

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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects tax-free markets in Yangon

YANGON, 10 Jan — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected tax-free markets here this morning, and gave necessary instructions to officials.

At 6.30 am, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, together with Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials, viewed sale of goods at the tax-free market in Ward 38 of Dagon Myothit (North) Township.

They also inspected the tax-free market in Ward 26 of Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Shukhintha Tax-free Market in Thakayta Township, the tax-free market in Tamway Township, and another one on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Yankin Township.

Officials conducted them round the markets.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave instructions on implementing the aims of opening the tax-free markets, ensuring speedy flow of commodity, stability of price, selling of fresh vegetables, meat and fish at reasonable prices and carrying out of sanitation tasks.

The Ministry of Industry-1 and the Ministry of



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects tax-free market in Yankin Township. —MNA

Energy, YCDC, regiments and units of Yangon Command, district and township PDCs, private entrepreneurs, Myanmar Rice and Paddy Dealers Association

and Myanmar Oil Dealers Association open shops to sell foodstuff, personal goods, vegetables, meat and fish to the consumers daily. — MNA

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PERSPECTIVES

Today, the implementation of the rural development tasks is picking up speed in various sectors. No doubt, the residents in rural areas will enjoy higher standard of living if regional organizations, social organizations and wellwishers make earnest endeavours in concert in collaboration with the government.

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In order to extensively use and export the lesser-used timber species, it is required to use those species in place of teak in making furniture especially (school and office furniture), disseminate methods to make lesser-used timber species last long and drying behaviour and to ensure constant and adequate supply of logs.

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Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 11 January, 2007

Towards greater rural development

Agriculture is the main livelihood of rural people, so the government provides necessary agricultural assistance for rural areas including supply of irrigation water and clean water. Simultaneously, it is expediting the construction of infrastructures so as to raise the economic, education and health standards of rural folks.

In the knowledge age, the youth of today are enjoying better opportunities to pursue education. In addition, the government is opening self-reliant libraries and providing social assistance to broaden the horizons of rural people.

Seikphutaung and Aung Beiktheik villages in Banbar Village-tract, Pyinmana Township, Mandalay Division, were served with rural self-reliant libraries and hydel power generators on 6 January.

In another development, 28 of the 67 villages in the hilly area on the eastern bank of the Paunglaung River have got hydel power generators.

Officials concerned provided iodized salt, warm clothes, medicines, and stationery for rural people of more than 700 households in 17 villages in the east of Pyinmana Township on 7 January.

Today, the implementation of the rural development tasks is picking up speed in various sectors. No doubt, the residents in rural areas will enjoy higher standard of living if regional organizations, social organizations and wellwishers make earnest endeavours in concert in collaboration with the government.

Environmental issues in Shan State (East) discussed

YANGON, 9 Jan — Coordination meeting on environmental conservation was held in Kengtung, Shan State (East), on 28 December and experts discussed environmental issues sector-wise.

Among the participants of the meeting were technicians from Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council, Shan State (East) Forest Department, Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department, Health Department, Irrigation Departments High-Land Reclamation Division, Myanma Agriculture Service, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Public Works, Development Affairs Department and Kengtung Degree College.

At the meeting, National Environmental Conservation Commission invited advice and suggestions on environmental issues.

In concluding remarks, Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs thanked the experts and he said the report of the meeting will be sent to Environmental Conservation Commission.

After the meeting, the deputy minister visited the Khwaytamaut (Htatmarngin) Dam and Thitapin Hill in Kengtung and urged officials of the Shan State (East) Development Affairs Department to work together with the Ministry of Forestry for greening the hill and its environs. — MNA

People's Desire

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

Cash and kind donated hailing Annual General Meeting of MWAFF

YANGON, 9 Jan—Hailing the Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, a ceremony to donate cash and publications was held at the federation on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township here this afternoon.

It was attended by Vice-President of MWAFF Daw Khin Thet Htay, heads of department, the General Secretary, the Joint-General Secretary and guests.

Wellwisher U Aung Than, Chairman of Industrial Zone-3 (South Dagon), presented K 800,000; Daw May Than Nwe, K 500,000; U Moe Oo of Green Hill Group, K 500,000; K 300,000 each by Maung Zaw Min Thant-Ma Khin Nyo Min Lwin, U Aye Lwin (Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone), U Khin Zaw-Daw Khin Swe Oo, U Thaung Htaik Min (Olympic Hotel),

Jewellery Luck Co Ltd, Hlinethaya Industrial City Management Committee, U Ba Thet of Twantay and U Ohn Kywe of Twantay; K 200,000 each by Daw Khin Ohn Mya, U Ye Aung-Daw Le Le Win, Myanma Ahman Automobile, Phyo Dhana Co, U Tint Swe of Dalla Township, Myanmar Mosfly Industry Ltd and Daw Aye Myint of Thanlyin Township; 750 books and 100 calendars worth K 1,120,000 by Sayagyi U San Tin Aung (Shwebo) and publications worth K 186,000 by Managing Director U Myat Thu Win of Shwe Min Tha Co Ltd.

Vice-President of MWAFF Daw Khin Thet Htay accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers. Today's donations were K 5.1 million and publications worth K 1,306,000. — MNA

94 trainees receive computer, English language skills



Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai of Yangon Division MCWSC makes a speech at English Language and Computer Course No 2/2007. —MNA

YANGON, 9 Jan — A total of 94 trainees are attending the English Language and Computer Training Course No 2/2007 opened today at International Language and Business Center (ILBC) in Tamway Township.

The course was jointly conducted by Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and ILBC and lasts until 8th February.

Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai addressed the opening ceremony of the course and accepted K 1.4 million donated by wellwishers to Yangon East District MCW Supervisory Committee.

At the opening ceremony, the students of ILBC who scaled the 10,500-foot-high Natma Mountain (Victoria Mountain) in Chin State were honoured. — MNA

Inter-School Cricket Tournament scheduled

YANGON, 10 Jan—The Inter-School Knock-out Cricket Tournament Challenge Shield 2006-07, to be organized by Myanmar Cricket Federation, will take place at Bahan Sports Ground at the corner of Azarni and U Wisara Roads, here, tomorrow morning.

Arrangements have been made to present K 70,000 as cash reward to the first prize winning team, K 40,000 to the second and K 20,000 to the consolation prize.

On 11 January, Ahlon BEHS No 4 and Lanmadaw BEHS No 1 will play as the first match, and Panbedan BEHS No 2 vs Botahtaung BEHS No 6 as the second match. — MNA

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin looks into paving of Thudhamma Road section

YANGON, 9 Jan—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected the finishing touches of paving the Thudhamma Road section in North Okkalapa Township and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Accompanied by officials of YCDC, the mayor arrived at the junction of Thudhamma Road and Waibagi Road in North Okkalapa Township where he looked into the finishing touches of the road section to the end of No 2 Highway.

After hearing a report presented by an official, the minister stressed the need for engineers to focus on better condition of the roads.—MNA

China to establish China-central Asia Friendship Association

BEIJING, 9 Jan— China is to establish a friendship association to enhance ties with central Asian countries, said Chen Haosu, president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), here on Monday.

Chen made the remarks in a reception held to mark the 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and five central Asian countries,

namely, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan.

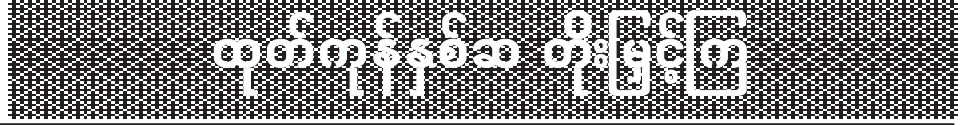
Chen said the relations between China and the five central Asian countries have been developing smoothly over the past 15 years and remarkable achievements have been made in the cooperation in energy, communications and other areas.

China is ready to further enhance the friendly and pragmatic cooperation with the five countries,

Chen said.

Uzbek Ambassador Nosirdjon Yusupov, Kazakh Ambassador Zhanybek Salimovich Karibzhanov, Tajik Ambassador Rashid Olimov, Kyrgyz Ambassador Kamil Suktanov, Turkmenian Ambassador Kurbanmuhamed Gadjarovich Kasymov attended the reception and expressed their willingness to further promote the relations between their countries and China.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese Vice President Zeng Qinghong (R) shakes hands with Julio Cardozo, President of the Chamber of Deputies of the National Congress of Uruguay, in Beijing on 9 Jan, 2007. —XINHUA

Syria criticizes Washington's Middle East policies

DAMASCUS, 10 Jan — Syrian Information Minister Mohsen Bilal here on Monday criticized the US Middle East policies which he said escalate problems in the region.

Bilal made the criticism in a meeting with a delegation of the Spanish Communist Party, the official SANA news agency reported.

"Syria is not against the American people, but it criticizes the US administration's policies in the region which escalate problems in it," the minister was quoted

as saying.

Bilal, Syria's former ambassador to Spain, told the delegation that "peoples of the region are the only ones who know their interests ... they are capable of finding the change which fits their interests and outlines their future". For his part, head of the delegation Miguel Lawrence also rebuked the US policy in the Middle East region, saying "it is wrong and witnesses a real dilemma".

Meanwhile, Lawrence also underlined the important role of Syria in

solving regional crisis, saying that there would not be a comprehensive and genuine peace in the Middle East without Syria, according to SANA.

MNA/Xinhua

Poll shows low support for more US troops in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 10 Jan— Six out of 10 Americans oppose the idea of increased US troop levels in Iraq, according to a new poll published on Tuesday.

President George W Bush will outline his "new

way forward" in Iraq Wednesday, which is expected to include a plan to deploy up to 20,000 more US troops to Iraq.

The poll, taken by USA Today/Gallup Poll Friday through Sunday, found that

61 per cent of those surveyed opposed the idea of sending additional troops to Iraq, and only 36 per cent approved of the proposal. Only 26 per cent of those surveyed, a record low, approved of Bush's handling of Iraq, according to the poll of 1,004 adults that had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The President's overall job approval rating was 37 per cent, up 2 percentage points from mid-December.

Nearly half of those surveyed said the United States could not achieve its goals in Iraq regardless of how many troops it sends, while one in four said US goals could be achieved only with an increase in troop numbers.

MNA/Xinhua



A heavy cloud of smoke rises during fierce fighting between guerrillas and Iraqi security forces, backed by US troops, around Haifa Street in central Baghdad. More than 50 gunmen were killed during a fierce battle on Tuesday.—INTERNET

A PSLV-C7 rocket is launched from the Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) Sriharikota in the south-eastern state of Andhra Pradesh. The 44-metre Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle is carrying four payloads, including India's indigenous 680 kilogrammes (1,496 pounds) remote sensing satellite named CARTOSAT-2, SKrishnamurthy, spokesman for the ISRO said. —INTERNET

MI5 to send terror alert e-mails

LONDON, 9 Jan— Britain's domestic spy agency MI5 has launched a new e-mail alert service on Tuesday to warn the public about changes in the security threat level.

Internet users will be able to register on the MI5 Web site to receive automatic electronic updates in their e-mail inboxes.

The e-mail alerts are the latest in a series of moves by MI5 and its partner, the international spy agency MI6, to open up to the public after decades of guarding

extreme secrecy.

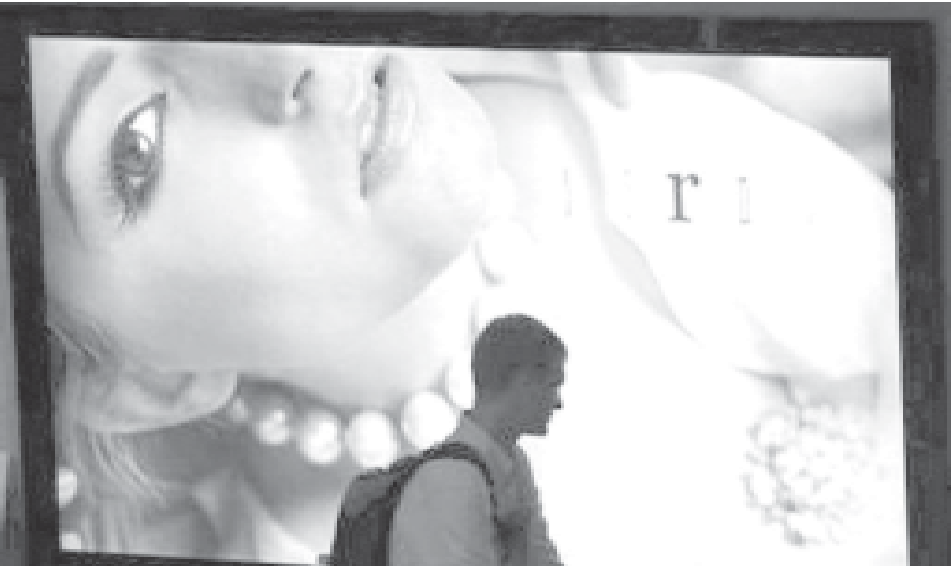
"It's part of the service's ongoing effort to improve its public communications and contribute to the government's policy of keeping the public informed about the national threat level," a spokeswoman for the home office said.

In recent years both

MI5 and MI6 have begun to emerge from the shadows, launching Web sites offering security advice and information about careers in the spy services, and even running recruitment advertisements in newspapers.

Internet





A man passes by a 108-inch LCD monitor, the world's largest at the Sharp booth, during the 2007 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Nevada on 8 Jan, 2007.—INTERNET

Seoul suggests a ‘Sea of Peace’

SEOUL, 9 Jan—South Korea has proposed calling the body of water between it and Japan the “Sea of Friendship” so as to end a naming dispute, a presidential official said on Monday.

South Korea hotly contests the widely used name Sea of Japan for the body of water, saying the proper name should be the East Sea. It has launched government-backed campaigns in order to sway world opinion, and many atlases use both names.

President Roh Moo-hyun also suggested calling the body of water the “Sea of Peace” during a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in November, the presidential official said.

“It was not an official proposal and no further discussions have been held,” the official said.

As President, Roh has often chastised Japan for failing to make what he sees as proper contrition for its harsh 1910-1945 rule over the Korean peninsula.

Internet

China finalizes designs of new weapons

BEIJING, 9 Jan — A batch of advanced new weapons will be delivered to the armed forces on schedule, Zhang Yunchuan, Minister of the State Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence, told a work conference here on Monday.

Last year China completed a series of tests to finalize the designs of new weapons, he said. Citing the example of the Jian-10 fighter plane, Zhang said China’s national defence sector had made significant progress in technical innovation and weapon development in 2006.

Xiaolong fighters and advanced Lieying-and Shanying-series trainer aircraft come into use. Multi-model advanced missile systems were displayed at the 2006 Airshow China in Zhuhai, he noted.—MNA/Xinhua

Workers work on the walls of a 3930 metres long tunnel crossing the Yangtze River in Wuhan, central China’s Hubei Province, on 7 Jan, 2007.

INTERNET



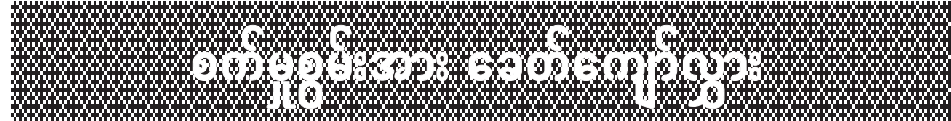
Two US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 9 Jan— Two US soldiers were killed in combat actions north of Baghdad on Sunday, the US military said on Monday.

One US soldier assigned to Task Force Lightning, died of wounds sustained during combat operation in Salahudin Province, the military said in a statement.

Another soldier was killed when his patrol came under small arms fire in north of the Iraqi capital, it said in separate statement.

MNA/Xinhua



Iran resumes natural gas export to Turkey

ANKARA, 9 Jan— Iran resumed natural gas export to Turkey on Sunday morning, weeks after a suspension caused by heavy domestic consumption, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

Iran pumped 3.5 million cubic metres of natural gas to Turkey till noon, the report said.

Officials from the Turkish Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources declared that the amount of natural gas pumped to Turkey from Iran would increase.

Claiming that it could not meet the domestic demand due to severe winter conditions, Iran first started to reduce the daily 27 million cubic metres of natural gas flow to Turkey last month and then totally cut it on 3 January. — MNA/Xinhua

Botswana President meets Chinese Foreign Minister

GABORONE, 9 Jan — Botswanian President Festaus Mogae spoke highly of the Botswana-China relations on Monday when he held talks with visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing.

Mogae said Botswana and China currently have very good relations and the cooperation between the two countries is forging ahead in various fields.

It is a tradition for the two countries to exchange views on issues of common concern through high-level reciprocal visits, he said, adding that such visits have become increasingly frequent in recent years, further promoting allround bilateral cooperation.

Li, who arrived in Gaborone on Sunday on a two-day official visit, said the Botswana-China relations have enjoyed healthy development over the past 32 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The Chinese Government attaches great importance to its relationship with Botswana and is willing to work with Botswana to expand contacts between the two countries' governments, parliaments, political parties, non-governmental organizations and youths, to push forward bilateral ties, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Polish Customs seize 120 kilos of cocaine

WARSAW, 9 Jan — Polish Customs on Monday seized 120 kilos of cocaine worth over 16.8 million US dollars in the northern Polish seaport Gdynia, according to the PAP news agency.

The drug was discovered during a routine check on the transportation of South American bananas. Police had arrested two Poles suspected of smuggling the cocaine to Poland. Police officials said more arrests could follow as the men belonged to a bigger drug ring.—MNA/Xinhua



Workers put the finishing touch to a snow sculpture of a Han Dynasty palace ahead of the Shenyang International Ice and Snow Festival which starts on 10 Jan to be held in Shenyang, northeastern China’s Liaoning Province, on 8 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

Best-known scientist planning space flight

LONDON, 9 Jan—The world's best-known scientist Stephen Hawking is planning a space flight.

"This year I'm planning a zero-gravity flight and to go into space in 2009," Hawking, who celebrates his 65th birthday Monday, told *The Daily Telegraph*.

During a zero gravity flight aeroplanes fly in such a way that people inside are temporarily weightless.

However, the physicists next step towards the cosmos depends on the Virgin Galactic space tourism plans of Sir Richard Branson, whose SpaceShipTwo will carry six passengers into a low

Earth orbit from 2008.

The craft will be launched at 50,000 feet from a mothership and soar into space at around 360,000ft, reaching a speed of 2,500 miles per hour or more than three times the speed of sound.

At present, a flight costs about 100,000 pounds but Sir Richard will sponsor Prof Hawking's mission.

Hawking, who was struck down by motor neurone disease (MND) when he was 21 and given a year or two to live, is the author of *A Brief History of Time* or which has sold 10 million copies.

The scientist said he

had offered to give his DNA to a project to scan the human genetic code for clues to the cause, in an initiative backed by the MND Association.

"Motor neurone disease is as common as multiple sclerosis but it has received much less public attention and awareness," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



An animatronic model of an Allosaurus performs during a media call show of the production 'Walking with Dinosaurs' in Sydney on 10 Jan, 2007. The show, with 15 full-size animatronic models, will hold its world premier on Wednesday in Sydney. — INTERNET

US Democratic leaders plan series of hearings on Iraq this week

WASHINGTON, 9 Jan—Democratic leaders in the US Congress plan to confront administration officials at a series of hearings this week, *The Washington Post* reported on Monday.

Democrats had hoped to emphasize their domestic agenda in the opening weeks of Congress but have concluded that Iraq will share top billing, the

report said.

Pushed by House members who want a quick, tough response to the Iraq strategy President George W Bush is expected to announce this week, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has backed off from her initial assertion that nothing should detract attention from the legislation she hopes to pass in the first 100 hours of House

debate.

On Thursday, Democrats will call Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to appear before the House Foreign Affairs Committee to defend the war-strategy shift Bush will outline in a nationally televised speech.

A House Armed Services Committee hearing with Defence Secretary Robert Gates and Peter Pace,

chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, planned for 19 January, was abruptly moved to this Thursday after consulting Pelosi.

And leadership aides went to work on a response to Bush's speech that they hope will be delivered on national television after the President's appearance, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

Cold wave claims 118 lives in Bangladesh in six days

DHAKA, 9 Jan— The cold wave that has swept the entire Bangladesh for the last six days has claimed 118 lives, mostly poor children, elderly and homeless people.

Most of the deaths were in the northwestern part of Bangladesh and they died in respiratory and cold related diseases. Different hospitals and clinics in the northwestern part are experiencing influx of patients with cold related diseases.

Weather office on Monday said the situation in the northern and northwestern region and elsewhere will improve in the next 24 hours as the cold wave may be abated. The coldest place in Bangladesh on Sunday was western Rajshahi where temperature was recorded at 8.7 Celsius on Sunday.

The poor people in north and northwestern Bangladesh and people living in slums in the capital Dhaka were seen making bonfire to keep them warm at night. These poor people can neither go out for work nor can they afford to buy warm clothes.

MNA/Xinhua

Undersea vehicle helps search Indonesian missing plane

JAKARTA, 9 Jan— The Indonesian Navy on Monday used a tiny unmanned undersea vehicle (UUV) in the extensive efforts to search a passenger plane that went missing around Sulawesi Island last week.

The French-made UUV measuring 180

centimetres in length is capable of surveillance mission 500 metres below the sea level, but its battery can last only 90 minutes.

The *Pulau Rengat* warship that carries the UUV departed to West Sulawesi waters from the naval base in East Java in search of the *Boeing 737-400* believed to have crashed between West Sulawesi and North Sulawesi.

The plane, operated by local airliner Adam Air, carried 96 passengers, including four babies and Navy officer First Marshal Gatot Sudjianto said the UUV was equipped with an undersea camera with an operating range of one kilometre.

"This UUV will comb the waters of West Sulawesi for five days," he was quoted by major national newspaper *Tempo's* website as saying.—MNA/Xinhua



The longest motor Yacht of the trade fair 'boat 2007', the 30 Meter Elegance 90 Mega, built in Taiwan, arrives on Tuesday, 9 Jan, 2007, in Duesseldorf, western Germany. The trade fair takes place from 20 to 28 Jan, 2007 at the exhibition centre in Duesseldorf. — INTERNET

Fire kills five in north China power plant

HOHHOT, 9 Jan — Five workers are dead and five others were injured after a fire broke out in a power plant Sunday in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, the local police said on Monday.

The fire began at 1:00 pm at a subsidiary of Datang International Power Generation Co Ltd in Togtoh County in the suburbs of the regional capital Hohhot, said sources with the regional public security bureau.

MNA/Xinhua



Traditional firefighters prepare to set up a bamboo ladder for an acrobatic stunt as others carry their individual standards, called Matoi, during a New Year demonstration by the fire brigade in Tokyo on 6 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

China calls for sound development of Sino-Japanese ties

BEIJING, 9 Jan— Chinese State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan said on Monday that the current China-Japan relations are facing the major tasks of deciding on the contents and framework of strategic ties of mutual benefit and deepening mutually-beneficial cooperation.

While meeting Akihiro Ota, head of Japan’s coalition party the New Komeito, Tang urged the two sides to follow the right development direction of bilateral ties and properly tackle sensitive issues in a bid to secure sound advancement of China-Japan relations.

China-Japan relations were at the lowest point over the past years because of former Japanese prime minister Junichiro Koizumi’s repeated visits to Yasukuni Shrine, which honours 14 Class-A war criminals during the World War II.

Koizumi’s successor Shinzo Abe paid an “ice-breaking” visit to China last October. The leaders of the two countries agreed to construct the strategic relationship of mutual benefit.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese police destroy terrorist camp in N-W region

URUMQI, 9 Jan—Police on Monday. One have destroyed a terrorist camp in northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region killing 18 terrorists, a spokeswoman with the Xinjiang Public Security Department said on Monday. One policeman was killed and another wounded in the gun battle on Friday in the mountains of Pamirs plateau in south Xinjiang, said spokeswoman Ba Yan.

The police captured 17 terrorists and are pursuing a number of others, the spokeswoman said. They also seized 22 hand grenades and more than 1,500 others the terrorists had not finished making.

The training camp was run by the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM), a group that the United Nations in 2002 labelled a terrorist organization, according to Ba.

MNA/Xinhua



Honda’s newly upgraded humanoid robot Asimo dances as it makes its North American debut at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas on 9 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

Canada sends experts to Kenya for disease control

OTTAWA, 9 Jan— A team of five Canadian experts are heading to Kenya Tuesday to help deal with an outbreak of Rift Valley fever that has killed 62 people, Canadian media reports said Monday.

“We’re facing a situation similar to an Ebola outbreak, where we do not have any specific treatment,” said Dr Heinz Feldmann, head of the special pathogens programme at the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg. Hundreds have also been infected by the deadly disease, which killed more than 170 people and infected tens of thousands during its last outbreak.

Rift Valley fever (RFV) is mainly spread by mosquitoes, who pick up the disease from infected livestock and pass it on to humans. Human-to-human transmission is another possibility, but far less prominent than with the Ebola virus, experts say. — MNA/Xinhua

Study says blood test can predict risk of heart patients



Blood test

BEIJING, 10 Jan—A simple blood test can accurately predict a heart patient’s risk of serious illness or death, according to findings published in Wednesday’s Journal of the American Medical Association.

The test, for a protein called NT-proBNP, indicates when the heart



A folk dancer performs at the start of a procession marking the 400th anniversary of the Feast of the Black Nazarene in Manila on 9 Jan, 2007. The Black Nazarene was brought to the Philippines by Spanish priests in the early 17th century. —INTERNET

Authorities probe mysterious odor in parts of New York City

NEW YORK, 9 Jan— Authorities in New York City were investigating the source of a gas-like odor that was reported Monday in much of Manhattan, but Mayor Michael Bloomberg said there was no indication that the air was not safe to breathe.

Some buildings were evacuated briefly, but people were allowed to return as it was determined that the smell was not harmful. Some commuter rail service was also suspended.

Initially, there were reports of a gas leak at 4th Street and Bleecker Street in Manhattan, but that could not explain the pervasiveness of the mysterious odor.

The US Department of Homeland Security said there was no indication of terrorism and no credible intelligence to suggest any imminent threat to the city.

“It may just be an unpleasant smell,” Bloomberg told a Press conference.

“Our suggestion is that people should do their best to ventilate areas, open their windows or turn on any fans until this gas passes.”

Consolidated Edison, the utility company that serves the area, said its crews found no abnormal changes in the gas flow in its transmission system.

MNA/Xinhua

Whooley, from the University of California, who took part in the research, said: “In the general population, the incidence of heart disease is so low relative to the incidence in heart disease patients that you get many more false positive results than true positives, which really lowers the value of the test.”

“It’s much better at predicting risk in a population with a high incidence of heart disease,” she explained.

Despite its weaknesses the test could help identify patients requiring more aggressive therapies, Whooley added.

Internet



Villagers and rescuers search for victims buried by a landslide in Padang Pariaman district in Indonesia’s West Sumatra Province on 9 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

Utilize lesser-used timber species more extensively

Rector U Win Kyi-1

In some countries, lesser-used timber species (LUS) are also called lesser-known timber species (LKS). In Myanmar, of about 500 timber species that can be sawn, Teak, Pyingadoe (Ironwood), Padauk (gum-kino), Thitya (shorea obrusa), Ingyin (peutcama), In (dipterocarpus tuberculatus) and Kanyin (dipterocarpus alatus) are commonly used.

The majority of the lesser-used timber species do not grow well in comparison to common timber species such as teak, pyingadoe and padauk. Myanmar is blessed with a large variety of natural resources, for example precious stones such as ruby, jade, sapphire and emerald, and valuable timber species such as teak. According to the statistics of forest resources, the ratio of teak to other timber species stands at 100 by 91 (ironwood); 56.4 (Thitya); 79.2 (Ingyin); 141.2 (In); 45.7 (Kanyin); 79.2 (Thadi or Protium serratum); 39.1 (Thabye or Eu geniaspp); 21.1 (Nabe or Lannea coromandelica); 18.5 (Chinyok or Garuga pinnata); 17.7 (Phanga or Terminalia chebula); 16.1 (Yon or Anogeissus acuminata); 14.5 (Pyinma or Lagerstroemia speciosa); 13.2 (Zaung bale or Lagerstroemia villosa); 10.5 (Yindaik or Dalbergiacultrata); 8.2 (Hnaw or Adina cordifolia); 7.4 (Myauk chaw or Homalium tomentosun); 6.4 Myaukngo (Thitgazaw) or Duabanga grandiflora); 6.0 (Yemane or Gmelina arborea); 5.5 Leza (Lagerstroemia tomentosa); 4.7 (Thitmangyi (Albizia odoratissima); and 1.1 Sit (Albizziaprocera).

So, those holding permits as well as the Myanmar Timber Enterprise prefer to extract timber species that have a ready market and grow abundantly such as teak and ironwood. Similarly, those who illegally extract timber have the same choice.

Since 1980, the Forest Department under the Ministry of Forestry has done research on lesser-used timber species. Furniture and other finished wood-based goods made of wood of lesser-used timber species were exhibited at the Union Day commemorative exhibitions held at Kyaikkasan Grounds in Yangon in 1985 and 1987, at the seminar on forestry held at the central forestry development and training department in Hmawby in 1990, at the China-Myanmar Trade Fair held in Muse in 1991, and at International Business Centre in Yangon in 1995.

The Forest Research Department in Yezin implemented the project for publicizing Myanmar's lesser-used timber species in the international market from 1997 to 2000 with the sponsorship of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). During the period, research was carried out to find out more facts about 54 lesser-used timber species' wood anatomy, moisture content, shrinkage, dimensional stability, density, specific gravity, static bending, compression, tension, hardness, drying behaviour, kiln schedule, durability, treatability and workability. In addition, workshops and exhibitions were held for extensive use of lesser-used timber species and exporting

promising timber species, and the department mobilized the participation of forest products entrepreneurs in the workshops and exhibitions.

The Forest Department reaped the benefits of constantly doing research as evidenced by the items displayed at the Myanmar Furniture Fair-2006 organized by the Myanmar Timber Enterprise and the Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association in Yangon. The exhibits were made of wood of such lesser-used timber species as Mani Awga (Caralha brachiata), Thitsay (Lacquer tree), Thadi, Zagawa, Hnaw, Gwe (Spondias pinnata) and Didu (Salmalia insignis).

Moreover, it was heartening to note that the quality of those furniture pieces was on a par with that of those in Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Singapore.

Every timber species can be used according to its quality and specific characteristics. So, if all the trees with merchantable size are extracted irrespective of species, there will be more timber raw materials and less production costs.

Almost all of the lesser-used timber species cannot last long after they have been cut down. So, ways are to be sought to ensure swift transport and export of logs of such species.

In order to extensively use and export the lesser-used timber species, it is required to use those species in place of teak in making furniture especially (school and office furniture), disseminate methods to make lesser-used timber species last long and drying behaviour and to ensure constant and adequate supply of logs. Therefore, the Forest Department, the Myanmar Timber Enterprise, the Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association, the Forest Products Joint-Venture Corporation, researchers and experts are to scale up their efforts to achieve the goal.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 8-1-2007

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China has more than 500,000 Red Cross volunteers

BEIJING, 10 Jan— There were 568,000 Red Cross volunteers in China in 2006, 51,000 more than in 2005, Guangming Daily reported on Monday.

In its annual report, the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) said it had organized a series of voluntary activities in 2006 including primary medical rescue, blood donations, AIDS prevention activities, disaster relief, as well as helping farmers and sponsoring

education.

The RCSC will recruit 100,000 more volunteers and further extend its services to communities, rural areas, schools and hospitals in 2007, an RCSC official said.

The official said that the RCSC will accelerate the establishment of branches at all levels to organize volunteers and oversee the services they provide. —MNA/Xinhua



Ruben Faria of Portugal powers his KTM through a corner during the first special stage of the Lisbon-Dakar rally in Grandola, southern Portugal on 6 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

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

Commander unveils signboard of aedes, rubbish and tobacco free schools



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win unveils signboard of aedes, rubbish and tobacco free school in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. — MNA

YANGON, 10 Jan — Organized by Mingala Taungnyunt Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, a ceremony to open the healthy environment and aedes, rubbish and tobacco free schools was held at Mingala Taungnyunt BEHS No 1 this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon

Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win formally unveiled the signboard on mosquito, garbage and tobacco free school.

The commander and wife viewed health care services being given to the aged at the classrooms and presented gifts to them. Next, they visited the school health booth.

At Myat Mingala Hall, the chairperson of Yangon

Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee explained tasks of healthy environment for the children.

Next, the chairperson accepted cash donations from wellwishers, and presented sanitation devices to officials. Later, the chairperson heard reports on health care activities of the Township MCWA by the township chairperson. — MNA

Road link under construction in Bago Division (West)

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Jan — Director-General of the Development Affairs Department U Myo Myint inspected the construction of the road linking Paukaung and Thayawady townships in Bago Division (West) on 8 January and called for timely completion of work.

The road is 126 miles and 6 furlongs long, and so far, 65 miles have been paved with gravel and expected to complete in this fiscal year.

During his tour, the director-general of the DAD inspected construction of bridges and road works along the road which passes seven townships.

The road is being constructed by Development Affairs Department of Bago Division (West).

MNA

Functions of power stations, construction of sub-power station inspected

YANGON, 10 Jan — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint made an inspection tour of Hlawga Power Station on 8 January.

After hearing the reports on laying of gas pipelines at the station by Station Manager U Thein Zaw, the minister inspected operating of steam turbines and machine parts for the gas turbines.

At Thakayta Gas Turbine, the minister looked into purifying of natural gas at the turbine and gave instructions.

The minister and party arrived at the site for

construction of 230/33 KV sub-power station near Phayagon Village of Thanlyin Township. Director of Power Supply Project (South) U Thein Hlaing reported on progress of the construction tasks and Project Manager U Saw Win Maung on 90 per cent completion of construction tasks and arrangements for supplying power with eight feeders to the people.

Later, the minister inspected construction of the power control room, arrival of materials and building of the switch yard.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects construction of sub-power station in Thanlyin Township. — MNA

Applications invited to part time courses of MMU

YANGON, 10 Jan — Myanmar Maritime University of Ministry of Transport will open part time courses for shipping management postgraduate diploma and port management postgraduate diploma. Every graduate can apply but it would be preferable to receive those who are in touch with the related area. The number set for a course is fifty.

On completion, Dip SM and Dip PM will be conferred. Applications must be submitted by 15 January at Myanmar Maritime University in Thanlyan Township. Contact for detailed information Ph: 056-22180 Extension (101).

MNA

Kachin State observes School Family Day

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Jan — Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Secretariat Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw formally opened the ceremony to mark the School Family Day for 2006-2007 Academic Year of Kachin State on 7 January.

At the ceremony held at Basic Education High School No 1 in Myitkyina, outstanding students were honoured. Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw visited the exhibition for education at the ceremony.

After the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister



Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint presents certificate of honour to Managing Director of Honda Myanmar Co Ltd U Tin Maung. — MNA

Brig-Gen Thein Zaw went to Government Technological College in Myitkyina. Kachin State USDA Secretary U Rawan Jon accepted 300 applications for USDA membership from the students of Myitkyina GTC.

On his tour of Myitkyina, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw visited Dhamma Rakkhia Wuntho Monastery and presented offertories to the

Sayadaw.

On 8 January, the commander and minister attended Manau Festival in Myitkyin.

MNA

Energy Minister's Trophy Volleyball and Soccer Tournaments conclude

YANGON, 10 Jan — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi attended the final match of the Third Energy Minister's Trophy Ward/Village-tract Men's (Open) Volleyball Tournament for 2006-07 at the gymnasium in Kungyangon yesterday morning.

Thongwa Village Volleyball Team clinched the title by winning over Mankaleik Village Team in the final.

The minister presented championship trophy and cash award to first prize winning Thongwa Village Volleyball team.

In the afternoon, the

minister watched the final match of the Third Energy Minister's Cup Ward/Village-tract Men's (open) Soccer Tournament at Aung San Thuriya Hla Thauang Ground in

Kungyangon.

In the final, Kangyi/Makyi Ward edged out Combined team with a 5-2.

Assistant Director U Win Tin of Sports and Physical Education Department handed over sports gear donated by the Ministry of Sports to Chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council U Kyaw Win.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi awarded championship trophy and cash award to Kangyi/Makyi Ward soccer Team.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi presents trophy to Thongwa Village Volleyball Team. — ENERGY

USDA Secretary-General meets farmers in Kanyutkwin

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Jan — Secretary-General U Htay Oo of Union Solidarity and Development Association together with departmental officials and members of USDA paid homage to the Ngarhtatgyi Buddha Image in Kanyutkwin, Bago Division on 8 January and presented cash donations for the Image to the board of trustees.

Next, the Secretary-General met with departmental officials, members of USDA, WAO, MCWA, WVO and local people at the compound of the Image.

Those present reported matters related to the development of agriculture, education, health and road transportation and departmental officials fulfilled the requirements.

After the meeting, the Secretary-General cordially greeted those present and attended to the needs.

Then, the Secretary-General and party offered provisions to the Sayadaw of Moegaung Monastery in Kanyutkwin. They also presented cash donations for the extended building of the monastery and for the 28th recitation of seven Abhidhamma treatise ceremony.

MNA

Secretary-General of USDA U Htay Oo meets with members of USDA and social organizations and townselders in Kanyutkwin. — A&I



MPBSSMA meeting last week Jan

YANGON, 9 Jan — Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association will hold its 14th Annual General Meeting at the conference hall of the UMFCCI Office Tower at No 29 Minye Kyawswa Street, Lanmadaw Township, here in the last week of January.

MPBSSMA invites all members to attend the meeting. —MNA

How spicy foods can kill cancers



Capsaicin in some peppers, attacks cancer cells' mitochondria.

INTERNET



Paris SG team captain Pedro Miguel Pauleta kicks the ball in the air, during the French Cup soccer match between Paris Saint Germain and Nimes, at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris, on Sunday, 7 Jan , 2007. —INTERNET

UN Chief expresses concern over US airstrikes in Somalia

UNITED NATIONS, 10 Jan — United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon expressed concern that airstrikes launched by the United States in Somalia over the weekend may result in an escalation of hostilities, his spokeswoman Michele Montas said on Tuesday.

The UN chief is also concerned about the impact on civilians in southern Somalia and regrets the reported loss of civilian lives, Montas told a Press briefing.

Five to 10 people were killed in the airstrikes on a target “believed to be associated with al-Qaeda”, AP reported,

quoting an unidentified US intelligence official.

Montas said the UN is planning to send an assessment team to the Kenya-Somalia border on Thursday to look into the possibility of resuming humanitarian deliveries into Somalia.

At least 4,700 internally displaced

persons at the border are in critical need of food, shelter, medicine and basic supplies, Montas said, quoting the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Humanitarian operations were suspended in the area and international staff evacuated when the recent fighting erupted last month.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran arrests “spy” within Parl’t’s research centre

TEHERAN, 10 Jan— Iran had arrested a “spy” within the Parliament’s research centre, who was accused of passing the country’s nuclear secrets to an outlawed opposition group, local media reported on Tuesday.

The unidentified man had given “classified information, including a bulletin on nuclear activities to the Monafeqin (hypocrites),” the state radio said, referring to the banned opposition group of People’s Mujahedin.

Ahmed Tavakoli, a senior Iranian lawmaker who heads the Parliament’s research centre, also told Iran’s Fars news agency that the man, who had worked for

the centre since 2001, was arrested with the cooperation of the Intelligence Ministry. The trial of the arrested would start soon, Tavakoli said, without giving further details.—MNA/Xinhua



Headquarters of Russian oil distributor Transneft are seen in Moscow on Tuesday, 9 Jan, 2007. — INTERNET

12 taken to hospital after foul smell spreads over Manhattan

NEW YORK, 10 Jan — Twelve people were taken to hospital with symptoms of shortness of breath and skin irritation after a foul smell spread over Manhattan and neighbouring notheastern New Jersey for several hours.

The foul smell, that spread Monday, raised fears that it might have been deliberately released. Though, despite efforts by the law enforcement

agencies, its source could not be located.

Emergency services received thousands of calls as the odour wafted across Manhattan. Authorities

quickly moved to allay fears with Mayor Michael Bloomberg saying it is not dangerous and Homeland Security Department asserting terrorism is not involved.

But no one could explain the phenomenon after Consolidated Edison, which is major supplier of electricity and natural gas in Manhattan, said its transmission lines do not show any abnormal fall in pressure, indicating that there was no gas leak.

In New Jersey, the Public Service Electric and Gas too said there was no leak in their system after running tests. For odour to cover so much area, a major gas leak would be needed, they added.

The city Department of Environment sent mobile teams to test air quality and later declared that there was nothing dangerous.

In an apparently unrelated incident, more than 60 birds were found dead in Austin, Texas, along Congress Avenue which leads to State Capital and air test failed to determine the cause.

MNA/PTI



Actress Cate Blanchett of Australia poses with the career achievement award she received at the 18th Annual Palm Springs International Film Festival Gala in Palm Springs, California on 6 Jan, 2007.—XINHUA

Additional southern Vietnamese province sees ducks die en mass

HANOI, 10 Jan — Ducks have recently died in Vietnam’s southern Kien Giang Province, local newspaper Youth

reported on Tuesday.

Forty ducks in a flock of over 1,200 fowls have died in the last few days, the newspaper quoted

Vice-Chairman of the Provincial People’s Committee Do Huu Hung assaying. Specimens from the dead waterfowls are being tested for bird flu viruses.

Several thousands of ducks in Vietnam’s southern Soc Trang Province were also reported to have died in the last few days.

On Monday, Bac Lieu, one of three southern provinces which have detected bird flu outbreaks since December 2006, declared the disease in its territory.

Bird flu has, since last December, hit 33

communes in 15 districts in the three southern provinces of Ca Mau, Bac Lieu and Hau Giang, according to the Department of Animal Health under the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on Monday.

It has killed some 6,000 poultry, and led to the forced culling of nearly 23,000 others, mainly ducks and chickens.

Bird flu outbreaks, starting in Vietnam in December 2003, have led to the forced culling of dozens of millions of fowls in the country.

MNA/Xinhua



Myanmar Ambassador to South Africa U Ohn Thwin and wife Daw San San Aye and family donate K 150,000 to Myanmar Monastery in Buddha Gaya in India to construct religious buildings recently. Patron of Myanmar Buddha Gaya Monastery Sayadaw Ashin Vinaya (Vunsamadani) accepted the donation in Sangyoung Township. — H

Japanese Defence Agency formally upgraded into ministry

TOKYO, 10 Jan — The Japanese Defence Agency was formally upgraded to a full ministry on Tuesday morning with a ceremony attended by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and new Defence Minister Fumio Kyuma.

The name signs at the main gate of the Defence Agency headquarters in central Tokyo were replaced shortly before the ceremony with new name board written by Kyuma.

The bill raised by the Japanese Government to upgrade the Defence Agency into a ministry cleared the Lower House plenary session in late November and passed the Upper House in mid-December.

Under the legislation, the newly-launched Defence Ministry will be headed by a “minister,” instead of a director-general whose post is held by a state minister. Peacekeeping, disaster relief and other international cooperation operations will be upgraded into the Self-Defence Forces' essential duties from their current subordinate positions.

Upgraded power of the administrative chief will include calling for a Cabinet meeting and requesting budgets directly to the Finance Ministry.

Functions of the Defence Facilities Administration Agency, which will be scrapped in fiscal 2007

starting next March, will be integrated into the upcoming “De-fence Ministry”.

Japanese Government senior officials said it is necessary for the Defence Agency to be upgraded into a ministry in order to befit the role of defending the country and contributing to world peace in this new era.

However, some critics said the upgrade may imply a change of the defence-only policy to a more internationally-active one.

MNA/Xinhua

Screening stem cells could be key to diagnosing cancer

LONDON, 10 Jan — Research has found that multiplying stem cells can trigger cancers and one scientist suggests screening the cells could provide an early diagnosis.

Researchers compared patterns of gene activity in stem cells from healthy and cancerous tissue and found that those from cancers were often locked in a state in which they carry on multiplying as primitive stem cells, instead of maturing into specific tissues such as the breast or ovary, according to a report published on Monday by the *New Scientist*.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Japanese ship collides with US sub in Arabian Sea

TOKYO, 10 Jan — A Japanese commercial ship has collided with a US nuclear-powered submarine in the Arabian Sea, injuring no one, Kyodo News reported on Tuesday.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry received the report early in the morning, a government source was quoted as saying.

The Japanese ship is a tanker operated by Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd and the submarine may be under the command of the US Navy headquarters in Bahrain, *Kyodo* said. — *MNA/Xinhua*



300,000-tonne Japanese tanker Mogamigawa is seen in this undated photo released by Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd in Tokyo on 9 Jan, 2007. The large crude carrier and a US nuclear submarine collided in the Arabian Sea, but there were no injuries or oil leaks, officials at the tanker's owner said on Tuesday.—INTERNET

Italy opposed to US action in Somalia

ROME, 10 Jan — Italy is against United States' unilateral military action in Somalia, Italian Foreign Minister Massimo D'Alema said on Tuesday.

In a Foreign Ministry statement, D'Alema reiterated “Italy's opposition to unilateral initiatives which could spark new tensions in an area already characterized by severe instability”.

Italy believes international institutions should intensify efforts to encourage peace within Somalia and also between Somalia and countries bordering it, the statement said.

According to local media reports, the

Pentagon has confirmed that the United States conducted a strike in Somalia targeting senior al-Qaeda figures.

Somali Government sources have also reported that an AC-130 plane carried out raids in the remote village of Hayo late on Monday. Many people are said to have

been killed but there has not been any independent confirmation of this.

US warplanes reportedly struck at the same spot again on Tuesday as part of the efforts to neutralize al-Qaeda operatives that Washington believes to be hiding in the area.

MNA/Xinhua



South Korean Army soldiers exercise on the snow during a winter exercise in Pyeongchang, east of Seoul, on Wednesday, 10 Jan, 2007. More than 275 soldiers participated in the one-month winter exercise. — INTERNET

Hu Jintao vows full-fledged crackdown on corruption

BEIJING, 10 Jan — Chinese President Hu Jintao on Tuesday pledged a more severe and systematic crackdown on corruption in a key-note speech delivered at a national anti-graft conference.

Hu, who is also the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), made the call at the Seventh Plenary Session of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), a three-day meeting that started on Monday.

Acknowledging the progress the commission had made in the past year, Hu said the Party still faced an “arduous fight against corruption”.

Hu told senior Party officials and the 110 CCDI members attending the session that they should continue to work on investigating “major and high-level corruption cases” and sternly punishing crooked officials.

China's anti-graft fight last year led to the downfall of several senior officials, including former Shanghai party chief Chen Liangyu, former Beijing vice mayor Liu Zhihua, and former top statistician Qiu Xiaohua.

MNA/Xinhua.

ADVERTISEMENT

Notice for Managing Director of former
A.A.K Company M.H Abdulla Waryawa (a)
U Than Tun and his father director
U Eiyub Waryawa, and board directors

We hereby announce that our client U Kyaw Soe Moe sold his cars on credit to A.A.K Company, which was opened on 27th Street in Pabedan Township, and at No. (25) on Bawga Street in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Division. The company has still failed to settle the payment of 150,000,000 kyats for 43 pieces of the cars. U Kyaw Soe Moe reminded the company many times about the payment. In response, making an excuse that Managing Director U Than Tun was abroad on business, members of the board of directors pledged that the company would settle the payment along with a compensation for delay without fail. However, I learn that they have not settled the payment up to now. According to my client's investigation, U Than Tun is now abroad to settle down there to avoid being charged. The directors are thus responsible for the case, and are demanded for settling the payment and making a compensation totalling 250,000,000 kyats not later than 30-1-2007. If they fail to do so, a lawsuit will be filed to take action in accordance with the existing law.

Under instruction of U Kyaw Soe Moe
U San Hla Daw Aye Aye Naing
1749/79 4065

Advocates
68, 2nd Floor, Anawrahta Street,
Kyauktada Tsp, Yangon, Ph: 386559

China to accelerate upgrading
of national defence industry

BEIJING, 9 Jan—Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan on Monday urged defence engineers to strengthen technical innovation and speed up the upgrading of the country's national defence science and technology industry.

"In the past year, you have stuck together fighting a hard war in this special battlefield, achieved excellent performance—made significant contributions to both national defence and economic development," Zeng told a work conference on the development of national defence science and technology industry.

The meeting came only three days after the government announced it had become the fourth country in the world to develop its own advanced

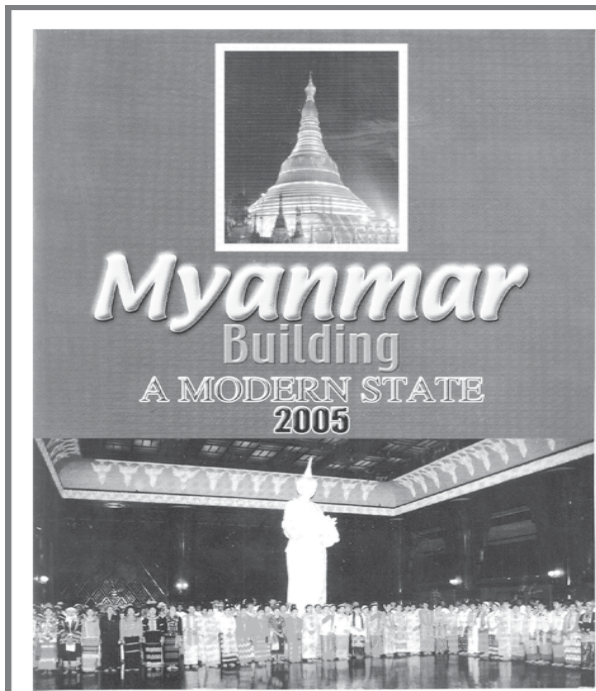
fighter aircraft, aero-engines and missiles.

At the annual meeting summarizing the previous year's work and making plans for 2007, Zeng urged participants from military industrial enterprises and research and development institutions to carry forward the hardworking spirits of the old generation who developed the country's first atomic bomb and hydrogen bomb in the 1960s and the first man-made satellite in 1970.

Zhang Yunchuan, Minister of the State Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence, delivered a work report to more than 200 participants.

At the meeting, 779 projects were awarded the 2006 National Defence Science and Technology Prizes. —MNA/Xinhua

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Dated: 11 January 2007

Malaysian rubber glove producer
Supermax expects jump in sales

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 Jan—Malaysian rubber glove producer Supermax, the second biggest one in the world, expects its sales to jump by 35 per cent in 2007, local Press reported Monday.

Robust demand from hospitals and factories has been vigorously promoting the sales of Supermax, which commands one fifth of the world's rubber gloves, said its group managing director and chief executive officer Stanley Thai Kim Sim.

"This year, we are also on track to achieve our targeted net profit of between 40 million ringgit (11.11 million US dollars) and 42 million ringgit (11.67 million US dollars)," Thai told the *New Straits Times* in a recent interview.

Thai said the world's rubber glove demand has been growing at an annual average rate of 12 per cent especially from the

consumer usage segment. As a group, Supermax has 12 plants and churns a total of some 20 billion pieces of rubber gloves a year.

Currently, its biggest export market is the United States, followed by Europe, Asia and Africa. The company will target new markets as well as those which are fast-growing areas such as China and India, said Thai.

MNA/Xinhua

China donates 1,700 tents to
typhoon-ravaged Philippines

BEIJING, 9 Jan—A cargo of 1,700 tents worth six million yuan (767,900 US dollars), donated by the Chinese Government, were flown to the Philippines on Monday.

The six-person and 12-person tents can shelter 13,000 people, according to the Chinese Ministry of Commerce.

The tents were among the most urgent needs of the typhoon-ravaged Philippines. Sources with the Ministry said the Chinese Government has donated 450,000 US dollars and goods and materials worth 17 million yuan (2.2 million US dollars), mainly tents and daily necessities, to aid the Philippines.

Since March last year, the Philippines has been rocked by a series of natural disasters including mud flows, typhoons and floods. The typhoons that

buffeted the country between September and November 2006 caused great loss of life and property. —MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam eyes bigger footwear
export in 2007

HANOI, 9 Jan—Vietnam has targeted to gain footwear export earnings of 3.9-4 billion US dollars this year, up from nearly 3.6 billion dollars in the year 2006, according to sources from the Vietnam Leather and Footwear Association (Lefaso) on Monday.

To this end, the Lefaso is encouraging footwear producers in Vietnam to diversify products, and produce more sport and cloth shoes, and slippers.

MNA/Xinhua



A customer looks at outfits at a Zara shop in Shanghai on 9 Jan, 2007. Spain's Inditex, the world's second-largest clothes retailer and owner of the Zara brand, said on Tuesday it would begin a modest expansion in China, starting in Beijing next month.—INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Agnes Oakes (L) and Thomas Edur perform as Giselle and Albrecht in the English National Ballet's performance of Giselle at the Coliseum Theatre in London on 9 Jan, 2007. — INTERNET

UNSG foresees challenges in 2007

UNITED NATIONS, 9 Jan— UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon pointed out on Monday that the United Nations has an exceptionally challenging agenda ahead of it in 2007.

The Security Council met Monday morning to consider threats to international peace and security. Ban, who was taking part in the meeting of the Council for the first time in his capacity as UN Secretary-General, told the Council members that "We face an unprecedented demand for peacekeeping as well as a range of growing demands for preventive diplomacy,

good offices, peace building and efforts in conflict management."

"This Council, and the Organization as a whole, are going through one of the busiest periods in our history, with a record number of peace operations, resolutions and reports over the past few years," he added.

"We need to look at the organizational structures of all departments and offices related to peace and security and find ways to strengthen our capacities," the UN Chief said. He ensured that members that he will make

it his priority to strengthen the United Nations' ability to play its role to the fullest extent in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

Ban said some of the most acute and persistent challenges are in Africa, especially stressed that one of his top priorities will be "to step up efforts to address the crisis in Darfur".

He reiterated that he will try to play the role of harmonizer and bridge-builder, and work to restore trust between member states and the Secretariat.

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore's telecom launches integrated services

SINGAPORE, 9 Jan — Singapore's telecom giant SingTel has launched a new integrated service that combines mobile, fixed line and wireless broadband access on one box.

According a Channel NewsAsia report on Monday night, the multiple services called Generation more-in-one (MIO) will transform the ordinary phone line into an integrated super highway.

Through the box, for instance, users can access broadband Internet services or make high-quality voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) calls via the fixed phone lines.

Users can also enjoy savings of up to 30 per cent under a consolidation of the fixed line, mobile and broadband services on one bill.

SingTel said that the Generation MIO will enable it to roll out next generation integrated digital services like Pay-TV, home security and other remote monitoring services. — *MNA/Xinhua*



French Remi Bizouard waves to the crowd as he makes a back-flip in the freestyle motocross during an international supercross show at the Peace and Friendship stadium, in the port of Piraeus, near Athens, recently. — INTERNET

Shanghai's Pudong Airport has most passengers from abroad

SHANGHAI, 9 Jan — Pudong International Airport in Shanghai, China's leading metropolis, handled 17.15 million passengers from overseas last year, up 9.4 per cent year-on-year and besting other Chinese airports.

According to the Pudong Entry and Exit Frontier Inspection Station, the figure included a record 9 million foreign passengers, up 8 per cent year-on-year.

Beijing's Capital National Airport handled 12.6 million overseas passengers, and Baiyun Airport in Guangzhou ranked third among Mainland airports. Figures for Hong Kong were not available at Press time.

Frontier inspection officials said that fast economic growth in Shanghai and in the Yangtze River delta, which covers Shanghai and neighbouring Jiangsu and Zhejiang Provinces, has attracted increasing numbers of foreign visitors and business people.

More than 80 multinational corporations have set up their regional headquarters in Pudong. And Shanghai has a vibrant conference activity — in 2006 the city hosted more than 80 international conferences and events, almost two per week, most of which drew more than 3,000 delegates and visitors. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Pakistan's energy crisis to worsen in next two years

ISLAMABAD, 9 Jan — The Pakistani Government is anticipating the energy crisis to worsen in the coming two years due to a 50-per-cent increase in the demand and a rather slow improvement in the supply, the leading Pakistani newspaper *Dawn* reported on Monday.

The power shortage, estimated to be 1,000 to 2,000 mw (megawatt) during the current year, is likely to hit 3,000 mw next year and to increase to about 5,300 mw by 2010, said the report.

The overall energy requirement of Pakistan is expected to be about 80 million tons of oil equivalents (mtoe) in 2010, up by about 50 per cent from the 54 mtoe of the current year, it said.

A government official told *Dawn* that the energy shortage was severe and

widespread in almost all areas, and natural gas, power, and oil shortages were all posing risks to the economic growth in medium to long term period.

Another official, quoted by the report, said that the development of water resources would resolve the problem in the long run but in the short term, there was a limit to constructing costly thermal power projects given their high economic costs.

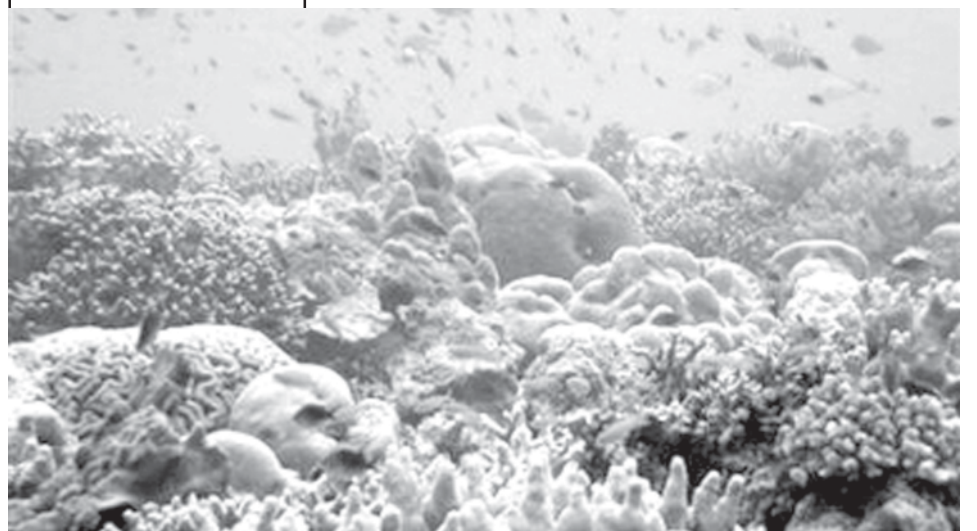
A major shortfall is expected in natural gas

supplies, as an official energy demand forecast indicates that the demand for natural gas, which makes up about 50 per cent of Pakistan's energy consumption, would increase by 44 per cent to 39 mtoe from 27 mtoe currently, *Dawn* reported.

The government had planned five major initiatives, including three gas import pipelines, the Gwadar port as energy hub and the LNG import to meet these energy requirements.

MNA/Xinhua

A marine protected area in Papua New Guinea in an undated photo. Baby tropical fish, drifting at the mercy of ocean currents, probably follow their noses back to their home reefs when they grow large enough to swim, researchers said on Monday. INTERNET



SPORTS

Nadal withdraws, Mauresmo advances in Sydney Int'l

BEIJING, 10 Jan— French Open champion Rafael Nadal withdrew from his first-round match at the Sydney International yesterday with a right groin injury, less than a week away from the Australian Open.

Australia's Chris Guccione was leading 6-5 (on serve) when the top-seeded Nadal decided to retire from the match. Nadal was among four players that dropped out yesterday. Paradorn Srichaphan of Thailand (wrist) pulled out of his match against qualifier Ivo Minar of the Czech Republic. Minar was ahead 6-2, 3-0 when Srichaphan retired. —Internet



Rafael Nadal plays a shot against Chris Guccione during their match at the Sydney International tennis tournament at Olympic Park in Sydney on 9 Jan, 2007.—INTERNET

Italy's World Cup squad meets President

ROME, 9 Jan— Italy's World Cup team was honoured Monday with a ceremony before President Giorgio Napolitano.

It was the first time that the squad came together since returning from its triumph in Germany in July.

"The victory removed the shadows that had fallen over our soccer world," Napolitano said, recalling the match-fixing scandal that erupted in Italy shortly before the World Cup.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter also attended the ceremony.

Italy coach Marcello Lippi, who resigned after the World Cup, said the victory "was the result of two years of work and a united group".

"The crucial moments were (Francesco) Totti's penalty against Australia and the game against Germany," Lippi said.

Down to 10 men, Italy beat Australia 1-0 in the second round on a controversial penalty seconds from the end of injury time.

MNA/Xinhua



Feyenoord's Pierre Van Hooijdonk fights for the ball with Galatasaray's Mehmet Topal (L) during their soccer match in the annual Efes Cup at Wow Football Centre in Antalya on 9 Jan, 2007.—INTERNET

Two more Germans want to coach Malawi soccer players

LUSAKA, 10 Jan— Despite the sour relationship between the Football Association of Malawi (FAM) and former German coach of Malawi national team Burkhard Ziese, two more Germans have applied for the post and might be considered for interviews to be held shortly.

Confirming the development on Monday, FAM president Walter Nyamilandu said the two Germans are the only ones that have applied for the job so far apart from former Flames coach Kim Splidsboel and highly-rated FIFA and UEFA accredited coach Stephene Constantine who have already been short-listed.

MNA/Xinhua



Vijay Singh of Fiji wins the 2007 Mercedes-Benz Championship golf tournament in Kapalua, Hawaii on 7 Jan 2007.—INTERNET

Zimbabweans shine at regional swimming C'ships

HARARE, 10 Jan— Zimbabwe national swimmers showed character and readiness for the big stage after scooping a record 63 gold medals at the just ended sub-Saharan Swimming Invitational Championships held at Les Brown Swimming Pools in Harare.

The championships, designed to facilitate the development of swimming among African countries, saw the participation of 10 countries and regions, mainly from Southern Africa.

Uganda, who was making their first appearance at the four-year-old championships, was the only country from East Africa and finished with a paltry two bronze medals after three days.

MNA/Xinhua

Portugal's Obikwelo wins European Athlete of Year

LISBON, 10 Jan— The European Athletics Association named on Tuesday Francis Obikwelo, a Nigerian-born athlete who races for Portugal, European Athlete of the Year for 2006, the year he won both the 100 and 200 meters European athletics championship.

In the whole of 2006, Obikwelo has won 16 100 of metres races and six of 200 metres. He hold the European 100 metres record and an Olympic silver medal.

MNA/Xinhua



George Washington's Jazmine Adair (21) shoots past Richmond's Christina Campion (35) and Nikita Thomas, right, during first-half basketball play at the Smith Centre in Washington, on 9 Jan, 2007.—INTERNET

Top clubs want to sign Buffon

ROME, 10 Jan— Italian sports Press reported Tuesday that a string of top clubs are lining up to sign Italy star Gianluigi Buffon after the world's top goalkeeper suggested he may say goodbye to Juventus at the end of the season.

Last week Buffon threatened to leave the Turin-based club if the management does not assemble a side capable of winning the title on their expected return to the top flight next season.

Juventus are in Serie B following relegation for the club's role in the Calciopoli referee-rigging scandal.

AC Milan chairman Silvio Berlusconi quickly took Buffon's hint.

"I have great respect for Buffon both as a man and a player," the former premier said after a friendly between Milan and Juventus at the weekend.

"If he were to leave Juventus, Milan would certainly be among the clubs trying to buy him."

But cross-town rivals Inter Milan will also be in the bidding. Italian sports Press said that Inter Chairman Massimo Moratti is willing to pay 20-25 million euros and give Juve Brazilian goalkeeper Julio Cesar and Argentine defender Walter Samuel to have Buffon.

MNA/Xinhua

Michelle Wie follows the ball during a skills challenge during the Sony Open golf tournament in Honolulu, Hawaii, on 9 Jan, 2007. INTERNET



Blatter says sorry to Italy

ROME, 9 Jan— FIFA chief Sepp Blatter Monday apologized to Italy for not presenting them the 2006 World Cup trophy.

Speaking at an Azzurri reunion celebration, Blatter admitted he had been wrong not to come down from the stands and hand over the trophy after Italy's victory over France, according to the local media reports.

"History will say that it was a mistake...and it was in fact a mistake," Blatter said, in his first explicit public apology.

Blatter reiterated his claim that a decision was made before the match not to expose FIFA's top dignitary to the possibility of jeers from the predominantly German crowd.

Blatter's no-show has been an issue since the World Cup, and there have been conflicting reports about whether he was on the presentation roster or not.

Many commentators took his decision as a sign he did not think they were worthy winners — or possibly as confirmation of FIFA's distaste for Italy's Calciopoli match-fixing scandal.

Blatter rekindled the rumours on a visit to Australia in December when he said the Socceroos — defeated by Italy in the quarter-finals after a dodgy penalty decision — had been good enough to go all the way.

Blatter later clarified his remarks, saying he had not meant to imply Italy had not deserved their win.

At the Rome reunion, Blatter emphasized that "Italy deserved to win the World Cup". —MNA/Xinhua

Timor-Leste soon to join ASEAN

CEBU (Philippines), 10 Jan — Timor-Leste, formerly known as East Timor, will have no problem joining the 10-member Association of SouthEast Asian Nations (ASEAN), according to officials of the 12th ASEAN Summit.

In a Press conference at the Cebu International Convention Centre (CICC) here Tuesday

afternoon, Summit Spokesman Ambassador Vic Lecaros said that as the youngest nation in the region, “it is just a matter of time” before Timor-Leste would become a full-fledged member of ASEAN.

Lecaros said that the attendance of Timor-Leste Prime Minister Jose Ramos Horta means that “ASEAN is good enough to join in”.

He said that since Timor-Leste shares the same characteristics as the rest of the members of ASEAN, the former Portuguese colony would “not be an odd man out among us”.

Lecaros said that Timor-Leste, through Prime Minister Horta, would first sign the ASEAN Treaty of Amity and Cooperation on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit, which is the first step toward formally

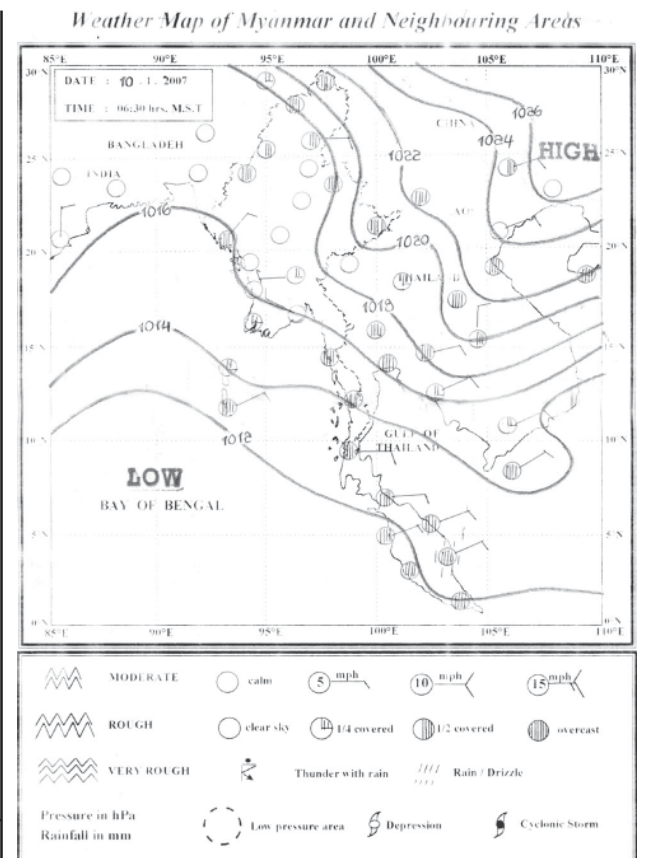
joining ASEAN.

According to Lecaros, the five other nations that joined ASEAN went through the same process.

Brunei Darussalam joined ASEAN on 8 January 1984, Vietnam on 28 July 1995, Laos and Myanmar on 23 July, 1997, and Cambodia on 30 April 1999.

The first five members are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Wednesday, 10 January, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (4°C) below normal in Chin and Rakhine States, (5°C) below normal in Magway Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining states and divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-1°C), Pinlaung and Heho (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 9-1-2007 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 10-1-2007 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 10-1-2007 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 9-1-2007 was (8.4) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 10-1-2007 were (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2007 were (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Northeast at (11:50) hours MST on 9-1-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 11-1-2007: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 11-1-2007: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 11-1-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 11-1-2007: Fair weather.



Actress Hilary Swank receives a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, California. Two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank was presented with the 2,325th star on Hollywood's "Walk of Fame" here, the latest milestone in her rags-to-riches career.

INTERNET



Thursday, 11 January

View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရမဗ္ဗာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

- Dance of national races

8:00 am

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

- Dance variety

8:20 am

- မင်းလှရေလှောင်တံခံ

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Let's Go

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- English for Everyday Use

4:40 pm

- လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး
- အစေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ဂုဏ်မြင်သင်ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ပထမနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ ရူပဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒ၊ ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြုများ) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)

5:05 pm

- Cute little dancers

5:20 pm

- “သတိနဲ့ယှဉ် အသိနဲ့ပြင်” (အပိုင်း-၁) (ဝါးခယ်မရဲမောင်၊ ဘုန်းလှိုင်၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ရတနာခင်၊ ပြည့်ဖူးခိုင်၊ နီနီရွှေရည်၊ ဆောင်းနင်းဝေ၊ ဝိုင်းစုခိုင်သိန်း၊ အိုင်းရစ်လေပြေဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)

5:35 pm

- ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ ရင်ခုန်သံ

5:50 pm

- “အသက်ကလေးရယ်တဲ့ရှည်စေလို” (ဦးအောင်လွင်၊ ဦးကြည်စိုး၊ မေထွဋ်ခေါင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- သီရိဓမ္မဟာ

6:50 pm

- မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ် ဆိုကြမယ်

7:00 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြား ဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အချစ်ဆိုသည်မှာ” (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

8:00 pm

- News

8:15 pm

- International news

8:30 pm

- Weather report

8:45 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြား ဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အကြင်နာနွေဦး” (အပိုင်း-၂)

9:00 pm

- The next day's programme

Minister inspects hotel projects in Ngapali beach



Hotels and Tourism Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing inspects Aureum Palace Resort Hotel in Ngapali Beach. — HOTELS & TOURISM

60th Anniversary Union Day Objectives

- For all national races to safeguard the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty;
- For all the national races to keep Union Spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people;
- For all the national races to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence;
- For all the national races to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development; and
- For all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map.

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Jan — Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing together with Director-General U Htay Aung of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism inspected progress in construction of Fortune Resort, Asia Villa Resort of Min Zarni Co, hotel construction project of Eden Group Co Ltd and Jade Marina Resort of Ruby Dragon Jade & Gems Co Ltd in Ngapali beach in Thandwe Township on 7 January and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the minister proceeded to Thandwe Airport and cordially greeted tourists.

Later, the minister met with hoteliers, travel entrepreneurs and departmental officials at Ngapali Beach Hotel and fulfilled the requirements.

The minister also inspected extended building of Ngapali Beach Hotel and decoration and services of Aureum Palace Resort and Thande Beach Hotel.

MNA

Minister looks into cooperative business in Magway Division

Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut inspects 30-ton Oil Mill of Magway Division General Cooperative Syndicate.

MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 10 Jan — Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut inspected the onion plantation of Shewthettan Agricultural Cooperative Society and the 30-ton Oil Mill in Natmauk Township, Magway Division, on 6 January.

On his tour, he met with members and employees of Naungyoe Cooperative Society in Yenangyoung Township the next day and inspected foundry works of the society.

At the meeting, he called on officials of the society to produce marketable products.

Afterwards, the minister went Lacquireware College in NyaungU Township and visited lacquirewares show room and Lacquireware Museum. At the college, he met with the principal and officials concerned and called for using modern techniques in making lacquirewares to improve the quality of the products.

During his tour of NyaungU Township, Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut visited Bagan hotel and Anawrahta Oil Mill of NyaungU Township General Cooperative Society.— MNA

WEATHER

Significant night temperatures

Haka	(-1°C)
Pinlaung	(4°C)
Heho	(4°C)

Maximum temperature on 9-1-2007 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 10-1-2007 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 10-1-2007 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 9-1-2007 was (8.4) hours approx.