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Friday, 28 January, 2011

Myanmar Special Economic Zone Law enacted

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan — The State Peace and Development Council enacted the Myanmar Special Economic Zone Law under Law No. 8/2011 dated 8th Waning of Pyatho, 1372 ME, 27 January, 2011.

The law comprises 12 chapters. They are Chapter I: Title and Definition, Chapter II: Objectives, Chapter III: Special Economic Zone, Chapter IV: Formation of Central Body, Central Working Body and Management Committees relating to the Myanmar Special Economic Zone and Functions and Duties thereof, Chapter V: Special Privileges of

Investor, Chapter VI: Specific Duties of Developer or Investor, Chapter VII: Land Use, Chapter VIII: Banks and Finance Management and Insurance Business, Chapter IX: Management and Inspection of Commodities by Customs Department, Chapter X: Quarantine Inspection and Confinement so as not to spread Contagious Disease, Chapter XI: Matters relating to Labour and Chapter XII: Miscellaneous.

The full text of the law will be published in the Myanmar Gazette.

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

F&R Ministry, EXIM Bank of China sign loan agreements in presence of Secretary-1 of SPDC Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan — Ministry of Finance and Revenue and EXIM Bank of China signed loan agreements in the presence of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo here today.

First, Minister for Finance and Revenue U

Hla Tun reported on the loan agreements and Vice-President of the EXIM Bank of China Mr. Zhu Xinqiang spoke words of thanks.

In the presence of Secretary-1 of the SPDC Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development



Managing Director of Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank U Nyi Phyu Hla and Vice-President of EXIM Bank of China Mr. Zhu Xinqiang sign Master Facility Agreement and Buyer Credit Loan Agreement for Nay Pyi Taw International Airport Project II in the presence of Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo.—MNA



Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Thein Swe and Vice-President of EXIM Bank of China Mr Zhu Xinqiang sign Amendment to the Framework Agreement regarding RMB Financing for Mutual Beneficial Cooperation in the presence of Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo.—MNA

U Soe Tha and Finance and Revenue Minister U Hla Tun, the Amendment to the Framework Agreement regarding RMB Financing for Mutual Beneficial Cooperation was signed by Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Thein Swe and Mr. Zhu Xinqiang, and the Master Facility

Agreement and the Buyer Credit Loan Agreement for Nay Pyi Taw International Airport Project II were signed by Managing Director of Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank U Nyi Phyu Hla and Mr. Zhu Xinqiang and exchanged the documents.

(See page 8)

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 28 January, 2011

Boost quality textile products

In building a modern and developed nation, strenuous efforts are to be made for shaping an industrialized nation. Power plants have been built for supply of electricity, which is basic need for industrializing the nation. The power plants are generating over 3000 megawatts across the nation.

The State and the private sectors are to strive in harmony for development of industrial sector. New factories and workshops are in operation at industrial zones. Up to now, over 100,000 large-, medium- and small-scale industries come into operation. More than 9,000 factories and workshops are being functioned at 18 industrial zones.

With encouragement of the State, foundry, machine and forging workshops have been established in Mandalay, Taunggyi, Ayethaya and Monywa Industrial Zones. Thanks to technological and other assistance, medium- and small-scale industries boost production of import-substitute goods.

Cotton is sole raw material in textile sector of the country. A total of 17 State-owned factories under Myanma Textile Industries, two factories of the Tatmadaw and eight private-owned factories are supplying the textile demand of the nation. It is necessary to extend establishment of more textile factories and workshops for sufficiently satisfying the local textile demand.

Due to higher living standard, the people wish modern dressings and purchase high quality and newer garments. Thus, it is necessary to take innovative measures for establishment of modern factories to manufacture Rayon textile with the use of natural raw materials for serving the interest of both customers and producers.

Industrial regions and industrial zones manufacture products throughout the nation. First priority is to be given to production of quality goods for keeping abreast of products from international community. Thus, emphasis is to be placed on quality of products with technological cooperation among the producers in the textile sector.



Foreign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win poses for documentary photo with ASEAN-China Foreign Ministers.—MNA

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

Foreign Minister attends ASEAN-China Foreign Minister's Meeting on Connectivity

YANGON, 27 Jan—A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win participated in the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Road Trip from Thailand to China and attended the ASEAN-China Foreign Minister's Meeting on Connectivity in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of ASEAN-China dialogue relations from 23 to 26 January.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers were invited to participate in the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Road Trip from Thailand to China on Route 3A by Thai Foreign Ministers Mr Kasit Piromya and Chinese Foreign Minister Mr Yang Jiechi in order to study North-South Economic Corridor which is one of the plans for regional connectivity involving ASEAN and other countries. The North-South Economic Corridor Route 3A involved Thailand (Chiang Rai-Chiang Khong), Lao People's

Democratic Republic (Houay Xay-loung Namtha-Boten) and People's Republic of China (Mo Han-Jing Jong-Kunming).

On 23 January, Minister U Nyan Win and members arrived at Chiang Rai, Thailand where the road trip started and attended the briefing for ASEAN Foreign Ministers on "Strengthening Economic Connectivity between ASEAN and Latin American Pacific Basin Countries" made by Dr Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for UNESCAP at Anantara Resort Hotel in Chiang Rai.

On 24 January, the minister together with ASEAN Foreign Ministers visited construction site of the 4th Mekong Bridge Linking Chiang Khong, Thailand and Houey Xay, Laos. Then they crossed Mekong River by barge and arrived in Houey Xay, Laos. They travelled by coach on Route 3A from Houey Xay to Loung Namtha in Laos and proceeded to Jing Hong, China. They left Jing Hong for Kunming and arrived there in the evening.

Minister U Nyan Win attended the launching ceremony of ASEAN-China Friendship and Exchange Year on 25 January.

It was also attended by Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Yang Jiechi, Brunei Darussalam Second Minister of Foreign Affairs

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan — The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Nyi Phyu Hla	Managing Director Myanma Foreign Trade Bank Ministry of Finance and Revenue
(b) U Myint Aung	Managing Director Electricity Supply Enterprise Ministry of Electric Power No. 2

The State Peace and Development Council has appointed General Manager U Ye Tint of Printing and Publishing Enterprise under the Ministry of Information as Managing Director of the same enterprise on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.—MNA

YB Pehin Dato Jock Seng Lim, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr Hor Namhong, Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith, Singaporean Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr George Yeo, Thai Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Kasit Piromya, Secretary-General of ASEAN Dr Surin Pitsuwan and representatives from ASEAN member countries.

Afterwards, he also attended ASEAN-China Foreign Minister's Meeting on Connectivity in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of ASEAN-China dialogue relations.

At the meeting, Ministers exchanged views on ASEAN-China strategic cooperation including matters on commemorative activities of the 20th anniversary of ASEAN-China dialogue relations, ASEAN-China Free Trade Area, social and cultural

exchanges, non-traditional security issues and East Asian cooperation. At the meeting, Minister U Nyan Win discussed ASEAN-China Strategic Cooperation including the non-traditional security issues and expressed appreciation to China for supporting Myanmar and neighbouring countries.

He attended the welcoming luncheon hosted by Mr Yang Jiechi, Chinese Foreign Minister at Green Lake Hotel in Kunming in the afternoon of 25 January.

After that, Minister U Nyan Win along with the ASEAN Foreign Ministers paid a study tour of Yunnan Agricultural University.

In the evening, the minister attended the dinner hosted by Mr Bai Enpei, Secretary of Yunnan Provincial Party Committee at Empark Grand Hotel.

Yesterday, the minister visited Myanmar Consulate-General in Kunming and met with Myanmar Consul General U Zaw Phyto Win and staff and families.—MNA

US roadside bomb casualties rise in Afghanistan

KABUL, 27 Jan— Roadside bombs killed 268 American troops in Afghanistan last year, a 60 percent increase over the previous year even as the Pentagon employs new measures to counter the Taliban's makeshift weapon of choice.

The number of US troops wounded by what the military terms improvised explosive devices also soared, according to US defence figures obtained Wednesday.

There were 3,366 US service members injured in IED blasts — up 178 percent from the 1,211 hurt by the militants' crudely made bombs in 2009, the figures showed. Defence officials attributed the rise in casualties to the surge in US forces in Afghanistan last year. Fighting has increased, especially in southern and eastern Afghanistan, as coalition forces work to weaken the Taliban in their strongholds and keep them from returning in force this spring.

The Pentagon's Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, based outside Washington, DC, said not all the year-end statistics were gloomy. During heavy fighting in June and July, 35 percent of the bomb blasts killed or wounded US troops. That percentage fell to 26 percent in December despite ongoing violence and a high volume of IED attacks.

Since the US-led invasion in October 2001, 619 US troops have been killed and another 5,764 have been wounded in roadside bomb attacks in Afghanistan, according to the Pentagon figures.

Overall, at least 1,370 US troops have been killed in Afghanistan since the war began. Last year was by far the deadliest for all foreign troops, including Americans, with 702 killed, eclipsing the 2009 record of 504.—*Internet*



Afghan investigators inspect the site of a suicide bombing in Gereshk District. A roadside bomb ripped through a minibus in southern Afghanistan, killing six civilians and wounding three an official said.

INTERNET

Bombs kill two Iraqi civilians in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 27 Jan— Officials say roadside bombs targeting Iraq security forces have killed two civilians in Baghdad.

Police and hospital officials say the first bomb exploded about 8:30 am near a police patrol at a commercial complex in the Karradah neighbourhood. One civilian was killed and five other people, including three policemen, were wounded.

Officials say a bomb targeting Iraqi soldiers patrolling the Bab al-Muadham area exploded about an hour and a half later, killing one bystander and wounding three others.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to release the information.

Thursday's blasts follow a deadly week in Iraq, raising concerns about an uptick in violence as the US military prepares to withdraw by the end of this year.

Internet



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

Two killed, 12 detained in Afghanistan's Takhar Province

TALUQAN, 27 Jan—Security forces during an ongoing military operation in Khwaja Ghar District of Afghanistan's Takhar Province, 245 km north of capital City Kabul, have killed two militants and captured a dozen others, district governor said Thursday.

"The operation has been continuing since Wednesday and so far two Taliban militants were killed and 12 others detained," governor of Khwaja Ghar District, Mullah Omar, told *Xinhua* over cell phone.—*Xinhua*



People sit outside their shelter at Umm al-Banin camp, one of the UNHCR's 94 camps for internally displaced people in Baghdad on 24 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET

37 killed, 78 injured in Baghdad funeral car bombing

BAGHDAD, 27 Jan — Up to 37 people were killed and 78 others wounded in a car bomb explosion at a funeral tent in northwestern Baghdad on Thursday, an Interior Ministry source said.

"The latest reports said that 37 people were killed and 78 wounded by the car bombing in Shula neighbourhood," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The attack took place in the afternoon when a booby-trapped car parked near a funeral tent in Baghdad's northwestern neighbourhood of Shula

was detonated, the source said.

Earlier, the source put the toll at 15 killed and 28 injured.

Iraqi security forces sealed off the scene, while police experts were investigating the incident, he added.

Since early in the day, Baghdad has seen several bomb attacks that killed a total of six people and wounded 21 others, according to police reports.

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

Xinhua



Iraqi security forces inspect the scene of a roadside bomb in central Baghdad, Iraq recently. US Vice President Joe Biden arrived in Iraq early Thursday for talks about the future of American troops in the country as they prepare to leave at year's end, but three explosions in the capital killing two people demonstrated the lingering security challenges facing the country.

INTERNET

Two foreign ministry officials killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 27 Jan—Two officials of Iraq's Foreign Ministry were killed by gunmen in Baghdad on Wednesday, an Interior Ministry source said.

Unidentified gun-men using weapons equipped with silencers shot dead Abdul Jabbar Abdullah, a director of the foreign ministry, as he was driving his car at an intersection in Baghdad's northern District of Kadhimiyah, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

In another incident, armed men killed Jamal Sattar with silenced weapon, an employee of the ministry when he drove his car in Baghdad's western District of Mansour, the source said.

The latest attacks are part of wave of assassinations by insurgents against Iraqi security members and government officials. The groups tactics also includes roadside bombs and sticky bombs attached to vehicles.

Xinhua



Science



Oldest, most distant galaxy spotted



This NASA image released on 25 Jan shows an image of the candidate galaxy that existed 480 million years after the Big Bang (the $z \sim 10$ galaxy) and the position in the Hubble Ultra Deep Field (HUDF) where it was found.—INTERNET

when the universe was just 480 million years old, the researchers said in the journal *Nature*.

"We've gone back through 96 percent of the life of the universe, to when the universe was only 4 percent of its current age, through 500 million years after the Big Bang," said Garth Illingworth of the University of California at Santa Cruz, one of the researchers working on the study.—*Xinhua*

BEIJING, 27 Jan—US and European researchers announced they have spotted with the help of Hubble Space Telescope a new galaxy.

The researchers said Wednesday it is the most

ancient and distant galaxy ever seen — a small proto galaxy some 13.2 billion light-years away.

The dim object, found in images taken by Hubble's Wide Field Camera 3, was formed



In this on 10 Dec, 2010 photo, Dr Katherine Wilkie, left, shows veterinary technician Billy Inskeep the collection of red blood cells and stem cells at the bottom of a test tube after the tube came out of a centrifuge at Columbia Pet Hospital in Columbia, Mo. The stem cells will be injected into a four-year-old Labrador Retriever named Ellie, who suffers from early osteoarthritis and tendonitis of the elbow.—INTERNET

Scientists make 'body clock' discovery

CAMBRIDGE, 27 Jan—UK scientists say they've identified the mechanism that controls the internal 24-hour clock of all life forms, dating back to early life on Earth.

Researchers at two UK universities say the circadian clock that regulates human cells is the same as those found in the simplest life forms such as algae and dates back millions of years, a Cambridge University release said Wednesday.

Scientists at Cambridge and the University of Edinburgh say the finding gives insight into the internal circadian clock that controls patterns of daily and seasonal activity, from sleep cycles to butterfly migrations to flower openings.

It could also provide important clues to health problems experienced by individuals with disrupted clocks

such as pilots and shift workers, they say.

Cambridge researchers identified 24-hour rhythms in red blood cells, a significant finding because circadian rhythms have always been assumed to be linked to DNA and gene activity, but unlike most of the other cells in the body red blood cells do not have DNA.

"We know that clocks exist in all our cells; they're hard-wired into the cell," Cambridge researchers Akhilesh Reddy said. "Imagine what we'd be like without a clock to guide us through our days. The cell would be in the same position if it didn't have a clock to coordinate its daily activities."

Another study found a similar 24-hour cycle in marine algae, indicating that internal body clocks have always been important, even for ancient forms of life.—INTERNET

Agave seen as excellent biofuel source

CHAMPAIGN, 27 Jan—Agave, cultivated for alcoholic beverages and for fiber, could be used as a sustainable biofuel feedstock, US researchers say.

Scientists at the University of Illinois have found the yields of two Agave species greatly exceeded the yields of other biofuel feed stocks such as corn, soybean, sorghum and wheat, an article in the current issue of the journal *Global Change Biology Bioenergy* reported.

And even more productive species of Agave, not yet evaluated, exist, researchers

say.

Agave, with its high water use efficiency and ability to survive without water between rainfalls, can thrive in semi-arid regions where its cultivation is less likely to conflict with food and feed production, researchers say. "We need bioenergy crops that have a low risk of unintended land use change," bioenergy analyst Sarah Davis said. "Biomass from Agave can be harvested as a co-product of tequila production without additional land demands."—INTERNET



Technology



Kindle Singles debuts pithy digital works



An Amazon Kindle, protected by a special waterproof case, is immersed in water at a consumer electronics show.—INTERNET

SAN FRANCISCO, 27 Jan—Amazon has released the first of a new line of short digital books pitched as quick, captivating works for its popular Kindle electronic readers.

The launch of Kindle Singles included the debut of TED Books, written versions of inspirational 18-minute talks that are a trademark of renowned TED gatherings dedicated to cultivating "ideas worth

spreading."

"This first set of Singles was selected by our team of editors, and includes works by Rich Cohen, Darin Strauss, Ian Ayres, and the first-ever books published by TED," said Kindle content vice president Russ Grandinetti.

"We think customers will be riveted by these stories that can take them to a Swedish bank heist or to the Mexican border town

of Juarez, or to consider a new way to think about happiness." Amazon said that three months ago it began enlisting writers, thinkers, scientists, publishers and others to express "a single killer idea" in 5,000 to 30,000 words. The first set of works became available online at amazon.com/kindlesingles on Wednesday.

"TED Books are to books as TED Talks are to lectures," said TED curator Chris Anderson. "They're short, pithy, riveting. They're designed to express a single big idea in a way that can be absorbed in a single sitting."

Amazon allows Kindle digital works to be read on a host of gadgets including iPads, smartphones, and personal computers.

"We think this Platform has the potential to create a new type of media unit designed for modern lifestyles," Anderson said.

INTERNET

80-megapixel camera makes state-of-the-art DSLRs look weak

NEW YORK, 27 Jan—Think 24 megapixels is a lot for a digital camera? Try 80. That's the count of the IQ180 from Phase One, a Danish manufacturer that specializes in image sensors much larger than your typical DSLR.

The IQ180 is actually a camera back for a medium-format camera system, and it includes an image sensor, LCD



Canon PowerShot A560 7.1MP Digital Camera with 4x Optical Zoom.
INTERNET

screen, and some electronics. Popular in the early 1990s, medium

format is now used almost exclusively by pros. Because of the needed resolution and the size of the image sensor, medium format cameras have been slower to move to digital. Phase One's IQ180 moves the category forward not just with megapixels, but with features like a touch-screen display and a high-speed USB 3.0 connection.—INTERNET

Facebook launches group-buying prototype

SAN FRANCISCO, 27 Jan—Facebook is currently testing a new feature called "Buy With Friends," which allows users to get discounts on virtual goods purchased by their friends.

Here's how it works: A user makes an in-app purchase using Facebook's currency, Facebook Credits, and shares it in his or her newsfeed. A friend sees the purchase and can then buy the same item at a discount directly in the newsfeed.

Currently, the feature only works for certain in-game purchases of virtual

goods. Developers determine the items and terms of the promotion.

Speaking at the Inside Social Apps Conference in San Francisco Tuesday, Facebook's head of commerce product marketing Deb Liu said that during early tests, more than half of users chose to share their purchases with friends, *Forbes* reports.

Although Buy With Friends is currently restricted to virtual goods, we can easily envision how this feature could be expanded to include physical goods as well, especially as more and more retailers set up shop on Facebook.—INTERNET

Health

Health Tip: What may cause a stress fracture

A stress fracture often occurs from a sudden increase in activity.

Abrupt overuse of the muscles means they can no longer absorb the shock of a particular activity. This causes a small crack to develop in nearby bone.

The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons offers this list of common reasons for stress fractures:

- * Suddenly exercising more frequently or more intensely.
- * Exercising on a new type of surface, such as when a tennis player changes from soft clay to a harder surface.
- * Using worn or inappropriate exercise equipment, such as shoes without adequate support.
- * A sudden increase in physical stress, such as when a sports player is abruptly given more playing time.—*Internet*

Breast implants may increase immune-system cancer risk: FDA

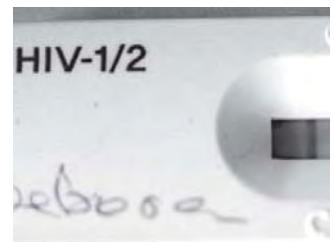
BEIJING, 27 Jan— Women with silicone and saline gel-filled breast implants may slightly increase the risk of developing a rare immune-system cancer near their implants, said media reports quoting US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Thursday.

The FDA has received nearly 60 reports since 1997 of anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL) from women who had breast implants.

ALCL, a rare and aggressive blood cancer generally formed around the shell of the implant, makes up only about 3 percent of all blood cancers in adults, said the Lymphoma Research Foundation. The FDA however said the number is tough to verify and some reports could be duplicates.

Overall the agency still considers implants safe, saying women without symptoms should not change their routine monitoring. "We need more data" to better understand the issue, "said Dr William Maisel, chief scientist in the FDA's device unit.

An estimated 5 million to 10 million women around the world have breast implants.—*Xinhua*



A HIV test kit shows a negative result. Germany said on Wednesday it was suspending yearly payments of 200 million euros (274 million dollars) to the Global Fund against AIDS, TB and Malaria.—Internet



Britain's Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall (L) is shown a mammogram scanner during a visit to Nottingham Breast Institute in Nottingham, central England, on 25 Jan, 2011.—*Internet*

Two heart tests may predict heart failure

GOTHENBURG, 27 Jan— An ultrasound and a blood test can predict survival and future heart failure following a heart attack or unstable angina, a researcher in Sweden suggests.

Biomedical scientist Anita Persson of the University of Gothenburg in Sweden says her thesis showed that elevated levels of B-type natriuretic peptide in the blood were associated not only with an impaired ability of the heart to pump blood, but also with the risk of rehospitalization due to heart failure following acute coronary syndromes and premature death.

However, the correlation between high BNP and future risk was present also for those patients

who did not show signs of heart failure during the first acute episode.

Persson also evaluated the use of ultrasound, or Doppler echocardiography, to assess leakage at one of the valves in the heart. An increased volume of the left ventricle and increased pressure during the filling phase of the heart action or increased stiffness of the ventricle were associated with a poorer prognosis and an increased risk of complications, Persson says.

The study involved those who received care from September 1995 to March 2001 in the Coronary Care Unit at Sahlgrenska University Hospital.

Internet

Business

China's coal imports up 31% in 2010

BEIJING, 27 Jan— China imported 164.83 million tons of coal in 2010, up 30.99 percent on the previous year and coal exports declined 15.03 percent for the same period to 19.03 million tons, the *Beijing News* reported Thursday, citing data from the nation's top economic planner.

The National Development and Reform Commission said Indonesia was the largest coal exporter to China, followed by Australia, Vietnam, Mongolia and Russia. The five accounted for 84 percent of the nation's coal imports.

Last year's coal net imports stood at 145.8 million tons, up 42.37 million tons or 29 percent from the previous year, the report said.

Citibank issued a report earlier, predicting China's net coal imports will surge to 63 percent this year to over 200 million tons, due to the nation's strong demand and high dependence on coal as energy.

Coal industry insiders also believe China will see more coal imports this year, the report said.—*Xinhua*

Traders are pictured at their desks in front of the DAX board at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 20 Jan, 2011.

Internet



France's Vivendi sells NBC stake for 3.8 bln USD

PARIS, 27 Jan— French telecom giant Vivendi said Wednesday it has sold its remaining stake in NBC Universal to US General Electric (GE) for 3.8 billion US dollars.

"Vivendi has concluded the sale of the remainder of its stake in NBC Universal, a 12.34 percent stake, for 3.8 billion US dollars to GE," the group said in a statement. Following the recent transaction, the French media and entertainment group has garnered a total of 5.8 billion US dollars from the US company after selling last September 7.66 percent of its NBC shares worth 2 billion US dollars.

"We are very satisfied that our strategic objective to exit NBC Universal has been completed. Vivendi now has control of all its assets and is fully focused on pursuing its profitable growth strategy," said Jean-Bernard Levy, CEO of Vivendi.

Vivendi employs 49,000 workers in 77 countries across the world. It reported a 4.8-percent growth in its adjusted net income to 2.21 billion euros (3 billion US dollars) for the January- September period in 2010.—*Xinhua*

Lowes to trade managers for part-timers

MOORESVILLE, 27 Jan—US home improvement retail giant Lowes said Wednesday it would cut 1,700 store management positions and hire up to 10,000 part-time workers.

Lowes spokeswoman Karen Cobb said the part-time staff would be scheduled for weekend work, to help on their busiest selling days, the *Atlanta Business Chronicle* reported.

"We continually evaluate our staffing model, and believe this new structure and the addition of employees on the weekend, when many of our stores are the busiest, will help us better provide the outstanding service our customers expect from Lowes," Cobb said.

The company said it would accept applications for the new jobs next week, the *Business Chronicle* reported.—*Internet*



South Korea's key flag carrier Korean Air has reported an 18 percent fall in year-on-year net profit for the fourth quarter due to a rise in fuel costs.
Internet

Torrential rain hits Saudi Arabia, causing major flooding

JEDDAH, 27 Jan—Heavy rains on Wednesday flooded the streets of Saudi Arabia's city of Jeddah, exceeding the volume of rainfall recorded during the November floods that killed at least 123 people, *Arab News* reported.

In just three hours, Saudi Arabia's second largest city was inundated with 111 millimetres of rain, increasing from the 90 mm recorded in four hours during the 25 Nov, 2009 flash floods.

Mansour Al-Mazrouie, head of the meteorology department at the King Abdulaziz University (KAU), blamed climate change for the heavy rains in Jeddah. The average amount of rain

during the winter months (November to January) is about 51 millimetres.

Eyewitnesses told *Arab News* that floodwater was turning streets into rivers once again, and that the water from a broken dam was flooding nearby neighbourhoods. Cars were seen floating in some places.

Hundreds of students were stranded at various institutions. It was reported that three female students were electrocuted at KAU, but it has not been confirmed.

Accidents in other regions as a result of the rains killed at least one person and injured several others.—*Internet*



Tourists visit one of the watchtowers in Kaiping, south China's Guangdong Province, on 26 Jan, 2011. The watchtower compound in Kaiping, the main spot where Chinese movie "Let The Bullet Fly" was filmed, saw a tourism boom since the beginning of this year.—XINHUA



Pupils practice to drop to the ground and take cover by getting under desks during an earthquake drill at Highlands Elementary School in Vancouver, Canada, on 26 Jan, 2011. The Great British Columbia Shakeout earthquake drill took place on Wednesday to enhance public awareness of the earthquake hazard in the Canada's westernmost province with about 442,000 people, including about 800 schools, businesses and 150 municipalities, participating in the drill.—XINHUA

Ten workers killed in building scaffolding collapse in Philippines

MANILA, 27 Jan—At least ten construction workers fell to their death after a scaffolding on a building that they were working on collapsed in Philippines' financial District Thursday, local media ANC reported.

An undetermined number of people meanwhile were feared to be dead or injured, *Philippine Star* reported, quoting Police Chief Superintendent Froilan Bonifacio.

Reports said the incident occurred around 11:45 am from the 34th floor of the 40-storey Eton Residences along Paseo de Roxas in Makati in Central Philippines.

The building is currently under construction when the scaffolding gave way.

Xinhua



Flood damaged household possessions are dumped in a pile outside a Brisbane residence on 19 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET

Quake hits Simeulue, Indonesia

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan—An earthquake measuring 6.1 on the Richter scale jolted Simeulue, Indonesia at 15:42:29 GMT on Wednesday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 26.80 km, was initially determined to be at 2.1204 degrees north latitude and 96.7409 degrees east longitude.

Xinhua

NYC declares weather emergency to battle another winter storm

NEW YORK, 27 Jan—New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg declared a weather emergency Wednesday as another winter storm moved through the region.

The weather emergency urges drivers to stay off the roads, suspends alternate side of the street parking, parking meter payments and garbage collection, and allows the city to tow cars blocking snow plows at the owner's expense.

The snow started falling around 8 am Wednesday morning (1300 GMT) with the

National Weather Service issuing a winter storm warning in effect from 10 am Wednesday until 6 am Thursday.

The National Weather Service forecasted that 8 to 12 inches of snow could fall here before Thursday morning with wind gusts up to 30 MPH.

The snowfall already delayed arrivals and departures of the city's three major airports — JFK, LaGuardia and Newark, according to the Port Authority.

Xinhua

Brazil to inaugurate thermoelectric power plant built with China's help

BRASILIA, 27 Jan—Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff on Friday will inaugurate a thermoelectric power plant which was built with China's help and can provide energy for a million people, a presidential statement said on Wednesday.

Candiota III is located in Candiota City, in southern Rio Grande do Sul State. It was built in

partnership with China's Citic Group and China Development Bank and is valued at about 780 million dollars. It has an installed capacity of 350 megawatts.

After three weeks of tests, it will officially start operating on Friday in full capacity, and will meet 15 percent of Rio Grande do Sul state's energy needs.

The presidential statement said it is the first big joint investment between Brazil and China, which provided training for more than 5,000 Brazilian workers hired for the project.

The plant uses the desulfurization technology to reduce negative impact on the environment, the statement added.—Xinhua



Pedestrians walk in the snow at the Battery Park in New York, the United States, on 26 Jan, 2011. The snow started falling here around 8 am Wednesday morning (13:00 GMT) with the National Weather Service issuing a winter storm warning in effect from 10 am Wednesday until 6 am Thursday.

XINHUA

Nilar Win clinches title in ITF 14 & Under Asian Championships

YANGON, 27 Jan— The matches and final match in the first event of the ITF 14 & Under Asian Championships 2011 Group (2) Tennis Tournament hosted by Myanmar went on at Theinbyu Tennis Court Mingala Taungnyunt Township here this morning.

Officials concerned of Sports and Physical Education Department, CEC members of Myanmar Tennis Federation, invited persons and fans enjoyed the matches.

In the final match of the first event (Women's Single event), Nilar Win (Myanmar) beat Ang Geraldine (Singapore) (6-1, 6-2).

After the final match, Vice Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Patron of MTF Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin and CEC member of MTF U Khine Htwe (Asia Brave Co Ltd) presented cash reward to champion Nilar Win (Myanmar).

The tournament continues at 8:30 am of 29 January at the same court.—MNA



Myanmar youth selected tennis player Nilar Win who stood first in women's single event.
MTF

Bomb planted beneath gas pipeline cleared

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—Acting on a tip-off from some duty-conscious citizens, security members managed to clear a time bomb planted beneath a gas pipeline beside a concrete bridge at mile post No. 12/5 on Dedaye-Pyapon Road in Ayeyawady Region at about 9 pm yesterday.

According to the tip-off that there was a time bomb planted beneath a 24-inch diameter gas pipeline by the concrete bridge No (1/13) at mile post No. 12/5 on Dedaye-Pyapon Road, responsible persons searched the site and defused the bomb. The explosive device is made with four soap-shaped four-inch long, two-inch wide and one-inch thick gunpowder blocks with words of TNT 200g on each of them, one about seven feet long blasting cable, one about seven feet and eight inches long wire piece, one detonator and four dry cells.

Authorities warned the public that armed insurgents, subversives and some seeking political gains are trying to spark instabilities and riots across the nation; that their acts are utterly repellent to the people, so the people are cooperating with officials; that only with public information, could security members clear the time bomb; and that the people are reminded to inform responsible persons if they see anything or anyone suspicious.

MNA

RCC work launched at Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project



Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min looks into undertaking of RCC work at main embankment at Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—A ceremony to launch RC concreting of the main embankment at Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project being implemented by Construction Group-1 of Hydropower Implementation Department was held at the project this morning.

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min, Deputy Minister U Myo Myint and the Director-General of HID formally opened the ceremony.

The minister viewed RC concreting work for

stage 1 of the main embankment with the use of heavy machinery, progress of bottom outlet RCC and CVC concreting work, earthwork of left embankment and construction of power station switch yard.

Embankment of Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project is of RCC type and it will be 322 feet high and 1690 feet long. The concreting work will have 27 blocks in 29 stages. On completion, the project to be installed with 140 megawatts capacity will generate 454 million kilowatt hours yearly.—MNA

Myanma Insurance honours staff's outstanding offspring

YANGON, 27 Jan—Myanma Insurance under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue held an awarding-ceremony to outstanding offspring who passed last year's

matriculation exam with flying colours at Myanma Insurance Head Office, on Merchant Street here this evening.

Managing Director of Myanma Insurance U

Aye Min Thein extended greetings and awarded a total of 20 offspring. Besides, four-distinction student Mg Chan Nyein Aung won a scholarship for his education till he

becomes a graduated person.

Afterwards, two prize-winners in the sports event of the ministry and three blood donors, who donated blood at least 30 times, accepted honouring certificates and cash rewards.

MNA

547 Trading Company to hold sales festival

YANGON, 27 Jan—547 Trading Company and partner companies introduced their third sales festival in a press conference at Central Hotel on Bogyoke Aung San Road here this afternoon.

The sales festival will be held at Tower Island in Karaweik Garden from 10 to 14 February. Gandamar Wholesale will introduce consumer goods and new foodstuffs to consumers and sell at fair price.

Products of Union of Myanmar Economics Holdings Limited, automobiles of Rammar and Naungyoe, various foodstuffs, garments of Daewoo and Seagull garment factories, plastic consumer goods will be on sale at the sales festival.

The press conference on third sales festival of 547 Trading in progress.

MNA



In addition, booths of such service industries as Myanma Five Stars, Lanpyi Navigation Co

Ltd, Bandoola Transportation, Parami taxi service, Myawady Tours will be on display.

Shoppers may also enjoy discount prices and lucky draw programmes at the sales festival.—MNA

Amigos, Myanmar sole agent, distributes survey instruments

YANGON, 27 Jan—Amigos Int'L Co Ltd has been distributing survey instruments such as GNSS RTK GPSs, GIS GPSs, Digital Echo Sounders, MIGO brand Geodetic Total Station, Digital theodolites at auto level or laser level as the sole agent in Myanmar.

The GPSs with high quality can be used in many different ways of measurement, saving time and money.

Besides, the company gives one-year grantee to customers with free service.

For more details, contact Amigos Int'L Co Ltd, No SH Building, Thitsar Garden Housing Complex in Thitsar Street, 8 Ward in South Okkalapa Township, Yangon; Ph: 01-564517, 564520, 09-5025972, 09-49225984 or Fax 01-564520.—MNA

F&R Ministry, EXIM Bank...

(from page 1)

Also present on the occasion were Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and Maj-Gen Thein Htay of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Transport U Thein Swe, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, departmental officials,

Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Mr. Li Junhua, the delegation of the EXIM Bank of China.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 and party and the delegation of EXIM Bank of China led by Mr. Zhu Xinqiang had documentary photos taken and they attended the dinner to mark the successful completion of the signing ceremony.

MNA

Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Chinese guests

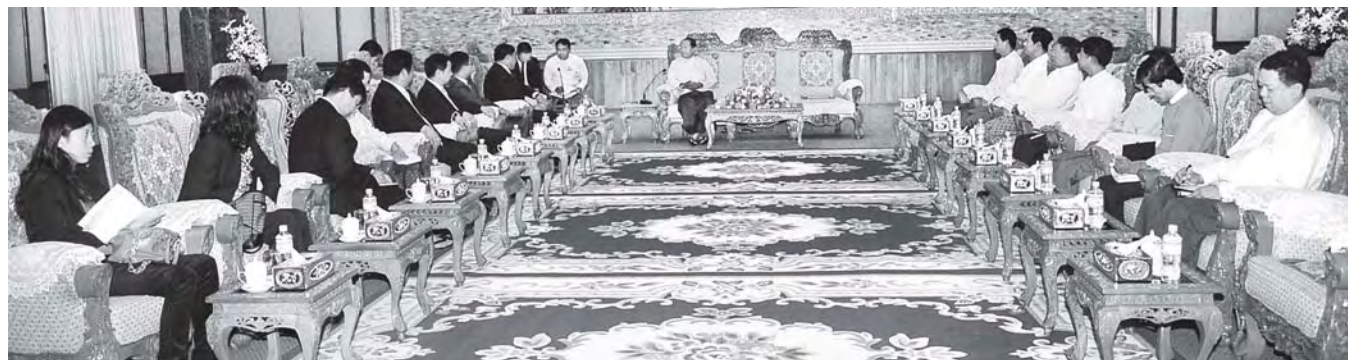
NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo received a Chinese delegation led by Vice-President Mr Zhu Xinqiang of EXIM Bank of China and party at the SPDC Office here this afternoon.

Present on the occasion together with the Secretary-1 were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla

Tun, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Myo Myint, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw Win of the SPDC Office, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and officials.

The Chinese delegation was accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and officials of the embassy.—MNA

Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo cordially greets Vice-President of EXIM Bank of China Mr Zhu Xinqiang.—MNA



Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Vice-President of EXIM Bank of China Mr Zhu Xinqiang and party at the Office of State Peace and Development Council.—MNA

Tube-wells sunk in Pyawbwe Tsp to tap underground water

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo inspected the sinking of tube-well with at the farm of farmer U Paw Aung in Oatsanwe Village, Pyawbwe Township, Yamethin District, Mandalay Region on 22 January.

The ministry had planned to sink 100 tube-wells to provide irrigation water to Pyawbwe-Phayangasu Region with underground water. So far, 74 tube-wells have been dug and 54 of which are artesian wells and measures are under way to finish the remaining tube-wells as soon as possible.

The minister then inspected the condition of Kyaukse Lake near Kyaukse Village and gave instructions on boosting agricultural produce and rural region development undertakings as he met the local farmers.

Kyaukse Lake lies on Samon Creek near Kyaukse Village in Pyawbwe Township and has been built since the time of ancient Myanmar Kings. The embankment of the original lake was 8000 feet in length and could store 6250 acre feet of water. Now, the lake is being dredged and repaired so as to fully irrigate 4036 acres of farmland.—MNA

Monywa BEHS No. 3 to pay respects to retired teachers

YANGON, 27 Jan—Old students of Monywa Basic Education High School No. 3 will pay respects to retired teachers for the 11th time in conjunction with the get-together at the school at 10 am on 5 February (Saturday).

Retired teachers and old students are invited to attend the ceremony without fail. Those wishing to donate cash and kind may contact the Headmaster (Monywa BEHS No. 3), Tel: 071-21176,

Ko Hsan Win Moe of KSM photocopier, Tel: 071-24131, U Nay Win of Zawtika Cheroot, Tel: 071-21525, Daw Khin Cho Htwe of Sein photocopier, Tel: 09-2133148, Daw Maw Thanda Khaing, Tel: 071-22336, U Maung Maung of Shwe Ohn Thee, Tel: 071-21456, U Myint Swe, Tel: 09-2010223, Daw Aye Aye Win (Petroleum), Tel: 09-5110609, and Daw Theingi, Tel: 071-23933 and 09-2132097.—MNA

Auditor proficiency course concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—The Auditor Proficiency Course No. 33 concluded at the Auditor-General's Office Training School, here, today, with an address by Auditor-General U Lun Maung.

A total of 112 trainees attended

the course that lasted two and a half months.

The training school plans to conduct Grade-I, II and III courses, Senior Auditor Proficiency Course, and Diploma in Accounting Course.

MNA

Cholera breaks out in Taungdwingyi Township Local authorities, medical staff provide assistance, medical treatment

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—Some locals suffered cholera due to eating food harmful to health in Taungdwingyi Township, Magway Region, on 21 January.

Among them, 11 men and four women were in bed in Taungdwingyi Township Hospital. On 25 January, eight men and

two women were discharged from the hospital, and one more man was hospitalized with cholera. Now, the six—four men and two women—are receiving treatment. It is reported that the epidemic of cholera is not serious and local authorities and medical staff are taking care of the patients.—MNA

Ascensia to explain preparation for school entrance on 11 February

YANGON, 27 Jan—Responsible persons of Singapore Education Show 2011 will explain Admission Exercise for International Students and Qualifying Test of Singaporean Government's primary and middle schools from 10 am to 4 pm on 11 February.

Ascensia Academy has got Best Enrichment Programme awarded by

Singapore Government. The academy provides training to those wishing to sit for entrance to Singapore Government's school from primary 1 to 5 and secondary 1 to 3.

For further information, contact Crown Education, Tel: 211888 (extension: 228-229), 095085185 and 01-730 40688.—MNA

Kanpauk Temporary Office, Base of Zawtika Project open

YANGON, 27 Jan—The opening of Kanpauk Temporary Office and Base of Zawtika Project which is being implemented by Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy and PTTEPI Oil Company of Thailand under profit sharing on production contract took place at the office near Kanpauk village in Yebyu Township of Taninthayi Region on 22 January, attended by Minister for

Energy U Lun Thi, Managing Director U Aung Htoo of MOGE and officials, CEO Mr. Anon Sirisaengtaksin of PTTEPI and responsible persons and foreign technicians of the project.

First, the minister made an opening address and the PTTEPI CEO gave accounts of the Kanpauk Temporary Base.

Officials and the PTTEPI CEO formally opened the Temporary Office and Base.

Next, the minister unveiled the signboard of the Kanpauk Temporary Base.

The MOGE and PTTEPI has begun works on field development of the Zawtika Project, offshore installation of 230 kilometer long 28-inch diameter gas pipeline and onshore installation of 70 kilometer long 28-inch diameter gas pipeline, construction of infrastructures.

MNA



Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife being welcomed by the Australian Charge d' Affaires ad interim Ms Ruth Stewart at reception to mark Australia Day at the Australian Embassy Club in Yangon on 27 January.—MNA

F&R Minister receives Vice-President of EXIM Bank of China



Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun receives Vice-President Mr Zhu Xinqiang and party of EXIM Bank of China.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan — Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun received Vice-President Mr. Zhu Xinqiang of EXIM Bank of the People Republic of China and party

at his office here this afternoon.

They held comprehensive discussions on cooperation between the two countries and monetary affairs.—MNA

Religious Affairs Ministry organizes AELC No (1)

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan — The opening of Advanced English Language Course No (1) for Staff of the Ministry of Religious Affairs was held at the meeting hall of the ministry

here this afternoon with an address by Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Aung Ko.

A total of 25 trainees are taking the four-week course. —MNA

Honouring certificates presented to chairmen and members of District/Township Subcommissions in Yangon Region

YANGON, 27 Jan—A ceremony to present honouring certificates to members of Region, District and Township Subcommissions by Yangon Region Subcommission was held at National Theatre on Myomakyaung Road, Dagon Township, here, this morning.

On behalf of the Union Election Commission Chairman U Ko Ko of Yangon Region Subcommission presented the certificates of honours through a representative of the Region Subcommission and the district chairmen. Afterwards, Chairman of

Yangon West District Subcommission U Aung Moe Myint, Chairman of Yangon East District Subcommission U Khin Maung Kyaw, Chairman of Yangon North District Subcommission U Aung Khaing, Chairman of Yangon South District Subcommission U Myat Soe also presented the certificates to chairmen and members of Township subcommission, members of ward/village subcommission and staff of polling stations. The ceremony came to an end with a concluding speech by Chairman U Ko Ko.—MNA

Dala Township with direct...

(from page 16)

access to Twantay, Kawhmu, Kungyangon, Dedaye, Pyapon and Kyaiklat townships, as well as a direct access to Ayeyawady Region. It is difficult to travel from one ward to another in Dala Township in the rainy season. The Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) of Yangon City Development Committee has addressed that issue.

Adhering to the responsibilities assigned to him by the Engineering Department (Road and Bridge), Head of Division Engineer U Moe Hsan leading junior engineers and skilled workers upgraded roads in

wards and inter-ward roads in the township into concrete ones, commencing 1 July 2010.

So far, 70 roads in the townships have been upgraded to 12 feet wide and six inches thick facilities, stretching about 10 miles in total, using about 100,000 bags of cement.

The upgraded concrete roads include 8000 feet long Anawrahta Road linking Arntgyi Ward (West), Arntgyi Ward (East) and King Bank; 1500 feet long Aungmingalar Road (1) linking Aungmingalar Ward and Myoma (4) Ward; 10,000 feet long Bo Ottama Road linking Bo Yanpye Ward, Kamarkathwe

Ward, Setmye Ward, Kamakasit Ward, Hmawset Ward and Staff Quarters Ward; 7000 feet long Sinbyushin Road linking Bayintnaung Ward, Tabinshwehti Ward and Kyitsitha Ward; and 4000 feet long Nibban Road.

Apart from roads, inter-village-tract roads, inter-village roads and bridges were upgraded to fine ones, including 6000 feet long and 12 feet wide tarred road linking P y a w b w e g y i, Shwehlaychaung and Thanbanchaung villages; and 6000 feet long, 12 feet wide and six inches thick asphalt road linking Rakhinechaung (South) and Rakhinechaung



Newly-built Nibban Road is designed for smooth transport in Dala Township.

(North) wards. The bridge linking these two villages was also upgraded to an 80 feet long and 21 feet wide reinforced concrete one.

The road linking Khanaung Village-tract and seven villages has been built for five miles, which is serviceable in all weather conditions. Previously, the villages

in Khanaung Village-tract to Dala Township was about two hours boat trip. Thanks to the newly-built road, the distance is now only a 20 to 25 minutes trip. In addition, a 40 feet long and 21 feet wide reinforced concrete bridge was concreted in Khanaung Village.

Due to the prudent drive, it is heartening to witness that many elderly persons take exercise on concrete roads in Dala Township in the morning to keep themselves healthy and fit.

Translation: MS Kyemon: 27-1-2011

US mom, doctors eye chemicals for rise in child cancers



Nurses feed newborn babies from bottles in 2010.—INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan—A mom whose four-year-old died after losing a battle to a brain tumor called Wednesday for tougher US regulation of chemicals suspected of being behind a rise in childhood cancers.

"There's growing evidence linking toxic chemicals and carcinogens in the environment with childhood cancer," Christine Brouwer told a telephone news conference as she described losing a child to cancer.

"I'll most likely never know what caused my daughter's cancer, but

researchers are finding more and more links between the hazardous substances in our homes and workplaces and cancer and other diseases."

Brouwer's daughter Mira underwent several operations and endured painful and nauseating treatments to try to beat the cancer she was diagnosed with just before her second birthday, on 27 January, 2004.

After several rounds of surgery and months of treatment, Mira's cancer went into remission and she seemed to have won her fight against the ailment.

But it came back on her fourth birthday, killing her weeks later.

Her family questioned why the child was struck by such a serious illness so young, and Brouwer's

suspicions turned toward the chemicals found in cleaning fluids for the floors that babies crawl on, in the plastic of the bottles they drink from and in some of the foods they and their parents eat.

Boston University professor of environmental health Richard Clapp said the incidence of childhood cancer in the United States has grown about one percent a year for the past two decades.

"It's clear that at least one component of the cause is environmental chemical exposure," he said.

Pediatrician Sean Palfrey said doctors suspect chemicals and other environmental pollutants are behind a rise in everything from cancer to allergies to asthma in children.

Internet

Sony unveils new 'NGP' portable PlayStation

TOKYO, 27 Jan—Japanese entertainment giant Sony on Thursday unveiled a portable touchscreen PlayStation as it looks to launch a fresh challenge to Nintendo and Apple in the competitive mobile gaming market.

At a special media event in Tokyo, Sony also unveiled a "Suite" application for older PlayStation games allowing them to be played on mobile phones and tablet computers running Google's Android operating system.

The "Next Generation Portable" PlayStation will succeed Sony's PlayStation Portable handheld device and boasts 3G mobile connectivity and wifi, allowing users to download games and other content, said Kazuo Hirai, president and group chief executive, Sony Computer Entertainment.

The NGP features a five-inch organic light-emitting diode (OLED) touchscreen, a GPS receiver, a motion sensor and a rear panel touchpad to control certain actions, as well as navigation buttons and a joystick.



Japanese entertainment giant Sony has unveiled a portable touchscreen PlayStation as it looks to launch a fresh challenge to Nintendo and Apple in the competitive mobile gaming market.

INTERNET

Sony said the device would be available in time for the 2011 holiday shopping season but did not indicate a price.

The Japanese giant's PSP Go, launched in November 2009, already features software downloads through a wireless connection, allowing players to also browse the Internet, watch movies, play music and read books and comics.

Internet

Chinese shares gain on overseas markets' rise

BEIJING, 27 Jan—Chinese stocks closed higher for a second day Thursday with the benchmark Shanghai Composite Index rising 1.49 percent, or 40.34 points, to 2,749.15 points.

The Shenzhen Component Index climbed 1.69 percent, or 195.66 points, to 11,795.33 points.

Combined turnover expanded to 184.02 billion yuan (27.97 billion US dollars) from 115.5 billion yuan the previous trading day.

Gainers outnumbered losers 749 to 128 in Shanghai and 1,033 to 127 in Shenzhen.

China launched a new measures to cool the property market Wednesday night. The new measures targets those buying second or third homes.

China Vanke Co, the nation's biggest listed property developer, lost 2.47 percent to finish at 8.30 yuan per share.

Poly Real Estate Group Co, China's

second-largest developer by market value, dropped 4.34 percent to 13.24 yuan per share.

Although the new measures dented property developer shares, most other stocks gained on the rises in overnight markets, Guangfa Securities analyst Wan Bing said.

PetroChina Co, China's largest oil producer, gained 1.25 percent to 11.36 yuan per share.

Xinhua



A shopper (R) is attended to at a fashion shop in Johannesburg on 19 Jan, 2010. Indian consumer goods makers are scrambling to buy assets in Africa, applying their knowledge of challenging, lower-income markets to a continent where spending power is on the rise. Tapping Africa opens up new growth avenues for cash-rich Indian makers of personal care products such as soaps, shampoos, hair and skin care products, with rising costs and fierce competition squeezing profits at home.—INTERNET

Fear of scary things may be learned

NEW YORK, 27 Jan—Children are not born with a dread of snakes or spiders but learn these fears very quickly, a new study suggests.

In one experiment from the study, the researchers showed two videos side by side to children as young as 7 months. One video showed a snake and the other showed something non-threatening, such as an elephant. At the same time, the infants heard a recording of either a happy or fearful voice.

The infants spent more time looking at the snake video when they heard a fearful voice, the researchers reported, but the children showed no sign of fear themselves. In another experiment, 3-year-olds were shown a screen of nine

photographs and asked to select a target item. The children identified snakes more quickly than flowers and more quickly than other animals that look similar to snakes, such as frogs and caterpillars.

Children who were afraid of snakes identified snakes just as quickly as did children who did not have that fear.

"What we're suggesting is that we have these biases to detect things like snakes and spiders really quickly, and to associate them with things that are lucky or bad, like a fearful voice," researcher Vanessa LoBue, of Rutgers University, said in a news release from the Association for Psychological Science.—*Internet*

Macao's unemployment rate falls to 2.7 percent, lowest since 1999

MACAO, 27 Jan—Macao's unemployment rate for the period of October to December 2010 decreased by 0.1 percentage point over the previous period to 2.7 percent, the lowest since the Handover of Macao to China in 1999, according to the figures released on Thursday by the city's Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

The number of the unemployed decreased by about 200 from the previous period to 8,900 between October and December, with 10.5 percent being fresh labour force entrants searching for their first job, the figures indicated. In comparison with the same period of the previous year, the unemployment rate and the underemployment rate dropped by 0.4 and 0.2 percentage point respectively, and the labour force participation rate rose by 0.4 percentage point, according to the DSEC.

The city's total labour force stood at 331,000 in the period, with the labour force participation rate at 71.4 percent, up by 0.2 percentage point from the previous period.—*Xinhua*



A roadside vendor roasts mutton at Noida in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh 27 Jan, 2011. India's food price index rose 15.57 percent in the year to 27 Jan, government data on Thursday showed.—INTERNET

Spain changes rules for US military flights

MADRID, 27 Jan—As of February 1st, the US Air Force can no longer perform refueling operations on Spanish territory, Defence Minister Carme Chacón announced on Wednesday.

The minister added that US aircraft may not perform visual flights, only instrumental, with the aim of strengthening the control and security of Spanish airspace.

Spain and the US have agreed on a series of technical improvements that affect the information on scale and flyovers, the storage of ammunition and explosives and adaptation to Spanish environmental legislation, Chacón said.

In addition to the new prohibitions, Washington now needs to request flight permits earlier than before and provide details about the flight. Chacón, however, insisted that the changes were not related to the CIA's flight scandal, which involved the illegal transfer of detainees to Guantanamo via European bases.

The Pentagon agreed not to store landmines in Spain and to submit an environmental impact study, with the measures to alleviate it, when performing an activity on Spanish soil.

In January 1966, such a maneuver caused the collision of a tanker with a US bomber loaded with nuclear bombs above the south-eastern Spanish village of Palomares.—*Internet*



Russian President Dmitry Medvedev speaks at the opening session of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, on 26 Jan, 2011. The 41st World Economic Forum kicked off here Wednesday with the theme of "Shared Norms for the New Reality". More than 2,500 elites from over 100 countries will focus their discussions during the five-day meeting on four main topics: responding to the new reality, the economic outlook and defining policies for inclusive growth, supporting the G20 agenda and building a risk response network.

XINHUA

Another day, another shooting in San Jose

SAN JOSE, 27 Jan—Gunfire erupted on the streets of San Jose once again Wednesday — now an almost daily occurrence in the city — leaving an unidentified 26-year-old male victim with at least one bullet hole, and police still searching for a motive.

Responding to calls shortly after 7 pm about a shooting in the 100 block of Roundtable Drive, just east of Highway 82, San Jose police arrived at a crime scene from which everyone including the gunshot victim had fled. According to Sgt Jason Dwyer, a police spokesman, friends of the man who was shot drove him to a nearby hospital and dropped him off at the emergency room. A police officer posted at the hospital with the victim said doctors listed his condition as "stable."

Detectives were uncertain what led to the shooting, and the spokesman said he could not say whether the shooting was gang-related. Less than four weeks into the new year, San Jose has already logged nine homicides, nearly half the total for all of 2010.—*Internet*



People purchase goods for the upcoming Spring Festival in a shopping centre in Hong Kong, south China, on 26 Jan, 2011.

XINHUA

Suspect in airport laser strike identified

SAN JOSE, 27 Jan—San Jose police have identified the man they took into custody for pointing a green laser Monday night at a plane flying over East San Jose.

Christopher Bengel, 24, of San Jose, was booked into the Santa Clara County Jail on two counts of interfering with an airborne aircraft, a felony.

The private plane had taken off from Mineta San Jose International Airport. Police received a report of a laser striking the plane over the area of Story Road and McLaughlin Avenue. Police also said Bengel aimed a handheld

laser at a Sheriff's Department helicopter that responded.

A spotter on board the helicopter suffered temporary flash blindness but did not require medical attention. Police said they found a handheld laser pointer in Bengel's home.

His arrest came after a national report indicated that Mineta San Jose International Airport was the third most popular area for laser strikes.

Federal officials said laser strikes nationwide nearly doubled in 2010.

Internet

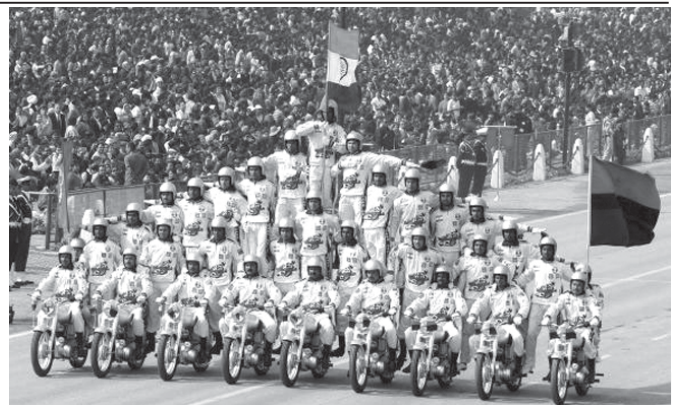
Medvedev sacks Moscow police head after airport terror attack

MOSCOW, 27 Jan— Russian President Dmitry Medvedev Wednesday fired the deputy head of Moscow police following the terrorist attack at Domodedovo Airport, said the Kremlin.

According to the statement on Kremlin website, Major-General Vladimir Chugunov left his office after 10 years of service.

Medvedev's decision came following the bomb blast at the Domodedovo Airport that claimed 35 lives and injured over 130 people. The president blamed poor security measures in the airport and promised to find those guilty.

A source told the *Interfax* news agency that some senior transport police officials will also be dismissed, as Medvedev on Tuesday instructed Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev to submit a report on sanctions, including dismissals, to be applied to the Interior Ministry officials in charge of security at transport facilities.—*Xinhua*



Indian Army soldiers display their skills on motorcycles during the 62nd Republic Day parade in New Delhi, India on 26 Jan, 2011. Republic Day marks the day in 1950 when the new constitution came in effect after India gained independence from Great Britain in 1947.

INTERNET



Photo taken on 26 Jan, 2011 shows a sculpture in Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Centre in Shanghai, east China. An art exhibition "Gerardo Rueda. The Modern Tradition" kicked off here on Wednesday with 31 works by the 20th century Spanish artist Gerardo Rueda.

XINHUA

Hudson River ferry fire put out, no injuries reported

NEW YORK, 27 Jan— A fire has been put out aboard a commuter ferry on the New Jersey side of the Hudson River on Wednesday with no injuries reported.

According to the Coast Guard, the New York Waterway ferry

caught fire shortly after leaving the dock at Edgewater, New Jersey. It was carrying 25 passengers and two crew members when the fire broke out on Wednesday morning.

The fire brought out a heavy emergency re-

sponse. The New York Fire Department sent fast-response boats from Manhattan and Brooklyn, and the New York Police Department dispatched its harbor units to the scene. An investigation into the cause of the fire is still going on.—*Xinhua*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DIBENA EXPRESS VOY NO (128)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA EXPRESS VOY NO (128) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.1.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
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A Sri Lankan fisherman drags a shark to market in the southern coastal town of Weligama. Massive overfishing especially to serve the East Asian lust for shark-fin soup has contributed to a plunge in shark numbers, according to a UN report.

INTERNET

Change brain in 8 weeks via meditation

BOSTON, 27 Jan—A US researcher says mindfulness meditation can change brain structure in eight weeks. Senior author Sara Lazar of Boston's Massachusetts General Hospital says these changes may account for meditation practitioners' claims of persistent cognitive and psychological benefits.

The study, published in *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging*, reports meditation produced changes over time in the brain's gray matter — including increases in density in brain areas having to do with learning, memory, self-awareness and compassion. Decreased density was seen in the amygdala — an area linked to anxiety — in those reporting less stress. None of the changes were seen in the control group. "This study demonstrates that changes in brain structure may underlie some of these reported improvements and that people are not just feeling better because they are spending time relaxing," Lazar says in a statement.

Internet

Dog found 18 miles out to sea adopted by rescuers

LONDON, 27 Jan—A dog that became stranded on an iceberg in the Baltic Sea has been adopted by his rescuers. The canine, named Baltic, was dramatically rescued after a Polish boat spotted the animal trapped 18 miles out to sea on an ice floe last year.

But the experience hasn't put Baltic off the ocean waves.— *Internet*

Woman gets jail for attacking babies

SAN DIEGO, 27 Jan—A San Diego-area woman has been sentenced to two years in jail for inflicting deep scratches on other mothers' babies.

Lisa Hench, 45, of La

Jolla, a mother of three children, sobbed through the hearing on Tuesday, *The San Diego Union-Tribune* reported. Superior Court Judge Michael Smyth ordered her to con-



tinue psychiatric treatment and banned her from being with children without another adult present. The sentence was more severe than expected, the newspaper said. Hench's lawyer argued for psychiatric treatment without jail time. "Hearing shrieking and seeing babies in physical torment and pain, and then going back for more, shows a level of depravity that allows more than just going for treatment," Smyth said.—*Internet*

Engagement

Engagement is hereby made and announced by and between

Yin Kyi (B.E Mechanical)

son of U Win Kyi, Daw Kyin Sein
living at No.22, 12th Street, Karya Ward,
Mingalardon Township, Yangon
and

Moe Thu Zar (B.Sc Physics)

daughter of U Aung Than, Daw Khin Mar Wai
living at No.18, U San Pe Street, U San Pe Ward,
Thingangyun Township, Yangon
before two sides of parents and honourable elders
on (22.1.2011) (Saturday).

Yin Kyi, Moe Thu Zar

Lenovo, NEC to form Japan's largest PC venture

TOKYO, 27 Jan—NEC and China's Lenovo said Thursday they will join forces to create the largest personal computer business in Japan. NEC now has about a one-fifth share of Japan's PC market while Lenovo, the world's No. 4 PC maker, has about a 5 percent share.

Lenovo will own 51 percent of the joint venture to be known as NEC Lenovo Group Japan and NEC Corp will hold 49 percent. As part of the deal, NEC will receive Lenovo shares worth \$175 million.

Hideyo Takasu, president of NEC Personal Products, will become president and CEO of the

venture while Roderick Lappin, currently Lenovo Japan president, will serve as executive chairman.

The announcement came after NEC reported a wider net loss for the most recent quarter.

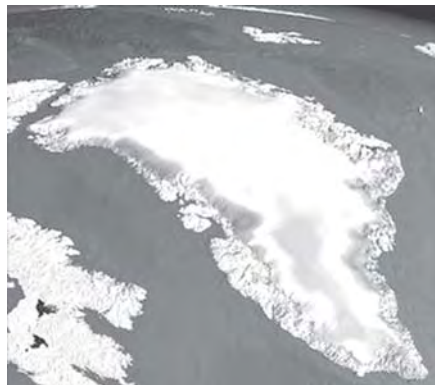
Its net loss swelled to 26.5 billion yen (\$323 million) in the October-December quarter from 9.6 billion a year earlier as companies held back from investing in technology services. For the full fiscal year through March, NEC projects it will be in the black, earning a net profit of 15 billion yen. Group sales for the fiscal third quarter fell 12.7 percent to 720.7 billion yen.

Internet



A logo for NFL football's Super Bowl XLV between the Green Bay Packers and the Pittsburgh Steelers on 6 Feb stands on the outside of Cowboys Stadium on 26 Jan, 2011, in Arlington, Texas.

INTERNET



NASA's IceSat saw thickening (pink) in places and thinning (blue) in others between 2003 and 2006.— INTERNET

Greenland glaciers spring surprise

LONDON, 27 Jan — Some Greenland glaciers run slower in warm summers than cooler ones, meaning the icecap may be more resistant to warming than previously thought. A UK-led scientific team reports the finding in the journal *Nature*, following analysis of five years of satellite data on six glaciers. The scientists emphasise the icecap is not "safe from climate change", as it is still losing ice to the sea.

Melting of the icecap would add several metres to sea level around the world. But it suggests that one reason behind the acceleration in glacier flow, which so concerned scientists when it was first documented in 2002, will prove not to be such a serious concern. "In their last report in 2007, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded they weren't able to make an accurate projection of future sea level because there were a couple of processes by which climate change could cause additional melt from the ice sheet," said Andy Shepherd from the University of Leeds.— *Internet*

Donald Sutherland gets Hollywood star

HOLLYWOOD, 27 Jan—Actor Donald Sutherland, who received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Wednesday, joked that, unlike a cemetery headstone, it is a marker he can visit. The star of "MASH," "Ordinary People" and "Klute" was honored with the 2,430th star on the Walk of Fame, the *Beverly Hills Courier* reported.

"This marker I can actually come and visit," he told a crowd assembled for the unveiling ceremony. "No, I could get a chair and sit here, or a bucket and a mop and clean it, and make sure that people don't step on it." From the very bottom of my heart, I thank the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for letting this happen," he said.

Sutherland, 75, has

made more than 130 films including the Academy Award-winning "Ordinary People." His latest release, "The Mechanic," starring Jason Statham, is a remake of the 1972 Charles Bronson film of the same name. Sutherland's star is set next to that of his son, actor Kiefer Sutherland.

Internet



Actor Donald Sutherland

Grand piano found on sandbar in Miami bay



A US Coast Guard boat passes near a grand piano on a sandbar in Biscayne Bay, on 25 Jan, 2011 in Miami. The piano recently showed up on the sandbar, about 200 yards from condominiums on the shore.

A grand piano recently showed up on a sandbar in Miami's Biscayne Bay, about 200 yards from condominiums on the shore.

The piano, which weighs at least 650 pounds, was placed at the highest spot along the sandbar so it doesn't get underwater during high tide.

While officials aren't sure how it got there, they know it won't be going anywhere unless it becomes a hazard to wildlife or boaters.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission spokesman Jorge Pino says the agency is not responsible for moving such items. And, he adds, unless it becomes a navigational hazard, the US Coast Guard won't get involved. For now, the piano has become a fancy roost for seagulls.

5-foot Monitor lizard wanders Calif neighbourhood

Animal services officers often get calls reporting "huge," monstrous reptiles, only to arrive and find an itty-bitty garden snake.

The 5-foot Monitor lizard wandering around a condo complex in the city of Riverside was way bigger than animal control officer Jenny Selter could have imagined.

"She said she saw it and almost jumped back in her truck," said John Welsh, spokes-man for Riverside County Animal Services. "The residents were freaking out because here's the Godzilla-like creature walking down the sidewalk."

Selter managed to get



5-foot long Monitor lizard

a catch pole — a long pole with a loop at the end that's used to handle vicious dogs — around the animal's neck, Welsh said. It was docile at first, but then it started hissing.

A police officer grabbed the lizard's body while Selter held onto its sharp, lashing tail, and together they put it in a compartment of her truck that's usually used for large dogs.

Black-throated Monitor lizards are carnivorous, legal to own in California and native to the African grasslands and parts of Asia. Juveniles go for about \$100 in pet stores, but they grow.

Back at the shelter, staff found the reptile was well-behaved for a Monitor lizard.

News Album



Rochus Misch, shows his picture book during a Reuters interview in Berlin on 8 Aug, 2007.

Hitler's last bodyguard gives up on fan mail

More than 65 years after World War Two, Adolf Hitler's last surviving bodyguard says that he can no longer respond to the continuous deluge of fan mail he receives from around the world, because of his advanced age. Rochus Misch is 93 and uses a walking frame to move around his apartment. He told the *Berliner Kurier* tabloid that, with most of the letters he receives asking for autographs, it was "no longer possible" to reply because of his age.

"They (letters) come

from Korea, from Knoxville, Tennessee, from Finland and Iceland — and not one has a bad word to say," said Misch, who is believed to be the last man alive to have seen Hitler and other top-ranking Nazis in the flesh.

In the past Misch used to send fans autographed copies of wartime photos of himself in a neatly pressed SS uniform. Now the incoming fan mail, including letters and packages, piles up in his flat in south Berlin's leafy Rudow neighborhood.

Penelope Cruz gives birth to a son



Penelope Cruz
INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 27 Jan—Spanish actress Penelope Cruz has given birth to a son at Cedar-Sinai Medical Centre in Los Angeles, the Spanish newspaper *El Pais* and *Hola!* magazine report.

The child is the first for Cruz and actor Javier Bardem, whom she married last July.

People.com said Wednesday the couple's representatives have not

confirmed the news.

The entertainment news Web site quoted an unnamed source as saying the baby was born during the weekend, however.

Internet



Motley Crue singer Vince Neil.—INTERNET

Motley Crue's Neil jailed 15 days for drunk driving

LAS VEGAS, 27 Jan— Motley Crue singer Vince Neil will serve 15 days in jail after pleading guilty on Wednesday to drunken driving, a spokeswoman for prosecutors said.

Neil, 49, a hard-charging glam metal star, had faced a possible six months behind bars after being arrested in Las Vegas for driving under the influence in June, just one week after he released his solo album "Tattoos & Tequila."

The Motley Crue singer has a tragic history with alcohol and cars. He served jail time following a 1984 crash in which he was driving drunk and his passenger, Hanoi Rocks drummer Nicholas "Razzle" Dingley, was killed.—Reuters



Musician Jimmy Buffett performs at The Film Society of Lincoln Centre's 2010 Chaplin Award Gala honouring award-winning actor and producer Michael Douglas in New York City on 24 May, 2010.—XINHUA

Will Smith's daughter to star in 'Annie' remake

LOS ANGELES, 27 Jan—Another child of Will and Jada Pinkett Smith is set to star in the remake of a Hollywood classic.

Ten-year-old Willow Smith is set to play the title role in "Annie."

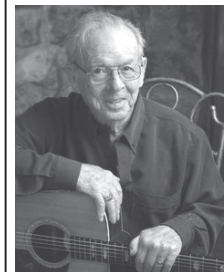
The film is being developed by Overbrook Entertainment, which the Smiths co-own, along with Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter and Sony Pictures.

Last year, 12-year-old Jaden Smith starred in a remake of "The Karate Kid," which raked in \$343 million worldwide.

Sony's Columbia Pictures first brought "Annie" to theaters in 1982.—Internet



Actress and singer Willow Smith, daughter of Will and Jada Pinkett Smith
INTERNET



Country Music Hall of Famer Charlie Louvin is shown in his home in Manchester, Tenn. Louvin, half of the Louvin Brothers whose harmonies inspired fellow country and pop singers for decades, died early Wednesday morning, on 26 Jan, 2011, due to complications from pancreatic cancer, at his home in Wartrace, Tenn, said Brett Steele, his manager. He was 83.
INTERNET

American singer Jimmy Buffett leaves hospital after falling off Sydney stage

SYDNEY, 27 Jan—American singer Jimmy Buffett has left hospital and been ordered to rest after falling off the stage at the end of his Sydney concert on Wednesday night, local media reported on Thursday.

Buffett departed via a back entrance at St Vincent's Hospital to avoid media after doctors gave him the all-clear on Thursday morning, the *Australian Network Ten* News reported. Medical staff described the singer as in good spirits and lucky to have recovered so quickly from the fall at Hordern Pavilion in Moore Park, one of Sydney's favourite entertainment venues on Wednesday night, it reported.—Xinhua

Bayern book German Cup semis berth

BERLIN, 27 Jan—German Cup holders Bayern Munich booked their semi-final berth on Wednesday with a comfortable 4-0 win at second division Alemannia Aachen as the German giants began life without Mark van Bommel.

After their Dutch captain's shock exit on Tuesday, when he signed for AC Milan until the end of the season, Germany defender Philipp Lahm took over the skipper's arm-

band as Bayern ran riot.

"We should have won this game a bit sooner, we certainly had our chances in the first half," said goalscorer Mario Gomez. "You have to give Aachen respect, they never stopped trying to play football, but we deserved the win." Bayern took their revenge after Aachen fans vandalised Munich's luxury team coach, parked at the Tivoli Stadium, by spraying their's team name down the side.— *Internet*



Aachen's midfielder Marco Hoeger (L) vies for the ball with Bayern Munich's Brazilian midfielder Luiz Gustavo during their German Cup quarter-final football match in Aachen.— INTERNET

Giggs says Fergie could carry on for five years

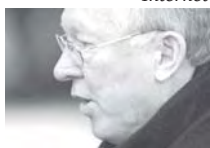
LONDON, 27 Jan—Ryan Giggs believes Sir Alex Ferguson could continue as Manchester United manager for another five years. Ferguson, who turned 69 last month, has refused to consider retiring since he announced he would quit after the 2001-02 season and then later changed his mind.

In an interview with Sky TV magazine, United winger Giggs emphasised Ferguson's passion for the sport and he believes that desire could keep him at Old Trafford well into his 70s.

He said: "I really do not see him (Ferguson) finishing any time soon, he will go on, at least an-

other five years. "His desire gets stronger. After a Champions League game we can get back at 3.30 am and then a few hours later he will be the first in at the training ground."

Internet



Sir Alex Ferguson

Broken foot rules Japan star out of final

BERLIN, 27 Jan—Japan midfielder Shinji Kagawa is out of Saturday's Asian Cup final with a broken foot which could see him miss the rest of the European season, his Bundesliga club Dortmund said on Wednesday. The 21-year-old broke a bone in his foot in Japan's semi-final win over South Korea on Tuesday, which ended in a 3-0 penalty shoot-out victory to the Japanese following a 2-2 draw after extra-time.

Kagawa broke down in training on Wednesday and a scan revealed the extent of the injury. Bundesliga leaders Dortmund confirmed he will miss Saturday's final against Australia in Qatar and the injury threatens to end his season prematurely. "The news is bad," Dortmund's press officer Hans-Joachim Watzke told SID, an AFP subsidiary.— *Internet*



Japan midfielder Shinji Kagawa

Injured Nadal aims for quick recovery

MELBOURNE, 27 Jan—Rafael Nadal is looking to put behind him the despair of missing a cherished 'Rafa Slam' and recover from his Australian Open injury setback to again rule men's tennis.

The world number one was in tears late in his injury-ruined quarter-final Wednesday with Spanish friend David Ferrer as he realised his quest for a fourth straight non-calendar year Grand Slam victory was over.

Although he refused to dwell on the injury out of respect for Ferrer's unexpectedly easy 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 victory, he told Spanish reporters that he may have torn a muscle during the match.— *Internet*



World number one Rafael Nadal of Spain was in tears late in his injury-ruined quarter-final on Wednesday.— INTERNET

SPORTS

Dalglish eyes Euro challenge after Fulham win

LIVERPOOL, 27 Jan—Kenny Dalglish set his sights on winning a place in Europe after John Pantsil's own goal gave Liverpool a 1-0 win over Fulham which continued their revival under the Anfield legend.

Dalglish was able to celebrate a second successive victory following Saturday's 3-0 win at Wolves thanks to the blunder by Pantsil in the second half at Anfield. Wednesday's result lifted Liverpool up to seventh in the Premier League and gave the Reds their first back-to-back victories since

beating Bolton and Chelsea almost three months ago. On another day, Fulham could easily have won as Mark Hughes's side squandered several glorious chances and left Merseyside wondering how they had not managed to earn even a point.— *Internet*



Liverpool's midfielder Raul Meireles (C) celebrates after Fulham's defender John Pantsil (not in picture) scored an own goal during their English Premier League match at Anfield, in Liverpool. INTERNET

Woods looks for fresh start at Torrey Pines

SAN DIEGO, 27 Jan—Tiger Woods at Torrey Pines felt like the start of any other season on the PGA Tour, except when he awoke at 3:30 am Wednesday and realized he had plenty of time on his hands. Gone was the crack-of-dawn tee time in the pro-am that had belonged to him for so many years, a product of being the No. 1 player. He was 68th on the money list last year and no longer gets first pick of the best tee times.

"I get to sleep in a little bit," Woods said. "Got up at 3:30 this morning not knowing what to do." He isn't the defending champion, even though Woods hasn't lost at Torrey Pines since 2004.

Internet

Barcelona eye final spot after Almeria rout

MADRID, 27 Jan—Barcelona put one foot in the Kings Cup final with a brace from Lionel Messi sealing a thumping 5-0 semi-final first leg win over Almeria at Camp Nou on Wednesday. Three goals

in the opening quarter hour put Barcelona in total command and now Barcelona, who have won the Kings Cup a record 25 times, appear a shoe-in for the final, barring a remarkable second leg comeback from Almeria.

Real Madrid hope to meet their arch rivals in the final and hold the upper hand in the other semi-final with Karim Benzema's goal sealing a 1-0 first leg win at Sevilla on Wednesday. Barcelona took the lead after just nine minutes with goalkeeper Esteban Suarez at fault as Argentine Messi's tame shot sneaked in.

Internet



Real Madrid's Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo controls the ball during their Spanish King's Cup semifinal first leg football match against Sevilla FC in Sevilla.— INTERNET

Poulter says golf's rules need to be re-examined

RIFFA, 27 Jan—Ian Poulter says the rules of golf need to be re-examined in order to avoid the kind of high-profile disqualifications the sport has seen in recent weeks. Poulter said on Wednesday ahead of the Volvo Golf Championships that "if you look at a number of the scenarios and situations that we've had in the last 12 months, I think a lot of rules certainly need to be re-looked at for sure."

Padraig Harrington was disqualified from last week's Abu Dhabi Golf Championships after he didn't replace

his ball correctly when it moved after he picked up his marker. Also this month, Camilo Villegas was disqualified from the Tournament of Champions after a rule violation.— *Internet*



England's Ian Poulter

- ★ 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

Dala Township with direct access to Ayeyawady Region

Dala Township lies on the other bank of Yangon River. It is just a 10 minutes boat trip to Dala from Yangon. In the times of Myanmar monarchs, Dala used to be a southernmost garrison town. Long ago, it was a village-tract only. Later, it was upgraded to a township. In 1974, it became one of the townships in Yangon Municipal Area. It is bounded by Twantay Canal in the west and by Yangon River in the north.

Byline & Photos: Than Swe (Pabedan)

With an area of 10.93 square miles, Dala Township is consisted with 23 wards, 23 village-tracts and 45 villages. Dala Township has an easy
(See page 9)



The 7000 feet long Sinbyushin concrete road linking Bayinnaung, Tabinshwehti and Kyansittha wards in Dala Township.

Airlines cancel flights to Bali as Indonesia volcano erupts

JAKARTA, 27 Jan — Several airlines cancelled flights to Indonesia's top tourist destination island of Bali on Thursday because of volcano ash, an Indonesian government spokesman said.

Mount Bromo, on eastern Java island and one of dozens of active volcanoes in the archipelago, started erupting in November. Ash from Mount Merapi, also on Java, disrupted flights in November.

"Several airlines decided to divert their flights or return to base in connection with ash spewing from Mount Bromo," said Bambang Ervan, spokesman for the Indonesian transport ministry.

Ervan said Air France-KLM, Cathay Pacific, Jetstar, ValueAir, and Virgin Blue had cancelled or diverted flights, with the ash cloud at 18,000 feet and the wind direction southeast.

Yuli Sadoso, an official at Bali airport, said about 1,300 passengers had been hit by the cancellations.

A British Airways flight came close to crashing nearly three decades ago after its engines sucked in ash from another Indonesian volcano, Mount Galunggung, on Java.— MNA/ Reuters

Significant night temperatures (27-1-2011)

Haka	(1°C)
Lashio	(4°C)
Pinlaung	(5°C)