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Monday, 24 January, 2011

Hydropower projects will be completed in Kachin State one after another

Prime Minister U Thein Sein attends inauguration of Tarpein-1 Hydropower Plant



Prime Minister U Thein Sein unveils the stone plaque of Tarpein-1 Hydropower Plant.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan—A ceremony to inaugurate Tarpein-1 Hydropower Plant of Hydropower Implementation Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 was held at the plant in Momauk Township Kachin State, this morning, with an address by Prime Minister U Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Zeyar Aung, ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads, officials of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1, departmental officials, social organization members, students, local people and guests.

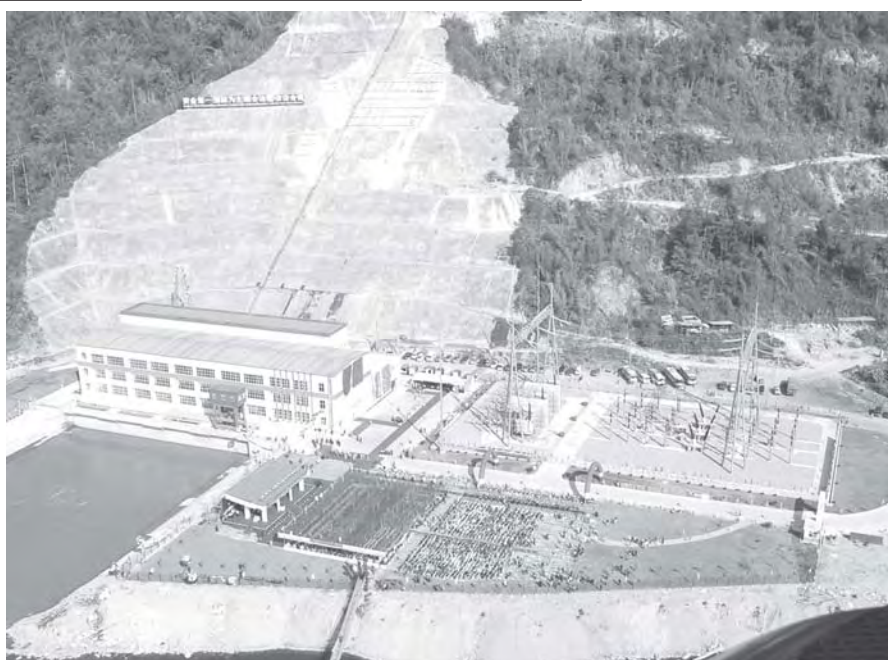
In his address, Prime Minister U Thein Sein said

that the ceremony is to inaugurate Tarpein-1 Hydropower Project and Power Plant implemented with JV/BOT system by the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and Datang (Yunnan) United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd (DUHD).

The nation sets the aim to ensure peace and stability, prevalence of law and order, national unity and emergence of a modern and developed nation which is the most basic aspiration of the people at any time.

Upholding Our Three Main National Causes, the State is focusing on prevailing peace and stability. While inviting the internal opposition armed groups to return to the legal fold for joining hands

(See page 7)



Bird's eye view of Tarpein-1 Hydropower Plant in Momauk Township.—MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 24 January, 2011

Keep school compounds clean

School health care, one of the most fundamental requirements for uplift of health, fitness and education standard of the entire nation, is to be carried out by students, parents and teachers.

In 1995, World Health Organization reported that investing in school health care was a cost-effective, but very prudent plan for good health of the entire people, and called on all related organizations to participate in the tasks sharing common goals and procedures to improve school health standard at the global level and to establish schools with high health standard.

Establishment of schools with high health standard calls for constant improvement of the health standard of schools, students and educational staff.

Children learn school education at the age of five years. Keeping schools and surrounding areas clean is good for the health of students. Students should be in good health in their youth.

School health care tasks include sanitation inside and near a school, physical examination and health care, disease control, health education and fulfilling nutritious requirements of kids.

The youth of today are the future of the nation. Only if the youth are healthy, fit and bright, will it be possible for them to help the motherland keep abreast of the international community.

So, teachers and parents have to work cooperatively for keeping schools and environs clean for good health of the students.

Good Year brand tyres displayed at Automobile & Autoparts Expo 2011

YANGON, 23 Jan—Lucky Man Co Ltd displays automobile tyres and batteries at Automobile & Autoparts Expo 2011 at Tatmadaw Convention Hall, here.

Good Year brand Wrangler AT/SA tyres, Wrangler Hp All Weather tyres, Primewell brand PW02, PW605, PW11 and PW01 tyres are displayed at the booth.

Vikrant brand

VUC3 tyres are produced for Lorries and dumpers.

In addition, Austone tyre, Chengshan tyre and 3K battery are put on display. Customers may contact No. 32/33, market ringroad (south), Bayintnaung Market, Mayangon Township, Yangon, Tel: 680614 and 682733; No. 001 at Yuzana Business Tower, Dhammazed Road, Myenigon, Tel: 502451 and 501706; No. 1/6,

Peoples' 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

U Kyaw Myo Htut accredited to Great Britain and Northern Ireland

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan—The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Kyaw Myo Htut, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations, Geneva, Switzerland, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.—MNA

U Tin Oo Lwin appointed as ambassador to Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan—The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Tin Oo Lwin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of South Africa, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Singapore.

MNA

55th Maha Convocation held for outstanding monks, nuns, laypersons



YANGON, 23 Jan—The 55th Maha Convocation organized by Yangon Region Peace and Development Council was held at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township this noon.

Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abbot of Bhamo Monastery of Mandalay Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Agga Maha Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa made an Ovadakkatha.

Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint

The 55th Maha Convocation at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township in progress.

MNA

Maung supplicated on religious affairs.

The minister and officials presented titles and certificates to outstanding monks, nuns and laypersons in the Dhammacariya, Pahtamabayan, Nikaya, Abhidhamma and Visuddhimagga examinations.

Secretary Abbot of Chaukhtetgyi Pagoda Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Sadhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Khemindasami delivered a sermon, and the congregation shared merit gained.

MNA

Dagon Road, Aungmyingala Highway Bus Terminal, Tel: 73007737 and 095406247; No. 257 on 36th Street between 84th and 85th Streets, Mandalay, Tel: 02-91036614; No. Pa-57/58, Thabyegon Brokerage, Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Tel: 0949327660.

MNA

International Culinary Course at Star Resources

YANGON, 23 Jan—Star Resources Hospitality Management Academy will open International Culinary Course in the last week of January. The three-month course includes menu plan, menu costing, food safety, quality and management of kitchen operation. Experienced teachers will conduct it in line with guide lines of Chartered Institute of Environmental Health and Educational Institute of the

American Culinary Federation.

In addition to the above course, IELTS foundation course and intensive course will be opened.

For more information, contact Star Resources Hospitality Management Academy, Building No.267, Room (302), Pyay Road, Myenigon, Sangyoung Township and dial 01-523623 and 523200.

MNA

Seven civilians killed in Afghanistan

GHAZNI, 23 Jan—Seven civilians were killed as a rocket struck a house in Ghazni Province of Afghanistan on Saturday, an official said.

"A rocket fired by militants struck a house in Khoza village of Muqar District at 01:30 pm local time today leaving seven civilians dead," a local official told *Xinhua* but declined to be identified.

Meanwhile, Barakatullah the police chief of Muqar District in talks with *Xinhua* confirmed the incident and said, "only two civilians were killed and five others including three children sustained injuries."

All the victims are members of a same family, he added.

The police officer also added that a cleanup operation is going on in Muqar District to wipe out Taliban militants from the area.

Taliban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have not to make comment yet.

Xinhua



Pakistani volunteers search for bodies inside a burnt-out passenger bus after it collided with an oil tanker near Nooriabad.—XINHUA



A resident looks at a damaged bus after a bomb attack in Baghdad's Kadhimiya District on 23 Jan, 2011. A car bomb went off near the bus carrying Iranian pilgrims, killing one pilgrim and wounding seven in Baghdad's Kadhimiya District, an Interior Ministry source said.

INTERNET

Road accident kills 32 in south Pakistan

KARACHI, 23 Jan—At least 32 people were killed and several injured in a road accident in southern Pakistan, officials and rescue teams said Sunday.

A passenger bus with some 50 people collided with an oil tanker near Hyderabad, a main city in Sindh Province, early Sunday morning, regional police officer Muhammad Farooq said at the accident site.

Rescue police confirmed death of 32 people while nine others were injured.

Farooq said both vehicles caught fire and the passengers died of burn injuries. He said that the fire fighters were also arrived late at the crash site and passengers on the front seats could not go out of the bus due to severe blaze.

The police officer said that several passengers at the back seats succeeded to flee from the bus, who were later taken to a nearby hospital.

The injured said the coach driver was drowsy and was in high speed. They said some passengers asked the driver to be alert but he ignored the advice. They said the driver could not control the bus and hit the tanker, parked along the road on the Super Highway.

Xinhua

Flurry of car bombs kill 10 in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 Jan—A flurry of morning bombs killed 10 people and wounded 34 around Baghdad Sunday, police said, in what one Iraqi official called an attempt to undermine security ahead of a much anticipated meeting of Arab heads of state in two months.

The three-hour drumbeat of explosions began around 7 am in Baghdad's rush hour at the start of the local work week. The Iraqi intelligence official said the attacks were trying to present the country as dangerous because Arab heads of state and their large retinues plan to meet in Baghdad in late March for the annual Arab League summit.

The attacks appear to be a mixture of roadside bombings, suicide bombers and car bombs.—INTERNET

Search goes on for missing Americans in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 Jan—The US soldier was out of uniform when he sneaked off base on a motorcycle to visit his Iraqi wife in central Baghdad. The militiamen hiding nearby weren't fooled. They were seen seizing him at gunpoint.

More than four years

later, Ahmed Kousay al-Taie, a resident of Ann Arbor, Michigan who was born in Iraq, is the only American service member still missing here. His family fears he will never be found.

At the twilight of the US military presence in Iraq, a unit is dedicated

to searching for al-Taie and 12 missing civilians, including seven Americans. Its mission is a key piece of unfinished business for the US as it prepares to withdraw its remaining troops from Iraq by the end of this year.

Internet



File photo shows marines manning a checkpoint in Apatzingan, Michoacan State, Mexico. Ten alleged drug cartel members have been killed in a clash with Mexican soldiers in the northeastern state of Tamaulipas, which borders the United States, the Mexican army has said.—INTERNET

Pair of US drone strikes kill six in Pakistan

MER ALI, 23 Jan—A pair of suspected US drone strikes killed six alleged militants in Pakistan's troubled North Waziristan tribal area near the Afghan border Sunday, Pakistani intelligence officials said.

The attacks came as more than 2,000 tribesmen, many of them students, held a protest in one of North Waziristan's largest towns demanding an end to the drone strikes, saying they killed innocent civilians.

Militants have effective control over North Waziristan, and it was unclear if they played a role in organizing the protest. The US refuses to acknowledge the covert CIA drone strikes publicly, but officials insist privately that the attacks are precise and mainly kill Taliban and al-Qaeda militants. However, there have been credible accounts of civilian casualties.

In the first drone attack, the aircraft fired two missiles at a vehicle and a house in Doga Mada Khel village, killing four suspected militants, said intelligence officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.—INTERNET



A US "Predator" drone is seen near a US base in Kandahar, Afghanistan. A drone attack has killed at least four militants in Pakistan's North Waziristan tribal district, officials have said.

INTERNET

Car bomb in central Mexico kills police officer

PACHUCA, 23 Jan—A car bomb exploded Saturday in the central state of Hidalgo, killing a police commander and wounding three officers.

State Public Safety Secretary Damian Canales Mena said the officers were checking out a tip that a body was in the trunk of the vehicle when it exploded.

Investigators suspect the Zetas drug cartel was behind Saturday's attack in the town of Tula. It could be revenge for the recent killings of several cartel members by police, Canales Mena said.

Hidalgo is the home state of

alleged Zetas leader Heriberto Lazcano Lazcano and a central transit point for drugs.

In Chihuahua State, meanwhile, authorities said a commander who worked in internal affairs for the local Attorney General's Office was killed along with another agent.

State Attorney General's Office spokesman Carlos Gonzalez said the two were gunned down Friday afternoon in the capital, also called Chihuahua. A third agent was gravely wounded. A motive was not immediately known.

Internet



Science



UK astronomers discover hottest planet ever found

LONDON, 23 Jan—A team of astronomers in Britain believe they have discovered the hottest planet ever found.

While Venus, right here in our own solar system, was once the hottest known planet, astronomers in the past 20 years have expanded their search to other solar systems.

As a result, planets have been identified that far exceed the 460 degrees Celsius temperature of Venus — some with scorching temperatures approaching 1,000 C.

But astronomers from England have discovered what is now believed to be by far the hottest planet ever found.

Simply called WASP-33b, the planet is located in the far-off Andromeda

constellation, 378 light years from Earth, and boasts a scorching temperature of 3,148 C.

The temperature readings were made using the William Herschel Telescope in the Canary Islands in the Atlantic Ocean southwest of Morocco.

Astronomer Alexis Smith, of Keele University in Staffordshire, UK, led the study.—*Internet*

Study identifies 9,400-year-old domesticated dog

PORTLAND, 23 Jan—Nearly 10,000 years ago, man's best friend provided protection and companionship — and an occasional meal.

That's what researchers are saying after finding a bone fragment from what they are calling the earliest confirmed domesticated dog in the Americas.

University of Maine graduate student Samuel Belknap III came across the

fragment while analyzing a dried-out sample of human waste unearthed in southwest Texas in the 1970s. A carbon-dating test put the age of the bone at 9,400 years, and a DNA analysis confirmed it came from a dog — not a wolf, coyote or fox, Belknap said.

Because it was found deep inside a pile of human excrement and was the characteristic orange-brown colour that bone turns when it has passed through the digestive tract, the fragment provides the earliest direct evidence that dogs — besides being used for company, security and hunting — were eaten by humans and may even have been bred as a food source, he said.

Internet

NASA studying using lasers and microwaves to launch satellites

WASHINGTON, 23 Jan—According to the *Space Daily* page, NASA is conducting a study into a variation of an old concept that might one day replace conventional rockets as a means of launching payloads into space, using ground based lasers or microwaves.

The idea is that an array of lasers or microwave generators would focus their beams on a single heat exchanger on a space craft. The heat exchanger in turn would heat fuel, likely liquid hydrogen, ejecting the super heated gas out a nozzle, propelling the space craft into low Earth orbit.

The advantage of what scientists call beamed thermal propulsion is that a launch

vehicle would not have to be fueled with liquid oxygen to ignite the hydrogen fuel, thus saving mass. A regular rocket generally launches in two to three stages, sometimes with the assistance of strap on solid rocket boosters, carrying only 3 percent of its mass in useful payload. A beamed thermal propulsion system would launch a one stage space craft into low Earth orbit, with a useful payload mass of five to fifteen percent.

The cost savings of such an arrangement are obvious. More payload can be launched into low Earth orbit at one time. The cost of stacking a three stage rocket and the complexity of multiple rocket engines are done away with.—*Internet*



This artist's concept shows a view across a mysterious disk of young, blue stars encircling a supermassive black hole at the core of the neighbouring Andromeda Galaxy.—INTERNET



Researcher Samuel Belknap III poses with a skull of a domestic dog, on 14 Jan, 2011, at the University of Maine in Orono.—INTERNET



Technology



Robots take over in this week in GeekTech

WASHINGTON, 23 Jan—Where would we be without robots? Probably a little farther away from a sci-fi dystopian future, but that's besides the point. Let's look at some of our favourite robotics stories from the past week.

Flying Robots Can Design and Build Stuff

University of Pennsylvania researchers managed to programme a team of quadcopter drone bots to not only build structures, but to draw up the plans for them too—all the humans have to do is tell the robots what sort of thing to build. This might be the most unsettling robotics development of the year so far, primarily because of the buzzing sound the robots make when flying around. Hit the link above to see them in action.

Robotic Knife-fish Swims Vertically, Makes Terrible Sushi

Based on the actual Amazonian black ghost knife-fish, researchers created a robotic fish that can swim vertically as well as horizontally. Great, now robots can out-swim us too...

Kinect Hack Makes Robot Mimic Its Master

The headline says it all, really. I'd love to see a robot try to mimic a breakdancing human.

I, Pogo Stick

I have terrible coordination, so if I decide to use a pogo stick, I should probably stick to the iHop, a robotic pogo stick designed and built by a grad student. What's so special about this contraption? It self-balances—perfect for awkward souls like me.

Internet

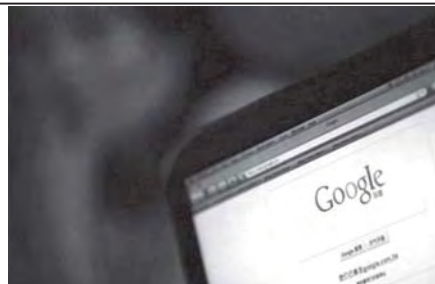
Smartphones and tablets to get even faster with Nvidia's Tegra 3 chip

NEW YORK, 23 Jan—Nvidia is set to roll out the next-generation Tegra 3 chip aimed at smartphones and tablets, promising to be even faster than its current processor, which was one of the stars of CES 2011, the dual-core Tegra 2.

While Nvidia hasn't officially announced the processor yet, the Tegra 3's impending launch is almost certain, according to *Softpedia*. The new chip is expected to have four cores inside, and will probably roll out at the upcoming Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on 14 February.

Without revealing any dates, Nvidia's general manager of Tegra Mike Rayfield confirmed the Tegra 3's launch in an interview with *Hexus*,

"I'm going to come pretty close to my cadence of a launch every year," said Rayfield. "It will be in production around the same time as my competitors' first dual-cores will."—*Internet*



Samsung Galaxy 4G landing on T-Mobile

BARCELONA, 23 Jan—CES might be over, but the 4G phones keep trickling in. As a part of its aggressive 4G plans, T-Mobile announced that the Samsung Galaxy 4G will launch in the first half of 2011. But will it have the specs of the hot next-gen Galaxy phones? It doesn't seem like it.

Specs for the Samsung Galaxy 4G on T-Mobile aren't clear, but we do know that it will have a Super AMOLED display—not the newest Super AMOLED Plus display. At CES, Verizon unveiled an unnamed LTE phone with a 4.3-inch display as well as a phone on AT&T, the Infuse 4G, with a monstrous 4.5-inch display. According to Samsung, Super AMOLED Plus displays have an increased number of sub-pixels by 50 percent and perform even better in bright light than the first-gen Super AMOLED displays.

On the Samsung Mobile website, the company is trumpeting the arrival of "something big" on 13 Feb, which coincidentally is the week of Mobile World Congress in Barcelona. The rumor mill is buzzing about what sort of specs the next generation of Samsung Galaxy phones will boast. A dual-core processor, an 8-megapixel camera and built-in NFC support are just a few of the exciting features the next-gen phones could sport.—*Internet*

With about seven billion people on the planet, a web-naming protocol doesn't allow for everyone to have a gadget with its own online address. A situation compared to not having enough telephone numbers for everyone.—INTERNET

Health

Health Tip: Prepare to bring baby home

Most babies are ready to leave the hospital within two to five days of birth. For parents, that means a lot of preparation.

The American Academy of Pediatrics says parents should follow this checklist before bringing baby home:

- * Properly install a rear-facing car seat that is federally approved and the correct size for your little one.
- * Be sure to follow the car seat maker's instructions carefully. If possible, have the installed seat inspected by a certified technician.
- * Select a safe place for the infant to sleep, well in advance.
- * Purchase clothing and blankets, diapers, and formula — if you decide not to breast-feed.

Internet



File picture of researchers inspecting a specimen at Australia's Peter MacCullum Cancer Centre, where scientists investigate families with multiple cases of breast cancer. The improved blood test for cancer — developed by pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson — will allow closer monitoring of tumours in real time, advancing doctors' understanding of how cancer develops.—INTERNET



Ruth, 22, receives her first surf lesson as part of a National Health funded surf therapy pilot scheme being run at Watergate Bay on 4 Sept, 2010 in Newquay, England. Currently, a group of 20 young people with diagnosed mental health difficulties are being trained to surf at Watergate Bay in Cornwall as part of a pilot scheme funded by the NHS.—INTERNET

Improving health during winter

COLUMBIA, 23 Jan—It can be more difficult during winter to keep New Year's resolutions so US health experts advise trying to establish healthy traditions instead.

"When thinking about New Year's changes, a good first step is creating a vision for the future by picturing yourself happy and healthy," Karen Sherbondy of the University of Missouri-Columbia Extension special projects coordinator for Family Nutrition Education Programmes says in a statement.

Sherbondy's colleague Steve Ball, state fitness specialist and associate professor in the College of Human Environmental Sciences, advises establishing traditions that encourage physical activity.

"Think of things that are enjoyable—spending time with kids, crafts and watching movies—and incorporate physical activity to enhance them," Ball says. "Plan activity breaks, set a timer and have 5-10 minute relays inside or outside, take a walk around the block during commercials or try games that get everyone moving."

Ball also suggests:

- Trying new things, such as dance classes, swimming or water aerobics.
- Checking out exercise videos from the library.

Internet

Vitamin E linked to longer life in some

HELSINKI, 23 Jan—If vitamin E influences lifespan, it may benefit those age 71 and older the most, researchers in Finland said.

Dr Harri Hemila and Jaakko Kaprio of the University of Helsinki said the large randomized trial was conducted in Finland from 1985 to 1993 and involved more than 10,000 people age 65 and older.

The study, published in *Age and Ageing*, finds vitamin E had no effect on mortality in those age 65-70, but it reduced mortality by 24 percent among participants age 71 or older.

Among 2,284 men with dietary vitamin C intake above the median who smoked less than a pack of cigarettes per day, vitamin E extended life-span by two years at the upper limit of the follow-up age span, the study says.

The researchers concluded that "if vitamin E influences the life-span, it is possible that a benefit on the oldest participants might be camouflaged by the large middle-aged majority of study participants."

The researchers propose it might be useful to analyze the effect of vitamin E supplementation in large trials controlled by the age of participants at the follow-up and not just by the time after randomization that has been customary.—Internet

Business

GM to add 650 jobs in Flint, Mich

DETROIT, 23 Jan—US automaker General Motors Co is expected to add 650 jobs at a truck plant in Flint, Mich, sources told *The Detroit News*.

The plan is to add a third shift to the plant that builds Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra trucks, taking advantage of \$35 million in plant investments the company has made since 2008.

Neither the company nor Michigan Gov Rick Snyder's office has released details, but the governor is expected to visit Flint Monday, when an

announcement is expected.

Sales data supports the possibility that the truck plant will add workers. Autodata Corp said Silverado and Sierra sales rose at least 16 percent in 2010 compared to 2009. The 2011 Silverado was also hailed by *Motor Trend* magazine as its choice for "Truck of the Year."

Analysts said businesses that held back on buying new trucks during the recession were behind much of the recent increase in sales.—Internet



Chinese customers buy vegetables at a supermarket in Hefei, east China's Anhui province in December. World Trade Organization chief Pascal Lamy says chances of closing the long-delayed Doha round of talks on a new free trade pact are much better than a year ago.—INTERNET

Beijing plans to build China's first design exchange

BEIJING, 23 Jan—Beijing is planning to build China's first design exchange to offer a platform for design trading and boost the country's burgeoning creativity industry.

"China enjoys a tremendous market for both manufacturing and consumption, and sees a growing demand for design industry and an increasing supply in this regard," Song Weizu, vice secretary-general of the China Industrial Design Association, said Sunday.

In Beijing alone, there are about 1,000 governmental design businesses



Bank of America customers use an ATM on 21 Jan, 2011 in San Francisco, California. Bank of America reported a fourth quarter loss of \$1.2 billion, or 16 cents a share, bringing total losses for the year to \$2.23 billion, or 37 cents a share.—INTERNET

China's Haier sees profit up 78%

QINGDAO, 23 Jan—Haier Group, one of the world's leading white goods and household appliance manufacturers, announced Sunday that its profit jumped 78 percent year on year in 2010.

The profit hit 6.2 billion yuan (941.8 million US dollars) in 2010, said Du Fangyuan, a press office coordinator of the company.

Haier's sales revenue reached 135 billion yuan in 2010, up nine percent from a year earlier, Du said.

The growth can be attributed to the group's successful transition of business model and product innovations, Du said.

Haier Group, which is headquartered in east China's Qingdao city and has 60,000 global employees, sells its products in over 100 countries and regions around the world.—Xinhua

Xinhua

Lebanon political crisis threatens economic gains



In this photo taken 22 Jan, 2011, cranes in construction sites are seen in Downtown Beirut, Lebanon.—INTERNET

BEIRUT, 23 Jan—The political crisis in Lebanon is threatening to derail economic progress after a year that saw 7 percent economic growth, a record number of tourists and bank deposits among the highest in the Middle East.

Lebanon's Western-backed government

collapsed 12 Jan after Hezbollah and its allies resigned from the Cabinet in a dispute over a UN court investigating the 2005 assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

The court, which is widely expected to accuse the Shiite militant group, filed a sealed draft indictment Monday, touching off a process many fear could ignite new bloodshed nearly six years after the massive truck bombing along Beirut's waterfront that killed Hariri.

"This is a very deep and troubling crisis in Lebanon," said Lebanese economic analyst Kamel Wazni. "The continuation of this crisis with the absence of any political resolution any time soon will have its implications in terms of growth and in terms of development."

In the days after the government collapsed, many Lebanese carried on as normal, packing the city's restaurants and nightclubs. But as the crisis drags on, the streets are growing quieter; in recent days streets normally clogged with traffic have been free of cars.—*Internet*

Philippine flooding, landslides kill 68

MANILA, 23 Jan—The number of people who were killed due to flooding and landslides in some parts of the Philippines rose to 68, while 26 others were reported missing, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said on Saturday.

About 378,000 families or 1.9 million individuals in 2,115 villages or 181 municipalities and 17 cities of 25 provinces in different regions have been affected by the flooding and landslide incidents.

The NDRRMC said that floods and landslides have already damaged agriculture, infrastructure and private property amounting to 1.785 billion pesos (40 million US dollars).—*Xinhua*

70 dead in S Africa floods



Emergency tents for refugees pictured at Johannesburg's Rand Airport in 2008. INTERNET

JOHANNESBURG, 23 Jan—The death toll from torrential rain in South Africa has reached 70, with another 8,000 people displaced, an official said Saturday, as the government stepped up its emergency efforts.

"The number of fatalities currently recorded nationally have sadly increased to 70.... The number of displaced and affected households reported at 8400," cooperative governance spokesman Vuyelwa Qinga said in a statement.

She added that, after consultations with various experts, the government had decided to establish national disaster joint operations to "improve coordination of government interventions and streamline communication in relation to the disasters."—*Internet*

Storm causes slips, flooded roads in New Zealand North Island

WELLINGTON, 23 Jan—Heavy rain over much of New Zealand's North Island has caused slips and flooded roads, and forced the evacuation of a camping ground.

Roads and houses across Auckland have been flooded, and farmers in Northland, Bay of Plenty and Waikato, have been told to move stock to higher ground, police said on Sunday.

The east coast of Northland received 200 mm of rainfall overnight Saturday, and part of Rawhiti Road near Taupiri Bay collapsed.

Police said people should restrict travel on the Coromandel Peninsula around Whitianga due to floods, slips and fallen trees, after nearly 100 mm of rainfall was recorded in a 24 hour period since Saturday.—*Xinhua*

Egypt calls for release of kidnapped engineer in Nigeria

CAIRO, 23 Jan—Egypt is closely monitoring developments regarding the kidnapped Egyptian engineer for oil service in Nigeria, the Egyptian foreign ministry said Saturday.

Nigerian kidnappers abducted Mohamed Shaaban early Friday

from a ship off the coast of Niger Delta after controlling the vessel for several hours before departing, the Nigerian military said Friday.

The Nigerian vessel, named *Melody* and contracted by Italian energy company Agip for offshore oil development, was

attacked by robbers on Thursday afternoon.

Assistant Foreign Minister for Consular Affairs Mohamed Abdel Hakam said that Egypt is closely monitoring the case and following up the efforts undertaken by the Nigerian authorities to release the Egyptian engineer.—*Xinhua*

Brazilian mudslides deadliest disaster since 1900

SAO PAULO, 23 Jan—The floods and mudslides that hit Rio de Janeiro state last week apparently represent this country's deadliest natural disaster since 1900.

The Brazilian Civil Defence Department says on its website that the death toll from slides triggered by deluges in mountain towns just north of the city of Rio has risen to 791.

The Rio de Janeiro public prosecutor's office says that 430 people are listed as missing.

Both agencies released the information Saturday.—*Internet*



Photo taken on 22 Jan, 2011 shows Xijiang Village covered in snow in Leishan County, Qiandongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture, southwest China's Guizhou Province. More than 1,200 families of the Miao ethnic group reside in the village, which has a history of some 2,000 years and well preserved customs.—XINHUA

Missing boat with five Americans found in Philippines

MANILA, 23 Jan—Rescuers say they have found five missing Americans aboard a sailboat that went missing en route from Guam to the Philippines. All those aboard are in good health.

Philippine coast guard chief Adm Wilfredo Tamayo says a search ship guided by a spotter plane located and boarded the 38-foot (11-metre) catamaran *The Pineapple* after it was spotted off the southern island of Dinagat. They are escorting the vessel to its original destination on central Cebu island. The vessel was reported missing on its way to the Philippines after apparently developing engine trouble. Tamayo says the four men and one woman on board are fine.

Relatives of the Americans alerted the US Coast Guard that *The Pineapple* left Guam on 6 Jan but had not reached Cebu.—*Internet*

A boat operates near the French-flagged ship "Louis Dreyfus" during the official launch of "Alba 1", a high-speed fiber optic cable for telecommunications, in Vargas, Venezuela. The laying of a submarine fiber optic cable linking Cuba and Venezuela started on 22 Jan, 2011. The cost of the investment would exceed 70 million US dollars and the cable would have a life span of 25 years. XINHUA



Hydropower projects will be completed...

(from page 1)

with the government in undertaking regional development task, the government is striving for modernizing the nation. As electricity is playing a key role in development tasks of the State, the government is giving encouragement to speedy generation of electricity with participation of the people.

Although the nation

facility of its kind. These power plants have 2571 megawatts generating capacity.

Tarpein-1 Hydropower Project was jointly implemented by Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and Datang (Yunnan) United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd (DUHD) through JV/BOT system. The project commenced on 19 December 2007 and it completed during

more electricity to Myanmar and Chinese peoples, create jobs and scale up social and economic develop of the regions.

Due to the 18 ongoing hydropower projects designed to effectively utilize the water resources in Kachin State that will be completed one after another, the region will witness many hydropower plants in the near future.

The government is taking measures for all-round development of

Prime Minister U Thein Sein addressing the inauguration of Tarpein-1 Hydropower Station.
MNA



has water sources to be utilized for generating electricity, Biluchaung-2 (Lawpita) Hydropower Plant (168 megawatts) and Kinda Hydropower Plant (56 megawatts) were operated before 1988 due to heavy investment and time limitations. After 1988, hydropower plants were inaugurated one after another. From 1988 to date,

three years and one month period. A total of 18 hydropower projects being implemented in Kachin State will have 20760 megawatts generating capacity, and of them, Tarpein-1 Project is the first to be inaugurated.

Tarpein-1 Hydropower Plant installed with four 60-megawatt gen-

the nation so as to keep abreast of global nations said the Prime Minister. He urged personnel concerned to grab the chance to learn from foreign technicians while working together implementing such projects. He also urged them to try to set up other industries with the use of electric power, stressing the need for har-

The country now sees 31 power plants with a capacity of 3285 MW. In the near future, Shwegyin hydropower project (75 MW) and Kwunchaung hydropower project (60 MW) are due to be completed.



Prime Minister U Thein Sein observes Tarpein-1 Hydropower Station.—MNA

the nation has opened 15 hydropower plants including 790-megawatt Yeywa Hydropower Project inaugurated on 15 December 2010 and one coal-fired power plant in Tikyit. Tarpein-1 Hydropower Plant (240 megawatts) was the 17th

erators with 240 megawatts generating capacity will produce 1065 million kilowatt hours yearly. Thanks to mutual understanding and friendly cooperation between Myanmar and China, the project was completed to supply

monious development of human resources capable of applying advanced technologies.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister thanked officials of Ministry of Electric Power No. (1), staff of Ministry of Electric Power No (2), techni-

cians from Datang (Yunnan) United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd (DUHD) and partner local companies for their efforts and contribution to successful inauguration of Tarpein-1 Hydropower Project and Hydropower Plant and

local people.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Zeyar Aung said that in Kachin State, there are altogether 18 hydro-

power projects being implemented in partnership with such Chinese companies as DUHD, CPI, and YPIC. Upon completion of those projects, Kachin State will become the main source of electricity for the State.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister U Thein Sein inspects concrete embankment, power intake structure and inflow of water of the station.—MNA

Hydropower projects will be completed...

(from page 7)

Tarpein Hydropower Projects is the first completed projects of those 18 projects and is the honour of Kachin State. In today's age, development stems from electricity and transportation. Following the guidance of the Head of State, there have emerged a considerable number of hydropower plants and road networks after 1988.

The production activity of Bhamo District, one of the 24 Special Development Regions of the State, was previously restricted due to insufficiency in electricity, but Bhamo is picking now, the commander said.

Stability and national consolidation are the basic requirements for locals to enjoy the benefits of those projects, stressed the commander and urged local national brethren to fulfill the requirement.

In his speech, Minister U Zaw Min said that Tarpein Hydropower Plant No-1 is equipped with four units of 60-megawatt turbines, and the first turbine first generated electricity for Bhamo, Mansi, Momauk and Shwegu on 18 September, 2010.

Tarpein Hydropower Plant is the fruit of mutual understanding and amicable cooperation between the two neighbours—Myanmar and China. The government, starting from 2001-2002, has laid down and been implementing 30-year long-term strategic electric supply project.

In doing so, the government has adopted three ways—ministries themselves constructing hydropower plants, issuing permit to local national companies to build hydropower projects, inviting foreign investment and working in partnership with them.

Ministry of Electric Power No (1) is implementing 14 projects with capacity of 3,337 megawatts,

Tarpein Hydropower Projects is the first completed projects of 18 projects and is the honour of Kachin State. In today's age, development stems from electricity and transportation. Following the guidance of the Head of State, there have emerged a considerable number of hydropower plants and road networks after 1988.

national entrepreneurs 9 projects with capacity of 586 megawatts, and 44 projects with capacity of 41,545 megawatts are being implemented with foreign investment, totaling 67 projects with capacity of 45,468 megawatts, said the minister.

Those projects, will be completed ahead of the end of 30-year electricity supply plan, more electricity will be supplied in the nation.

On behalf of Chairman of DUHD Co, Chairman of China Datang Oversea Investment Co., Ltd Mr Wu Jing explained facts about Tarpein(1) Hydropower project.

A local spoke words of thanks.

After that, the Prime Minister cordially greeted departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people.

The second session of the ceremony was followed.

Commander Brig-Gen Zeyar Aung, Minister for Electric Power No.1 U Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Zaw and Chairman Mr Wu Jing formally opened the hydropower plant.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister, the Commander,

the ministers and officials from the plant had documentary photos taken.

Then, Minister U Zaw Min unveiled the sign-board of the plant.

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

After that, the commander, the ministers and Mr Wu Jing sprinkled scented water on it.

The Prime Minister inspected the plant and presented a fruit basket to Mr Wu Jing.

The Prime Minister then proceeded to the main embankment of the plant, and cordially greeted foreign experts. Then, he inspected concrete embankment, power intake structure and inflow of water into water tank.

The project was implemented by Ministry of Electric Power No.1 in cooperation with DUHD Company of the People's Republic of China. It started in 19 December, 2007 and lasted only for three years and one month.

The project includes six main hydropower structures—two 22-foot-diameter and 9770-foot-long-water tunnels, a 23-foot-diameter and 806-foot-long water diversion tunnel, a 672-foot-long and 151-foot-high concrete embankment, a 59-foot-diameter and

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Minister for Electric Power No.1 U Zaw Min unveils sign-board of Tarpein Hydropower Station.

MNA

Hydropower projects will be completed...

(from page 8)

259-foot-high surge tank No.1, a 59-foot-diameter and 228-foot-high surge tank No.2, four 16-foot-diameter and 1010-foot-long penstock pipelines, 289 feet x 89 feet x151 feet power plant and installation of turbine generators.

In Kachin State, 18 hydropower projects are under implementation. These projects are Myitsone (6000 MW), Chiphwe (3400 MW), Wusauk (1800 MW), Khaunglanphu (2700 MW), Yeenan (1200 MW), Phizaw (2000 MW), Lazar (1900 MW), Chipwenge (99 MW), Htarkh (6 MW), Gawlan (100 MW),

Wukyonejie (60 MW), Khankan (140 MW), Htoneshinchaung (340 MW), Laungdin (435 MW), Tarpein (1) (240 MW), Tarpein(2) (140 MW), Namtabet (1) (96 MW) and Namtabet (2) (104 MW), totaling 20,760 MW.

Before the time of Tawmadaw Government, there were only nine power plants with a generation capacity of 529 MW— two hydropower projects and seven gas-fired power plants.

But there have now emerged 22 more power plants including newly opened Tarpein (1) hydropower plant—14 hydropower plants, a coal-fired power plant and seven gas-fired power plants. These power plants can generate 2756 MW of electricity.

The country now sees 31 power plants with a capacity of 3285 MW. In the near future, Shwegyin

hydropower project (75 MW) and Kwunchaung hydropower project (60 MW) are due to be completed.

The newly-opened Tarpein (1) hydropower plant is located on Tarpein River near the old Kalonskha village in Moemaik Township about 30 miles to the northeast of Bhamo Township, Kachin State. The project started in 19 December, 2007.

It is of concrete embankment measuring 672 feet in length and 151 feet in height. Its water storage area at full tank level is 18162 acres feet and its generation capacity is 240 MW (60 MWx4)

It can generate 1065 million KW hrs a year. The purposes of implementing the project are to distribute power through electricity network system and help Facilitate development of the region.

MNA



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Film Award to Zinyaw Film Production.—MNA



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Sound Award to Hsan Oo.—MNA



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Film Editing Award to Zaw Min (Hanthar Myay).—MNA

Parties, politicians and...

(from page 16)

Myanmar movies shown in the year 2009. The presenting of awards started in 1952. After 1988 in the time of the Tatmadaw government, handsome academy awards have been presented in eleven genres, up from seven. Therefore, academy awards are being presented for every sector from a movie such as acting, art, technical and knowledge.

The Tatmadaw government is doing so with the aims of organizing the State to recognize the efforts of the outstanding artists and technicians, motivating other artists and technicians to emulate the academy award winners, enabling the Myanmar film world to meet the international standard and penetrate into the global market, and then improving the socioeconomy of those from the film world.

In the meantime, the Information Ministry has purchased the most modern movie equipment to be able to make international standard movies. Moreover, plans are under way to buy modern lighting equipment and sound equipment.

The ministry has laid down five objectives, twelve work programmes and five major work programmes for Myanmar Motion Picture Association and the film industry. All necessary assistance is being rendered to successfully implement those objectives and work programmes.

MMPA is seeking ways and means to develop the film world by organizing seminars and workshops.

Likewise, training courses on directing, acting, photography and film script are being conducted. Arrangements are also being made to send executive members of MMPA and those from the movie world to attend international film festivals and cinematographic seminars while efforts are being made to acquire technology, make movies on a cooperative basis and enable the Myanmar movies to penetrate into the international movie market.

Thanks to the concerted efforts of the State, the ministry and those from the film world, the Myanmar movies produced in 2009-2010 have improved both in quantity and quality. In the near future, two Myanmar movies will be shown abroad, and there will be market links. Besides, movies and TV drama series will be made on a bilateral basis and they will be shown simultaneously in two countries. So, these are good prospects for the development of Myanmar film world.

All the people from the film world are therefore urged to work hard together to improve the film industry by making best use those good foundations.

With advancing technology, the international film world has developed day by day. Global nations have been in the position of making sophisticated movies to attract the audience by using digital system and cutting-edge technology. In the sector of movie showing also, e-cinema and digital cinema systems are being employed today.

(See page 10)



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Cinematography Award to Ko Ko Htay.—MNA



Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin attending the ceremony to present 2009 Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Award (Academy Award) at which Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan delivers an address.—MNA



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Director Award to Mee Pwar.
MNA



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Script Award to Myint Oo Oo Myint.—MNA



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Actor Award to Nay Toe.
MNA

Parties, politicians and...

(from page 9)

To catch up with today's international film world, the country is also encouraging use of digital system, special technology and special effects. Similarly, efforts are being made to build modern studios and cinemas. As a result, modern cinemas have emerged one after another in such big cities as Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay.

In addition, plans are under way to show movies and videos across the nation with the use of e-cinema system. So, the people will have the opportunity to watch movies and videos with better picture, colour and sound quality in both urban and rural areas at the same time.

Beside MRTV and Myawady channels, DVB-T and DTH channels have been set up in the country. As a result, the people can now have channel options and more knowledge and enjoy more movie, TV and music entertainment programmes. At the same time, the State media has been able to meet the international standard.

With a number of TV channels, more and more Myanmar movies, videos and MTVs can be shown in those channels. Therefore, all those from the world of performing arts such as film, music, literature and Thabin can now have a wider platform for their artistic creation and innovation. Continued encouragement will be given

to show more Myanmar movies and videos in the increasing number of channels and to produce more TV drama series.

However, the Myanmar people will accept and watch more Myanmar movies and TV drama series only

when they are met with the standard of those from Hollywood, Bollywood, China and Korea. Hence, those from the film world are to work hard to make Myanmar movies that meet the international standard.

(See page 11)



Photo shows Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Award (Academy Award) winners for 2009.—MNA

Parties, politicians and...

(from page 10)

Film professionals are to be all convinced that promotion of quality and standard of Myanmar films and increased market share are the most fundamental requirement of the Myanmar film industry and film professionals, he said, noting that there is no shortcut to achieve the goal.

They may face a variety of challenges and deal with disagreements in working to achieve success. But sometimes, disagreement means strong discussion to improvement and correct approach. So, they should work in coordination for progress. In coordinating opinions, they have to choose the most appropriate ways.

So, beyond doubt,

performances of film professionals,

- they launched film industry in the pre-war period despite challenges and lack of equipment. They have struggled constantly from the period of silent motion picture to date to reach today's level.

- Moreover, throughout the period of independence struggles, film professionals braving varieties of oppressions by colonialists and Fascists aroused public reawaken nationalistic spirit and independence stance through the art of acting.

- Similarly, history shows that film professionals not only fought back colonialists and Fascists through the art of acting but also participated in



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Music Award to Diramo.

MNA



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan presents Best Supporting Actress Award to Soe Pyae Thazin.—MNA



Best Supporting Actress Award winner Soe Pyae Thazin being honoured by artists.—MNA

independence struggles.

- Moreover, it is known to all that throughout the periods of safeguarding independence and the periods of rebuilding the nation, film professionals have been doing their bid in the tasks with national awareness.

So, in the course of the national history, the Myanmar film industry has projected a very brilliant image to the Myanmar history, and it is heartening to know that they have been adhering to national duties, apart from duties for progress

of the nation's film industry. They are also believed to keep preserving the fine traditions, while doing their bid in pursuit of the national duty of building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Today, world countries put national interest in the fore. In like manner, parties, politicians and the people have different opinions, stances and policies, but they have to give top priority to national interest in exercising multiparty

democracy. Only then, can they serve interest of the nation and the people in an effective way. Therefore, people of all media including film professionals have to try to become reliable ones.

The seven-step Road Map adopted in line with the public desires complies with objective conditions of the nation most. In addition, it is the safest and the noblest way to peaceful, smooth transformation to democracy. In the near

(See page 12)

film professionals will make a good headway in trying to deal with difficulties and challenges, if they work closely with (1) determination to improve the film industry, (2) a proper balance between others' interest and their own, (3) perseverance, (4) unity, (5) cooperation and (6) mutual understanding. He pledged that the ministry will render assistance as much as possible for greater achievements.

Looking back to the historical background of the Myanmar film world, film professionals have preserved a fine tradition of working together in the interest of the film industry and the nation and the people. In view of



Myanma Motion Picture Outstanding Award (Academy Award) presentation ceremony in progress at open air theatre of Nay Pyi Taw City Hall.—MNA

Parties, politicians and...

(from page 11)

future will be parliaments and a government that will manage tasks for the people's ultimate goal of democratization. Learning lessons from past incidents and making good use of well-restored stability and peace and rapid development, the entire people including film professionals are duty-bound to work in concert with the new administrative machinery, which has emerged in line with the constitution, for further stability, peace and development of the nation.

After some time, winners of academy awards for 2009 will be announced and awarded one after another. In the process, the 16 movies that were screened in 2009 were scrutinized very thoroughly to name those who deserve awards. He urged the winners to keep



Artistes joyfully honour Best Actor Award winner Nay Toe.—MNA

trying to win more and more awards, and those who have not won awards yet, to try their best to achieve much-aspired awards in the coming years.

It is witnessed that film professionals got involved cohesively in independence struggles, tasks for safeguarding independence, State stability, peace and development of the nation throughout the periods. Today, they are working together to do so. He called on them to throw themselves energetically

to the tasks for building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation as it is compulsory for them to protect national interest with Union Spirit, upholding Our Three Main National Causes.

In conclusion, the minister urged all concerned;

- to turn more attention to the five objectives, 12 work programmes and the five ongoing programmes for further development of the film industry and film

professionals; to work together to get more modern machines and studies, boost cooperation with foreign experts in producing films and upgrade the film projecting system and cinema halls; to help preserve the national cultural heritage, national character through the film industry; and to join hands with the government and

U San Myint Oo appointed as ambassador to Pakistan

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan—The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U San Myint Oo as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

MNA

the people in building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation.

Next, film actors and technicians who have won the academy awards announced list of academy award winners for 2009. The Best Sound Award went to Hsan Oo and party of Ateik-ye-ayeik; the Best Cinematography Award to Ko Ko Htay and party of Ateik-ye-ayeik; the Best Supporting Actress Award to Soe Pyae Thazin of Moe-nya-eik-met-myu; the Best Script Award to Myint Oo Oo Myint of Gyogyar-taungpan-khat-than; the Best Music Award to Diramo of Zawka-ka-naythi; the

Best Actor Award to Nay Toe of Moe-nya-eik-met-myu; the Best Film Editing Award to Zaw Min (Hanthar Myay) of Kyauk-set-yay; The Best Film Award to Gyogyar-Taungpan-kha-than of Zinyaw Film Production; and the Best Director Award to Mee Pwar of Zawka-ka-naythi.

Some of the best parts of the award winning films were presented.

Minister U Kyaw Hsan presented gold statues to the winners.

Next, the Academy award winners paid respects to the Secretary-1 and wife.

The Secretary-1, wife and party cordially greeted the Academy Award winners.—MNA

Cranes to salvage capsized ship



A rescue ship arrives at a tanker ship capsized in the middle of the Rhine (Rhein) river, next to Loreley statue near Sankt Goarshausen on 14 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET

BERLIN, 23 Jan—Cranes have begun working on salvaging a capsized tanker loaded with sulfuric acid that has been floating in the Rhine River for days.

German authorities say two of three cranes needed to right and recover the ship began work on Saturday. The work is expected to take several days or weeks. Limited, southbound shipping has been

allowed to resume through the bend where the capsized ship is still listing on its side. No acid has leaked.

The accident happened on a picturesque stretch of the Rhine near the famed Loreley cliff, where the river runs 370 feet (113 metres) wide and 82 feet (25 metres) deep, making it one of the most dangerous bends in the river.

Internet

China's economic momentum to continue as inflation is controllable this year

BEIJING, 23 Jan—China's economic growth is expected to maintain its relatively fast growth as the nation will be able to keep inflation manageable, a leading government think tank said Saturday.

Experts with the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) forecast that the country's economy will first grow at a faster pace this year before it eases, as domestic demand will be a major force to drive growth.

Investment growth will likely quicken while the growth rate in exports and imports will slow

compared to last year, CAS experts said in an annual report released Saturday forecasting China's economic growth. "Inflation is still the biggest obstacle facing China's economic growth this year," said Yang Xiaoguang, a senior expert with the CAS.

China's consumer price index (CPI), the main gauge of inflation, rose 4.6 percent in December year-on-year and 3.3 percent for the whole of 2010, breaking the government's 3 percent inflation ceiling.—Xinhua

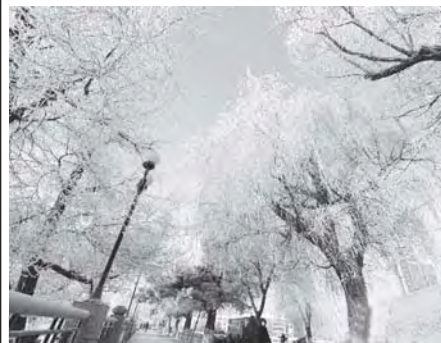


Photo taken on 22 Jan, 2011 shows the rime scenery along the Songhuajiang river in Jilin City, northeast China's Jilin Province.

XINHUA

Jordan's A/H1N1 flu deaths rise to 11

AMMAN, 23 Jan—A four-year old Jordanian girl died Saturday of A/H1N1 influenza, increasing the number of the flu fatalities in the country to 11, Jordan's health authorities announced Saturday. The girl, who was admitted into the state-run Prince Hamzah Hospital, was in a "very critical condition and suffered from a chronic disease," the statement obtained by Xinhua said.

In the statement, the health ministry said the number of A/H1N1 flu cases registered in the country reached 181 since the discovery of the first case in early December 2010. In 2009, the number of A/H1N1 flu cases registered in the Arab kingdom hit 3,033 cases, while the number of flu fatalities reached 16.—Xinhua

Japan comedian winds up his 'Earth Marathon'

After sailing and running around the planet for the past two years, Japanese comedian Kanpei Hazama, 61, crossed the finish line Friday night, joking: "I'm fed up with running."

Thousands of well-wishers greeted the television personality at Osaka Castle Park in western Japan, where he began his 41,000-kilometre (25,420-mile) "Earth Marathon" in December 2008.

"I'm home now!" Hazama, wearing a black running suit and sunglasses, yelled to his fans and his fellow comedians, 17 days after he landed in Japan after sailing from China to southwestern Fukuoka harbour.



Japanese comedian Kanpei Hazama (R) is greeted by his fans upon his arrival at the Fukuoka Marina on 4 January as the last leg of his Earth marathon.

"Rubbish hotel" booked up for tourism fair

Celebrating a tourism fair staged this week to promote Spain's biggest industry is a new hotel in central Madrid whose maker freely admits is rubbish.

German sculptor HA Shult used 12 tonnes of recycled junk to build the hotel in

central Madrid's Callao Square and draw attention to the amount of flotsam spoiling Europe's beaches.

"We must know and we must understand that the oceans are the biggest garbage dumps of the world," Schult told Reuters.

His Corona Extra

Save the Beach Hotel opened its doors on 19 January and operators say its five double rooms have been fully booked for the four days in which it will be taking guests.

News Album

Crocodile loses appetite after swallowing cell phone

A crocodile in Ukraine who swallowed a cell phone has refused to touch his food for a month and attempts to prompt nature to take its course have so far failed, vets said Saturday.

The Nile crocodile named Gena, who will turn 15 next month, swallowed the phone when a visitor tried to take a picture of him in late December. The ring tone could be heard from inside the reptile for several days afterwards.

Eduard Manukyan, a representative of the aquarium in Ukraine's eastern city of Dnipropetrovsk, said that Gena's condition was worsening by the day but staff fear an operation to extract the phone may be too dangerous.

"He moves around, goes into water but has not eaten for a month," Manukyan said.

In an effort to induce bowel movements, vets gave Gena laxatives and vitamins injected in quail but he refused to touch it.



A Nile Crocodile at an animal park. A crocodile in Ukraine who swallowed a cell phone has refused to touch his food for a month and attempts to prompt nature to take its course have so far failed, vets said Saturday.

Business cards led to drug bust

New York police said they arrested two men accused of running a high-end cocaine and marijuana business they advertised with business cards.

Investigators said an informant found the business cards advertising the drug-dealing services of Thomas Zenon and Miguel Guzman in a New York University dorm, and undercover officers made 12 buys during a three-month period, the *New York Daily News* reported Friday.

Police said Zenon and Guzman, who were arrested Wednesday, had more than 200 customers in the Manhattan borough. The men were scheduled to be arraigned on drug charges Friday.

Bollywood star on Berlin film fest jury



Bollywood actor and producer Aamir Khan, seen here on 20 Jan, will bring some Indian spice to the jury at the 61st Berlin film festival next month, organizers said Friday.

INTERNET

BERLIN, 23 Jan—Bollywood star Aamir Khan will bring some Indian spice to the jury at the 61st Berlin film festival next month, organizers said Friday.

The seven-person jury, headed by Italian-American actress Isabella Rossellini, is tasked with picking the winner of the coveted Golden and Silver Bear prizes in the February 10 to 20 festival in the

German capital.

Australian film producer Jan Chapman, German actress Nina Hoss, Canadian filmmaker Guy Maddin, British costume designer Sandy Powell and Iranian director Jafar Panahi complete the line-up. However, Panahi's place on the jury will be left symbolically empty, as he was handed six years in jail in December and banned from making films or leaving Iran for 20 years.

"There has been worldwide protest against this verdict that violates the right to freedom of opinion and expression," said the festival in a statement.

"The Berlinale is holding a place open in the Jury for Jafar Panahi and in doing so wants to signal its support for his struggle for freedom."

Internet

Patti Smith tours UK, readies new album

LONDON, 23 Jan—American rocker Patti Smith says she'll be doing some improvisational work and play a gig for the homeless during her current swing through Great Britain.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Famer told *The Guardian* she would do an improving piece at the Aldeburgh Festival based on the WG Sebald poem "After Nature" and do a benefit for the down-and-out at St Giles Church.



Patti Smith.—INTERNET

The newspaper said Saturday Smith has been working increasingly with her two children. Her son is a guitar player married to Meg White of the White Stripes. Her daughter, a composer, is taking part in a couple of the shows on the current tour.—Internet



A woman walks past a Commodore computer (C, Top) and other historical devices at the new Computer Game Museum in Berlin on 20 January.—INTERNET

Old school and new at Berlin computer game museum

BERLIN, 23 Jan—"Damn it. Lost again," cries Andreas Lanke as he suffers his umpteenth defeat at the hands of Nimrod, the world's first computer game at the centrepiece of a new museum that opens Friday in Berlin.

Actually, explained Lanke, the museum's curator resplendent in his retro Space Invaders T-shirt, Nimrod, dating from 1951, is virtually unbeatable.

Based on the simple game of "matchsticks", where the last player to pick up a match loses, the programming was so basic it could only react in one way to the user's

input.

"In other words, it always makes the perfect move," Lange said.

Despite this blatant design flaw, Nimrod, an enormous panel of flashing white LEDs, was a marvel when it came out, one of the first non-governmental computers and the first to offer a gaming element.

The rest of the museum is quite simply a geek's nirvana.

Spread over 670 square metres (7,000 square feet), it charts the history of computer games and gaming consoles from Nimrod to the latest 3D extravaganzas.

Internet

Dalglish expects great things from Torres

WOLVERHAMPTON, 23 Jan—Kenny Dalglish believes Fernando Torres is back to his best after the Liverpool striker's double clinched a 3-0 win at Wolves.

Torres is displaying glimpses of his



Liverpool's Fernando Torres (facing) celebrates scoring the opening goal with teammates.—INTERNET

old self after a lacklustre opening to the campaign and the Spain star took his goal tally to nine with a pair of close range finishes at Molineux on Saturday.

With Portugal midfielder Raul Meireles also beginning to fulfil his potential, Dalglish is confident his first victory in four matches since his return to Anfield will be the prelude to a revival for the Reds. "It was the best Torres has played since I came in. The way he worked and way he took his goals was excellent," Dalglish said.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Van Persie scores treble as Arsenal down Wigan

LONDON, 23 Jan—Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger hailed Robin van Persie's hat-trick in the 3-0 win over Wigan, but warned the Dutchman that he cannot risk burnout as the Gunners target a four-trophy sweep.

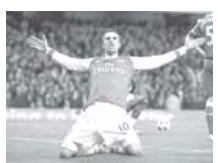
Van Persie, who also missed a penalty on Saturday, is now back to his best after missing three months at the start of the season with an ankle problem but Wenger insists the striker cannot expect to play every game.

"He's back in form,"

said Wenger. "He was already fit and sharp last week.

"It's important to have him back but we have plenty of offensive players so let's hope we can keep him fit until the end of the season and it's up to us to use him in the right proportion of games we play.

INTERNET



Australia's Culina out with knee injury

SYDNEY, 23 Jan—Australia midfielder Jason Culina will miss the Asian



Australia midfielder Jason Culina will miss the Asian Cup semi-final against Uzbekistan.—INTERNET

Arsenal's Robin van Persie celebrates scoring his second goal during their English Premier League.—INTERNET

Barcelona go seven points clear of Real

MADRID, 23 Jan—Champions Barcelona went seven points clear of



Barcelona's midfielder Andres Iniesta (R) shoots against Racing Santander's goalkeeper Tono (L).—INTERNET

Real Madrid at the top of the Spanish first division on Saturday as goals from Pedro Rodriguez, Lionel Messi and Andres Iniesta sealed a 3-0 home win over Racing Santander.

Barcelona had lost 3-1 to Real Betis in their mid-week Kings Cup match—although they reached the semi-finals 6-3 on aggre-

gate—but got off to the perfect start with Spanish winger Pedro netting his 11th league goal after just 90 seconds on Saturday.

Barcelona then coasted to their 14th consecutive league win and maintained their flawless away record with a ninth win on the road.

INTERNET

Results on 22 January

Asian Cup - Quarter-finals			
Australia	1 - 0	Iraq	
Iran	0 - 1	Korea Republic	
England - Premier League			
Wolverhampton W.	0 - 3	Liverpool	
Arsenal	3 - 0	Wigan Athletic	
Blackpool	1 - 2	Sunderland	
Everton	2 - 2	West Ham U.	
Fulham	2 - 0	Stoke C.	
Manchester U.	5 - 0	Birmingham C.	
Newcastle U.	1 - 1	Tottenham H.	
Aston Villa	1 - 0	Manchester C.	
Italy - Serie A			
Palermo	1 - 0	Brescia	
Parma	2 - 0	Catania	
AS Roma	3 - 0	Cagliari	
Spain - Primera Division			
Sevilla	4 - 1	Levante	
Barcelona	3 - 0	Racing Santander	
Valencia	4 - 3	Malaga	
Germany - Bundesliga 1.			
Bayern Munich	5 - 1	Kaiserslautern	
Borussia Dortmund	1 - 1	Stuttgart	
Freiburg	1 - 1	Nurnberg	
Hannover	0 - 1	Schalke	
Mainz	0 - 1	Wolfsburg	
1. FC Cologne	3 - 0	Werder Bremen	

Gomez hat-trick fires Bayern third, Dortmund draw

BERLIN, 23 Jan—Bayern Munich's Mario Gomez hit a hat-trick as the defending champions went third in the Bundesliga on Saturday with a 5-1 win over Kaiserslautern as leaders Borussia Dortmund drew 1-1 with Stuttgart.

Despite being held, the leaders remain 13 points clear at the top with Bayern 14 points behind after Gomez netted three second-half goals to bring his tally to 15 in 17 league matches this season.—INTERNET

Bent in dreamland as Villa shatter City

BIRMINGHAM, 23 Jan—Darren Bent enjoyed a dream debut as his first-half strike gave Aston Villa a deserved 1-0 victory over Manchester City and deal Roberto Mancini's men a major Premier League title

blow on Saturday.

Bent, who arrived from Sunderland in mid-week, struck just 17 minutes into his Villa bow when he displayed the predatory instincts which persuaded Gerard Houllier to pay 24 million pounds for his services.—INTERNET

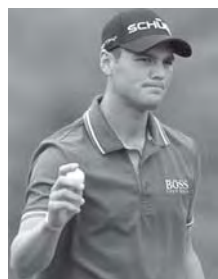


Aston Villa's striker Darren Bent celebrates scoring during their English Premier League.—INTERNET

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle



Kaymer shoots 66, leads by 5 strokes in Abu Dhabi



Martin Kaymer of Germany reacts after putting on the eighth hole during the second round of the Abu Dhabi Golf Championship.—INTERNET

ABU DHABI, 23 Jan—Defending champion Martin Kaymer extended his lead at the Abu Dhabi Golf Championship to five strokes over Rory McIlroy after shooting a 6-under 66 in the third round on Saturday.

Kaymer, the 2010 PGA Championship winner, birdied three of his last four holes to total 18-under 198 at the Abu Dhabi Golf Club.

INTERNET

Wozniacki reaches Australian Open quarter-finals

MELBOURNE, 23 Jan—Denmark's top seeded Caroline Wozniacki moved into the quarter-finals of the Australian Open with a 6-3, 6-4 win over unseeded Latvian Anastasija Sevastova while in men's draw, Serbia's Novak Djokovic powered past Spain's Nicolas Almagro, also in straight-sets. It is the first time the 20-year-old world number one Wozniacki has progressed past the fourth round in Melbourne and keeps alive her hopes of winning a maiden Grand Slam title.—INTERNET



Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark celebrates victory in her fourth round women's singles match.—INTERNET

WEATHER

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

Nav Pvi Taw

Yangon (Kaba-Ave)

Maximum temperature on 22-1-2011 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 23-1-2011 was 59°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 23-1-2011 was (59%). Total sunshine hours on 22-1-2011 was (9.6) hours (Approx).

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 24th January 2011:

Light rain are possible to be isolated in Kachin State and Taninthayi Region, weather will be partly cloudy over Shan and Mon States, Upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

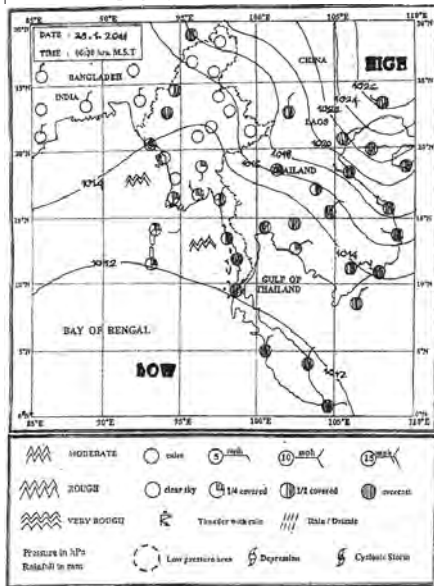
State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for NayPyi Taw and neighbouring area for 24-1-2011: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 24-1-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 24-1-2011: Generally fair weather.



Moscow, 23 Jan—A blast ripped through a five-storey shopping centre in the south-western Russian City of Ufa on Saturday, starting a fire that killed two people and injured five. Shoppers were evacuated and fire-fighting teams tackled the blaze at the huge complex, which houses stores, restaurants and night clubs in the largest city in Russia's Bashkiria Region, which has a large Muslim population.

Television images showed the building engulfed in flames, with plumes of smoke rising above the blaze. The bodies of two people were found after fire-fighters searched the building. "One is a man whose identity is being determined. Earlier the body of a girl was found, who was born in 1993," Maksim Rodionov, a spokesman for the regional Ministry of Internal Affairs, told *Interfax* news agency.

Five people were injured in the fire, three of whom were hospitalised, Oleg Zuyegev, spokesman of the regional Emergencies Ministry, told news agency *RIA*. The cause of the blast was not immediately clear, but Zuyegev said the fire was believed to have started in a room reserved for smoking water pipes located on the third floor.—*MNA/Reuters*



A craftsman adjusts the illumination of rabbit-shaped lanterns in a lantern factory in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 23 Jan. 2011.—XINHUA

Transmissions

Times

Local - (09:00am~11:00am MST)
Oversea Transmission - (24-1-11 09:30 am ~
 25-1-11 09:30 am MST)

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Beach Resort of Chaung Tha
- * News
- * Record Album
- * News
- * Brilliant Youngsters
- * News
- * Shan New Year Festival
- * A Journey to Research Taron Race
- * Khamé Traditional Cultural Dance

Overseas Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Beach Resort of Chaung Tha
- * Treasure Trove of Myanmar Art and Handicrafts
- * News
- * Record Album
- * Brilliant Youngsters
- * News
- * Shan New Year Festival
- * A Journey to Research Taron Race
- * Khamé Traditional Cultural Dance
- * News
- * Caves of Myanmar
- * News
- * Ever Blooming Flower
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * Myanmar DVD Impact
- * News
- * A Brief Account of Bagan
- * Bagan's Mural Arts
- * Myanmar Movies "Dancer and Drummer"



**Monday,
24 January
View on today**

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Venerable
Min Gun Sayadaw
_Uppatathandi
Paritta
7:30 am
2. Morning News
7:40 am
3. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am

4. Nice & Sweet Song
8:05 am
5. Cute Little Dancers
8:15 am
6. Myanmar Traditional
Cultural Performing
Arts Competition
8:30 am
7. Dance Of National
Races
8:40 am
8. International News
8:45 am
9. Musical Programme
4:00 pm
1. Martial Song
4:10 pm
2. Musical Programme

4:20 pm

3. Dance Variety
- 4:30 pm**
4. University Of
Distance Education
(TV Lectures)
-First Year
(Chemistry)
- 4:45 pm**
5. Songs For
Upholding
National Spirit
- 4:55 pm**
6. Musical Programme
(The Radio
Myanmar
Modern Music
Troupe)

5:05 pm

7. Myanmar Language
5:30 pm
8. Myanmar Idol
6:00 pm
9. Evening News
6:15 pm
10. Weather Report
6:20 pm
11. Sing & Enjoy
7:00 pm
12. TV Drama Series
8:00 pm
13. News
14. International News
15. Weather Report
16. World's Stars
(Part-8)
17. TV Drama Series

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

- ★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
- ★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
- ★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

- ★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
- ★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
- ★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Parties, politicians and the people have different opinions, stances and policies, but have to give top priority to national interest in exercising multiparty democracy

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan—A ceremony to present Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Award (Academy Award) for 2009, organized by Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise, was held at the open-air theater of City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw this evening, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin.

Also present on the occasion were senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye and wife, ministers and their wives, deputy ministers, senior military officers, departmental heads, members of the Myanmar Motion Picture Promotion Board, officials of Film Censor Board and Video Censor Board, responsible persons of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon, Myanmar Music Asiayon, Myanmar Thabin Asiayon, Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and social organizations, film stars, film producers and movie-lovers.

First, Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan delivered an address.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said it is a great pleasure for him to see all were gathered together here to attend the Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Award (Academy Award) Ceremony. Today's ceremony was to present academy awards to the outstanding artistes and technicians from

(See page 9)



SPDC Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin greeting the academy award winners at the Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Awards (Academy Award) Ceremony. —MNA