getting patients with orthopedic or neurologic conditions up and walking as soon as possible, but no such “standard of care” currently exists for older adults admitted for acute medical illnesses, the AAAS said.

It said the UTMB study could serve as a first step toward that goal and may also open the door to other improvements in hospital care for the elderly.

“Mobility is a key measure in older people’s independence and quality of life generally, and this study suggests that’s also true in the hospital setting,” said Fisher. “When we hospitalize elderly people, we set up a paradoxical situation: you can have a positive outcome of the acute problem that brought them there, but still have negative consequences as a result of extended immobility.”—Xinhua

Somali pirates hijack US-operated ship, crew of 23

NAIROBI, 11 Dec.—The European Union anti-piracy force says pirates have hijacked a US-operated ship with 23 crew members aboard.

The EU Naval Force said the MV Panama was attacked Friday just east of the Tanzania-Mozambique border, making it one of the most southerly attacks Somali pirates have pulled off.

The EU Naval Force had no information about their condition.

Somali pirates hold more than 500 crew members from more than 20 ships.

An international flotilla of warships has not been able to prevent continued attacks.—Internet

Police capture wanted Indonesian terror suspect

JAKARTA, 11 Dec.—Indonesian police arrested one of the country’s most-wanted militants Friday, accusing him of plotting high-profile assassinations and bloody attacks on foreigners at luxury hotels in the capital.

Abu Tholut was captured without a fight during a pre-dawn raid on a home in Central Java Province, said Lt Col Djihatronto, a police spokesman, adding a handgun and several rounds of ammunition were also seized.

The 42-year-old suspect was to be flown to Jakarta later Friday, he said.

Indonesia, a predominantly nation of 240 million, has battled extremists since 2002, when members of the al-Qaeda-linked network Jemaah Islamiyah bombed two nightclubs on the resort island of Bali, killing 202 people.

Most of them foreign tourists. Members of a violent offshoot of the group have continued to carry out near-annual strikes on embassies, beach-side restaurants and glitzy hotels since then, killing more than 60.

Tholut, also known as...—Internet

Egypt resort reopens some beach after shark attack

SHARM-EL-SHEIKH, 11 Dec.—A top Egyptian official has announced the opening of a kilometre-long section of beach at a Red Sea resort that has been plagued by shark attacks.

South Sinai Governor Mohammed Shou- sha announced in a statement Thursday that the area reopened to swimmers and snorkelers was on the opposite end of Sharm El-Sheikh resort from where the shark attacks occurred.

Last week, four tourists were mauled and one woman killed in a series of unprecedented attacks believed to be carried out by a Mako and an Oceanic White Tip shark, prompting an indefinite closure of the waters to swimmers.

One Mako shark was caught, but the other remains at large. Teams of local and US experts are trying to determine the cause of the sharks’ unusual behaviour.

In this undated photo released by Indonesian National Police shows terrorist suspect Abu Tholut. Indonesian police arrested Tholut, one of the country’s most-wanted militants on 10 Dec, 2010. Internet

South Korean actor Kang Dong-gun (R) and actress Kate Bosworth participate a preview event of the film “The Warrior’s Way” in Seoul, capital of South Korea, on 22 Nov, 2010. “The Warrior’s Way”, written and directed by Seung-woo Lee, is an upcoming 2010 English-language fantasy action film starring with South Korean actor Kang Dong-gun as well as Kate Bosworth, Geoffrey Rush, Dany Huston, and Tony Cox. The film will be shown to the public on 2 Dec, 2010 both in America and S Korea. —Xinha

Japan eyes nationwide missile interceptors

TOKYO, 11 Dec.—Japan may deploy Patriot Advanced Capability-3 interceptors at air bases nationwide, Kyodo news said on Saturday, as part of a new five-year defence plan to be released later this month.

The Japanese Self-Defense Forces also plan to increase the number of submarines patrolling the seas off Okinawa in southern Japan, where it is locked in a territorial dispute with China.

The PAC-3 missile system is designed to shoot down an incoming missile from the ground before it lands.

It will be deployed on ships as well as air bases. Kyodo cited government and defence officials as saying.

Japan will announce the National Defence Programme Guideline (NDPG) covering the period from fiscal 2011/2012 starting in April laying out defence priorities.

It will be the first review in six years and also the first under the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) government, which swept to power last year.—Reuters
Mazembe into Club World Cup semifinals

ABU DHABI, 11 Dec — African champion TP Mazembe reached the semifinals of the Club World Cup with a 1-0 win over Mexico’s Pachuca on Friday night as Mbemba Bed scored in the 21st minute.

The Congo team will play Brazil’s Internacional, the Copa Libertadores champion, on Tuesday.

Last year, Mazembe lost to South Korea’s Pohang Steelers in the quarterfinals.

American midfielder Jose Francisco Torres started and played until the 72nd minute for Pachuca, winner of the CONCACAF Champions League. American forward Herculez Gomez entered in the 73rd. Al Wahda of the United Arab Emirates or Seongnam of South Korea plays European champion Inter Milan in the other semifinal.

TP Mazembe Englebert’s Stopilla Sunzu, right, is challenged by Francisco Torres of Club de Futbol Pachuca.

Internet

Tinning, Reid tied at Dubai Ladies Masters

DUBAI, 11 Dec — season-ending tournament in Dubai.

Tinning, playing in her final Ladies European Tour tournament, was tied for the lead on Friday with England’s Melissa Reid after the third round of the Dubai Ladies Masters.

The 36-year-old Tinning, who will retire after 15 years on the tour, was two shots back at the halfway mark. She made four birdies en route to a 3-under 69 to pass overnight leader Lydia Hall of England. Reid shot a 68, earning a share of the lead on the final hole at the Iben Tinning of Denmark plays a shot on the 11th hole during the second round of the Dubai Ladies Masters.—Internet

Internet

Capello tips Allardyce and Redknapp for England

LONDON, 11 Dec — Fabio Capello reckons Sam Allardyce and Harry Redknapp are the current leading two candidates to replace him when he steps down as England manager in 2012.

The Football Association (FA) have indicated they would like to replace Capello with an Englishman when the Italian’s contract ends after the European Championships.

Tottenham Hotspur manager Redknapp is the bookmakers’ favourite after bringing Champions League football to White Hart Lane while Allardyce, now at Blackburn Rovers, has been a Premier League manager for nine years.

England’s Manager Fabio Capello. Internet

Madrifractured jaw sidelines Dudek for six weeks

MADRID, 11 Dec — Real Madrid’s Polish goalkeeper Jerzy Dudek will be sidelined for six weeks after he fractured his jaw during his side’s 4-0 Champions League win over Auxerre, the Spanish club said on Thursday.

The 37-year-old, who was making a rare appearance for Real in place of Iker Casillas, was replaced just before half-time in Wednesday’s match and taken to hospital after colliding with Auxerre forward Roy Contout.

In a statement, the club said “a series of X-rays and a CAT Scan revealed a fractured mandible.

The goalkeeper is expected to miss approximately six weeks, pending an assessment by a maxillofacial surgeon in the next 24 hours.”

Dudek, who made several excellent saves, was replaced by reserve keeper Antonio Adan.

Internet

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 Manchester-based orchestra
2 Fire-raising
3 Wash clothes
4 Truths
5 Month
6 Excursionist
7 Grad
8 Viper
9 Delay
10 Echo
11 River of Europe
12 Synchronized
13 Throw into shade
14 Nobleman
15 Ill-bred, surly fellow
16 Highest male voice
17 Watchful
18 Country-dance
19 Ebb and flow of sea
20 Tract
21 Jeer
22 Having skin irritation
23 Wood-god; half-man; half goat
24 Command
25 Type of cigar
26 Sluggish
27 Main artery
28 Horseman

DOWN
1 Manchester-based orchestra
2 Fire-raising
3 Wash clothes
4 Truths
5 Month
6 Excursionist
7 Grad
8 Viper
9 Delay
10 Echo
11 River of Europe
12 Synchronized
13 Throw into shade
14 Nobleman
15 Ill-bred, surly fellow
16 Highest male voice
17 Watchful
18 Country-dance
19 Ebb and flow of sea
20 Tract
21 Jeer
22 Having skin irritation
23 Wood-god; half-man; half goat
24 Command
25 Type of cigar
26 Sluggish
27 Main artery
28 Horseman

SPO S T S
**WEATHER**

**Saturday, 11th December, 2010**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.

**MST.** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Tanintharyi Region, scattered in Kayin, Shan and Kayah States, Ayeyawady Region, fairly widespread in Upper Sagain and Yangon Regions and widespread in the remaining States and Regions with locally heavy fall in Mon State and isolated heavy fall in Rakhine State. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Kayin State, lower Sagain, Mandalay, Bago and Tanintharyi Regions (5°C) to (6°C) above December average temperatures in Kayin and Mon States, Upper Sagain, Magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, (7°C) to (8°C) above December average temperatures in Shan and Rakhine States and about December average temperature in the remaining States and Regions. The significant night temperatures were Machanbaw (8°C) and Putao (9°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Taikpoo) (0.55) inch, Kyikkuham (7.52) inches, Paung (4.37) inches, Mwalamyne (4.09) inches, Mudden (3.94) inches, Taungu (3.62) inches, Kyekmar (3.14) inches, Thaton (3.07) inches, Thandwe (2.95) inches, Hpa-an (2.56) inches, Manann (2.44) inches, Mogok (2.40) inches, Thinzayar (2.05) inches, Bago (1.89) inches and Lashio (1.61) inches.

Maximum temperature on 10-12-2010 was 83°F. Minimum temperature on 11-12-2010 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 11-12-2010 was (100%). Rainfall on 11-12-2010 was (0.27) inch.

YANGON (KABA-AYE)

Maximum temperature on 10-12-2010 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 11-12-2010 was 74°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 11-12-2010 was (77%). Total sunshine hours on 10-12-2010 was (2.1) hours. Rainfall on 11-12-2010 was at (0.16) inch at Mingaladon, (0.22) inch at Kaba-Aye and at (0.20) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (83.03) inches at Mingaladon, (97.17) inches at Kaba-Aye and (108.82) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (7) mph from Southwest at (12:30) hours MST on 10-12-2010.

**Bay Inference:** Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Southeast Bay and East Central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of the 12th December 2010: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kayin and Kayah States, Tanintharyi Region and fairly widespread in the remaining States and Regions with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of decrease in rainfall in the upper Myanmar areas. Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 12-12-2010: One to two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-12-2010: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%). Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-12-2010: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

---

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule**

*(12-12-2010) (Sunday)*

**Transmissions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Programme and Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00 am MST</td>
<td>Opening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:30 am MST</td>
<td>News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am MST</td>
<td><em>A Pilgrimage to Dhammayingyi</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 am MST</td>
<td><em>Easily Cooked &amp; Tasty Dishes</em> “Eggplant Curry”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am MST</td>
<td><em>Cultural Trail from China to ASEAN</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 am MST</td>
<td><em>Products of Aye Thar Yar Industrial Zone</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am MST</td>
<td>*Record Album “Mya Thaway Che”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am MST</td>
<td><em>Travelling &amp; a part of Education for Youth</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 am MST</td>
<td>Oversea Transmission - (12-12-10 09:30 am ~ 13-12-10 09:30 am) MST</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Programme Schedule**

- 07:55 am: Health Programme
- 08:10 am: 7: (38) Phyar Mingalars
- 08:25 am: 8: Musical Programme
- 08:40 am: 9: International News
- 08:45 am: 10: Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
- 11:00 am: 11:00 am: 1. Martial Song
- 11:10 am: 2. Musical Programme
- 11:20 am: 3. Round Up Of The Week’s International News
- 11:30 am: 4. TV Drama Series
- 12:30 pm: 5. Golf Magazine (TV)
- 12:50 pm: 6. Myanmar Movies
- 2:40 pm: 7: Documentary
- 2:55 pm: 8. Teleplay (Health)
- 4:00 pm: 9: Martial Song
- 4:10 pm: 10: Musical Programme
- 4:25 pm: 11: Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
- 4:30 pm: 12: Song Of National Races
- 4:35 pm: 13: University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures)
- 5:00 pm: -Second Year (Economics)
- 5:45 pm: 6. Song For Upholding National Spirit
- 6:00 pm: 7: Teleplay (Health)
- 6:05 pm: 8: Documentary
- 6:20 pm: 9: Song & Enjoy
- 6:40 pm: 10: Evening News
- 7:00 pm: 11: Weather Report
- 7:20 pm: 12: Cartoon Series
- 7:40 pm: 13: Tamyeethnar Takwezar
- 8:00 pm: 14: TV Drama Series
- 8:15 pm: 15: News
- 8:30 pm: 16: International News
- 8:45 pm: 17: Weather Report
- 9:00 pm: 18: Cartoon Series
- 9:15 pm: 19: TV Drama Series
- 9:30 pm: 20: Products of Aye Thar Yar Industrial Zone
- 9:45 pm: 21: News
- 10:00 pm: 22: *Record Album “Mya Thaway Che”*
- 10:15 pm: 23: *Travelling & a part of Education for Youth*
- 10:30 pm: Oversea Transmission - (12-12-10 09:30 am ~ 13-12-10 09:30 am) MST

---

**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

---

**People walk on a flooded road in EL Llano, Panama, on Dec, 10. The community was flooded after heavy rains required the authorities to release water from a major hydroelectric dam. Panamanian President Ricardo Martinelli declared a national emergency on Thursday after heavy rains and flooding killed 10 people and displaced over 1,500.**

---

**R/489** Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar
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 killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Prime Minister attends donation ceremony for construction of Chamber for Bodhi Pakkhiya Buddha Image

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — Prime Minister U Thein Sein attended a cash donation ceremony for construction of Chamber for Bodhi Pakkhiya Buddha Image in Pankhin (3) ward in Pyinmana Township in Nay Pyi Taw District yesterday.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Sangha members led by State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Abbot of Maha Withutayama Zaygon Monastery in Pyinmana Township Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Venerable Monk Bhaddanta Kavisara. Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads, wellwishers and guests were also present at the ceremony.

First, the ceremony was opened with a three-time recitation of Namotassa. Next, the congregation led by the Prime Minister received the Five Percepts from Venerable Monk Kavisara and Metta Sutta Paritta from the Sangha members.

The Prime Minister, the commander and ministers donated offertories to Sangha members.

Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung spoke words of thanks for the donations.

(See page 9)

Workshop on traffic rules held in Zabuthiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — The workshop on traffic rules for reducing traffic accidents took place at the administrative office in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw on 2, 3, 6, 7, 8 and 9 December.

It was attended by 1204 drivers from No. 3 Works Battalion, Irrigation Department and construction companies in Nay Pyi Taw.

Officials of Nay Pyi Taw District Transport Department, Nay Pyi Taw District Directorate of Road Transport Administration and Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Police Corps gave talks on laws, rules and regulations, road signs and directives, and traffic rules to the trainees.

After the workshop, Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee presented certificates to them.

MNA