Established 1914
Volume XVIII, Number 273                                     Fullmoon Day of Pyatho 1372 ME                     Wednesday, 19 January, 2011

**Objectives of 64th Anniversary Union Day (2011)**

1. For all national races to safeguard the national policy—Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity, and Perpetuation of sovereignty
2. For all national races to keep Union Spirit ever alive and dynamic among national people
3. For all national races to wipe out, through national solidarity, disruptions caused to peace, stability and development of the nation by internal and external subversives
4. For all national races to make efforts with might and main to build a modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation in accordance with the State Constitution approved by the great majority of the people
5. For all national races to work in concert with national unity for perpetuation of the Union that has existed for thousands of years

**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 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 accord with the new State Constitution

**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

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**EP-1 Ministry signs contracts with private companies for hydropower projects**

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—Hydropower Planning Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 signed contracts with New Power Oasis Development Co Ltd to implement Upper Belu Creek Hydropower Project under B.O.T system and with Natural Energy Wave Co Ltd to construct Anyapya Hydropower Station under B.O.T system at Yeywa Hall of the ministry here yesterday evening.

It was attended by Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min, Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Minister for EP-1 U Myo Myint, directors-general, managing directors and officials, Chairman of New Power Oasis Development Co Ltd U Aung Kyaw Myint, Managing Director U Win Oo of Natural Energy Wave Co Ltd and party.

First, Minister U Zaw Ming gave an opening speech and Managing Director U Khaing Oo of New Power Oasis Development Co Ltd and Managing Director U Win Oo of Natural Energy Wave Co Ltd spoke words of thanks for the deals.

Upper Belu Creek Hydropower Project is at Belu Creek, Nyangshwe Township, Shan State (South) and Anyapya Hydropower Project is at Anyapya Creek, Dawei Township, Taninthayi Region.

Director-General U Kyee Soe of Hydropower Planning Department signed contract with MD U Khaing Oo of New Power Oasis Development Co Ltd for construction of Upper Belu Creek Hydropower Station and with MD U Win Oo of Natural Energy Wave Co Ltd for implementation of Anyapya Hydropower Project.

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**Contract signing ceremony for Upper Belu Creek Hydropower Project in progress.—MNA**

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Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan and Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jun Hua view publications in English and in Chinese and CDs donated by Chinese Embassy.

The magnificent ice and snow sculptures and wonderful performances have attracted a lot of visitors to the 12th Harbin Ice and Snow World.

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MNA
Keep shaping future of the nation in harness

With stability and peace well restored, Myanmar is on course for democracy, standing tall with national prestige and integrity in the international community. Community peace, stability and national unity are fundamental requirements for national development and democratization.

The national goal of building a new nation cannot be achieved only with lip services and unrealistic approaches. Pursuing such an ambitious goal is to be inconsistent with historical background, culture, customs, characters and objective conditions of the nation concerned. With this subject in view, the government immerses itself to short- and long-term projects for proportionate development of all parts of the Union.

During its assumption of State duties in a couple of decades the government has paved way with correct policies and prudent projects to transform the nation from the old to new system. In addition, it has laid large numbers of sound foundations across the nation, designating the 24 regions for special development in their centres and uplifted morale and morality of the people for ensuring smooth transition to the new system.

For instance, roads have formed networks covering the whole nation including 36 Union Highways stretching between south and north and another 45 between east and west of the nation, thus leaving issues of natural barriers between one region and another behind.

Besides road networks, railroads have formed nationwide networks. As a result, Putao in the northern part is easily accessible from Kawthoung in the southern part, and Muse, Lashio and Kengtung in the eastern part, from Sittwe in the western part of the nation and vice versa.

The government has improved infrastructures taking a long time with labour and huge funds. Now, there are visible signs of achieving the people’s ultimate goal. Today is in the transitory period of shaping the future of the nation. It is, therefore, mandatory for the entire people to take part in nation-building tasks with zest and zeal.

Mine blasts injure two in Kayin State

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—U Than Win residing at Myittla Limmyaing Village, Myawady Township, Kayin State, while going to the farm, stepped on a mine at about one mile to the south-west of the village around 10 a.m. yesterday. The mine planted by KNU insurgents cut off his right ankle, also injuring his left calf and thigh.

Likewise, on his way to rubber field, Maung Hlaan Het Aung living in Kya-in-Seikkyi, stepped on a mine also planted by KNU insurgents about two miles to the south-east around 3 pm yesterday. The mine blast left him right calf broken and left knee and arm injured.

The two victims are receiving treatment at Myawady Township People’s Hospital and Kya-in-Seikkyi Township People’s Hospital. Officials are rendering necessary assistance to them.—MNA

Meeting on realization of objectives 4 & 5 of the Millennium Development Goals held

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Jan — The Ministry of Health held a meeting on realization of objectives 4 & 5 of the Millennium Development Goals at its meeting hall here this morning.

In his opening speech, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint said in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, a coordination meeting on improving the health of mothers and children, including infants, was held for the very first time on 8 October 2009 for realization of objectives 4 & 5 of the Millennium Development Goals and future work programmes were laid down. Similarly, workshops, coordination meetings and review meeting were held for seven times in 2009 and 2010.

Under the leadership of the National Health Committee, child health development and reproductive health strategic projects have been drawn once every five years since 2004. Those project tasks are being carried out at central, state, region and township levels, the minister added.

Next, heads of State and Region Health Departments explained implementation of the tasks for realizing the objectives.

Then, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo presided over the second session of the meeting and nine State and Region Health Departments reported on project tasks. The deputy director-general of the Health Department (Public Health) made a review.

Later, the deputy minister made a concluding remark.

Job training for accountant at Cyber Sky

Yangon, 18 Jan—Cyber Sky Computer Training Centre is conducting job training for accountant course. It is intended to be a professional accountant for B.Com graduates and for those who have passed LCCI level II, III and ACCA. For more information, contact Cyber Sky Computer Training Centre, No.89, fourth floor, Anawratha Street (corner of Seikkantha Street), Yangon and dial 01-388808 and 09-5072366. —MNA
Death toll of Iraq suicide bombing rises to 50

TIKRIT, 18 Jan—The death toll of a suicide bombing Tuesday in northern Iraq has risen to 50, while around 150 others were also wounded, local police source in Iraq’s Salahuddin province told Xinhua.

A suicide bomber Tuesday morning detonated his explosive vest among a group of young men who were about to join the Iraqi police force in the country’s northern city of Tikrit.

Witness said there were about 300 people in line to join the police when the attack occurred.

Insurgents frequently attacked Iraqi government officials and security members as part of attempts to reassert the insurgent’s control in some areas where they’ve been limited in freedom of movement.

Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks continued in the Iraqi cities despite the dramatic decrease of violence over the last three years.

Xinhua

American service member killed in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 18 Jan—An American service member was killed in northern Iraq on Monday morning, the US military confirmed, but few details were immediately released.

A statement from US Forces - Iraq said a US service member was killed as a result of a non-hostile incident in northern Iraq, but provided no other information.

“The name of the deceased and details of the incident are being withheld pending notification of next of kin and release by the Department of Defence,” the statement said.

The fatalities raise the total number of US troops killed in Iraq so far this year to six, according to a BNO News count based on official information.

Xinhua

“Suspicious item” aboard American Airlines flight in Miami declared safe

MIAMI, 18 Jan—A suspicious item was found aboard an American Airlines flight at Miami Day International Airport on Monday morning has been declared safe, according to federal officials.

According to Greg Soule, a spokesman for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the suspicious item was found after American Airlines flight 930 landed at Miami’s Airport following a flight from Sao Paulo in Brazil. “In the process of unloading cargo, a suspicious item was identified in the cargo hold,” Soule said.

Out of an abundance of caution, the spokesman said, local law enforcement and the bomb squad arrived on scene to inspect the item. About two hours later, at 10.37 am local time, the item was cleared and declared safe. It was not immediately clear what the suspicious item was.

Sao Paulo in Brazil. “In the process of unloading cargo, a suspicious item was identified in the cargo hold,” Soule said. Out of an abundance of caution, the spokesman said, local law enforcement and the bomb squad arrived on scene to inspect the item. About two hours later, at 10.37 am local time, the item was cleared and declared safe. It was not immediately clear what the suspicious item was.

Xinhua

Iran shoots down US, UK, drones in Persian Gulf

TEHERAN, 18 Jan—An Iranian military official said that Iran has shot down the US, UK and Israeli drones in Persian Gulf several times during the past seven years, Fars news agency reported on Monday.

The unidentified high ranking military official confirmed that the drones have been targeted out of Iran’s aerial space and Iran is vigilant about the violation of its space.

“They (the drones) will be targeted upon violating Iran’s space,” the official was quoted as saying.

Earlier this month, an Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) commander told Fars that Iran had shot down many western drones, two of them in the Persian Gulf.

Aerospace Commander of the IRGC Amir Ali Hadgizadeh told Fars that “they (western drones) have entered our territory a number of times and we have, so far, shot down many of the advanced spy drones.”

“We have shot down two of their drones in the Persian Gulf,” the commander was quoted by Fars as saying.

Iran has said that it might display the planes claimed to be shot down in the future.

Xinhua

People mourn during the funeral of two victims killed in one of Thursday’s bomb attacks at St George Chaldean church in eastern Baghdad. At least 16 people were also wounded in the series of bomb attacks on Thursday on the homes of minority Christians in the Iraqi capital, security sources said.

INTERNET

Four dead in suicide bombing targeting Iraqi Provincial governor

RAMADI, 18 Jan—The death toll from a suicide car bomb attack that targeted the governor of Iraq’s western province of Anbar on Monday, rose to four and three other people were wounded, a provincial police source said.

“The latest report said that four security men were killed and three civilians were wounded by the suicide bombing in the City of Ramadi, the capital of Anbar Province,” the source from the provincial operations command told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The attack took place at 7:30 am local time (0430 GMT) when a suicide bomber drove an explosive-laden police vehicle into the convoy of the governor Qasim Mohammed Abed, who escaped the attack unhurt, the source said.

Abed was heading to his work when the suicide bomber attacked his convoy near the Grand Mosque in central Ramadi, some 100 km west of Baghdad, he said.

Three bodyguards were among the deaths, and the fourth was a policeman who was driving his police vehicle close to the scene when the blast occurred, the source add.

Xinhua

Afghan investigators inspect the site of a suicide bombing in Gereshki district of Helmand province. A roadside bomb ripped through a minibus in southern Afghanistan, killing six civilians and wounding another three, a local official said.—INTERNET

Medics treat a student who was injured in a bomb explosion in the outskirts of Peshawar, at Lady Reading Hospital recently. Two small roadside bombs hit a school van on the outskirts of northeastern Peshawar, killing two female teachers and wounding seven, including three children, police said.—INTERNET

Iran security forces inspect the scene of a roadside bomb in central Baghdad, Iraq recently.—INTERNET

BNO News

Three bodyguards were among the deaths, and the fourth was a policeman who was driving his police vehicle close to the scene when the blast occurred, the source add.

Xinhua
Iron Age beer-making analyzed at dig

STUTTGART, 18 Jan—A German researcher says ancient grain found at an Iron Age Celtic settlement dating to around 500 BC is left over from a sophisticated beer-making operation. Hans-Peter Stika, an archaeobotanist from the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart, says grains of charred barley found in six oblong ditches showed the inhabitants were producing a high quality barley malt used in making beer.PhysOrg.com reported Monday.

Stika says he’s concluded the ditches were used to soak barley grains until they sprouted, after which fires were lit at each end to dry the grains and give them a dark colour and smoky flavour.

Seeds of henbane, a plant known to increase the intoxicating effect, were found in the excavations of the Iron Age settlement at Eberdingen-Hochdorf, north of Stuttgart.

Fermentation was probably produced by yeast on the brewing equipment, or by wild yeast on honey or fruit added to the brew, Stika says. The final beer would have been cloudy with a yeasty sediment and drunk at room temperature.

A group of lemmings, as seen in an 1877 issue of “Popular Science.”

Warming may threaten lemming reproduction

TROMSO, 18 Jan—Lemming population explosions may result from breeding all through long Arctic winters and climate change may hit them hard, European researchers say.

Scientists at the University of Tromso trapped lemmings at 109 locations in northeastern Norway in autumn and monitored population changes before, during and after a lemming population outbreak, NewScientist.com reported. As the winter went on, the population of lemmings living under the snow at each site rose, and in the spring the lemming population was large enough to fuel an outbreak, they found.

Researcher Rolf Ims said this suggests huge outbreaks of lemmings are largely driven by their winter breeding abilities, rather than external factors such as food supply or predators.

Lemmings breed fastest at high altitudes, thanks to longer-lasting snow, but rising temperatures due to climate change could see those snow-covered areas shrink, fragmenting lemming populations, Ims said.

Many researchers predict ideal winters for lemmings will become less common, but Charles Krebs of the University of British Columbia says he’s not yet convinced climate change will harm lemmings.—INTERNET

Ancient records confirm climate models

EDINBURGH, 18 Jan—European researchers say ancient records, including details gathered from monks’ diaries, are revealing how and why climate has changed in the last 500 years.

Researchers said the historic data, from sources such as weather station archives and farming harvest records, closely match modern computer simulations of European climate patterns during the last five centuries, Britain’s The Independent reported Monday.

The University of Edinburgh, in collaboration with universities in Germany, Switzerland and Spain, carried out the study.

“Five hundred years ago, the records were quite sparse, but there (are) a lot of data going back to the 19th century and quite a lot of data from the 17th and 18th centuries,” Gabi Hegerl of Edinburgh’s School of GeoSciences said. “Before that, we’re working from monks’ diaries and harvest records and all kinds of indirect evidence about whether they experienced warm or cold summers and winters.”

“Around 1700 and the early 19th century, for example, there were very cold winters. That’s been captured quite well in the records.”—INTERNET

Smartphones lift Apple and Samsung in quarterly phone bonanza

HELSENKI/SEOUL, 18 Jan—Hot smartphone models, the iPhone 4 and Samsung’s Galaxy S, are forecast to have helped their makers race further ahead of rivals in the holiday sales season at the end of 2010.

On average analysts expect global cellphone sales volumes to have grown 10.8 percent in October—December, a Reuters poll of 32 banks, brokerages and research firms showed.

“In 2010 we saw a gulf emerge between winners and losers which will only widen in 2011,” Blaber said.

Swiss bank UBS to change much-mocked dress code

GENEVA, 18 Jan—Good news for Swiss bankers: They may soon be allowed to wear red underwear, black nail polish — and even eat garlic.

Swiss banking giant UBS AG said Monday it is revising its 44-page dress code telling its Swiss staff how to present themselves, which generated worldwide ridicule for its micromanagement of their dressing and dining habits.

The code instructs employees on everything from their breath — no garlic or onions, please — to their underwear, which should be skin-coloured.

“We’re reviewing what is important to us,” UBS spokesman Andreas Kern told The Associated Press.

He said the bank would issue a pared-down booklet with more general guidelines on how to impress customers with a polished presence and sense of Swiss precision and decorum.

The existing code tells female employees how to apply makeup, what kind of perfume to wear and what colour stockings are acceptable. It advises them not to show roots if they colour their hair and to avoid black nail polish.—INTERNET

‘Cyberwar’ an exaggerated threat

LONDON, 18 Jan—National military countermeasures against possible cyberwarfare are a waste of time and money, the British author of an infamous hacker’s “guide” says.

Peter Sommer of the London School of Economics says governments should not panic when words like “cyberwar” and “cyberweapons” are used, NewScientist.com reported Monday.

“Governments should take a calm, disciplined approach and evaluate the risks of each type of attack very carefully rather than be swayed by scare stories,” says Sommer, who published the infamous “Hacker’s Handbook” in 1985 under the pseudonym “Hugo Cornwall.”

He has since become a noted security researcher and has co-authored a report for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development that warns governments against swallowing wholesale stories about “cyberattacks” and “cyberweapons.”

“Analysis of cyber-security issues has been weakened by the lack of agreement on terminology and the use of exaggerated language,” the report says.

“Cyber-espionage is not a few keystrokes away from cyberwar, it is a method of spying.”—INTERNET
Breast cancer false positive can harm health

TIJBERG, 18 Jan— Some women benefit from early breast cancer detection but others experience unnecessary anxiety and reduced quality if life, a Dutch researcher says.

Lead author Dr Lideke van der Steeg of St Elisabeth Hospital in Tilburg, Netherlands, looked at the quality of life of 385 Dutch women with abnormal mamograms — 233 with false positives, found to be non-cancerous, and 152 of whom were subsequently diagnosed with breast cancer.

“Women often overestimate their risk of breast cancer and the material provided by healthcare professionals and government agencies often focus on the positive aspects of screening,” van der Steeg says in a statement. “In fact, women who had a tendency to be anxious fared much worse if they received a false positive, which is estimated to happen in 60 percent of abnormal mamograms, than if they were actually diagnosed with breast cancer.”

The study, published in the British Journal of Surgery, finds women with breast cancer had larger tumors and were significantly older on average — 60.2 years — than women in the false-positive group — 57.3 years.

Significantly more diagnostic procedures, including biopsies, were needed in the false-positive group and these procedures were linked by the study authors to lower quality-of-life scores, van der Steeg says. — Internet

French Coface says world growth to slow down in 2011

PARIS, 18 Jan— French leading credit insurer Coface estimated on Monday that the world economy would slow growth to 3.4 percent in 2011 from 4 percent in 2010 with emerging economies still leading the growth while joint pressure of private debt, austerity fiscal policy and raw materials prices weighs on development.

The subsidiary of the Natixis Bank made the statement at its 15th Country Risk Conference. The advanced countries would show growth of 1.8 percent compared to 2.3 percent in 2010, with the euro zone to decelerate by 1.4 percent, lower from 1.7 percent in 2010, while the emerging countries will “continue the solid growth trajectory in 2011” with 6.2 percent increase, compared to 6.7 percent in 2010, the statement said.

Risk for the euro zone, grouping a number of advanced countries, is mainly on private debt bubble which resulted in sovereign crises, but the emerging countries, according to Coface, are also facing a surge in indebtedness in the private sector, which could risk growth financing though not serious enough now given the weight of private sectors.

A woman walks in front of a billboard promoting company trademarks at a shopping mall in Beijing. Foreign direct investment in China rose 17.4 percent in 2010 to $105.7 billion, the government said Tuesday, despite efforts by authorities to cool the economy and stem liquidity flows. — Internet

Smoking causes DNA damage in minutes

MINNEAPOLIS, 18 Jan— Cigarette smoke causes genetic damage within minutes — not years — after inhalation into the lungs, US researchers say.

Stephen S Hecht of the Masonic Cancer Centre at the University of Minnesota and colleagues say evidence indicates harmful substances in tobacco smoke — polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons — play a role in causing lung cancer but the study is the first to detail how PAHs in cigarette smoke cause DNA damage.

The scientists added a labeled PAH — phenanthrene — to cigarettes and tracked it in 12 volunteers who smoked the cigarettes. They found phenanthrene quickly forms a toxic substance in the blood known to trash DNA, causing mutations that can cause cancer.

The study, published in Chemical Research in Toxicology, found human smokers inhaled maximum levels of the substance in a time frame that surprised researchers — 15-30 minutes after volunteers smoked.

Hecht and colleagues say the effect occurs so quickly it is equivalent to injecting the substance directly into the bloodstream.

“This study is unique. It is the first to investigate human metabolism of a PAH specifically delivered by inhalation in cigarette smoke, without interference by other sources of exposure such as air pollution or the diet,” Hecht says in a statement.”The results reported here should serve as a stark warning to those who are considering starting to smoke cigarettes.”

The adenoids are lymphatic tissue, resembling the tonsils, found in the airway between the nose and back of the throat.

The adenoids have a tendency to swell, especially in younger children. The ADAM Medical Encyclopedia says common symptoms of enlarged adenoids include:

* Dry mouth.
* Cracked lips.
* Bad breath.
* Daytime breathing with the mouth open.
* Breathing through the mouth, especially at night.
* Restlessness while trying to sleep.
* Chronic nasal stuffiness or runny nose.

French Coface says world economic growth to slow down in 2011

VIENNA, 18 Jan— The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) raised its forecast Monday for global oil-demand growth this year, encouraged by outlook of continued world economic recovery.

In 2011, world oil demand growth is forecast at 1.2 million barrels per day (bpd), 50,000 bpd higher than last month’s estimate, the Vienna-based oil cartel announced in its January report.

The note up estimated for 2011 world growth for 2010 up to 3.9 percent from 3.8 percent.

Venezuela said Tuesday that the world economy would continue to enjoy positive momentum backed by the ongoing expansion in the manufacturing sector.

The monthly report also revised world economic growth for 2010 up to 4.5 percent from 4.3 percent. Growth in 2011 was revised higher to 3.9 percent from 3.8 percent.

China’s annual FDI hits record $105 bln

BEIJING, 18 Jan— Foreign direct investment (FDI) into China hit a record 105.74 billion US dollars last year, up 17.4 percent year on year, the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) announced Tuesday.

In December alone, China attracted 14.03 billion US dollars of FDI, up 15.6 percent year on year, making it the 17th consecutive month of FDI growth since August 2009. The rapid FDI growth could be attributed to robust development in the service sector and the country’s central and western regions, said MOC spokesman Yao Jian.

FDI in the service sector rose 28.6 percent last year and that in central and western regions climbed 27.6 percent year on year, Yao said. — Xinhua

A school nurse administers a influenza vaccine to a girl’s arm in Sochi, Russia. World Health Organisation chief Margaret Chan has warned that the health community needs to tackle strong and “worrisome” public mistrust of vaccines, following signs of a tail-off in flu vaccination. — Internet

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Heavy snow hits Japan; Toyota stops production

TOKYO, 18 Jan—Heavy snowfall blanketed many parts of Japan Monday, disrupting transportation and prompting Toyota Motor Corp. to suspend operations at 12 of its factories.

More than 100 cm of snow fell in some areas along the Sea of Japan, disrupting rail and highway travel in central Japan.

The fresh snowfall pushed snow accumulation to 195 cm in Kitahiroshima in Hiroshima prefecture, 137 cm in Maniwa in Okayama prefecture and 91 cm in Onan in Shimane prefecture, according to record highs for locations in western Japan, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

Nagoya, a major central city, also saw more than 10 cm of snow pile up for the first time in three years, the agency said.

Toyota decided to halt work at its 12 factories around the city because the snow could block smooth procurement of parts and make employees’ commutes difficult. The carmaker said it was to resume operations Tuesday.

Central Japan Railway Co said services on the Tokaido Shinkansen Line were delayed as bullet trains slowed because of snowfall between Hamamatsu and Shin-Osaka Station. A total of 75 trains ran up to two hours behind schedule, affecting about 67,000 people, the Kyodo News agency reported, citing the company.—Internet

Tired of snow, Northeast adds sleet, freezing rain

NEW YORK, 18 Jan—After two major blasts of snow, the Northeast faced the prospect of more brutal winter weather: snow, sleet and freezing rain.

A mix of light freezing rain, snow, fog and mist was falling at Philadelphia around 2 am Tuesday. Light snow was settling over New York City’s Central Park and around Trenton, NJ.

Up to 3 inches of snow, rain and ice threatened to ruin morning rush hour travel in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. The National Weather Service said Boston could get 2 to 4 inches of snow beginning early Tuesday, and the snowfall would be followed by fog and rain in the afternoon and freezing rain Tuesday night.

Elevated parts of Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire could see more than 6 inches of snow. Residents also might have to shovel through sleet and freezing rain.

After a Christmas weekend blizzard dumped 20 inches of snow on New York City, Mayor Michael Bloomberg was criticized for the slow cleanup. Up to 12 inches of snow blanketed the area again last week, but the city was prepared and the streets were quickly plowed.—Internet

Flood displaced Sri Lankans return home

COLOMBO, 18 Jan—The number of persons displaced by floods in Sri Lanka’s north and east recorded a steep decrease as 150,000 people returned home on Monday, relief officials said.

Pradeep Kodippili, assistant director of the Disaster Management Centre told reporters that there were 204,118 people accommodated in welfare camps by Sunday, but the number had decreased to 51,423 on Monday. Kodippili said the number of camps had been reduced to 204 from 435. He said the death toll had increased to 40 from 39 and four people are still missing while 51 were injured.

Kodippili said so far 5,381 houses have been fully damaged and 25,381 houses have been partially damaged and 2,347 partially damaged.—Internet

S African rescuer killed helping flood victims

JOHANNESBURG, 18 Jan—Rescuers say one of their own was killed while trying to help victims of flooding near South Africa’s Capital.

Johann Pieterse of the Pretoria area fire department says a 42-year-old firefighter from Pretoria was killed Monday after his inflatable raft capsized during a rescue attempt.

The Kraal River burst its banks early Monday, sweeping vehicles off bridges and littering the roads in and around Pretoria with debris. The firefighter was helping search for at least seven people reported missing in the flood.

Some 40 people have died in South Africa since mid-December in flooding caused by unusually heavy seasonal rains. The northern part of the country has been hardest hit.—Internet

6.5 magnitude quake rocks Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 18 Jan—A shallow earthquake with magnitude of 6.5 struck off Sumatra island of Indonesia on early Tuesday, officials said here. No tsunami warning was issued and there were no initial reports of damage or casualty.

The quake jolted at 02:20 am Jakarta time Tuesday (1920 GMT Monday) with epicentre at 115 km southwest of Bintuhan town of Bengkulu province and with the depth at 10 km under sea bed, an official of the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency Hendra Raharja told Xinhua by phone.

The intensity of the quake was felt at 3 to 4 MMI (Modified Mercally Intensity) in Manma and Bintuhan towns, 3 MMI in Kepahiang town, and Bengkulu City, capital of the province, the official said.—Xinhua

5.1-magnitude quake hits Coquimbo, Chile — USGS

WASHINGTON, 18 Jan—An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale jolted Coquimbo, Chile at on Monday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicentre, with a depth of 65.10 km, was initially determined to be at 30.2387 degrees south latitude and 71.2299 degrees west longitude.

Xinhua
NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—Minister for Energy U Lun Thi enjoyed the final match and prize-presenting ceremony of sixth Energy Minister’s Cup inter-ward/village-tract men’s football (open) tournament 2010-2011 held at Aung San Thuriya Hla Thaung sport ground in Kungyangon, Yangon Region on 16 January. After that, the minister presented awards to Wetkeik football team and responsible persons, to second, third, best and consolation winning teams.—MNA

Contracts signing ceremony for Anyaphya Hydropower Project in progress.  
(News on page 1)—MNA

DPRK Ambassador calls on UMFCCI Vice-Presidents

YANGON, 18 Jan—Ambassador of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to the Union of Myanmar Mr Kim Sok Chol called on Vice-Presidents of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and officials at the head office of the federation on 12 January afternoon. The two sides discussed matters related to promoting bilateral economic cooperation between the two nations, mutual economic cooperation between businesspeople of the two nations, delegates exchange programmes and rendering assistance to trade and investment.—MNA

Chinatown Point Center to organize Lunar New Year Special programme on 20 Jan

YANGON, 18 Jan — Newly-decorated Chinatown Point Center with fresh services will organize Lunar New Year Special programme with the sponsorship of Diamond Plus & Wema & $qdkif, Cherry Oo, J’ Donuts, Mobile Star and Tony & Guys beauty Spa from 20 January to 4 February. Customers who bought items worth K 50,000 can get a lucky draw coupon. Shopping center gift vouchers, ranging from first prize of K 300,000 to consolation prizes of K 30,000, will be presented to winners by artists at 2 pm on 5 February.—MNA

Energy Minister’s Cup inter-ward/village-tract men’s football tourney concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—Minister for Energy U Lun Thi enjoyed the final match and prize-presenting ceremony of sixth Energy Minister’s Cup inter-ward/village-tract men’s football (open) tournament 2010-2011 held at Aung San Thuriya Hla Thaung sport ground in Kungyangon, Yangon Region on 16 January. After that, the minister presented awards to Wetkeik football team and responsible persons, to second, third, best and consolation winning teams.—MNA

Nawarat to hold talks on scholarship

YANGON, 18 Jan — Nawarat Education will organize talks on oversea scholarship as its Education for All programme at Traders Hotel here at 1 to 3 pm on 5 February. Talks on “2011 Oversea Education Opportunities” will cover certificates presented by foreign exam bodies, job opportunities, essential education for learning at foreign universities and colleges and major consideration. The session will also introduce Noble College, first-ever school lecturing British and American universities’ syllabuses to be opened in Myanmar. Those interested may attend the talks free of charge and may contact the Nawarat Education at No.82 (Third floor), Anawratha Street, at the corner of 39th St, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, (Ph: 250225, 250150 and 01-73049603) for seat.—MNA

Chinatown Point Center will host Lunar New Year Special Programme.  
MNA
YANGON, 18 Jan—The Embassy of the People’s Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar donated publications to the Ministry of Information at Studio (A) of the Myanma Radio and Television on Pyay Road here yesterday afternoon.

Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan in his speech said that the donation ceremony provided renewed strength to over 60 years old diplomatic ties and friendly relations between the two countries and enhancing the public knowledge.

He disclosed that so far, the ministry has established self-reliant rural libraries in 55,755 of the over 60,000 villages in Myanmar with three objectives: to broaden the horizons of the people, to raise public awareness about media threats, and to ensure correct and effective democratization being implemented by the entire people.

To establish self-reliant rural libraries, the ministry has spent over 11.9 billion kyats in total, on land, buildings, furniture, periodicals, TVs and radios.

The ministry has set five standards for sustainable progress of the libraries, he said, adding that the Rural Library Foundation was established on 15 May 2010 to enable the people, literati and entrepreneurs to join hands in enabling all libraries to meet the set standards. He revealed that the foundation will carry out fundamental tasks as a national duty in the interest of the nation and the people. He noted that the three objectives of the foundation are to ensure sustainable progress of the foundation, to mobilize public participation as community-based methods will be applied to raise funds, and to improve rural education and health care standards when libraries run well.

He thanked the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jun Hua and Embassy staff for donating 8172 publications and 216 CDs with a face value of 44,854,000 kyats for development of the foundation. In conclusion, he wished the two countries well in promoting friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries and ensuring the Public Knowledge.

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The donations included 8172 books in English and in Chinese worth 44,638,000 kyats, and 216 CDs worth 216,000 kyats, with a total value of 44,854,000 kyats. Also present on the occasion were heads of department from the ministry, the chairman and CEC members of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, officials from the foundation, members of the Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, journalists from local journals and magazines, and guests.
A&I Minister meets ROK guests

NA Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo received a delegation led by Chairman Mr Kim Woo Choong of OKPO Welfare Service Management & Consulting Co Ltd from the Republic of Korea at the Minister’s Office here yesterday evening. At the call, they discussed growing of physic nut and investment in agricultural sector.—MNA

CPT Minister tours Yatanarpon Myothit

NA Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Zaw inspected extended groundwork and the building of more roads in the Housing Estate Project in Northern Yatanarpon Myothit near PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Region, yesterday. On arrival at Yatanarpon Teleport, he inspected machines installed in Billing Centre and their functions, IPTV Room, Soft Switch Room and ISP Data Centre, and work and lecturing subjects at the worksite of Portal Operation Team in Yatanarpon Portal Building.

Next, he inspected cables and installed machines in the communications building in Yatanarpon Myothit.

CPT Minister U Thein Zaw at Billing Centre of Yatanarpon Teleport.—MNA

Conquest of natural barrier of Yoma mountain...

(from page 16)

Public Works under the Ministry of Construction is building a road with a length of 96 miles and three furlongs between Thagaya and Koebin through Bago Yoma mountain range. It was pleasant to view woodlands of teak along the road. Public Works took great care in seeking the alignment for the road in order not to harm groves of teak.

When asked about the ongoing project, Senior Engineer U Wunna Zaw of Special Projects Implementation Group-1 said that Koebin-Thagaya Road was being built by Special Group-1, nine other groups of Public Works and 13 groups from companies; that it was merely a road for timber extraction built by the Ministry of Forestry in March 2001; that the road was of two sections: 50 miles and two furlongs section from Thagaya in Bago Region to the borderline of Bago Region and Magway Region, and 46 miles and one furlong section from Sinpaungwe Township.

U Wunna Zaw, Senior Engineer(Civil), to Koebin: that the Ministry of Forestry had handed over the road to Public Works 30 January 2004, and it launched the project in 2004-2005 fiscal year; that at that time, the earth road was full of steep slopes for 78 miles and four longs; that the earth road would be expanded as wide as 50 feet, and the tarred road, as wide as 12 feet; and that on completion, the road would be able to withstand 40 tons of loads.

He added that they lowered high parts and raised lower parts for the new road as smooth as it could be; that in particular, they made detours to avoid teak plantations starting from Pho Kyar Station; that Special Group-1 and companies of national races launched the project on 28 April 2010; and that they were working hard for completion of the project on schedule.

Koebin-Thagaya Road is consisted of five bridges whose length ranged between 50 to 180 feet, two 50-foot bridges, five 30-foot bridges, nine 20-foot bridges and 34 conduits. The project is being undertaken by Bridge Group (5) led by Deputy Superintending Engineer U Thein Myint Mon and Special Projects Implementation Group-1. So, there will soon emerge another road linking Koebin and Thagaya Industrial Zone through Bago Yoma mountain range. When the road project is completed, local people of various national races will be able to improve friendly relations and deal with each other far more than ever before.

Therefore, emergence of seven roads: Taikkyi-Phaunggyi-Bago Road, Minhla-Seeinkantlan-Myocharung Road, Koebin-Thagaya Road, Pyay-Paukkhaung-Ottwin Road, Chaungnet-Taungnyo-Nay Pyi Taw Road, Magway-Kanbyat-Myocharung Road, Taungnyo-Nay Pyi Taw Road, and Natmauk-Pyaywwe Road is, in fact, conquest of natural barrier of Bago Yoma mountain range.

Translation: MS Myanma Alin: 17-1-2011

An expanded earthen section of Koebin-Thagaya Road.
Porsche mulls factories in Asia, US

BERLIN, 18 Jan— Iconic Porsche 911 sportscars could in the future be produced in factories in Asia or the United States, the German firm’s chief executive said on Sunday.

“This year, we are going to discuss whether to start assembly in Asia or North America,” Matthias Mueller told Focus magazine. “The main thing is that the car has ‘Engineered by Porsche’ on it. Where it is produced is no longer so important,” he added.

Currently, the company manufactures its cars in factories in Leipzig, in eastern Germany and Stuttgart, in the west. Porsche saw a strong gain in sales in 2010. Some 95,000 cars were delivered to customers last year, an increase of 25 percent.

Euro slips before euro zone meeting; stocks fall

SYDNEY, 18 Jan— The euro eased on Monday as investors waited to see if officials will agree to beef up a euro zone safety fund, while Asian shares mostly fell, led by drop in Shanghai in the wake of China’s latest attempt to contain inflation.

European Central Bank Jean-Claude Trichet gave the thumbs up for a bigger safety-net fund on Sunday, a day before a regular meeting of euro zone finance ministers, who are due to discuss an increase in the effective lending capacity of the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF).

Some analysts play-ed down the chances of a clear outcome this week and pointed to a 4 February European Council meeting as a more likely stage for such decisions to be made.

Still, this week’s meeting could give investors a better sense of how much agreement or dissent there is among euro zone members to enlarging the facility. Any disappointment could see the euro come under renewed pressure. For now, the euro was at $1.3330, having rallied some 4 percent last week to a one-month high around $1.3456 on Friday.

“There could be a further upside for the euro if confidence in the rescue scheme grows.”

Oil slips to near $91 after China tightening move

BANGKOK, 18 Jan— Oil prices slipped to near $91 a barrel Monday in Asia after China’s latest move to restrict lending raised the prospect of weaker demand for crude.

Benchmark oil for February delivery was down 25 cents at $91.29 a barrel at midday Bangkok time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 14 cents to settle at $91.54 a barrel on Friday.

Trading was subdued ahead of a Federal holiday in the US on Monday.

China, the world’s biggest energy consumer, on late Friday raised the amount of money banks must keep on reserve for the seventh time in a year — its latest move to curb lending and tame inflation. That suggested China’s economic growth could slow further, denting demand for imported oil, which is trading near a two-year high, and other fuels.

An explosion in Bangladesh’s SE shipyard leaves 3 workers injured

DHAKA, 18 Jan— At least three workers were injured, two seriously, in an explosion at a ship-breaking yard in Sitakunda of Bangladesh’s southeastern port city of Chittagong Tuesday.

Officer-in-Charge of Sitakunda police station Nur Mohammad told Xinhua over phone that the explosion occurred at an oil tanker of Pranam ship at about 10 am local time while workers were cutting the scrapped ship.

Nur Mohammad said one cutter man and two helpers were injured and they were sent to Chittagong Medical College Hospital. He said condition of the two workers was critical.

Fire fighters were struggling to douse the blaze till filing of this report at 2:30 pm local time.

Witnesses said some 20-22 workers were working in the shipyard during the explosion.

At least 500 workers reportedly died in the last 21 years in Bangladesh’s ship-breaking yards excluding the deaths from diseases caused by toxic fumes and materials workers are exposed to all the time.

Some 30,000 workers are engaged in 36 ship scrapping yards in Chittagong’s Sitakunda, which houses the world’s second largest ship-breaking industry after China.

Australian researchers solve mystery on colorectal cancer treatment

Canberra, 18 Jan— Australian researchers on Monday identified a defective gene, which explains why some colorectal cancer patients respond very well to radiotherapy but others not at all.

A team of Australian scientists from the Garvan Institute for Medical Research, have been investigating the tumor cells of over 200 colorectal cancer patients, and how they responded to their treatment.

They believe the outcome of treatment may depend on the gene MCC, which happens to be expressed at low levels in a subset of colorectal cancers. According to Dr Laurent Pangon, the defective gene was a “double-edged sword”, as it appeared to both encourage a tumor to develop but also make these less resistant and easier to kill off with radiotherapy. —Xinhua

Spectators look at a Porsche 911 GT3 R Hybrid race car outside the Department of Energy in Washington, DC. Iconic Porsche 911 sportscars could in the future be produced in factories in Asia or the United States, the German firm’s chief executive said. — Internet

Tourists visit the Ice and Snow World in Harbin, capital of northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, on 15 Jan, 2011. The magnificent ice and snow sculptures and wonderful performances have attracted a lot of visitors to the 12th Harbin Ice and Snow World. —Xinhua

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Xinhua

Chen Yuxia, a farmer from Tancheng County of east China’s Shandong Province, makes Chinese Knots during an exhibition of Shandong folk arts in Beijing, capital of China, on 16 Jan, 2011. Some 4,000 artworks and handicrafts made by the farmers from Shandong Province were exhibited in the National Art Museum of China. — Xinhua

Internet
Child sex trafficking in UK on the rise with younger victims being groomed

LONDON, 18 Jan—A survey has found that trafficking of British children around UK cities for sexual exploitation is on the rise with some as young as 10 being groomed by predatory abusers.

According to the report by Barnardo’s, the biggest children’s charity in UK, the average age of victims of such abuse has fallen from 15 to about 13 in five years.

Anne Marie Carrie, the charity’s new chief executive, says the victims continue to be missed as telltale signs are overlooked “from the frontline of children’s services to the corridors of Whitehall”.

“Wherever we have looked for exploitation, we have found it. But the real tragedy is we believe this is just the tip of the iceberg,” the Guardian quoted her as saying.

She called for a minister to be put in charge of the government’s response.

“Without a minister with overall responsibility the government response is likely to remain inadequate,” she stated.

The main findings from the report, called Puppet on a String, included trafficking becoming more common and sexual exploitation more organised.

Grooming methods becoming more sophisticated as abusers use a range of technology—mobile phones, including texts and picture messages, Bluetooth technology, and the Internet—to control and abuse children.—Xinhua

Major fire at Indian Oil Corporation depot in Mumbai

MUMBAI, 18 Jan—A major fire engulfed a depot of the state-run Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) in Mumbai in the wee hours Tuesday, though no casualties have been reported yet, said police.

The fire broke out at the IOC’s depot at Talegaon in Navi Mumbai around 01:00 am, destroying around 40,000 liters of lubricant oil. The fire broke out at the facility where lubricants are blended and filled.

Some 25 fire engines were pressed into service to prevent the fire from spreading around 40,000 liters of lubricant oil.

The fire has been partially brought under control and will be completely doused in a couple of hours.

In October 2009, at least 10 people were killed and over 100 injured in a similar fire at the IOC depot on the outskirts of the western Indian city of Jaipur. It took more than a week for this fire to die out.—Xinhua

Retired NYPD cop makes his living as a teen spy!

NEW YORK, 18 Jan—A retired NYPD cop has found a new way to keep an eye on people’s misdeeds and earn daily wages at the same time.

Andy Spieler dubbed the “Columbo for Kids” is making a career out of snooping on wayward teens and delivering dossiers on their misdeeds to worried parents.

Spieler, who retired from the NYPD in 2002 after a 20-year-career and lives in East Meadow, LI, started doing surveillance on teens about a year ago at the behest of a worried mom.

Word spread about his specialty and business started booming, even with a 75 dollars hourly rate.

“There are a lot of anxious parents out there who suspect their kids aren’t telling them the truth,” the New York Daily News quoted Spieler, a licensed private investigator, as saying.

“They can’t follow their kids because they’ll be recognized, so I hit the streets for them,” Spieler added.—Internet

Somali pirates seize Greek ship, says EU

NAIROBI/LONDON, 18 Jan—Somali pirates have seized a Greek-owned ship, the MV Eagle, in the Gulf of Aden, the European Union’s anti-piracy force EU NAVFOR said Monday.

EU NAVFOR said pirates fired small arms and a rocket-propelled grenade before boarding the Cypriot-flagged ship in the early hours of Monday morning.

There has since been no contact with the ship, which has a crew of 24 Filipinos, EU NAVFOR said in a statement.

The latest seizure follows the Sunday release of another Greek ship, the MV Motivator, which had a crew of 18 Filipinos. Pirates seized the vessel 4 July, EU NAVFOR said.—Internet

Pirates capture 1,181 hostages at sea in 2010

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 Jan—A global maritime watchdog says pirates captured a record-setting 1,181 hostages in 2010 as ship hijackings in waters off Somalia escalated.

The Kuala Lumpur-based centre’s director, Potengal Mukundan, said Tuesday that the numbers of hostages and vessels taken were the highest since the centre began monitoring attacks in 1991. Eight crew members were killed in the attacks.

The centre says in its annual report that the Somali attacks accounted for 1,016 hostages held for ransom. The pirates still had 28 vessels and 638 captives at the end of 2010.—Internet

Footages of a short film promoting China (L) are shown on the screens at the Times Square in New York, USA, on 17 Jan, 2011. The video will be on until 14 Feb, 2011.—Xinhua

US woman finds USD 280K worth of drugs inside vacuum cleaner!

MELBOURNE, 18 Jan—An American woman has found more than a quarter-million dollars worth of drugs inside her new vacuum cleaner.

A Wisconsin woman helped police clean up 280,000 dollars worth of drugs inside her vacuum cleaner worth of drugs after she opened up a vacuum cleaner given to her for Christmas.

The woman found a secret stash of crystal meth and cocaine hidden inside the packaging, reports the Green Bay Press Gazette.

“This was an ‘are you kidding me’ incident,” the Daily Telegraph quoted Lt. David Poteat, who heads the Brown County Drug Task Force, told the paper.

Police suspect a smuggler may have mistakenly stuffed the two pounds (0.9 kg) of crystal meth and the 2.2 pounds (nearly one kg) of cocaine inside the box before the unit was shipped from Houston, the Mexican border city, where the vacuum cleaner had recently been sent for repair.

The woman called the police immediately after opening the package.

Authorities were convinced that she played no part in the drug shipment and were not planning to charge her.—Internet

Taxes collections are expected to rise by 7.5 percent for co-op owners, and 9.6 percent for condo owners across New York City as the property-tax increases due to higher market values placed on apartment buildings by tax assessors.—Xinhua

Buildings are seen in New York, the United States, on 17 Jan, 2011. Taxes collections are expected to rise by 7.5 percent for co-op owners, and 9.6 percent for condo owners across New York City as the property-tax increases due to higher market values placed on apartment buildings by tax assessors.—Xinhua

An armed pirate walking past skiffs, used to raid ships on the high-seas, at the coastal town of Hobyo, northeastern Somalia, in 2010.—Internet

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Asian shares mixed after China central bank move

Tokyo, 18 Jan — Asian shares were mixed on Monday as investors digested the latest move by China to curb a flood of money in the world’s second-largest economy following a lending spree.

China’s central bank on Friday raised the amount of money banks must keep aside an additional 0.5 percentage point to 4.781.80. Benign market behaviour, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above mark will be dealt with according to law.

The Shanghai Composite index fell 0.6 per cent to 2,775.60, and Australia’s S&P/ASX 200 lost 0.4 per cent to 4,781.80.

Benchmarks in Taiwan, New Zealand and Singapore also retreated.

TRADE MARK CAUTION
SUNTOMO RUBBER INDUSTRIES, LTD., of 6-9, 3-chome, Wakihohamacho, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo, Japan, is the Owner of the Trade Mark-

LEBANON's former Prime Minister Fouad Siniora (L-R), Prime Minister Saad al-Hariri, Member of Parliament Bahia al-Hariri and Member of Parliament Samir al-Jaser attend their majority parliamentary bloc meeting in Beirut on 16 Jan, 2011.

Turkey, Qatar, Syria to discuss Lebanon crisis

ANKARA, 18 Jan — A news agency says the leaders of Turkey, Qatar and Syria will meet in the Syrian capital Damascus to discuss the political crisis in Lebanon after a Hezbollah-led coalition toppled the country’s Western-backed government.

Lebanon’s caretaker Prime Minister Saad Hariri visited Turkey on Friday as part of efforts to rally support after ministers allied to the Shiite militant group resigned on Wednesday, bringing down his government.

Brazil rescuers find flood victims trapped for days

NOVA FRIBURGO, 18 Jan — Brazilian Army helicopters stepped up rescue and supply operations on Monday in areas hit by floods and landslides that have killed at least 665 people, reaching residents who had been cut off from help for five days.

One helicopter team rescued five people in the morning, the Air Force said in a statement, as clearer weather allowed the aircraft to navigate more safely around the ragged terrain north of Rio de Janeiro City.

Hundreds of people are believed to still be in areas at risk of fresh mudslides, some of them cut off from help by smashed roads and bridges while others refuse to leave for fear their houses will be raided by looters.

The Army is operating four helicopters from a makeshift base on the training ground for Brazil’s national soccer team in the town of Teresopolis.

“It’s impossible to calculate how many people are still buried,” Vice Governor of Rio de Janeiro Luis Fernando Pena said. “Our numbers are based on the coroner and the fire department but there are a lot of people still buried.”

Chinese President Hu Jintao — increasingly needs Beijing’s help in managing world troubles, from piracy off Africa to Iran’s nuclear programme and reinvigorating the world economy.—Internet

Vietnam’s communists vote on new leaders

HANOI, 18 Jan — Vietnam’s ruling communists met on Monday to pick new leaders, who are expected to oversee a drive to modernise the economy while refusing to abandon the country’s authoritarian political system.

The secretive congress aims to map out the country’s direction for the next five years in the face of mounting economic challenges including rising inflation and a weakening currency. Nearly 1,400 delegates voted for an elite Central Committee, which party sources say has taken on an increasingly important role as the communists pursue more internal debate.

“Frankly, I think that is the only way forward for the Communist Party, to have more choice within the party,” a foreign diplomat said.—Internet

US pomp meant to improve tone of China relations

BEIJING, 18 Jan — Chinese leader Hu Jintao is being feted in Washing- ton this week with a lavish state banquet at the White House and other pomp usually reserved for close friends and allies — all intended to improve the tone of relations between a risen, more assertive and prosperous China and a US superpower in a tenuous economic recovery.

The shaky trust between the United States and China has been eroding recently because of an array of issues — currency policies and trade barriers, nuclear proliferation and North Korea — and both sides seem to recognize the need to recalibrate relations.

The US is one of China’s biggest markets, with $380 billion in annual trade largely in Beijing’s favour. Washington in-

Drive safely

Claims day notice

MV KOTA MACHAN VOY NO (279)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MACHAN VOY NO (279) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.1.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

Shipping agency department

Myanma port authority agency for MS advance container lines

Phone No: 256908/3785316/376797

Trade mark caution

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Reg. No. 3632/1999 in respect of "Tires for vehicles. (Int. Cl. 12)."

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Vino Othmar Tun M.A., G.P.O. for SunTomo Rubber Industries, Ltd., P.O. Box 60, Yangon Dated: 19 January 2011
Mass cops: Fake ER valet nabs expecting mom’s car

Police say a fake valet at a Massachusetts emergency room offered to park a pregnant woman’s car, then drove away with it.

Lowell police Capt. Kelly Richardson tells the Boston Herald that the woman drove herself to Lowell General Hospital at 3 am Friday while suffering labour pains.

She parked outside the emergency room door and was met by a man wearing a uniform-style shirt who introduced himself as the valet.

Chocolate flowers: Mainland artist wows crowd in Taipei

Bouquets of chocolate flowers, crafted by a mainland artist, are wowing audiences on Taipei Island.

The peonies, roses, and mums are not real, as they’re made of the sweet treat.

The idea was the brainstorm of 26-year old Wu Wen, after she was invited to a chocolate art show in the city of Taichong. After warming up the ingredients, the artist flattened everything as thin as paper, collected the small pieces layer by layer, and shaped the parts into flora.

Audience members say the flowers look incredibly real, and express amazement over her skills.

The artist adds that it took her 10 hours a day, over the course of a week, to master the skills needed to carve each type of flower.

Kidman, Urban have 2nd child through surrogate

The couple announced Monday the arrival of Faith Margaret Kidman Urban, born on 28 Dec at a Nashville, Tenn., hospital. Kidman and Urban released a statement saying they are “truly blessed” and thanked everyone for their support, “our gestational carrier” in particular.

The couple also has a 2-year-old daughter, Sunday Rose. Kidman credited her first daughter’s unexpected appearance to swimming in the waters of a small Australian Outback town during the filming of “Australia.” She and six other women became pregnant after swimming in Kununurra.

Nother details about Faith Margaret were available.—Internet

Rat runs across British PM’s doorstep

An unexpected appearance by a rat surprised viewers of a live telecast outside the residence of the British Prime Minister.

The BBC said the rodent scurried over the doorstep of 10 Downing Street, the official residence of Prime Minister David Cameron, during a Sunday broadcast by political correspondent Gary O’Donoghue.

The rat’s brush with political fame was captured on camera, the BBC said.

Massive beer tanks reach Toronto brewer

Six enormous beer tanks made in Germany ended 10 days of road transport Monday when they reached a brewery in Toronto six days late.

Six articulated flattened trucks set out from Hamilton, Ontario, on 7 Jan and were scheduled to deliver the huge tanks four days later to the Molson Coors brewery in northwestern Toronto, near the airport.

The tanks were sent by ship and had to bypass the port of Toronto as their size made it impossible for them to be trucked through the city, the Toronto Star said. The fermentation tanks are each 150 feet long, 25 feet high and more than 23 feet wide, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp said.

That meant the 40-mile, walking pace overnight road trek from Hamilton to Toronto required electric power and other utility cables to be lifted or even temporarily severed and traffic lights to be moved to allow the convoy of trucks and support vehicles through.

A snowstorm and an understimation of logistics created the six-day delay, transportation marshal Frank DeVries told the Star.

The tanks that each weigh almost 100,000 pounds empty hold a total of 6 million bottles of beer, the CBC said. Molson Coors is spending about $24 million on the whole project, the company said.

Diane Warren write song for Justin Bieber movie

LOS ANGELES, 18 Jan—Believe it. “Never Say Never,” Justin Bieber’s highly anticipated 3D movie, is coming out on 11 February and will include a new song written by Diane Warren, THR has learned.

Hours after winning a Golden Globe for “You Haven’t Seen the Last of Me,” sung by Cher in the movie “Burlesque,” the veteran songwriter revealed her latest surefire smash, called “Born to Be Somebody.”

Hours after winning a Golden Globe for “You Haven’t Seen the Last of Me,” sung by Cher in the movie “Burlesque,” the veteran songwriter revealed her latest surefire smash, called “Born to Be Somebody.”

Always a versatile collaborator who’s written hits for Celine Dion (“Because You Loved Me”), Toni Braxton (“Unbreak My Heart”) and Aerosmith (“I Don’t Want to Miss a Thing”), Warren said she “just finished” the track, which is a good thing considering the film opens wide in less than a month.

Bieber made a Globes appearance as well on Sunday night, presenting the best animated feature award, with “True Grit” star Hailee Steinfield, to “Toy Story 3.”—Reuters

Riverside, 18 Jan—A Southern California judge has ruled that Etta James’ husband may use $60,000 of the ailing R&B singer’s savings to pay for her medical care.

“Castor et Pollux” in particular.

The Riverside County Superior Court Judge Thomas Calhraman said at a hearing Friday that the money should last until 24 Feb, when Arts Mills is expected back in court to continue seeking control of more than $1 million of James’ money.

The Riverside Press-Enterprise says Mills is challenging the legitimacy of a claim by James’ son, Donto James, that his mother gave him power of attorney in 2008.

Court documents show the 72-year singer of “At Last” and other standards lives in the Woodcrest area of Riverside County, has been diagnosed with dementia and is undergoing treatment for leukemia.—Internet

A model presents creations designed by Barney Cheng at Hong Kong Fashion Week for Fall/Winter 2011 in south China’s Hong Kong, on 17 Jan, 2011. Xinhua

A passenger buys fruits in a vending machine at a subway station in Shanghai, east China. Fruit vending machines have been placed in subway stations of Shanghai in recent days.

Bouquets of chocolate flowers, crafted by a mainland artist, are wowing audiences on Taipei Island.

The peonies, roses, and mums are not real, as they’re made of the sweet treat.

The idea was the brainstorm of 26-year old Wu Wen, after she was invited to a chocolate art show in the city of Taichong. After warming up the ingredients, the artist flattened everything as thin as paper, collected the small pieces layer by layer, and shaped the parts into flora.

Audience members say the flowers look incredibly real, and express amazement over her skills.

The artist adds that it took her 10 hours a day, over the course of a week, to master the skills needed to carve each type of flower.

Judge: Etta James’ husband may use $60K for care

The couple announced Monday the arrival of Faith Margaret Kidman Urban, born on 28 Dec at a Nashville, Tenn., hospital. Kidman and Urban released a statement saying they are “truly blessed” and thanked everyone for their support, “our gestational carrier” in particular.

The couple also has a 2-year-old daughter, Sunday Rose. Kidman credited her first daughter’s unexpected appearance to swimming in the waters of a small Australian Outback town during the filming of “Australia.” She and six other women became pregnant after swimming in Kununurra.

No other details about Faith Margaret were available.—Internet
**The Light of Myanmar**

**Wednesday, 19 January, 2011**

**Athletic coach given lifeline with win over Mallorca**

**Barcelona, 18 Jan —** Athletic Madrid beat Real Mallorca 3-0 on Monday to maintain their hunt for the European place.

Recent poor form including a 4-1 thumping by Hercules put Sanchez Flores in the firing line and there were rumours that if they lost to Mallorca and city rivals Real Madrid in their second leg cup-tie, he would be sacked.

However, Athletic responded to some good early possession from Mallorca with Juan Valera heading home a Jose Antonio Reyes corner.

Cameroon hitman Pierre Webo had a shot blocked by Athletic keeper David De Gea before Diego Forlan extended Athletic’s lead.

**Babel fined for Twitter post**

**Lisbon, 18 Jan —** Liverpool striker Ryan Babel has been fined 10,000 pounds (16,000 dollars) and warned about his future conduct over a posting on Twitter.

The Holland international was charged with improper conduct by the Football Association on Monday after he used the social networking site to criticise referee Howard Webb.

Babel linked to a mocked-up picture of Webb in a Manchester United shirt after Liverpool’s defeat.

**Tiago calls time on international career**

**Lisbon, 18 Jan —** Athletic Madrid’s Portuguese midfielder Tiago announced on Monday that he is retiring from international football.

“The time has come to call time on this fantastic experience,” Tiago wrote in a letter made public by the Portuguese football federation.

The 29-year-old said that he was making the decision “for personal reasons” and to allow “new Portuguese footballing values to find their place.”

Tiago, who has 58 caps for the national side.

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**Real Madrid interested in Tevez report**

**Madrid, 18 Jan —** Real Madrid may try to sign Manchester City striker Carlos Tevez if they fail to lure Hamburg striker Ruud van Nistelrooy, sports daily Marca reported on Monday.

Tevez made a shock transfer request in December, blaming bad relations with the City management, but-withdraw the demand later in the month after clear-the-air talks with the Premier League club.

Real Madrid had already contacted City,Marca said.

There were two big hurdles, the paper said: firstly, that City would insist on a transfer rather than a loan, and secondly that a transfer would cost 40 million euros and the Argentine’s annual salary was eight million euros.

Hamburg has rebuffed Real Madrid’s efforts to bring over 34-year-old Van Nistelrooy, saying he will not be allowed to leave and must complete his contract.

**Villa bid 21.5 mn euros for Sunderland’s Bent**

**London, 18 Jan —** Striker Darren Bent has stunned Sunderland by demanding a transfer as Aston Villa made a 21.5 million-euros bid for the England international, the Press Association reported on Monday.

Black Cats boss Steve Bruce has turned down the transfer after signing Bent last season and being rewarded with 25 goals. The former Ipswich and Charlton frontman has a tally of 11 strikes so far in the current campaign.

Bruce invested a club-record fee in excess of 15.5 million euros for Ghanaian international Asamoah Gyan to play alongside Bent ahead of this season, but it appears he now faces a fight to keep the pair together.

**Marleau scores in 1,000th game, Sharks win 4-2**

**Glenville, 18 Jan —** Patrick Marleau scored early in his 1,000th career NHL game and the San Jose Sharks beat Phoenix 4-2 Monday, snapping the Coyotes’ four-game winning streak.

Kevin Logan Couture and Danny Heatley each had a goal and an assist for the Sharks, who won their second in a row after ending a six-game skid with a win Saturday night against St Louis.

Joe Thornton’s empty-net goal with 48 seconds left sealed the victory.

Coyotes rookie Oliver Ekman-Larsson got his first NHL goal. Derek Morris also scored for Phoenix.

Couture’s team-high 20th goal came on a power play after Phoenix came up empty in a 10-shot barrage while Heatley was serving a four-minute double minor for high sticking.

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**Japan maul Saudis 5-0 to storm into Asian Cup quarters**

**Doha, 18 Jan —** Shinji Okazaki scored a hat-trick as Japan crushed Saudi Arabia 5-0 in their last Asian Cup group match Monday, booking a quarter-final spot and raising the pride of their fellow three-time champions.

Ryoichi Maeda also struck twice, either side of half-time, as the Blue Samurai avenged their loss to the Saudis in the 2007 semi-finals, which denied them a record third straight continental title.

Japan had needed just a point to qualify after a draw with Jordan and a 2-1 defeat of Syria. They now face hosts Qatar in the last eight.

The Saudis had already crashed out of contention — only the second time in Asian Cup history that they have not made it to the knockout stages.

“I’m very satisfied with today’s result. I think we’ve cleared the first hurdle of this tournament,” Japan’s coach Alberto Zaccheroni said.

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**Babcock send out Open warning**

**Melbourne, 18 Jan —** Venus Williams sent out a warning on Monday as she outshone some of her biggest rivals on day one of the Australian Open. Williams overcame a sluggish start to overpower Italy’s Sara Errani 6-3, 6-2, as top seed Caroline Wozniacki, former winners Maria Sharapova and Justine Henin, and French Open champion Francesca Schiavone all struggled to impress.

Wozniacki took 1hr 40min to see off Gisela Dulko 6-3, 6-4, Sharapova struggled with her serve before beating Tamarine Tanasugarn 6-1, 6-3, and Henin had to pull out all stops to beat Indian qualifier Sania Mirza 6-2, 6-1.

**US tennis star Venus Williams playing a stroke during her match against Sara Errani of Italy.—INTERNET**

Meanwhile French Open champion Schiavone lost the first set to Aravane Parra Santonja before eventually winning 6-7(4), 6-2, 6-4.—INTERNET
### WEATHER

**Tuesday, 18th January, 2011**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.**

- Forecast valid until the 19th January, 2011:
  - Partly cloudy.
  - Minimum temperature on 18-1-2011 was 64°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 18-1-2011 was (67%).
  - Total sunshine hours on 17-1-2011 was (6.0) (Approx.).
  - Rainfall on 18-1-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and 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 (10) mph from Southeast at (15:30) hours MST on 17-1-2011.

- **Bay Influence:** Weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
- **Forecast valid until evening of the 19th January, 2011:** Rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin and Shan States. Upper Sagain, Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions and weather will be partly cloudy over the remaining States and Regions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Decrease of night temperatures in the Upper Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 19-1-2011:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 19-1-2011:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 19-1-2011:** Partly cloudy.

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**Lots of video gaming in kids ups anxiety**

AMES, 18 Jan — A study of children in Singapore found those who play 20 hours of video games a week are more likely than others to be anxious or depressed, researchers say.

However, the study published online ahead of print in February’s Pediatrics, says spending many hours playing video game may not be just a result of pre-existing mental disorders, MedPage Today reported.

Douglas Gentile of Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, and colleagues say depression, social difficulties and poor school performance seemed to act as outcomes of pathological gaming.

Video-game-playing habits were considered pathological when children considered themselves to have at least five or 10 behaviours listed on a questionnaire, such as the hours spent playing video games, whether schoolwork suffered or whether they ever stole money to buy games, Gentile says.—Internet

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**South Korean Imperial guards wearing traditional costumes participate in a reenactment of the Royal Guards Changing Ceremony in front of Deoksul Palace in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, on 18 Jan, 2011. The palace where various Korean kings and their families have resided, was a forbidden palace to ordinary people, so it was called 'Gyeongung-forbidden palace.' The royal guards protected this prohibited area and escorted the Kings.**

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**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (19-1-2011) (Wednesday)**

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**Opening**

* News
* Ayeyawady
* (The Historical Lifeline of Myanmar)

**News**

* 3rd Grand Art Stream Family Art Exhibition (U Lun Gywe)
* Pathein-Monywa Road, a reliable artery
* News
* Pleasant Taunggyi
* News
* Mann Shwe Settaw (Min Bu)

**Oversea Transmission**

* Opening
* News
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* (The Historical Lifeline of Myanmar)
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* Pathein-Monywa Road, a reliable artery
* News
* Tar Tet Pwe…from Shan Midlands Region
* Pleasant Taunggyi
* News
* Mann Shwe Settaw (Min Bu)
* News
* Daily Life of a Toddy-palm Climber
* News
* Talent Show (Ky Koa Naing- Mon State)
* Music Gallery
* News
* The Conspicuous Dhammayangyi
* News
* Working and Living in Myanmar
* Tea House and Internet Cafe:’
* Myanmar Movie “As her real son”
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

Conquest of natural barrier of Yoma mountain range (Koebin-Thagaya Road)

Byline: Kayan Soe Myint; Photos: Kyaw Moe Lwin

Slight earthquake hits Phaungpyin Township

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced today that a slight earthquake of magnitude (4.8) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about two miles southwest of Shwenyaungbin village, Phaungpyin Township) about 200 miles Northwest of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at (8) hrs (48) min (30) sec M.S.T today.—MNA

Moderate earthquake jolts northern Sumatra

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.7 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (northern Sumatra, Indonesia) about 950 miles south of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 18 hrs 07 min 04 sec MST on 18th January 2011.—MNA

Significant night temperatures (18-1-2011)

Haka (1°C)
Putao (2°C)
Machanbaw (5°C)
Lashio (5°C)