



The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Established 1914

Volume XVII, Number 274

1st Waxing of Tabodwe 1371 ME

Friday, 15 January, 2010

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects development tasks in Twantay Township

YANGON, 14 Jan — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, inspected construction of road near No. 5 Highway in Hlinethaya Township today.

Afterwards, they inspected laying of 24-inch pipeline linking Yadana and Yangon near mile post No 1/2 on Hlinethaya-Twantay Road.

During the visit to villages in Twantay Township, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and the commander cordially

greeted local people and presented books to them.

At Kywedayat Village in Twantay Township, they viewed broadcasting fertilizer on rice field and digging canals to irrigate rice field.

Afterwards, they visited villages in the township and presented periodicals to local people. On their visit to Taguntaing Layeinsu Village-tract and Adon Village-tract, they inspected plans for construction of village-to-village linking road and maintenance of a bridge.

MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Budalin Intaw river water pumping stations contributing to agricultural development

Byline & Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

Myanmar rich in land and marine resources is an agro-based country. Agriculture can be successful only when soil and water can be put to use in combination. So, the government is seeking all possible ways and means for ensuring water supply in agriculture for food security, earning foreign currency by exporting surplus crops and higher living standard of local residents with better socioeconomic status in the region.

Water can be obtained from various sources—dams, reservoirs, artesian wells and river water pumping stations.

Our news crew of Myanmar Alin daily, on 14 December 2009, arrived at project site of Intaw river water pumping station of Water Resources Utilization Department under the Irrigation Department near Intaw Village, Budalin Township,

Monywa District of Sagaing Division. The project site is located 16 miles to North of Monywa. Water from Chindwin River is pumped with 30-inch diameter pipes to 12 feet wide and six feet deep main canal through water storage tank.

Assistant Director U Tin Aye of Monywa District Water Resources Utilization Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation



Pipes to pump water from Chindwin River to main canal.



said, "Budalin Township of Monywa District gets only average rainfalls of 32.34 inches. As the land is mixed with sandy soil, summer paddy could not be grown at all in the past. Although underground water tapping system was

applied to agriculture, it was in vain because water was salty. So, Intaw river water pumping station was introduced to ensure bountiful water supply to paddy plantations (See page 8)

Intaw river water pumping station near Intaw village in Budalin Township, Sagaing Division.

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 15 January, 2010

Turn out qualified youth for building new nation

The emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed new nation is the national goal of the State. The national economy that plays a significant role in development of the nation must be robust. Moreover, we need to develop human resources.

The State is giving priority to ensuring peace, tranquillity and progress of all regions of the Union including border areas. The national plans are being implemented for equitable development of all the regions of the country. Efforts are being made in implementing the Border Areas and National Races Development Plan, the 24-Special Region Development Plan and the Rural Development Plan with momentum.

At the same time, the government has adopted and is realizing the National Education Promotion Plan and the National Healthcare Upgrading Plan with a view to ensuring development of the human resources. At present, all the people are enjoying fruits of the development plans in all sectors.

The government is providing necessary assistance for boosting production of various crops in the agriculture sector which is the mainstay of the economy not only for the State but also for the majority of the people. Rice production has been rising year after year. As a result of exporting more and more of beans and pulses, Myanmar is taking the leading role in the production and export of beans and pulses in the Asian region. Meanwhile, the industrial regions and industrial zones have been established in the entire nation, and heavy machinery factories, workshops and import-substitute factories are manufacturing various items.

While focusing on improvement of the economic sector, the government is implementing the seven-step Road Map of the State step by step for the emergence of a new democratic nation all the people are longing for. The new constitution which is the fourth step has been approved by the people. Therefore, the goal of building a new nation will be brought to fruition in the near future.

The nation-building task is enormous. The nation now is in a historic transition period. The national people are to have a strong sense of the genuine patriotic spirit. All the teachers discharging duties on the front line of national education sector are to train their pupils to become outstanding and highly-qualified youth with the Union Spirit, the patriotic spirit and the correct conviction and concepts.

IBTC Open Golf Championship continues



People's Desire

- * 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

Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint receives Deputy General Manager of Yunnan Construction Engineering Group Co. Ltd

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint received Deputy General Manager Mr. Liu Yong

and party of Yunnan Construction Engineering Group Co. Ltd of the People's Republic of China at the Ministry, here, yesterday.



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint receives Deputy General Manager Mr. Liu Yong of Yunnan Construction Engineering Group Co Ltd of the PRC.
CONSTRUCTION

They held discussion on cooperation in road works being

implemented by the Ministry of Construction in Myanmar.—MNA

Cash assistances for war veterans



NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Central Organizing Committee of Myanmar War Veteran Organization held a ceremony to present cash assistances to disabled war veterans, war veterans aged 75 and above and outstanding students at Tabaungpwe Hall in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana today. Member of the committee Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi spoke on the occasion and presented cash assistances to 74 disabled war veterans, 32 war veterans aged 75 and above and a five-distinction winner.—MNA

Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi addresses at ceremony to present cash assistances.—MNA

UMFCCI and YPCC meet

YANGON, 14 Jan—The second meeting of UMFCCI (Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry)-YPCC (Yunnan Province Chamber of Commerce) Economic and Trade Cooperation was held at UMFCCI Office Tower on Minyekyawswar Street, Lanmadaw Township here

on 11 January.

YPCC presented US\$ 5000 for Nargis storm victims and UMFCCI presented US\$ 1000 for Sichuan earthquake survivors of China.

The meeting focused on sustainable development of border trade and international trade between two nations, cooperation opportunities of projects in Myanmar, manufacturing industries and trade in Myanmar and Yunnan. On 12 January, Myanmar entrepreneurs and Yunnan industrialists held business talks.—MNA

YANGON, 14 Jan—The fourth day of IBTC Open Golf Championship continued at Ayetharyar Golf Resort in Taunggyi, Shan State (South) on 10 January.

Commander Maj-Gen Yar Pyae presents prize to Thein Zaw Myint (KM Golf Centre).—MGF

MGF Executive U Ko Ko Lay and U Yan Myo Aung, Secretary of Shan State (South) PDC, presented Daily Best prizes to winners.

Next, Deputy Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Chit Oo presented prizes to winners in men's amateur event.

Then Chairman of

Shan State (South) Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Yar Pyae presented prizes to winners in professional golfers' event.—MGF

Haiti quake: thousands feared dead, many trapped

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 14 Jan — Dazed survivors wandered past dead bodies in rubble-strewn streets on Wednesday, crying for loved ones, and rescuers desperately searched collapsed buildings as fear rose that the death toll from Haiti's devastating earthquake could reach into the tens of thousands.

The first cargo planes with food, water, medical supplies, shelter and sniffer dogs headed to the Western Hemisphere's poorest nation a day after the magnitude-7 quake flattened much of the capital of 2 million people.

Tuesday's earthquake brought down buildings great and small — from

shacks in shantytowns to President Rene Preval's gleaming white National Palace, where a dome tilted ominously above the manicured grounds.

Hospitals, schools and the main prison collapsed. The capital's Roman Catholic archbishop was killed when his office and the main cathedral fell. The head of the UN peacekeeping mission was missing in the ruins of the organization's multistorey headquarters.

Internet



Rescuers peer into rubble while trying to retrieve a trapped man at a collapsed building a day after a 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on 13 Jan, 2010.—INTERNET

Amsterdam-Aruba flight diverted after bomb hoax

AMSTERDAM, 14 Jan — An ArkeFly flight carrying 235 people from Amsterdam to Aruba in the Caribbean was forced to divert to Ireland on Wednesday after an unruly Dutch passenger made false bomb threats during the flight. ArkeFly said *Flight 361* landed at Shannon Airport, where the man was handed over to authorities. There were 224 passengers and 11 crew aboard the *Boeing 767*.

Irish police gave the all clear after conducting a search of the plane. The man, identified as a 44-year-old Dutch national, was in custody. "He came across as a very unstable and aggressive passenger during the flight and he mentioned several times

that he had planted a bomb in the airplane," an ArkeFly spokeswoman said.

There was no indication he had attempted to set off any sort of device during the flight, she said. A spokeswoman for Shannon airport said the twin-aisle airliner was towed to a remote location for the police search. The plane was held in a secured area until after its scheduled landing time at 1930 GMT as a precaution in case there were any timed devices on board, ArkeFly said.— Internet

A doctor tends to a wounded Iraqi policeman after he was injured in a suicide attack which targeted a police station in Saqlawiya on 13 Jan, 2010. A suicide bomber blew up a truck near a police station in Saqlawiya in Iraq's western Anbar Province on Wednesday, killing seven people and wounding six, police said.— INTERNET



US drone strike kills 10 in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 14 Jan — A US drone strike in north-west Pakistan's tribal region killed at least 10 persons on Thursday, local TV channels reported. Drone aircraft fired two missiles on a religious seminary and a house in South Waziristan tribal region near the Afghanistan border.

The missiles were fired at a time when the US special envoy for Pakistan and Afghanistan Richard Holbrooke is visiting Pakistan. Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi on Wednesday told the US envoy that expansion in drone strikes would be strongly opposed.

Xinhua

Seven killed by suicide truck bomber in western Iraq

KABUL, 14 Jan — Seven people have died as a suicide bomber blew up a truck near a police station in western Iraq, security officials say. At least two police officers were among the dead, while another six people were injured in the blast in Saqlawiya in Anbar Province, officials said.



The bombing comes a week after attacks targeting police killed eight people in the town of Hit in the same province. The area has in the past been a stronghold of Sunni militants. The bomber blew up a water tanker near the gates of the police station, Mohammad Jassim, a police spokesman, told Reuters news agency.

A young girl was among the injured, AFP news agency reported. It is the latest in a series of attacks on officials active in the drive to expel militant groups from Anbar Province. Last Thursday, seven people died in four explosions, which appeared to have been caused by bombs planted at the houses of prominent policemen.— Internet

Four US and one French soldier killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 14 Jan — Attacks by militants in Afghanistan have left four US and one French soldier dead, with the US death toll for 2010 now 14. NATO said that one American had died in fighting in the east while another succumbed to wounds suffered in a roadside bombing in the south. Little information was given about a bomb which killed two more US soldiers.

A roadside bomb attack to the north-east of the capital, Kabul, killed one French soldier. Six international soldiers were killed in Afghanistan as a result of attacks on Monday, the deadliest day for foreign troops there in two months. They were identified as three Americans, a Briton and two French soldiers. One of the French soldiers was mortally wounded, and died on Tuesday.—Internet

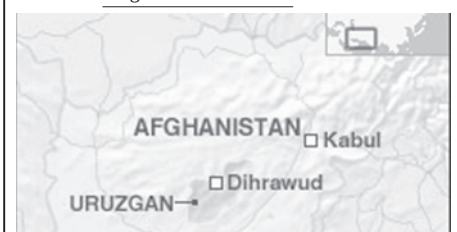
Homicide bomb kills 20 in Afghanistan market

KABUL, 14 Jan — A homicide bomber apparently planning to attack a meeting of NATO and tribal officials blew himself up in a busy market district Thursday in the town of Dihrawud, in Uruzgan province of central Afghanistan, killing at least 20 people, officials said, making it the deadliest attack against civilians in more than three months.

The attack came a day after the U.N. released a report showing that the number of Afghan civil-

ians killed in war-related violence was at its highest level last year, and homicide bombings and other attacks blamed on insurgents were the leading cause of death.

Those killed included three children, according to provincial police chief Gen. Juma Gul Himat said. Several shops were destroyed. The attacks typically target government or international forces but civilians have increasingly been caught in the middle.—Internet





A Palestinian cuts tomatoes off the vine in a greenhouse in the West Bank village of Al-Fara near Jenin on 13 Jan, 2010. The tomatoes are planned for export to Europe and the United States.— INTERNET

S Korea to invest \$85.6 mln in “green homes” construction

SEOUL, 14 Jan — The South Korean government announced on Thursday its plan to pump 96.2 billion won (85.6 million US dollars) into building “green homes,” or energy efficient homes across the country, reflecting the nation’s intention to become a global leader in eco-friendly policies.

The funds will be spent on building 20,000 energy efficient homes that utilize

solar energy, solar thermal heat, geothermal heat, fuel cells, and small-size wind power generators, the Ministry of Knowledge Economy said.

The investment will also support the expansion of “green villages,” communities that apply renewable energy sources and eco-friendly policies, to nearly 70 across the country in this year alone, a huge jump from the previ-

ous year’s 20 total, the ministry added.

The green home project, which has helped build 43,893 energy efficient homes so far, was first launched in 2004 under the grand plan of eventually building a total of 1 million homes with renewable energy sources by 2020.

The announcement came as South Korea enacted the “low carbon, green growth” law on Thursday, which calls for the country to spend 2 percent of its annual gross domestic product in developing eco-friendly businesses that will also lead to economic growth and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.—Xinhua

Xinhua

Economic stability boosts CIC

BEIJING, 14 Jan — China Investment Corporation (CIC), the nation’s 300 billion U dollars sovereign wealth fund, may gain more than 10 percent from its investments last year on the back of the global financial market and economic stability, a source close to the fund said.

“Though the total financial return is not yet fixed, the fund expects to report an annual return better than last year,” said the source, speaking on condition of anonymity. It was reported in August last year that the fund’s net profit grew 6.8 percent to reach \$23.1 billion in 2008, thanks to hefty gains in its domestic investment arm made from major listed State banks. However, the value of its global investment portfolio fell 2.1 percent during the same year.

Shanghai Securities

Journal reported yesterday that the fund might expand its investment scope and was considering investing in the high-speed railway sector in the United States.



Visitors stand in a pavilion during the 36th Hong Kong Toys and Games Fair in Hong Kong, south China, on 11 Jan, 2010. Four trade fairs, attracting more than 2,500 exhibitors and offering a wide range of sourcing opportunities in toys and games, baby products, stationery and licensing, opened on Monday at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC). — XINHUA

Shares in Japan Airlines dive 81%

TOKYO, 14 Jan — Shares in the troubled carrier Japan Airlines (JAL) have continued their steep fall on mounting speculation that it will file for bankruptcy next week. JAL shares tumbled by the daily limit of 30 yen for the second day in a row, falling 81% to a new record low of just 7 yen

(7.7 cents, 4.7 pence). The airline’s market value has fallen by about \$1.8bn in two days to \$200m.

Reports say JAL is set to receive government funds worth about 300bn yen under a restructuring package. The package would see it file for bankruptcy. “The selling is

unstoppable,” said Hideaki Higashi, market strategist at SMBC Friend Securities. “Event-driven market players are hammering down JAL. It’s a money game. “The market is driving the company to go under,” he said, adding that the share price could technically fall to one yen. — INTERNET

HP, Microsoft announce joint efforts on cloud computing

SAN FRANCISCO, 14 Jan — Hewlett-Packard (HP) and Microsoft on Wednesday announced a three-year agreement to jointly invest 250 million US dollars to advance cloud computing and simplify technology environments for businesses of all sizes.

The world’s largest personal computer maker and No 1 software provider said they will collaborate in designing the industry’s most integrated technology “stack” of data centre hardware, software management tools and other applications. The two technology giants will team up on Windows Azure, Microsoft’s cloud computing platform, with HP and Microsoft offering services and Microsoft continuing to invest in HP hardware for the platform.— “Xinhua



Analysts say the market is driving the company’s share price down.— INTERNET

S Korea posts record-high trade surplus in 2009

SEOUL, 14 Jan — South Korea posted a record-high trade surplus in 2009 as imports fell faster than exports amid an economic downturn, a government report said on Thursday. According to a report by the Korea Customs Service (KCS), the nation’s trade surplus amounted to 40.4 billion US dollars in 2009 with the figure remaining in the black for 11 straight months.

The trade amount, which posted the highest level of 6.52 billion-US dollar surplus in June, has been firmly standing in positive territory with a recovery in exports, the KCS said. Despite of a year-on-year decline of 13.9 percent in exports to 365.3 billion US dollars, the figure has been marking a positive gain since November, with the December figure hitting a 32.8 percent on-year growth, according to the Customs office.

Xinhua

Spain sees big reduction in foreign tourists in 2009

MADRID, 14 Jan — The number of foreign tourists visiting Spain fell for the second consecutive year in 2009, according to figures released on Wednesday. About 52 million foreigners chose to spend their holidays in Spain, a 8.7 percent fall over the previous year when 57.3 million foreign tourists visited the country.

It was the steepest drop since comparative figures began to be kept in 2001, but was less than the 10 percent decline that experts had predicted. The main reason for the decline was the economic crisis, which hit both Germany and Great Britain, two counties traditionally providing the largest numbers of visitors to Spain.

Each visitor spent around 990 euros (about 1434 US dollars) during his visit, according to the figures. Around 2,200,000 Spaniards work in the tourist industry. Granada’s Alhambra received more tourists than any other attractions in Spain with around 3 million visitors in 2009.

Madrid’s El Prado art gallery and the Sagrada Familia church in Barcelona were second and third on the list of the most visited attractions. — Xinhua



Actor Sam Worthington, who portrays the character Jake, gets a first look at his avatar, a human-alien hybrid bred from Jake's own DNA, in this undated publicity photograph from a scene in director James Cameron's new film "Avatar." — XINHUA

Is China ready to embrace the 3D generation?

BEIJING, 14 Jan — With the tremendous success of James Cameron's Avatar, which scored a global box office total of 1.335 billion US dollars during its first month, 3D is considered by many as the ultimate salvation for the entertainment industry.

In the new decade, filmmakers and TV producers will rely on this

long-existing technology to attract and keep audiences.

China, of course, will not lag behind in this global 3D frenzy as it develops into a country with the second most 3D screens and the ability to produce its own 3D TV.

The only question remains: when technology and equipment are well prepared and developed, will the content meet audiences' requirements in both quantity and quality? The answer might not be too optimistic, at least for now. —Xinhua

Yemeni kidnappers demand 2 million dollars for freeing hostages

SANAA, 14 Jan — Yemeni tribesmen have demanded two million US dollars for releasing a German family of five and a Briton whom have been held since June 2009, local media reported on Wednesday. The News Yemen website report did not provide more details.

The new information came a day after Foreign Minister Abu Bakr al-Kurbi said that the Yemeni government was negotiating with the kidnappers of the six foreigners to secure their release after locating their whereabouts.

The six were among a group of nine foreigners who were kidnapped in the northern region of Saada about six months ago. The other three, two German Bible students and a South Korean, were shot dead during the operation of abducting. —Xinhua

China to connect Internet with telecommunications, broadcasting networks

BEIJING, 14 Jan — The Chinese government plans to connect the telecommunications network, TV and radio network and the Internet in the near future, said a statement issued by the State Council here on Wednesday.

Connecting the three networks would boost the development of the information and cultural sectors, said the statement issued after a State Council executive meeting chaired by Premier Wen Jiabao. China now had the basic technology, network infrastructure and market space to merge the three networks, the statement said.

Pilot projects should be carried out to connect telecommunications, TV and radio networks from 2010 to 2012. Based on the pilot projects, other projects should be established to connect the three networks comprehensively from 2013 to 2015, it said. —Xinhua

One dead, four missing after fishing boat sinks in collision

TAIZHOU, 14 Jan — One died and another four people were missing on Wednesday after a fishing boat sank in a collision with a cargo in the East China Sea.

Eight people were on the Zhejiang-registered "Zhelingyu 4238" which collided with the vessel "Junrong 9" at about 7:45 pm off the coast of Wenling city, Zhejiang Province, said frontier defence officials.

Three were rescued. One died after treatment failed.

The fishery and maritime administrations as well as frontier defence officers were searching for the four missing.

Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

A man builds a snowman at Ajusco volcano in southern Mexico City, capital of Mexico, recently. Mexico City citizens chose to go to mountain areas nearby with snowfall brought by cold snap for fun on Sunday. — XINHUA



Russian Navy to upgrade Tartus naval base by 2011

MOSCOW, 14 Jan — Russia will finish the fundamental renovation at its naval logistics base in the Syrian port of Tartus by 2011, said the Navy's General Staff on Wednesday.

Having been upgrading the Tartus port for several years, the Navy's

General Staff said in a statement that "the main purpose is to develop logistics...to upgrade the existing coastal infrastructures and create new ones that will provide convenient moorage and stable supply for Russian ships pulling into Tartus with fuel, water, food and

other supplies."

"The bulk of the works is to be completed in 2011," said the statement.

The Navy's General Staff also said that its fleet already had a functioning logistics facility at Tartus, whose condition and capabilities fell short of requirements.

Xinhua

EU-China training programme attracts more applicants in 2010

BRUSSELS, 14 Jan — The EU-China Managers Exchange and Training Programmes (METP) attracted more European applicants in 2010 than last year, METP officials from the EU told Xinhua on Wednesday. METP, a five-year intergovernmental cooperation project launched in July 2006 between the European Commission and the Chinese government in the field of international trade, drew 253

applicants from EU member states for its fifth intake.

That compared to 149 for the previous round in 2009, according to the METP.

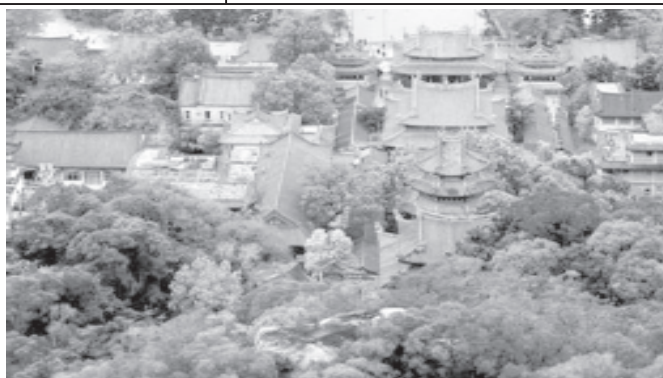
The greater number of applicants was considered by organizers as a reaction to the grim job market in Europe and positive feedback from former trainees, the METP said.

About 50 European managers will be finally selected from the 253 ap-

plicants for the fifth intake (METP5), which was scheduled to start in May and run until early 2011.

In the programme, the European managers will have Business Chinese language training at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, while the Chinese managers will receive tailor-made management training at three leading European business schools.

Xinhua



South Putuo Temple is situated at the foot of Wulao Peak at the southern end of Xiamen City, Fujian Province. First built in the Tang Dynasty (618 AD-907AD), it was restored many times in several following dynasties. —XINHUA

Green tea 'may block lung cancer'

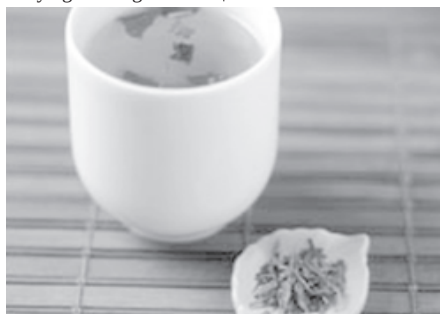
HONG KONG, 14 Jan—Drinking green tea may offer some protection against lung cancer, say experts who studied the disease at a medical university in Taipei. The latest work in more than 500 people adds to growing evidence suggesting the beverage has anti-cancer powers. In the study, smokers and non-smokers who drank at least a cup a day cut their lung cancer risk significantly, a US cancer research conference heard. The protection was greatest for people carrying certain genes. But

cancer experts said the findings did not change the fact that smoking is bad for health. Green tea is made from the dried leaves of the Asian plant *Camellia sinensis* and is drunk widely across Asia.

The rates of many cancers are much lower in Asia than other parts of the world, which has led some to link the two. Laboratory studies have shown that extracts from green tea, called polyphenols, can stop cancer cells from growing.

But results from human studies have been

mixed. Some have shown a protective effect while others have failed to find any evidence of protection. In July 2009, the Oxford-based research group Cochrane published a review of 51 studies on green tea and cancer which included over 1.5 million people. They concluded that while green tea is safe to drink in moderation, the research so far is conflicting about whether or not it can prevent certain cancers. — *Internet*



Experts believe it is the polyphenols in green tea that may make it beneficial. — *INTERNET*

Teen's face 'melted' after taking painkiller

STOCKHOLM, 14 Jan — A Swedish teenager has grown her face back after an allergic reaction to a single paracetamol pill caused the skin to turn black and peel off. Eva Uhlin (19) has recovered her looks after suffering an allergic reaction to the over-the-counter painkiller. The deadly condition, known as toxic epidermal necrolysis, attacked her body, causing her skin to blister, burn and scab.

During the illness skin

on her chest, arms, back and stomach fell off. At one point her lips fused together. "It felt like something was crawling around under my skin, I was in total shock — it was like something out of a horror film," she said. Her nightmare began as a 15-year-old when she became ill with a fever on holiday. She was told to take a paracetamol tablet but the combination of

her virus and the drug led to the freak reaction.

The teenager woke up the next day to find blisters covering her face and spreading all over the rest of her body. "It was terrifying, because at the time they didn't know what would happen to me," she said. "When I looked in the mirror after it happened I didn't recognize myself."

Internet

S Korea reports another outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease

SEOUL, 14 Jan — South Korea reported on Thursday another outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in a local cattle farm, about a week after the first outbreak in eight years, the government said. The cattle farm, located in Pochen in Gyeonggi Province, about 45 kilometres north of Seoul, was only 35 kilometres away from the farm where the first outbreak was confirmed last week, Seoul's Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said.

The government plans to cull about 1,348 heads of livestock in six farms within 500-metre radius of the farm where the second outbreak occurred, it said. In order to prevent further spread, the government also plans to kill livestock suspected of having contracted the highly infectious virus, it added.

Xinhua

Air Force plane crash kills pilot in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 14 Jan — One pilot was dead after a Royal New Zealand Air Force CT4 Airtrainer crashed on Thursday.

The accident happened near an air weapons range at Santoft, 18 km northwest of central North Island town of Bulls on Thursday morning, Radio New Zealand reported.

The CT4 Airtrainer was conducting a practice routine from its base at Ohakea. Only one plane was involved in the crash.

An Air Force Iroquois helicopter has been sent to the crash site. — *Xinhua*

Country's only hippo escapes zoo during floods

Montenegro's only hippopotamus escaped from the mountainous Adriatic nation's zoo during floods this week, officials said on Wednesday.

The two-ton female called Nikica broke out of her cage and swam away after seasonal floods hit the zoo just outside the Montenegrin capital Podgorica, zoo manager Davor Mujovic said.

"She remains at large, but one of the guards is keeping an eye on her and is feeding her daily," he said.

The hippo found a dry spot a mile away from the zoo as shelter from cold flood waters.

Mujovic said zoo guards would have

to wait until the water recedes to try to lure the animal back to its enclosure with food.

In its native Africa, the world's third largest mammal on land is considered aggressive and dangerous.

But zoo owner Nikola Pejovic said Nikica was not a threat to people. "People like her, and she is used to people, villagers are bringing her fresh hay," he said.



A hippo swims in an artificial lake in a farm in Puerto Triunfo, Colombia. *Internet*

Cypriot woman comes back to life after 15 minutes of lost heartbeat

Cypriot doctors at a state hospital reported on Monday the case of a 34-year old woman who came back to life, after her heart had stopped for 15 minutes.

They said the woman had suffered a haemorrhagic shock during an emergency caesarean birth operation in a Nicosia hospital and her heart stopped beating.

Resuscitation efforts continued for over 15 minutes and to the amazement of the doctors her heart started beating again.

"It is something of a miracle," said Dr Stavros Neofytou, the head of the maternity clinic at the hospital.

"The more so because her brain was not damaged after such a long heart stoppage," he added.

The woman, a mother of five, is recovering in hospital, eight days after her coming back to life.

Study: 1 in 4 female teens involved in violence

About one in four female teens is involved in some sort of violent behavior at school or at work, according to a government report. A survey of more than 33,000 girls and women aged 12 to 17 found that 26.7 percent had been involved in a serious fight at school or work, a group-against-group fight or had attacked someone with the intent to harm the person in the previous year, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration reported. "In the public mind, acts of teenage violence are most commonly associated with boys," the report observed, but "it is clear that the problem is pervasive among girls as well."



Police in Hamburg blocked off an area surrounding the city's television tower on Friday. This was done to protect pedestrians from the danger of icicles falling off the tower. The falling icicles also disrupted a commuter rail line, as a portion of track between two nearby stations was temporarily shut down as a precaution.



A member of Tintin and his Bull-fighter Dwarfs dances with a cow during a show in the town of Choachi, near Bogota.

NEWS ALBUM

Quiver trees, known also as "kokerboom", which grow in arid regions of Namibia and South Africa are well adapted to their environment through water-storing succulent leaves. Scientists have found that increasing numbers of the iconic trees are dying due to drought stress as average temperatures continue to rise in their habitat.



Indaw Gyi Lake and Yeylai Pagoda

Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

Indaw Gyi literally means “great royal lake” which is the largest natural lake not only in Myanmar but also in Southeast Asia. It is in Mohnyin Township, Myitkyina District in Kachin State of Myanmar. There are many other bodies of water in Myanmar formed by nature. To mention but a few are Inlay Lake in Southern Shan State, Mangton Lake in Kengtung town, eastern Shan State, Rê Lake in northern Chin State, Indaw Lake in Manlei, Meiktila Lake at Meiktila town, Taung Tha Man Inn at Amarapura let alone Inya Lake and Royal Kandaw Gyi Lake in Yangon. But Indaw Gyi and Inlay are the world renowned lakes because of their sizes, special features and scenic beauties.

Indaw Gyi is the largest wetland ecosystem in the country. Its water surface and water body measure 100 square miles and its forested areas cover 214.67 square miles—a total of 314.67 square miles. Accessible by train and car—for a long distance between Mandalay and Mohnyin you can use car or train. But from Mohnyin to Longtone, a journey of 48 miles you have to drive car. You may go to Indaw Gyi either by car or by train from Myitkyina to Hopan—a distance of 80 miles and from Hopin to Longtone for a distance of 27 miles by car.

The lake is a paradise for nature lovers—a virgin field for environmentalists. Thickly covered with temperate and semi-ever green forests, flora varieties include teak, taung tamar, Sey khar, thinkan, Ma U, baing, Ngu (Indian laburnum) yamanay, Kanyin, hpetwin, hpan kha, htaut kyant, saga war (campaca), Kha paung, hpet hpyu, Myauk nyo, gokete, laukyagyi, thittazin, kyeelan, kyehtein, etc. and several other fruit, flower medicinal trees, plants, and creepers. Fauna varieties range from tiger, leopard, bear, wolf, gaur, banteng (wild ox) to wild goat, mountain goat, sambhur, barking deer, wild dog, jackle, hogbadger, porcupines, many kinds of monkey, many winged creatures—birds, bees and butterflies and insects. The Lake also abounds in aquatic and amphibious lives.

Fascinating legends enshroud Indaw Gyi Lake. First, the arrival of Lord Gotama Buddha on the summit of Nalagiri Mountain with his cousin Shin Ananda when the Buddha gazed at the vast plain below, Sin Ananda asked the Buddha why he gazed at the plain. The Buddha predicted that “360 years (about B.C. 184) after my demise this plain would become a big lake and where I had stopped there would emerge an island in the middle of the lake on when a zedi would be built and this zedi would be well-known in the history of my Sasana.”

Next are fairy tales of Naga Serpents. To narrate them briefly—there was a Naga kingdom under the oceans where Naga King Erapatta ruled. As Naga population multiplied, spilling over the kingdom,

King Erapatta told his family and countries to go out and look for new places for habilitation. There Nagas, father and two sons went out in guest of a new living place. They came upstream the Ayeyawady River. When they arrived at a place near Indaw, they turned it into a lake. Today this lake is called Manlei Inn.

Later the two sons left there to look for another place where they would set up their own kingdoms. When they reached where Indaw Gyi Lake is today, they found an extensive plain surrounded by forested lofty maintains. They also met beautiful guardian angles of the mountains. There was romantic love affairs between the two Naga brothers and angles. The two Naga brothers decided to settle there. They caused rain for days until the vast plain turned into a big deep Lake ie Indaw Gyi in which the two Naga brothers set up their kingdoms.

The legend turns to many adventures, warfare and love affairs. Palm leaf manuscripts such as Shan palm leaf manuscripts, Kachin palm leaf manuscripts and Myanmar palm leaf manuscripts and their translations give slightly different versions of the same legend.

Shwe Myitzu Pagoda on the island in the middle of Indaw Gyi Lake is one of six Yeylei pagodas in Myanmar. “Yeilai” means in the middle of water. There are three Yeylei Pagodas in Lower Myanmar. Kyaik Kham Yeylei Pagoda on a rocky island off Kyaik Kham town’s sea coast in Mon State, Kyauk Tan Yeylei Pagoda on an island off Kyauk Tan town’s sea coast in Than Hlyin, Yangon Division, and Maw Tin Zun Yeylei Pagoda on a cliff off Negrai Cape in Ngaputaw Township, Ayeyawady Division. There Yey Lei pagodas in Upper Myanmar are the world renowned Phaung Taw Oo Pagoda on an island in Inlay Lake, southern Shan State, Anya Thihataw Yeylei Pagoda are an island in the third defile of the Ayeyawady River opposite to Thabeikkyin town in Mandalay Division and Shwe Myitsu Yeylei Pagoda on an island in Indaw Gyi Lake, Kachin State.

The history of Shwe Myitzu Yeylei Pagoda in Indaw Gyi Lake began with the arrival of Buddha Sasana there. Forest monks residing in the forests meditated and began building minor religious monuments with the help of villagers. It was about the time of King Mindon (1853-1878 A.D.) that are monk named U Sobhita resided in the valley of these mountains to the west of Indaw Gyi Lake. His forest recluse was so far out in the wilderness that only few humans occasionally visited him. It is said that this monk preached Dhamma to guardian deities of the mountains and lakes, who offered him fruits and water. U Sobhita thought he should introduce Buddha Sasana to the lake area. So he came to the nearby villages and told the local people to help him

build a zedi on the island in the middle of Indaw Gyi Lake. The villages happily and obligingly agreed and started collecting construction materials and money. Local authorities also gave all possible assistance. So began the building of Shwe Myitzu Pagoda on the island in the lake in the Buddha Sasana year 2421, Myanmar Era 1230, (1868 A.D.), on Saturday, 11th waxing moon of Taboung (March). On the 8th waning moon of Waso (July) of the same year, the construction of the Pagoda was completed. It was 10 cubits high. Because sacred relics enshrined in it were miraculously granted by Shwedagon Pagoda, when U Sobhita prayed for them, the pagoda was named Shwe Myitzu. The first festival was held from the 8th waxing moon to 1st waning moon of Taboung. Later Shwe Myitzu was renovated and embellished by devotees and donors. In Myanmar Era 1235 (1872 A.D.) one Maung Shin Nyee of Nant Phaung Sin village raised the height of the pagoda to 18 cubits, 2 miles and 4 thits.

Apart from the sublimity of the pagoda and scenic beauty of the lake and the surroundings, one strange phenomenon that appears when the festival time approaches, is the occurrence of two sand path ways in the lake leading to Shwe Myitzu Pagoda—one for human pilgrims and visitors and one for deities and spirit nats, so they say. There two sand corridors are formed by waves in the lake which move opposite bringing up sand and soil, making two pathways in the lake. After the festival they disappear gradually.

Devotees and pilgrims believe that there are nine wonders of Shwe Myitzu Pagoda. They are:

- (1) The appearance of two sand pathways in the lake leading to the pagoda at festival time.
- (2) In spite of heavy rain and storm, lake water does not touch the base of the pagoda.
- (3) There are no crows at the time of the festival. They came back only after the festival.
- (4) All ethnic nationalities, regardless of their Faiths, come to the festival but there is no crime.
- (5) All aquatic creatures especially fish frolic around the island but no one catches them.
- (6) Visitors of all religions visit the pagoda. They all feel happy and peaceful.
- (7) There appears a pool of shallow water at the entrance to the sacred island, to remind you to lake off your footwears.
- (8) A red line appears in the lake around the sacred island, meaning the deities pour medicine into the lake to purify the water.
- (9) If Wednesday falls on the fullmoon night of Taboung, some pilgrims witness emissions of rays of light from Shwe Myitzu Pagoda and some Arahats coming down from the sky to worship the pagoda.



**Lt-Gen Myint Swe
of Ministry of
Defence and party
inspect laying of
Yadana-Yangon
24- inch diameter
pipeline at
Hlinethaya-
Twantay Bridge
Road.
(News on page 1)**

MNA

F&R Dy Minister receives Vietnamese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe received Chairman of Vietnam Investors Association Chairman of Vietnam Investment and Development Bank Executive Committee Mr. Tran Bac Ha and party from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the ministry here this afternoon. They discussed financial and monetary issues.

Also present at the call were Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and responsible personnel.—MNA



Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe meets Chairman Mr. Tran Bac Ha and party of Vietnam Investors Association.—MNA

Budalin Intaw river water...

(from page 1)
with alluvial soil left behind. That's why the monsoon and summer paddy plantations thrive well. Based on Intaw river water pumping station, farmers can grow 3250 acres of paddy. First it was designated to grow 3000 acres of paddy though. In addition to monsoon and summer paddy, farmers are now growing cold season crops, and wheat, sunflower and ground-

nut to grasp their higher socioeconomic status."

He continued, "Local people have an aversion to using underground water because of salty water. So, they use the water from river water pumping station not only for drinking but for animals. The station also supplies water to village lakes that dry up in winter. Due to emergence of water pumping station, the dry region has changed into green and lush one, facili-

tating to conserve environment.

Intaw river water pumping station is pumping up the water from Chindwin River to water storage tank by two steps high 63 feet and 40 feet from which it flows 22,050 feet long main canal. Water then continues to flow through 473,000 feet long distributories branching off from the main canal to 6000 acres of farmlands in 14 villages of four village-tracts in Budalin Township and to 4000 acres of farmlands in six



Farmers working at a paddy field irrigated by Intaw River Water Pumping Project.



The 30-inch diameter pipe to pump water.

villages of three village-tracts in Monywa Township.

Arriving Nyaunggon Village on our way back, we saw locals harvesting paddy and threshing the stalks with thresher.

A farmer called U Myint Thein said, "We did not grow paddy here in the past but wheat and gram. Thanks to the emergence of water pumping station, now we can grow monsoon and summer paddy, and also gram as we like."

There are three river water pumping stations in Monywa District named Yaybudalin, Nyaungpingyi and Inntaw. Yaybutalin river water pumping station supplies water to 40,000 acres, Nyaungpingyi to 10,000 acres and Inntaw to 10,000 acres. Thonepanhla, Amyint, Pauk-inn and Tawchaunggyi small river water pumping stations are also supplying irrigation water to 13,450 acres in ChaungU Town-

ship, Monywa District. Moreover, 141 artesian wells also provide irrigation water to farmlands that are out of the reach of water supply from river water pumping stations so as to change the croplands into farmlands. Therefore, local farmers from the townships of Monywa District are now having the sweetest dreams with bountiful water supply on their farms.

**Translation: ZZS
(Myanma Alin: 7-1-2010)**

Bogale Township sees Food for Work programme

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan – Jointly-organized by Settlement and Land Records Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve under the fund of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery of Japan, the second Food for Work Programme was launched at Ywathit village in Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Division yesterday.

Director-General U Win Kyi of SLRD, General Manager Dr. Mulyo Sidik of EAERR and party observed

embankment being built by local farmers and presented bags of rice for them through officials.

Under Food for Work programme, construction of lakes and embankment is being carried out in five villages in Bogale Township, nine in Labutta Township and Kyein-ni village starting from 1 January. Upon completion, local people will get clean water and be able to prevent saltwater from entering farmlands.

MNA



General Manager Dr. Mulyo Sidik presents bags of rice to an official.

S&LR

Deputy Minister receives Chairman Mr. Pham Ngoc Minh of Vietnamese Airlines

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung received Chairman Mr. Pham Ngoc Minh and party of Vietnamese Airlines of Socialist Republic of Viet-

nam at the ministry, here, this afternoon. The meeting mainly focused on matters related to aviation between the Ministry of Transport and Vietnamese Airlines.

MNA



Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung meets Chairman Mr. Pham Ngoc Minh of Vietnamese Airlines of SRV.—MNA

Foreign Affairs Dy Minister attends Fifth Round of Technical Level Talks on Delimitation of Maritime Boundary between Myanmar and Bangladesh

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Myanmar delegation led by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint arrived back in Yangon from Chittagong, Bangladesh on 11 January by air after having attended the Fifth Round of Technical Level Talks on the Delimitation of Maritime Boundary between Myanmar and Bangladesh, held at the Hotel Agrabad, Chittagong from 8 to 9 January 2010. Myanmar delegation comprised repre-

sentatives from the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, and advisors. Bangladesh delegation was headed by Rear Admiral (Retd) Md. Khurshed Alam, Additional Secretary (UNCLOS) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh. The Talks ended with the agreement that the next round of talks would be held in Myanmar at a mutually convenient time by April 2010.—MNA

Nweyit Village, a land of cauliflower

(from page 16)

We found bullock-carts loaded with cauliflowers in rows. We learnt that a bullock-cart could hold 500 pieces.

We happened to interview a nearby farmer. He said, "I am U Htwe Maung from Nweyit Village, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township. Previously, we grew cauliflower in Nweyit Village, Thahtaygon Village and Kyarhay-ai Village. But we did not know any advanced agricultural methods. So, in some past years, we got a good harvest, and in some past years, we didn't get.

"Now, we can easily get cauliflower seeds,



Farmer U Win Naing from Nweyit Village explaining the process of farming cauliflower.

chemical fertilizers and pesticides from foreign countries. And we can get cauliflower seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, liquid fertilizers and plant tonics that are produced locally according to the research local experts did, in many townships. In addition, we have learnt a lot of advanced agricultural methods from newspapers. We apply those methods in combination with our experiences. So, we are making progress year by year. Then, nearby villages such as Ahson, Zeegon, Lay-einzu, Ywezu, Hsinthay and TadaU villages have come to grow cauliflower.

"In our region, most are farmlands, and the area of paddy fields is not much. We grow corn and green gram in Tagu and Kason or in the early rainy season. After harvesting them, we grow cauliflower.

"After that, we grow onion, corn and green gram. We also grow seasonal crops such as potato, eggplant, tomato, chili and groundnut. Here, we grow crops with triple-cropping pattern in a year.

"My farmland has an area of two acres. Some have five to 10 acres each, and some have 40 to 50 acres of farmlands each. The cauliflower strain I chose is tarbo. Cauliflower seeds are of many types. This year, the prevailing price of a package of cauliflower seeds is 7000 kyats. I get just more than 2500 seedlings if I sow two packages of seeds. When the seedlings are at the age of 30 days, I plant them on the soil. An acre of land can hold 16,400 plants if we grow them with equal intervals between two plants and between two rows of plants. We can harvest when they are at the age

**Byline: Pe Tun Zaw (Yezagyo);
Photos: Khin Maung Win
(Kyemon)**

of 75 days. We have to use natural and chemical fertilizers proportionately. And we have to use pesticides and liquid fertilizer. We also have to drain water into the plot once a week according to the moisture of the soil and conditions of the plans.

"Now, I am here to sell the cauliflowers from my farm. I sell a cauliflower for 230 kyats. Last year, cauliflowers from my farm were big and I had a bumper harvest, and I got the price of up to 270-280 kyats a cauliflower.

"As to profit, for an acre of farmland, a farmer has to invest about 400,000 kyats for seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, labour charges, and ploughing charges. We grow 16,400 cauliflowers on an acre of land. So to say, the number of successful cauliflowers is only 15,000. If they are sold at the price of 230 kyats one piece, we can get 3.45 million kyats. That means we can get a handsome profit of about three million kyats from an acre of cauliflower farm."

So, I would like to urge rural farmers to grow profitable crop cauliflower from a small to commercial scale.

**Translation: MS
Kyemon: 22-12-2009**

Belgian doctors give injured woman a new windpipe

LONDON, 14 Jan — For more than 2 1/2 years, Linda De Croock lived with constant pain from a car accident that smashed her windpipe. Today, she has a new one after surgeons implanted the windpipe from a dead man into her arm, where it grew new tissue before being transplanted into her throat. The way doctors trained her body to accept donor tissue could yield new methods of growing or nurturing organs within patients, experts say. The technique sounds like science fiction, but De Croock says it has transformed her life. She no longer takes anti-rejection drugs. "Life before my transplant was becoming less livable all the time, with continual pain and jabbing and pricking in my throat and windpipe," the 54-year-old Belgian told *The Associated Press* in a telephone interview. Doctors at Belgium's University

Hospital Leuven implanted the donor windpipe in De Croock's arm as a first step in getting her body to accept the organ and to restart its blood supply. About 10 months later, when enough tissue had grown around it to let her stop taking the drugs, the windpipe was transferred to its proper place. Details of the case are in Thursday's *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Internet



Nearly 20.7 million computers were shipped in the United States in the final three months of 2009, setting a new record and heralding an economic revival, according to industry tracker IDC.— INTERNET



A sculpture made from nearly 1,000 pounds of butter that pays tribute to dairy farm families is displayed at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg, Pa., recently. The sculpture depicts a dairy cow, as well as a dairy farmer pouring a glass of milk at the breakfast table with his family.

The sculpture, by sculptor Jim Victor, of Conshohocken, Pa., was crafted from butter donated by Land O' Lakes in Carlisle, Pa. The Pennsylvania Farm Show runs 9-16 Jan.

INTERNET

Study casts doubt on popular sports injury therapy

CHICAGO, 14 Jan — New research casts doubt on increasingly popular blood-based injections reportedly used by Tiger Woods and other athletes to speed recovery after orthopedic surgery. In a small study at a hospital in The Netherlands, the treatment worked no better than salt water injections in patients with overuse Achilles tendon injuries.

The Achilles is the body's largest tendon, connecting calf muscles in the lower leg to the heel bone and it's prone to overuse injury from sports including running. The treatment studied involves injections of platelet-rich plasma, or PRP, extracted from patients' own blood. Platelets help blood clot and they release growth-promoting substances that help repair damaged tissue.

Tiger Woods is reported to have had these injections after June 2008 knee surgery. In the study, 27 adult patients got PRP injections and 27 got injections of salt water. A week after the injections, both groups gradually began three months of exercise therapy including stretching.

Internet

US obesity rate high, but not rising

CHICAGO, 14 Jan — Raise a glass of diet soda: The nation's obesity rate appears to have stalled. But the latest numbers still show that more than two-thirds of adults and almost a third of kids are overweight, with no sign of improvement. According to government data from the years 2007-08 published Wednesday, the obesity rate has held steady for about five years, reflecting earlier signs it had stalled after steadily climbing.

Dr. William Dietz, an obesity expert with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cautiously called the results promising. "We're at the corner; we haven't turned the corner," he said. Not only are the vast majority of adults overweight, 34 percent are obese; and 17 percent of children are obese. Even the youngest Americans are affected — 10 percent of babies and toddlers are precariously heavy.

The CDC data were contained in two reports published online in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. "Even though this finding is certainly good news, the statistics are still staggering," said Dr. J. Michael Gaziano, a contributing editor at the journal.— Internet

Pentagon orders more deployment

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan — About 3,100 US troops, mostly based at Fort Hood, Texas, will make up the next deployment in Afghanistan, the US Defence Department said. The troops with the 4th Combat Aviation Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood would be in place sometime this summer, the *Los Angeles Times* reported. The announcement is part of the Pentagon's effort to complete by summer the deployment of the bulk of 30,000 additional troops ordered by President Barack Obama. The latest announcement brings to about

25,000 the number of troops who have received deployment orders, the *Times* reported. Responding to questions about the pace of the deployment, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said it was on schedule. "It is January, and we have 25,000 of the 30,000 identified and with deployment orders to go," he said. "We are on the schedule we set out. These forces are moving in rapidly." The 3,100 troops receiving the latest orders will include 2,600 soldiers assigned to the aviation brigade at Ft. Hood and another 500 support troops, the report said.

Internet

People watch New Zealand's Simon Chisnall's kite, during International Kite Festival in Ahmadabad, India, on 11 Jan, 2010. Over 105 kite flyers from across 34 countries are expected to participate in the festival which will culminate on 14 Jan.

INTERNET



Consumer chief warns: take cheap jewellery from kids

LOSANGELES, 14 Jan — The nation's product safety agency issued an unprecedented warning Wednesday to parents: Don't give your children cheap metal jewellery. And if they already have some, toss it because it could contain hazardous levels of heavy metals

such as lead and cadmium. Writing in a blog posting Wednesday evening, the chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission noted that children who chew, suck on or swallow a bracelet charm or necklace may be endangering their health. "I have a message for parents, grandparents and caregivers: Do not allow young children to be given or to play with cheap metal jewellery, especially when they are unsupervised," wrote Inez Tenenbaum, the chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission. In making the recommendation, Tenenbaum cited an in-

vestigation by *The Associated Press* which reported high cadmium levels in kids' jewellery items imported from China including bracelet charms from Walmart and Claire's stores. Lab tests conducted for the AP on 103 pieces of low-priced children's jewellery found 12 items with cadmium content above 10 percent of the total weight. Several of those shed very high amounts of the metal when analyzed for how much of the toxin a child might be exposed to after swallowing the item. Like lead, cadmium can hinder brain development in young children, according to recent research. It also causes cancer.—Internet



The Madrid train bombings killed 191 people and wounded more than 1,800.—INTERNET

Top al-Qaeda leader killed by Yemeni troops in desert battle

SANAA, 14 Jan — Yemeni troops killed a senior al-Qaeda leader in one of the terror group's southern hideouts, officials said on yesterday.

The government said that it would only hold dialogue with militants who agreed to lay down their arms and join an official rehabilitation programme for Islamist militants.

The successful operation that killed Abdullah Mehdar, a commander of al-Qaeda forces in the tribally dominated province of Shabwa was, however, offset by an ambush carried out by militants who killed two policemen and wounded four others in an ambush in the same region.

Regional tensions again flared when President Ahmadinejad of Iran publicly criticized neighbouring Saudi Arabia for attacking Yemeni Shia rebels who are fighting the weakened government in the north of the country.

"We were expecting Saudi officials to act like a mentor and make peace between brothers, not enter the war and use bombs, cannons and machineguns against Muslims," said Mr Ahmadinejad, a day after a senior Saudi defence official said that the kingdom's forces had killed a large number of Shia rebels, known as Houthis, who had been holding a border post inside Saudi Arabia.

Internet

Quake hits eastern Indonesia, causing panic

JAKARTA, 14 Jan — An earthquake rocked West Papua in easternmost Indonesia on Thursday morning, causing panic among local people, the Meteorology and Geophysics and Agency reported here. According to the US Geological Survey, the quake is measuring 5.7 on the Richter Scale, an official of the agency named Subagyo said. There has been no report of casualties so far.

The quake struck at 00:18 am Jakarta Time (1718 GMT Wednesday) with the epicenter at 78 km northwest Manokwari, in West Papua, and 26 km deep, he said. "Reports said that people in Manokwari were panic-stricken and rushed outside their house," said Subagyo.

The intensity of the quake was at 4 MMI (Modified Mercalli In-

tensity) in Manokwari, he said. Indonesia sits on vulnerable quake-hit zone so called the "Pacific Ring of Fire."

Xinhua

Cyprus police say no political motives behind shooting of publisher

NICOSIA, 14 Jan — Cyprus police investigating the murder of a prominent broadcaster and publisher have excluded political motivation behind the shooting.

Andis Hadjicostis, managing director of Dias Media Group, which owns SIGMA, the second largest TV channel in Cyprus and a newspaper, was shot twice at point blank with a shotgun outside his home in Nicosia on Monday evening.

The police are very near to obtaining evidence possibly leading to the killers, a police spokesman told a Press conference on Wednesday afternoon, as the entire Greek Cypriot political leadership and politicians from Greece gathered in driving rain for his funeral service.

The exclusion of political motives

behind the killing has brought a sigh of relief to both politicians and the public opinion at a time when crucial talks are under way for a solution to the Cyprus problem.

Suspicion that political motives had led to the murder was raised by some politicians, citing the fact that Dias had followed a hard line policy towards efforts for a Cyprus solution.

Both the television channel and the newspaper owned by the group are siding with parties which voice criticism against the policies of Cyprus President and Greek Cypriot leader Demetris Christofias, claiming he is making concessions to the Turkish Cypriot side.

The police spokesman refused to say what the motives for the murder might be. — Xinhua

16 UN personnel killed, 150 missing in Haiti

UNITED NATIONS, 14 Jan — The UN chief said 16 UN personnel were confirmed dead late on Wednesday in the earthquake that decimated Haiti's capital, with 100 to 150 UN workers still unaccounted for, including the mission chief and his deputy.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced that 11 Brazilian peacekeepers and five international police officers — three from Jordan and one each from Chad and Argentina — were killed in the "horrendous" quake.

UN officials said 56 others were injured. Seven who were seriously hurt were evacuated from the country, they said.

"Many continue to be trapped inside UN Headquarters and other buildings," said Ban, noting that includes the UN's mission chief, Hedi Annabi, and his chief deputy, Luis Carlos da Costa. "Other peacekeepers and civilian staff from many member states remain unaccounted for."

UN peacekeeping chief Alain Le Roy said at least 10 people were pulled alive on Wednesday from the lower floors of the five-storey headquarters building for the UN peacekeeping mission, which collapsed in Tuesday's magnitude 7.0 earthquake quake.

Internet



UN staff leave the UN mission, known as MINUSTAH, after an earthquake in Port-au-Prince on 13 Jan, 2010.— INTERNET

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Israel to expel American journalist

JERUSALEM, 14 Jan — Security officials said on Wednesday that an American journalist has been detained at Israel's Ben-Gurion Airport and will be expelled. They said the journalist, identified by Palestinians as Jared Malsin, raised security suspicions during an initial investigation upon his arrival. The Interior Ministry decided he would not be permitted to enter and would remain in detention until his expulsion.

The officials spoke on

condition of anonymity on Wednesday because they are not authorized to share the information with the media. The Palestinian *Maan* news agency said Malsin is its English-language editor. In a statement, *Maan* said the detention was "arbitrary" and an affront to journalists. George Hale of *Maan* said Malsin, who is Jewish, appealed the expulsion order and was to appear before a judge in a Tel Aviv court on Thursday morning.—*Internet*

30 tons of arms, ammunition discovered in NE Afghanistan

KABUL, 14 Jan — More than 30 tons of arms and ammunition were discovered during an operation in the northeast Badakhshan Province of Afghanistan, spokesman for provincial administration Abdul Maroof Rasikh said on Thursday.

"The operation which was launched on Tuesday lasted one day and covered two villages in Wardoch District. It led to the discovery and seizure of more than 30 tons of arms and ammunition," Rasikh told *Xinhua*.

Nissan workers check auto parts manufactured at the company's Global Production Engineering Centre in Zama City, Japan. Japan's core machinery orders, a leading indicator of corporate capital spending, fell 11.3 percent in November from the previous month, official data showed on Thursday.— *INTERNET*

The ordnance seized during the operation includes 1,117 mortar shells, 54 pieces of anti-personal mines, 20 shells of rocket-propelled grenades and dozens of boxes of bullets, the official added.

It is the second such operation in the same district over the past 10 days. In

the previous operation early this month, a huge weapon cache was discovered from the area. No one has been detained during the operation, he added. He also added that similar operations would be launched in other districts of the province to ensure lasting peace. — *Xinhua*

Boy, 16, has sex change operation

MADRID, 14 Jan — A 16-year-old Spaniard had a sex change operation, becoming the country's first minor to undergo a procedure that few countries in the world allow for people so young, the patient's doctor has announced. The two-and-a-half hour surgery was performed in Barcelona three weeks ago and the patient is doing fine, said reconstructive surgeon Ivan Manero.

Dr Manero said the pa-

tient had been undergoing hormonal and psychiatric treatment for two years after deciding he wanted to undergo surgery to have the body of a woman. The boy "said he felt like a woman from the age of four or five," said Dr Manero. The patient's name was not disclosed.

The surgery was authorised by a judge, as required by Spanish law for minors seeking such an operation. Probably fewer



Britain argues stop-and-search powers allowed under the Terrorism Act 2000 are important in the fight against terrorism.—*INTERNET*

Britain to fight ruling on police searches

LONDON, 14 Jan — The British government said on Wednesday it will appeal a European court ruling that certain police stop-and-search powers are a breach of human rights. Under Section 44 of Britain's Terrorism Act 2000, uniformed officers

may stop any pedestrian or vehicle and search them, regardless of whether they have reasonable suspicion of wrongdoing.

Human rights groups complain the rules are subject to abuse, but the British government calls the powers an important tool in the fight against terrorism. British Home Secretary Alan Johnson said he was disappointed in Tuesday's ruling by the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France, because the appeals had previously gone through the British courts and been rejected.

"We are considering the judgment and will seek to appeal," Johnson

said in a statement. "Pending the outcome of this appeal, the police will continue to have these powers available to them."

London's Metropolitan Police said that because of sensitivity and concerns about use of the stop-and-search powers, they are only being used at "pre-identified significant locations" like landmarks, tourist sites, and crowded places, or where certain police operations are taking place. The case began in September 2003, when police stopped and searched two British nationals who were on their way to a London demonstration.

Internet



An Android-powered mobile phone is pictured in this file photo. South Korea's top mobile carrier SK Telecom on Thursday announced an aggressive plan to reinforce its smartphone line-up after its market share was eroded by Apple's top selling iPhone. SK Telecom said it would try to win more than two million new smartphone users this year by offering models based on Google's Android operating system.— *INTERNET*





Police gather after a shooting at Penske Rental in Kennesaw, Ga on 12 Jan, 2010. Dressed in camouflage and armed with a handgun, a disgruntled ex-employee opened fire on Tuesday at a truck rental business in suburban Atlanta, killing two people and injuring three others, police said.—INTERNET

Two dead in Ga shooting; suspect was ex-employee

KENNESAW, 14 Jan—A disgruntled ex-employee stormed a truck rental business in camouflage and opened fire with a handgun, killing two people and critically wounding three others at his former workplace, police said.

The lone gunman fled the scene in a pickup truck and was arrested after police stopped him about a mile from the Penske Truck Rental facility, said Cobb County Police Officer Joe Hernandez. The names of the suspect and victims were not immediately released.

“He wasn’t here for very long and it

wasn’t long before he was taken into custody,” Hernandez said.

There were conflicting reports about who the victims were. Penske spokesman Randy Ryerson said four victims were employees and the other was a customer, but police said none of the victims were customers. Hernandez said all of those shot were males.

About two dozen employees were working at the office, which sits about 25 miles northwest of Atlanta and consists of a couple of large buildings with bay doors, Ryerson said.—INTERNET

Cardiovascular risk linked to HIV

BOSTON, 14 Jan—Relatively young men with longstanding HIV infection may be at greater risk for heart attack or stroke, US researchers say.

Researchers at Boston’s Massachusetts General Hospital used angiography to find coronary atherosclerosis in 59 percent of the human immunodeficiency virus-infected patients—compared with only 34 percent of controls. Five of the HIV-positive participants had critical blockages—something seen in none of the controls—and were referred to cardiologists for treatment.

“It appears that both traditional and non-traditional risk factors are contributing to atherosclerotic disease in HIV-infected patients,” Dr Janet Lo, the study’s author, said in a statement.

In the study, published in the journal *AIDS*, Lo and colleagues used both standard computed tomography scans, which shows calcium deposits, and a CT angiography — showing non-calcified arterial plaques — to examine 110 men ranging in ages from 18-55 with no symptoms of cardiovascular disease.—INTERNET

Stem cells linked to an aggressive cancer

LONDON, 14 Jan—The most common type of children’s brain cancer can arise from stem cells, researchers in Britain say.

Researchers at Queen Mary, University of London, say their findings, published in *Oncogene*, could be a crucial first step in finding new ways to tackle a very aggressive form of cancer found within the tumour type known as medulloblastomas.

“This type of brain tumour can pose a great challenge to doctors. In some children, treatment works well but in others the cancer is aggressive and far harder to treat,” study leader Silvia Marino said in a statement. “As scientists we’ve been trying to understand how these cancers which look the same can behave so differently.”—INTERNET

Higher birth weight decreases TB risk

ANN ARBOR, 14 Jan—Each pound at birth lowers the risk of developing tuberculosis, US and Swedish researchers say.

Researchers from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and Karolinska Institute in Stockholm found the risk of later developing TB decreased by 87 percent for males with each 1.1 pound or 500 grammes of birth weight.

The study, to be published in the February issue of the *Journal of Infectious Disease*, found the association between birth weight and developing TB was stronger for males than females. Girls were about 16 percent less likely to develop tuberculosis for every 1.1 pounds of birth weight.

Xinhua

Italian police arrest 17 Mafia suspects

ROME, 14 Jan—The Italian police dealt a heavy blow to the Mafia on Tuesday by arresting 17 suspects linked to powerful clans of the Calabria southern region, according to ANSA news agency. They were caught in the northern town of Bologna, a proof of the Mafia’s rapid expansion all over the country. Some of the people arrested on Tuesday belonged to the mighty clan of the Pesce-Bellocchio, one of three Mafia families who share control of illegal activities at the large container port in Gioia Tauro. The clan is also alleged to have secured lucrative infrastructure projects dogged by Mafia probes.—XINHUA

The billboard and ceiling of a gas station are blown down by fierce wind in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 12 Jan, 2009. Two people were killed and several were injured in the fierce wind swept in Buenos Aires and its nearby area. —XINHUA



Somali charged in New York in more ship hijackings

NEW YORK, 14 Jan—A Somali teenager extradited to New York last year on charges he attempted to hijack a US ship in the Indian Ocean pleaded not guilty on Tuesday to taking part in two additional attacks.

Abduwali Abdukhadir Muse, the sole surviving accused pirate from the foiled bid to hijack the US container ship *Maersk Alabama* in April 2009, en-

tered the plea through a Somali interpreter in Manhattan federal court.

He has already pleaded not guilty to the original charges of piracy, conspiracy to seize a ship by force, conspiracy to commit hostage taking and related firearms offenses.

A lawyer for Muse, whose age is unknown, is expected to file papers with the court arguing that Muse should be tried as a minor. The prosecution says he is at least 18 years old. The captain of the *Maersk Alabama*, Richard Phillips, was held hostage on a lifeboat for several days after he volunteered to go with the pirates in exchange for the crew. He

was rescued when US Navy snipers killed three pirates and captured Muse.

Prosecutors accuse Muse and others of hijacking two additional ships, including one that is still being held. The indictment does not name the ships or provide details about the attacks.

Muse faces a maximum sentence of life in prison if convicted.

Heavily armed pirates from lawless Somalia have been striking vessels in busy Indian Ocean shipping lanes and in the Gulf of Aden, capturing dozens of vessels, taking hundreds of hostages and making off with millions of dollars in ransoms.—XINHUA



A model presents a creation from Teca’s 2010 autumn/winter collection during the Fashion Rio Show in Rio de Janeiro on 12 Jan, 2010. —XINHUA

SPORTS

Defiant Benitez vows to continue despite Cup shock

LIVERPOOL, 14 Jan—Rafael Benitez on Thursday shrugged off the increasing pressure surrounding his position as Liverpool manager in the wake of the club's embarrassing exit from the FA Cup. Benitez, in charge at Anfield since 2004, was booed along with his players as they were knocked out of the competition after suffering a 2-1 extra-time home defeat at the hands of Championship strugglers Reading on Wednesday.

The result is a serious blow to Benitez's hopes of ending Liverpool's four-year wait for a trophy and means the Spaniard must win the second tier European club competition Europa League if he is to secure the club's first piece of major silverware since the 2006 FA Cup triumph against West Ham United.

"It is really bad. Everyone wanted to progress but we can't so we are disappointed," said 49-year-old Benitez after the third round replay defeat. "Reading worked very hard, but there were a lot of things I did not like. We had chances, they had chances. They were doing well but we might have won too. The chances they created worried me but we had some too."

Internet



Reading's Shane Long (right) scores past Liverpool's goalkeeper Diego Cavalieri in extra time during their English FA Cup replay match at Anfield in Liverpool. Reading won 2-1.—INTERNET

Gabon beat Cameroon 1-0 at African Nations Cup

LUANDA, 14 Jan — Daniel Cousin scored the lone goal to give Gabon a 1-0 win over Cameroon on Wednesday at the African Nations Cup. Cousin, a striker for Hull in the Premier League, had a simple finish in the 17th minute after veteran Cameroon center back Rigobert Song made a defensive error.

Gabon leads Group D with three points. Tunisia and Zambia play their first matches in another group game later on Wednesday.

Four-time World Cup qualifiers Cameroon, Algeria and Nigeria have all lost matches at the African Cup, while Cote d'Ivoire has drawn. The Indomitable Lions dominated early on as Achille Emana's elusive run ended with goalkeeper Didier Emano turning his shot onto a post in the eighth minute.

Arsenal midfielder Alex Song almost gave Cameroon the lead a minute later, but failed to connect with Geremi's far-post cross.

It was largely against the run of the play when Cousin broke the deadlock, taking advantage of Rigobert Song's poor defending and connecting with Roguy Meyi's through ball to beat goalkeeper Carlos Kameni with a shot into the bottom left corner. Rigobert Song is making a record eighth appearance at the African Cup.

Alain Gouamene of Cote d'Ivoire and Egypt striker Hossam Hassan have each made seven.—Xinhua

Shooting thrilled Adebayor not ready for Man City return

LOME, 14 Jan — Manchester City striker Emmanuel Adebayor is not ready to return to action as he was thrilled with last week's deadly attack on the Togo team bus at the African Nations Cup in Angola. Togo's media officer died in Adebayor's arms last Friday in the Angolan region of Cabinda, one of three deaths in the gun attack, which led to the team pulling out of the tournament.

Adebayor is recovering back home in Togo and isn't contemplating returning to England for City's match against Everton in the Premier League on Saturday. "If it meant going back tomorrow, I wouldn't be capable of giving everything that I've got," Adebayor said in an interview with SNTV on Wednesday. "I will not be able to play that game. Even me standing on that pitch would be the worst thing that I could do because I am not 100 percent yet and I have to start training first, recover first from what happened." Man City has granted the 25-year-old Adebayor to stay with his family in Togo's capital of Lome.—Xinhua

Djokovic loses to Verdasco at Kooyong Classic

MELBOURNE, 14 Jan—Former Australian Open champion Novak Djokovic suffered a brusque reversal of form Thursday to crash out of the Kooyong Classic 6-1, 6-2 at the hands of Spain's Fernando Verdasco. But the Serb was far from concerned, happy that he got in a pair of solid matches at the eight-man special event in preparation for the first grand slam of 2010, beginning Monday.

The victory sends on-form Verdasco into a Saturday final against the winner of a Friday contest between US Open winner Juan Martin Del Potro and 2008 Melbourne finalist Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France. In relegation matches, Chile's Fernando Gonzalez handed German Tommy Haas a second defeat in as many days, 6-2, 6-4.

Croatian Ivan Ljubicic benefitted when Sweden's Robin Soderling retired with a sore right shoulder after losing their opening set 6-4. Djokovic's loss ended a run of five straight victories against 2009 Open semi-finalist Verdasco.—Internet



Fernando Verdasco of Spain hits a backhand return on the way to victory over Novak Djokovic of Serbia at the Kooyong Classic tennis tournament in Melbourne, on 14 January. INTERNET

Argentine Rodriguez joins Liverpool from Atletico Madrid

LONDON, 14 Jan — Liverpool on Wednesday completed the signing of Argentine forward Maxi Rodriguez from Atletico Madrid on a three-and-half-year contract, a recent move that the Premier League hope will rescue their faltering season.

Rodriguez, 29, will link up with his former Atletico team mate Fernando Torres in the Liverpool attack. He also joins fellow Argentine international Javier Mascherano. "We were looking for players with character and a good mentality," Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez told the club's website. "He has played for Argentina and Atletico Madrid and is a player with personality."—Xinhua

Milan edge minnows Novara as Juve bounce back

ROME, 14 Jan—Mathieu Flamini scored the winner nine minutes from time as a second-string AC Milan team beat third division Novara 2-1 at the San Siro on Wednesday to reach the Coppa Italia quarter-finals. The rossoneri were joined by Juventus and Catania after they recorded victories over Napoli and Genoa respectively.

Milan coach Leonardo made 11 changes to the team that won 3-0 at Juventus on Sunday with Ronaldinho, loan signing David Beckham, Andrea Pirlo and Alessandro Nesta not even included on the bench. Veteran striker Filippo Inzaghi opened the scoring on 12 minutes but in the first minute of the second period Pablo Gonzalez stunned the San Siro by drawing Novara level. Flamini had the last word, though, and Milan will play Udinese or Lumezzane in the next round.—Internet



AC Milan's French midfielder Mathieu Flamini (C) celebrates with teammate Verdi during the Coppa Italia football match AC Milan against Novara at San Siro Stadium in Milan.—INTERNET

Lyon sign Croatian defender Lovren

BELGRADE, 14 Jan—Lyon signed Croatian defender Dejan Lovren from Dynamo Zagreb on Wednesday as the former French champions seek to reinforce their back line. "Starting from today, Dejan Lovren is officially a Lyon player having signed a contract with the club," said a Dynamo statement.

The 20-year-old joins a Lyon side who are sixth in the French Ligue 1, 13 points behind leaders Bordeaux for a poor defensive record the season.

Xinhua

Barcelona lose Kings Cup crown

MADRID, 14 Jan—Barcelona lost the first of the three titles they won in an extraordinary 2008/09 season on Wednesday as despite beating Sevilla 1-0 they went out of the Kings Cup on the away goal rule when the last 16 tie finished 2-2 on aggregate.

Barcelona coach Josep Guardiola - who guided Barca to the Cup, league title and Champions League trophy in an amazing debut season as coach - did not take the match lightly playing essentially his first choice team against a side whose league form has fallen away alarmingly having lost their last three matches.

Internet



Barcelona's Argentinian forward Lionel Messi reacts after not scoring during their Spanish King's Cup football match against Sevilla at the Sanchez Pizjuan stadium in Sevilla. INTERNET

WBO Intercontinental Boxing Championship to kick off in NW China

YINCHUAN, 14 Jan— The 2010 WBO (World Boxing Organization) Intercontinental Boxing Championship will kick off Friday in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, organizers said at a press conference Thursday.

A total of 12 boxers from Russia, Australia, South Korea, the Philippines and China will have fierce competition during the championship.

Leon P. Panoncillo, chairman of the WBO Asia Pacific Region, said at the conference that the experience of the fighters will produce a great fight, and fans in Yinchuan will be proud and happy to watch it.

Boxers are well prepared for the competition and most of them are confident of it, he added.

A Russian boxer named Zaychenko Wan told Xinhua this is his first time coming to China for a professional event and he is looking forward to a good result.—Internet



Siberian tigers enjoy themselves at a Siberian tiger artificial propagation center in Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, 14 Jan. 2010. By the end of 2009, the number of Siberian tigers has raised over 900 in the center, the world's largest Siberian tiger breeding center, and will reach 1000 in 2010.

INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (15-1-2010) (Friday)

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

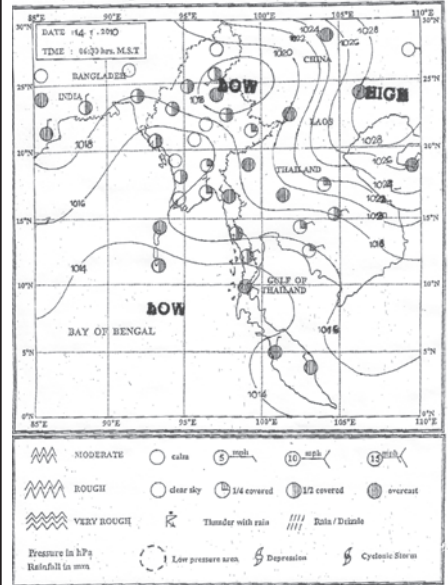
Local Transmission

- * Signature Tune
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
 - * The Hilly Town (Namhsan)
 - * Dainty Hill-resort of Loi-Mwe
 - * Decoration of Myanmar Lacquerware
 - * Culture Stage
 - * Kambozathadi: Palace of Conquerors
 - * Myanmar Modern Song
 - * Beautiful and Colourful Plastic Basket
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- Europe/ North America Transmission**

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * The Hilly Town (Namhsan)
- * Dainty Hill-resort of Loi-Mwe
- * Decoration of Myanmar Lacquerware
- * Culture Stage
- * Kambozathadi: Palace of Conquerors
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Beautiful and Colourful Plastic Basket
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Simple and Beautiful Rural Life
- * Traditional Chin House
- * Songs On Screen
- * Waving Industry of Pakokku
- * Plaster Toys
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Planting of Mulberry tree and Breeding of Silkworms
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 14th January, 2010

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 Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in Kachin and Rakhine States, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Shan, Chin, Kayah, Mon and Kayin States, Bago, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (3°C), Putao, Machanbaw and An (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 13-1-2010 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 14-1-2010 was 59°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 14-1-2010 was 79%. Total sun shine hours on 13-1-2010 was (9.6) hours approx.

Rainfall on 14-1-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southeast at (15:30) hours MST on 13-1-2010.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 15th January 2010: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night if temperatures in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 15-1-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-1-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-1-2010: Partly cloudy.

Myanmar



Friday, 15
January
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု
ဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏
ပရိတ်တရားတော်
2. ဗြိတိသျှတော်သခင်
(သန်းမြတ်စိုးတေးရေး-
မောင်မောင်လတ်)

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy
Exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning News

7:40 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

7:50 am

6. Dance Of National
Races

8:00 am

7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

8:15 am

8. The Mirror Images
Of The Musical
Oldies

8:30 am

9. "ချစ်လွန်းလို့"

8:40 am

10. International News

8:50 am

11. အတိတ်ပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:00 pm

1. Myanmar National
League MNL (2009)

ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ

ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ်

(Southern Myanmar

(FC) အသင်းနှင့် ဇေယျာ

ရွှေမြေ (FC) အသင်း)

4:55 pm

2. အဝေးသံတက္ကသိုလ်ပညာ

ရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု)

(ရုက္ခဗေဒ)

5:10 pm

3. Songs For Uphold
National Spirit

5:15 pm

4. "ဧရာဝတီ၏အားကျွန်းကုန်း

တံတား"

5:20 pm

5. Songs Of Yester

Years

5:30 pm

6. ပဉ္စလင်ကျောင်းတော်

6:00 pm

7. Evening News

6:15 pm

8. Weather Report

6:20 pm

9. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညက်ရှင်

7:00 pm

10. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"နောင်ပွဲမေတ္တာ"

(အပိုင်း-၂)

8:00 pm

11. News

12. International News

13. Weather Report

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"တိုယ်ရံတော်"

(အပိုင်း-၃)

သီချင်းချစ်သူ (ရင်ပို)

- ★ 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

Nweyit Village, a land of cauliflower

On our motorbike drive to Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon, we noticed huge piles of cauliflowers at entrance to Nweyit Village on Yangon-Mandalay Highway. The eye-catching scene of cauliflowers being loaded onto bullock carts and 12-wheel trucks lured both of us to conduct an interview with some locals.

Some men on benches were holding random talks, surrounding a table. In response to my question, a man said, "I am U Tin Hlaing. I live in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon. I am a vegetables merchant.

"I am here to buy cauliflowers. I collect cauliflowers at the price of 230 kyats one piece. I distribute

Byline: Pe Tun Zaw (Yezagyo);
Photos: Khin Maung Win
(Kyemon)

the goods I have collected to Yangon, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw and some other townships. I have been collecting cauliflowers since post-Full Moon Day of Tazaungmon. Here, cauliflower is in season till Tabauing and Tagu. I get one to eight trucks of cauliflowers a day."

(See page 9)



Workers loading cauliflowers onto a 12-wheel truck.

Some parts of Myanmar to see solar eclipse on 15 Jan

YANGON, 14 Jan— An annular solar eclipse with the longest duration in the 21st century will occur on Friday (15 Jan) and will be visible in some parts of Myanmar, according to the Meteorology and Hydrology Department Tuesday.

Starting from central Africa and moving across the Indian Ocean, southern India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar and China, the partial eclipse will be obviously visible in Sittway in the west, Shwebo, Mandalay and Monywa in the central part, and Pyin Oo Lwin and Lashio in the east and northeast as far as Myanmar is concerned, the sources said.

People will start seeing the eclipse in Myanmar at about 01:00 p.m. (Myanmar Standard Time) which will last for 3:30 hours until 4:30 p.m., the sources said, adding that the eclipse will reach its maximum between 3:05 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.

The wonderful event is expected to draw great interest of large number of foreign tourists visiting Myanmar.

Interesting people living in Yangon are traveling to the central part of Myanmar to take up position to witness the coming annular solar eclipse.

According to local report, the All Myanmar Astronomers Association and the MRTV-3 will cooperate in shooting the event for the first time for public presentation.—Internet

Significant night temperature (14-1-2010)

Loilem	(3° C)
Putao	(4° C)
Machanbaw	(4° C)
An	(4° C)