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Defence Ministry team clinch title in Inter-Ministry Women's Volleyball Championship

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan — The final match of the 4th Inter-Ministry Women's Volleyball Championship for 2011 took place at the Volleyball Stadium here this afternoon.

Ministry of Defence team beat Home Affairs Ministry team 3-0 and became the champion for 2011.

Among the spectators were Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint, Minister for Home Affairs U Maung Oo, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs U Phone Swe, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi and officials and employees from ministries.

After the final match, Brig-Gen Khin Yi and Deputy Minister U Phone Swe presented individual prizes to players of third prize winning Industry-1 Ministry team, second prize winning Home Affairs Ministry team and first prize winning Ministry of Defence team.

Deputy Minister U Phone Swe also awarded best players in the respective places.

Minister U Maung Oo presented cash awards to the first, second, third and fourth prize winning teams and Minister Thura U Aye Myint, the championship shield and duplicate shield to the Ministry of Defence team.

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

100-bed Bogale People's Hospital: Health care for local people

Byline & Photos: *Yan Gyi Aung*

Bogale is a town which is not far from Myanmar Sea. It lies at the place adjacent to the Sea in Ayeyawady Delta region teeming with rivers and creeks. So, the region suffered a lot of severe damages caused by storm Nargis. Then, a great number of lives and property lost. But the region has restored to its former condition in a short period of time.

I frequently visited Bogale after the Nargis. The township sees urban development and is significantly different from the past. A growing number of new buildings emerged one after another. In the township, town hall and gymnasium have been built. Renovation of religious buildings, schools and roads has been completed. The township now gets new People's Hospital (100-bed) put into service on 13 January this year. I had a chance to attend the opening ceremony of it and witnessed that the hospital is splendid and marvelous. I had interviews with officials about the hospital.

New People's Hospital (100-bed) in Bogale Township.

Ambulance donated for the hospital.

"The township with a population of over 0.3 million is composed of 10 wards, 71 village-tracts and 575 villages. In the past, the township had only a 50-bed township hospital, and the Nargis caused damage to the hospital," said Chairman of Bogale Township Peace and Development Council U Htin Kyaw.

"During his tour of the township in May 2008, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on construction of a 100-bed hospital in the place of the damaged hospital," he added.

The hospital located in Bogale Myothit ward is built on 31.9 acres of land. The hospital measuring 326 x326 ft has 57,440 square feet of floor area. It consists of four wards—outpatient ward, GP ward, OG and pediatric wards, Physiological and Surgical ward. In addition, it includes two 10-foot-wide walkways built in and out of the hospital.

GP, surgeons, OG and child specialists at the hospital are ready to provide health care to the public. And the State has provided it with medicine and modern medical equipment," said Medical Superintendent Dr Than Htay Aung. With

(See page 8)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 29 January, 2011

Broaden your horizons through reading

In this age of technology, young people need to know modern science and technology so that they can serve the interests of their nation and people.

The real source of serving the best interests of own nation and people is to have quality rather than quantity. This is why today's youth have to be equipped with their own qualifications. To do so is to cultivate the habit of reading for good knowledge.

Literature indeed is torchlight for improving one's own knowledge. So, young people should have a passion for reading.

The majority of Myanmar people live in rural areas. Hence, widening the horizons of the rural people can contribute a great deal towards national development. With this end in view, self-reliant libraries have been set up in order that the rural people and the youth can seek their knowledge.

The Rural Library Foundation has been established for long-term existence of libraries and human resource development. It also helps the rural people to cultivate the reading habit.

So that the country can be on a par with the international community in this age of technology. The young people need to have a thirst for knowledge that can come mostly from libraries or knowledge banks. All in all, they are required to have the habit of constant reading.

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**

F&R Ministry holds work coord meeting

***Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun delivers an address at coordination meeting of Ministry of Finance and Revenue.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan — The Ministry of Finance and Revenue held its work coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the ministry here on 24 and 25 January.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun called for better coordination in works to be done after reviewing strength and weakness of already-implemented tasks and fully participation in national development tasks with correct vision, efficient performance and good verbal skills.

Next, managing directors, directors-general, and officials reported on work progress and future plans.

At the meeting on 25 January, Central Bank of Myanmar Governor U Than Nyein reported on works to be done on banking services and monetary matters. Deputy Minister U Hla Thein Swe made supplementary reports.

Later, the minister gave concluding remarks. *MNA*

Dual Gasifier on sales

***Photo shows Dual Gasifier manufactured by Treasure Engineering Group.*—MNA**

YANGON, 28 Jan— Dual Gasifier manufactured by Treasure Engineering Group is available at the market.

Using Dural Gasifier can halve fuel consumption and its environmentally-friendly design can avoid possible dangers of fire. It is suitable to be used in restaurants, hotels, hospitals, hostels, factories and mess. Customers will be given a practical demonstration of its function. Besides, service center is also available.

Those who want to buy dual gasifier may contact No (1135), Chindwin Road in Ward-63, Industrial Zone (2) in Dagon Myothit (South) Township and No (62), Tawwin Road in Bawga Ward, Kyimyindine Township, Yangon (Ph: 01 594318 and 09 8566190). — *MNA*

Auditor-General's Office, directors of States and Regions meet

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— A coordination meeting between the Auditor-General's Office and directors of States and Regions was held at the hall of the Auditor-General's Office, here, this morning, with an address by Auditor-General U Lun Maung.

The Auditor-General stressed the need to check accounts in line with rules and regulations not to loss monetary and materials of the State.

Directors of States and Regions reported on progress of works.

The Director-General (Duty) of the Auditor-General's Office gave a supplementary report.

After reviewing the reports, the Auditor-General gave concluding remarks.—*MNA*

Junior Engineer-2 Proficiency Course (Basic) concludes

YANGON, 28 Jan— The Junior Engineer-2 Proficiency Course (Basic) No. 2/2011 of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 concluded at the central training school in Hlinethaya Township this morning.

Director-General U Khin Maung Zaw of Electric Power Department made a speech. Chief Engineer (A) U Kyaw Kyaw of Yangon Electricity Supply Board presented completion certificates to the trainee leader.

The director-general gave prizes to outstanding trainees.—*MNA*

Introduction to Future Myanmar Business Report Magazine on 4 Feb

YANGON, 28 Jan—The Myanmar Resources Group will organize a ceremony to introduce The Future Myanmar Business Report Magazine and seminar on ESD 21's "Basic principle and practical advantage of Toyota Production System (TPS) / Lean system" at Mindon Hall of Sedona Hotel from 2 pm to 5 pm on 4 February.

The programme of publishing The Future Myanmar Business Report Magazine will be presented. Officials of Toyota: ESD 21 President Mr Satoshi Kuroiwa, Managing Director Mr Isao Wazawa and Director Mr Akio Suzuki will give talks on advantages of Toyota Production System (TPS) / Lean system.

For further details, contact Yangon Publishing House at 1203, A-3-1, Myanmar Gonyi Housing Estate, at the cornor of Upper Pansodan Street and Myanmar Gonyi Street, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon (Ph: 393102); Sann Pwint Aung Myint Trading Co Ltd at No 43/45, 3rd FL (Left-Right Side) 27th Street, Pabedan T/S, Yangon, (374252, 374253); and Plus D Group Co Ltd at 33 (B), Room No B2, Yaw Min Gyi Street, Dagon T/S, Yangon (242462, 251201).—*MNA*

Kabul blast hits shop popular with westerners

KABUL, 28 Jan- At least eight people were killed in an explosion that rocked a grocery store frequented by foreigners in Kabul.

Abdul Ghafar Sayedzada, chief of counterterrorism at the Ministry of Interior, says both Afghans and foreigners are among the dead in Friday's blast.

NATO officials said that at least two of those killed were foreign nationals, but their nationalities remain unclear.

A Taleban commander who operates inside Kabul city sent a text message claiming responsibility for the attack.

The explosion ignited a fire inside the store and mounds of canned goods and other merchandise were strewn across the floor of the smoke-filled building, making it difficult for police officers to walk inside the building.

Internet

An injured woman is escorted out of a supermarket on 28 Jan, 2011 in central Kabul, Afghanistan.

INTERNET

American dream came to an end

MODESTO (Califonia), 28 Jan—A couple shot and killed inside their market were respected Laotian immigrants who fled their homeland 30 years ago and saved enough money to buy the small business in California's Central Valley.

Their American dream came to an end, however, when gunmen opened fire inside the V&V Oriental Market, taking the lives of Vanh Thammavongsa, 55, and his wife, Phouvieng, 49, and leaving their 28-year-old developmentally disabled daughter hospitalized on life support, *the Modesto Bee* reported Thursday.

About an hour after the shooting, police arrested suspected gang members Oloth Phommahaxay, 18, and two teenage boys from Modesto for investigation of murder.

The suspects were arraigned Thursday in Stanislaus County Superior Court, where the district attorney's office announced it would prosecute the two minors as adults. Prosecutors asked the judge for additional time to decide if they will seek the death penalty. The motive for Tuesday's shooting remained unclear, Modesto police Sgt Rick Armendariz said.

The couple wanted to improve the lives of their three children when they bought the Asian goods market located in a crime-ridden neighbourhood 15 years ago.

Internet

The photos of Vanh Thammavongsa and Phouvieng Thammavongsa, are displayed at the Modesto, Calif home of Douangpha Sanachay on 26 Jan, 2011.

INTERNET

Death toll in Indonesia's vessel blaze rises to 17

Residents look at a ferry that caught fire off Java island is being towed near Anyer beach in Serang, Banten Province, Indonesia, on 28 Jan, 2011.

INTERNET

JAKARTA, 28 Jan—The number of deaths in Indonesia' s burned vessel serving from Merak port in Banten Province to Bakauheni port in Lampung Province has risen to 17. At least 16 were seriously injured and treated in Krakatau Steel hospital in Cilegon, Merak, local TV reported here on Friday.

The rescue teams were reportedly engaging seven vessels to evacuate 103 passengers who were still trapped in the ship that was engulfed by fire. It carried more than 240 people when the fire caught the ship, the Metro TV reported.

At least 99 passengers were already evacuated by the rescue team, many of whom were treated in Krakatau Steel hospital.—*Xinhua*

Five killed, 27 seriously injured in train collision in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 28 Jan—Train collision in Banjar City of West Java of Indonesia earlier Friday killed five people and seriously wounded 27 others, official said. Head of Health Department Office in Banjar who goes with single name Herman said that that eleven other passengers had minor injuries.

"The total fatality reaches 5 people and 27 others must got serious treatment at hospitals, but the eleven others can be treated in a health clinic,"he told *Xinhua* by phone from the city. Train Mutiara Selatan and Kuto Jaya collided at 02:24 am Jakarta time, Friday (1924 GMT) near Laggen train station in the city, spokesman of Transport Ministry Bambang Ervan said.

Xinhua

A/H1N1 death toll rises to 25 in Italy

ROME, 28 Jan—A total of 25 people have been killed by the A/H1N1 flu virus in Italy since the beginning of this year, authourities said Thursday.

The latest victim of the virus was a 51-year-old man who died on Thursday. The man was hospitalized in January and suffered from respiratory problems. Two other people, who contracted the influenza virus, are being treated on Thursday in emergency units and their conditions are serious.

A total of 14 people infected by the virus are currently lying in hospital beds receiving medical treatment. Authorities expect the flu peak to hit between January and February.

Xinhua

US citizen who killed two Pakistanis is spy

ISLAMABAD, 28 Jan—Pakistani media reported Friday that a US official, who shot dead two Pakistani citizens in the city of Lahore on Thursday, is a spy or working for the Blackwater.

The American employee at the US consulate in Lahore, Raymond Davis, previously reported as Steve David, shot dead two Pakistani motorcyclists, city police chief Aslam Tarin said.

People look at blood stains at a roadside in Lahore, Pakistan on 27 Jan, 2011. A US consular employee shot and killed two gunmen as they approached his vehicle in a congested street in Pakistan on Thursday, police said.

INTERNET

A pedestrian was also killed by a speeding car from the US consulate which was called to help, police said.

Davis had introduced himself as Technical Advisor to the police but major Pakistani dailies reported on Friday that he was a soldier, spy and possibly a member of the Blackwater private security company.

Davis, who is now charged in murder case, told the police investigators that he fired in self-defence as the two motorcyclists had wanted to rob him.

The largely circulated Urdu language *Daily Jang* reported that the police suspected Davis as an American spy. It reported that he is not a diplomat and can not claim diplomatic immunity.

Xinhua

Science

Humans may have left Africa earlier than thought

This undated handout photo provided by the journal Science shows the Jebel Faya rockshelter from above, looking north, showing eboulis blocks from roof collapse and the location of excavation trenches.—INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 28 Jan— Modern humans may have left Africa thousands of years earlier than previously thought, turning right and heading across the Red Sea into Arabia rather than following the Nile to a northern exit, an international team of researchers says.

Stone tools discovered in the United Arab Emirates indicate the presence of modern humans between 100,000 and 125,000 years ago, the researchers report in Friday's edition of the journal *Science*.

While science has generally accepted an African origin for humans, anthropologists have long sought to understand the route taken as these populations spread into Asia, the Far East and Europe. Previously, most evidence has suggested humans spread along the Nile River valley and into the Middle East about 60,000 years ago.

There are not many exits from Africa. You can either exit" through Sinai north of the Red Sea or across the straits at the south end of the Red Sea, explained Hans-Peter Uerpmann of the Centre for Scientific Archaeology of Eberhard-Karls University in Tuebingen, Germany.—*Internet*

Great Pyramid has two secret chambers

PARIS, 28 Jan— A French architect campaigning for a new exploration of the 4,500-year-old Great Pyramid of Giza said on Thursday that the edifice may contain two chambers housing funereal furniture. Jean-Pierre Houdin — who was rebuffed three years ago by Egypt in his appeal for a probe into how the Pyramid was built — said 3-D simulation and data from a US egyptologist, Bob Brier, pointed to two secret chambers in the heart of the structure.

The rooms would have housed furniture for use in the afterlife by the pharaoh Khufu, also known as Cheops in Greek, he told a press conference.

"I am convinced there are antechambers in this pyramid. What I want is to find them," he said.

In March 2007, Houdin advanced the theory that the Great Pyramid had been built inside-out using an internal spiral ramp, as opposed to an external ramp as had long been suggested.

He proposed mounting a joint expedition of Egyptian antiquities experts and French engineers, using infrared, radar and other non-invasive methods to check out the hypothesis.

The idea was nixed by Egypt's antiquities department.

A Canadian team from Laval University in Quebec will seek permission this year to carry out thermal imaging from outside the Pyramid to explore the theory, Houdin said. Houdin said a pointer to the antechambers came from the existence of such rooms in the pyramid of Snefru, Khufu's father. It was possible a similar design was retained for the Great Pyramid.

In addition, blocks in the northern wall of the king's chamber in the Great Pyramid indicate an overlooked passage which led to the hypothesised chambers and also enabled the funeral party to exit, he added.—*Internet*

Russia's new Angara rocket ready for test launch in 2012

MOSCOW, 28 Jan— Russia will test launch its new generation *Angara* booster rocket in 2012, the Russian space force commander said Thursday.

Oleg Ostapenko told local media that the *Angara* booster rocket is expected to be fully prepared for launch in 2012, adding that "everything is going according to plan."

Angara rockets, designed to provide lifting capabilities between 2,000 and 40,500 kg into low earth orbit, are expected to become the core of Russia's carrier rocket fleet, replacing several existing systems.

The rockets have a modular design similar to the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV), based on a common Universal Rocket Module (URM).

Russia in October successfully launched a military satellite by "Molniya-M" carrier rocket. It was the last launch of a carrier rocket from the Molniya-M family, as the family will give way to *Soyuz-2* and *Angara* rockets.—*Xinhua*

Technology

Forget jetskis; Fly a jetpack instead

CANADA, 28 Jan—The illusive jetpack has just become more viable and nimble. Inventor Raymond Li of Canada built a hydro-jetpack that can propel a man up to 30 feet into the sky. Many have tried developing the jet-packing idea in the past, using bulky gasoline-powered fans or models that "require extensive training" to obtain. Li's invention, however, propels the pilot with twin streams of high-pressure water created in a floating engine-and-hose pack that floats on the surface of a body of water. In this manner, Li was able to circumvent the traditional jetpack's greatest complication: thrust-to-weight ratio.

Jetpack

The ride is smooth—so smooth that some riders have compared it to riding on a magic carpet. The hydro jetpack is supposed to hit the market sometime later this year at a starting value of $175,000, with resorts and high-end recreational facilities as primary targets.

Inventor Li foresees it being used practically as well, in "marine structure inspection and repair, lifesaving, firefighting, and even peacekeeping". Peacekeeping? Ok, maybe in a post-apocalyptic 1995 Waterworld-type-scenario. But for now, it just looks *fun*.

Internet

Sanyo announces interactive DLP projector

WASHINGTON, 28 Jan—Sanyo has announced the introduction of an interactive projector geared for the educational and corporate presentation markets that provides full functionality regardless of the surface on which the image is projected.

The Sanyo PLC-WL2503, an ultra short-throw 3-LCD DLP projector, provides interactivity without the need for a whiteboard or surface with built-in sensors. The projector is rated at 2,500 lumens of brightness, and provides wide XGA native resolution and a 500:1 contrast ratio.

Conventional interactive projector systems require the use of an interactive whiteboard connected to the PC. Sanyo's interactive system eliminates this need by providing two interface devices (a pen and a pointer), each containing an infrared (IR) transmitter. When the tip of either device is pressed against the screen or wall surface, it generates an IR signal that is detected by a camera module located on the front surface of the projector. This signal allows the system to determine the relative location of the tip on the projected image, and this information is transmitted to the PC through a USB connection for display on screen. The system is compatible with virtually all software, as well as the Windows 7, Vista, XP and Mac OS operating systems.—*Internet*

PLC-WL2503. INTERNET

Hot "Brink" and "Rage" videogames set for release

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 Jan—The studio behind blockbuster videogame franchise "Fallout" on Thursday announced that eagerly anticipated new "Brink" and "Rage" titles would be unleashed by mid-year.

A first-person "Brink" shooter game, set in a near-future with a society stressed by too many people and too few resources, will debut in North America on 17 May and in Europe on 20 May, according to Bethesda Softworks.

Early kudos being heaped on "Brink" include being crowned "Game of Show" at the Eurogamer Expo where it was previewed last year.

The weaponry-rich title crafted by Splash Damage for Bethesda boasts innovative controls and a smooth blend of single- and multi-player action as gamers increasingly turn to playing with others using Internet connections.

A "Rage" first-person shooter videogame made by renowned developer id Software with be available in North America on 13 September and in Europe three days later.—*Internet*

Health

Extra calcium, vitamin D no bone booster for men

NEW YORK, 28 Jan—Taking extra vitamin D and calcium doesn't seem to prevent bone-thinning in older men, according to Australian researchers.

However, exercise did boost bone mineral density, a proxy for bone strength, their report shows.

Despite the findings, people still need to get enough calcium and vitamin D to reduce the risk of osteoporosis, or bone thinning, said Dr Mone Zaidi, an osteoporosis researcher at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, who was not involved in the study.

"It's like the four legs of the stool: vitamin D and calcium, exercise, medications if a person is losing bone, and the fourth leg is telling people how to prevent fractures," Zaidi said.

More than 40 million people in the US are affected by osteoporosis. It's most common in older women, but about seven percent of white men and five percent of black men are affected, according to the American College of Physicians.

In the new study, published in *the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, Robin M Daly from the University of Melbourne, Australia and colleagues randomly assigned men aged 59 to 70 to an exercise programme, drinking milk fortified with calcium and vitamin D, doing both, or doing nothing.

They measured the men's bone density before and after the study, which took place over 18 months, but they didn't look at fractures. At the end of the study, men who exercised had higher bone density than those who had supplemented their diet with 1000 milligrams of calcium and 800 international units (IU) of vitamin D per day.

Adding the supplements to the exercise programme provided no extra benefit, hinting that the men already had enough vitamin D and calcium in their diets to be able to boost their bone strength through exercise alone.—*Reuters*

Health Tip: Possible complications of Hemophilia

Hemophilia is a disorder in which the blood doesn't properly clot, so stopping bleeding becomes more difficult.

The US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention says possible complications of hemophilia include:

* Swelling in the joints that may lead to pain and swelling in nearby muscles.
* Possible brain damage from bleeding inside the brain or head.
* Damage to internal organs.
* Death from uncontrolled bleeding or bleeding that causes damage to vital organs.—*Internet*

***Eating foods high in trans-fats and saturated fats increases the risk of depression, according to a Spanish study published in the US Wednesday, confirming previous studies that linked "junk food" with the disease.*—INTERNET**

Cholera patients rest in a ward in Haiti in 2010. Cholera today is more resilient than previous types, but as the world marks 50 years since the most recent strain surfaced, two studies this week suggest that vaccines can help even after an outbreak starts.

INTERNET

Discovery may explain why brain cancer is so hard to treat

LA JOLLA, 28 Jan—Researchers have found that brain cancer cells can turn themselves into blood vessel cells to counter drugs designed to cut off a tumor's blood supply and deprive it of oxygen and nutrients.

This ensures an adequate oxygen supply, according to the researchers, and it helps explain why glioblastoma, the most common and deadly form of brain cancer, resists nearly all treatment efforts.

They also said that the finding, reported online 25 Jan in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, indicates the need to rethink current glioblastoma therapy and perhaps develop drugs that take aim at new targets. "Disrupting the formation of tumour blood vessels is not enough," Inder Verma, a genetics professor at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, in La Jolla, Calif, and the research team leader, said in a Salk news release.—*Internet*

Business

Microsoft's Windows disappoints on lukewarm PC sales

Microsoft's new Kinect controller for the Xbox 360 is seen on a shelf at the Best Buy store in 2010 in Miami Beach, Florida.

INTERNET

SEATTLE, 28 Jan—Sales of Microsoft Corp's Windows software fell short of outsized expectations, rekindling fears that the spread of mobile gadgets will erode its main PC-focused business.

Microsoft surprised Wall Street with a better-than-expected profit, helped by resurgent corporate spending after the belt-tightening of past years. But its shares stayed flat as investors expressed concern about the weakness of overall computer sales amid a faltering US recovery.

The world's largest software maker, whose Windows operating system runs on 90 percent of the world's computers, is heavily dependent on PC sales, which grew only 3 percent in the quarter. Now it is starting to feel the heat from investors eyeing the phenomenal take-up of Apple Inc's iPad.

"Outstanding numbers when you take a first look at it, but when you delve into them, Windows missed expectations by $300 million," said Brendan Barnicle, analyst at Pacific Crest Securities.—*Reuters*

Chinese Banks' 2010 forex surplus tops 397.7 bln USD

BEIJING, 28 Jan — China's foreign exchange watchdog said Thursday that the surplus of Chinese banks' foreign exchange purchases to sales in client transactions increased 51 percent through 2010 to stand at 397.7 billion US dollars at year-end.

China's institutional and individual clients sold 1.33 trillion US dollars in foreign exchange to banks in 2010 while purchasing 932.7 billion US dollars, said the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) in an online statement.

In 2009, the annual surplus fell 42 percent to 263.5 billion US dollars, according to SAFE's data released in March 2010. The statement noted the figures did not include banks' own forex transactions and interbank transactions.

The forex surplus in December 2010 totaled 51.5 billion US dollars, as clients sold 146.2 billion US dollars of foreign exchange, up 13 percent from November, while purchasing 94.7 billion US dollars, up 12 percent, it said.—*Xinhua*

***File photo shows a bank teller counting 10,000 yen bank notes in Tokyo. To date, the Japanese government has been able to fund its growing fiscal gap by raising money in the domestic market, with around 95 percent of the country's huge debt held domestically via banks and pension schemes.*—INTERNET**

Japanese carmaker Mazda Motor agreed on Friday to supply minivans to its domestic rival Nissan Motor, expanding their mutual supply accord, the two companies said.

INTERNET

Japan's Nissan, Mazda expand supply pact

TOKYO, 28 Jan—Japanese carmaker Mazda Motor agreed on Friday to supply minivans to its domestic rival Nissan Motor, expanding their mutual supply accord, the two companies said. Under the latest agreement, Mazda will start supplying its Premacy to Nissan from May for sale under the Nissan brand, the companies said in a joint statement. Mazda and Nissan have already teamed up through an Original Equipment Manufacturing (OEM) pact enabling them to provide each other with vehicles. Mazda currently provides the Bongo van and truck to Nissan, which sells it as the Nissan Vanette van and truck, while Nissan supplies the AD and AD Expert to Mazda, for sale as the Mazda Familia van.—*Internet*

Chinese island province pilots in low-altitude test flight

HAIKOU 28 Jan—China's aviation authorities on Friday started to allow helicopters to fly in low-altitude airspace over the tourist island of Hainan on a trial basis for the first time. The aim is to eventually open a part of the country's tightly-controlled airspace to private aircraft.

Four helicopters were manned by eight pilots from Shanghai-based Zhengyang Investment Group, a leading domestic firm in the general aviation industry. They are expected to conduct test flights in the sky, 1,000 metres above the ground in Hainan in the next two months. The flight test will collect data for low-altitude flying and test the ground control system's response to emergencies, said Zou Jianming, chairman of Zhengyang Investment Group. Hainan is the first place in China to conduct test flights of private aircraft in low-altitude airspace, said Jiang Sixian, deputy governor of the province. Domestic and foreign firms are both welcome to invest in Hainan's general aviation sector to develop world-class tourism here.

China's low-altitude airspace is controlled by the Air Force and the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC). Every private aircraft flight needs approval, and the procedure can take from one day up to a week.

But last November, the State Council and the Central Military Commission said that part of the low-altitude airspace would be opened to promote the country's general aviation sector.

Xinhua

British arrests, US raids over 'Anonymous' cyber attacks

LONDON, 28 Jan—British police arrested five people and the FBI launched raids across the US as part of a probe into cyber attacks by online group "Anonymous", which last year assailed websites hostile to WikiLeaks.

In a series of dawn raids in England on Thursday, three teenage males and two adult men were arrested on suspicion of breaking the Computer Misuse Act 1990, London's Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) said.

On the same day, the FBI executed more than 40 search warrants throughout the United States. London police said in a statement that "five males aged 15, 16, 19, 20 and 26 are being held after a series of coordinated arrests at residential addresses."

Internet

British police arrested five people and the FBI launched raids across the US as part of a probe into cyber attacks by online group "Anonymous", which last year assailed websites hostile to WikiLeaks.—INTERNET

Wounded Ore police officer expected to survive

This image taken from security video released by Oregon State Police on 26 Jan, 2011 shows a man identified as David Durham wearing camouflage clothing and a black beret in what appears to be a convenience store, about 30 minutes before Lincoln City police officer Steven Dodds was shot during a traffic stop Sunday night.—INTERNET

PORTLAND, 28 Jan—Doctors say an Oregon police officer ambushed during a traffic stop is recovering from gunshots to his pelvis and abdomen that would have killed him if he hadn't managed to call in the shooting to dispatchers, then been rushed to the hospital for surgery.

One of the bullets fired by a man who's still at large severed a major vein, giving 45-year-old Lincoln City Officer Steven Dodds just 15 to 30 minutes to live.

"He was able to call in," Lincoln City Police Chief Steven Bechard said. "That's a testament to his endurance."

Dodds opened his eyes for the first time Thursday and is expected to survive, doctors at Portland's Legacy Emanuel Hospital said.

"He's a strong guy and so stubborn," said daughter Megan Dodds. "I know he's not going to let himself down on this one."

Authorities are scouring the area for David Anthony Durham, 43, who they believe shot Dodds before leading police on a chase along the coast.—*Internet*

Blind orangutan gives birth to twins in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 28 Jan—A blind orangutan at a rescue centre in western Indonesia has given birth to a healthy pair of twins.

Ian Singleton, who works with the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme, said Thursday that Gober, the mother, so far appeared able to care for the babies herself.

"But vets and staff are ready to step in if necessary," he said, adding that Leuser, the father, also is blind.

There are around 50,000 orangutans left in the wild, 90 percent of them in Indonesia, with more than 2,000 others in rescue centres.

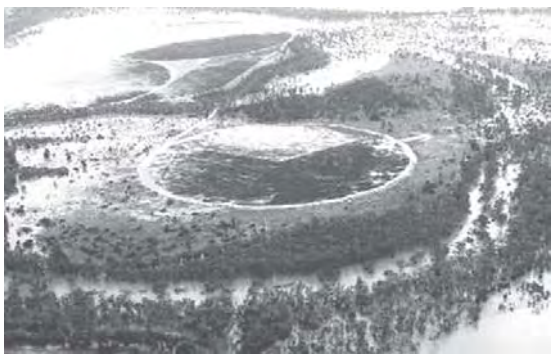
Gober, an elderly female Sumatran orangutan who is blind in both eyes due to cataracts, lies down with her twin babies at a rehabilitation centre in Sibolangit, North Sumatra, Indonesia, on 27 Jan, 2011. The twins were born on Friday 21 Jan, 2011 from both blind parents.
INTERNET

Some of those at centres were seized in the illegal wildlife trade and others orphaned when their mothers strayed from rapidly disappearing rain forests in search of food.

The twins — a boy named Ganteng and a girl named Ginting — were born last Friday.

"It's hoped that both infants will eventually be released to a life in the wild, something that has been denied both their parents due to their blindness," Singleton said.—*Internet*

Circular irrigated farming crops are seen flooded near the town of Theodore in Australia's state of Queensland in this 2 Jan, 2011 file photo. Devastating floods across eastern Australia will lead to a temporary 0.25 percentage point spike in headline inflation in the March quarter, and lead to losses of about A$1 billion ($1 billion) in the country's farm sector, Treasurer Wayne Swan said on Friday.
INTERNET



Mexican authorities discover 219 migrants in truck

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LA CASAS, 28 Jan—Mexican authorities have discovered 219 migrants squeezed into a trailer truck in the southern State of Chiapas.

The Chiapas state government says in a statement that the driver and another person tried to bribe police who stopped the truck. The statement Thursday said most of the migrants are from Central America but six are from Sri Lanka and four are Nepalese. Thirty-three are women and nine are minors.

The statement said police chased down the truck Wednesday when the driver refused to stop for inspection at a checkpoint. The migrants were being deported Thursday.

Hundreds of thousands of migrants travel through Mexico each year in the hopes of reaching the United States.

Internet

Venezuelan gov't confirms 37 cholera cases

CARACAS, 28 Jan—A total of 37 cholera patients were hospitalized in Venezuela after they ate contaminated food at a wedding in the Dominican Republic, Health Minister Eugenia Sader said Thursday.

Speaking at a Press conference, Sader called for calm, saying that only members of the same family who attended the wedding last Saturday were being treated for cholera.

Venezuela has taken necessary measures to establish epidemiological screens against the disease, which had not been seen in the country since 2000, Sader said.

Xinhua

Pakistan suffering famine-like child malnutrition

ISLAMABAD, 28 Jan—One of the areas in Pakistan hit hardest by last year's massive floods is suffering child malnutrition rates similar to those seen in African famines, according to the United Nations.

The plight of children in southern Sindh Province highlights the challenges Pakistan faces as it tries to recover from the floods, which first struck six months ago and eventually affected at least 18 million people and damaged or destroyed 1.7 million homes.

A survey conducted after the floods by the United Nations Children's Fund and the Sindh Provincial government found that almost a quarter of the children in the province suffered from acute malnutrition.

"I haven't seen levels of malnutrition this bad since the worst famines in Ethiopia, Darfur and Chad," said UNICEF's deputy representative in Pakistan, Karen Allen, in a statement posted on the group's website Wednesday. "It's shocking, shockingly bad."

Malnutrition has long been a problem in Pakistan. A 2002 survey found a national malnutrition rate of 13.2 percent, and the World Health Organization has said that up to 35 percent of children in Pakistan had stunted growth before the floods — a sign of chronic malnutrition.

But the floods, which inundated about one-fifth of the country — an area the size of the United Kingdom — have exacerbated the problem, said UNICEF.

Internet

A boy wearing a Peking Opera mask plays while waiting for a train with his father at the Beijing West Railway Station on 28 Jan, 2011. 19 Jan marked the beginning of the annual Spring Festival travel rush, with an expected 2.56 billion passenger trips in the coming 40 days.
INTERNET

Quakes hit south Iran

TEHERAN, 28 Jan—A series of earthquakes hit southern Iran's Kerman Province on Thursday, damaging dozens of houses in the affected villages, state television website said.

The strongest, at 6.0-magnitude, hit near the town of Mohammadabad-Rigan at around 12:08 pm (08:38 GMT) and was followed by a 4.8-magnitude aftershock at 12:13 pm (08:43 GMT), the report said.

Earlier on Thursday Mohammadabad-Rigan was hit with jolts measuring 5.1 and 4.0.

Local officials said the earthquakes caused no casualties. But "70 percent of houses and gardens in the Chah Ghanbar (rural) area have been destroyed and roads to the region have been blocked," town governor Mohammad Berzang was quoted by the state broadcaster's website as saying.—*Internet*

A man walks past rubble in the village of Chah Ghanbar after an earthquake struck southeastern Iran in December.
INTERNET

Researchers say cholera bacterium more deadly, urge vaccination

BEIJING, 28 Jan—Researchers said the cholera bacterium today is more deadly than its previous types, urging that vaccines should be considered even after an outbreak starts, according to media reports Friday.

In a package of studies reported in the journal *Public Library of Science (PLoS)*, researchers noted that a hybrid strain of cholera underwent two major changes in the last 20 years, causing longer outbreaks of the disease with increased fatalities.

The first mutation resulted in the bacterium infecting patients thought to be immune because of previous exposure to an older strain. The second made it more dangerous, according to Edward Ryan, a researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard University in the United States. "Cholera caused by the hybrid strain may be more clinically severe and may explain why we are seeing case fatality rates of 1 to 5 percent in recent outbreaks as opposed to under 1 percent historically accepted as the goal for response teams," Ryan wrote in an editorial.—*Xinhua*

Members of a rescue team inspect the scene of a collapsed building in Santa Cruz, on 27 Jan, 2011. A building, which was under construction collapsed on Monday, trapping dozens of workers. The Bolivian government had requested aid from neighbouring countries and international agencies to rescue the workers trapped under the rubble, according to local media.— **INTERNET**

Japan volcano spews ash, flights cancelled

TOKYO, 28 Jan—Train and flight services to Miyazaki in southwestern Japan were suspended on Friday as the erupting Shinmoedake volcano spewed columns of smoke and ash thousands of metres into the sky.

The 1,421-metre (4,689-foot) volcano in the Kirishima range between Kagoshima and Miyazaki has been belching smoke and ash into the air since late Wednesday, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency.

The eruption prompted All Nippon Airways and Japan Airlines to cancel a number of flights to and from Miyazaki while JR Kyushu Railway Company also suspended train services in the affected area.

In Takaharu town near the volcano, 31 people spent the night at an evacuation centre on Thursday.

Television footage showed the volcano billowing grey smoke into the sky, while residents used shovels to clear ash from streets.

There were no reports of damage or injuries, police said.

The Kagoshima observatory raised its five-scale warning level on the volcano from two to three, restricting access to the entire mountain, officials said.—*Internet*

Photo taken on 26 Jan, 2011. Ash and rocks fell across a wide swathe of southern Japan straddling the prefectures of Miyazaki and Kagoshima on Thursday, as one of Mount Kirishima's many calderas erupted, prompting authorities to raise alert levels and call on for an evacuation of all residents within 2 km (1.2 miles) radius of the volcano.— **INTERNET**

Mexican man wrongly ID'd as drug lord

TIJUANA, 28 Jan—A man forced to go into hiding after Mexican authorities falsely identified him as a drug trafficker on their website wants justice, his attorney said Thursday.

Industrial engineer Raul Inda Gonzalez wants compensation for lost earnings and damage to his reputation after his photo was posted on the website of the Attorney General's Office and identified as that of Tijuana drug cartel chief Fernando Sanchez Arellano.

Inda Gonzalez had to miss work and hide out in California for a week until the federal agency acknowledged its error last week, said his attorney, Ricardo Sanchez Camacho. The attorney also told local news media that vehicles carrying armed men were spotted outside Inda Gonzalez's home in Ensenada, near the US border in Baja California State.

Earlier this month, someone posted a Youtube video composed of several still photos showing the fresh-faced, brush-cut Inda Gonzalez on what appear to be outings or a vacation. One of the photos bore a caption reading "Sanchez Arrellano."

Internet

Flag of victory presented to Magway Region football team

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan — A ceremony to present the Flag of Victory to Magway Region football team that will take part in Inter-State/Region Union Shield (Open) Football Tournament was held at the office of Magway Region Peace and Development Council on 20 January.

It was attended by Chairman of Magway Region PDC U Phone Maw Shwe, departmental officials, manager, coach and footballers of the team.

First, Magway Region PDC Chairman U Phone Maw Shwe spoke on the occasion.

Next, an official gave accounts of formation of the team and presented the State Flag to the manager of the football team.

On his arrival at the briefing hall of Special Project Group (1) of Public Works near Kyawthar village in Hsinbaungwe Township, the chairman heard reports on progress of construction of Thagara-Koebin Yoma crossing road and tarmacking of the road and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the chairman oversaw road works along Thagara-Koebin road.—*MNA*

MOC Chairman Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint presents championship shield to Defence Ministry women's team in 4th Inter-Ministry Women's Volleyball Championship.
(News on page 1)—MNA

Pencils, ball pens for both left- and right-handed kids

Photo shows Schwan-Stabilo brand left right pencils and ball pens.—MNA

YANGON, 28 Jan—Salient Trading Co Ltd is in pursuit of a plan to distribute Schwan – Stabilo Brand Left Right pencils and ball pens nationwide.

Left Right pencils and pens are specially designed for kids. Left Right Series contains pencils, ball pens, eraser, lead sticks and pencil sharpener which are designed for both left and right-handed children.

Students are offered 25 % to 50 % discounts for sales of the products. For more information about special offers, contact Salient Trading Co Ltd at No. 22, Nguwah Street, Saw Yan Paing (South) Ward, Ahlon Township, Yangon (Ph: 01-225110, 703165 and 09 5013153). Salient Trading Co Ltd and STABILO Co are planning to offer 50 % assistance.—*MNA*

Respect-paying ceremony of Mandalay BEHS (16) on 30 Jan

YANGON, 28 Jan—Old students who learnt education at Basic Education High School in Mandalay from 1962 to 2010 will organize the 13th ceremony to pay respects to old teachers at the school at 9 am on 30 January.

Those wishing to donate cash may contact Headmistress Daw Htwe Htwe Than and old students and teachers (Ph: 02-32288), Daw Myat Thuzar (02-32881), U Aung Mon Latt (Assistant Director, Mandalay Region GAD) (09-5046407), U Thein Tun Zaw (Staff Officer, Mandalay Settlement and Land Records Department) (09-2003234), Daw Pearl (Yangon) (09-5191151), Daw Kyi Kyi Ngwe (Yangon) (01-703816), and executives in Mandalay.—*MNA*

100-bed Bogale People's Hospital: Health care…

(from page 1)

three station hospitals, seven rural health centres and 33 rural health branches have been opened in addition to the 100-bed hospital. So, there have been networks of health care centres in the rural areas that are difficult to have access due to a large number of natural barriers of rivers and creeks.

Township Hospital and Doctors and staff from health departments are providing health care to the local residents. What's more, dissemination of knowledge on health, cure and prevention against diseases are being carried out so as to widen the horizons of local people," he said.

The hospital was built by Htoo Trading Co., Ltd. At the opening ceremony of the hospital, the company donated K 40 million worth of five sets of IP Star system computers, a 100 KVA generator worth K 12 million, furniture, medical equipments, an ambulance worth K 35 million and K 30 million funds for maintenance of the hospital.

Opening the hospital is a landmark of rehabilitations after the Nargis. Emergence of the hospital contributes to providing more health care services to the local residents than the past.

Photo shows ultra-sound and X-ray room.

Intensive care unit in the hospital.

Translation: MT
Myanma Alin: 28-1-2011

1st tournament of ITF 14 & Under Asian Championships 2011 concludes

YANGON, 28 Jan— The first tournament of the ITF 14 & Under Asian Championships 2011 Group (2) concluded at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township here yesterday.

Ghassan Al-Ansi (YEM) stood first and Issae Ong (Singapore) second in the men's single event. Nilar Win (Myanmar) secured the first prize and Ang Geraldine (Singapore) the second in the women's single event.

Kareem Allaf and Mohammad Azhari(Sri Lanka) won the first prize and Arkar Kyaw and Win Naing Oo (Myanmar) the second in the men's double event. Nilar Win (Myanmar) and Shaema Al-Olfi (YEM) stood first and Kavindinya Desilva and Nethmi Waduge (Sri Lanka) second in the women's double event.

The second tournament of the championships will commence at the same venue tomorrow morning.—*MNA*

Mdy Mayor tours downtown Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan — On his arrival at Kandawgyi Garden on 24 January, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor U Phone Zaw Han heard reports on nurturing shady, flowery and medicinal plants in the garden, conditions of entrance and exist roads and growing of flowery plants presented by officials and inspected installation of fiber motorized boats near Pyigyimon Raft.

After inspecting repaving of roads in Pyigyidagun, Mahaaungmye and Aungmyethazan Townships, the mayor left necessary instructions.

MNA

Motorcycle accident leaves one dead, two in critical condition

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan — One was killed and two others seriously injured after two motorcycles collided with each other in front of Daung Monastery in Myawady Ward in Monywa of Sagaing Region at 7.30 p.m. on 25 January.

People in the provinces usually ride motorcycles without crash helmets, which causes deaths when the motorcycles fell down, said an official of Myanmar Police Force urging motorcyclists to follow prescribed rules and regulations.—*MNA*

Death of over three dozens of cattle in Phakant Tsp caused by pesticide

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— The recent death of 36 buffaloes in Phakant Township, Kachin State, were caused by pesticide as they ate crops sprayed with one type of pesticide and drank water in ponds poisoned with pesticide, said the township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

As a total of 36 buffaloes died at Warazut Village in the township this month, officials from Phakant Township LBVD went to the village on 21 January to find out the cause of the deaths. After forensic tests, they said the cause of the deaths was not related to infectious diseases. According to the tests, the cattle died as they drank water in ponds poisoned with pesticide by locals to catch fish and ate crops sprayed with pesticide.

The team from the Phakant Township LBVD has vaccinated the remaining cattle against infectious diseases and there is no more deaths of cattle at the village.

Besides, a medical team from Kachin State LBVD went to the village on 26 January to look into the cause of the death of cattle and collected some samples from a dead buffalo to send it to forensic laboratory.— *MNA*

Myanmar ICT Week…

(from page 16)

investment in the cyber city, ICT booths of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, and e-cinema, enjoying entertainment programmes.

During the ICT Week, MPT sold Mcwill system with internet access in Yangon and Mandalay whereas Yatanarpon Teleport Co Ltd sold mobile application software, web hosting and domains. In addition, MPT provided one-stop service for CDMA 800 MHz users who wished to install EVDO (data system used in CDMA) in their phones at its booth.

The 9th Myanmar ICT Week was held, with a view to achieving progress of the nation and improving socio-economic life of the people through Information and Communication Technology, and to keeping pace with international community in ICT field.

The government on its part has been making all-out efforts for the development of ICT industry, realizing the importance of ICT in transforming the nation into modern, developed one. Yatanarpon Teleport Company has first built an infrastructural building —national-level internet exchange, and then equipped the main building of Yatanarpon Teleport with upgraded IP backbone, IX (Internet Exchange) and IPTV Head End for access to VOIP phones.

With IPTV Head End, TV channels can be enjoyed with HD (High Definition) quality. Furthermore Yatanarpon National Web Portal could be established thereby enabling the people to make use of already-built IT infrastructure.

With Yatanarpon Web Portal having become the source of information covering wide ranges and vast areas, government departments, businesses, organizations, and individual whoever can search as well as transfer information, photo, video, and audio files from one place to another via it like any other IT-developed countries across the world.

The government and private sector have worked cooperatively for the growth of ICT sector, giving priority to telecommunication infrastructures and legal framework. Moreover, the emergence of Yatanarpon Technological University will greatly contribute to progress of ICT industry providing effective human resources.

In the 9th Myanmar ICT Week festival, local companies in cooperation with respective foreign companies introduced mobile data communication service like EVDO and EDGE systems—systems used in mobile phones for internet surfing, wireless communication technologies like Mcwill (Multi-Carrier Wireless Information Local Loop), FTTH (Fiber To The Home) technology—3-in-1 fiber with internet, phone and television access, and rural region–used advanced communication system—MPS (Multi-Play Services) which can be used through satellite.

Unlike the former ICT festivals that were aimed only for knowledge and that used to showcase ICT technologies and devices popular in abroad, this year's ICT festival was able to exhibit locally-made ICT devices that are in use at home, bringing honour to the nation.

The 9th Myanmar ICT Week festival was found to be more colourful than previous Myanmar ICT festivals, I would like to say.

Translation: TKK

Myanma Alin
27-1-2011

Visitors observing communication devices on display at the booths.

Photo shows communication devices exhibited at the 9th Myanmar ICT Week.

NASA marks 25 years after Challenger disaster

WASHINGTON, 28 Jan—The United States on Thursday marked a day of remembrance for astronauts who have died in the line of duty, particularly the victims in the explosion of the space shuttle *Challenger* 25 years ago.

Schoolchildren and space enthusiasts around the world watched live 28 January, 1986 as the *Challenger* lifted off carrying seven astronauts including the first teacher, Christa McAuliffe, to embark on a mission to space.

The shuttle exploded 73 seconds after launch at an altitude of 14,000 metres (46,000 feet), killing everyone on board. Engineers determined that the blast was caused by the failure of a joint seal due to cold weather.

"We have seen that achieving great things sometimes comes at great cost and we mourn the brave astronauts who made the ultimate sacrifice in support of NASA missions throughout the agency's storied history," President Barack Obama said in a statement.

***This 28 Jan, 1986 photo shows a solid fuel rocket booster as it disappears behind the contrail of the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger over Kennedy Space Centre.—*INTERNET**

Internet

Rosneft, Exxon ink Black Sea exploration deal

DAVOS, 28 Jan—Russian energy giant Rosneft and US oil major Exxon Mobil struck a $1 billion deal Thursday to hunt for oil and gas under the Black Sea, and promised more joint ventures to come.

Rosneft president Eduard Yurevitch Khudaynatov said he hopes to find a billion tonnes of oil and gas — mainly oil — in the 11,200-square-kilometre (4,320 square mile) Tuapse Trough, in waters off the Krasnodar region.

Using the US giant's latest exploration technology, now shared with its Russian partner, the joint venture will survey the seabed this year and hopes the first offshore platform may be operational by the end of 2012, he said.

The Kremlin wall is reflected in a plaque at the entrance of the headquarters of the state-owned oil company Rosneft in Moscow.

INTERNET

Internet

Japan's jobless rate drops, deflation slows

TOKYO, 28 Jan—A batch of economic indicators released in Japan on Friday offered glimpses of both hope and doubt, underscoring ongoing questions about the fate of the still-fragile recovery.

The jobless rate and consumer prices were better than analysts' expectations and suggest the economy is strengthening. But household spending and retail sales tumbled as consumers tightened budgets.

Japan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.9 percent in December, the government said. The result beat *Kyodo* news agency's average market forecast of 5.1 percent and indicates that the labour market may be starting to benefit from improving corporate profits.

The result marks the first time the unemployment rate has dropped below the 5 percent level in 10 months. In a separate report, the government said consumer prices fell for the 22nd straight month, though the pace of decline eased.

The key consumer price index, which exclude volatile fresh food prices, fell 0.4 percent from the previous year — the slowest retreat since 2009.

The figures come a day after Standard & Poor's cut Japan's credit rating for the first time in almost nine years, issuing a harsh critique of the government's ability to control its ballooning debt.—*Internet*

Samsung's 4th-quarter net profit rises 13 percent

SEOUL, 28 Jan—Samsung Electronics said net profit rose 13 percent in the fourth quarter of 2010 amid higher sales of semiconductors and smartphones as the technology giant rounded out a record year for profits and revenue.

Samsung, the world's largest manufacturer of computer memory chips and flat screen televisions, earned 3.42 trillion won ($3.1 billion) in the three months ended 31 Dec, the company announced Friday. It had a net profit of 3.04 trillion won the year before.

Fourth-quarter sales rose 7 percent to 41.87 trillion won, Samsung said. That compares with sales of 39.25 trillion won the year before.

Investors welcomed the news, pushing up the company's share price as much as 1.4 percent to a record high 1.01 million won in morning trading shortly after the earnings were announced. Samsung released its results a little more than a half hour after the start of trading.

Suwon, South Korea-based Samsung Electronics Co ranks as the world's biggest manufacturer of computer memory chips, liquid crystal displays and flat-screen televisions. It stands No 2 in mobile phones behind Finland's Nokia Corp.—*Internet*

***Visitors are seen on the Toy Fair at the Olympia Exhibition Centre in London, Britain, on 27 Jan, 2011. Over 200 exhibitors from across the world attended the 3-day fair, the only dedicated toy, game and hobby exhibition in the UK, on its 58th anniversary from 25 to 27 Jan, attracting an estimated 5,000 visitors. —*XINHUA**

Firefighters try to distinguish the fire on a bus in Astana, capital of Kazakhstan, on 27 Jan, 2011. A bus was caught fire on the road while running from downtown Astana to the airport on Thursday. Fortunately the fire was put out by firefighters and no casualty was recorded. The cause of the accident was under investigation.

XINHUA

Inflation to rise in Australia due to flood damage

CANBERRA, 28 Jan—Inflation is expected to rise a quarter of a percentage point in the March quarter, as a result of Australia's devastating floods, Treasurer Wayne Swan said on Friday.

Almost two months of torrential rains in the northeastern state of Queensland have killed as many as 32 people, affected about 30, 000 properties, shut coal mines, cut rail lines and damaged crops. Flood waters spread south, affecting one quarter of Victoria state as well as towns in New South Wales.

State Premier on Friday confirmed that Queensland's flood disaster will cost at least 4.95 billion US dollars, and will cut the state economic growth this year.

On a broader picture, Swan said the disaster had wiped out a significant part of the country's farming sector, meaning prices would rise across the country.

"Based on Treasury's numbers, the floods are expected to increase CPI (Consumer Price Index) inflation by about a quarter of a percentage point in the March quarter," he told *Australia Associated Press* in an address to the CEO Institute in Brisbane of Australia.—*Xinhua*

High rise residential buildings in Shanghai. People buying higher-end second homes in Shanghai, China's wealthiest city, and Chongqing, home to 30 million people and the country's fastest-growing municipality, now have to pay a 0.4-1.2 percent annual tax, officials said.
INTERNET

Some US blacks protected by gene from heart disease

BEIJING, 28 Jan—About a quarter of black Americans carry a protective genetic mutation that reduces their risk for heart disease, a new study revealed.

Black men and women who carry this single variation have five times lower the risk of heart attackers blocked arteries and other symptoms of heart disease, according to the study published in the online issue of the *Journal of Human Genetics* on Thursday.

If they are lucky enough to have two copies, one from each parent, their risk of heart disease is 10 times lower that of other blacks, the reserachers said. "What we think we have here is the first confirmed hereditary link to cardiovascular disease among African Americans, and it is a protective one," epidemiologist Diane Becker, a professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Hopkin's Bloomberg School of Public Health and the study's senior investigator, said in a statement.

Xinhua

Brazil's president says 8,000 homes for slide victims

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 Jan—Brazil is building 8,000 new, free homes for survivors of the deadly mudslides that ripped away mountainsides near Rio de Janeiro, President Dilma Rousseff announced on Thursday.

The president said the housing initiative is a partnership between private companies, the federal government and Rio de Janeiro State, where floods and slides killed more than 837 people and left 541 missing.

She said about 20,000 people lost homes and relatives in this month's floods.

"Their pain is insurmountable, and their loss has no price, but this initiative can improve the situation a little," she said at a news conference.

A consortium of 12 construction companies will donate 2,000 of the homes on land made available by the state. The other 6,000 homes will be paid for by state and federal governments, also on land set aside by the state, according to Rousseff and Rio state Gov Sergio Cabral.

Internet

Citizens purchase New Year decorations in a market in Yuncheng, north China's Shanxi Province, 27 Jan, 2011. People started to prepare for the upcoming Chinese Spring Festival, which falls on 3 Feb. —XINHUA

Chinese government extends New Year greetings to overseas Chinese

BEIJING, 28 Jan—China's government Friday extended New Year greetings to all overseas Chinese and those who have returned to settle in the mainland and pledged continued efforts to safeguard their interests.

Li Haifeng, director of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council, said in a Chinese New Year speech that the country would continue to care for overseas Chinese and improve services to them.

Li hoped overseas Chinese would support and participate in China's development, and share the opportunities brought about by China's prosperity.

Hailing the social and economic achievements of China's 11th Five-Year Plan (2006-2010), Li praised the contribution of overseas Chinese.

"Facts have proven and will continue to prove that overseas Chinese and those who have returned are participants and contributors to China's reform and opening-up," she said.

Li extended best wishes for the Lunar New Year, which falls on 3 Feb this year, to overseas Chinese all over the world.

Xinhua

China Commerce Minister Chen Deming looks on during a session untitled "China's Impact on Global Trade and Growth' at the World Economic Forum annual meeting in Davos. China pledged Thursday to play its part in lifting global consumption, with Chen Deming saying the Asian giant planned to double its imports over the next five years.
INTERNET

GM charges up Volt production

DETROIT, 28 Jan— Automaker General Motors said it would pick up the pace with deliveries of the Chevrolet Volt, which is increasing traffic in US showrooms.

GM previously stated it would have the hybrid Volt available in all 50 states by mid-2012, *the Detroit Free Press* reported Thursday. The new plan is to have it available nationwide by the end of the year.

Currently, the Volt is available in five states – California, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Texas – and Washington, DC.

Next month, it will be available in Michigan. By the end of the third quarter, 11 more states will have the Volt in showrooms, the company said.

GM Chief Executive Officer Dan Akerson said GM would ramp up production from a previously announced 10,000 Volts this year to 25,000. In future years, the automaker is expected to build 120,000 per year, said Rep Sander Levin, D-Mich, forwarding the number after a conversation with Akerson, the newspaper said.—*Internet*

Caffeine 'jazzes' engineered cells

DALLAS, 28 Jan— US researchers say caffeine could help step up production of cells engineered to produce viruses in gene therapy.

Brian Ellis, Patrick Ryan Potts and Matthew Porteus of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre in Dallas say caffeine could help step up production of lentiviral vectors for use in gene therapy. The study, published in *Human Gene Therapy* suggests caffeine could be used to help generate three to eight times more virus.

Lentiviral vectors, used in the labouratory for basic studies in virology, have been shown to be good candidates to help in gene transfer — putting genetic material into a cell to help cure a disease. Clinical trials for this use of lentiviral vectors have already begun, the researchers say.

"It is ironic that the ingredient in beverages like colas and coffees that helps keep us awake and alert is also useful in jazzing up cells to produce more gene therapy vectors," Dr James M Wilson, editor in chief and director of the gene therapy programme at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in Philadelphia, says in a statement.—*Internet*

In this 18 Oct, 2010 photo, Amazon.com boxes await delivery in a UPS truck in Palo Alto, Calif. Online retailer Amazon.com Inc. is set to report its fourth-quarter results on 27 Jan, 2011 after the close of trading on Wall Street.
INTERNET

Airport adds 'easy-refill' water fountains

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 Jan — San Francisco International Airport introduced new water fountains on Thursday that officials say make bottle refilling easier by shooting water straight down. The water-refill stations — the first at any major US airport — are shaped like a question mark and cost approximately $3,000 each, the *Bay Area News Group* reported. Users place bottles under a spigot, press a button and tap water flows into the container, the *News Group* said.

The dispensers pump water at 20-105 pounds per square inch to a "vandal-resistant stainless steel spout," the *News Group* said. —*Internet*

Two men charged with prostituting teens

NEW YORK, 28 Jan — Two New York men have been charged with forcing two teenagers into prostitution, advertising their services on the Internet. Arctic Rogers, 25, and Treymaine Songster, 26, both Brooklyn residents, face a long list of charges, including torturing animals, *The New York Times* reported. Kings County District Attorney Charles J Hynes announced the charges at a news conference on Wednesday. The parents and sister of one of the girls appeared with him.

The sister said Rogers prevented the teenager from going to school and kept her out of contact with her family."That was terrifying, not knowing if she's alive or what's going on through the day," her mother said. *Internet*

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(Reg. No. 4293/2000)

in respect of – Class 1: "Chemicals used in industry, science and photography, as well as in agriculture, horticulture and forestry; chemical substances for preserving food stuffs; tanning substances; adhesives used in industry"

Class 3: "Bleaching preparations and other substances for laundry use; cleaning, polishing, scouring and abrasive preparations; soaps; perfumery, essential oils, cosmetics, hair lotions; dentifrices and mouthwashes"

Class 5: "Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations; dietetic substances adapted for medical use; material for stopping teeth; vaccines"

Class 9: "Scientific and electrical apparatus and instruments, photographic, optical, weighing, measuring and teaching apparatus and instruments; apparatus for recording, transmission or reproduction of sound or images; magnetic data carriers, recording discs; computer software to enable healthcare professionals to access information on new products and services"

Class 10: "Surgical, medical, and veterinary apparatus and instruments"

Class 16: "Paper, cardboard; articles of paper or cardboard; printed matter; periodicals, books, stationery, adhesive materials (stationery) instructional and teaching materials (except apparatus)"

Class 21: "Toothbrushes, electric toothbrushes, floss for dental purposes, toothpicks, toothpick holders (not of precious metal) and plastic containers for holding toothbrushes"

Class 29: "Meat, fish, poultry and game; meat extracts; preserved, dried and cooked fruits and vegetables; jellies, jams, fruit sauces; eggs, milk and milk products; edible oils and fats"

Class 30: "Coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, rice, tapioca, sago, artificial coffee; flour and preparations made from cereals bread, pastry and confectionery, ices; honey, treacle; yeast, baking powder; salt, mustard; vinegar, sauces (condiments); spices; ice"

Class 32: "Mineral and aerated waters and other non-alcoholic drinks; fruit drinks and juices; syrups and other preparations for making beverages"

Class 35: "Promotional and advertising services; provision of the aforementioned services on-line, via cable and/or the internet; information services provided from a computer database or on the internet or by other electronic means. The provision of information on pharmaceutical products and services through an on-line computer network"

Class 41: "Educational services relating to pharmaceutical, diagnostic, veterinary, proprietary medicines, food, drink, toiletries and cosmetic industries"

Class 42: "Medical, hygienic and beauty care; veterinary and agricultural services; scientific and industrial research, healthcare services"

This amendment of trademark ownership from **SmithKline Beecham p.l.c.** to **SmithKline Beecham Limited** has been duly registered in Myanmar under the registration no. *IV/9073/2010.*

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of these trademarks will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung *B.Sc, R.L, D.B.L* Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel:376318 G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 29 January 2011

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIANG XIU VOY NO (1114)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG XIU VOY NO (1114) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.1.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CHANA BHUM VOY NO (425)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CHANA BHUM VOY NO (425) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.1.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Chinese musicians perform traditional Chinese folk music in Paris, capital of France, on 27 Jan, 2011. — XINHUA

Man fattens up for weight-loss op

LONDON, 28 Jan — A man who weighs 20 stone has said that he intends to put on weight because he is not fat enough to qualify for weight-loss surgery.

Darin McCloud was told he did not qualify for a gastric bypass because he did not meet the criteria for the operation.

The 45-year-old, from Portsmouth, now plans to go on a get-fat-quick diet to tip the scales at more than 21 stone — the weight deemed necessary by his local NHS primary care trust.

He says he is eating three-quarters of a loaf of bread, four packets of crisps and bacon rolls each day to put on the weight. —*Internet*

A diver dressed in a rabbit costume is seen surrounded by fish inside an aquarium in celebration for the coming Chinese Year of Rabbit at the Manila Ocean Park in Manila, Philippines, 28 Jan, 2011.
XINHUA

US missionary in Mexico fatally shot

SAN FERNANDO, 28 Jan — An American missionary was fatally shot in Mexico on Wednesday, police said. The preliminary investigation indicated that Nancy Davis, 59, and her husband were traveling on a Mexican highway near the city of San Fernando, Mexico, when they were confronted by gunmen in a black pickup, the Pharr Police Department in Texas said in a statement.

San Fernando is south of the border city of Reynosa in Tamaulipas state. "The gunmen were attempting to stop them and the victims accelerated in efforts of getting away from them," the police statement said. —*Internet*

Missing pedigreed cat turns up — neutered

A valuable pedigreed cat that went missing from its New Zealand home turned up two days later a little different — it had been surgically castrated. Owner Michelle Curtis said she was furious when Buddy, her prized Siamese-Bengal cross, came home "fixed."

"I couldn't believe someone took my cat and got him fixed. I don't know why they would do that," Curtis told Bay of Plenty Times newspaper in an article Thursday. "It really was quite bizarre. I mean, who just takes someone's cat and gets them neutered?" Curtis said she had owned Buddy for almost two years and was considering using him as a stud cat.

Truck stolen with owner sleeping in back

A Denver man who has been living in his pickup truck camper said he was shocked when he woke up to find someone stealing the vehicle with him still inside.

Terry Bannick, 59, said he was sleeping in bed of his 1993 Ford F-150 when he woke up at about 1:30 am MST Saturday to the sound of the truck's door opening and closing, The Denver Post reported Wednesday. Bannick said a man started the truck, using keys Bannick had left in the ignition, and drove the vehicle around for about 2 1/2 hours. "I tried talking to him, but he wouldn't even look at me" through the sliding rear-view window, Bannick said. "I said, 'Why are you taking my truck? Where are you going?'"

News Album

Residents attend a grand feast held at the Baibuting Community in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 27 Jan, 2011. Community residents brought more than 8,000 self-cooked dishes to enjoy together on Thursday, to celebrate the upcoming traditional Spring Festival. It sets a new Guinness World Record by showing the most dishes in multiple venues.

Bizarre hats show

Prof urinated on colleague's door

A California State University professor was charged with urinating on a colleague's office door after officials said a hidden camera caught him in the act.

Tihomir Petrov, 43, a math professor at the university's Northridge campus in Los Angeles, faces two misdemeanor charges of urinating in a public place, the *Los Angeles Times* and the university's student newspaper, the *Daily Sundial*, reported.

Petrov allegedly was caught on video in December urinating on the door of the other teacher's office in Santa Susana Hall, authorities said. School officials had installed a concealed camera nearby after finding what they thought were puddles of urine at the door, the *Times* reported.

Century-old time capsule found at school

A San Francisco man tracing the history of his school made a discovery that he says led to "part of San Francisco history" a time capsule at the school.

The time capsule was found stashed behind the cornerstone at Cleveland Elementary School after John Weidinger — a Cleveland alumnus and school volunteer — found a reference to it in an old newspaper, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported. The box was opened Wednesday, just over a century after Mayor PJ "Pinhead" McCarthy put it in the wall at the school during a ceremony reported by *the San Francisco Call* in a single sentence.

SAG Awards get greener with paperless ballots

In this 21 Jan, 2011 file photo, craftsman Ricardo Godinez applies a green-black patina coating to a statuette being finished for the 17th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards at the American Fine Arts Foundry in Burbank, Calif. The SAG Awards will be held in Los Angeles on 30 Jan.
INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 28 Jan—Lots of Hollywood productions celebrate their eco-friendliness, but the Screen Actors Guild Awards has made one of the greenest moves yet: It has all but eliminated the paper ballot.

The union's annual show, which recognizes the best performances in TV and film, urged its 125,000 members to vote online for this year's winners and only sent paper ballots to those who specifically requested them.

The move saved three tons of paper, says SAG Awards producer Kathy Connell.

But it wasn't without risk. Though members were notified of the digital shift in the November issue of the union's magazine, some still expected the traditional paper ballot to arrive in the mail. Pundits have speculated that online voting may alienate some of SAG's older or less tech-savvy members.

Internet

Hugh Jackman to return to the Academy Awards stage

LOS ANGELES, 28 Jan—Former Academy Awards host Hugh Jackman is returning to the Oscar stage.

Producers say the 42-year-old actor will serve as a presenter on the 83rd Academy Awards next month.

He'll join previously announced presenters Sandra Bullock, Jeff Bridges, Oprah Winfrey, Halle Berry and Marisa Tomei.

Bullock and Bridges won the top acting Oscars last year. Bridges is a nominee this year for his leading role in "True Grit." Berry won the lead actress Oscar for 2001's "Monster's Ball." Tomei won the supporting actress prize for 1992's "My Cousin Vinny."—*Internet*

In this 25 Oct, 2010 file photo, Hugh Jackman attends the opening night of 'Driving Miss Daisy' on Broadway in New York.
INTERNET

Prestigious line-up for 20th Enescu music festival

BUCHAREST, 28 Jan—Israeli conductor Daniel Barenboim, pianist Boris Berezovski and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra will perform at the 20th Bucharest Enescu music festival in September, organizers said. "This festival of art and culture will be held in difficult times", its director, Ioan Holender, told reporters referring to the economic crisis hitting many countries including Romania.

"But in difficult times, people appreciate even more profoundly this 'good' we did not lose: art," the former director of the Vienna State Opera added.—*Internet*

Argentinian-born Israeli conductor Daniel Barenboim, pictured here in Buenos Aires, pianist Boris Berezovski and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra will perform at the 20th Bucharest Enescu music festival in September, organizers said.—INTERNET

Chinese soprano to perform first charity concert in Milan

MILAN, 28 Jan—Chinese soprano and Friendship Ambassador of Chinese Culture Year Lu Wei will perform the first charity concert promoted in Italy by the local Chinese community, Milan authorities announced at a Press conference on Thursday.

Part of the events celebrating the ongoing Chinese Culture Year in Italy, the concert, titled "China red xizi venus," will be held in the famous Arcimboldi theater in Milan on 6 Feb, offering local spectators a true taste of China's Spring Festival celebrations, which start on 3 Feb this year.

Lu, together with a few Italian opera singers, will perform traditional and modern Chinese music as well as some of the most famous Italian opera arias, including "Nessun Dorma" by Giacomo Puccini, and popular songs as Neapolitan "O sole mio" and "O surdato 'nnammurato."—*Xinhua*

Wolves' McClaren signs Mbokani on loan

WOLFSBURG, 28 Jan — Ex-England boss Steve McClaren has begun the hunt to replace Edin Dzeko at Bundesliga side Wolfsburg by signing Congo striker Dieumerci Mbokani on loan from Monaco, it was reported on Friday.

McClaren sold hot-shot Dzeko to Premier League side Manchester City earlier this month for 37 million euros (50m US dollars) and Mbokani will play for the Bundesliga side until the end of the season, reported German magazine *Kicker*.

Ex-England boss Steve McClaren has begun the hunt to replace Edin Dzeko at Bundesliga side Wolfsburg by signing Congo striker Dieumerci Mbokani.—INTERNET

The 25-year-old Mbokani has played 14 times for the Congo DR and scored eight times.

Wolfsburg are also reported to have signed Kaiserslautern striker Srdjan Lakic until 2015, but the Croat will only join Wolves and McClaren next season having scored 11 goals in 17 games in the Bundesliga this term.

Internet

Blackpool fined for fielding under-strength team

LONDON, 28 Jan — Ian Holloway's controversial decision to make 10 changes to his Blackpool side in a Premier League clash returned to haunt him on Thursday when the club was fined 25,000 pounds (29,000 euros).

Holloway fielded an under-strength team against Aston Villa last November, claiming that he needed to rest players during a busy week.

Blackpool, promoted via the play-offs last season, were narrowly beaten 3-2 after a last-minute goal from James Collins.

After the game Holloway threatened to resign if punished by the Premier League.

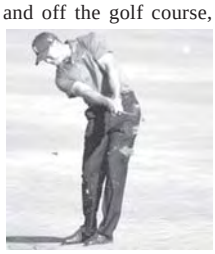
Blackpool chairman Karl Oyston played down the prospect of Holloway leaving Bloomfield Road.—*Internet*

Ian Holloway

Woods starts year with 69 and trails by 5 strokes

SAN DIEGO, 28 Jan — Tiger Woods began his new season with no bogeys, no birdies on the par 5s and no drama.

Looking for a new start after a disastrous year on and off the golf course, Woods felt little stress Thursday in the Farmers Insurance Open with a 3-under 69 on the North Course that left him five shots behind South Korean rookie Sunghoon Kang.



Tiger Woods hits his approach to the 114th green of the North Course at Torrey Pines.—INTERNET

If the setting was familiar for Woods, so was his middle-of-the-pack position. In four of his six wins at this tournaments, he has been at least five shots behind after the opening round.

"I'm happy with the way I played, absolutely," Woods said. "I could have been a lot better if I took care of the par 5s a little bit more, but obviously, I didn't do that." —*Internet*

Buffon and Cassano back for Germany friendly

ROME, 28 Jan — Goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon and playmaker Antonio Cassano will be back for Italy's 9 February friendly against Germany, coach Cesare Prandelli told news agency *ANSA* on Thursday.

"There'll be Buffon as well as Cassano against Germany," said Prandelli.

Goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon

Buffon, who was out from last June to earlier this month with a disc hernia, "has recovered and now he's good", said the coach. "I've always considered him the number one, and so he told me he's available and I think he'll be there in Germany."

Cassano has not had a call-up since his suspension by Sampadoria at the end of October, but is now turning out for new club AC Milan.—*Internet*

Roma see off Juve to book Italian Cup semi spot

ROME, 28 Jan — AS Roma booked an Italian Cup semi-final against Inter Milan on Thursday after a 2-0 win at Juventus achieved with second-half goals from Montenegrin Mirko Vucinic and Rodrigo Taddei.

AS Roma's forward Mirko Vucinic (2nd L) celebrates with teammates after scoring during the Italian Cup.—INTERNET

Vucinic bagged the opener after 65 minutes after taking a pass from Daniele De Rossi in his stride and Taddei then produced an acrobatic finish for the clincher in time added on.

Palermo will face AC Milan in the other semi over two legs on 20 April and 11 May after badboy Antonio Cassano celebrated his return to his former club Sampdoria on Wednesday to help Milan run out 2-1 winners.—*Internet*

Djokovic beats Federer for Aus Open tennis final

MELBOURNE, 28 Jan — Novak Djokovic signalled a possible new order after ending Roger Federer's title defence at the Australian Open in a titanic semi-final on Thursday.

The resurgent Serbian third seed wore down the 16-time Grand Slam champion 7-6 (7/3), 7-5, 6-4 in three hours to repeat his semi-final win over the Swiss great when he went on win his lone major title at the 2008 Australian Open.

Novak Djokovic of Serbia celebrates his win over Roger Federer of Switzerland in their semi-final men's event.—INTERNET

Djokovic will now play the winner of Friday's semi-final between British fifth seed Andy Murray and Spain's seventh seed David Ferrer in Sunday's title match.

Significantly, it will be the first Grand Slam for three years without Rafael Nadal or Federer.

With world number one Nadal out of the tournament amid fresh doubts over his fitness, and now Federer vanquished, Djokovic's triumph may have signalled a changing of the guard at the top of men's tennis.—*Internet*

Busquets renews with Barcelona until 2015

Barcelona midfielder Sergio Busquets

BARCELONA, 28 Jan — Barcelona midfielder Sergio Busquets signed on Thursday a contract extension which will keep the 22-year-old at the Spanish champions until 2015.

The deal can be automatically extended for a further year depending on the number of games he plays in the final season of the contract and it increases his buyout clause to 150 million euros from 80 million euros, the club said.

"I'm very happy. It's the best way to start the New Year and great news for everyone," he told Barca TV.

"I'm at the best club in the world and I just hope that the years to come will be like those I've had here so far."

Internet

SPORTS

Adebayor says 'I'm not Benzema's rival'

MADRID, 28 Jan — Real Madrid's new striker Emmanuel Adebayor, signed from Manchester City, on Thursday rejected suggestions he has come to the club to replace the out-of-favour Karim Benzema.

"I'm not here to compete with him (Benzema) or with anyone else. What I want is that all the Real players give their best," he told a news conference as he was officially unveiled as a Real player at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

"Karim is a great player, whom I know very well. We're friends and I respect him. We are now at the same club and I have not come here to replace him," he said.

The 26-year-old Togo forward has been brought in to add urgently needed firepower after Argentinian striker Gonzalo Higuain suffered a slipped disc that is expected to keep him out of action for the rest of the season.

Internet

New Real Madrid's Togolese striker Emmanuel Adebayor

Spain's Garcia handed two-year doping ban

Spanish cyclist David Garcia

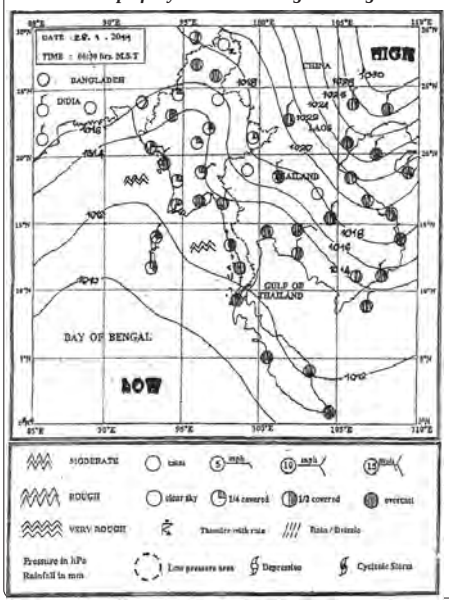
MADRID, 28 Jan — Spanish cyclist David Garcia has been handed a two-year doping ban following his positive test at the last Tour of Spain, the Spanish Cycling Federation said Thursday.

Garcia, who finished in 11th place competing with the Xacobeo team at 'La Vuelta', took the in-competition test on September 13 after which the Madrid laboratory analysing his sample detected banned blood booster EPO.

The World Anti-Doping Agency-accredited laboratory in Madrid indicated an adverse analytical finding of EPO and found the racer had tested positive for another prohibited substance, Hydroxyethyl Starch (HES), based on samples taken on 16 September in Cologne, Germany.

Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 28th January, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain have been scattered in Kachin State, isloated in Kayin State and Taninthayi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Northern Shan and Mon States, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Night temperatures were (3°C) below January average temperature in Kachin State, (5°C) below January average temperature in Chin State and Upper Sagaing Region, (3°C) above January average temperaptures in Eastern Shan, Kayin and Mon States, Magway Region and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Regions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Namhsan, Pinlaung and Heho (2°C) each and Lashio (3°C) . The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Putao (0.08) inch and Machanbaw (0.04) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 27-1-2011 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 28-1-2011 was 58°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-1-2011 was (73%). Rainfall on 28-1-2011 was (Nil) .

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 27-1-2011 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 28-1-2011 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-1-2011 was (61%). Total sunshine hours on 27-1-2011 was (8.2) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 28-1-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (1.97) inches at Mingaladon, (1.42) inches at Kaba-Aye and (3.38) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Sourtheast at (16:30) hours MST on 27-1-2011.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 29th January 2011: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State and Taninthayi Region, weather will be partly cloudy in Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 29-1-2011: Generally fair weather .

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 29-1-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 29-1-2011: Generally fair weather .

Weather outlook for Frist weekend of Febrady 2011: During the coming weekend, weather will be generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region, partly cloudy in Yangon Regions.

Light snow brings little respite to drought-plagued east China province

JINAN, 28 Jan — Light snow that fell in east China's Shandong Province Friday morning slightly eased the severe drought that has ravaged the region since September. The snow fell between 5 am and 7 am said taxi driver Ning Tingyu who was working the night shift in the provincial capital, Jinan.

Ning's family, living in Tai'an City, Shandong, has six mu (4,000 square meters) of withered wheat fields."When I saw the snow, I called my family to ask if the snow had also fallen in the wheat fields. Fortunately, it had. Although there was not much snow, I think it alleviates the drought a bit," said Ning.

The light snow fell in the cities of Jinan, Yantai, Tai'an and Dezhou with an average depth of less than one millimeter, according to the provincial meteorological observatory.—*Xinhua*

Duck-shaped boats covered by snow are seen on a frozen lake in the Quancheng Park in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 28 Jan, 2011.

XINHUA

Myanmar TV

Saturday, 29 January
View on today

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Min Gun Sayadaw

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning News

7:40 am
4. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am
5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am
6. Poem Garden

8:15 am
7. Culture Dances

8:25 am
8. Teleplay (Health)

8:40 am
9. International News

8:45 am
10. Musical Programme

11:00 am
1. Martial Song

11:10 am
2. Musical Programme

11:25 am
3. Game For Children

11:50 am
4. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News

12:30 pm
5. Yan Can Cook

12:55 pm
6. TV Drama Series

1:50 pm
7. Mahowthada

2:20 pm
8. Song Of Natioanal Races

2:30 pm
9. Myanmar Traditional Culture Performing Arts Competition

2:50 pm
10. International News

4:00 pm
1. Myanmar National League MNL Grand Royal (2011) Football Competition Live (Yangon United FC & Zeyar Shwe Myay FC)

5:45 pm
2. Musical Programme

6:00 pm
3. Evening News

6:15 pm
4. Weather Report

6:20 pm
5. Ahlashamae Hlagabawai

6:35 pm
6. Yindagomae

7:00 pm
7. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
8. News
9. International News
10. Weather Report
11. Cartoon Series
12. TV Drama Series
13. Gitadagale Phwinfbaohn

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
Programme Schedule
(29-1-2011) (Saturday)

Transmissions		Times
Local	-	(09:00am~11:00am MST
Oversea Transmission	-	(29-1-11 09:30 am ~ 30-1-11 09:30 am MST

Local Transmission
* Opening
* News
* Aureum Place Resort
* News
* ''it'' 4th Art Show
* Record Album
* News
* Cultural Trail from China to ASEAN (Part-II)
* News
* Architecture of the Great Ananda

Oversea Transmission
* Opening
* News
* Aureum Place Resort
* News
* ''it'' 4th Art Show
* Record Album
* News
* Cultural Trail from China to ASEAN (Part-II)
* News
* Architecture of the Great Ananda
* News
* Mural Painting (Bagan)
* News
* Myanmar's Customs & 7 Days Born
* Music Gallery
* News
* Secret Places for Yummy Food ''Tin Tin Aye Monhinkhar
* News
* A Visit to Htan Hsam Cave: A Miraculous Place
* Myanmar Movies "The Director"

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★ 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

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

Convenient accommodation, meals and transport services provided to representatives

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— The Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives arrived here to attend the Hluttaw Meetings to be commenced on 31 January 2011.

Thanks to complete preparations of the authorities concerned, the Hluttaw representatives are convenient in accommodation, meals and transport matters.

The Hluttaw representatives today have contacted the authorities concerned for attending the Hluttaw meetings.

MNA

Slight earthquake hits Myothit Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today issued an announcement that a slight earthquake of magnitude 4.7 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (Myothit Township, Sagaing Region) about 180 miles Northwest of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 5 hrs 10 min 59 sec MST today.

MNA

Yatanarpon Cyber Hall in which the 9th Myanmar ICT Week was held on a grand scale.

Myanmar ICT Week satisfies thirst for ICT knowledge

Byline: *Tin Htwe (MNA);*
Photos: *Ko Htwe*

Myanmar ICT Week, a festival which can increase ICT knowledge of people, has reached ninth time this year. The 9th Myanmar ICT Week was held at Yatanarpon Cyber City in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region from 8 to 12 January for five days.

The opening ceremony of the 9th Myanmar ICT Week was held at Yatanarpon Cyber Hall in Yatanarpon Cyber City. A total of local and foreign companies showcased 30 booths in the festival.

Visitors observed modern hi-tech IT products of local and foreign companies, electronics and communication devices of companies that made

(See page 9)