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Make sustained efforts for perpetuity of motherland

It is required of the entire national people to remain vigilant at all times against dangers posed by neo-colonialists, and to make sustained efforts, putting the national policy in the fore and exerting patriotism for ensuring perpetuity of the motherland.

Now, many projects are ongoing simultaneously for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the Union, and improving the living conditions of the people. Pursuing the national goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation with might and main is, in fact, laying substantial foundations for prosperous future of the nation.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe
(From message sent on the occasion of the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day)

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec— H.E. Mr. Talal Mohammad Sabri Abdul Salam, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, at 10 am today.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thihada Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of People’s Republic of China

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec— H.E. Mr. Li Junhua, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, at 10.30 am today.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thihada Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

Four political objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconciliation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accordance 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
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 31 December, 2010

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 31 December, 2010

Yangon-Mandalay Union Expressway

Secure and smooth transport plays an important role in striving for equitable development of all parts of the Union. Better transport will contribute a great deal to development of economic, education, health and social sectors.

Looking forwards to the fruitful results, motor roads, railroads and small and large bridges have been built as networks among Regions and States. As a result, friendly relations among national brethren will be further strengthened.

At present, roads have been constructed from Kachin State in the north to Taninthayi Region in the south as well as from Rakhine State in the west to Shan State in the east crossing mountain ranges and ravines. The people from the west bank of Ayeyawady River and those from Chin State have easy access to Shan State (South) and Kayah State in a short time.

The Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Construction Project from Nay Pyi Taw at the centre to States and Regions commenced in 2005. Over 200 miles long Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw road section was inaugurated in March 2009. As a result, people travelling between Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon take about four hours.

Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay section) was commissioned into service on 29 December. Over 150 miles long Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay section becomes a three-hour drive. Arrangements have been made for enabling the towns along Yangon-Mandalay road to have access to the expressway through 26 link roads including the roads crossing Bago Yoma mountain range from the east to the west.

Yangon-Mandalay Expressway was constructed within five-year period through the collaborative efforts of Myanmar engineers and technicians. People can make a trip from Yangon to Mandalay taking seven hours. Emergence of an international standard expressway helps promote trade and businesses and uplift socio-economic life of the national people.

KMD to mount New Year programme

YANGON, 30 Dec—KMD Sales & Service Centre plans to mount New Year Sales Road Show programme at its every centre in Yangon and Mandalay on 4 and 5 January, with up to 50% off like previous special sales.

For more information, contact KMD Sales & Service Centre at Pansodan branch (Ph: 385177), Maha Bandoola park street branch (Ph: 09-8303778), Myaenigon branch (Ph: 503522 and 503511) in Yangon, and (Ph: 02-60360 and 60239) in Mandalay.

Southern Command Commander in December Mass Walk

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—Chairman of Bago Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Soe Htut, together with senior military officers, commanding officers, officers and other ranks and their families, took part in December Mass Walk in Taungoo on 18 December morning.

On 20 December, the commander inspected progress of construction of Myochaung Bridge and road works after hearing reports by officials concerned on construction of Minhla-Seinkanlant-Myochaung-Painzaloke (Penwegon) road at the briefing hall of Myochaung of Public Works.

Together with Vice-Chairman of Bago Region PDC Brig-Gen Sein Myint and officials, the commander inspected the local battalion of Seinkanlant station, where he cordially greeted officers and other ranks and their families.

Afterwards, the commander inspected the construction of Taikyi-Phaunggyi-Phukyi-Bago road and Koeseyoe bridge at mile post No.38.—MNA

MINES MINISTER RECEIVES CHINESE AMBASSADOR

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—Minister for Mines U Ohn Myint received Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and party at the ministry here today. Their discussion covered development of mineral investments sector between the two countries.—MNA

Mines Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—Minister for Mines U Ohn Myint received Mr Li Junhua, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Myanmar, and party.

One wounded in Kyaukkyi mine blast

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—Ko Maung Win living in Kyaukkyi township in Bago Region stepped on a mine planted by KNU insurgents on 26 December. The victim, who lost his left and right ankles, and his five companions were on their way to pick orchids. He is now receiving treatment at Htataikin Township People’s Hospital, and officials concerned are providing necessary assistance to him.

Minister for Mines U Ohn Myint receives Mr Li Junhua, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Myanmar, and party.
**NATO trucks attacked in Pakistan, driver killed**

**PESHAWAR, 30 Dec—** Taleban militants in northwest Pakistan attacked two NATO supply trucks early Wednesday, killing a driver and wounding two other people, officials said.

Half a dozen militants armed with assault rifles launched the attack in Landakotal, a town in Pakistan’s tribal District of Khyber on the border with Afghanistan, the officials said.

Pakistani officials this month reported US drone strikes in Khyber, an apparent expansion of the covert drone programme previously confined to targeted Al-Qaeda and Taleban commanders elsewhere in the tribal belt.

“The militants started firing from the hilltop. A driver of one truck was killed on the spot, while his helper and another driver of another truck were injured,” local administrative official Iqbal Khatak told AFP.

Scores of NATO supply vehicles were destroyed in gun and arson attacks while the border crossing was shut, with Taleban militants determined to disrupt the route and avenge US drone strikes in Pakistan’s tribal belt.

**Suicide bomber kills two soldiers, injures seven in eastern Afghan town**

**SHARAN, 30 Dec—** A suicide bomber blew himself up near a group of Afghan army soldiers, killing two and injuring seven others including five civilians on Wednesday, the provincial police chief said.

“A suicide bomber blew himself up in Barmal District’s bazaar at 12:15 pm local time near a group of Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers. As a result two soldiers were killed and seven others including two soldiers and five civilians sustained injuries,” Danish Khan Zadran told Xinhua.

The soldiers were in the bazaar to buy something when the bomber targeted them, the police officer said.

He added that the bomber who strapped explosive on his body was also killed in the blast.

However, he said most of the injured persons were in stable condition.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Taleban militants who often carry out such bombings have yet to make comment.

Pakista and the neighbouring Khost and Pakita Provinces have been experiencing escalating Taleban-led militancy over the past couple of years.—Xinhua

**Blast kills at least 14 civilians in Afghanistan**

**KABUL (Afghanistan), 30 Dec—** A roadside bomb blew up next to a minibus at a crowded intersection on a major highway in southern Afghanistan on Thursday, killing at least 14 civilians, officials said.

The blast struck the minibus in the Lashkar Gah-Sangin district in Helmand province on the main road running from the city of Kandahar to Herat, said Daoud Ahmad, a spokesman for the Helmand governor’s office.

He said four others were wounded in the blast and that the dead included women and children.

The bus was transporting people to a local bazaar, said Ghulam Haider, who arrived at the scene after learning that two of his brothers had been killed.

“There was a huge blast ... body parts were scattered far away” from the bus, he said.

Haider said he took his cousin and a child who was on the bus to a local hospital. He learned that the child later died.

**Denmark, Sweden jointly arrest five terror suspects**

**COPENHAGEN, 30 Dec—** The Danish Security and Intelligence Service (PET) said Wednesday that the PET and the Swedish Security Service (SAPO) have jointly arrested five individuals suspected of plotting a terror attack in Copenhagen.

The arrests were made at two flats in Herlev and Greve, both municipalities of Copenhagen. The PET believed that the suspects were preparing a terror attack on the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten in Copenhagen.

Three of the suspects are living in Sweden and have entered Denmark during the night of 28-29 Dec, including a 44-year-old Tunisian, a 29-year-old Swede, born in Lebanon, and a 30-year-old Swede, whose country of origin is so far unknown.

Simultaneously, the Swedish authorities in Stockholm have arrested a 37-year-old Swedish national of Tunisian origin.

The last one is a 26-year-old Iraq asylum seeker, who is living in Denmark.

In Denmark, the PET have seized several objects, including some plastic strips that can be used as handcuffs as well as a machine gun with matching silencer and live ammunition.

**Two Taleban local commanders killed in E Afghanistan**

**KABUL, 30 Dec—** Two Taleban local commanders were killed in Nangarhar Province of eastern Afghanistan Wednesday as part of the Afghan and NATO forces intensified campaign against militants’ mid-level command structure and its supply lines, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a press release issued here on Thursday.

**A policeman looks at a damaged police vehicle following a car bomb in Ramadi on 27 Dec. Civilian deaths from violence in Iraq are on track to be the lowest number this year since the 2003 US-led invasion, according to a preliminary report released on Thursday by a monitoring group.—INTERNET**

**The building which houses the Jyllands-Posten newspaper in Copenhagen. Scandinavian intelligence agencies said they had foiled a plot Wednesday to kill staff at a Danish newspaper which published caricatures of the Prophet Mohammed and had arrested five suspects.—Xinhua**

**INTERNET**

**INTERNET**

**INTERNET**

**INTERNET**
US, UK scientists draw up list of world’s plants

LONDON, 30 Dec—British and US scientists say they’ve compiled the most comprehensive list of land plant species ever published—a 300,000-species strong compendium that they hope will boost conservation, trade and medicine.

The list, drawn up by researchers at Kew Gardens in London and the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, is intended to help resolve one of botany’s most basic problems: Figuring out which plants go by what names.

Some plants have been labeled differently by researchers operating in different countries over the past century, while in other cases the different variants of the same plant have been erroneously identified as belonging to different species. There are also cases in which plants names’ have been applied mistakenly, or just misspelled.

Although a rose by any other name may still smell as sweet, scientists say that attaching different labels to the same plant can rob researchers of the chance to get the information they need.

“If you only know it by one of its many names you only get part of the story,” said Eimear Nic Lughadha, the senior scientist at Kew responsible for the list.

Canada is most web-addicted nation

TORONTO, 30 Dec—Maybe it’s all those Justin Bieber fans: Canadians log more time on the web and social media, including Facebook and YouTube, than any other nation.

The measurement company comScore reported Canada has the highest penetration of Internet access, with around 68% of Canadians routinely surfing online, against 62% in France and Britain. Close behind is 60% of Germans going online and, south of the border, 59% of Americans.

The laggards are Italians, where only 36% of the population goes online, according to comScore.

Web-addicted Canadians now spend an average 42 hours a month surfing the web, up from 40 hours in 2009, and view an average 147 videos a month on YouTube and other online video websites. And around 17 million Canadians, or 51% of the population, have Facebook accounts.

Skype adding Wi-Fi, 3G video calling to iPhone app

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 Dec—A new version of the free iPhone app for Skype SA will let users make and receive video calls.

Users of the Internet calling and messaging service will be able to use both Wi-Fi and AT&T Inc.’s 3G cellular network. FaceTime software, which comes with iPhones, works only with Wi-Fi.

The app, which is being released Thursday through Apple Inc.’s iTunes Store, will let iPhone 4 and iPhone 3GS users make free video calls to other Skype users who are using the app or have access to the feature using Skype on their computer or other video phone.

Those with the latest iPod Touch will be able to make video calls over Wi-Fi. The app allows the iPod and previous-generation iPod Touch to receive video calls, too, Skype said.

Skype’s software offers free services such as voice or video calls to other Skype users.

Users pay to do things such as make calls from a PC to a landline or cell phone.—Internet

Pew study hints at what Web users will pay for

NEW YORK, 30 Dec—The Web may seem like the land of something for nothing. Free video. Free news. Even free tools such as word processing and spreadsheets.

But almost two-thirds of adult Internet users in the US have paid for access to at least one of these intangible items online, according to a new survey from the Pew Internet and American Life Project.

Whether people will pay for different types of material on the Web is among the most pressing questions facing media companies in the 21st century. As people shift their attention to the Internet from more traditional ways of enjoying media, the companies that provide everything from movies to mystery novels want to make sure they can still get paid for what they do. —Internet

Manatees paddle to warm water to escape Fla. chill

Manatees congregate in a canal where discharge from a nearby Florida Power & Light plant warms the water in Fort Lauderdale, Fla on 28 Dec, 2010. Overnight temperatures in South Florida were in the 30s.—INTERNET

Manatees paddle to warm water to escape Fla. chill

APOLLO BEACH, 30 Dec—People aren’t the only ones in Florida who don’t like cold weather.

Manatees — those giant aquatic mammals with the flat, paddle-shaped tails — are swimming out of the chilly Gulf of Mexico waters and into warmer springs and power plant discharge canals.

On Tuesday, more than 300 manatees floated in the outfall of Tampa Electric’s Big Bend Power Station.

“It’s like a warm bathtub for them,” said Wendy Anastasiou, an environmental specialist at the power station’s manatee viewing centre.

“They come in here and hang out and loll around.”

Cold weather can weaken manatees’ immune systems and eventually kill them.

State officials said 2010 has been a deadly year for the beloved animals: between 1 Jan and 17 Dec, 246 manatees died from so-called “cold stress.” During the same time period in 2009, only 55 manatees died from the cold. In 2008, only 22 manatees succumbed to chilly temperatures.

Manatee deaths documented from Jan through Dec are nearly double the five-year average for that time period, according to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission statistics.

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Skype’s software offers free services such as voice or video calls to other Skype users.

Users pay to do things such as make calls from a PC to a landline or cell phone.—Internet
Health Tip: Help your halitosis

Bad breath—medically called halitosis—is frequently caused byrotting food particles that collect between the teeth, on the tongue and near the gumline.

The American Dental Association says common causes of halitosis include:

* Eating potent foods, such as onions or garlic.
* Not eating frequently enough.
* Not brushing and flossing your teeth each day.
* Having a dry mouth from lack of saliva.
* Using tobacco products.
* Having a medical disorder such as sinusitis, postnasal drip, respiratory infection, or liver or kidney problem.—Internet

Some soy supplements OK for long-term use

NEW YORK, 30 Dec—Menopausal women who take a certain type of soy supplement long-term aren’t at increased risk for breast cancer or any other ill effects, a new two-year study suggests.

But the researchers point out that the findings may not apply to all soy supplements. The ones used in the study contained a different combination of the estrogen-like compounds called isoflavones than preparations typically available over the counter.

Given the estrogen-like properties, soy isoflavones have been suggested as an alternative to hormone therapy for women experiencing menopausal symptoms. Dr Francene M Steinberg of the University of California, Davis, and her colleagues note in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. While there is little evidence from current research that the supplements can cause harm, the researchers add, they allow women to consume up to four times the amount of isoflavones contained in atypical Asian diet.

Very few studies have looked at the long-term safety of consuming so much soy, however.

To investigate, the researchers analyzed data from the Osteoporosis Prevention Using Soy (OPUS) Study. A previous analysis of the results found no effect of soy supplements on the density of breast tissue, one indicator of breast cancer risk. In the current study, the researchers looked at blood tests, health exams and adverse events to further examine the risks of soy.

A total of 403 women completed the study, including 134 women taking placebo, 135 women taking 80-milligram soy tablets, and 134 taking 120-milligram tables. While the researchers identified a few differences in blood tests between the women on placebo and those taking soy supplements, all but one were not statistically significant, meaning they could have been due to chance.—Reuters

Consumer confidence slips as home prices decline

NEW YORK, 30 Dec—Consumer confidence unexpectedly deteriorated in December, while prices of single-family homes fell almost double the expected pace in October, tempering growing optimism on the economy’s recovery.

The latest data was at odds with other signs suggesting the economic recovery is accelerating and a separate report last week showing consumer sentiment in December at its highest level since June,

Concern about the jobs market pushed an index of consumer attitudes to 52.5 in December from 54.3 in November, the Conference Board said on Tuesday. That was below the median of forecasts from analysts polled by Reuters for a reading of 56.0.

“US consumers are still worried about high unemployment, housing market stagnation and the generally meager growth they’ve seen so far,” said Kathy Lien, director of currency research at GFT in New York.

German inflation remains moderate in 2010

BERLIN, 30 Dec—Germany’s average inflation rate stood at 1.1 percent for the whole year, while it unexpectedly accelerated in December, the Federal Statistics Office said Wednesday.

The office said German consumer price index (CPI) jumped 1.7 percent in December year on year, from 1.5 percent last month, pushing the overall inflation for 2010 to a modest 1.1 percent. The figure last year was only 0.4 percent, mostly because of the global economic crisis and gloomy domestic market.

Economists had forecast the rate would stay unchanged in December, according to survey of Dow Jones Newswires.

In December, consumer price climbed 1 percent on a monthly basis, much higher than that in November, which was only up to 0.1 percent.—Xinhua

Oil falls in light year-end trade

NEW YORK, 30 Dec—Crude prices fell on Wednesday in light trade as investors took profit from earlier gains before year-end.

There were no crucial economic data scheduled to release on Wednesday and the trade volume on the crude market was very thin. Investors played out because of the New Year holiday.

But weak dollar and supply drop were still supportive to crude oil price.

The US dollar index, which tracks the dollar performance against a basket of currencies, dipped about 0.6 percent.

On Thursday, the Energy Information Administration will provide weekly information on petroleum inventories in the United States, which is forecasted to fall.

Light, sweet crude for February delivery declined 37 cents to 91.12 US dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile.—Xinhua
Somali pirates set free German ship

MOGADISHU, 30 Dec—Somali pirates have freed a German ship with a crew of 22 people, media reports quoted maritime officials as saying on Tuesday.

The chemical tanker was seized by pirates in May, reports said. Piracy has been rife in the war-torn Somalia since the collapse of the Somali government in 1991. Pirate attacks have continued in Somalia’s Indian Ocean coast, despite the presence of escorting warships to protect cargo and cruise ships against piracy.

The Horn of Africa nation has been without an effective government for nearly two decades, fuelling the lawlessness which has allowed the pirates to thrive. More than 130 pirate attacks were reported in the waters off Somalia from the beginning of last year.

Somali pirates seize Antigua and Barbuda-flagged ship

MOGADISHU, 30 Dec—Somali pirates have on Monday seized an Antigua and Barbuda-flagged ship in the Gulf of Aden, media reports said on Tuesday.

According to the reports, there were eight crew onboard, yet it was not yet clear about ownership of the vessel.

Ski lift stuck in northeast US, injuries reported

WASHINGTON, 30 Dec—Several people were injured Tuesday when a gust of wind sent skiers tumbling off a chairlift at a ski resort on Sugarloaf Mountain in Northeast US state of Maine, media reports said Tuesday, noting that over 100 were trapped in the lift.

Two explosions hit Nigeria’s southern city

LAGOS, 30 Dec—Two explosions hit a Nigeria’s southern city on Wednesday, injuring several people, media report said.

The report quoted police source as saying that two bombs exploded during a political rally in Yenegoa, State capital of Nigeria’s Bayelsa state.

The police said nobody was killed in the bomb explosions but several people were injured. Nigeria has witnessed a series of bomb attacks in the past few days.

Three bomb explosions rocked Nigeria’s central north Plateau State on the Christmas Eve, killing at least 80 people and injuring dozens of others. The bomb blasts which hit Angwan Rukuba, the Kabong Satellite Market and the flyover at Gada Biyu, came one week after a Nigerian court sentenced 15 persons to 10 years each in prison for involvement of the violent crisis in Jos in March.

Jos was plunged in a pool of blood on 7 March this year, when members of local Muslim and Christian communities fought each other in revenge for previous killings.

Australia’s flood-hit Queensland facing “toughest hour”

BRISBANE, 30 Dec—Australia’s Queensland suffered huge flood damage with the state facing its toughest hour, said Queensland Premier Anna Bligh as she toured the flood-stricken town of Emerald in central Queensland on Thursday.

The premier said the estimated flood damage to roads alone would reach at least 1.5 billion AU dollars (1.53 billion US dollars).

As we look across Queensland and see the communities affected by the scale of the disaster, it’s fair to say that Queensland is facing its toughest hour,” she told reporters.

Bligh said looting had been a problem during Emerald’s 2008 floods, and police were taking no chances this time. She said 20 extra police had been deployed to Emerald to prevent any looting, amid predictions that 80 percent of the town would be swamped.

China’s steel trading firm listed in ASX

SYDNEY, 30 Dec—A leading Chinese steel trading firm managed to get listed in Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) on Thursday, as the market opened the trading day at 11 am of Sydney local time.

Rongtai International Group Holdings Limited aimed to issue 15 million ordinary shares at an offer price of 0.20 Australian dollars (0.203 million US dollars), to raise a total of 3 million Australian dollars (3.04 million US dollars), with the ability to raise an additional 7 million Australian dollars (7.13 million US dollars) in oversubscription.

As a leading steel trading company in China, Rongtai International works to source and purchase raw materials and steel products from within China and overseas, offer solutions of transportation, warehouse and processing facilities and manage logistics and delivery of the final product to the customers.

According to Lin Jie, executive chairman and Managing Director of Rongtai, the entire process is achieved via the e-commerce trading platform, namely China United Steel (CUSTEEL).

The trading platform is one of the largest business-to-business (B2B) steel trading platforms in China, which boosts 230,000 members and provides customers an efficient, easy and convenient method of purchasing commodities whilst creating greater global exposure.
NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec— U Thant Kyaw, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, presented his Credentials to Her Majesty Queen Beatrix, Queen of the Netherlands, on 15 December 2010 in The Hague.—MNA

Mingala Taungnyunt Tsp gets more five upgraded roads

YANGON, 30 Dec — Five upgraded roads in Mingala Taungnyunt Township were inaugurated today as a gesture of hailing the 63rd Independence Day.

Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin and officials concerned formally opened the concrete roads at the ceremonies to inaugurate the roads.

The mayor and officials also formally inaugurated the two 2-inch-diameter tube wells in Mahlwagon Miyabta Ward in the township yesterday. About 3000 gallons of water can be pumped out of each tube-well per hour, supplying drinking water to over 100 households sufficiently.

The mayor and officials also inspected the completion of other upgraded roads in the township.—MNA

UMFCCI officials meet ROK guests

YANGON, 30 Dec—Vice-Presidents of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung, U Zaw Min Win, U Aung Lwin and U Tun Aung, joint General secretary Dr Myo Thet and CEC members held talks with a nine-member delegation led by Executive Vice-President Mr Dong-Woon Kwak of Korea Trade Investment Promotion Agency of the Republic of Korea and Commercial Attaché Mr Park Chulho of Commercial Section (KOTRA) from the Korean Embassy, at UMFCCI Office here on 23 December.

At the meeting, they mainly discussed opportunities for cooperation in basic infrastructures such as trade and investment, electric power and construction of roads and bridges, foreign investment procedures and exchange of technology.—MNA

SSA shooting spree kills two innocent civilians

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—SSA terrorist insurgents went on a shooting spree and killed two innocent civilians in Mongton Township, Shan State (East), on 27 December.

While hunting on 27 December afternoon, five men from Bawathit Village, Monghan Village-tract, Mongton Township: Lu Kar, Yaw Han, Darwi, Eli and Kyati came cross a 15 insurgents of the SSA group in the forest, about two miles east of Narkaungmu Village.

The insurgents then took the five homemade barrel guns from the five villagers forcibly, and forced them to run away. Thereafter, the insurgents open automatic fire at the running men with M.16s. Lu Kar and Yaw Han were shot dead, and the other three survived the shooting.

The military column is now in pursuit of the insurgents.—MNA

Dy Construction Minister inspects upgrading of Gangaw-Kalay Road

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe assisted in upgrading of Gangaw-Kalay Road on 27 December.

The deputy minister went to the base camp of the road construction group-11 near the mile post No.32/0 and inspected the road works.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister U Tint Swe proceed to the work site of SapaO Bridge on the road and assisted in the bridge construction. He also inspected the bridge works between the mile post No. 93/7 and 94/0 of Monywa-Pale-Gangaw Road.—MNA

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China Mr. Li Junhua at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw.(News on page 1)—MNA
HAILING THE 63rd ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE DAY:

Ensure perpetuation of inherited Union

Ko Myanmar

Ward off colonialist tricks with patriotism

From the geographical point of view, Myanmar lies between two neighbouring countries, whose populations and areas are extremely huge. Myanmar had been able to stand between such mega giants and maintain friendly relations with the two neighbours and safeguard its sovereignty for thousands of years. That implies the diplomatic skills of our forefathers. Whenever necessary, our ancestors protected our land with lion heart and a sense of being hypersensitive to any forms of threats to the territory of the motherland. That is the reason why the Union of Myanmar has still existed up to now.

It is the 4th of January 1948 when the Union of Myanmar regained her independence from British colonialists and became an independent nation. In 2011, Independence Day will be in its 63rd anniversary. Its independence is not as old as Myanmar. How long has Myanmar stood so far? Does Myanmar’s birth date back to the Bagan Period in the 11th Century, or to the times of city states such as Tagaung, Beikthanoe and Srikestra that came into being in the period between the early BC and centuries before Christ, or to Hanlin Bronze Age about 5000 years ago, or to Pyadalin Stone Age about 20,000 years ago?

So, it can be deduced from abovementioned points that even if it does not take into account anthropoid primates aged about 45 million years excavated in central Myanmar, Myanmar has stood for tens of thousands of years, which is undeniable.

In such a very long existence, Myanmar used to be city states, then a feudal state, and then powerful empires. However, all national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine and Shan have been living through thick and thin in amity and sticking together since the birth of the Union.

Throughout past successive periods, Myanmar could stand tall with own monarchs and sovereignty in the international community. Occasionally, Myanmar faced alien threats. As the saying that goes “Blood is thicker than water”, the entire national brethren repulsed alien attacks in concert. Therefore, Myanmar had still been on the map of the world for aeons.

From the geographical point of view, Myanmar lies between two neighbouring countries, whose populations and areas are extremely huge. Myanmar had been able to stand between such mega giants and maintain friendly relations with the two neighbours and safeguard its sovereignty for thousands of years. That implies the diplomatic skills of our forefathers. Whenever necessary, our ancestors protected our land with lion heart and a sense of being hypersensitive to any forms of threats to the territory of the motherland. That is the reason why the Union of Myanmar has still existed up to now.

Today, some peoples are stranded in other countries as refugees because they have lost their countries due to adverse effects caused by other countries. Some unions have split into pieces stemming from civil wars triggered by disintegration of national unity. And some countries have not
In such a very long existence, Myanmar used to be city states, then a feudal state, and then powerful empires. However, all national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine and Shan have been living through thick and thin in amity and sticking together since the birth of the Union.

(From page 8)
collapsed yet, but they are deteriorating with disunity of nationals, groups in rivalry for power, and without rulers. Invaluable lessons can be taken from terrible incidents of those countries. Whenever I learn evil consequences being faced by those countries, I feel so encouraged because our country has been able to rise from the nightmare of untold miseries and the people of us remain united, leading a peaceful life with food security and freedom of business, and there is no need to be concerned about any adversaries.

With State stability and community peace, the nation’s transport is getting smooth and the nation is enjoying economic growth with consolidated national unity. As a result, the development gap between rural and urban areas and between the mainland and highlands is being narrowed. Ere long, all states and regions of the nation will be in a position to enjoy equitable development. In the post-independence period, the nation encountered instability and lacked community peace due to armed insurgency. So, the nation’s transport remained poor. In consequence, the nation lagged behind other countries in development. And national people were not much experienced and knowledgeable about affairs. And there emerged misunderstanding among national races, which culminated in armed insurrection and then in instability and least development. Such untold miseries will soon dwindle away in the new nation that will come into existence with the new constitution.

Having a look back to the past history of the nation that has stood for tens of thousands of years, our forefathers were found dutiful, as evidenced by the fact that they inherited their posterities the Union which is blessed with rich natural resources and impressive geographical features.

In recognition of the dutifulness of our forefathers, younger generations of us, who have been inherited the Union of Myanmar, are to work together with renewed vigour in pursuing the goal of building a new nation in order that the Union of Myanmar, our motherland, perpetuates forever and stands tall with promising future, blaze glory and significant development.

Translation: MS

With State stability and community peace, the nation’s transport is getting smooth and the nation is enjoying economic growth with consolidated national unity. As a result, the development gap between rural and urban areas and between the mainland and highlands is being narrowed. Ere long, all states and regions of the nation will be in a position to enjoy equitable development. In the post-independence period, the nation encountered instability and lacked community peace due to armed insurgency.

Objectives of 63rd Anniversary Independence Day

(a) All the national people to constantly join hands for ensuring the perpetuity of independence 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

POEM:

If you cherish independence
* Never let independence be lost
  Nationalistic fervour we foster
  Courageous and blood red-hot
  Fighting back colonialists and fascists
  On hills, plains and in valleys
  Everywhere in country
  Braving dangers in unity
  However much they are hazardous
  Joining hands in harmony
  Fine traditions we hand down
  To coming new generations
  Our cherished independence
  Be protected with glory
  Shining in whole world

  * If you cherish independence
  Brethren and kin
  Hands joining firmly
  However much they are hazardous
  Braving dangers in unity
  Everywhere in country
  On hills, plains and in valleys
  Fighting back colonialists and fascists
  Courageous and blood red-hot
  Nationalistic fervour we foster
  With this conviction in mind
  Safeguarding our Union
  All in harmony and unison
  Dutiful the whole country
  Independence we cherish
  Will be in safe hands
  And be glorious in world forever
  (Hailing the 63rd Anniversary Independence Day)

Hinthada Myint Ngwe (Trs)
Entire Myanmar have developed in all corners with progress of 24-special development regions project

The government has been striving for realization of development plans for the State and the people since it took the State’s responsibilities. While overcoming the challenges of present internal and external destructive acts and natural barriers in addition to evil legacies of the history through the strength of national unity in line with the motto “Strength of the nation lies within the nation”, the government is making earnest efforts for rapid improvement of the nation that had lagged behind in development in the past.

The 24-special development regions project is part of endeavours of the State with the aim of rapidly developing all parts in 14 States and Regions of the Union, main areas were designated as special development regions, and emphasis is being placed on providing these regions with transport, education, health and technology facilities. At present, development tasks are being undertaken in 24 special development regions namely Myitkyina, Bhamo, Loikaw, Hpa-an, Kalay, Monywa, Sagaing, Dawei, Myeik, Bago, Pyay, Magway, Pakokku, Mandalay, Mertiila, Myingyan, Sittway, Kengtung, Taunggyi, Panglong, Lashio, Pathein, Hinthada and Maubin and other populous and main regions such as Mohmyn, Kyaukse and Shwebo.

In carrying out development tasks in 24-special development regions on a wider scale, each special development region is equipped with necessary development facilities such as university, technological university, university of computer studies and specialist hospital (200-bed). Progress of 24-special development regions project and improvement of the nation in all corners are the sound foundations for the future democratic new nation.

### Progress of 24-special development regions in the time of the State Peace and Development Council

#### Entire Myanmar have developed in all corners with progress of 24-special development regions project

- The government has been striving for realization of development plans for the State and the people since it took the State’s responsibilities.
- While overcoming the challenges of present internal and external destructive acts and natural barriers in addition to evil legacies of the history through the strength of national unity in line with the motto “Strength of the nation lies within the nation”, the government is making earnest efforts for rapid improvement of the nation that had lagged behind in development in the past.

#### Projects completed, under way and follow-up projects of 24-special development regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Special Development Regions</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Myitkyina region</td>
<td>Myitkyina University</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myitkyina University</td>
<td>300-bed Hospital</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bala Min Htin Bridge</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>2688 feet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-printing House (Myitkyina)</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myitkyina Hydro Power Project</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>4100 MW</td>
<td>under way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myitkyina-Ledo new road</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>228 miles</td>
<td>under way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bhamo region</td>
<td>Bhamo University</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bhamo-Myitkyina road</td>
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<td>115 miles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Katha-Bhamo railroad</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>98 miles</td>
<td>under way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bhamo Hydro Power Project</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>300 MW</td>
<td>to be built</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loikaw University</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Loikaw)</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Loikaw region</td>
<td>Technological University (Loikaw)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Loikaw)</td>
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<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hpa-an region</td>
<td>Hpa-an University</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Hpa-an)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hpa-an People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>200-bed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thanwin Bridge (Hpa-an)</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>2252 feet</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gyaing Bridge (Zathabyin)</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>2900 feet</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TV Re-transmission Station</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hpa-an Industrial Zone</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thatan-Myayangalle-Hpa-an road</td>
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<td>114 miles</td>
<td>upgraded</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sittway region</td>
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<td>University of Computer Studies (Sittway)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phayagdawgyi Jetty</td>
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<td>10,000 feet</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sittway Airport</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>202 miles</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lashio region</td>
<td>Lashio University</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lashio People’s Hospital</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>200-bed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kaukkwe Dam</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>650 acres</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sub-printing House (Lashio)</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kengkham Dam</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>500 acres</td>
<td>under way</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Loikaw University nurtures national youths of Kandayawady.

Hailing the 63rd Anniversary Independence Day
Local national youths in Shan State (North) now have an opportunity to pursue higher education at Technological University (Lashio).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Special Development Regions</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kengtung region</td>
<td>Wampon Dam</td>
<td>250 acres</td>
<td>under way</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Namkyan Dam</td>
<td>179 acres</td>
<td>to be built</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lashio-Muse railroad</td>
<td>145 miles</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Kengtung)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kengtung People’s Hospital</td>
<td>200-bed</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-printing House (Kengtung)</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mongnai-Kengtung railroad</td>
<td>26 miles</td>
<td>under way</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monghsat-Kengtung railroad</td>
<td>87 miles</td>
<td>under way</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pintaik Dam</td>
<td>200 acres</td>
<td>under way</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Taunggyi region</td>
<td>Taunggyi University</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Taunggyi)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women’s and Children’s Hospital</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-printing House (Taunggyi)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Taunggyi (Ayetaya) Industrial Zone</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hlibwa Dam</td>
<td>700 acres</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Panglong region</td>
<td>Panglong University</td>
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<td>Technological University</td>
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<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monywa University</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technological University</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myonwa Institute of Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monywa People’s Hospital</td>
<td>200-bed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chindwin Bridge (Monywa)</td>
<td>4730 feet</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sagaing-Monywa railroad</td>
<td>96 miles</td>
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<td>Monywa Industrial Zone</td>
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<td>Completed</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monywa-Kalay railroad</td>
<td>135 miles</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Institute of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education College</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Government Technological College</td>
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<td>Government Computer College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>People’s Hospital (Sagaing)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technological University</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technological University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myonwa People’s Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anyapya Dam</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dawei-Kawthoung road</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Dawei Deep Sea Port</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dawei University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Technological University</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Sagaing region</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Zalat Dam</td>
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<td>Alangni Dam</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bago-Thanlwin railroad</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Pyay)</td>
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Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin) built in Hinthada Region for better transport of local people.
### Special Development Regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>University of Computer Studies (Pyay)</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>People’s Hospital (Pyay)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>MATAUNGTA DAM</td>
<td>10520 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>KANGYIGON DAM</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Ayeyawady Bridge (Nawade)</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Pyay Oil and Natural Gas Field</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Pyay Industrial Zone</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Pyay-Nay Pi Taw railroad</td>
<td>120 miles</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Magway University</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Technological University (Magway)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Magway)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Community Health University</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Magway Teaching Hospital</td>
<td>200-bed</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>General Hospital</td>
<td>200-bed</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Magway Airport</td>
<td>10000 feet</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway)</td>
<td>5192 feet</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Sub-printing House (Magway)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Magway-Natmauk-Pyawbwe road</td>
<td>62 miles</td>
<td>upgraded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Pakokku University</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Technological University (Pakokku)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Pakokku)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>People’s Hospital (Pakokku)</td>
<td>200-bed</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Pakokku-Mindat road</td>
<td>97 miles</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Pakokku-Gangaw road</td>
<td>140 miles</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Pakokku Airport</td>
<td>new</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Pakokku Industrial Zone</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku)</td>
<td>216.16 miles</td>
<td>under way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Kyangin-Pakokku railroad</td>
<td>320 miles</td>
<td>under way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Mandalay University</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Technological University (Mandalay)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>University of Computer Studies (Mandalay)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>University of Foreign Languages</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>People’s Hospital</td>
<td>200-bed</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Teaching Hospital</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>University of Medical Technology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>University of Dental Medicine</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>University of Nursing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon)</td>
<td>5614 feet</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Magway Region

- Mandalay International Airport
- Yeywa Hydropower Project
- Mandalay Industrial Zone
- Sub-printing House (Mandalay)
- Meiktila University
- Technological University (Meiktila)
- University of Computer Studies (Meiktila)
- Meiktila Institute of Economics
- Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University
- People’s Hospital
- Mandalay-Meiktila road
- Meiktila Industrial Zone
- No. 4 Steel Mill
- Sunlan Dam
- Myingyan Industrial Zone
- No. 4 Steel Mill
- Peacock Bridge
- Pathein University
- Government Technical College
- University of Computer Studies
- (Pathein)
- People’s Hospital (Pathein)
- Pathein Bridge
- Pathein-Ngaputaw road
- Industrial Zone (Pathein)
- Pathein-Vangon railroad
- Hinthada University
- Technological University (Hinthada)
- University of Computer Studies
- (Hinthada)
- Hinthada People’s Hospital
- Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin)
- Hinthada Industrial Zone
- Hinthada-Nyaungdon railroad
- Maubin University
- Technological University (Maubin)
- University of Computer Studies
- (Maubin)
- Maubin People’s Hospital
- Maubin Bridge
- Khathitpya Bridge
- Maubin natural gas field
- Maubin-Mawlamyinegyun road
- Wadaw sluice gate
- Hnan sluice gate

**Photo shows a train on Kengtung-Wamkaung railroad section of Mongnai-Kengtung railroad construction project.**
**Calling for Abstracts**

**Documenting Good Disaster Risk Reduction Practices in Myanmar**

ActionAid Myanmar, Malteser International and UNDP, have been awarded funding from the European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) through its DPRECHO programme for the years 2010 – 2011. This project provides the opportunity for the agencies to identify, document and share the good practices in disaster risk reduction. With DPRECHO funding, UNDP, Malteser International and ActionAid Myanmar are looking for submissions from local organizations, international organizations, UN agencies, academic institutions and Government agencies for papers on Good Disaster Risk Reduction Practices in Myanmar.

**Good Practice Themes / Areas**

- Mainstreaming DRR into Livelihoods, Mainstreaming DRR into Education, Mainstreaming DRR in Health and Nutrition, Community mobilization for DRR, Partnerships and Capacity Development for DRR, Gender and DRR, CBDRM, Environment, DRR and Climate Change

**Submission procedure**

- Abstracts should be submitted by 10th January 2011
- Abstracts should follow approved template available with ActionAid, UNDP and Malteser International
- Language: Myanmar or English
- No. of words/pages (max): 1000 words/4 pages (A4 size, 1 inch all borders, Times New Roman, Font Size 11, Myanmar Font Win Irvine 14)
- Organisations can submit one abstract per thematic area and can send abstracts covering other themes.
- For copies of selection criteria and template, please contact any of the following persons: For further contact.

- UNDP: Noel Puno, Tayzar Moen Myint (noel.puno@undp.org, tayzarmoen.myint@undp.org)
- ActionAid Myanmar: Tashid Ibne Farid & Sve Set (tashidi farid@actionaid.org, sve.set@actionaid.org)
- Malteser International: Colin Fernandes (colin.fernandes@malteser- international.org)

**Armoured car sales jump as drug war batters Mexico**

MEXICO CITY, 30 Dec — Armoured cars and body armour in Mexico are no longer exclusively for government officials, foreign executives and the super rich, as a raging drug war spreads across the country, leading to a spike in orders. Sales of armoured vehicles rose 20 percent this year, the bloodiest in the government’s four-year fight against the cartels, to 1,500 units, according to the Mexican Armoured Car Association.

In a garage in Mexico City, technicians this month were busy fitting bulletproof glass and armor plating to vehicles ranging from luxury cars to humble family sedans. “A couple of years ago (armoured cars) were for wealthy businessmen or the powerful families of Mexico. Today the range of clients has grown because ordinary people now feel the same risks,” said Fernando Echeverri, the head of specialist firm Ballistic, who runs the garage.—INTERNET

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE**

As the wharf warehouse and chel an Office of Yangon Port will be closed on the 4th January 2011 (Independence Day) and on the 5th January 2011 (Kayin New Year Day) shipped or delivered on payment will be received as Holiday Fees.

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV FRIENDLY SEA VOY NO (45)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRIENDLY SEA VOY NO (45) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31.12.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-6 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the bylaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm toClaims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINES**

**PTELTD**

**Phone No:** 256924/256914

**Bank Holidays**

All Banks will be closed on 4th January (Tuesday) 2011, Independence Day and 5th January (Wednesday) 2011 Kayin New Year Day. Total 3 bank holidays. According to the Negotiable Instruments Act, Central Bank of Myanmar US says having ambassador in Venezuela important

CARACAS, 30 Dec

The US government on Wednesday said it is important to have an ambassador in Venezuela, and is considering the possible consequences after President Hugo Chavez rejected Washington’s chosen envoy.

Chavez on Tuesday dared the US government to expel his ambassador, saying he will not allow the US diplomat Larry Palmer to be ambassador because he made what Chavez described as blatantly disrespectful remarks about Venezuela.—INTERNET

**Brazil’s housing programme fulfilled**

RIO DE JANEIRO, 30 Dec—Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said on Wednesday that the government’s mega housing programme, Minha Casa Minha Vida (My house my life), has covered 1 million households.

Lula attributed the success to the change of the government’s efforts to address the housing problem and criticized those who did not believe the government’s promise to deliver one million housing units.

Some comrades from the media said we would not manage to fulfill the 1 million-house programme. Some people were used to the bureaucracy of government officials who kept their lazy butts glued to the desks and did not trouble calling their comrades and demand what had to be demanded,” he said.

“We did this to tell those skeptics to never again doubt the abilities of the Brazilian workers to build houses and of the government, which is determined to solve the housing deficit problem in the country,” the president added. Additionally, Lula said that his successor, President-elect Dilma Rousseff, will have even a bigger responsibility than he had, because she will have to prove to the sexistists that a female ruler can do as much or even more than a male.

Xinhua

**Uptick in Haiti cholera deaths**

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 30 Dec—Haiti’s cholera death toll has risen to 2,761 and the water-borne epidemic appears to be strengthening its grip on the quake-hit Caribbean nation, official figures showed Wednesday.

At least 60 people were shown to have died on four of the previous five days recorded by the health ministry, between 14 December and 17 December 2010.—INTERNET

A welder works on a car to be fitted with armor plating at a garage in Mexico City on 15 Dec, 2010.—INTERNET

**Putin praises START treaty, warns on WTO**

MOSCOW, 30 Dec — Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin praised the New START nuclear arms treaty with the United States on Wednesday, but made protectionist remarks that may complicate talks on the World Trade Organization (WTO).

In his first comments on New START since the US Senate approved it last week, Putin lauded President Dmitry Medvedev for forging the treaty with President Barack Obama — a signal of approval for the agreement from Russia’s paramount leader.

Putin told reporters the pact was an “unconditional success for President Medvedev in foreign policy.” The Russian president, however, said that a female ruler can do as much or even more than a male ruler. because she will have to prove to the sexistists that a female ruler can do as much or even more than a male ruler.

Xinhua

**Russia’s Prime Minister Vladimir Putin chairs a meeting of the Government Presidium in Moscow, December.**

INTERNET

**Putin’s current government is dominated by his United Russia party, is now set to ratify the treaty.**

Putin, described in secret US diplomatic cables released early this month by WikiLeaks as an “alpha dog” ruler who presides over a corrupt elite, added that his trust in US partners was now strengthening but “was not fully there yet.”—INTERNET

**A NASA’s Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) image of the Sun.**

Many people may be surprised to learn that the Sun, rather than burn with faultless consistency, goes through moments of calm and tempest. —INTERNET

**Internet**

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**Internet**
Ten-man Wigan rally to stun Arsenal

WIGAN, 30 Dec — Ten-man Wigan come from behind to secure a 2-2 draw against Arsenal after Sebastien Squillaci’s own-goal turned the spotlight on Gunners boss Arsene Wenger’s controversial selection policy.

Both sides went into Wednesday’s match here at the DW Stadium on the back of thrilling victories last week that did wonders for their respective ambitions this season. Wigan managed to defeat Wolverhampton Wanderers to breathe new life into their struggle against relegation while Arsenal underlined their title credentials with a superb win over Chelsea at the Emirates.

However, if Arsenal’s players from that 3-1 victory over the champions felt they had done enough for a spot in the starting XI for this fixture, they were made to turn their dominance into goals and in a scrappy second-half Scott Brown saw red for his second bookable offence in injury time, meaning the Celtic captain will miss the Rangers game.

Arsenal’s defender Bacary Sagna(L) is challenged by Wigan Athletic’s midfielder Tom Cleverley.—INTERNET

Ten-man Celtic go top in Scotland

GLASGOW, 30 Dec — Ten-man Celtic moved top of the Scottish Premier League after grinding out a 1-0 win over Motherwell at Parkhead on Wednesday.

With Rangers’ game away to St Johnstone having been postponed for a frozen pitch it means Celtic will go into Sunday’s Old Firm derby one point clear of their fierce rivals, albeit having played two games more.

However, as often been the case for Celtic when playing at home in recent weeks they failed to turn their dominance into goals and in a first-half of the first-half Jozo Simunovic was dispossessed by Nir Bitton, but Scott Brown was penalised for his second bookable offence in injury time, meaning the Celtic captain will miss the Rangers game.

Celtic FC’s player Scott Brown controls the ball during a match.—INTERNET

Henin not expecting miracles after Elbow injury

PERTH, 30 Dec — Former world No.1 Justine Henin admits she is probably six months away from recapturing her best form, as she prepares for her second Antipodean comeback in as many years.

The seven-times Grand Slam winner took almost two years off from tennis to grapple with her personal life before coming back at this year’s Australian Open in January, amazingly reaching the final, where she was beaten by Serena Williams in three sets.

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Wigan Athletic’s midfielder Tom Cleverley controls the ball during a match.—INTERNET

Malouda ends Chelsea’s winless streak

London, 30 Dec — Florent Malouda’s controversial 61st minute goal sealed Chelsea’s 1-0 victory over Bolton to give Carlo Ancelotti’s side a first win in seven league games and move the Blues back into the top four of the English Premier League at Stamford Bridge here on Wednesday.

Bolton were furious Malouda’s goal was allowed to stand, insisting Chelsea forward Didier Drogba was offside in the build-up to the strike.

But referee Michael Jones waved away their complaints and the reign of hope to take into 2011.

Celtic Football Club

Stoke seal permanent Pennant deal

LONDON, 30 Dec — Stoke City have signed winger Jermaine Pennant on a permanent deal for European side Real Zaragoza following a loan spell, the English Premier League club announced on Wednesday.

Stoke City have signed winger Jermaine Pennant.—INTERNET

Man City ‘offer 35 mln euros for Dzeko’

Manchester City have reportedly offered 35 million euros (29.8 million pounds) for Wolfsburg’s Bosnian striker Edin Dzeko.

In what Bild said would be a record price for a Bundesliga player, the English club would pay the Germans 30 million euros for the 24-year-old plus five million euros more if City reach the Champions League.

The transfer could be finalised in time for City’s crunch away clash at Arsenal on 5 January. Bild added, without identifying a source.

The paper cited Wolfsburg’s general manager Dieter Hoensess as declining to comment on what he called “speculation”.

Blackhawks F Toews out for two weeks

Chicago, 30 Dec — Chicago Blackhawks forward Jonathan Toews will be out two weeks with a shoulder injury.

Chicago Blackhawks’ Jonathan Toews right, tries to score against Columbus Blue Jackets goalie Mathieu Garon in the third period of an NHL hockey game in Chicago, on 26 Dec, 2010. Chicago won 4-1.—INTERNET

LIVERPOOL, 30 Dec — Home supporters turned on manager Roy Hodgson as Liverpool’s season hit rock-bottom with a 1-0 defeat to relegation-threatened Wolverhampton Wanderers at Anfield here on Wednesday.

Stephen Ward’s 56th minute goal earned Wolves, who climbed off the bottom of the table, their first win at the famous venue for 26 years as Liverpool ended a miserable 2010 on the back of three defeats in four games.

Ange fans taunting Hodgson, who only took over from Rafa Benitez in pre-season, with mocking taunts of “Hodgson for England” after the former Fulham boss replaced David Ngog with Ryan Babel as the game slipped away.

A home match against the league’s basement club was supposed to present Liverpool with an ideal opportunity to sign off the calendar year with a victory that would offer their followers a glimmer of hope to take into 2011.
Australian Navy ship leaves for Middle East on anti-piracy mission

SYDNEY, 30 Dec — The Australian Navy ship HMAS Stuart with 190 Australian sailors on board left Sydney on Thursday for the Middle East on a six-month anti-piracy mission, according to the Australian Associated Press (AAP) report.

Hundreds of family members and friends, along with Australian Defence Personnel Minister Warren Snowdon, were at the wharf in Sydney to wave the ship goodbye. Navy chiefs paid tribute to family members for their sacrifice in letting their loved ones go during the festive period.

In its fourth deployment to the Gulf, HMAS Stuart will relieve HMAS Melbourne on Operation Slipper. While deployed, Stuart will conduct maritime interdiction and counter-piracy missions, providing a deterrent presence and an escort for merchant ships in the Gulf of Aden in the Arabian Sea. Paul the octopus swims through his aquarium decorated with a football at the Sea Life aquarium in Oberhausen, western Germany. Paul shot to fame during 2010’s football World Cup in South Africa for correctly predicting the outcome of games. He died on 26 Oct, 2010.
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

Namtu TV retransmitting station launched

NAY Pyi Taw, 29 Dec—As part of the extensive TV retransmission programme, the building of Namtu TV retransmitting station in Shan State (North) was carried out and completed on 25 December. The facility was put into service the following day. With 50-watt capacity, the station airs MRTV programmes with sharp pictures and clear sound through UMF Channel 13.

Mahaing Township boosts paddy per acre yield

Mahaing, 30 Dec—The 4.50-acre model paddy plot of farmer U Nyo of Legyi Village of Mahaing Township was harvested on 19 November and the per acre yield of the Hinnweyin paddy was 93.26 baskets.

Ward off colonialist tricks with patriotism

Throughout past successive periods, Myanmar could stand tall with own monarchs and sovereignty in the international community. Occasionally, Myanmar faced alien threats. As the saying that goes “Blood is thicker than water”, the entire national brethren repulsed alien attacks in concert.

Special Features to Hail 63rd Anniversary Independence Day

* Never let independence be lost
Nationalistic fervour we foster
Courageous and blood red-hot
Fighting back colonialists and fascists
On hills, plains and in valleys

Page 9

Hinthada Myint Ngwe (Trx)

Page 8

Ko Myanmar

Page 8

Ye Htet

Page 9