



The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Danger of neo-colonialists

Today, neo-colonialists are practising various forms of neo-colonialism such as interfering in the internal affairs of other countries, putting pressure on and coercing other countries to serve as their minions, and resorting to all possible ways of forcing a government to serve as a puppet that will dance to their tune with the intention of harming the sovereignty of their targeted countries.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From the message sent on the occasion of the 61st Anniversary Independence Day)

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Cuban President

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Jan—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Raul Castro Ruz, President of the Council of State and of the Government of the Republic of Cuba, on the anniversary of the Liberation Day of the Republic of Cuba which falls on 1 January 2010.—MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends opening of Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory, Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec—Ceremonies to open the Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory and the Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory were held at Thagara Industrial Region of the Ministry of Industry-2 near Thagara of Yedashe Township this morning, attended by Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasions were Lt-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Hla Min, ministers, deputy (See page 8)

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 1 January, 2010

Continue marching towards a new nation

Today is the first day of the year 2010 and, on this auspicious day of the New Year, the New Light of Myanmar wishes people all over the world peace, prosperity and happiness. And we fervently hope that the entire national people of Myanmar will be able to serve the interests of the nation better from this day on.

Myanmar has existed with its own culture and traditions throughout successive ages in history. The people of Myanmar are now striving for modernization and development of the nation, preserving their cultural heritage.

The national people of Myanmar have been living in unity and amity, through thick and thin and with mutual understanding based on Union Spirit. Their common goal is the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation and they are unitedly working to realize it.

Nowadays, the government is building networks of railroads and motor roads, including river-crossing bridges, the length and breadth of the Union for parallel development of all the regions in it. Smooth and easy transport and communications between one region and another will bring about further regional development and cement unity and amity among national people.

The more peaceful and stable the nation has become, the more happiness and freedom the national people will be able to enjoy. For this, we will have to realize the value of independence and defend our national independence and sovereignty so long as the world exists. And we would like to call on the entire national people to continue marching towards a new nation with new spirit in the New Year.

IBTC OPEN Golf Championship on 7-10 January

YANGON, 31 Dec—Organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA and mainly sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd, the sixth leg of Myanmar Golf Tour 2009-2010 IBTC OPEN Golf Championship (Taunggyi) will be held in Taunggyi in Shan State (South) from 7 to 10 January.

Professional golfers and amateurs with handicap 0-12 will be

qualified to participate in the championship.

St Andrew and regional rules will be applied in the championship and those who scored hole-in-one will be awarded handsomely.

The golfers may contact (ph: 09 5017049, 09 2037671) and register at Ayetharyar Golf Resort not later than 2 pm on 5 January.

The championship was mainly sponsored by

International Beverages Trading Co Ltd (IBTC) together with co-sponsors Air Bagan Ltd, KBZ Bank Ltd, Hotel Yangon, KM Golf Centre, HAN Golf Masters Pte Ltd, Myanmar Thiha Trading Co Ltd, Bay of Bengal Resort (BOB), (INAX, T-Home), CEPESA Lubricants, ACCEL International Co Ltd (Canon), Imperial Jade Purified Drinking Water, Lifeline Co Ltd, GP Watch and Ayetharyar Golf course (Danyi-ngon).—MNA

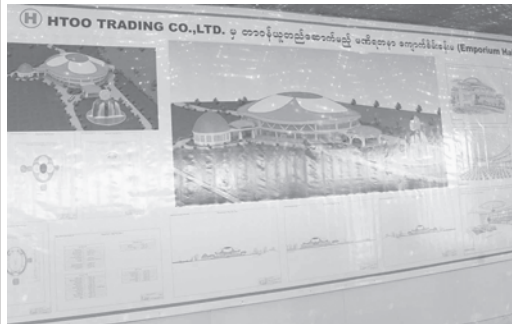
People's Destructive

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

Stakes driven for Emporium Hall in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec—Stake driving ceremony for Maniyadana Emporium Hall of Ministry of Mines was held at the site chosen for the construction of the hall near Gems Museum in Zabuthiri Township yesterday morning.

The hall is designed to be modern and magnificent and built for gems trading under the guidance of the Head



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and ministers view scale model of Emporium Hall.—MNA

of State.

Present on the occasion were: Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe, managing director of Myanmar Gems Enterprise and officials, Chairman of Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association and officials, entrepreneurs and guests.

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec—The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Director U Khin Maung Thet of the Directorate of Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs as Director-General of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.—MNA



The ministers and party took position at designated places, drove the stakes and sprinkled them with scented water.

At the briefing hall, the ministers and deputy minister heard the reports on the construction of the hall submitted by the chairman of MGEA. The ministers, deputy ministers and experts discussed the needs.

The ministers and the deputy minister viewed the scale model of Emporium Hall. The hall will be built by Htoo Trading Co Ltd under the supervision of MGEA.

MNA

EP-1, Htoo Trading sign MoU to cooperate in hydropower projects

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec—The MoU signing ceremony between Hydropower Administration Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. (1) and Htoo Trading Co Ltd to



MoU signing ceremony between Hydropower Administration Department under Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and Htoo Trading Co., Ltd in progress.—MNA

cooperate in Upper Hsetawgyi and Htakha hydropower projects through B.O.T system was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Electric Power No. (1) here on 29 December.

It was attended by Minister for Electric Power No. (1) Col Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No. (2) Maj-Gen

Khin Maung Myint, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, deputy ministers, directors-general, managing directors and officials.

Minister for Electric Power No. (1) Col Zaw Min extended greetings and

Chairman of Htoo Trading Co Ltd U Teza explained the purpose of signing the MoU. Later, the director-general of the Hydropower Administration Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. (1) and responsible person of Htoo Trading Co Ltd signed the MoU and exchanged the documents.

MNA

War-weary Afghans foresee more violence in 2010

KABUL, 31 Dec — Conflict-plagued Afghan people like years ago do not pin much hope on the coming year and they predict to see more violence in 2010.

Having almost similar view, the hapless Afghans including experts, ordinary and officials believe that 2010 will not be better than the preceding one.

"2010 will be a tough year for Afghanistan as from one side the interna-

tional troops will increase their strength, and on the other, the armed oppositions would expand their activities in an efforts to disperse the troops," political analyst Waheed Muzghda told *Xinhua*.

He said that in summer, traditionally fighting season in Afghanistan, both Taliban and the security forces would do their best to boost their influence and strengthen their grips. This will eventually lead to further fatalities on the non-combatants.

"Despite troop surge

in 2010, the situation will not be different from 2009 and even worse than that," he said.

Muzghda, an eminent analyst, anticipated strain in US-Afghan relations in 2010, saying Washington is against holding Afghan parliamentary elections, while Kabul has set May as the timeline for the polls.—*Xinhua*



A Libyan Arab Airlines aircraft is seen after a ground service van (R) crashed into it at Malta International Airport outside Valletta 30 Dec, 2009. The van crashed into the Bombardier CRJ-900ER for unknown reasons shortly before the plane was due to leave for Tripoli. Damage to the plane was minor and no one was injured in the incident.—INTERNET

A passenger jet from South Korean airline Asiana, the smaller of the country's two flag carriers.

South Korea's eighth largest group Kumho Asiana, parent of Asiana, said on Wednesday it would consider placing some troubled units under a debt workout programme amid market jitters about its financial health.—INTERNET

Five Canadians killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 31 Dec — Four Canadian soldiers and one Canadian journalist have been killed in a bomb explosion in southern Afghan province of Kandahar.

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) issued a Press release Thursday saying that the incident occurred four kilometres south of Kandahar city on Wednesday when an improvised explosive device went off near a patrolling armoured vehicle carrying those Canadians.

A 2,800-strong Canadian contingent was based in Kandahar to battle the Taliban militants. Wednesday's fatality brought the death toll of Canadian troops in Afghanistan to 138.

Xinhua



Taliban claim blasts that kill 13 in Afghanistan

KABUL, 31 Dec — The Taliban claimed responsibility Thursday for two separate bomb attacks in Afghanistan that killed eight Americans, five Canadians and an Afghan in a surge of violence in the war-battered country. A U.S. congressional official said CIA employees were believed to be among the victims of a suicide blast at an American base in the volatile east.

The explosion at the Forward Operating Base Chapman base in Khost province on Wednesday killed eight American civilians and one Afghan, the worst loss of life for the U.S. in the country since October.

Separately, four Canadian soldiers and a journalist imbedded in their unit were killed Wednesday by a roadside bomb in the southern Kandahar province, the bloodiest single incident suffered by that country's military in 2009.—*Internet*

Bomb blasts kill 23 in Central Iraq

IRAQ, 31 Dec — Twin bombing attacks have killed at least 23 people, and wounded more than a hundred others, in Iraq's central Anbar Province.

A car bomb exploded on Wednesday morning outside the provincial council in the city of Ramadi. The governor of Anbar province, Qassim Mahammed Abid, was injured in the attack.

Police, say the governor was inspecting damage caused from the first bomb when he was caught in the second bomb blast.

Anbar is one of Iraq's strategically important provinces, as it was a former stronghold of the al-Qaida linked insurgency.—*Internet*

11 suspected Taliban militants killed in W Afghanistan

KABUL, 31 Dec — Clash between suspected Taliban militants and Afghan-NATO forces in western Afghanistan's Herat province claimed lives of 11 militants on Wednesday, an official said on Thursday.

"Militants laid ambush on the Afghan army, police and NATO-led forces when they were on patrol in Kishki Kohna District on Wednesday and troops returned fire killing 11 rebels including their commander Mullah Abdul Baqi," Ghulam Farooq Rustahi, district chief of Kishki Kohna, told *Xinhua*.

Three other militants were detained by the joint forces, he added.—*Xinhua*

Bomb kills 6 militants in Iraq's Diyala

BAQUBA 31 Dec — Six Shiite worshippers were killed and 18 others injured when a bomb explosion hit their procession in Diyala Province on Wednesday, a provincial police source said.

The attack took place in the town of Khalis, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, when the worshippers were taking part in the religious ritual of Ashura, said the source who declined to be named.

Ashura marks the death of Prophet Mohammed's grandson Imam Hussein, who was killed and buried in Karbala in 680 AD. It usually takes place on the 10th day of Muharam, the first month in the Islamic lunar calendar. During the annual Ashura commemorations, mourners, generally dressed in black, took to the streets or gathered in mosques to grieve over the death of Hussein.—*Xinhua*



Iraqi officers look at the damage to parked vehicles following two bombings in the western city of Ramadi, 100 km (60 miles) from the capital Baghdad. Blasts in central and western Iraq killed 30 people and wounded the Anbar provincial governor on Wednesday, the latest in a series of attacks against government targets in recent months.—INTERNET

South Korea to continue free trade drive in 2010

SEOUL, 31 Dec—South Korea will seek to expand global free trade network next year, continuing its drive to strike free trade deals with the world's major economies, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade said on Thursday.

The country will make best use of the so-called comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) with India, slated to take effect next year, the ministry said.

It will also continue pushing for the ratification of free trade pacts it signed with the European Union and the United States, respectively, it

added.

Both Seoul and Washington are awaiting legislative approval for the free trade deal signed in June 2007, as conflicting industrial interests mixed with political implications have long blocked its ratification in both countries.

South Korea will launch a research to be conducted jointly by the industrial, governmental and academic sectors on feasibility of free trade deal among South Korea, China and Japan, three regional economic powerhouses, the ministry said.

Seoul and Tokyo re-

cently held working-level bilateral free trade talks after years of hiatus, but failed to pin down the exact date to resume negotiations.

Asia's fourth biggest economy will also remain committed to the successful conclusion of the World Trade Organization's Doha Development Agenda Negotiations (DDA), according to the ministry. —Xinhua



Photo taken on 30 Dec, 2009 shows the scene of the Jiangning Zhizaofu (Imperial Silk Textile Workshop) Museum, in Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu Province. —XINHUA

Cuba's most famous resort welcomes 1 mln tourists in 2009

HAVANA, 31 Dec—Varadero, Cuba's most famous resort, welcomed 1 million tourists this year, a source from the Cuban tourism sector said on Wednesday.

Velio Barrera, an expert on commercialization and communication at the Tourism Ministry in Varadero, said that 40 percent of the tourists visiting Cuba went to Varadero.

Varadero is also known as the Blue Beach, and lies 140 km from Havana.

Barrera added that more than 86 percent of the hotel rooms in Varadero belong to the four- or five-star category, which together with the more than 20 km of beaches have made it one of the most popular tourist destinations in the Caribbean.

Besides, Varadero offers various services including restaurants, cafes, boats, an airport and shops.

In the 1950's, there were only 15 hotels and many hostels in Varadero. Now, Varadero has 48 hotels, and investments here continue to increase.

Xinhua



Children take part in a funny sports meeting held at Fufang Kindergarten in Fuyang city, east China's Anhui Province, on 29 Dec, 2009, to greet the New Year. —XINHUA

China to become the world's third largest wind power producer

BEIJING, 31 Dec—China will become the world's third largest wind power producer this year, an official with the National Energy Administration (NEA) said on Wednesday.

The country's installed wind power capacity would total 20 million

kilowatts (kw) this year, said Shi Lishan, deputy with New Energy and Renewable Energy Bureau of the NEA. The capacity was 764,000 kw by the end of 2004 and increased to 12 million kw in 2008.

The estimated figure will lift China to the third place following the United States and Germany.

China has now a complete industrial chain in wind power industry, Shi said. The country was not capable of producing complete wind energy generator equipment in 2003.

However, technology remained the bottleneck of Chinese wind power development, Shi said.

Xinhua

Turkey, Israel ink civil aviation deal

ANKARA, 31 Dec—Turkey and Israel have signed an agreement that enables more than one airline companies to operate flights between the two countries, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported on Wednesday.

The deal also includes new flight destinations and removes frequency restrictions, the agency said, citing a statement from Turkish Transportation Ministry Civil Aviation Directorate General.

Turkish and Israeli civil aviation executives held negotiations in Ankara on Monday over the new agreement as a previous civil aviation deal signed in 1951 could not meet demands of current conditions, the report said.

Xinhua

Opel sells 31% more cars in Germany in 2009

BERLIN, 31 Dec—Opel car sales in Germany in 2009 increased by 31 percent over 2008, thanks to the government's incentive scheme, the company said in a statement on Wednesday. Opel sold around 339,000 vehicles in its home market in 2009, accounting for 8.9 percent of its total market sales, against 258,274 the previous year and a four-year high.

Under the incentive scheme, the government

provided 2,500 euros (3,600 US dollars) to consumers who traded in cars at least nine years old on new vehicles.

However, Opel sales could slump by about 90,000 vehicles, or 27 percent, in 2010 due to the end of the government's incentive programme, said Ferdinand Dudenhoeffer, director of the Centre for Automotive Research at the University of Duisburg-Essen, re-

ported by the local media.

In September, Opel was set to be sold by its US parent company General Motors (GM) to the Canadian auto parts group Magna International and its Russian partner Sberbank.

However, GM reconsidered the importance of Opel and Vauxhall, a GM-owned British car manufacturer, to its global strategy and cancelled the deal in November. —Xinhua



A woman views simulation golden sculptures on a jewellery exhibition held by a gold shop in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 30 Dec, 2009. —XINHUA



Putin says anti-crisis measures for 2009 primarily accomplished

Moscow, 31 Dec—The Russian Government has by and large implemented its anti-crisis measures for the outgoing year, said Prime Minister Vladimir Putin on Wednesday.

"The active phase of the crisis is over, it has been overcome and starting from the second half of the year (Russian) economic growth resumed," said Putin at this year's last meeting of the government presidium.

Summarizing the past year as a "difficult" one that saw a slump of the gross domestic product (GDP) by 8.5 percent, Putin said nonetheless the government had managed to curb inflation and stabilize the ruble rate while making it predictable.

Preliminary estimates showed that the Russian GDP would grow by three percent in 2010, he added.

Xinhua

Artists perform during a Peking Opera show celebrating the New Year, at the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing, capital of China, on 30 Dec, 2009.—XINHUA

Visitors look at a fossil during a dinosaur exhibition in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, 29 Dec, 2009. The dinosaur exhibition shows the fossils and models of the dinosaurs which lived in remote antiquity in north Argentina's San Juan Province.—XINHUA

US confirms death of eight Americans in Afghan blast

WASHINGTON, 31 Dec — The US State Department confirmed on Wednesday the death of eight Americans in a suicide blast in Afghanistan.

Department Spokesperson Ian Kelly said the eight died in an attack at the Forward Operating Base Chapman in Khost Province, southern Afghanistan.

However, Kelly didn't say whether those killed were military personnel or civilians, saying the department is "withholding further details pending notification of next of kin."

Xinhua

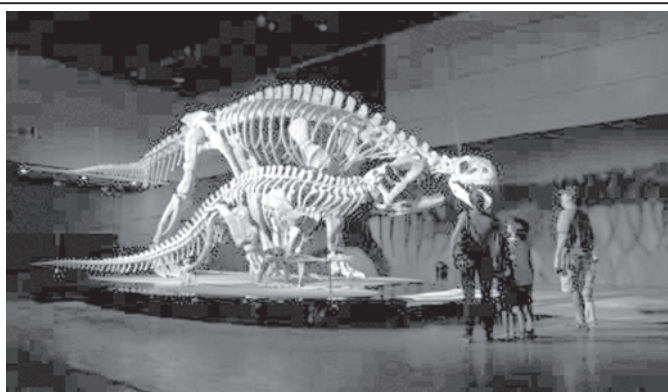
Venezuela blames US for destabilizing Iran

CARACAS, 31 Dec— Venezuela on Wednesday blamed the United States for destabilizing Iran by instigating violent protests in the Asian country. The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry said in a statement that Venezuela rejects the destabilization attempts "promoted by the government of the United States against the government and people of Iran".

"Venezuela is surprised that a group of countries led by the North American Empire are echoing a campaign to divide and spread violence among Iranians, in contravention of the fundamental norms of peace, non-interference and respect for sovereignty," the foreign ministry said.

Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency



A/H1N1 pandemic death toll rises to 12,220, says WHO

GENEVA, 31 Dec—The global death toll of the A/H1N1 pandemic influenza has risen to at least 12,220, an increase of over 700 in a week, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a weekly update on Wednesday.

The death toll in the Americas remains at some

6,670, with no new deaths reported in the past week. But more deaths were recorded in all the other five regions, notably in Europe and the Western Pacific, the UN agency said.

According to the WHO's tally, A/H1N1 pandemic deaths in Europe increased more than 300 from a week ago,

reaching at least 2,422, while the number of deaths in the Western Pacific rose to 1,249, from 1,030 last week.

The pandemic death numbers in South-East Asia, East Mediterranean and Africa increased to 1,056, 693 and 130 respectively.

Xinhua

AeroMexico suspends service to US city

MEXICO CITY, 31 Dec— Mexican airline AeroMexico has suspended flights from the northern Mexican city of Chihuahua to Albuquerque, a city in the southern US state of New Mexico, because of low passenger interest, officials told Mexican television on Wednesday.

AeroMexico's three flights a week will be cancelled from next week, Daniel Jiron, an official from Albuquerque's Sunport International Airport, told Mexican broadcasters, adding that occupancy rates were 20 percent or less.

The New Mexico state government spent 175,000 US dollars subsidizing the flight in 2009, in a bid to boost tourism from Mexico to the United States. US states on the Mexican border had received large numbers of Mexicans who come to buy goods that are taxed at

lower rates. The service is the only international flight from Chihuahua, capital of the state of Chihuahua, Mexico. Southern US cities reported a dive in revenue from Mexicans who go there for shopping, as Mexico suffered a steep recession this year.

Xinhua

Mexico airport boosts security after US air incident

MEXICO CITY, 31 Dec—Mexico City International Airport has boosted security in the wake of the 25 Dec incident on a Northwest Airlines flight bound for US city Detroit from Amsterdam.

Travellers told Mexican broadcasters on Wednesday that they were subjected to physical searches as they were waiting to board their aircraft and their luggage was searched, sometimes more than once. Airport staff told media they were at the second highest alert level.

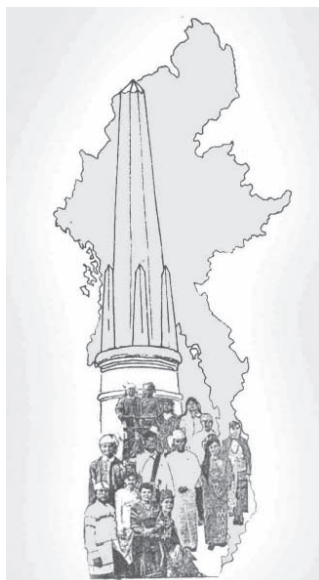
Passengers going to the United States are not allowed to use lavatories during their flight, open overhead luggage racks or have anything with them at their seat.

Miguel Angel Valero, president of the Mexican Aviation Pilots College, said on Wednesday that staff from the US Transportation Security Administration (TSA) were supervising security in the airport.

Xinhua



A visitor gazes at the exhibitive painting during the 2009 China A Hundred Paintings Exhibition in Jingling, slated from 29 Dec, 2009 to 7 Jan, 2010, at the Jiangsu Provincial Art Museum in Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 30 Dec, 2009.—XINHUA

Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:**Independence resolution: to have stronger sense of patriotism***Moe Swe Aung (Energy)***Safeguard independence and sovereignty through might of patriotism**

Myanmar's Independence Day falls on 4 January 2010 on which the nation has regained independence from the colonialists and become a sovereign nation for 62 years. Since 3rd century BC, Myanmar has been a sovereign nation with own monarchs of feudal city states such as Beikthano, Hanlin, Thuwunabumi, Tagaung, Vesali, and Srekestra.

Historic evidences show that despite being located between India and China, the two giants in area, either has very long cultural history and largest population, Myanmar has been able to preserve own culture and traditions. Myanmar is bounded by China with a population of 1300 million in the north, by India with a population of 1100 million and Bangladesh with a population of 140 million in the west, by Laos in the east, and by Thailand with a population of more than 65 million in the southeast. Myanmar has about 5200 miles long border, and sharing borderlines with China for 1357 miles; with India for 857 miles; with Bangladesh for 152 miles; with Laos for 128 miles; and with Thailand for 1314 miles, totalling over 3800 miles.

As Myanmar shares borders with the two giants and occupies a geographically strategic location, its most crucial national interest is to ensure perpetuity of independence and sovereignty. Our ancestors founded the First Myanmar Empire under the leadership of King Anawrahta (1044-1077) in Bagan Period; the Second Myanmar Empire under the leadership of King Bayintnaung (1551-1581) in Toungoo Period; and the Third Myanmar Empire under the leadership of King Alaungphaya (1752-1761) in Konbaung Period. That reflects the fact that Myanmar stood tall with fine traditions amid the international community.

Now, Myanmar's independence has turned over 60 years. Our ancestors showed a strong sense of responsibility by getting firmly involved at risk to lives in wars against aliens including First Anglo-Myanmar War (1824), Anti-Fascist Resistance, and

The dramatic achievement of the nation is due to the combined efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. Now, the State Constitution (2008) of the Union of Myanmar has been approved in order that the people's representatives can exercise the sovereign powers in line with the principles in a bid to transform the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic one.

national liberation struggles. Myanmar lost sovereignty, following the aggressive wars waged by the colonialists. Completely inspired by a sense of freedom, the people of various national races bravely fought back the colonialists with Union Spirit, and patriotism to regain independence. After regaining independence, Myanmar people should have stepped up nation-building tasks. Instead, the nation saw internal armed insurgency, resulting from disunity among national brethren. State instability had a strong negative impact on productivity, trade and loss of job opportunities.

Myanmar stood as a least developed country in the period of 40 years from 1948 to 1988 due to lack of national unity along with defects and loopholes in the then economic system. Then, Myanmar was on the verge of losing sovereignty, and the deteriorating conditions of the nation forced the Tatmadaw to take up State responsibilities unavoidably. The Tatmadaw government launched reforms to reconstruct the nation. In the process, it held peace talks with national race armed groups to restore stability and peace, the most fundamental requirement for generating a better future of the nation. As a result, 17 major and many small national race armed groups returned to the legal fold. The regions in border areas regained stability and peace, and local people could engage in agricultural farming on a wider scale, reclaiming vacant and fallow lands.

The achievement is largely due to successful restoration of internal peace for which previous government worked in vain. With stability and peace, the Tatmadaw government is implementing the 24 Special Regions Development Project, the Border Areas Development Project and the Rural Development Project it has adopted for development of the whole nation.

Regarding the agricultural sector, the sown acreage of the nation increased from 19.9 million in 1988 to 29.32 million in 2008-2009. The government constructed 228 dams, 322 river water pumping stations, and 7962 underground water tapping stations, and reconstructed small dams and lakes. As a result, the percentage of utilizing farmlands was 171.1 in 2008-2009, compared with 120 in 1988. During the same

*(See page 7)***POEM:****Myanmar, the Thaki race**

- * From Bagan, Pinya
Inwa, Toungoo, Nyaungyan also
Till Konboun dynasty
Lived the Thaki under own sovereignty
Religion flourishing
Having lots of irrigation works and farms
And the brilliant Tatmadaw
Food so plenty
Country in prosperity
Glory of Thaki race
- * With own prestige and identity
All in unity and energetic
Dignity never waning, but always rising
Powerful for years in thousand
Consolidated the Thaki race
- * Though colonized once
Never gave up they
Ever fought back enemy
With pride and courage
So brave the Thaki race
- * Race and religion
Traditions and culture
All were noble heritage
Honourable and admirable
Proclaimed themselves "Myanmar"
The Thaki prolonged their glory
- * Our noble offspring
Serving they dutifully
People's interest and prestige
And benefits of religion
Relay they the duty
To successive generations
With sacrificing spirit
Protect and safeguard country
With unity they write history
On this planet Earth
Myanmar sparkling with dignity
And signs of victory
With glory the Thaki live
Forever in this world

Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day

Zaw Min Min Oo (Trs)

Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day:**Independence resolution: to have stronger sense of patriotism***Moe Swe Aung (Energy)**(from page 6)*

period, the paddy output surged to 1561 million from only 631 million baskets. The sown acreage of beans and pulses went up sharply to 10.57 millions from 1.8 million, and output of beans and pulses, to 53.3 metric tons; sown acreage of edible oil crops, five million to 9.28 million; the per acre yield of cotton, from 400-500 to 1600 viss due to the introduction of Ngwechi (6) strain long staple cotton.

As regards the forest sector, so far the government has established over 826,000 acres of plantations of teak and other species of hardwood trees, and has given permission to entrepreneurs to run 270,000 acres of private-owned plantations. In connection with the industrial sector, the government so far has set up 18 industrial zones. As a result, from 1988 to date, the number of State-owned factories has surged from 624 to 768, and that of private-owned

factories, from 35,000 to more than 118,000.

As to the transport sector, the total length of the roads across the nation is now over 41,700 miles, up from over 21,000 miles in 1988; that of rural roads, to over 39,400 miles; the length of rail track from 2793.86 to 4338.9 miles; the number of large bridges, from five to 18; above-180-foot road bridges to 233, and above-180-foot railroad bridges, to 55; airports with above-5000-foot runways, from 21 to 37. In addition, the government has constructed Nay Pyi Taw Airport. The number of international level jetties has increased to 28 from 13 in 1988. Three inland container yards have been established. Now, deep-sea ports are being erected in Kyaukpyu and Dawei.

In the communication sector, the number of auto telephones has risen to 936,820 and mobile phones, to over 10,10,000, thereby covering waters off the coasts, and rural regions. There has been dramatic progress in

services related to Fax, E-mail, and the Internet. Regarding the electric power sector, the output of hydropower has gone up from 228 to 1197 megawatts, and electric power, to 2255.9 megawatts. Now, 47 more hydropower projects are under way. Five hydropower projects, from which over 1000 megawatts can be generated a year, and grid projects are ongoing.

Moreover, the government is trying to boost production of oil and gas in offshore and inland blocks, as well as exploitation of underground resources. Owing to the drive for development of human resources, the nation has seen 40,679 basic education schools, 6601 post-primary schools (from primary to eighth standard), 1723 affiliated middle schools and middle schools, and 1092 affiliated high schools and high schools. The number of universities and colleges has jumped from 32 to 159. In 2009-2010

academic year, the school enrolment rate of school-age children stands at 98.25 per cent, and adult literacy rate, 94.89 per cent. In the health sector, the government has built 253 hospitals and upgraded 264 hospitals, and opened 16 universities of paramedical science.

Apart from making such remarkable progress, Myanmar became a member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in July 1997. In December the same year, it became a member of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation-BIMSTEC. The role Myanmar plays in political and economic relations between southeast Asia and southern Asia is getting strategic. They are tangible results achieved in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

The dramatic achievement of the nation is due to the combined efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. Now, the State Con-

Objectives of the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day (2010)

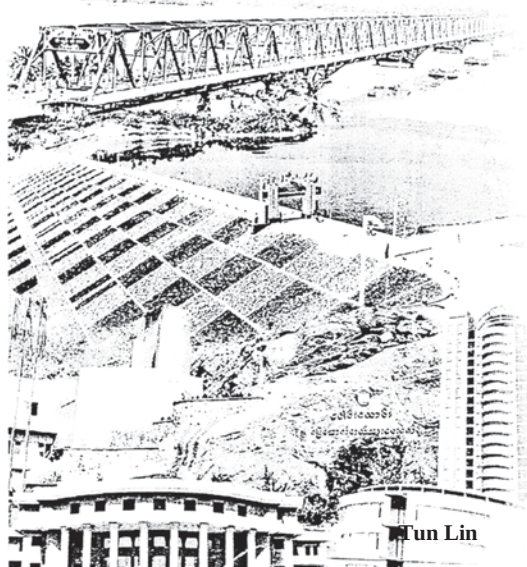
- * All the national people to constantly join hands for ensuring the perpetuity of independence and sovereignty of the State,
- * All the national people to collectively strive for non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity,
- * All the national people to harmoniously make all-out efforts to build up a modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation in accordance with the new State Constitution that has been approved by the votes of the great majority of the people,
- * All the national people to cooperate in realizing the States seven-step Road Map with Union Spirit and patriotic spirit.

stitution (2008) of the Union of Myanmar has been approved in order that the people's representatives can exercise the sovereign powers in line with the principles in a bid to transform the nation into

a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic one.

Today, neo-colonialists and anti-government subversive elements are very active to disrupt the development the nation has achieved in the political, economic and social spheres. In this article I write as a gesture of honouring the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day, I would like to exhort the people to equip themselves with a stronger sense of patriotism in accordance with the objectives of the 62nd Anniversary Independence Day, further understanding the value of independence, to restore sovereignty of the Union of Myanmar, in which over 100 national races have been living through thick and thin, and to collectively guard the motherland against the attacks of internal and external destructive elements.

Translation: MS

Enjoying the fruits of Independence

In post-Independence period, people had to travel in discomfort by road and by boat in constant fear of insurgents.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council today, they can fully enjoy the fruits of Independence along with peaceful, modern and developed new nation.





Prime Minister General Thein Sein unveils stone plaque of Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory.—MNA

Diesel engine factory will manufacture 700 units of 6V 128 ZC, 8V 128 ZC and 12V 128 ZC engines yearly to be used at inland waterways and coastal vessels, power plants, automobiles and heavy machinery.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends...

(from page 1)

ministers, officials of the Chinese Embassy, experts from the People's Republic of China, factory managers and staff of the industrial region. At 7.30 am, a ceremony to open Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory was held at the archway of the factory.

The commander and Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein formally opened the factory.

The Prime Minister unveiled the plaque of the factory and sprinkled scented water on it.

Lt-Gen Ko Ko, the commander and the minister also sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

Next, the Prime Minister and party posed for documentary photo. Afterwards, the Prime Minister viewed operating of forging shop, machine shop No. 2, heat treatment shop, foundry shop and machine shop No. 1 by applying modern technology, installation of piston and connection rods at Assembly & Testing Shop, fitting of engine parts, works being done at Engine Testing Control Room, and display of machine parts and multi-purpose diesel engines manufactured by the factory.

Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and officials conducted the Prime Minister round the factory.

At 8.20 am, the ceremony to open Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory was held at its archway. The commander and the minister cut the ribbon

to open the factory. The Prime Minister unveiled the plaque of the factory and sprinkled scented water on it.

Lt-Gen Ko Ko, the commander and the minister also sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

The Prime Minister looked into operating of machines at Punching Shop, Assembly Shop and Rivet Welding Shop by applying modern technology and display of hydropower turbines, generators and machine parts manufactured by the factory. The minister and officials reported on production of the factory.

The Ministry of Industry-2 commenced construction of Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory in October 2006 and completed construction tasks, installation of machinery, test-running and test production.

(See page 9)



Photo shows Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory at Thagara Industrial Region of Ministry of Industry-2.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party pose for documentary photo.—MNA

500-kilowatt and 2000-kilowatt Francis turbines and generators yearly. As such, the factory will fulfil the demand of hydropower turbines and generators to be used at the water resources of the country.

After attending the factories opening ceremonies, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Cement Plant (Nay Pyi Taw) construction project being implemented by Myanma Ceramics Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1 near Thawutthi of Nay Pyi Taw Lew Township.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung reported on progress of the plant project, requirements of raw materials and availability of raw materials in the region of the plant.

The Prime Minister inspected progress in construction of plant buildings and installation of machinery at the plant.—MNA

**Prime Minister General Thein Sein
inspects Cement Plant (Nay Pyi Taw)
Construction Project.—MNA**



Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends...

(from page 8)

The factory will manufacture 700 units of 6V 128 ZC, 8V 128 ZC and 12V 128 ZC engines yearly to be used at inland waterways and coastal vessels, power plants, automobiles and heavy machinery.

Construction of Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory started in May 2007. The construction tasks, installation of machinery and test-running works have finished at the factory.

The factory will produce 50 pairs of 100-kilowatt,

**Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects
Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory.**

MNA



Opening ceremony of Hydropower Turbine and Generator Factory in progress.—MNA



Machines at Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory in Thagara Industrial Region.—MNA



Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party have a documentary photo taken together with Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award winner Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein.—MNA

Patriotic literati including...

(from page 16)

Force, departmental heads, members of the Myanmar Historical Commission, members of the Scrutiny Committee for Selecting the Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award and National Literary Award, the Scrutiny Committee for Selecting the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award, doyen literati, members of the reference committee, social organization members, journalists from the private journals, prize winners and their families, guests and staff of the departments and enterprises under the ministry.

U Hla Win of Myanma Radio and Television acted as MC together with Co-MC Daw San San Yin of MRTV.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-1 expressed his pleasure for the opportunity to honour literati who have earnestly served the interest of the State and the people and the Myanmar literary profession with the might of pen.

Of the over 10,000 different kinds of works, namely, books, journals and magazines, published yearly, prizes were presented for 14 categories in accord with the norms. Of the nearly 2000 books published in 2008, 10 were selected for National Literary Award and of the 205 manuscripts, 29 were selected for Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards. This year, the eighth Lifetime Achievement Literary Award will be presented to the winner for his dedication in the literary field in his whole life.

Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards have been presented annually with the aim of publishing literary

works beneficial to the nation and the people, helping bring out new men and women of letters, putting on record books on Myanmar lifestyles and promoting books on new thoughts, knowledge and advanced tech-



Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party pose for documentary photo together with National Literary Award winners.—MNA

niques. As Sarpay Beikman is publishing the prize winning works, there have emerged more National Literary Award winners. In this way, the government is giving encouragement to the new generation literati.

Thanks to the efforts of patriotic literati including

monks, Myanmar has been able to preserve and hand down her thousand-year-old literary heritage throughout the successive eras and uplift the race, literature and religion in addition to glorious national culture based on secular and religious guidelines of the literature.

The present men and women of letters and doyen literati should strive to guide the people to improve morals and manners, to foster Union Spirit and the spirit of helping one another in times of emergency, to preserve the noble national identity and to help promote knowledge and technology for national development through their works.

Developing countries are working for their own development by laying down and implementing policies appropriate to their respective societies. However, foreign media, turning a blind eye to their achievements, are always slandering, defaming and making fabricated accusations against them. Therefore, it is a historic duty for literati to rebut the unfounded accusations of foreign media, to help the entire people to see the internal and international developments in the right perspective and to be able to march steadily on the path of national interests and to organize them with literary power for preservation and development of national culture.

It is also important for literati to prevent the infiltration of alien culture and extinction of national

characteristics with national literary and cultural power. And it is also necessary for them to take an active part in building a strong and united Union in line with political, economic and social objectives.

The ability of human resources in Myanmar will become higher if the reading power of rural people becomes greater as the majority of the nation's population live in rural areas. Therefore, in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, self-reliance libraries have been opened in almost all villages across the Union in order that rural people can seek knowledge.

At present, the Myanmar literati are to strive for introducing the Myanmar culture to the international community while preserving the Myanmar cultural heritage without losing its original styles. At the same time, efforts are to be made for broadening the horizon of Myanmar readers with the knowledge of Myanmar and world classic literature and contemporary literature.

The Secretary-1 urged literati to join hands for taking part in the activities of political, economic and social sectors of the State and to develop the correct idea and concepts of the people.

He also urged them to collectively carry out improvement of knowledge and technology in building a modern nation while preserving the fine tradition of cultural heritage; to organize

(See page 11)



Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party have a documentary photo taken together with Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award winners.—MNA



Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo awards Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award winner literati Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein.—MNA



Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presents first prize to Myat Wai Toe (Institute of Education) in Myanmar culture and fine arts literature genre.—MNA



Minister U Nyan Win presents first prize to Myelat Min Lwin in collected short stories genre.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo presents first prize to Than Tun (Mawlamyine) in General knowledge (arts) genre.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presents first prize to Maung Han Tint (Pinlebu) in collected poems genre.—MNA

Patriotic literati including...

(from page 10)

the people with correct idea and concept by using the literature as dynamic media power; and all the literati to harmoniously strive for durability of the cultural and literary heritage of the nation with Union Spirit.

The Secretary-1 presented the Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award to doyen literati Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein and gave the National Literary Awards to Yein Nwe Par in the belle-letter genre, Kyu Kyu Thin in the selected short stories genre, Myat Wai Toe (Institute of Education) in the Myanmar culture and fine arts literature genre, Yenannye Maung Manug Kyi in the child literature genre and Kyunsinmye Saw Khet in the youth literature genre.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presented the National Literary Awards to Taw Kaung Min in the translation (general knowledge) genre, Win Htut Zaw in the translation (aesthetics) genre, Dr Dagon in the general knowledge (arts) genre, Dr Kyaw Tint in



first prize to Thaung Nyunt Thit, the second to Shwe Hinthia (Mandalay University) and the third to Maung Soe Htaik (Thonze) in the belle-letter genre.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein awarded the first prize to Ma Aye Chan (Myanmarsar), the second to Minbu Aung Kyaing and the third to Myint San in the Myanmar culture and fine arts literature genre.

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint gave the first prize to Min Naing Lay (Lanmadaw), the second to Theikpan Soe Myint Naing and the third to Soe Tint Htoo (Mabin) in the child literature genre.

Chief Justice U Aung Toe presented the first prize to Khin La Pyae Wun, the second to Maung Khaing Khant and the third to Nanda Khin (Thakkalamye) in the youth literature genre.

(See page 12)

Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint presents first prize to Min Naing Lay (Lanmadaw) in child literature genre.—MNA

Patriotic literati including...

(from page 11)

Attorney-General U Aye Maung awarded the first prize to Zin Min (Thameinhtaw) and second prize Maung Hsanda (Lewe) in the drama literature genre.

On behalf of the winners, Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award winner Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein spoke words of thanks.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 and party posed for documentary photo together with Sayagyi Dr Kyaw Sein.

Later, the Secretary-1 and party had a documentary photo taken together with the National Literary Award winners and the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award winners.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents National Literary award to Dr Dagon in the general knowledge (arts) genre.—MNA



FM felicitates Cuban counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Jan—U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla, Minister of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Cuba, on the anniversary of the Liberation Day of the Republic of Cuba which falls on 1 January 2010.—MNA

Monthly talks for January 2010 of UMFCCI on 2 Jan

YANGON, 31 Dec—With the sponsorship of Dagon International Co Ltd, the monthly talks for January 2010 of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will take place at the UMFCCI Office Tower at No. 29, Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township at 2 pm on 2 January.

Professor Dr Aung Tun Thet will give talks on Ethical Leadership, Ethical Organization. Chairmen, executives and members of brother associations of the UMFCCI and any interested persons may attend the talks.—MNA

Information Minister hosts dinner in honour of literary award winners

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan host a dinner in honour of Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award winner, National Literary Award winners, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award winners and members of scrutiny committee in Shwe Eae Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone here this evening.

The dinner was also attended by Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, heads of the departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Information, literati, Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), vice-chairmen, CEC members, members of scrutiny committee of Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award, award winners and guests.—MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially greets literary award winners and members of scrutiny committee.—MNA



A chimney sweeper prepares to clean the chimney at a roof of a house in Munich down town near Church of Our Lady (Frauenkirche).

"I'll go on a blind date with the victim of my robbery"

A woman sent 80 text messages to a man who stole her purse, persuading him to meet her, so that she could have him arrested.

The 23-year-old woman, a student in Shandong Province, was on a train to her hometown in Heilongjiang Province when she realized her bag, which contained her mobile phone and bankcards, was missing.

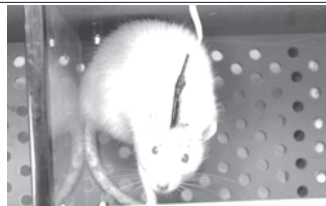
She started sending text messages to her own phone, asking whoever was holding it to meet her.

"It's so warm in here I'll postpone my plan to steal"

Police in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan Province, arrested a suspected car thief, who was found sleeping inside a vehicle in September.

The suspect said he decided to sleep in the car because "it was too cold outside".

Luo, the owner of the car, found the unidentified person sleeping in his vehicle and phoned the police.



A guinea pig is seen in scientific experiment at the Laboratory of the Tianjin Medical University in north China's Tianjin municipality.

A student drives a designed auto in Xiamen University of Technology in Xiamen City, southeast China's Fujian Province. An auto show was held during the auto design competition held by Xiamen University of Technology on Tuesday on which 11 varied newly designed vehicles attracted many visitors.



Snowball gang's hit and run on cop car

Two police officers sheltering inside their patrol car were subjected to an onslaught of snowballs thrown by dozens of teenagers, an internet video showed.

The mobile phone footage posted on YouTube captures a crowd of shouting youngsters surrounding a police vehicle and aiming fire in Crawley, West Sussex.

The mobile phone footage posted on YouTube captures a crowd of shouting youngsters surrounding a police vehicle and aiming fire in Crawley, West Sussex.

The car can be seen sitting stationary with the pair of officers inside, while its wipers attempt to brush the lobbed snow from the windscreen.

At one point during the mass attack a woman tried to intervene and said: "Boys, I actually think you better stop."

The giggling attackers continued to encircle the estate patrol car peppering all the windows with snowballs.

It appeared that the officers were happy to join in the fun, as they turned on the car's flashing blue lights and headlights while remaining parked.

NEWS ALBUM

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA RESTU VOYNO (003)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOYNO (003) are here by notified that the vessels will be arriving on 1.1.2010 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.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

INVITATION FOR TENDER**TENDER NO. BRIDGE/PKU/2009-2010/NPT/ST-004**

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar for the supply of **Steel Truss and Accessories for AYEYAWADY BRIDGE (PAKOKKU) Motor-cum-Rail Construction Project** across Ayeyawady River on Nyaung-Pakokku Road in Magway Division.
2. Tender application form of **PAKOKKU BRIDGE** (including Technical Specifications, Terms of Tender, Tender Schedule and Offer Form) can be purchased with USD 3000.
3. The Payment for tender application must be paid to Public Works's Account No. **SEE 01015**, Myanmar Economic Bank (2) through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
4. The Tender document can be obtained from Bridge Division, Building No. (11), Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar only with the Payment Receipt to Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
5. Tender should be submitted to the above address not later than 16:30 hours on 5th March, 2010.
6. For further detail information, Please contact to Telephone No. 067-407276, 407466.

Managing Director
Public Works

China arrests 4 foreigners over heroin haul

BEIJING, 31 Dec—Four foreigners may face execution in China over a big seizure of heroin, a Hong Kong newspaper reported on Thursday, after China and Britain clashed over the execution of a Briton found guilty of drug smuggling.

The four were among nine people arrested over 144.5 kg (318.6 pounds) of heroin found by police in Shenzhen, the far southern Chinese commercial city next to Hong Kong, in August, the Beijing-backed *Ta Kung Pao* newspaper reported.

"Under Chinese law they may face the most extreme penalty," said the report, which cited Shenzhen officials. It did not specify the nationality of the four foreign suspects, who were arrested in September after detectives uncovered and then tracked the shipment of drugs from Pakistan.

The disclosure came after China executed a British national, Akmal Shaikh, on Tuesday for smuggling heroin, and highlights China's role as a market and shipment point for illegal narcotics. Shaikh's family and the British government decried his death, saying Chinese courts ignored evidence he was mentally ill and had been duped by a smuggling gang.—*Internet*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV ADVANCE PESCADORES VOYNO (34)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ADVANCE PESCADORES VOYNO (34) are here by notified that the vessels will be arriving on 1.1.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER
(SINGAPORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

TRADE MARK CAUTION

BEST WESTERN INTERNATIONAL, INC., (a Corporation organised and existing under the laws of the State of Arizona, United States of America), of 6201 North 24th Parkway, Phoenix, Arizona 85016, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark :-

BEST WESTERN

Reg. No. 1799/1992

in respect of "Hotel and motel services; reservation services for hotels and motels"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark in any manner whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin

M.A. H.G.P. D.B.L.
for **BEST WESTERN INTERNATIONAL, INC.**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 1 January 2010

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



A security worker monitors bags as they enter an explosive detection system at Oakland International Airport, California. Full body scanners, being considered in light of the failed bomb plot on a Northwest Airlines flight on Christmas Day, are very expensive and cost around a million dollars each.—*INTERNET*

Invitation To Sealed Tender

Thipaw Gypsum are required from Loading Site at Amarapura Jetty (Amarapura Township, Mandalay Division) to transport to Kyankhin Cement Factory (Kyankhin Township, Ayeyawady Division)

Sealed Tenders are invited on the Closing date of (15.1.2010). Tender Forms and documents are available at the Industrial Raw Material Planning Department, Myanmar Ceramic Industries, Ministry of Industry (1), Office No. 41, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who purchased Tender document officially. (For further details, Contact telephone number 067-408361)

Myanma Ceramic Industries

Google loses Canadian Groovle domain name claim



This is only the second time such a complaint by Google has been rejected.—*INTERNET*

OTTAWA, 31 Dec—A Canadian company behind a search engine called Groovle.com has won a case filed against it by online search giant Google. Google said the domain name used by the small business, 207 Media, was too similar to its own, but mediators the National Arbitration Forum disagreed.

In the complaint, Google asked for the judges to rule that 207 Media transfer the domain name over to it. But three judges appointed by the forum refused the request. They said the name was not similar enough to confuse people and the word 'groovle' was more closely linked to "groovy" or "groove" rather than Google.

The judges also refused to examine other claims made by Google, including that the Canadian business had no "legitimate" interest in the domain name and had registered it in "bad faith". The entrepreneurs behind Groovle.com said they had used the site for more than two-and-a-half years without any complaints by Google.—*Internet*

Yemeni forces raid al-Qaeda hideout, clashes erupt

SAN'A, 31 Dec—Yemeni forces raided an al-Qaeda hideout and set off a gunbattle Wednesday as the government vowed to eliminate the group that claimed it was behind the Christmas bombing attempt on a US airliner.

The fighting took place in an al-Qaeda stronghold in western Yemen, haven for a group that attacked the US Embassy here in 2008, killing 10 Yemeni guards and four civilians. A government statement said at least one suspected militant was arrested during the clashes.

"The (Interior) Ministry will continue tracking down al-Qaeda terrorists and will continue its strikes against the group until it is totally eliminated," Deputy Interior Minister Brig Gen Saleh al-Zawari told senior military officials at a meeting in Mareb, another province believed to shelter al-Qaeda fighters.—*Internet*

SPORTS

Man United, Arsenal win to keep chase upon Chelsea



Manchester United's Rafael Da Silva (3rd L) shoots to score during their English Premier League soccer match against Wigan Athletic in Manchester, northern England on 30 December, 2009. —XINHUA

LONDON, 31 Dec—Top clubs Manchester United, Arsenal all won on Wednesday at the English Premier League to push upon leader Chelsea heading into the 2010.

Manchester United routed Wigan 5-0 and Arsenal thrashed Portsmouth 4-1 to keep on chase of Chelsea, whose advantage was cut into two points ahead of second-placed United.—Xinhua



Arsenal's Sami Nasri (R) scores a goal against Portsmouth during their English Premier League soccer match at Fratton Park in Portsmouth on 30 December, 2009.—XINHUA

In-form Rooney targets best ever goal tally

MANCHESTER, 31 Dec — Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney believes he will beat his best ever goal tally for a single season after inspiring Sir Alex Ferguson's side to a comprehensive 5-0 demolition of Wigan. Roberto Martinez's Wigan held United at bay in the opening stages at Old Trafford on Wednesday before Rooney took over and United cruised home to close the gap on Premier League leaders Chelsea to just two points.

Rooney broke the deadlock for the home side with a fine finish - his 15th of the season - and the England star believes he can overhaul his 2006-07 season total when he net-

ted 23 times for United. "I hope so. If I don't score eight goals between now and the end of the season, something is seriously wrong," Rooney said.

Internet



Manchester United's Wayne Rooney celebrates after scoring the opening goal during their Premier League match against Wigan Athletic at Old Trafford in Manchester.

INTERNET

Nadal in 'a little bit' worse shape for 2010 season

MADRID, 31 Dec — Spain's world number two Rafael Nadal, whose injuries have raised fears over his long-term future, says he will start the 2010 tennis season in "a little bit" worse shape than he did last season. "I believe that this year I'll arrive a little bit more on the short side than at the start of last season," he said in an interview published Wednesday in Spanish sports Daily AS, adding his preparation "has been short but good".

"The results will be what they are but right now my hope is to win everything.—Internet



Spain's world number two Rafael Nadal, whose injuries have raised fears over his long-term future, says he will start the 2010 tennis season in "a little bit" worse shape than he did last season.

INTERNET

Woods had 'fat lip' 4 days after accident

ORLANDO, 31 Dec — Tiger Woods had a "fat lip" but no other visible facial injuries when he met with Florida state troopers four days after the accident outside his home, according to a television report. Florida Highway Patroling spokeswoman Kim Montes told WESH-TV in Orlando on Wednesday that Woods and his attorney met with troopers on 1 Dec.



Tiger Wood

Montes and other FHP officials did not immediately return several phone messages and e-mails from The Associated Press.

Internet

Wenger considers striker signing despite Arsenal romp

PORTSMOUTH, 31 Dec — Arsene Wenger could sign a striker in the January transfer window despite Arsenal breaking the 50-goal mark for the season with a resounding 4-1 victory at lowly Portsmouth. Eduardo, Samir Nasri, Aaron Ramsey and Alex Song all got on the scoresheet for the Gunners at Fratton Park on Wednesday to leave Arsenal within four points of leaders Chelsea with a game in hand.

Yet Wenger concedes he is limited in his striking options with Nicklas Bendtner and Robin van Persie injured and Theo Walcott struggling to reach a high level of fitness. Out-of-favour AC Milan forward Klaas-Jan Huntelaar is a potential loan target for Wenger,

who admits he is surprised that a team without so many attacking talents remain the Premier League's leading scorers.

Internet



Arsenal's Eduardo (left) jumps for the ball against Portsmouth's midfielder Aaron Mokoena during their Premier League match at Fratton Park in Portsmouth.

INTERNET

Carragher believes Liverpool are back on track

LIVERPOOL, 31 Dec — Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher believes his side's dramatic win over Aston Villa proves the Reds are still a force to be reckoned with in the race for a top four finish. Rafa Benitez's sixth-placed side moved to within four points of fourth-placed Tottenham after Fernando Torres scored in injury time to clinch a 1-0 victory at a snowy Villa Park on Tuesday.—Internet



Liverpool's Jamie Carragher

INTERNET

Ribery reportedly in 55 mln euro Real move

BERLIN, 31 Dec — Bayern Munich's French international Franck Ribery is set for a 55-million-euro move to Real Madrid next summer, a year before his contract at the German giants expires, a report said on Wednesday. According to the German specialist website ran.de, the move was hammered out in August between Bayern and the Spanish club at the time of Dutch star Arjen Robben's transfer to Munich.—Internet



Bayern Munich's French international Franck Ribery

INTERNET

Danish cycling star switches allegiance to New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 31 Dec — Cyclist Linda Villumsen, who won the time-trial bronze medal for her native Denmark at this year's world road racing championships, declared Wednesday she has switched allegiance to New Zealand.

The 24-year-old, who officially became a New Zealand citizen earlier this week, said her first target for her adopted country was to win selection to race at the Commonwealth Games in New Delhi next October.

Villumsen first visited New Zealand as a 17-year-old to attend school in Auckland and has returned regularly ever since.

Earlier this year she signalled her intention to change countries — telling the Danish newspaper Ekstra Bladet that "New Zealand has been part of

me for many years" — and said she had received a lot of support since then.

"I feel that this support is giving me so much more than I have had before," said Villumsen, who finished fifth in the women's road race at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing.

Internet



Cyclist Linda Villumsen, who won the time-trial bronze medal for her native Denmark at this year's world road racing championships.

INTERNET

Xinhua launches TV news network

BEIJING, 31 Dec— China Xinhua News Network Corporation (CNC), a TV news network owned by Xinhua News Agency, will broadcast in the Asia-Pacific region and some European countries, starting from 1 Jan. 2010.

"The launch of the CNC is an important move for Xinhua to enrich the agency's business sectors, and embrace the multi-media world," Xinhua President Li Congjun said at a launching ceremony in Beijing Thursday.

The newly launched CNC World News channel will broadcast TV programs in Chinese around the clock, including news events and special news bulletins. The CNC Finance and Business channel will be launched simultaneously.

The CNC World News also plans to broadcast English programs from July, 2010. News pieces in French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Russian will also be broadcast in the future.—Xinhua



President of Xinhua News Agency Li Congjun (L) and Editor-in-Chief of Xinhua News Agency He Ping launch China Xinhua News Network Corporation (CNC) in Beijing, China, on 31 Dec. 2009. CNC, a TV news network owned by Xinhua News Agency, will broadcast in the Asia-Pacific region and some European countries, starting from 1 Jan. 2010.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (1-1-2010) (Friday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am~10:00am) MST
Europe	- (19:30pm~21:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm~07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

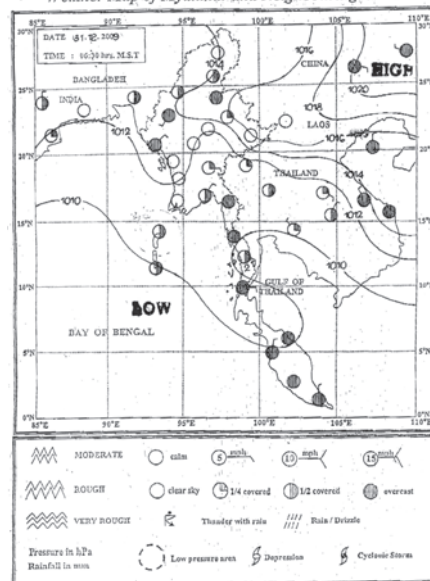
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * The Exotic Land of Myanmar
- * National Solidarity For National Development
- * "Industrial & Electric Power Sectors"
- * Naga Traditional Handicrafts
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * A Collection of Rakhine Cultural Heritages
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * The Exotic Land of Myanmar
- * National Solidarity For National Development
- * "Industrial & Electric Power Sectors"
- * The Secret Jewel of the Andaman Sea
- * A Collection of Rakhine Cultural Heritages
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Three Dimensional Gems Studded Painting
- * Naga Traditional Handicrafts
- * Smogless Sky, Enchanting Smiles (Mandalay, U Pein Bridge)
- * Mother of Pearl Arts and Handicrafts
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake Part-(IV)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 31st December, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Kachin and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below December average temperatures in Chin and Northern Shan States upper Sagaing, Magway and Bago Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (-3°C), Namhsan (-2°C), Pinlaung (-1°C), Heho (1°C), Lashio and An (2°C) each, Putao and Hakha (3°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myeik (0.08) inch.

Maximum temperature on 30-12-2009 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 31-12-2009 was 52°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 31-12-2009 was 62%. Total sun shine hours on 30-12-2009 was (9.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 31-12-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.69) inches at Mingaladon, (122.09) inches at Kaba-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from South at (10:30) hours MST on 30-12-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the South and East Central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 1st January 2010: Weather will be partly cloudy in Mon State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-1-2010: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-1-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-1-2010: Generally fair weather.

Myanmar



Friday, 1
January
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်ကဏ္ဍာတော်၊ ယောဆရာတော်ဟောကြား တော်မူသောဥပသုတ္တံ၊ ပါဠိတော်

7:30 am

2. Morning News

7:40 am

3. အောင်တော်မူ (စောမင်းနောင်စိုးညီမင်း၊ တေးရေး-ဗိုလ်ကလေး တင့်အောင်)

7:55 am

4. Nice & Sweet Song

8:10 am

5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:25 am

6. "မင်းမသိသေးပါဘူးကွာ"

8:40 am

7. International News

8:45 am

8. The Mirror Image Of The Musical Oldies

4:00 pm

1. Myanmar National League MNL Cup (2009) ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှု အစီအစဉ် (ကမ္ဘောဇ FC အသင်း နှင့် ဥသယု နို့တက် FC အသင်း)

4:50 pm

2. Songs Of National Races

5:00 pm

3. Songs For Uphold National Spirit

5:05 pm

4. Musical Programme

5:15 pm

5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:25 pm

6. (၆၂)နှစ်မြောက်လွတ်လပ်ရေးနေ့လက်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

5:35 pm

7. ပဉ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်

6:00 pm

8. Evening News

6:15 pm

9. Weather Report

6:20 pm

10. ရသစုံလင် အင်တာနက် ဥယျာဉ်

7:00 pm

11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာလောင်းရိပ်" (အပိုင်း-၂၆)

7:45 pm

12. အချုပ်အခြာအာဏာ

8:00 pm

13. News

8:00 pm

14. International News

8:00 pm

15. Weather Report

8:00 pm

16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကိုယ်ရံတော်" (အပိုင်း-၅)

8:00 pm

17. သီချင်းချစ်သူ (နန်းဆုရတီစိုး)



- ★ 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 broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Patriotic literati including monks help preserve and promote literary heritage

Secretary-1 attends ceremony to present literary awards to winners for 2008

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Dec—A ceremony to present the Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award, the National Literary Award and the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award for 2008 to the winners was held at

the hall of the Ministry of Information, here, this morning, with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs, the Chief of Myanmar Police (See page 10)



Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivers an address at ceremony to present Life-Time Achievement National Literary Award, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award for 2008.—MNA

SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL 62nd ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE DAY



Article

Independence resolution: to have stronger sense of patriotism

PAGES 6+7

MOE SWE AUNG (ENERGY)

Poem

Myanmar, the Thaki race

*From Bagan, Pinya
Inwa, Toungoo, Nyaungyan also
Till Konboug dynasty
Lived the Thaki under own sovereignty

Cartoon

