Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconcilation
- 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

Mental fatigue can affect physical endurance

Cardiff, 26 Feb — When participants performed a mentally fatiguing task prior to a difficult exercise test, they reached exhaustion more quickly than when they did the same exercise when mentally rested, a new study finds.

The study also found that mental fatigue did not cause the heart or muscles to perform any differently. Instead, our “perceived effort” determines when we reach exhaustion. The researchers said the next step is to look at the brain to find out exactly why people with mental fatigue perceive exercise to be more difficult.

Samuele M. Marcora, Walter Staiano and Victoria Manning of Bangor University, Wales, the United Kingdom, did the study. “Mental fatigue impairs physical performance in humans.” The study will appear in the March print edition of the Journal of Applied Physiology. The American Physiological Society published the study.

The 16 participants rode a stationary bicycle to exhaustion under two conditions: once when they were mentally fatigued and once when they were mentally rested.

Internet

New research finds that when people perform a mentally fatiguing task prior to a difficult exercise test, they reach exhaustion more quickly.

Third wave problems on 28 Feb

Yangon, 26 Feb — Under the arrangement of Myanmar Fishery Federation and with the assistance of Parami Foundation, writer Kyaw Win will give a talk on third wave problems at the office of MFF on 28 February at 2 pm. Anyone interested may attend the talk. — MNA
Improve potency of traditional medicine

Traditional Myanmar medicine has made remarkable progress due to its interrelation with the soil, climate pattern, culture and traditions of the nation. Traditional Myanmar medicine has won trust and reliance of the people since time immemorial.

So, the government is applying all possible ways to encourage traditional Myanmar medicine for its improvement. As part of the goal, it is rendering assistance effectively to manufacture traditional medicines of international standard through research and advanced compounding methods.

The Traditional Medicine Department under the Ministry of Health organized the first traditional medicine research paper reading session and astronomical medicine seminar at the University of Traditional Medicine in Mandalay on 21 and 22 February. Resource persons read out 16 papers on traditional medicine research and 10 papers on astronomical medicine. Members of the Traditional Medicine Council, the Traditional Myanmar Medicine Association, and traditional medicine researchers assessed the papers.

Traditional medicine practitioners of the younger generation have to do research on traditional medicine with the use of advanced methods in order to maintain and improve the traditional medicine, therapies and medicines that have been relayed from one generation to the next.

In compounding traditional medicines, medicinal agents and herbal plants are used both in combination and individually to provide public health care on a wider scale. Traditional medicine practitioners and producers have to carry out research in a scientific way for ensuring safety and greater effectiveness in producing potent traditional medicines.

Now, the government is keeping its considerable attention to improvement of traditional medicine and boosting the potency of traditional medicines. In response, traditional medicine practitioners should focus on production of potent traditional medicines on a larger scale to be able to give better health care to the people.

Web Essentials Course in early March

YANGON, 26 Feb — Myanmar WWW Institute at Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township will conduct Web Essentials Course No. 63 in early March.

To create web design and web page, the course will teach Dreamweaver, Adobe Photoshop to create animation, Image Ready & Flash, e-Marketing, XML and TCP/IP for network connection subject. During the course, trainees will have to receive assignment and to participate in projects.

More information available at Myanmar WWW Institute, Building 5, Room 4, at Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township, Ph: 652258; 652288; 652320. — MNA
Obama budget sees ’09 deficit at $1.75 trillion

WASHINGTON, 26 Feb—President Barack Obama will forecast a 2009 deficit of $1.75 trillion on Thursday in a budget that covers big goals including reforming the health care system and stabilizing the US economy, an administration official said.

The huge deficit figure, to be published in the president’s budget later on Thursday, would represent 12.3 percent of the US economy — its largest share since World War II.

Obama, a Democrat, has pledged to halve the more-than $1 trillion deficit he inherited from former Republican President George W. Bush by early 2013, when his current term in office ends. The budget lays out a series of spending cuts in agriculture subsidies and other areas to meet that goal.

Two senior administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, laid out broad outlines of the budget ahead of its release and said Obama’s expensive policy goals would be offset by cuts to put the country in better fiscal shape.

“There’s no doubt that there are going to be things that we do that are going to create some political heartburn,” one official said.

“But our fundamental mission is restore the health of the economy, put the budget on a better (footing) moving forward.”

ISAF says east Afghan clashes up 20% this winter

KABUL, 26 Feb—Clashes between mainly US troops and militants in eastern Afghanistan rose by 20 percent this winter compared to last year, a spokesman for NATO-led forces said on Wednesday.

President Barack Obama has ordered 17,000 more US troops to southern Afghanistan as part of a new strategy to break a stalemate against Taleban militants, but fighting in the east along the rugged Pakistan border is still far from finished.

Clashes in the east of Afghanistan, where mainly US troops deployed went up by about 20 per cent from November to January compared to the same three-month period last year, said Captain Mark Durkin, spokesman for NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

But, he said, there had been a greater number of smaller incidents and the overall increase may have also been due to the milder winter, and a greater troop presence along the border. — MNA/Reuters

US President Obama to announce Iraq withdrawal plan on Friday

WASHINGTON, 26 Feb— US President Barack Obama will announce a plan to withdraw most troops from Iraq by August 2010, Pentagon officials said on Wednesday.

The decision will be announced during the president’s visit to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina on Friday, the officials were quoted by CNN as saying.

Obama is expected to announce that except a residual force between 30,000 to 50,000 to be left till Dec 2011, most of the 142,000 US troops will be out of Iraq by August 2010, 19 months after Obama’s swearing-in on 20 Jan, they said.

US soldier accused of killing Afghan acquitted

WASHINGTON, 26 Feb — A veteran US special forces soldier accused of murdering an Afghan man and cutting off one of his ears was found not guilty by a military jury Wednesday at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, local media reported.

The 10-member jury deliberated for about four hours before announcing their decision.

Army Special Forces Master Sgt. Joseph Newell, 39, was charged with killing a resident of Hyderabad, a village in southern Afghanistan’s Helmand Province, on 5 March last year and mutilating his body.

If convicted, he could have faced up to life in prison without parole. The unnamed Afghan man he killed had been detained after a vehicle stop when Newell found a picture of a Russian machine gun commonly used by Taleban forces on the man’s cell phone. — MNA/Xinhua

US military plane makes emergency touchdown in Prague

PRAGUE, 26 Feb—Prague’s Ruzyne Airport declared a state of emergency Wednesday as a US air force C17 plane with six people aboard reported troubles before landing, airport spokeswoman Eva Krejci said.

“The C17 plane with six people aboard landed at 20:40. No one suffered any harm,” Krejci added.

Afghan attacks kill four troops

KABUL, 26 Feb — Four British personnel have died from injuries sustained in Afghanistan, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has said.

Three soldiers from 1st Battalion The Rifles were struck by a blast in the Gereshk district of Helmand Province and pronounced dead at the scene.

The fourth, a Royal Marine from 45 Commando, was hit by enemy fire near Sangin and died in a UK hospital.

The deaths, in one day, take the number of UK servicemen and women killed in Afghanistan since October 2001 to 149.

Afghan National Army soldiers inspect their damaged vehicle at the site of a bomb blast in the city of Kandahar. Three British soldiers were on Wednesday killed in southern Afghanistan as a result of an “enemy explosion” while a fourth died after suffering wounds from enemy fire, Britain’s Ministry of Defence said. — Internet

Emergency services work at the scene of a Turkish Airlines passenger plane which crashed while landing at Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam. — Internet

Firefighters extinguish a burning police vehicle in Zihuatanejo, Mexico, on 25 Feb, 2009. Gunmen opened fire and hurled grenades at a patrol car in Pacific resort town of Zihuatanejo, killing four officers. — Internet

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Monkey attack sends woman to hospital

**BEIJING, 26 Feb** — A monkey kicked an elderly woman down a two-meter deep ditch and seriously injured her during a tour in Emei mountain in Sichuan Province.

Zhou Changju, 60, from Chongqing, went to the mountain with her family and a monkey jumped on her shoulder.

Zhou was taken to a hospital and doctors said that the woman who weighed only 35 kg could not bear the monkey’s kicking and suffered broken bones.

Zhou is undergoing tests in the hospital and was talking to the tour operators about compensation.

Atlanta policemen imprisoned for killing woman, 92

**ATLANTA, 26 Feb** — Three former Atlanta police officers, who shot dead a 92-year-old woman at her home in a botched drug raid and then lied about it to cover their tracks, were all sentenced to prison terms on Tuesday.

The shooting of Kathryn Johnston at her home in Atlanta in November 2006 raised national questions about police corruption and brutality, as well as civil rights abuses. It led to the disbandment and reform of the city’s narcotics squad.

The officers received sentences ranging from five to 10 years for conspiring to violate civil rights resulting in death, according to the US Attorney’s Office. They are not eligible for parole under the federal justice system.

The officers burst into Johnston’s home to search for drugs an informant had wrongly told them were inside. They used a warrant obtained using false evidence that allowed them to enter without first knocking.

Bird flu hits 11 provinces of Vietnam nationwide

**HANOI, 26 Feb** — Bird flu continues to spread wide in Vietnam with another newly-infected northern Dien Bien province, raising the number of Vietnamese provinces hit by the virus to 11, according to Vietnam’s Department of Animal Health under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on Thursday.

In Dien Bien province, bird flu has broken out in two communes of the province, leading to the culling of about 1,460 ducks and more than 1,000 their eggs, said the department. Vietnam watchdog of bird flu.

Samples of dead ducks found in the province tested positive to the H5N1 virus, said the department.

It is likely that Vietnam will see more bird flu outbreaks in more provinces in coming days, said the department.

Apple releases Safari four beta, promising faster speed

**BEIJING, 26 Feb** — Apple on Tuesday released the latest beta version of its Safari browser, promising a much faster browser with improved navigation and searching. The company said Safari 4 for both Mac OS X and Windows commands 4.2 times faster than Safari 3, thanks, in part, to the new Nitro engine, which runs JavaScript 4.2 times faster than its predecessor.

According to the company, Safari 4 loads JavaScript “up to 30 times faster than IE7 and more than three times faster than Firefox 3.”

As for HTML pages, Safari, “loads [them] three times faster than IE 7 and almost three times faster than Firefox 3.” Safari 4 is also the first browser to pass Web Standards Project’s Acid3 test.

Other new features in Safari 4 include Top Sites, giving users a visual preview of frequently visited pages; Full History Search, to search through titles, web addresses and the complete text of recently viewed pages; Cover Flow, to easily flip through web history or bookmarks; and Tabs on Top, to make tabbed browsing easier.

The new version of Safari also includes a Smart Address field and Smart Search. Smart Address will automatically show a drop down menu when a user begins typing a URL into the address field.

Microsoft to launch Windows Mobile 7 in 2010

**BEIJING, 26 Feb** — Microsoft will launch Windows Mobile 7, the next major release of its mobile operating system, in 2010, CEO Steve Ballmer said as quoted by media reports on Thursday.

Ballmer leaked word of the Windows Mobile 7 schedule in a strategic update session on Tuesday in New York.

Ballmer disclosure of Windows Mobile 7 seems somewhat of a surprise given that Microsoft released Windows Mobile 6.5 on 13 Feb at the Mobile World Congress show in Barcelona.

“We’ve made a nice release announcement last week of Windows Mobile 6.5,” Ballmer said. “We’ve got Windows Mobile 7 coming next year. We’re getting more and more synergy with Windows, so the browser improvements, et cetera, should be quite rapid.”

He offered no details about the planned enhancements and capabilities for the next release of the Microsoft mobile operating system Ballmer reiterated that Microsoft has no intention of building its own smartphone, preferring to sell its software to a broad range of device makers.
Shanghai net cafe owners required to learn English for World Expo

**SANGHANI**

Shanghai, 26 Feb—Owners and staff at the 1,400 net cafes in Shanghai have been required to take English lessons for the 2010 World Expo.

The two-day training course aims to enable the staff working in Shanghai's Internet cafes to speak simple English in talks with foreigners, said Ai Hao, assistant secretary of the Internet Service Association of Shanghai. “It is expected that a growing number of foreign tourists will visit the city’s net cafes during the World Expo,” she told Xinhua.

The first batch of 144 owners and staff from 36 Internet cafes in Xuhui District began to take training courses covering English tips, information about the Expo and customer service techniques on Tuesday. The whole program will finish by the end of October.

Ai Hao said every cafe should send four staff members on the training course, including the legal representative, the owner, a web administrator and a waiter. But some net cafe owners doubted the effectiveness of such a short programme.
No best diet, calories key to weight lost

BEIJING, 26 Feb — Cutting calories and sticking with it is the best way to lose weight regardless of whether a diet emphasizes fat, protein, or carbohydrates, according to a new study published on Wednesday.

As the world grapples with rising obesity, millions have turned to popular diets like Atkins, Zone and South Beach, according to a new study published on Wednesday. The debate has been going on for two decades on whether a diet is best for weight loss.

However, a US study shows that would-be dieters should choose the weight-loss programme that they are most comfortable with, as long as it is high in fiber and low in calories and saturated fat.

“All the diets were winners,” said study co-author Dr Frank Sacks, a professor of cardiovascular disease prevention at the Harvard School of Public Health.

“The key really is that it’s calories. It’s not the content of fat or carbohydrates, it’s just calories,” said Sacks.

The findings are published in the latest edition of the New England Journal of Medicine. —Xinhua

Brazilian police seize 500 kg of marijuana

RIO DE JANEIRO, 26 Feb — Brazilian police Wednesday seized 500 kg of marijuana from a car in the midwestern state of Mato Grosso do Sul.

The drugs were found stashed in the back seat and the trunk of a car when it was detained at a traffic stop on the outskirts of Caarapó, 268 km from the state’s capital city of Campo Grande. The two people in the car managed to flee, frontier police said.

This is the third large drugs haul in Caarapó in the past two weeks. Police earlier seized over 1.3 tons of marijuana from two vehicles on 14 February. The drivers of both vehicles were arrested. —MNA/Xinhua

Man loses $300K in Starbucks jewel heist

How much is a cup of coffee at Starbucks? For a jewelry salesman from Kansas, it ended up costing about $300,000.

Police say the man stopped for coffee on Monday at a Starbucks in Parker, Colo, south of Denver. He was just returning to his car when he was held up. Three masked robbers took three “tubs” of jewelry and a briefcase containing the salesman’s handgun.

Police didn’t identify the 64-year-old salesman. Parker police spokeswoman Elise Penington says he was in town for a trade show. One of the robbers allegedly brandished a gun, but no one was injured in the robbery.

Thief in central Maine targets old telephone poles

Old telephone poles are being swiped right out of the ground in central Maine.

The thefts in the town of Oakland began last fall and stopped in the early winter but have resumed as snowbanks have retreated.

The poles had no wires attached to them and were to be removed later. They had been trimmed to 12 feet tall, and were left behind when the company put in replacement poles next to them.

Fair Point supervisor Simon Thorne said the pressure-treated poles aren’t good for burning because they contain preservatives.

He speculated someone might be taking them to use for framework.

Octuplets mom fears no chance to raise babies

BEIJING, 26 Feb — The Los Angeles woman who gave birth to octuplets last month fears she may not get the chance to raise her eight newborns.

Dr Phil McGraw told the Los Angeles Times that Nadya Suleman called him on Tuesday afternoon, distressed after talking to hospital officials who are concerned she can’t handle the load.

“What she is telling me is that unless and until she has a better living arrangement, that they are not likely to release the children to her,” McGraw told The Times.

Suleman, a 33-year-old single mother who already had six children before giving birth to octuplets on 26 Jan, lives in Whittier with her mother in a three-bedroom house that is in preforeclosure. Suleman has no job and relies on government assistance, including food stamps and disability income for three of her six older children.

There was no immediate response to an NBC request for comment from Kaiser Permanente, the hospital.Jim Anderson, Kaiser Permanente Southern California’s director of media relations, told The Times “any conversation that the mother may or may not have had on this topic are private and we cannot discuss them.”

Yahoo “not opposed” to selling search business

BEIJING, 26 Feb — Yahoo Inc. is “not opposed” to selling its search business, Chief Financial Officer Blake Jorgensen said on Wednesday.

But he said the search business is deeply intertwined with Yahoo’s other online products and properties, and so any deal, whether a partnership or a sale, would be done for the right reasons and the right economics.

“It’s extremely difficult to draw a line down the middle of the organization and split it into two pieces,” Jorgensen told the Goldman Sachs Technology and Internet conference.

He did not mention specifically Microsoft Corp which had repeatedly said it was interested in doing a search deal with Yahoo to compete against market leader Google Inc. —Xinhua

This image provided by Kaiser Permanente Bellflower Medical Centre shows the nursing staff posing for a photograph after delivering octuplets to a mother in Bellflower, California. —Internet

Kaiser Permanente purchased The Los Angeles Times for $505 million last year. —Xinhua

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Expert's take: A Terry's road map for the Money Man

Terry's column will run every week, so you can follow him as he takes you on a journey to become a master of finance.

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Maintenance of Waingmaw-Chiphwe road, Chiphwenge hydropower plant project inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb —Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win and departmental officials, looked into progress in cleaning and beautifying of Myitkyina in a motorcade on 19 February.

Next, he inspected maintenance of Bala Min Htin Bridge across Ayeyawady River and Washaung concrete bridge in Waingmaw Township and greeted local people.

At Mile Post No (18/4) near Lower Namawan village, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint oversaw road works and gave necessary instructions.

Then he heard reports presented by teachers at Mandaung village Basic Education Post-Primary School in the township and attended to the needs. He also greeted students and presented cash assistance and gifts.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint looked into maintenance of 59-mile long suspension bridge in the township.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint proceeded to worksite of Chiphwenge hydropower plant project being implemented by Hydropower Implementation Department of the Ministry of Electric Power No.1 near Mile Post No (82) on Chiphwe-Panwah road, 11 miles south of Chiphwe and inspected No (6) approach tunnel.

After hearing reports presented by officials at the briefing hall, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint asked about the requirements and called for timely completion of the project. Then he presented gifts to them and posed for a documentary photo.

Next, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and party looked into Zan Naung Yan suspension bridge at the entrance to Chiphwe. In the evening, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint attended the 2nd Aungbam Manau Festival held on the beach of Maykha river near Zan Naung Yan village in Chiphwe and met with national race leaders of Kachin Special Region (1) and (2). He cordially greeted national races at the festival.

Kayant Township Association AGM 8 March

YANGON, 26 Feb—Members of Kayant Township Association (Yangon) are invited to participate in the association’s meeting on 8 March.

Kayan Township Association (Yangon) is located at Room No. (001), Building-14 (A-B) in Yangyiaung Street in Myitta Nyant Ward, Tamway Township. Dial: 01-549339 during office hour.—MNA

Kamanut-Thakayta 230 KV Grid Project designed to boost power supply

Article, photos: Kayan Soe Myint

Superintending Engineer U Saw Win Maung.

(from page 16) the first four-month period of 2008, and was scheduled to be completed by March 2009.

Tasks for installing power lines on Thakayta side were being carried out under the close supervision of Chief Engineer U Than Shwe in cooperation with Chief Engineer U Win Aung and party. I saw workers installing cables atop the pylons at risk to lives.

The Ministry of Electric Power (2) is working hard to help boost supply of electricity to the people in line with the nine objectives of the electric power supply system.

*****

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
25-2-2009
7th Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member...

(from page 1)

and Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Karunaputta Suddhakasayana discussed Vinicchaya, religious and academic affairs reported by the SSMNC (Third Branch).

In the afternoon, members of the SSMNC held discussions on Vinicchaya, religious and academic affairs.

Joint Secretary

Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Karunaputta Suddhakasayana discussed the report on the refectory. — MNA

The second day

Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress. — MNA

Locals greet cyclists of 380-mile-long Yangon–Mawlamyine–Yangon men’s cycling contest. — MNA

Yangon-Mawlamyine-Yangon men’s cycling contest concludes

YANGON, 26 Feb—The 380-mile-long Yangon-Mawlamyine-Yangon men’s cycling contest was launched in front of the Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) in Thingangyun Township on 23 February.

Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered an opening address. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint launched the contest.

A total of 66 cyclists took part in the competition along the route of Htaukkyant-Hlegu-Bago-Phayagyi-Thaton-Paung.

The first day contest, Kyaw Myo Hlaing (F&R) stood first, Tun Tun (Maxxis) second, Min Win Hlaing (Mon State) third, Myo Lin Aung (Ayeyawady Division) fourth and Myint Aye (F&R) fifth. Col Taik Tun of local station and officials awarded those cyclists.

The Kyauktaw-Mawlamyine section of the contest was launched by Col Taik Tun of local station in front of Kyauktaw sports ground on 24 February. Altogether 31 cyclists participated in the contest of the Bilin-Thaton-Paung route.

Officials presented first to third prizes to Aung Myo Naung (Maxxis), Aung Soe Wai (Maxxis), San Aung Than (Shan-East) and consolation prizes to the respective winners.

Yesterday morning, Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win launched the Mawlamyine-Kyauktaw route of the contest. The cyclists arrived at the finishing line in Kyauktaw, and officials awarded the winners.

This morning, the cyclists started the contest in front of Kyauktaw sports ground and arrived at the

Museum and Library Science Course (1/2008) concludes

YANGON, 26 Feb—The concluding ceremony of three-month course on museum and library science (1/2008) organized by Department for Archaeology, Museum and Library of the Ministry of Culture was held at the meeting hall of the National Library on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Yankin Township, here, on 23 February, with an address by U San Win, director-general of Department for Archaeology, National Museum and Library.

Daw Nu Mra Zan, secretary of the course supervisory committee, director of National Museum, U Kyaw Oo, joint-secretary, director of National Library explained facts about the course.

Next, the director-general presented completion certificates to the trainees and gifts to scholars who assisted in the course.

Altogether 17 trainees attended the course in which 8 subjects on museum and 17 subjects on library science were conducted in addition to periodic discussions and submission of term papers. — MNA

Academy Award winners honoured

YANGON, 26 Feb—Myanma Motion Picture Asayon held a ceremony to honour Myanma Motion Picture Outstanding Award winners for 2007 at Myanmar Motion Picture Asayon at Wingaba Road in Bahan Township on 23 February.

Present were Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of Myanmar Radio and Television, Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise under the Ministry of Information, departmental heads, patrons, chairmen and executives of MMPA, artists, technicians, academy award winners and guests.

Chairman of MMPA U Myint Thein Pe extended greetings. Officials concerned presented gifts to Best Music Award winner Seinmutta, Best Film Director Award Aung Yin Aung, Best Film Award Myint Malar Film Production, Best Cinematography Award Kyauk Pyinu (Padetha), Best Supporting Actor Award Kyaw Ye Aung, Best Supporting Actress Award Moi Di and Best Actress Award Aung Yin Aung.

MMPA presented K 300,000 to the winners and guests.

MMPA presented K 200,000 each to the award winners. — MNA

Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint presents prize to a winner.— MNA

finishing line in Haikkyant along the route of Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin)—Waw-Phayagyi-Bago-Haikkyant.

At YTC (Thuwunna), the commander and the director-general of Sports and Physical Education Department presented K 500,000 and one bicycle to first prize winner Kyaw Myo Hlaing (F&R), K 400,000 and one bicycle to second prize winner Aung Phyo Wai (Maxxis) and K 300,000 and one bicycle to third prize winner Min Win Hlaing (Mon State). — MNA

Director-General U San Win presents certificate to a trainee.— MNA

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Labour Minister receives ILO Executive Director

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi received International Labour Office (ILO) Executive Director Mr. Kari Tapiola and party at the Ministry of Labour, here, yesterday afternoon.

They discussed continuation of the cooperation between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the ILO. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Tin Tun Aung and Director-General U Chit Shein of Labour Department.

The ILO Executive Director was accompanied by Law Officer Mr. Drazen Petrovic of the Office of ILO Legal Adviser and ILO Liaison Officer Mr. Steve Marshall.

Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi receives ILO Executive Director Mr. Kari Tapiola.

Supplementary Understanding for the elimination of forced labour in Myanmar extended

NAY PYI TAW, 26 February—The Government of the Union of Myanmar and the International Labour Office (ILO) today extended the Supplementary Understanding on the treatment of complaints regarding forced labour for a further twelve months.

This Supplementary Understanding supports the application of existing laws prohibiting the use of forced labour in Myanmar. It provides a complaints’ mechanism, facilitated by the ILO Liaison Officer in Yangon. Under Article 1 of the Supplementary Understanding, Myanmar citizens can, with protection from retribution, seek justice under the law if they are subjected to forced labour.

In welcoming the signing of the extension, the Minister of Labour, His Excellency U Aung Kyi, stated that he “welcomed this continuation of the cooperation between the Government and the ILO which once again confirms the Government of Myanmar’s high level commitment to its policy for the prohibition of forced labour”. The Minister stated further that “the Supplementary Understanding supports the Government’s political commitment to the eradication of forced labour. The rights of citizens are fully guaranteed under the title ‘Citizen: Fundamental Rights and Duties of the Citizens’ in Chapter (viii), and the provision on the prohibition of forced labour in Section 359 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar which was ratified by the referendum held in May 2008”.

Overseas educational seminar on 1 March

YANGON, 26 Feb—Nanyan Institute of Management of Singapore will hold an educational seminar at meeting hall-3 of Park Royal Hotel, here, on 1 March.

NIM, a gateway to Singapore’s educational field concerned with vocational institute, is providing the best educational services to human resources needed in both local and international markets.

A choice can be made on any of six specialized subjects at Master degree course for Business Management being jointly organized by University of Ballarat of Australia and NIM. The MA course can be taken along with Health Service Management as a major. Unnecessary to sit for GMAT, any graduates can take the Master degree from 12-month to 15-month course.

Apart from business and management subjects, there are Contemporary Issues in Health Services Management, Policy in Health Services Management, Leadership in Health Service Management, and Evidence Based Practice in Health Service Management. In addition to the Master degree course, there are diploma courses on Business, Tourism & Hospitality, Early Childhood Education and Post-Graduate Programmes.

Well-experienced teachers will conduct all the courses.

Those, who are interested and want to attend the seminar, may contact Overseas Education Channel (AT&S Co., Ltd.) at Building 5, Hall 4, Myamna Info-Tech, Haig, Tel 652288, 652256 and 652320.

The opening ceremony of Lucky Bird Showroom (Nay Pyi Taw) and Authorized Sales & Service Centre (Nay Pyi Taw) in progress at Nay Pyi Taw Thabyaegon Market. — MNA

Objectives of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

1. To work hard together with the people to accomplish the State’s seven-step Road Map in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation.
2. To uphold Our Three Main National Causes as the national policy at risk to life
3. To crush, in cooperation with the people, internal and external subversive elements that are disrupting stability, peace and development of the nation
4. To build a strong and patriotic modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation

Myanmar Gazette

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed the appointment of Director-General U Wai Myat of Civil Service Selection and Training Department under Civil Service Selection and Training Board on expiry of the one-year probationary period.— MNA

Sales & service center of Toshiba notebook, projector & copier opened in Nay Pyi Taw

YANGON, 26 Feb — Lucky Bird Showroom and an authorized Sales & Service Center of Toshiba Notebook, Projector & Copier of Lucky Bird Trading Co Ltd was opened near Thabyaung Market in Nay Pyi Taw on 24 February.

The ceremony to open the showroom and the sales and service center was held at the showroom and Ms Kathy Li, Country Manager of Electronic Imaging Department of Toshiba Singapore Pte Ltd, demonstrated the use of copier, notebook, and projectors for office work.

The multifunction system of Toshiba copier can be used for copying, printing and scanning.

Lucky Bird Trading Co Ltd is the sole agent for the multifunction Toshiba copier and the copier is available at the Lucky Bird showrooms in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay.

As a special sales programme, those who bought notebooks, projectors and copiers can get a printer free and computers and accessories are on sale at up-to-half price sales.

Lucky Bird Showrooms are located at Thabyaung Market in Nay Pyi Taw (Ph 067-414113), at No 355 on Thainbyu Road, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon (Ph 248167, 379875) and at No 5, 26th street between 78th and 79th streets, Mandalay (Ph 21570, 0980-22025).— MNA
Development of bilateral tourism industry discussed

The minister, Acting Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Htun, Chairman of Thandwe District Peace and Development Council U Kyaw Hsan and Township PDC Chairman U Soe Than took their positions and sprinkled scented water on the stakes. After the ceremony, the minister cordially greeted those present. He next visited Mechaunghto village and met with the local people. The meeting was attended by over 1500 local people from seven villages of the township. Responsible persons reported on regional development and the minister fulfilled the needs and made a speech. Afterwards, the minister donated K 2.4 million – K 400,000 each to Mechaunghto, Yannyo, Hsardonbwe, Zenikanhtwe, Don and Thaleinypyn villages for regional development tasks, publications to village libraries and clothes to the local people. After the meeting, the minister greeted those present. In meeting with the local people, the minister said all the national races have been living in the Union of Myanmar with unity and unity from time immemorial. The people can now see waves of tragedy around the world due to break-ups of some nations. So, all the national people are to strive with true Union Spirit for peace and stability, development and perpetuation of the State.

As guided by the Head of State, national development tasks are being carried out based on development of human resources, which are inexhaustible resources of the country. The Ministry of Information itself is extending broadcasting of TV and radio and has arranged for daily newspapers to reach every village of the country. Moreover, self-reliant libraries have been established in all the villages and efforts are being made for the maintenance of those libraries. As reading can widen the horizons of the people, it is necessary to organize the people to have the reading habit. As development infrastructures have been built across the country, it is very important to maintain and further develop such infrastructures. All in all, the entire national people are urged to participate with Union Spirit in the tasks for peace and development of the State in cooperation with the government, said the minister.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers an address in meeting with local people of seven villages in Taungup Township, Thandwe District. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially greets townsenders and local people in Kaingshe Village. — MNA

Toshiba multi-purpose digital photocopiers introduced

They discussed cooperation for development of bilateral tourism industry and seeking new tourist attractions. — MNA

YANGON, 26 Feb— Lucky Bird Trading Co., Ltd held a press conference on Toshiba multi-purpose digital photo copiers at Traders Hotel here yesterday.

Managing Director U Htin Aung Khang of Lucky Bird Trading Co., Ltd made a greeting speech on the occasion. Afterwards, Country Manager Ms Kathy Li of electronic Imaging Department of Toshiba Singapore Pte Ltd presented appointment of sole agent to Managing Director U Htin Aung Khang.

Country Manager Ms Kathy Li explained facts about the multi-purpose digital copiers. The copiers can be used in printing out documents more than any other ones, scanning documents and storage of data, sending and receiving fax, connecting with computer networks, and user interface is also inserted.

MFP manufacturing industry has 7.1 million of production during 35 years and nowadays more than 1.2 million of Toshiba MFP are being used around the world. Toshiba has a majority of market share in China, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Egypt. Afterwards, Country Manager Ms Kathy Li made demonstration on using photocopiers by connecting to notebooks and projectors. For more information and service support, contact Brand Manager U Kyaw Kyaw Naing (Ph- 379875, 248167, 099924544 and Email: Luckybirdmgr @ Myanmm.com.mm) and Lucky Bird Showrooms: No.355, Thainhyu Road, Mingalataungnyunt Township here (Ph-248167,379875 and Fax: 379875), No.5, 26th street, between 78th and 79th streets, Mandalay (Ph-21572 and 0980-22025) and Thabyayon market, Nay Pyi Taw (Ph-067-23190). MNA
Palestinian unity talks open in Cairo

CAIRO, 26 Feb—A long-awaited Palestinian national unity dialogue opened Thursday morning in the Egyptian capital of Cairo. Under the sponsorship of Egypt, the inter-Palestinian dialogue was attended by all Palestinian factions, including representatives of rival Fatah and Hamas movements.

The Palestinian groups are expected to discuss during the closed-door meetings means of healing the Palestinian feud and closing ranks of the Palestinians. Egyptian intelligence chief Omar Soleiman said at the opening session broadcast live that the inter-Palestinian dialogue should be a real start for a new stage to end the Palestinian rift.

Representatives of the Palestinian groups discussed “the formation and missions of the five committees that were agreed upon in last November,” namely on reconciliation, government, security, elections and the Palestinian Liberation Organization, said the Egyptian news agency MENA. They also agreed to form a sixth committee grouping Egypt and the Arab League to help end any differences that may emerge during the five committee meetings, it added.—Internet

Chinese naval vessel rescues Italian ship in Gulf of Aden

SOMALIA, 26 Feb—A Chinese naval vessel rescued an Italian merchant ship from approaching pirates in the Gulf of Aden off Somalia on Thursday.

Destroyer “Haikou” of the Chinese navy received a SOS from the Liberia-flagged Italian ship around 10:03 a.m. reporting two unidentified yachts were approaching just about 3 to 4 nautical miles away.

A shipborne helicopter and the two fighters on board were immediately sent to the scene. “When our helicopter reached the area, the two yachts were already close to the merchant ship. They were equipped with two engines and were traveling with high speed,” said Captain Chen Yi.

Hovering around the Italian ship “LIA,” the Chinese helicopter fired two flares as a warning to scare the yachts away. Two minutes later, the Italian merchant ship sent a message to thank the Chinese naval ship.

It was the second time that the Chinese naval fleet rescued foreign merchant ships. On Jan. 29, another missile destroyer “Wuhan” successfully rescued a Greek ship from pirates.—Internet

Healthier living could cut third of most common cancers

GENEVA, 26 Feb—Better diets, more exercise and controlling weight could also prevent more than 40 percent of colon and breast cancer cases in some countries, study found.

Healthier living could prevent about a third of the most common cancers in rich countries and about a quarter in poorer ones, international researchers said on Thursday. The study involved 23 experts who analysed the incidence of 12 common cancers across the world and data on diet, exercise and weight to see how these factors contributed to kidney, mouth, lung, gallbladder and the other cancers.

“This report shows that by making relatively straightforward changes, we could significantly reduce the number of cancer cases around the world,” Marmot said in a statement. “On a global level every year, there are millions of cancer cases that could have been prevented and this is why we need to act now before the situation gets even worse.”—Internet

China, Germany sign procurement deals worth around 11 bln euros

BERLIN, 26 Feb—A Chinese business delegation, led by Commerce Minister Chen Deming, signed here on Wednesday a total of 37 procurement deals worth around 11 billion euros (14 billion US dollars) with German companies.

According to Chen, the 37 deals are composed of two parts — purchasing contracts, and cooperation agreements which need further negotiations.

The deals focus on engineering equipment, electronics and automobiles like Mercedes and BMW. Chen told a press conference.

A draft deal obtained by Xinhua showed that the Chinese side agreed to buy around 37,000 BMW cars and Mini worth 2.2 billion US dollars, as well as 27,000 units of Mercedes cars.

Chen revealed that apart from the current 200-member delegation, China would send more entrepreneurs to Germany to discuss further investment in both countries. Germany is one of China’s important partners within the European Union (EU). In 2008, the Sino-German trade hit 115 billion US dollars. Despite the world economic crisis, China and Germany have vowed to maintain the trade volume unchanged this year.—Internet

Palestine urgently needs $1.15 bln in 2009, IMF report says

JERUSALEM, 26 Feb—The Palestinian Authority urgently needs $1.15 billion to cover external recurrent financing requirements in 2009, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in a report released on Thursday.

The Western-backed government also needs $500 million for reconstruction and rehabilitation of Gaza after Israel’s offensive last month, the IMF report said. It added that should the funds not be paid immediately the cash-strapped authority would need to cut its cash expenditures and likely accumulate arrears, including on wages.

Palestinians hope to raise $2.8 billion at an international conference in Egypt on Monday aimed at rebuilding the Gaza Strip, after the Israeli attack.

The IMF report also urged Israel to relax restrictions on movement of goods in the occupied West Bank, where Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas’s government holds sway, to enable recovery of trade and private investment.—Internet

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**The New Light of Myanmar** Friday, 27 February, 2009

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**Oldest English words’ identified**

London, 26 Feb—Some of the oldest words in English have been identified, scientists say.

Reading University researchers claim “I”, “we”, “two” and “three” are among the most ancient, dating back tens of thousands of years.

Their computer model analyses the rate of change of words in English and the languages that share a common heritage.

“Our computer model analyses the rate of change of words in English and the languages that share a common heritage.

The team says it can predict which words are likely to become extinct—“squeze”, “guts”, “stick” and “bad” as probable first casualties.

**Medieval manuscripts give linguists clues about more recent changes.**

Internet

**Flamingoes walk around an amusement park in Gwacheon, south of Seoul, South Korea, as temperatures rise.**

Internet

**Internet**

**Internet**
The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Moderate alcohol use leads to risk of cancer in women

BEIJING, 26 Feb—Women consuming moderate alcohol face an increased risk of some cancers, says a study conducted on nearly 1.3 million British females.

The research involved middle-aged women who were surveyed at breast cancer screening clinics about their drinking habits and their health was tracked for seven years. A few women reported no alcohol use while the rest consumed fewer than three drinks a day; the average was one drink a day. Researchers compared the lightest drinkers — two or fewer drinks a week — with people who drank more.

Each extra drink per day increased the risk of breast, rectal and liver cancer. University of Oxford researchers reported Tuesday in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute. The type of alcohol — wine, beer or liquor — didn’t matter. —Internet

In this file photo, an ARJ21 plane made by Aviation Industry Corp of China is towed into a hangar at the Shanghai Aircraft Manufacturing Factory amid flashing laser lights and rousing band music unveiling ceremony in Shanghai, China. —Internet

EU biotech experts unable to approve GM maize cultivation

BRUSSELS, 26 Feb—European Union (EU) biotech experts on Wednesday failed to approve the authorization of cultivation of two genetically modified (GM) maize types. The experts on Wednesday voted against the European Commission proposals concerning the authorization of GM maize Bt-11 and 1507, developed by Syngenta and Pioneer, respectively.

The experts were unable to find a qualified majority either for or against the proposals, said the Commission, the executive body of the EU. The issue will now be transferred to the Council of Ministers for a decision. The Commission said its proposals are based on opinions of the European Food Security Authority, which confirmed the safety of the GM products for human and animal health and the environment. —Internet
Snow, ice declining fast in both polar regions

GENEVA, 26 Feb — Snow and ice are declining fast in both polar regions, fueling climate change as well as sea level rising, according to major scientific study released on Wednesday.

The ice melt is affecting human livelihoods as well as local plant and animal life in the Arctic, as well as global ocean and atmospheric circulation and sea level, said the “State of Polar Research” report, which was compiled by scientists for the 2007-2008 International Polar Year (IPY).

“Now it appears certain that both the Greenland and the Antarctic ice sheets are losing mass and thus raising sea level, and that the rate of ice loss from Greenland is growing,” the report said. “New data also confirm that warming in the Antarctic is much more widespread than it was thought,” it added.

The wide-ranging IPY findings result from more than 160 science projects assembled from researchers in more than 60 countries, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council for Science said in a statement. Launched in March 2007, the IPY covers a two-year period to March 2009 to allow for observations during the alternate seasons in both polar regions, the statement said.

“The International Polar Year 2007-2008 came at a crossroads for the planet’s future,” said Michel Jarraud, secretary-general of WMO. “The new evidence resulting from polar research will strengthen the scientific basis on which we build future actions,” he added.

WHO warns drug resistance could setback malaria control success

GENEVA, 26 Feb — The emergence of a drug-resistant form of malaria in South-East Asia could seriously undermine the successes of global efforts to control the disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) warned on Wednesday. There is new evidence that parasites resistant to artemisin, the main drug used to treat malaria, have emerged along the border between Cambodia and Thailand, the UN agency said in a press release. There is a risk that local people, who walk for miles every day to clear forests, could be infected with a drug-resistant form of malaria, it said.

“If we do not put a stop to the drug-resistant malaria situation that has been documented in the Thai-Cambodia border, it could spread rapidly to neighboring countries and threaten our efforts to control this deadly disease,” said Dr Hiroki Nakatani, WHO assistant director-general. According to WHO, huge strides have been made in the last 10 years to reduce the burden of malaria, one of the world’s major killer diseases. The recent shift from failing drugs to the highly effective malaria, one of the world’s major killer diseases. The recent shift from failing drugs to the highly effective drug, was compiled by scientists for the 2007-2008 International Polar Year (IPY).

Los Angeles area airports feeling pains of economic recession

LOS ANGELES, 26 Feb — The number of passengers at LAX, Ontario International Airport, a major alternate airport about 60 kilometers east of downtown Los Angeles, fell by an unprecedented 31 percent last month, indicating how severely the lingering recession is impacting Americans’ travel habits.

At Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), the world’s fifth busiest airport, the number of domestic passengers fell almost 10 percent from last year, while international travelers dropped by more than 14 percent despite heavily discounted airfares at home and abroad, the Los Angeles Times reported on Wednesday.

Ontario International used to be one of the region’s fastest-growing airports and a cornerstone of a policy to regionalize air travel by spreading the growth in passengers from the busy LAX to other Southern California airports. But in the last year, five airlines have eliminated or slashed service at the facility, according to the newspaper.

Egyptian, Nicaraguan NGO receive top honours from UNFPA

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Feb — An Egyptian doctor and a Nicaraguan non-governmental organization (NGO) have been awarded this year’s United Nations Population Award, which recognizes outstanding work in population and health, the United Nations announced here Tuesday. Mahmoud Fathalla and the Movimiento Comunal Nicaragense (MCN) were chosen from 18 nominees by an Award Committee headed by Hamdon Ali, Malaysia’s Ambassador to the United Nations. The committee groups 10 UN member states.

Dr Fathalla is a renowned doctor and professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Assiut University in Egypt, and also works as a manager, adviser and advocate for family planning, reproductive health and safe motherhood, according to a press release from the UN Population Fund (UNFPA). —MNA/Xinhua

Two dead, 27 injured in NYC Chinatown blaze

NEW YORK, 26 Feb — A huge fire broke out at a Chinatown apartment building in New York’s Manhattan early on Tuesday morning, killing two people and injuring at least 27, fire officials said. Three of the seriously injured had jumped out of their windows to flee the inferno, The New York Post quoted officials as saying. The two dead were reportedly identified as Tony Wong, 32, and his girlfriend, Anna Lui, 33.

Three others were in critical condition. Officials are investigating the four-alarm blaze that broke out at 4:45 am local time (0945 GMT), fire department operations chief Patrick McNally was cited as saying. According to McNally, the fire started on the second floor of the six-storey building and spread upward, causing a section of the roof to collapse. He said strong winds and the bitter cold made battling the blaze “very difficult.” —MNA/Xinhua

Canada’s Nortel cuts 3,200 jobs

OTTAWA, 26 Feb — Canada’s telecom equipment company Nortel Networks on Wednesday announced to cut 3,200 jobs as part of its efforts to slash costs amid a massive restructuring attempt. The job cuts will be made over the next few months, Mike Zafirovski, Nortel president and chief executive officer, said in a release on the company’s website.

Nortel, which filed for creditor protection in January, employs 30,000 people globally, including 5,800 in Canada. The company has also decided not to pay bonuses in 2008 and is seeking court approval to terminate its equity-based compensation plans.

—MNA/Xinhua
Tiger looks strong as ever in Match Play return

**Mar 06, 2009**

Tiger Woods was as curious as everyone else to see how he would play after an eight-month layoff. He knew he was ready to return from surgery on his left knee. Woods has said more than one occasion that he will not enter a tournament if he doesn’t think he can win. But there is no substitute for playing and Woods sat aside by Roman Abramovich to make way for Jose Mourinho in 2004.

**London , 26 Feb —**

Didier Drogba ruined Claudio Ranieri’s return to Chelsea as the Ivory Coast forward celebrates after scoring against Juventus during their Champions League first knockout round football match, at Stamford Bridge stadium in London.

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**MILAN, 26 Feb —**

Ribery, Toni star for five-star Bayern

Bayern Munich’s Franck Ribery (C) celebrates his goal against Sporting during their Champions League first-leg of the first knockout round football match at Alvalade Stadium in Lisbon.

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**MADRID, 26 Feb —**

Rafael Benitez enjoyed an unforgettable Madrid homecoming as a late Youssouf Hadjibouned helped Liverpool defeat Real Madrid 1-0 in the first leg of their last 16 Champions League duel at the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday.

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**Belgium’s Christophe Rochus ___**

Querrey, the world No. 34, entered having been ranked fourth among American players, behind Andy Roddick, James Blake and Mardy Fish. The 21-year-old had been on the rise after winning his maiden title in 2008 and finishing the season in the top-50 for the first time.

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**Inter president Massimo Moratti.***

Manchester United manager Cristiano Ronaldo fights for the ball with Inter Milan’s Sulley Ali Muntari during their UEFA Champions League match at San Siro Stadium in Milan.

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**Happy return for Benitez as Liverpool down Real in Champions League**

Liverpool’s Spanish forward Fernando Torres (L) fights for the ball with Real Madrid’s French midfielder Lassana Diarra (R) during their Champions League football match at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid. Liverpool won 1-0 — Internet

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**Rochus knocks off American second seed Querrey at ATP Delray Beach**

Belgium’s Christophe Rochus easily beat American second seed Sam Querrey 6-4, 6-1 in the second round of the ATP Delray Beach International Tennis Championships.

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Prenatal multivitamins lack iodine

BEIJING, 26 Feb—Several brands of multivitamins for pregnant women contain too little iodine than their labels claim, posing greater threat to the brain development of a child, says a study.

According to the study, tests conducted on 60 brands that listed iodine as an ingredient on their labels found many fell short of the stated amount.

“If these numbers are all real, then they’re not meeting their label claim and that’s a problem,” said William Obermeyer, a former Food and Drug Administration scientist who co-founded ConsumerLab.com, a private testing service.—INTERNET

WEATHER

Thursday, 26 February, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr
MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin and Mon States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (8°C) below February average temperatures in Bago Division, (3°C) above February average temperatures in Kachin, Chin and Mon States, upper Sagaing Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above February average temperatures in Shan and Rakhine, States, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (5°C).

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Patao (0.48) inch and Machanbaw (0.39) inch.

Maximum temperature on 25-2-2009 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 26-2-2009 was 66°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 26-2-2009 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 25-2-2009 was (7.6) hrs approx. Rainfall on 26-2-2009 was (Nil) at Mandalay, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mandalay, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 25-2-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 27th February 2009: Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Chin and Shan States, upper Sagar Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

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


Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-2-2009: Generally fair weather.
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YANGON, 26 Feb—The Management Committee of Industrial Zones in Yangon Division held its meeting at Yangon Command Headquarters in Konmyintha here, this afternoon.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence delivered an address.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint in his address called for operating factories at full capacity only with domestic raw materials and boosting export of goods.

Those responsible gave an account of work progress in accomplishing the previous meeting resolutions.

The chairman of the management committees of the industrial zones reported on functions and requirements in respective sectors. Departmental officials responded to the reports. Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave concluding remarks.—MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence addresses coordination meeting of Yangon Division Industrial Zones Management Committee. —MNA

Kamanut-Thakayta 230 KV Grid Project designed to boost power supply

The State Peace and Development Council is constructing hydropower plants one after another to meet the increasing electricity demand of the nation.

Now, national development is picking up momentum with the emergence of factories and mills, industrial zones and housing estates, and use of a growing number of electronics. So, domestic electricity consumption is on the increase.

With the aim of easing the electricity demand of Yangon, the Ministry of Electric Power (2) is now undertaking the 230 KV Grid Project. On completion, the 68.37-mile grid project will link Kamanat in Bago with Thakayta through the Bago River.

The ministry set up thousands of miles of grids and power stations to distribute the electric power from the power plants under construction.

In 1988, the nation had seven 230 KV grids with a total length of 568.96 miles, twelve 130 KV grids with a length of 761.67 miles, 23 66KV grids with a length of 48.23 miles, and 34 power stations.

From 1988 to March 2008, the ministry established 85 grids, and 97 power stations, thus doubling the number of grids and tripling the number of power stations.

Project Superintending Engineer U Saw Win Maung of the Power Supply Project (South) said that Kamanut-Thakayta 230 KV Grid Project was to distribute the power from the electric power plants being undertaken by the Ministry of Electric Power (1) in the northern part of Myanmar to Yangon; that along the route between Kamanut and Thanlyin were 308 pylons that an order was placed on companies for construction of the towers, and that the engineers of the Power Supply Project (South) were installing power lines; and that installation of power lines in the Bago River was being carried out jointly by the Power Supply Project (South) of the Myanma Electric Power Enterprise under the Ministry of Electric Power (2), Public Works, and the Marine Administration Department.

He added that the project was launched in... (See page 7)