Goal of building new nation cannot be achieved only with lip service and unrealistic approaches

Prime Minister addresses inauguration of Pathein-Monywa tarred road

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan—The inauguration of Pathein-Monywa tarred road built by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction took place at the pavilion near Kankalay Junction in Kyaunggon Township this morning, with an address by Prime Minister U Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Maj-Gen Hla Min of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Ayeyawady Region Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Tin Maung Win, ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, service personnel, members of social organizations, local people and guests.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that today’s ceremony was to open the upgraded tarred road that goes along the river Ayeyawady passing four regions. It was first built in 1969, but it remained as a one-way earthen facility due to various reasons. The fine road is one of the tangible fruits achieved in the time of State Peace and Development Council.

The road, which passes through 16 townships of Sagaing, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady regions, is designed to ensure smooth transport across the whole area on the western bank of the river, and to enable the area to catch up with the area of the eastern bank in terms of economic development. Due to its better transport, the eastern area enjoys greater development than the western area.

Giving guidance, the Head of State said that regions on the western side of the Ayeyawady River lagged behind the eastern side in development despite similar topography, in consequence of poor transport. It is therefore needed to improve the transport sector in order to bridge the gap between the two areas in the economic and social sectors. In compliance with the guidance, Kyangin-Pakokku-Kalay Railroad has been built, and Pathein-Monywa Road has been upgraded to a tarred facility.

The west bank has had easy access to Yangon Region, Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, Rakhine State and Kachin State through 15 roads linked with the newly-opened road. Local people will soon be able to enjoy economic growth rapidly, following improvement of trade. (See page 8)

All are to work hard in concert to meet the national goal in a short time, and to employ the sound foundations laid with much time and huge funds by the government.

Prime Minister U Thein Sein unveils the stone inscription of Pathein-Monywa tarred road. —MNA

Photo shows the road section of Pathein-Monywa Road. —MNA

Four political objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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
Stay in touch with ICT

Myanmar is stepping up movements for cumulative improvement of ICT, such as organizing ICT exhibitions designed to enable younger generations to acquire knowledge of international level technologies.

The 9th Myanmar ICT Week runs at Yatanarpon Cyber Hall in Yatanarpon City, PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region, from 8 to 12 January with the aim of providing added impetus to national development, improving the social-economic status of the people, and updating the people to catch up with the international community by means of sophisticated systems.

Twenty-six local and foreign companies stage 30 pavilions at the exhibition. New generations will be able to keep in touch with international level technologies if they study ICT in their youth.

On display at Yatanarpon Cyber Hall are ICT equipment, electronics and communication equipment produced by the companies that make investments in Yatanarpon City, communication equipment of the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and companies, along with e-cinema.

In its bid to shape the future of the nation, the government is encouraging all programmes for development of human resources, ICT and research. So, the youth of today are urged to make intensive study of ICT and apply it in combination with subjects in the social, economic, education and health fields to be able to keep abreast of the global community in the science and technology area.

UMFCCI officials meet

YANGON, 11 Jan—Vice-Presidents of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) U Win Aung and U Zaw Min Win received a delegation led by Dato’ Dr Azhar Ismail, Director General of Malaysia Cocoa Board, at UMFCCI Office on 7 January.

Both sides discussed cooperation in trade and investment, growing of cocoa, mutual cooperation in chocolate production and exchanges of technology.—MNA

UMFCCI Vice-Presidents U Win Aung and U Zaw Min Win meet Director General Dato’ Dr Azhar Ismail of Malaysia Cocoa Board. MNA

Special Refresher Course for Basic Education Teachers No. 40 commences

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan — On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Tha Thaha U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein delivered an address at the opening ceremony of Special Refresher Course for Basic Education Teachers No (40) took place at Yadana Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (PyinOoLwin) in PyinOoLwin Township in Mandalay Region this morning.

It was also attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Thara U Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Labour U Tin Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Upper Myanmar Supreme Court Judge U San Tin Yi, Mandalay Mayor U Phone Zaw Han, Members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Nyi Tun and U Kyaw Aung, senior military officers, departmental heads, Region, District and Township level officials, rector and pro-rectors of the institute, instructors, trainees and officials.

The minister said in his address that global nations are developing ever-changing technologies to combine financial, natural and human resources in their own interests. Among these resources, the education sector is constantly nurturing the intellectuals and intelligentsia, most promising resources for national development.

National technicians and public will have to join hands for the development will last long harmoniously only when the nation can stand on its own feet. Having expertise in modern technologies, keeping development potentials and standing its pace can be achieved by well-educated nationals.

With the vision of creating “an education system that will generate a learning society capable of facing challenges of the Knowledge Age”, the State is implementing 30-year long term education promotion plan with ten work programmes. They are —

1. to create education which can guarantee development
2. to complete basic education by every citizen
3. to develop the quality of basic education
4. to teach pre-vocational and vocational education at basic education level
5. to create more teaching and learning opportunities through modern technology to nurture vibrant and clinical citizens
6. to improve academic management
7. to pick up the momentum of basic education promotion tasks with the participation of parents
8. to develop non-formal education system
9. to facilitate development of educational research

He continued that teachers play a decisive role in nurturing the students who will be future leaders of the nation capable of shaping the future nation.

Therefore, it is necessary to inculcate the students with strong patriotic and Union spirit so as to ensure the perpetuation of national sovereignty and keep abreast of regional and global countries in terms of development.

In conclusion, the minister said that teachers are to carry out the ten basic education work programmes of the 30-year long-term education promotion plan by trying themselves to be qualified as well as for the students to become brilliant human resources; to cooperate with the national people in implementing the national tasks for emergence of a new, modern nation; and to follow and respect the teacher’s code of conduct and discipline with national outlook.

Later, the minister cordially greeted the trainees and instructors. A total of 1512 basic education teachers from regions and states from Upper Myanmar are doing the five-week course.—MNA
Pyongyang, 11 Jan—The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) Monday urged the United States to abandon its hostile policy against the country and sign a peace agreement to replace the Korean War Armistice Agreement.

The current serious situation on the Korean Peninsula has proved that it is necessary to establish mutual trust between the two countries to eliminate the risk of war, according to a commentary published by Rodong Sinmun, the DPRK’s leading official newspaper.

Therefore, a peace agreement should be signed to change the belligerent relationship between the two countries into a peaceful and trusting one, it said.

The situation on the peninsula last year not only proved that the Armistice Agreement could not prevent the accidental military conflict from taking place nor guarantee peace and stability, but also indicated the urgency of signing a peace agreement, the commentary said.

MNA/Xinhua

Afghan police kill two militants including commander, detain two

Ghazni, 11 Jan— Afghan police during an overnight operation against Taleban fighters in Muqur District of Ghazni Province 125 km south of Afghan Capital Kabul eliminated two militants including a commander and injured two others, a local official said Monday.

“Police raided Taleban hideout in Akhundkhil Village of Muqur District late Sunday night as a result a local Taleban commander Mullah Abdul Wahid along with another were killed and two others sustained injuries,” Barakatullah the police chief of Muqur district told Xinhua.

There were no casualties on police, he said.

Taleban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have yet to make comment.—Xinhua

Iranian MP slams EU over rejecting nuke invitation

Teheran, 11 Jan—Head of the National Security and Foreign Policy Commission of Iran’s Majlis (parliament) Alaeddin Boroujerdi slammed EU’s rejection of Iran’s invitation to visit its nuclear sites ahead of Istanbul nuclear talks between world powers and Iran, local satellite Press TV reported on Monday.

“There is no logic behind the West’s decision to decline Teheran’s offer,” Boroujerdi said on Sunday, according to Press TV.

“The Islamic Republic has presented its sincerity through inviting representatives and diplomats of foreign countries to visit its nuclear sites,” Boroujerdi was quoted as saying.

On 4 January, the media reported that Iran had invited ambassadors of “Russia, China, the European Union and its allies among the Arab and developing world to visit its nuclear sites.

The EU foreign affairs chief Catherine Ashton, however, turned down the invitation by Teheran, saying that it was IAEA’s function to inspect the Iranian nuclear facilities.

On Saturday, the Turkish daily Daily’s Zaman reported that Turkey is to host a new round of nuclear talks between Iran and six world powers of China, France, Russia, Britain and the United States plus Germany (G5+1) in Istanbul on 20 and 21 Jan.—Xinhua

An Afghan policeman inspects a police damaged vehicle in their compound after a car bomb explosion in Kandahar south of Kabul, Afghanistan recently. INTERNET

DPRK urges US to sign peace agreement

Fidel Castro: Cuba can do without US

HAVANA, 11 Jan—Former Cuban leader Fidel Castro said here Monday that Cuba could “live without the United States.”

In his new “Reflection” published Monday by the official media, Castro said Cuba “has lived for more than half a century without relations with the United States.”

The 84-year-old former leader contrasted Cuba’s reality with that in the United States, referring to the assassination attempt there Saturday that seriously injured Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords and killed six others.

“The United States is the biggest consumer of drugs in the world and at the same time, the largest supplier of weapons,” Castro said.

“Although it hurts our modesty, it is a duty to state that our blocked, threatened and slandered country has demonstrated that the people can live without violence and drugs,” he said.

“They can even live with no relations with the United States, and that has happened more than half a century ago,” Castro wrote. Concerning Giffords, Castro said the attack was a “heinous and detestable act of violence,” adding the Cubans were glad about “the success of doctors’ work to save her life.”

Xinhua

A paramedic assists a man, who was injured during a suicide bomb attack in Kandahar, Afghanistan, after he was brought to the District Hospital (DHQ) in Chaman in Pakistan’s Balochistan province, along the Afghan border on 7 Jan, 2011. A suicide bomber killed 17 people, including a police commander, inside a public bathhouse in Afghanistan’s southern Kandahar on Friday in the country’s worst attack in more than five months. INTERNET

Police chief killed in bomb attack in W Iraq

RAMADI, 11 Jan—A police chief of a city in Iraq’s western province of Anbar was killed and four of his bodyguards were wounded in a roadside bomb explosion on Monday, a provincial police source said.

Xinhua

Iraqi security forces walk past a burnt car in the northern Iraqi City of Kirkuk following a blast which seriously wounded the city’s police chief Borhan Habib Tayeq and killed his son.—INTERNET

An Afghan policeman inspects a police damaged vehicle in their compound after a car bomb explosion in Kandahar south of Kabul, Afghanistan recently. INTERNET

People react after the death of their family member in a suicide attack in neighbouring Spin Boldak, Afghanistan, at a local hospital in Pakistani border town of Chaman on 7 Jan, 2011. A suicide bomber struck a bath house in a southern Afghan border town as men gathered to wash before Friday prayers, killing 17 people, a provincial official said. The Taleban claimed responsibility, saying they targeted the deputy of an influential border patrol commander. INTERNET

Pyongyang urges US to sign peace agreement

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An Afghan policeman inspects a police damaged vehicle in their compound after a car bomb explosion in Kandahar south of Kabul, Afghanistan recently. INTERNET

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Pyongyang urges US to sign peace agreement
NASA spacecraft to probe Rhea for clues to Saturn rings

LOS ANGELES, 11 Jan—NASA’s Cassini spacecraft is set to fly by Saturn’s icy moon Rhea to look for clues to understanding the vast majestic rings encircling Saturn, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) announced on Monday.

At closest approach, Cassini will pass within about 69 kilometres (43 miles) of Rhea’s surface at 0453 GMT, 11 Jan, according to the JPL.

This flyby is the closest Cassini will get to the icy moon’s surface on Saturn’s icy moon Rhea, said the JPL, headquartered in Pasadena, Los Angeles. The closest flyby before this one was 100 kilometres (60 miles) in altitude.

Rhea, Saturn’s second largest moon, is the best available chance for studying how often tiny meteoroids bombard a surface.

Rhea has almost no atmosphere, which allows Cassini’s cosmic dust analyzer and radio and plasma wave instrument to detect the dusty debris that flies off the surface from tiny meteoroid bombardments.—Xinhua

Moon water likely from comets

MIDDLETOWN, 11 Jan—Water found on the moon probably came from comets that bombarded the lunar surface after its formation, US scientists say.

Researchers led by James Greenwood, a professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., analyzed the chemical properties of water in lunar rock samples collected by NASA astronauts during Apollo moon landings between 1969 and 1972, SPACE.com reported Monday.

This moon water has the same properties as those of three known comets, the researchers said.

Greenwood’s team found the chemical properties of the lunar water were similar to those that had been measured in three comets: Hyakutake, Hale-Bopp and Halley.

“If comets delivered the majority of water to the moon, an inescapable result is that the Earth also received a large cometary input to its oceans,” Greenwood said. “This may end up solving one of the great questions of our field, namely the origins of the Earth’s oceans.”

Technology

Disney and Yahoo in internet TV content talks

NEW YORK, 11 Jan—Walt Disney Co is in discussions on allowing content from some of its television networks to be available on sets embedded with Yahoo Inc’s Internet-TV software, the Wall Street Journal said, citing people familiar with the matter.

Disney is looking to create widgets for its ESPN, ABC, and Disney networks that would pipe content to Yahoo-connected TV sets and these widgets would be free to consumers, the paper added.

Disney’s television business is also in talks with companies including Samsung Electronics Co about licensing TV shows and movies from 20th Century Fox’s library for use on tablets and televisions.

News Corp to launch digital newspaper on 19 January

NEW YORK, 11 Jan—News Corp will launch its long anticipated digital newspaper for tablet devices on 19 January at a joint news event attended by Chairman Rupert Murdoch and Apple Inc Chief Executive Steve Jobs, according to a person with knowledge of the plan.

News Corp, which generates almost 30 percent of its first quarter revenue annually from publishing, is making a big bet that starting a newspaper from scratch that is dedicated to tablet devices could help revive the news business.

News Corp said the digital newspaper, known as the Daily, will deliver original coverage of news, the arts, lifestyle, sports and opinion.

The Daily’s launch will initially be for the iPad, on a paid subscription basis, News Corp disclosed in a court filing in December.—Reuters

Samsung targets $30 billion in 2015 home appliance sales

SEOUL, 11 Jan—South Korea’s Samsung Electronics Co Ltd targets sales of nearly $30 billion from home appliances in 2015 and a 10 percent share of the global market, Hong Chang-wan, head of the company’s appliances division, said on Tuesday.

Cross-town rival LG Electronics Inc said on Tuesday that its home appliance business aimed to achieve $20 billion in sales in 2014 to position the company as the top global player, and targeted double-digit sales growth in 2011.

Samsung Senior Vice-President Park Je-seung said the appliance markets in advanced economies were sluggish in the fourth quarter but would grow 2 to 3 percent this year, while emerging markets were expected to expand 5 to 8 percent.

Home appliances is one of the smallest business areas for Samsung, which is ranked as the world’s top maker of memory chips, TVs and LCDs and No 2 producer of mobile phone handsets.

Global biofuel land area estimated

CHAMPAIGN, 11 Jan—US scientists say biofuel crops grown on available land could meet half of the world’s current fuel consumption without affecting food crops or pastureland.

University of Illinois researchers, using detailed land analysis, identified land around the globe available to produce grass crops for biofuels with minimal impact on agriculture or the environment, a UI release said Monday.

“If we have land, where is it and what is the current land cover?” environmental engineering Professor Ximing Cai said.

“The questions we’re trying to address are, what kind of land could be used for biofuel crops?”

The Illinois study focused on marginal land for biofuel crops. Marginal land refers to land with low inherent productivity, that has been abandoned or degraded, or is of low quality for agricultural uses.

In their computer modeling, the researchers ruled out current crop land, pasture land, and forests.

They also assumed biofuel crops would be watered by rainfall and not irrigation, so no water would have to be diverted from agricultural land.

A reporter touches a 75-inch, full HD 3D LED television by Samsung Electronics during the first day of the 2011 International Consumer Electronics Show.—INTERNET

This NASA artist’s concept shows the smallest star known to host a planet. The planet, called Kepler-10b, was discovered using astrometry, a method in which the wobble induced by a planet on its star is measured precisely on the sky. The dim, red star, called VR 10, is a so-called M-dwarf, located 20 light-years away in the constellation Aquila.—INTERNET

Moon water likely from comets

The smallest-ever planet outside our solar system has been spotted by NASA’s Kepler spacecraft, seen here in a 2009 artist conception, — a rocky planet similar in size to the Earth, the US space agency said on Monday.

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INTERNET
Pregnancy spacing linked to autism risk

BEIJING, 11 Jan—Closely-spaced pregnancies are linked to a higher risk of autism in the second-born child, according to a new study involving more than 660,000 sibling pairs.

The study, which the journal Pediatrics published online Monday, showed that the risk of the second child being diagnosed with autism was significantly increased if there were fewer than 36 months between the pregnancies.

The highest risk was associated with pregnancies less than a year apart, according to Keely Cheslack-Postava, PhD, and colleagues at Columbia University in New York. The study looked at more than 660,000 second-born children in California between 1992 to 2002.

It measured the time the second child was conceived relative to the first child, and then looked at autism diagnosis of the second sibling.

However, researchers cautioned that additional studies need to be done to confirm the findings.

Still, one of the researchers, Peter Bearman, a sociologist at Columbia University in New York, said “we see this really profound association” that remained when other factors, such as the age of the parents were looked at. “We don’t know what causes this,” he said.—Xinhua

A/H1N1 flu prevalence in China not as serious as in 2009

BEIJING, 11 Jan—China’s health ministry said Monday the prevalence of A/H1N1 flu this winter would not be as serious as it was in 2009, though the country has entered its peak season for influenza.

According to current monitoring results, the incidence of A/H1N1 flu in China remains at “a low level,” Ministry of Health spokesman Deng Haihua said at a press conference in Beijing.

This was because the world had been in post-pandemic period for nearly half a year, and because China had conducted a large-scale vaccination programme against A/H1N1 flu, Deng said in response to a question concerning possible outbreaks of A/H1N1 flu.

According to figures from the ministry, there were 146 A/H1N1 flu cases recorded nationwide in December 2010. None of them caused death. About 28,000 confirmed cases of A/H1N1 flu were reported in December 2009.

Deng said the ministry has included A/H1N1 flu in its regular monitoring system and health departments will promptly deal with should new cases occur.

Health departments will also step up monitoring at venues where people gather, such as schools and homes for old people, he said.—Xinhua

Sri Lanka cuts interest rates to enhance growth

COLOMBO, 11 Jan—Sri Lanka’s Central Bank on Tuesday reduced lending rates, a move seen by analysts as one to encourage economic growth.

The bank said the repurchase rate has been reduced by 25 basis points to seven percent while the reverse repurchase rate reduced by 50 basis points to 8.50 percent.

“The government looks to encourage investment”, said Thushath de Silva an analyst.

The encouragement of substantial and sustained private sector participation would be vital”, the Central Bank said in a statement.

The bank said the inflation has eased, while acknowledging that prices of some selected food items increased.

Sri Lanka’s annual average inflation in 2010 was put at 5.9 percent. The bank said the Sri Lankan rupee has been stable, cushioning the high costs of imported commodities.

China’s new yuan-denominated loans hit 7.95 trln yuan last year

BEIJING, 11 Jan—New yuan-denominated lending in China reached 7.95 trillion yuan (about 1.2 trillion US dollars) last year, the People’s Bank of China (PBOC), the central bank, said in a statement.

The figure was 1.65 trillion yuan less than the 2009 level of 9.6 trillion yuan, said the bank in a statement on its website. But it has overshadow the government’s full-year target of 7.5 trillion yuan.

New yuan-denominated loans in December last year stood at 480.7 billion yuan. The country’s foreign-exchange reserves reached 2.85 trillion USdollars by the end of last year, up 18.7 percent from a year earlier, said the statement.—Xinhua

A/Pediatrics published online Monday, showed that the risk of the second child being diagnosed with autism was significantly increased if there were fewer than 36 months between the pregnancies.

ECB president says global recovery confirmed by central bankers

BASEL, 11 Jan—Central bankers had confirmed a global-level economic recovery from the financial crisis, European Central Bank (ECB) chief Jean-Claude Trichet said here on Monday.

Trichet made the remarks following the regular Bank for the International Settlement (BIS) bimonthly meeting, which gathered central bankers around the world.

“I am confirmed at the global level, the world economy has demonstrated the capacity to behave better than the previous projections and forecasts,” Trichet said as chairperson of the Global Economy Meeting, a sideline event to the BIS meeting.

In particular, Trichet highlighted the impressive performances of the emerging economies in contrast with the advanced economies.—Xinhua

A family watching TV

People who spend more than two hours per day watching television or sitting in front of a screen face double the risk of heart disease and higher risk of dying, more than two hours per day of leisure television or sitting in front of screens increases the risk of death by 65 percent, a study has found.

People who spend less than one hour per day watching TV are at 56 percent less risk of dying, compared to those who spend more than two hours per day, according to a new report.

The study, conducted by researchers at Columbia University in New York, looked at nearly 20,000 adults over a period of more than 10 years.

“I think the message is clear,” said study author Dr. Evren Postava, an assistant professor of epidemiology at Columbia University.

The study, published online Monday, showed that the risk of the second child being diagnosed with autism was significantly increased if there were fewer than 36 months between the pregnancies.

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WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—Pet snake owners say the US government’s proposal to ban the importation and interstate transportation of nine species of foreign snakes goes too far.

In seeking the ban, the US Fish and Wildlife Service said the animals, if freed, posed a serious risk to native ecosystems across the southern United States, The New York Times reported Monday.

First solid-rock exoplanet discovered

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—The first planet outside our solar system found to be made up entirely of solid material has been discovered, US astronomers say.

The smallest extra-solar planet so far discovered, dubbed Kepler-10b, has a diameter only 40 percent larger than the Earth, Science New sorg reported Monday.

Although probably partially molten and too hot to contain liquid water or support life as known on Earth, the planet’s mass and diameter have been measured to such high accuracy that the object “is the first unqualified rocky planet that humanity has ever seen,” Kepler team member Natalie Batalha of San Jose State University said.

Discovered by NASA’s Kepler spacecraft, the finding is important to scientists looking for rocky planets because chemical reactions that form the building blocks of life are thought to occur most frequently on solid surfaces.—Internet

US diabetes doubled from 1996 to 2007

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan—About 19 million US adults reported receiving diabetes treatment in 2007, more than double the 9 million who received care in 1996, health officials say.

The report by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, part of the Department of Health and Human Services, found that from 1996 to 2007, people age 65 and older treated for diabetes increased from 4.3 million to 8 million; for people ages 45-64, the increase was 3.6 million to 8.9 million; and for those ages 18-44, the increase went from 1.2 million to 2.4 million.

The cost of diabetes treatment paid by all sources more than doubled, from $18.5 billion in 1996 (in 2007 dollars) to $41 billion in 2007. Outpatient care costs doubled from about $5 billion to roughly $10 billion, the report said.

Total prescription drug costs nearly increased fourfold, from $4 billion to $19 billion over the 11-year period from 1996 to 2007. Per patient, the cost of prescription medicines more than doubled, rising from $495 a year in 1996 to $1,048 in 2007, the report said.

New baby survived twister, crashing cow

WADENA, 11 Jan—A Minnesota woman says her new baby was named Skylar to note the time last summer when she and her unborn daughter were hit by a flying cow during a tornado.

Skylar Schwab was not only the first baby born in Wadena this year but can also be considered the youngest survivor of the twister that hit the town in June.

“We figured ‘Sky’ was too short, so we chose Skylar,” new mom Samantha Wittrock told KSAX-TV, Redwood Falls, Minn. “It was a big part of her life and she survived it.”

Santana was knocked cold during the on 17 June storm and woke up with a cow on top of her, KSAX reported Monday. She was only a month pregnant at the time but feared she could lose the baby due to the bizarre trauma.

But Skylar emerged apparently no worse for wear for this month at 7 pounds, 9 ounces.

As her due date approached, however, residents of the devastated town chipped in with clothing and a quilt sewn from fabric decorated with cows.

BAE developing anti-piracy laser

NEWCASTLE, UK, 11 Jan—BAE Systems, a defense company, is working on a laser to deter pirates attacking ships.

The system, called Sky Laser, will use a custom-made aluminum garnet laser, which is an effective deterrent at relatively low power levels. By utilizing targeting systems and changing beam patterns, the laser effect can be made more pronounced and be used against multiple targets, BAE said.

The level of beam intensity and divergence produced by the test runs. Beam oscillation techniques were also demonstrated.

The device is the result of researchers developing a custom-made neodymium yttrium aluminium garnet laser, which is an effective deterrent at relatively low power levels. By utilizing targeting systems and changing beam patterns, the laser effect can be made more pronounced and be used against multiple targets, BAE said.

New baby survived twister, crashing cow

BAE said the laser underwent night and day testing at a facility in Worcester. Camerons were placed at the target location to demonstrate the level of beam intensity and divergence produced by the test runs. Beam oscillation techniques were also demonstrated.

The device is the result of researchers developing a custom-made neodymium yttrium aluminium garnet laser, which is an effective deterrent at relatively low power levels. By utilizing targeting systems and changing beam patterns, the laser effect can be made more pronounced and be used against multiple targets, BAE said.

Eggs are examined at a laboratory of the Office for Chemical and Veterinary Investigation in Muenster, western Germany. As Germany grapples with a food scandal that has forced thousands of farms to halt sales, one technology firm has come up with an enterprising way to pick out the bad eggs at the supermarket by scanning the barcodes with a smartphone.—INTERNET
Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to Senior General Than Shwe

From Mr Felipe Calderon Hinojosa, President of the United Mexican States.
Your Excellency,

It is an honour to convey to Your Excellency my warmest regards on the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar.

I am certain that we will continue strengthening the dialogue and understanding that enhances the bilateral relationship between our nations.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, King of Brunei Darussalam
Your Excellency,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest congratulations to you and the government and people of the Union of Myanmar on your country’s 63rd Independence Day.

I greatly value the warm and cordial relations between our countries and I am confident that these relations will continue to be developed in the coming years.

With my very best wishes for your continued good health and happiness.

Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to Prime Minister U Thein Sein

From Mr Felipe Calderon Hinojosa, President of the United Mexican States.
Your Excellency,

I have the high honour to convey to Your Excellency my warmest regards on the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar.

In this regard, I am pleased to continue strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation that characterize the relationship between our countries.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, King of Brunei Darussalam
Your Excellency,

I have much pleasure in sending my warmest congratulations to you, the government and the people of the Union of Myanmar on your country’s 63rd Independence Day.

I am happy with the close and friendly relations that exist between our two countries and I look forward to strengthening these relations bilaterally and as partners in ASEAN. With my best wishes for your good health and happiness as well as for the continued progress and prosperity of the people of the Union of Myanmar.

Industry-1 Minister meets Chinese guests

Minister U Aung Thaung meets President Mr. Wu Dao Yu of China National Technical Import & Export Corporation (CNTIC).—MNA

First machine of Shwegyin Hydropower Station comes online

Nav Pyi Taw, 11 Jan—Start running of No.1 machine of Shwegyin Hydropower Project was held at the front of the station yesterday morning.

It was attended by Deputy minister and director-general U Myint Zaw of Hydropower Implementation Department cut the ribbon on the machine. After that, the minister launched the machine. The project is located near Kyauknaga village about six miles north-east of Shwegyin, Bago Region. Its installation capacity is the biggest of the hydro power projects in Sittoung basin. It has an installation capacity of 11 megawatt and can generate 262 million kWh of electricity a year. Machine Nos. 2, 3 and 4 will soon come online. The project has been completed by 96.66 percent.—MNA

Labour Minister attends school family day of No. 4 BEHS Mingala Taungnyunt

Nav Pyi Taw, 11 Jan—No. 4 Basic Education High School in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region marked School Family Day for 2010-2011 academic year along with prize presentation ceremony at the school on 8 January. President of Parents and Teachers Association Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi addressed the festival and Headmaster U Aye Thin reported on educational pro-grammes carried out in 2010-2011 academic year.

Next, Minister U Aung Kyi awarded outstanding students and students performed songs and dances.—MNA

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min launches machine No.1 of Shwegyin Hydropower Station. MNA
Goal of building new nation cannot be achieved…

(from page 1)

Swift commodity flow and better relations with other regions.

Smooth transport also contributes towards education, health and social affairs and unity among national races. Therefore, the government has built 36 Union highways stretching between south and north, and 45 Union highways stretching between east and west of the nation for equitable development of all parts of the Union.

Some regions were difficult of access due to natural barriers. But they have enjoyed smooth transport thanks to the National Railway Network being built, so any region else in the Union is easily accessible by train.

The government has improved infrastructures across the nation with the 24 special regions in the centre. It is required to make sustained efforts, making good use of already-built sound foundations to transform the nation into an industrialized one.

Before long, Hluttaw sessions will be held to form Union government, stability, national unity and national development are requirements of democratization. So, these requirements are to be fulfilled all the more in such a transitory period.

All are to work hard in concert to meet the national goal in a short time, and to employ the sound foundations laid with much time and huge funds by the government.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister called for durability of all transport facilities including Pathein-Monywa Road; and harmonious cooperation of the entire people to achieve the national goal.

In his speech, the commander called for collaborative maintenance of the facility for its durability.

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint said that the project started on 11 April 2010 and is completed today, calling for wise and careful use of the facility.

The Prime Minister and entourage took position in front of the pavilion. Maj-Gen Hla Min of the Ministry of Defence, the commander and the construction minister formally opened the road.

The Prime Minister and party posed for documentary photos with the engineers and attendees.

The Prime Minister unveiled the stone plaque of the road.

The Prime Minister and members took a stroll on the newly-built road.

The opening of Pathein-Monywa Road was held at Okshitpin junction in Pyay District in the morning. Chairman of Bago Region PDC Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Soe Htut delivered a speech. Deputy Minister for Construction U Myint Thein gave accounts of the project.

Vice-Chairman of Bago Region PDC Brig-Gen Sein Myint, Prime Minister U Thein Sein speaking at opening of Pathein-Monywa Road.

Maj-Gen Hla Min of Ministry of Defence, Commander Brig-Gen Tin Maung Win and Minister U Khin Maung Myint open Pathein-Monywa Road.—MNA

Prime Minister
Goal of building new nation cannot be achieved...

(from page 8)

the deputy minister and Deputy Chief Engineer U Tun Tha of Public Works formally opened the road.

Commander Brig-Gen Soe Htut unveiled the stone plaque of the road, and viewed the Magway Region, in the morning, with an address by Chairman of Mandalay Region PDC Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Ye Aung.

Chairman of Magway Region PDC U Phone Maw Shwe spoke formally opened the road.

Commander Brig-Gen Ye Aung unveiled the stone plaque of the road, and strolled on the road with attendees.

A similar ceremony was held at the pandal at mile post No. 450/5. Chairman of Sagaing Region PDC Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Soe Lwin gave a speech.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe and officials formally opened the road.

Commander Brig-Gen Soe Lwin unveiled the stone plaque of the road, and walked on the road.

The 450 miles and five furlongs long road, the longest of its kind in Myanmar, can withstand 40 tons of loads.

Thanks to the road, residents in the areas in Ayeyawady, Bago, Magway and Sagaing Regions along the western bank of the Ayeyawady River will be able to enjoy better transport.

Before long, Hluttaw sessions will be held to form Union government, Region/State governments, self-administered zone leading bodies along with a check and balance system for three pillars, namely legislative, executive and judicial sectors.

Community peace, stability, national unity and national development are requirements for democratization. So, these requirements are to be fulfilled all the more in such a transitory period.

road with guests.

The opening ceremony of Pathein-Monywa Road was also held at Padan junction in Ngaphe Township, on the occasion. Officers on Special Duty Thura U Sein Thaung of the Ministry of Construction reported on the project. Commander U Phone Maw Shwe, Officer on Special Duty Thura U Sein Thaung and Deputy Managing Director (Project) of Public Works U Kyaw Hlaing
Minister oversees embankment repairing in An Township

YANGON, 11 Jan —Member of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Transport U Thein Swe arrived at Tattaung in An Township, Rakhine State, yesterday morning and inspected Township Inland Water Transport Manager’s Office, the jetty and Sittway, Tattaung and Kyaukphyu watercourses.

Next, the minister proceeded to Ngayokkhin Village in Nyaungchaung Village-tract where he provided assistance for the village people and cash for repairing of embankments. He then inspected repairs of embankments with the use of machinery. On arrival at Ohnmikyun Village in Zintaw Village-tract, the minister provided cash assistance and inspected repairing of embankments.

Then, the minister went to Phatchaung Village in Phatchaung Village-tract and provided assistance for the villagers and cash for renovation of schools. Later, he inspected repairing of the embankments that were damaged by storm Giri and left necessary instructions. — MNA

Economic indicators suggest Hainggyikyun enjoys...

(from page 16)

It is close to coastal areas. It is bounded by Rakhine Yoma mountain range stretching between north and south; by the Bay of Bengal in the south and north; by Ngayokegaung in the north; and by the River Thekitti-thaung in the east. It produces meat, fish and prawn in abundance due to plentiful of rivers and creeks. It is successful in farming paddy because it is a delta. Being a coastal township, it produces sun-dried salt on a commercial scale. And being adjacent to Rakhine Yoma Mountain Range, it is also a source of forest products. Therefore, its economic growth is rapid. It is home to many national races, especially Bamar, Rakhine and Kayin. Due to inter-township roads and bridges, the region is easily accessible from any other region else across the nation.

The 96 miles long Pathein-Mawtinsun Road linking Hainggyikyun and Pathein has been upgraded to an all-weather tarred facility. Now, Road Project Group (2) under Public Works is building Labutta-Thongwa-Hteiksun Road. The minister is pleased with the progress of the project.

Minister U Thein Swe inspects repairing of dykes with machinery at Ngayokekhin Village.—SINA

Salt farming is a lucrative business in Hainggyikyun.

A pleasant township is very captivating to visitors. It is kept clean and pleasant. Civil servants in the township maintain good relations with the public. The considerable progress of the township is due largely to sustained efforts being made constantly by various governmental departments.

Now, passenger high-speed ships ply between Pathein and Hainggyikyun, thus providing smooth and safe transport to the people. The main economic indicators such as telegraph office, post office, and auto exchange suggest that the region is enjoying development significantly. It gets four general hospitals, Hainggyikyun general hospital, Kyaukphyu general hospital, Kyaukphyu general hospital, and newly-built Kyonku Village general hospital. All in all, Hainggyikyun Township enjoys all-round development thanks to prudent projects in various sectors.

Translation: MS Kyemon:

10-1-2011
Chinese stealth fighter makes first test flight

BEIJING, 11 Jan—A leading expert on the Chinese military says the country’s prototype stealth fighter has made its first-known test flight. Kanwa Asian Defence magazine editor Andrei Chang said the J-20 flew for about 15 minutes over an airfield in the southwestern city of Chengdu where it was spotted carrying out runway tests last week. Photos of the plane in flight were also posted on unofficial Chinese military websites.

The test flight comes on the second day of a visit to China by US Defence Secretary Robert Gates. Chang and other analysts say the visit’s timing is apparently intended to send the message that Beijing is responding to calls from the US and others to be more transparent about its defence modernization and future intentions.

Turkish military helicopter crashes, five killed

ANKARA, 11 Jan—A Turkish military helicopter has crashed near the country’s capital of Ankara, killing all five crew members on board, officials said on Tuesday. Wreckage of the UH-1 helicopter was spotted by search and rescue teams late Monday, the officials were quoted by the semi-official Anatolu news agency as saying. The aircraft was on a training flight before losing contact with the ground earlier Monday, they said.

Military helicopter reported missing in Ankara

ANKARA, 11 Jan—A military helicopter has gone missing on a training flight in the Turkish Capital of Ankara, military officials said Monday. Search and rescue efforts were underway after communication with UH-1 helicopter broke off, the military official were quoted as saying by the semi-official Anatolu news agency.

Plane skids off runway in Malaysia, four injured

KUALA LUMPUR, 11 Jan—An aeroplane skidded off the runway at the Kuching Airport in the Sarawak State in East Malaysia Monday night, injuring four passengers. Malaysian Transport Minister Kong Cho Ha told a press conference in Malaysia’s Capital Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday that the incident was believed to be caused by the slippery runway as it was raining heavily when the incident took place. The minister also said that the four passengers had suffered minor injuries and were being treated at the Kuching Hospital. There were 124 passengers and six crew on board the plane that departed Monday night for Kuching, state capital of the Sarawak State, from the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, some 60 kilometres south of the city centre of Kuala Lumpur.—Xinhua

French defence chief in Niger after hostages killed

NIAMEY, 11 Jan—French Defence Minister Alain Juppe kicked off a visit to Niger on Monday to discuss anti-terror cooperation after two French hostages were killed by their kidnappers. France is facing an increasing threat in the Sahel region from the al-Qaeda branch in North Africa (AQIM), which is also linked to a bomb attack last week on the French Embassy in the Malian Capital Bamako.

A former US House Majority Leader sentenced to three years in jail for money laundering

HOUSTON, 11 Jan—Former US House Majority Leader Tom DeLay was sentenced to three years in prison on Monday for his role in a money laundering scheme, US media reported. A Texas judge sentenced DeLay to three years on a conspiracy charge and five years in prison for money laundering, according to the report. However, the judge allowed DeLay to accept a 10-year probation on the money laundering charge, assuming he meets certain conditions set by the court. DeLay, who used to be one of the most powerful Republicans in the House of Representatives, was convicted in November last year on charges of money laundering and conspiracy to commit money laundering.

Another passenger plane fail to land in Iran’s Urmoumieh Airport

TEHERAN, 11 Jan—Another passenger plane which took off from Teheran’s Mehrabad airport at 17:00 local time (1330 GMT) could not land in Urmoumieh airport due to bad weather and flew back to Teheran, Xinhua reporters said. The Fokker 100 passenger plane, belonging to IranAir airlines flew above the Urmoumieh airport with one hour’s delay, but failed to land and had to return to Teheran, according to the Xinhua reporters who were on board to Urmoumieh to report about the Sunday’s air crash.

The passengers were told by the crew that they need to wait for an announcement for another flight to Urmoumieh.

The Boeing-727, also belonging to the state-owned IranAir airliner took off from Teheran Mehrabad Airport at 18:00 local time (1430 GMT) and crashed at 19:45 local time (1615 GMT) on Sunday near a village, some 15 km from Iran’s northwestern city of Urmoumieh.

French Prime Minister Francois Fillon condemned the latest “cold blood” killing by AQIM in a press release on Saturday. Rescuers found the bodies of the pair Antoine de Leocour and Vincent Delory, both 25, in the desert after the operation. They were abducted on Friday night in a restaurant in Niamey, the capital of Niger. Xinhua

Passengers wave before the train starts its maiden voyage from Changchun to Jilin in Changchun, capital of northeast China’s Jilin Province, on 11 Jan, 2011.—Xinhua
**Venezuela to cut lights at late-paying state firms**

**CARACAS, 11 Jan —** Venezuela warned mayors, governors and the South American country’s numerous state-run companies on Monday to pay overdue electricity bills or face being cut off in a drive to stop waste and balance its accounts. Electricity Minister Ali Rodríguez said the money collected by state utility Corpoelec last year covered only half the company’s payroll in a year of serious power shortages.

“The debt these organizations have is close to 4 billion bolívares ($930 million),” he told state news agency AVN. “We are toughening up charging and have ordered supplies to be cut to those institutions that don’t catch up on payments.”

“One of the objectives is to raise collection to cover the operational costs of the national electricity system, not only the payroll,” Rodríguez said in comments reported by state news agency AVN.

The government of President Hugo Chavez nationalized the electricity sector in 2007, among hundreds of companies taken over as part of his drive to build a socialist economy.

However, low prices and weak enforcement encourage wasteful usage and theft of power supplies.—INTERNET

**Omega-3 may help protect brain from injury**

**MORGANTOWN, 11Jan —** Studies in animals suggest fish body oils — believed protective for the heart — may help protect against traumatic brain injury, US researchers suggest.

Dr Julian E Bailes of the University of Kentucky’s Department of Neurosurgery, says the study they conducted on rats demonstrates that omega-3 fatty acid docosahexaenoic acid — known as DHA and found in fish body oils — at varying doses, effective at protecting some tissues inside humans taking DHA supplements.

**S Korea to buy grain trading firm in the US**

**SEOUL, 11 Jan —** South Korea is planning to join private companies to jointly purchase a US grain trading firm to try to hedge against price swings and secure a stable source of food, an official said on Tuesday.—INTERNET

**Man slain on Acapulco highway; 31 dead in 4 days**

**ACAPULCO, 11 Jan —** The body of a murdered man was found on Monday in the Pacific resort city over four days. The unidentified man was shot several times in the head and found under a shirt pulled over his face, said Fernando Monreal Leyva, director of the investigative police for Guerrero state, where Acapulco is located.

Leyva said federal, state and local police planned to meet on Monday with the military to consider ways to beef up security in Acapulco, where 14 decapitated men and two police officers were among the unusually high body count since Friday evening.

**Earthquake survivor Darlene Etienne is seen in Marchand Dessaline, on 9 Jan, 2011.**

**INTERNET**

**Fatigues with an embroi- dered logo of the La Fu- milia drug cartel is pre- sented to the media along with weapons, drugs and cars confiscated in an operation in Morelia on 10 Jan, 2011.**

**INTERNET**

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**Claim Day Notice**

**MV Hoang Anh 09 VOY NO ( )** Consignees of cargo carried on MV Hoang Anh 09 VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.1.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(2) where it will be 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 to Claim 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 Claim Day.

**Shipping Agency Department MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY Agent for: MS Hoang Anh Group Phone No: 2569162/256919/256921**

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**JAPAN to buy European bonds to support eurozone**

**Tokyo, 11 Jan —** Japan on Tuesday said it was ready to buy bonds to be issued by the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) to help finance Ireland’s bailout and support the debt-hit eurozone, report said.

Finance minister Yoshihiko Noda said Japan should help contribute towards boosting confidence in the bonds, NTT Press reported, amid fears of a deepening debt crisis spreading to other eurozone members such as Portugal.

In doing so Japan will join China, which has already expressed its readiness to assist European economies seen as most exposed to a debt crisis by pledging to buy bonds directly from Spain, Greece and Portugal.—INTERNET

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**Full recovery for ‘miracle’ Haiti quake survivor**

**Marchand Dessaline, 11 Jan —** The smiling teen who pokes her head out of the doorway of her grandmother’s house is the embodiment of human resilience, someone whose very existence seems utterly impossible.

A year ago, Darlene Etienne was en tombed in crumpled concrete and twisted steel. All around her, the sprawling city of Port-au-Prince was in ruins. Frantic family members and trained search teams dug through the debris for survivors but had largely given up hope of finding anyone else alive.

Then on 27 Jan — a staggering 15 days after the earthquake that the government says killed more than 220,000 people — people heard her faint voice, weakly calling for help through the debris. Soon, a French rescue team was digging her out before hundreds of stunned onlookers.

**Earthquake survivor Darlene Etienne is seen in Marchand Dessaline, on 9 Jan, 2011.**

**INTERNET**

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**Port-au-Prince was in ruins. Her, the sprawling city of twisted steel. All around her, crumbled concrete and rubble is piled through the debris. The body of a murdered man was found on Monday evening.**

**INTERNET**

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**Patients terrified by the whirring sound of the dentist’s drill could benefit from a new gadget that cancels it out, according to researchers at King’s College London. The group said they had come up with a device which not only filters out the sound but allows people to listen to their own music too.**

**INTERNET**

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**Caribbean Sinking Fleet**

**INTERNET**

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**S Korea to buy grain trading firm in the US**

**Seoul, 11 Jan — South Korea is planning to join private companies to jointly purchase a US grain trading firm to try to hedge against price swings and secure a stable source of food, an official said on Tuesday.**

**INTERNET**

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**Acapulco is planning to join private companies to jointly purchase a US grain trading firm to hedge against price swings and secure a stable source of food, an official said on Tuesday.**

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**INTERNET**
Two arrested in Los Angeles in turtle smuggling case

Two men from Japan have been arrested for allegedly smuggling more than 50 live turtles and tortoises into the United States.

The US attorney’s office said Monday that Atsushi Yamagami and Norihide Usuhirozako (USHEE-row-za-ko), both of Osaka, were arrested Friday at Los Angeles International Airport. Both men were charged with one count each of illegally importing wildlife and one count of violating the Endangered Species Act.

If convicted, they both face up to 21 years in prison. They are scheduled to be arraigned 31 January.

Federal prosecutors say the turtles and tortoises were hidden in snack food boxes found in a suitcase.

The arrests were tied to an undercover investigation that began last year into a smuggling operation that brought turtles into the United States.

There’s a tiger in town but he has permission to house the tigers in the trailer, police said.

The man, who is from a nearby village, works for a Russian circus group that is now on a break in the Netherlands and was charged with looking after three grown tigers and a cub.

The tigers are housed in a specially secured trailer, in individual cages and monitored accordingly.

The man was also granted a temporary permit to house the tigers in the trailer.

German police have told an employee of a Russian circus group that he can take his tigers for walks as long as the authorities are notified in advance.

The 30-year-old man caused a stir in the northern German village of Ratzeburg on Sunday when a woman called police to report a man walking a tiger cub outside of town.

Britney Spears debuts “Hold It Against Me” single

Britney Spears poses with the tiger cub outside the trailer, where authorities hypothesized that the animal lived.

Britney Spears poses backstage with her three awards for best pop video, video of the year and best female video for “Piece of Me” at the 2008 MTV Video Music Awards in Los Angeles on 7 September, 2008.—Associated Press

Unofficial royal wedding commemorative plates are displayed at the KK Outlet shop on 10 Jan, 2011, in London. KK Outlet is selling the plates ahead of the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton on 29 April, 2011, at London’s Westminster Abbey.

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**Weidenfeller extends Dortmund stay**

BERLIN, 11 Jan — Borussia Dortmund goalkeeper Roman Weidenfeller has ex- tended his contract by three seasons keeping him with the Bundesliga leaders until 2014.

**Marta wins 5th straight FIFA women’s award**

ZURICH, 11 Jan — Marta has won five straight FIFA’s women’s player of the year awards. What she doesn’t have is a club.

The 24-year-old Brazilian forward dominated voting announced Monday after a stellar season with the Professional Soccer League club and won a reported 2.5 million euros per year.

“I’m proud that all the Borussia Dortmund bosses are behind me and made me feel that they want us to continue our path together,” he added.—INTERNET

**South Korea edge Bahrain in Asian Cup match**

Doha, 11 Jan — A brace from Koo Ja-Cheol earned South Korea a somewhat nervy 2-1 victory over a plucky Bahrain in their Asian Cup Group C opening match at the Al Gharafa Stad- ium on Monday.

Koo struck either side of half-time as Cho Kwang-Rae’s team, who are bidding to end a 51-year continental title drought, averaged their defeat at Bahrain’s hands in the group phase of the 2007 tournament.

There was a tense finish to the game for the Ko- reans, however, with Fouazzi Aash netting from the penalty spot in the 85th minute after Kwak Tae- Hoi had been sent off for bringing down Abdulla Al-Dakeel inside the box.

“It would have been better if we had avoided conceding the penalty, but it happened, so there’s nothing we can do about it,” said Cho.

South Korea’s midfielder Koo Ja-Cheol (L) celebrates with teammate Park Ji-Sung after scoring his team’s second goal against Bahrain.—INTERNET

**New Serbian coach for Black Stars**

Ghana have appointed Serbian coach Goran Stevanovic to lead the na- tional team.—INTERNET

ACCRA, 11 Jan — Ghana have for the third consecutive time ap- pointed a Serbian coach to lead the national team, the country’s football association announced on Monday.

Goran Stevanovic, 44, replaces fellow Serb Milovan Rajevac, who guided the team to last year’s World Cup quar- ter-finals in South Africa before a heartbreak- ing loss to Uruguay.

Rajevac had quit the Ghana job and signed a new contract with Saudi Arabian club Al Ahly Jeddah.

Stevanovic was one of five coaches on a shortlist to replace Rajevac which included former France World Cup winner Marcel Desailly and ex-Portugal manager Humberto Coelho.—INTERNET

**Soderling defeats Roddick at ATP Brisbane International**

BRISBANE, 11 Jan — Sweden’s Robin Soderling won the Bris- bane International when he beat American Andy Roddick 6-3, 7-5 at the Queensland Tennis Centre. In a brilliant ex- hibition of power and precision, the 26-year- old Swede overwhelmed a gallant Roddick in an absorbing Sunday’s final on the Pat Rafter Arena.

Soderling rose to a career-high ranking of number five during 2010 and he carried that form into the first set as the sheer power of his groundstrokes put Roddick firmly on the back foot.—INTERNET

**Soccer player Marta of Brazil poses with the trophy after winning the women’s FIFA Ballon d’Or 2010 prize during the FIFA Ballon d’Or 2010 gala held at the Kongresshaus in Zurich, Switzerland, on Monday.—INTERNET**

**Jonathan Byrd builds momentum with his biggest win**

KAPALUA, 11 Jan — Only the PGA Tour win- ners from the previous year are invited to Kapalua to begin the sea- son at the Tournament of Champions. That wasn’t enough for Jonathan Byrd.

Sitting in front of his locker early in the week, he looked around the room at some of the names on the gold plates attached to each locker, which included the tour- nament they won to get there. For some reason, Byrd began to feel envi- ous.

Gréame McDowell had the US Open. Ernie Els won at Bay Hill and Doral. Tim Clark, winner of The Players Champi- onship. There were three titles for Jim Furyk, including the Tour Championshp to win the FedEx Cup.

Els won at Bay Hill and Doral. Tim Clark, winner of The Players Champs- onship. There were three titles for Jim Furyk, including the Tour Championshp to win the FedEx Cup.

**Manchester United’s Bulgarian forward Dimitar Berbatov (up) evades a tackle from Liverpool’s Dutch forward Dirk Kuyt at Old Trafford in Manchester.—INTERNET**

**Kuyt backs Dalglish to revive Liverpool**

LIVERPOOL, 11 Jan — Dirk Kuyt is sure Kenny Dalglish can turn around Liverpool’s fortunes as the Scot prepares to take charge of his first Premier League game at Blackpool.

Dalglish has replaced Roy Hodgson, sacked by Liverpool on Saturday, and endured a 1-0 FA Cup defeat at bitter rivals Manchester United in his first game back at the helm 24 hours later.

The former striker, who had a role with the acad- emy as well as working as a club ambassador, is renowned as one of the club’s greatest players and also won three league titles and two FA Cups in a first spell as manager from 1985-91.

Liverpool were much-improved despite slipping to a defeat at Old Trafford that saw captain Steven Gerrard sent-off on Sunday.—INTERNET

**Asian Cup - Group C on 10 January**

India 0 - 4 Australia
Korea Republic 2 - 1 Bahrain
International Club Friendlies
Eskisehirspor 3 - 1 Wwerp Bremer
VVV Venlo 2 - 0 Sparta Rotterdam
Orduasp 4 - 1 AGOVV Apeldoorn
Club Brugge 2 - 3 Den Haag
Bursaspor 2 - 1 NAC Breda
England - FA Cup
Crawley 2 - 1 Derby County
Spain - Primera Division
Hercules 4 - 1 Atlético Madrid
Baby boy born at roadside

ELMWOOD PARK, 1 Jan — New Jersey State Police said a couple delivered their own baby at the side of the road when they were unable to make it to the hospital in time for the birth.

Troopers said the father called 911 at 6:31 am Monday to report his wife was in labor at the side of the Garden State Parkway in Elmwood Park in the couple’s Honda Pilot, The (Bergen, NJ) Pilot reported Monday.

The state police said troopers arrived about seven minutes later to find the baby had just been born. “It happened as we were pulling up,” Trooper Kris Towman said. “The father had wrapped the baby in his coat. They were just sitting there waiting for further assistance.”

The troopers said Trooper Chris McComb, who is certified as an EMT, checked the baby boy’s vital signs and was joined by Trooper Kevin Messick before mother and baby were taken to St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Centre. — Internet

Weather

Tuesday, 11th January, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain has been widespread in Mon State, Bago, Yangon, and Ayeyawady Regions, fairly widespread in Shan State, scattered in Rakhine, Kayah and Kayin States, Mandalay and Magway Regions, isolated in Kachin State and weather has been partly cloudy over the remaining States and Regions. Night temperatures were (3°C) below January average temperature in Kachin and Chin States. (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Kayin and Mon States, Upper Saguang, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Regions, (7°C) above January average temperatures in Shan and Kayah States, Mandalay and Magway Regions and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Regions. The significant night temperatures were Hakka (-2°C) and Putao (3°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana) and Nay Pyi Taw (Yeza) (1.26) inches each, Thanbyu (2.83) inches, Yangon (Central) (2.75) inches, Hpa-an (2.24) inches, Yangon (Migaladon) (1.85) inches, Taunggyi (1.77) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.22) inches, Pyay (1.18) inches and  Aunglan (0.86) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 10-1-2011 was 72°F. Minimum temperature on 11-1-2011 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 11-1-2011 was (92%). Total sunshine hours on 10-1-2011 was (2.1) hours. Rainfall on 11-1-2011 was (1.85) inches at Mingaladon, (1.22) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.75) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (1.97) inches at Mingaladon, (1.42) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.95) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southeast at (17:30) hours MST on 10-1-2011.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Southwest Bay and generally fair over the elsewhere Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 12th January 2011: Weather will be partly cloudy over Chin State and Saguang Region, rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin and Kayah States, Mandalay and Magway Regions and scattered in the remaining States and Regions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-1-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-1-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-1-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).
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

Invitation cards sent to Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives

Nay Pyi Taw, 11 Jan — Invitation cards have been sent to respective Hluttaw representatives as the State Peace and Development Council had summoned the first Pyithu Hluttaw session and the first Amyotha Hluttaw session to be held at Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw meeting halls here at 8.55 am on 31 January 2011 (Monday).

For making necessary preparations, Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are to inform Nay Pyi Taw not later than 27 January 2011 (Thursday) whether they receive invitation cards or not.

Economic indicators suggest Hainggyikyun enjoys significant development

We set out on a trip to Pathein by Vessel “Patheinthu” from Yangon, thence to Hainggyikyun by Patheinthu Speedboat-7. The seaside town occupies a strategic position in the exit to the Sea. With fine jetties, roads and bridges, Hainggyikyun has seen a lot of changes in development. Aspired by scenic natural beauty and dramatic progress of the town, we called on U Aung Myint Thein, Staff Officer of Hainggyikyun General Administration Department as well as Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council. He said that residential farmers of various national races grew monsoon paddy, corn, black gram, sesame, sunflower, groundnut, sugarcane, green gram, pigeon pea, long staple cotton and pepper along with five perennial crops; and that they had put 582 acres under rubber plants, 6650 acres under cashew, 541 acres under physic nut (jatropha curcas), and 475 acres under pepper.

The little town has shrimp paste plants, ice factories, lathes, rice mills, edible oil mills, and sawmills. Its major products are marine products such as crab, meat, fish, shrimp paste, dried fish, dried prawn and fish sauce, and vegetables.

The town has an area of 3447 acres or 5.44 square miles. Hainggyikyun Township is constituted (See page 10)