

Ariyasaccana dassanam, to discern the noble truth; this is the way to auspiciousness.

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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

C-in-C (Air)'s Office clinches title in team handicap event, C-in-C (Navy)'s Office emerges champion in team scratch event

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan — The second round of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Golf Tournament for 2007-08 continued at Nay Pyi Taw Golf Course, here, at 6 am today.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung awarded prizes to the respective winners.

At the prize presentation ceremony, the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office stood first with 529 strokes, Yangon

Command second with 556 and North-West Command with 569 in the team (handicap) event.

In the team (scratch) event, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office secured the first prize with 661 strokes, Central Command the second prize with 688 and North-East Command the third prize with 720.

In the singles (handicap) event, Capt Min Chan Hein of the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office won the first prize with 123 strokes, Captain Hein Min Htet of the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office the second

prize with 125 and Captain Naing Lin Oo of Yangon Command the third prize with 129.

Lt-Cmdr Maung Maung Myint of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office bagged the first prize with 153 strokes, Captain Min Chan Hein of the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office the second prize with 159 and Captain Aung Naing Win of Triangle Region Command the third prize with 161 in the singles (scratch) event.

Lt-Cmdr Maung Maung Myint of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office obtained the most

Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung awards trophy to Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office team in team handicap event.

MNA



Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung awards trophy to Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office team in team scratch event.

MNA

par award in the singles (handicap) and (scratch) events and Captain Min Chan Hein in the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office the best birdie award in the singles (handicap) and (scratch) events.

Captain Min Chan Hein of the Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office gained the best player award in the singles (handicap) event on first round and Captain Naing Lin Oo of Yangon Command the best player award in the singles (scratch) event on the second round.

Lt-Cmdr Maung Maung Myint of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s

Office got the best player award in the singles (scratch) event on the first round and Cmdr Moe Aung of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office the best player award in the singles (scratch) event on the second round.

Major Aung Myint Thein of Central Command secured the longest drive award on the first round and Captain Ye Htet of Central Command on the second round.

Major Aung Naing Oo of North-East Command secured the nearest pin award on the first round and Captain Phyo Wai Lin of Eastern

Command on the second round.

Lt-Col Hla Htay of South-West Command won the diligence award in the handicap event, Captain Moe Lwin of Eastern Command in the scratch event and Coastal Region Command the diligence award in the team (handicap) event.

The Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s Office team clinched title with 661 strokes in the team (scratch) event, and Commander-in-Chief (Air)'s Office emerged champion with 529 strokes in the team (handicap) event.

MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 14 January, 2008

Manufacture quality products for industrial development

The government has been striving for development of the industrial sector. Industries scattering in the various regions have been concentrated and industrial zones established.

Import-substitute products can now be manufactured after the establishment of the industrial regions and zones and opening of new factories and workshops. Modern foundry shops have been established in the industrial zones with the utilization of advanced technology. Iron works are developing now.

Mawlamyine Industrial Zone, for instance, manufactures spare parts, vehicles and mechanical equipment, farm implements, bio-diesel and diesel stoves, rubber rollers, batteries and other compound and personal goods.

Now the industrial zones nationwide are making concerted efforts for economic growth, promotion of exports and increased production of import substitutes. They mainly produce products with the use of local resources. Job opportunities for local people have increased due to the development of industries.

With boosting production of quality import substitute products national industrialists will surely fulfil requirements of the country with the full utilization of productive resources for the development of industrial sector and industrial zones will enhance the quality of life of the people.

UMFCCI holds talks

YANGON, 13 Jan — Organized by Information and Technology Work Committee of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the talks on an economic interpretation of some Myanmar traditional concepts in the context of theory and globalization was held at Mingala hall of UMFCCI Office Tower, here, on 5 January.

Joint-Secretary-1 Dr Maung Maung Lay of UMFCCI delivered an opening speech. Emeritus Professor of Kobe University of Japan and retired professor of Yangon Institute of Economics Dr Tin Soe read out the paper and replied to the queries raised by those present.

Joint-Secretary-1 Dr Maung Maung Lay and representatives of Promise Land Trading Co Ltd presented gifts to the resource person.—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

Information Minister receives Thai guests

YANGON, 13 Jan—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Vice-President Mr Makin Petplai and party of Shin Satellite Public Co Ltd of Thailand at the hall of the Myanmar Radio and Television

on Pyay Road at 2.30 pm today.

Departmental heads and officials under the Ministry were present at the call.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Vice-President Mr Makin Petplai of Shin Satellite Public Co Ltd and party. — MNA

Bago Division (West) USDA holds baby show

YANGON, 13 Jan — To mark the 60th Anniversary Independence Day, Bago Division (West) Union Solidarity and Development Association organized the prize presentation ceremony of baby show at the office of Bago Division (West) Maternal and Child Welfare Association in Pyay on 4 January. Chairperson of Bago Division (West) MCW

Supervisory Committee Daw Thein Paing and responsible persons presented awards to 28 winners of the contest.

It was attended by Secretary of Bago Division (West) USDA U Min Han, Secretary of Bago Division (West) MCWSC Dr Than Win, members of social organizations, babies and their mothers. — MNA

Serbian PM urges EU not to send mission to Kosovo

BELGRADE, 13 Jan— Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica called on the European Union on Saturday to abandon “the unlawful sending of its mission” to the Serbian breakaway province of Kosovo. “Starting from the respect for and strong insistence on European values, Serbia demands of the EU not to undermine the country’s territorial integrity and to clearly abandon the unlawful sending of its mission,” Kostunica said in a statement to the national Tanjug news agency.

Kostunica said by sending its mission to Kosovo, the European Union would breach the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) it initialed in November with Serbia, the UN Charter, Resolution 1244 on Kosovo, and the Helsinki Final Act, all documents which “explicitly guarantee Serbia’s sovereignty and territorial integrity”.

“It is certain that on 28 January an agreement can be signed with Serbia or the EU will adopt a decision to break up Serbia with its mission. The two don’t go together and the choice lies with the EU,” Kostunica said.

The European Union is mulling whether to send a 1,800-member police and administrative mission to the predominantly ethnic Albanian Province. Serbia is concerned that an EU deployment would be a prelude

Iraqi natural gas to be exported to Europe via Turkey

ANKARA, 13 Jan —Turkish Energy and Natural Resources Minister Hilmi Guler said on Saturday Iraqi natural gas with an estimated reserve of 280 billion cubic metres is planned to be exported to Europe via Turkey.

The natural gas to be produced is located at five fields north of Baghdad, semi-official Anatolia news agency quoted Guler as saying.

Guler revealed that Turkey, United States and Iraq agreed to boost cooperation in energy and energy security during a meeting held in the largest Turkish city of Istanbul in March 2007.

On Friday, Guler told the private CNN-Turk television that Turkey and the United States would develop joint projects to extract oil from Iraqi fields.

MNA/Xinhua

to Kosovo’s independence, which it will never agree.

Kostunica’s hard-line position has worried his coalition partner the pro-Western Democratic Party led by Serbian President Boris Tadic.

Tadic, who advocates closer ties with the European Union, regardless of Kosovo’s future status, has said Serbia must sign the SAA with the EU as planned later this month.

MNA/Xinhua

Protestors against Guantanamo arrested in US

WASHINGTON, 12 Jan — A total of 81 protestors against the US prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, were arrested inside and outside the Supreme Court on Friday, the sixth anniversary for the prison camp.

Around 200 demonstrators in prisoner-style orange jumpsuits marched from Congress to the nearby Supreme Court building, calling for the shutdown of the prison where US military put terrorist suspects in

detention. "Shut down Guantanamo, counter terror with justice," they chanted.

Some demonstrators broke into the court, leading to a brief close of the building.

Police arrested some of the protestors on charge of violating an ordinance that prohibits demonstrations of any kind on court grounds. Those who were caught inside the court also carried charge under a provision that makes it a crime to give "a harangue

or oration" in the Supreme Court building.

The Supreme Court is considering whether prisoners at Guantanamo Bay can challenge their detention in US civilian courts, instead of special military at the base where they have to face tribunals.

In addition, a petition signed by 1,100 parliamentarians from across the world, and 100,000 other signatures from US citizens, was to be handed in to the White House.

MNA/Xinhua



Demonstrators against continued detention of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay are arrested on the steps the Supreme Court in Washington on 11 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Pressure mounts on Kenya politicians to end crisis

NAIROBI, 13 Jan — The European Union and the United Nations urged Kenya's feuding politicians on Saturday to agree a peaceful, democratic end to a violent political crisis that has killed 500 people since a disputed 27 December election.

Former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan is due to lead a new push for peace in east Africa's biggest economy.

But the opposition, which accuses President Mwai Kibaki of rigging his re-election, is planning new protests after African Union talks collapsed.

"All political parties in Kenya should recognize

that it cannot be business as usual in Kenya until there is political compromise which leads to a lasting solution that reflects the will of the Kenyan people, wins their confidence, and helps return Kenya to stability," the EU said in a statement.

EU presidency holder Slovenia, which issued the statement, noted EU observers and other

monitors had cast serious doubts on the presidential election results and called for complaints "to be pursued through the proper democratic and legal channels".

The unrest has badly dented Kenya's democratic credentials, worried world powers and damaged its previously booming economy.

MNA/Reuters

Turkish artillery shells northern Iraq

MOSUL (Iraq), 13 Jan — Turkish artillery pounded Iraqi areas near the border in Duhuk Province on Friday morning without causing casualties, said a source from the Kurdish border

guards.

"The Turkish artillery shelled the villages of Shiefa and Zally, about three kilometres away from the Iraqi-Turkish border at about 7:00 a.m. (0400



School students sit around hundreds of thousands of coins, piled up in the shape of a heart, during a campaign in Hangzhou, East China's Zhejiang Province, to call on children to donate their deposits to impoverished students in rural areas, on 12 Jan, 2008. The organizers have collected nearly 300,000 yuan from students in cities around Zhejiang.—XINHUA

Musharraf rejects UN inquiry on Bhutto

PARIS, 12 Jan — Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf ruled out a UN inquiry into the assassination of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, as demanded by her party,

saying that Pakistan should not be compared to Lebanon.

"It is not possible. Is another country involved?" he said in an interview with *Le Figaro*

newspaper published on its website on Friday. "Pakistan is not Lebanon."

Bhutto's party has called for a UN inquiry into her death comparable to one into the 2005 killing of former Lebanese prime minister Rafik al-Hariri, whose death was blamed by many Lebanese on Syria. Damascus denies involvement. Musharraf said Pakistan had its own institutions to manage the inquiry into Bhutto's assassination, and noted they would also be helped by British police.

MNA/Reuters

Government official killed in Thai south

BANGKOK, 13 Jan — A government official was killed by suspected insurgents during a driving-by shooting on Saturday morning in Thailand's violent south, local media reported.

Abdutoroh Rehniya, the chief of governmental department Samakhee Tambon Administration Organization, was gunned down on a motorcycle in Narathiwat Province's Rueso District when he was returning from sending his daughter off to a Children's Day event in the district. —MNA/Xinhua

Bahraini protestors hold placard of US President George W Bush with slogans 'stop your wars' next to another protestor who holds up a picture of Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, top left, during a demonstration against US President George W Bush's visit to Bahrain, outside the US Embassy in Manama, on 12 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET





Children play with snow in Yan'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, on 12 Jan, 2008. Snow fell for the first time this year in some parts of China from 11 Jan. —XINHUA

Protesters block roads in Bangladesh capital

DHAKA, 13 Jan — Thousands of textile factory workers took to the streets blocking a major highway in the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka on Saturday, demanding a pay rise and overtime payments.

Anwar Hossain, a senior police officer, said police were surrounding the protesters, estimated at 10,000, to stop them spilling into other roads and halting traffic.

“We expect the protests would come to an end soon as factory management

and the worker leaders are holding a meeting. We expect a positive outcome,” he told reporters.

Hundreds of students also staged a street protest against the suspected leakage of exam questions at the National University, forcing the cancellation of tests this week.

University authorities were not immediately available for comment. Academic questions often get leaked ahead of examinations in Bangladesh, but

successive governments have failed to stop the practice.

The students and the factory workers have both threatened to continue their protests unless their grievances were addressed.

Protests have been banned since an Army-backed interim government look over in Bangladesh last January and imposed a state of emergency, following months of political violence.

MNA/Reuters

US warplanes pound Baghdad's southern outskirts

BAGHDAD, 12 Jan — US warplanes dropped 40,000 pounds of bombs on more than 40 targets on Baghdad's southern outskirts on Thursday in a major strike on al-Qaeda safe havens, the military said in a statement.

The US Air Force dispatched two B-1 bombers and four F-16 fighter jets, aiming at three large target areas in Arab Jabour, an area of date palm groves that has become a haven for al-Qaeda fighters driven out of other areas.

The attack was described as part of Operation Phantom Phoenix, a countrywide offensive against al-Qaeda guerillas that US forces launched this week.

Airstrikes on such a large scale have been rare in Iraq, especially over the past few months when the intensity of military action tapered off as overall violence declined.

Operation Phantom Phoenix has so far also included a large-scale sweep in Diyala Province

north of Baghdad by thousands of US and Iraqi troops. Six American soldiers were killed on Wednesday by an explosion in a booby-trapped house.

MNA/Reuters

Indian firefighters work to extinguish a fire at a market in Kolkata, India, on 12 Jan, 2008. A huge fire raged through a central market in the east Indian city of Kolkata, destroying more than 3,000 shops and homes and leaving hundreds homeless but causing no casualties, police and fire officials said. —INTERNET



Yemen urges US to shut Guantanamo to win good-will

SANAA, 12 Jan — Yemen has called on the United States to free all detainees at the Guantanamo Bay detention camp, saying the move would generate global good-will towards Washington.

About 100 Yemenis are being held at Guantanamo, making them the biggest group among the approximately 275 detainees there, according to Yemen's media. “I hope that he United States releases all those held at Guantanamo, based on the principles of human rights, freedom and

justice upon which your country was founded,” President Ali Abdullah Saleh told US President George W Bush in a letter.

“I am sure that such an undertaking would draw a wide positive response from peoples and countries across the world,” a senior Yemeni official quoted Saleh as saying in the letter.

Saleh said Yemen would study charges against the detainees and prosecute them under Yemeni laws.

A Yemeni official told Reuters that a security team

from Yemeni would visit Guantanamo and meet with the detainees in early February. The United States has been under international pressure to shut down the prison in Cuba, which many human rights watch-dogs say is illegal because detainees are being held there without charge.

Yemen, the ancestral homeland of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, has joined the US-led “war on terror” and is trying to shed its image in the West as a haven Islamic militants. —MNA/Reuters



People push two bulls into a fight in Bhopal as part of the Govardhan Pooja festival. An Indian court on 11 Jan, 2008, banned a centuries-old tradition of bullfighting in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, calling the ritual “barbaric”. —INTERNET

Banned royal book stirs rare debate in Thailand

BANGKOK, 12 Jan — Thailand's banning of a rare “warts and all” biography of revered King Bhumibol Adulyadej only stokes interest in the book

and risks an eventual explosion of pent-up political tension, an academic said.

“Banning books is usually something we

associate with fascist and repressive regimes,” Australian anthropologist Annette Hamilton told a seminar on “The King Never Smiles” at an international Thai studies conference in Bangkok on Thursday.

“When silence is enforced for a long time, noise — when it comes — is deafening.”

The book, by US journalist Paul Handley, portrays King Bhumibol as an austere and deeply political monarch whose overarching desire for stability and unity during 61 years on the throne has stifled Thailand's democratic development.

MNA/Reuters

HK, Canada sign MoU on investment cooperation

HONG KONG, 12 Jan — Hong Kong and Canada announced here Friday the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on investment promotion cooperation as both sides vowed to help smaller Canadian companies enter market on the Chinese Mainland.

The MOU will also help identify strategic investments from Hong Kong into smaller Canadian companies who

are seeking capital and local market expertise to launch business opportunities into China's Mainland. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Frederick Ma and Canadian Minister of International Trade David Emerson jointly attended the MoU's signing ceremony. "Canada places great importance on enhancing

its commercial relations with Hong Kong and recognizes the benefit of increasing two-way investment between our economies," Emerson said.

"Hong Kong, an international financial centre, ranks third among Canadian investment destinations in Asia," Ma welcomed the MoU signing and highlighted Canada's long-standing recognition of Hong Kong as a strategic investment destination.

MNA/Xinhua



China's digital camera sales in 2007 surged 29.9 percent to hit 8.3 million sets in 2007, according to the estimates of the CCID Consulting, a leading market consultant.—INTERNET



A baby seal (L) which was born in 2007 meets visitors for the first time in the Buenos Aires Zoo in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 11 Jan, 2008. The parents of this young seal got lost and were saved by people 14 years ago. The story of this pair of seals is always popular among the people in Argentina.—XINHUA

World Bank provides \$247m aid to Bangladesh

WASHINGTON, 12 Jan — The World Bank Thursday made an aid pledge of 247 million dollars to Bangladesh which was hit by two natural disasters last year — Cyclone Sidr in November and floods in August.

The loans from the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's concessionary arm, have 40 years to maturity, including a 10-year grace period, with a service charge of 0.75 per cent, said the World Bank.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippines bans poultry from Saudi Arabia, Poland

MANILA, 12 Jan — The Philippine agricultural authorities on Friday imposed a temporary ban on poultry products imported from Saudi Arabia, Poland and Benin over bird flu fears.

The local television

network ABS-CBN News quoted Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap as saying that the ban was necessary after official confirmation of bird flu outbreak in those countries.

Yap said the ban

covers all "domestic and wild birds and their products, including day-old chicks, eggs and semen."

Quarantine officers and inspectors at major ports are ordered to halt and confiscate shipments of live birds, poultry and its related products coming from Saudi Arabia, Benin and Poland.

The Philippines is one of only three Avian Influenza (AI)-free countries in Southeast Asia. The two others are Brunei and Singapore. The Philippines also sustains bans for poultry from the Britain, South Korea and Japan.

MNA/Xinhua



A simulated picture of the Oriental Fisherman's Wharf in Shanghai, which will open to visitors during the World Expo in May 2010.—INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

French banks stop credit for Iran fuel imports

NEW DELHI/SINGAPORE, 12 Jan — Indian refiner Reliance quit selling gasoline and diesel to Iran last year after French banks BNP Paribas and Calyon stopped offering credit on the deals, four company and industry sources said on Thursday.

BNP and Calyon, the investment bank arm of Credit Agricole, likely stopped offering Letters of Credit (LCs) — a

standard form of payment guarantee in the oil trade — because of political pressure from Western nations that believe Teheran is trying to develop nuclear weapons, one of the sources said.

"None of the banks which have something to do with the United States were willing to open (LCs)... because of US pressure," said a senior Reliance Industries Ltd source who declined to be named due to the sensitivity of the business.

Trade sources said Reliance, India's biggest

private refiner, had been shipping major supplies of gasoline to Iran and occasionally sold diesel, but stopped those shipments in October last year and had not resumed.

The move by BNP and Calyon, who are major providers of credit for oil traders globally, is a sign that the US-led campaign to isolate Teheran over its nuclear programme is having an impact on its vital fuel imports, a sensitive subject for the OPEC member, whose ageing refineries cannot cope with demand. —MNA/Reuters

Emirates denies planning to buy British Airways stake

ABU DHABI, 13 Jan — The Dubai-based Emirates Airline has denied rumours that it was planning to buy stake in British Airways, local newspaper Gulf News reported on Saturday.

"Emirates has no interest in taking a stake in British Airways. We are concentrating on our own organic growth," an Emirates spokeswoman was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, John Strickland, director of the London-based JLS Consulting, said that Emirates may be too busy with its own rapid

expansion at present to think about buying into British Airways.

"They have a very clear development strategy, they are able to tap into many new traffic flows, which would never be accessible to many European carriers," Strickland added.

According to the report, Emirates has huge room for growth from Dubai International Airport, which will see its capacity grow to 70 million passengers annually within three years.

MNA/Xinhua

UN probes allegations of corruption, fraud

UNITED NATIONS, 12 Jan—A UN internal investigative unit has found an unexpected amount of fraud and abuse at the United Nations and is currently investigating 250 cases, including alleged sexual and financial offenses. “Our caseload has

been very steady over the last three months, around 250 cases,” Inga-Britt Ahlenius, head of the UN Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS), told reporters. “We found mismanagement and fraud and corruption to an extent we didn’t really expect.”

Ahlenius said two-thirds of the cases being reviewed related to peace-keeping missions. Around 80 involved possible sexual exploitation and abuse. The former chief auditor of Sweden held the news conference in response to media reports suggesting that there has been widespread fraud related to UN peace-keeping contracts.

She said investigators have already confirmed that contracts worth around 600 million US dollars involved fraud at some level. The total UN peacekeeping budget for 2007-2008 exceeds 5 billion US dollars.

Overall, Ahlenius said that the OIOS and its Procurement Task Force had so far submitted to UN’s top management 25 reports detailing mismanagement, fraud and corruption.—MNA/Reuters



Creations are part of the Versace Fall/Winter 2008/2009 men’s collection, presented in Milan, Italy, on 12 Jan 2008.—INTERNET

NATO chief says troops to remain in Kosovo

BRUSSELS, 12 Jan — NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said on Thursday that the 16,000-strong NATO-led international peacekeeping force in Kosovo (KFOR) will stay in the volatile Serbian province to maintain peace and stability. “The KFOR is there to stay,” de Hoop Scheffer told media at a New Year reception at the NATO headquarters.

“The troops are on the ground. If necessary, reserves are ready,” the alliance’s chief said. “Let nobody have the illusion that by violence or other negative means he or she could have his or her way.” Scheffer expressed his disapproval of the fact that a negotiated solution to the future status of Kosovo is remote. Consultations within the United Nations Security Council on the issue failed to reach any conclusions in late December last year.—MNA/Xinhua

IOM says Iraq still faces serious displacement crisis

GENEVA, 12 Jan — Iraq is still facing a serious displacement crisis with more than 2.4 million people internally displaced and some two million living in neighbouring countries, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said on Friday.

In a latest report, the IOM said that displacement rates in Iraq slowed in 2007 with increased numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees returning to their places of origin. But the returns remain very limited and in Baghdad

represent only 8 per cent of the overall number of displaced Iraqis, it said.

“The prolonged nature of the displacement crisis is increasing the plight of displaced families,” said Dana Graber Ladek, the IOM’s Iraq displacement specialist.

MNA/Xinhua



Photo taken on 9 Jan, 2008 shows the Baman colorful lamps in Caocun Village of Rui’an city, east China’s Zhejiang Province. “Baman” in Chinese refers to eight auspicious imaginary animals in the folklore. The local people remade the ancient Baman colorful lamps to greet the upcoming lamp fair of the Spring Festival.—XINHUA

US appeals court dismisses Guantanamo torture suit

WASHINGTON, 12 Jan — A US appeals court ruled on Friday that four former Guantanamo prisoners, all British citizens, have no right to sue top Pentagon officials for torture and violations of their religious rights.

The decision by a three-judge panel to dismiss the lawsuit was issued on the

sixth anniversary of the arrival of the first detainees at the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

The prison, which has been widely criticized by human rights advocates, now holds about 275 prisoners. President George W Bush has acknowledged the prison’s damage to the US image and has said he

would like to see it closed eventually.

The four who brought the lawsuit—Shafiq Rasul, Asif Iqbal, Ruhel Ahmed and Jamal al-Harith—were released from Guantanamo in 2004 after being held for more than two years.

Their suit sought 10 million US dollars in damages and named then-defence secretary Donald Rumsfeld and 10 military commanders.

It claimed the men were subjected to various forms of torture, harassed as they practiced their religion and forced to shave their religious beards. In one instance, a guard threw a Koran in a toilet bucket, according to the lawsuit.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

Pakistan rejects call for conditions on US aid

ISLAMABAD, 12 Jan — Pakistan rejected on Friday a call by US Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid for President George W Bush to consider cutting Pakistani aid unless it restores full civil rights and does more to fight terrorism.

Reid, a Nevada Democrat, told Bush in a letter that the assassination of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto two weeks ago had deepened worries about Pakistan’s future and President Pervez

Musharraf’s “dismal record of performance”.

Reid, who called for a full review of US policy after Musharraf imposed emergency rule in November, said Bush should make aid conditional on removing limits on civil rights which remain in effect despite the lifting of the emergency in mid-December.

Reid demanded Musharraf restore freedom of the press and

of association, free all political prisoners detained during the crackdown, reinstate judges dismissed in November, and support a UN investigation into Bhutto’s death.

North Carolina Bureau of Investigation personnel and other investigators walk next to the shallow grave found to contain human remains believed to be those of missing Marine Lance Cpl Maria Lauterbach in Onslow County just outside of Jacksonville, NC, on 12 Jan, 2008. The grave is in the backyard of suspected killer Cpl Cesar Armando Laurean.—INTERNET



Freed hostages thank Venezuela after arrival

SANTO DOMINGO (Venezuela), 13 Jan— The two choppers that transferred two hostages released by Colombia's Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC) earlier on Thursday arrived in the Venezuelan state of Tachira.

Colombians Clara Rojas and Consuelo Gonzalez arrived at Santo Domingo airport on 3:11 pm local time. Thereafter the hostages are expected to be transferred to Caracas.

They thanked Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez for his collaboration to accomplish their freedom. Rojas and Gonzalez were freed by the FARC somewhere in the Colombian jungle, in the Guaviare department.

Venezuelan Interior Minister Ramon Rodriguez loaned Rojas a cell phone and she thanked Chavez for his negotiations to accomplish her liberation. Gonzalez, meanwhile,

told Chavez "to continue fighting" until the liberation of the rest of the FARC hostages is accomplished.

The women left the helicopter and headed towards Falcon aircraft that will fly them to the Caracas International Airport, where close relatives are waiting to greet them. Venezuelan Rodriguez said the handover occurred at 11:20 Venezuelan time (15:50 GMT) and the former hostages are in "good conditions".

MNA/Xinhua



A visitor to the Russian Winter Festival poses with a set of large Russian matryoshka nesting dolls, in Trafalgar Square in London on 13 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Helmet regulation reduces road deaths in Vietnam

HANOI, 13 Jan — Vietnam's Road and Railway Traffic Police Department said the government's recent helmet regulation helps lower the number of fatalities caused by traffic accidents, local newspaper *Vietnam News* reported Friday. A total of 1,086 people died in traffic accidents in December 2007, a year-on-year decline of 177 per cent. Vietnam saw a total of 1,198 traffic accidents last month, down 27.7 per cent.

The department reported that 97 per cent of motorcyclists were wearing helmets since the regulation on compulsory helmet wearing on all roads in the country took effect on December 15, 2007, and that most violations occurred in remote and rural areas. — MNA/Xinhua

28 children injured in Thai park water slide accident

BANGKOK, 13 Jan — At least 28 children were injured, including four critically, when part of an elevated amusement park watercourse collapsed at Siam Park in suburban Bangkok on Saturday, the Thai traditional Children's Day.

The children riders, aged from 10 to 12, were being treated at a local hospital, the state-run *Thai News Agency* reported. The "Super Spiral" water-slide accident occurred during Children's Day when joints holding segments of the popular ride collapsed.

Seven young riders fell through the damaged slide and a total of 28 children got injured, with some broken limbs and bruises, according to company executive. Four children remain in critical condition, the report said.— MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen kill 6 in attacks on Iraq houses

DHULUIYA (Iraq), 13 Jan— Gunmen attacked two houses in a village north of Baghdad on Saturday, killing six people including a former Iraqi Army officer and two members of a US-backed neighbourhood patrol, police and witnesses said.

The attack was the latest to target members of "Awakening" volunteer security patrols in one of the northern provinces where US forces are recruiting locals to help crack down on Sunni Arab al-Qaeda militants. "Gunmen, possibly from al-Qaeda, simultaneously attacked two houses in the village of al-Siddiq," said police Lieutenant-Colonel Mohammed Abdullah in the nearby town of Dhuluiya in restive Salahuddin Province. — MNA/Reuters

Twins separated at birth met, married in Britain

LONDON, 13 Jan — Twins who were taken away from each other as babies met later and got married without knowing they were brother and sister, according to a member of the House of Lords.

David Alton recounted the story to Parliament last month to support his argument that children who are artificially conceived should be told who their biological parents are.

Alton said he had heard the story of the separated twins from a High Court judge who had dealt with the case.

"This did not involve in vitro fertilization: It involved the normal birth of twins who were separated at birth and adopted by separate parents," said Alton, an independent member of the Lords.

"They were never told that they were twins."

"They met later in life and felt an inevitable attraction, and the judge had to deal with the consequences of the marriage that they entered into and all the issues of their separation," he said.

"I suspect that it will be a matter of litigation in the future if we do not make information of this kind available to children who have been donor conceived," he said.

Alton could not immediately be reached for comment and no further information was available about the twins or where they were from.— MNA/Reuters

China's progress in human rights should be applauded

LONDON, 13 Jan — British Minister for Africa, Asia and the United Nations Mark Malloch-Brown has praised China for making progress in improving citizens' economic and social rights over the past 30 years.

Malloch-Brown made his comments Thursday at a debate in the British Parliament's Upper House, saying "China, since its opening-up and reform in 1978, has lifted perhaps as many as 500 million people out of poverty".

"We need to applaud that," he said.

"China continues to score way above its per capita income level in terms of the economic and social criteria because of the improvements in life

that it has created by lifting so many hundreds of millions of people out of poverty," Malloch-Brown said.

"It has a value in terms of China's record on economic and social rights that we sometimes underestimate," he added.

"China's accession to the World Trade Organization was a step change in many areas of internal freedom and in the introduction of at least pluralistic economic competitiveness into the Chinese economy," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Eight dead in Mexico helicopter crash

MEXICO CITY, 13 Jan— Eight people were killed on Friday when a government helicopter carrying aid volunteers crashed in central Mexico, local authorities said.

The helicopter was carrying five female volunteers working with the state government of Puebla, including the wife of the state's interior minister, the local government said in a statement.

The two pilots and a state interior ministry official were also killed.

The cause of the accident was not immediately clear.

MNA/Reuters



Contestants pose during the 'Sananda Srimati' beauty contest for married women in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 11 Jan, 2008. 'Sananda Srimiti' is the first ever beauty pageant for married women in eastern India.—INTERNET



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and ministers, deputy ministers, senior officials and the Secretary-General of ASEAN enjoy performances of artists from ASEAN countries. —MNA

Third Meeting of ASEAN ...

(from page 16)
Next, the Third Meeting of the ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) followed.
The ministers and deputy ministers of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 nations approved the meeting's agenda and pre-

sented work programmes, and the meeting went into recess in the evening.
The meeting continued today and the ministers and deputy ministers of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 nations and the ASEAN Secretary-General discussed the declarations related to the meeting.



ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan extends greetings at the opening of Third Meeting of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts. — MNA

Third ASEAN Festival of Arts opens

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan—The Union of Myanmar as a host opened the third ASEAN Festival of Arts at City Hall, here, yesterday evening.
The opening ceremony was attended by ministers for culture and arts of ASEAN nations including Myanmar and ASEAN+3 nations, deputy-ministers, high-ranking officials, the ASEAN Secretary-General and officials, artistes, staff and their families of ministries,

here, and public visitors.
Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint opened the festival by cutting a ribbon.
The artistes from the ASEAN nations presented their cultural performances.
Later, Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint presented baskets of flowers to the performers. The arts festival continues tomorrow. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and party pose for documentary photo to mark the opening of Third Meeting of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts.—MNA



Fifth Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Culture and Arts in progress. — MNA

After that, reports of the meeting were assessed and the Second Meeting of the ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) held in Lao People's Democratic Republic in 28 June 2006 was reviewed.
This was followed by a general round of discussions.
Later, time and venue of the Fourth Meeting of the ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Re-

sponsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) were designated, and the meeting ended at 1 pm.
In the evening, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint hosted a dinner in honour of the ministers and deputy ministers of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 nations, the ASEAN Secretary-General and senior officials at Shwe Nan Daw Hotel.
The Fifth Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Culture and Arts

(SOMCA) was held on 10 January and the Third Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Senior Officials on Culture and Arts (SOMAC+3) on 11 January at Shwe Nan Daw Hotel.
The ministers and deputy ministers of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 nations, the ASEAN Secretary-General and senior officials visited the National Herbal Park here and viewed the development of Nay Pyi Taw in a motorcade.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win delivers an address at coord meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport. — MNA

Yangon Division Secure and Smooth Transport Supervisory Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan - The coordination meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth transport was held at the meeting hall of Yangon Command yesterday.

In his speech, Chairman of the supervisory committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-

Gen Hla Htay Win said that some townships were designated as accident-free zones in order to reduce the number of traffic accidents and deaths. Plans are under way to extend the number of similar zones in other townships. He called on members of all-bus lines to abide by traffic rules.

Next, officials reported on traffic rules enforcement matters to the commander.

The commander fulfilled the requirements and the meeting came to an end with concluding remarks of the commander.

MNA

Blast occurs near upper class booking office of Yangon Railway Station in Mingala Taungnyunt Township

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan — A blast occurred between a public toilet/bath room and the brick wall of Yangon Railway Station near the upper class booking office of YRS by Bogyoke Aung San Street in Mingala Taungnyunt Township here at 2.5 pm today.

Daw Aye Myint, 73, daughter of U Ohn Shwe, of No 49 (eighth floor), Phongyi Street, Ward 5, Lanmadaw Township, who was taking a bath at the bath room, sustained injuries in her left/right fore arms and left buttock by the blast. And she was

admitted to Yangon General Hospital.

Investigation into the blast is under way.

According to information received, terrorist saboteurs have been sent into the nation across the border together with explosives to perpetrate destructive acts under the scheme of a group from abroad.

The authorities concerned are striving to expose the terrorist saboteurs and explosives and urged the people to come forward with timely information.

MNA

CPT Minister inspects overseas communications department (Mayangon)

YANGON, 13 Jan—Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected the arrival of machines and communication equipment at overseas communications department (Mayangon) here this morning. At the

briefing hall, the chief engineer of overseas communications department reported on work progress. In response, the minister highlighted better performance in the communication services.

The chief engineer (mobile communications)

reported on progress of offshore and deep-sea communications and construction of communication stations. The minister gave instructions and inspected installation of machines in the station and communication services.

MNA

Talks on Net Framework 3.5 on 19 Jan

YANGON, 13 Jan — With the aim of developing Information and Communications Technology, executives of Myanmar Computer Professionals Association U Zaw Moe Tun and U Htain Win will give talks

on Net Framework 3.5 organized by Myanmar Professional Association under the sponsorship of Gusto Co Ltd at Room (205) of Main Building in Myanmar Info-Tech, Hline Township at 9:30 am on 19 January.

Members of the association, software developers and any interested person may participate in the talks. For further information, enthusiasts may contact Myanmar Info-Tech, room 4, building 4 (Ph: 652276).

MNA

Minister looks into Central Police Training School



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo meets with officials of Central Police Training School in Zeebingyi, PyinOoLwin Township. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan —Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, accompanied by Police Brig-Gen Soe Win Myint of the Myanmar Police Force and officials, met Commandant Police Brig-Gen Thein Tin and officers of Central Police Training

School in Zeebingyi of PyinOoLwin Township on 11 January morning.

The minister explained the political sector of the State, organizing task of MPF and welfare task. The commandant reported on welfare tasks at the school

and carrying out of agriculture and livestock breeding.

After giving necessary instructions, the minister inspected progress in construction of the 1000-trainee-capacity hall and agricultural tasks.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw looks into overseas communications department (Mayangon).— MNA

16th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association organized

YANGON, 13 Jan — Chairman of the Central Supervisory Committee for Printers and Publishers Registration and Press Scrutiny and Publishing Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address at the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association at the UMFCCI Building on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township this morning.

Chairman of the association U Maung Maung extended greetings.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that the Ministry of Information will provide assistance to the literary world for development of printing and publishing services in accord with the policies. Members of the Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association are to bring about modernization of



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan making a speech at the 16th AGM of Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association.

MNA

the printing task and uplift of socio-economic lives of the printing world, he said. The minister added that printing entrepreneurs are to place emphasis on improvement of national economy and guard against destructionists that will undermine the national interest. The minister urged printers and publishers to join hands with the people in

realizing seven-step Road Map with patriotic spirit.

U M F C C I President U Win Myint reported on efforts of the Federation to boost the State economy in cooperation with brother associations.

Next, the Annual General Meeting of the association followed in line with the procedures.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan,

UMFCCI President U Win Myint and Chairman of the association U Maung Maung accepted K 2.4 million donated by 15 wellwishers.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises of the ministry, responsible persons from journals and magazines and guests.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by Chairman U Maung Maung. After the meeting, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and

departmental heads posed for documentary photos together with new executives of the association.

MNA



Writer Takkatho Sein Tin gives talks at the literary talk to mark the diamond jubilee of Hninnzigon Home for the Aged.—MNA

Literary talks to mark diamond jubilee of Hninnzigon Home for the Aged held

YANGON, 13 Jan — As a gesture of hailing the diamond jubilee of Hninnzigon Home for the Aged, a literary talk was held under the supervision of the Management Board for Hninnzigon Home for the Aged at the home yesterday.

First, Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Shein (Retd) explained the purpose of holding the talk and Vice-Chairman U Thaung Htut acted as master of ceremonies.

National Literary Award winners Takkatho Sein Tin, Dr Ma Tin Win and Dr Htila Sithu gave their talks. — MNA

GIS and Remote Sensing Courses of MCPA on 15 Jan

YANGON, 13 Jan — With the aim of disseminating information and computer technologies, Myanmar Computer Professionals Association and Myanmar Credent Technology will jointly organize Geographic Information System (GIS) Course at Eingyin Khine Cyber Business Centre in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana (Ph: 067-420954) from 2:30 pm to 4 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Similarly, Remote Sensing Course will be opened at e-Learning Centre of Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township from 5 pm to 6:30 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The two courses will be started from 19 February to 6 May accepting 20 trainees each. For further information, interester persons may contact Myanmar Info-Tech, Room 4, Building 4 (Ph: 652276). — MNA

District News in Brief

New libraries opened in Paung

PAUNG, 13 Jan — To mark the 60th Anniversary Independence Day, the opening ceremony of Pyinnya Alin 2 and 3 libraries organized by Paung Township Information and Public Relations Department was held in Mottama Kywechan village in Paung Township on 20 December.

Head of Paung Township IPRD Daw Cho Myat Myat Htwe and Chairman of Mottama Kywechan Village Peace and Development Council U Aung Tun Khine opened the libraries. Next, officials of the township IPRD and the village PDC presented various kinds of books and journals to the chairman of the library committee.— IPRD



Responsible persons open Pyinnya Alin library buildings of Mottama Kywechan village in Paung township. —MYANMA ALIN

Mass walk held in Inndaw

The mass walk took place in Inndaw Township on 22 December. Participants made a mass walk from the office of Inndaw Township Peace and Development Council to Salaka bridge near Kyainn-Sinnhaung village on Mandalay-Shwebo-Myintkyina Road. — Myanma Alin



A Rockhopper Penguin (Eudyptes chrysocome) takes a look at the keepers clipboard during the annual stock take at London Zoo in London.—INTERNET



Attendees uses Intel products at the Intel booth at the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas.—INTERNET

Doctors perform open-heart surgery. In experiments that would make Dr Frankenstein jealous, US scientists have coaxed recycled hearts taken from animal cadavers into beating in the laboratory after reseeded them with live cells, according to a study.

INTERNET



News in Brief

China's migrant workers' income rose in 2007

BEIJING, 13 Jan — China's migrant workers' income rose in 2007, according to a report released by Shanghai-based Fudan University on Friday.

The average monthly income of migrant workers reached 1,200 yuan (165 US dollars) in 2007 with an increase of 200 yuan over the previous year, said the report. — MNA/Xinhua

Historic flight marks air-link between Australia, Antarctic

CANBERRA, 13 Jan — An air-link between Australia and the Antarctic was officially opened with the aircraft returning home safely Friday morning from a journey to the Wilkins runway near Casey Station in the Antarctic, making a historic step in aviation - using the world's longest runway and one that is made of ice. The aircraft carrying nine scientists, the Environment Minister and some media left Hobart, the capital of Australia's southern island state Tasmania, on Thursday evening and four-and-a-half hours later it touched down in the Antarctic.

MNA/Xinhua

Bangladesh jute goods attract visitors in DITF '08

DHAKA, 13 Jan — Visitors at the month-long Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF) 2008 are showing increased interest in jute goods, as producers have introduced a wide range of products of new designs at the show.

Ladies bags, purses, folders, tablemats and doormats made of jute have attracted a considerable number of visitors at the exposition that began on 1 January in Bangladesh's capital.—MNA/Xinhua

Second "A380" arrives in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 13 Jan — Second superjumbo A380 delivered by Airbus to Singapore Airlines (SIA) arrived here Saturday morning, SIA said. The world's largest passenger aircraft was handed over to SIA at the Airbus Delivery Centre in Toulouse, France on Friday and then flew to its new home. — MNA/Xinhua

Images of the Day



A girl displays "Sumo Wrestler" toys at the Hong Kong Toy and Game Fair, on 10 January. Demands for tighter safety controls have increased costs for Hong Kong toy companies, which are estimated to account for more than half of China's toy exports and 85 percent of those to the US.—INTERNET

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (TRJ-279)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (TRJ-279) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.1.2008 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 up 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES PTE LTD**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Malaysian elections seen by early March

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Jan — Malaysia is likely to call elections by early March, a newspaper reported on Thursday, citing a government minister and political analysts.
“The elections will be held soon enough—latest by the first week of March,” The Star quoted an unnamed senior minister as saying.
“Everybody is ready. If we wait any longer, fatigue will set in,” he

told the largest-selling English daily adding that the ruling coalition had completed dry runs to test the readiness of the election machinery in several states.
The paper suggested 7-16 March as the likely polling period, pointing to Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's public engagements in the preceding time which included a meet-the-people session and the launch of an economic development plan in several states later this month.
MNA/Reuters

Lebanese presidential election postponed for 12th time

BEIRUT, 12 Jan — Lebanese Parliament speaker's office announced on Friday that a parliamentary session to elect Lebanon's President was postponed for the 12th time to 21 January.
The delay came a day after Arab League (AL) Secretary General Amr Moussa held marathon talks with Lebanese leaders, including Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, in an effort to promote “consensus” on an Arab initiative aimed at ending the ongoing presidential crisis.
However, Berri's office said in a statement announcing the postponement that the move was prompted by the “good will” efforts exerted by Moussa to settle the ongoing crisis.
The statement carried by the state-run *National News Agency* said the decision to postpone the session was “in line with the goodwill efforts exerted by Moussa to implement decisions adopted by Arab foreign ministers”. Moussa has been in Beirut since Monday meeting officials of the various political factions in an effort to facilitate the election of Army Commander General Michel Suleiman as president.
MNA/Xinhua

British minister's donations deal setback to Brown

LONDON, 12 Jan — A British minister said on Thursday he had failed to declare more than 100,000 pounds (195,600 US dollars) of political donations, much more than previously revealed, in a new setback to Prime Minister Gordon Brown.
Peter Hain's disclosure is an embarrassment for Brown, who is trying to make a fresh start after his first six months as Prime Minister were over-shadowed by a party funding scandal and government blunders that left the ruling Labour Party trailing in opinion polls.
Labour's general-secretary resigned and police were called in to

investigate last year after it emerged property developer David Abrahams had given more than 600,000 pounds to the party through go-betweens in apparent violation of electoral law.
Work and Pensions Secretary Hain said in November he had failed to register with the electoral watchdog a 5,000-pound donation to his unsuccessful campaign last year to become the Labour Party's deputy leader because of an administrative error.
MNA/Reuters



Photo taken on 7 Jan, 2008 shows an ancient arch built in China's Qing Dynasty (1664-1911) at Yaobao town of Hejiang county in southwest China's Sichuan Province.—XINHUA



Manuel Nunez works on plating an Oscar statuette on the RS Owens factory floor in Chicago on 11 Jan, 2008. The company will manufacture approximately 75 Oscar statuettes using a 15-step process over a six-week period. The finished statuettes are made of a metal Britannia pewter alloy and are plated with copper, nickel, silver and 24-carat gold. The 80th Academy Awards are scheduled to take place in Hollywood on 24 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Recession fears looming larger over White House race

MYRTLE BEACH (South Carolina), 12 Jan — Republican White House hopefuls differ over whether the United States is headed for a recession but agree the economy faces serious risks — from housing market turmoil to record-high oil prices.
At a debate on Thursday of Republican presidential contenders, the first question posed was on the “R” word. New Hampshire primary winner John McCain expects a recession will be avoided; Mitt Romney thinks one could happen; Mike Huckabee, winner in last week's Iowa caucuses, says he hopes it won't but sees factors that could trigger one; Rudy Giuliani says

one is possible, and Fred Thompson says “nobody knows”.
Long-shot candidate Ron Paul of Texas says recession is inevitable for an economy with a housing market in a “depression”.
But nearly all the candidates agreed on the need to cut spending and preserve the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts enacted by President George W Bush.
Fox News' Chris Wallace opened the debate by noting “growing concerns” about a recession, echoing a chorus of recent assessments from economists that the US economy is on the brink of, or perhaps already in, such a downturn.
MNA/Reuters

Indonesian teenage girl tests positive for bird flu

JAKARTA, 12 Jan — A 16-year-old Indonesian girl from West Java has tested positive for bird flu, taking the country's total confirmed human cases to 117, a Health Ministry official said on Friday.
Joko Suyono, an official at the Health Ministry's bird flu centre, said the girl fell sick at the end of last month and was being treated at a hospital in Jakarta.
“A few days before falling sick, she ate three soft-boiled eggs. Some chickens also died in her neighbourhood two months ago but it is unclear whether she touched the carcasses or not,” Suyono told Reuters.
A hospital official said the teengaer was in intensive care with a respiratory device. On Christmas Day, a 24-year-old woman from Jakarta who bought a live chicken from a market died from bird flu, bringing the country's death toll to 94, the highest in the world.
MNA/Reuters

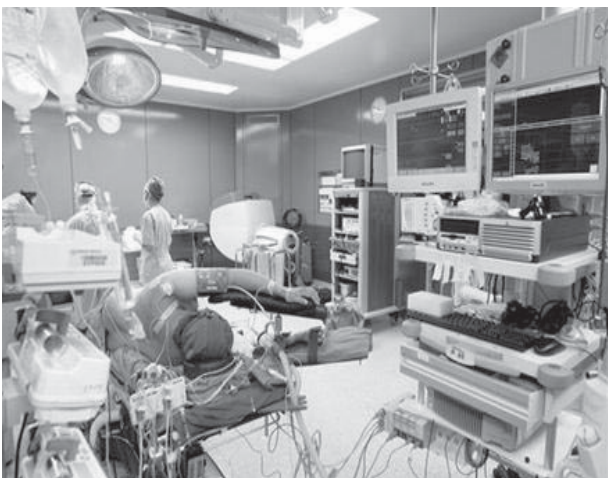
British scientists discover bad cholesterol genes

LONDON, 12 Jan — British scientists have found novel genes linked with low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, known as “bad” cholesterol, high levels of which cause harm by clogging the arteries, according to BBC report on Saturday.

A team of researchers

from The Barts and The London, Queen Mary’s School of Medicine and Dentistry carried out a detailed study of the entire human DNA sequence to pinpoint which genes might be involved and the team found a new region on chromosome 1 that appeared to influence LDL cholesterol.

This DNA was



A US heart patient is prepared for a two-hour surgery at Bangkok Heart Hospital in Bangkok on 19 Dec, 2005. British scientists have found novel genes linked with low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, known as “bad” cholesterol, high levels of which cause harm by clogging the arteries, according to BBC report on Saturday.

INTERNET

associated with a 6 percent increase in blood LDL levels, according to the researchers.

“Our study found new genes for serum LDL, the cholesterol which furs arteries.

We believe our findings are of significant clinical importance as they are strongly associated with cardiovascular disease; they also represent excellent targets for new medicines,” Professor Patricia Munroe said.

This finding is believed to have the potential to lead to the development of new drugs to help lower cholesterol levels which in turn could help thousands of heart patients across Britain where coronary heart disease is the biggest killer.

Cardiovascular disease kills 233,000 people a year in Britain, and an estimated 16.7 million a year worldwide.

Internet

Heavy fog shrouds Chengdu, delaying flights

CHENGDU, 12 Jan — More than 12,000 air passengers faced delays involving 408 flights, and road traffic was disrupted, as a heavy fog continued to shroud Chengdu, capital of southwest China’s Sichuan Province, on Wednesday.

Visibility at Shuangliu International Airport fell to less than 50 metres, far below the 550 metres and 800 metres required for planes to take off and land, respectively.

Lu Shaoming, an airport executive, said the fog forced the facility to close for more than eight hours between 2 am and 10:53 am.

“I am really eager to go home but there is nothing I can do but wait because of the fog,” said a stranded passenger.

It was the ninth time heavy fog had disrupted flights to and from Chengdu since December. In addition, all the expressways in Sichuan were closed by the fog.

In Chengdu City proper, traffic moved at a snail’s pace on congested

roads.

“I have to move slowly on the expressway and dare not to drive my car back to the city, where the fog is even heavier,” said a driver stuck on the Chengdu-Guangyuan Expressway.

MNA/Xinhua



Greenpeace ship tracks Japanese whaling fleet

MELBOURNE, 12 Jan — Environmental group Greenpeace said on Saturday one of its protest ships has located the Japanese whaling fleet in the Southern Ocean and is pursuing it.

“Our primary objective is to stop the Japanese fleet from whaling in the Southern Ocean whale sanctuary,” said spokeswoman Sara Holden, who was on board the ship *Esperanza*.

“For the amount of time that they run, they’re not whaling. If they try to

start whaling, then we will do everything that we can to take peaceful direct action to stop that as well,” Holden told Australian Broadcasting Corp radio.

Japan’s whaling fleet plans to hunt 935 minke whales and 50 fin whales for research over the Antarctic summer, but recently abandoned plans to hunt 50 humpback whales after international condemnation and a formal diplomatic protest by 31 nations.

Greenpeace has been searching for the whalers

for 10 days and found the fleet in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Greenpeace said on its website that activists planned to drive inflatable boats between the whalers’ harpoons and the whales if the fleet begins whaling.

An Australian fisheries ship set out last week in pursuit of Japan’s whaling fleet near Antarctica to gather evidence for an international court challenge to halt the yearly slaughter.

MNA/Reuters



Japanese whaling vessel Yushin Maru, a catcher boat of the Japanese whaling fleet, as seen from the Greenpeace ship *Esperanza*, in the Southern Ocean. Greenpeace reported it is carrying out non-lethal research on whale populations in the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary from their ship, *Esperanza*, while en-route to stop a Japanese whaling fleet who intend to kill 935 Minke and 50 endangered Fin whales.—INTERNET

Four girls dead after falling into icy river in N China

HOHHOT, 12 Jan — One girl was rescued but four remain missing after they fell through thin ice on a river in north

China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region on Wednesday, the local security authority said.

The five girls, all aged between four and five, were playing on an iced-over section of the Yellow River in Wuhai City when the ice suddenly broke.

Rescuers saved one girl but only found clothes and hats of the other four missing after a three-hour search along the lower reaches of the river.

“They had to give up their search because it was difficult to locate where to cut a hole in the vast area of ice,” said Li Yuelong, head of the rescue team.

Li said the missing girls’ chances of survival were slim.

The rescued girl said they were playing on the ice about eight metres from the riverbank when the accident happened.

MNA/Xinhua

A volunteer counts bats during their winter sleep in the underground corridors of the former German fortifications in Borysyzn, Poland, on 12 Jan, 2008. Scientists and volunteers came to Borysyzn for the yearly count of expected about thirty thousand bats, which find excellent conditions for their winter sleep in the fortifications.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Eto'o signs off with double for Barca in 4-0 win

MADRID, 13 Jan — Samuel Eto'o scored two late goals for Barcelona in a 4-0 romp at home to promoted Real Murcia in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

The Cameroon striker made the most of his last game before joining up with his national squad for the African Nations Cup, adding to earlier goals from Eidur Gudjohnsen and Bojan Krkic.

But it was France striker Thierry Henry who drew special praise from coach Frank Rijkaard for his two assists.

"Henry has nearly always played with injuries or problems since he arrived but now he is feeling well," said the Dutchman.

"Now he is demonstrating his class and his talent. Today he was the principal figure on the pitch."

Barca, with 40 points, closed to within four of leaders Real Madrid who visit basement club Levante on Sunday. Third-placed Espanyol, on 36, travel south to Almeria.

Barca lacked spark in a low-key first half but took the lead when Gianluca Zambrotta's cross from the right was volleyed inside the far post by Iceland striker Gudjohnsen in the 27th minute.

With Ronaldinho and Lionel Messi out injured and Andres Iniesta starting on the bench, the Catalans dominated early on without exciting a restless Nou Camp.— MNA/Reuters

Champions Lyon race six points clear at top

PARIS, 13 Jan — Champions Olympique Lyon moved six points clear at the top of Ligue 1 after recovering from a goal down to beat Toulouse 3-2 on Saturday.

Lyon, chasing a seventh successive title, went behind in their first league match after the winter brack when defender Anthony Reveliere deflected a cross by Sweden forward Johan Elmander into his own net on eight minutes.

The home side equalized nine minutes later through Hatem Ben Arfa after a fine combination with fellow France striker Karim Benzema.

Brazil midfielder Juninho, the Lyon captain, put his side in front from a free kick in the 55th minute and Benzema added a third from the edge of the box after a solo run in the 66th.—MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

1	A	L	T	E	R	8	8	N	A	T	I	V	E		
	N		R	8	E	8	8	P	8	I	8	N	8	X	
9	G	R	A	N	D	M	A	8	10	R	A	J	A	H	
	L	8	P	8	S	8	M	8	F	8	U	8	U		
11	E	L	S	E	8	8	12	P	R	O	G	R	A	M	
	R	8	8	8	13	S	P	A	8	R	8	E	8	E	
	8	E	T	U	I	8	8	8	16	C	A	D	I	8	
17	U	8	I	8	L	8	18	A	L	E	8	8	8	19	A
20	T	A	T	T	E	R	S	8	8	21	22	A	R		
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	I		I		E	8	W	8	E	8	C	8	E		
26	A	C	C	O	R	D				27	D	E	T	E	R



Chelsea's Michael Ballack, right, challenges for the ball with Tottenham Hotspur's Ledley King during their English Premiership League soccer match at Chelsea's Stamford Bridge stadium in London, on 12 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Ronaldo hat-trick takes Man Utd top

LONDON, 13 Jan — Cristiano Ronaldo scored a stunning hat-trick for Manchester United as they out-classed Newcastle United 6-0 to go top of the Premier League on Saturday.

Carlos Tevez (2) and Rio Ferdinand scored the other goals to help the champions overtake Arsenal in the title race after the Gunners were surprisingly held to a 1-1 draw at home by Birmingham City.

Like Arsenal, Manchester United have 51 points from 22 matches, but have a superior goal difference of plus-33 compared to the London club's plus-26.

Chelsea beat Tottenham Hotspur 2-0 to move on to 47 points from 22 games.

With 16 matches to play, the top three have pulled clear of fourth-placed Liverpool, who lead a quartet of clubs including Everton, Aston Villa and Manchester City on 39 points.

All six United goals came in the second half, with Ronaldo and Tevez putting the Reds on their way to victory against their mid-table opponents who sacked manager Sam Allardyce on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo, second right, celebrates his goal against Newcastle United with his teammates including Wayne Rooney, center top, during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford stadium in Manchester, England, on 12 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Ashley says cannot expect much success under Allardyce

LONDON, 13 Jan — Owner Mike Ashley said Newcastle United parted company with Sam Allardyce in the week because he could not envisage much success under his former manager.

"When my chairman (Chris Mort) told me it was time for a change (of manager), I knew it had to happen," Ashley told Sunday's News of the World.

"I bought this club to make it a success and the harsh truth is there wasn't much prospect of that. I bought this club to have some fun and I wasn't having much fun at all."

Allardyce was appointed in May and Ashley said his first thought upon taking over the Premier League outfit a month later was to bring in his own man.

MNA/Reuters

Late Del Piero penalty snatches draw for Juve

MILAN, 13 Jan — An injury time penalty from Alessandro Del Piero salvaged a 1-1 for Juventus at Catania on Saturday to edge the Turin side into second in Serie A.

Juve had won three league games in a row before the mid-season break but produced a lacklustre display on their return to action in driving rain in Sicily.

Striker Gionatha Spinesi put Catania ahead on 15 minutes when he expertly flicked in Giuseppe Mascara's cross with the outside of his boot, although replays suggested he was just offside.

Juve coach Claudio Ranieri, a former Catania player, must have said some harsh words at halftime and his side came out with more purpose in the second period. A goal looked beyond them, however, until Del Piero was needlessly upended just inside the box by Marco Biagianti before calmly dispatching the penalty.

MNA/Reuters



Middlesbrough's George Boateng, rear, battles with Liverpool's Sami Hyypia for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match at the Riverside Stadium, Middlesbrough, England, on 12 Jan, 2008. The match ended in a 1-1 draw.—INTERNET

PSV squeeze past Feyenoord in top of table clash

ROTTERDAM (Netherlands), 13 Jan — Leaders PSV Eindhoven won 1-0 at Feyenoord on Saturday, handing the second-placed team in the Dutch league their first home defeat of the season.

Brazilian full back Alcides set up the only goal for the unmarked Otman Bakkal five minutes before halftime.

Feyenoord were outgunned in midfield where Ibrahim Afellay was

outstanding for PSV. The hosts were reduced to 10 men in the 63rd minute when Nicky Hofs received his second yellow card.

PSV have 39 points from 18 matches, three more than Feyenoord. Ajax Amsterdam, fourth on 33 points and with a game in hand on the top two clubs, entertain AZ Alkmaar on Sunday. Goran Lovre grabbed his second goal of the game five minutes into injury time to earn third-placed Groningen (36 points) a 3-2 home victory over bottom club Excelsior Rotterdam.

Lovre opened the scoring 13 minutes into the second half before Geert den Ouden replied for the visitors. Marcus Berg restored Groningen's lead in the 64th but Excelsior equalized again through Daniel Guijo-Velasco.

MNA/Reuters

Britain plans to expand nuclear power generation

LONDON, 12 Jan — British Energy Secretary John Hutton invited energy companies on Thursday to bring forward plans on new nuclear power stations as part of the country's strategy for a secure, diverse and low carbon energy mix.

"Giving the go ahead today that new nuclear power should play a role in providing the UK with clean, secure and affordable energy is in our country's vital long-term interest," Hutton told Parliament members.

Hutton made the remarks as he publicized the government's response to its nuclear consultation, in the form of a White Paper, alongside the Energy Bill, which sets out a range of measures to address the twin challenges of tackling climate change and securing energy supplies.

The British Government believes it is in the public interest that new nuclear power stations should play a role in this country's future energy mix alongside other low-carbon sources.

It has therefore decided to allow energy companies to invest in new nuclear power stations and to take active steps to facilitate their construction.

There are currently 16 nuclear power plants in Britain, half of them operated by British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) and the other half by British Energy. All power stations run by BNFL will be closed by 2010 and by British Energy by 2023, as the power stations have long outlived their 20-25 years of life expectancy.

MNA/Xinhua

Hamas lawmaker slams Abbas, Bush's remarks

GAZA, 12 Jan — A Hamas lawmaker on Thursday slammed remarks made by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and visiting US President George W Bush at their joint news conference earlier in the day.

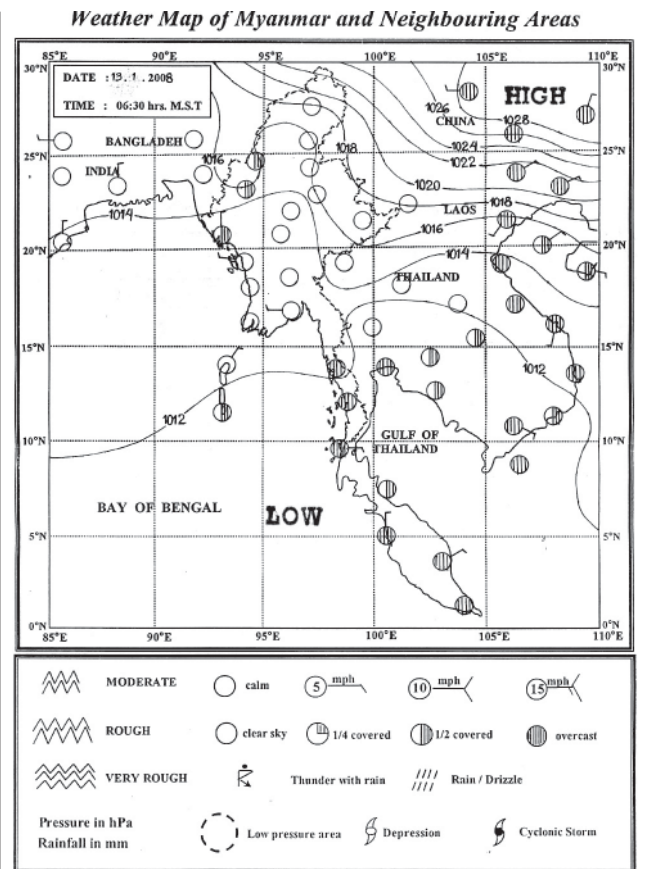
Yahia Moussa told the Press that he slams Abbas and Bush's speeches because they did not spell out "the daily killings by the Israeli occupation forces against Gaza residents".

Israel had escalated military operations in the Hamas-run Gaza Strip

after it agreed with the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) to resume peace talks at a US-hosted peace conference in November. Since then, more than 50 Palestinians have been killed in various raids on Gaza.

Abbas and Bush held a joint Press conference after their talks in Ramallah as part of Bush's regional tour. Bush told the reporters that "there is a competing vision taking place in Gaza. Hamas... has delivered nothing but misery".

Hamas won democratic parliamentary elections and "Bush comes to theorize liberty while he is the biggest terrorist and enemy of freedom", Moussa denounced.—MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Sunday, 13 January, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy in Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in Chin and Shan States, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Kachin State. Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Pinlaung and Loilin (1°C) and Namsam and Mogok (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 12-1-2008 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 13-1-2008 was 62°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 13-1-2008 was 78%. Total sunshine hours on 12-1-2008 was (7.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 13-1-2008 was nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from North at (15:30) hours MST on 12-1-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 14-1-2008: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of decrease of night temperature in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 14-1-2008: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-1-2008: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-1-2008: Fair weather.

Tanker-vehicle crash kills four in S Nigeria

LAGOS, 13 Jan — A petrol tanker and a vehicle crashed early Saturday morning along Eleme Junction in Port Harcourt, capital of Rivers State in southeast Nigeria, killing four people on the spot, said a police official.

The state police commissioner Felix Ogbaudu told Xinhua during the visit to the

scene that the incident took place at about 2 a.m. early Saturday. He said a total of 14 vehicles burnt into ashes during the fire that broke out after the crash. Ogbaudu, who also confirmed the death of four people as a result of the crash, said the drivers of the two clashed vehicles were still alive.

MNA/Xinhua

Radio
Myanmar

Monday, 14 January
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music
-Cheri Cheri lady
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music
-Cover me
- 8:50 am National news/
Slogan
- 9:00 am Music
-If I only had the heart
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music
-Hasta Manana
- 1:30 pm News/ Slogan
- 1:40 pm Launch time music
-Here in my heart
- 9:00 pm Spotlight on the stars
"Britney Spears"
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Drug/Women affairs
- 9:35 pm Golden land melody/Vocal gems
-Two hearts
-Call it love
- 9:45 pm News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

TV
Myanmar

Monday, 14 January
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီးနိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်အသိပဓမ္မဟာ ရဋ္ဌဂုဏ်အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိကါတိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. Song of national races

8:05 am

6. Cute little dancers

8:15 am

7. အတီးဖြင့်ပွဲ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Grammar made easy

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in reading

4:40 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-တတိယနှစ် (မိတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (မိတုဗေဒ)

4:55 pm

5. Dance variety

5:05 pm

6. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:20 pm

7. Songs and dance of national races

5:30 pm

8. "ကုသမနေ့ တိဘိဘေး"

5:45 pm

9. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

6:00 pm

10. Evening news

6:30 pm

11. Weather report

6:35 pm

12. အလှူဂမယ် လှူကြွယ်

6:55 pm

13. စွမ်းဆောင်မှုမှတ်တင်ထားသူရဲ့အမည်ချင်းတွင်းသား

7:10 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မြူနိုစဝေချစ်သက်တည်" (အပိုင်း-၁၄)

8:00 pm

15. News

8:55 pm

16. International news

9:00 pm

17. Weather report

9:05 pm

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်စေတမန်" (အပိုင်း-၁၆)

9:10 pm

19. The next day's programme

People's Desire

- ★ We favour stability.
- ★ We favour peace.
- ★ We oppose unrest and violence.

Third Meeting of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) commences

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan—A ceremony to open the Third Meeting of the ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) was held at Shwe Nan Daw Hotel of the Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone here yesterday.

It was attended by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Chairmen of the Sub-committees for organizing the meeting Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population Brig-Gen Win Sein, Chairman of National Committee for Myanmar-ASEAN Culture and Information Director-General of Archaeological, National Museum and Library Department U San Win and heads of department, Minister of Culture,



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint delivers an address at opening ceremony of Third Meeting of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts. —MNA

Youth and Sports of Brunei Darussalam Hon Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Awang Mohammad bin Haji Daud, Minister of Information and Culture of Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Mounkeo Oraboun, Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage of Malaysia YB Datuk Seri Utama Dr Rais Yatim, Minister of Information, Communication and Arts of Singapore Dr Lee Boon Yang, Minister of Culture, Sports and

Tourism of Vietnam Mr Tran Chien Thang, Assistant Minister of Culture of the People's Republic of China Mr Ding Wei, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan and senior officials of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 nations.

ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan extended greetings on the occasion.

Next, Meeting Chairman Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin

Aung Myint made an opening speech and formally opened the meeting.

Afterwards, Min-

ister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint had a documentary photo taken together with ministers, deputy ministers of ASEAN and

ASEAN+3 nations and the ASEAN Secretary-General and the opening ceremony ended.

(See page 8)

INSIDE

With boosting production of quality import substitute products national industrialists will surely fulfil requirements of the country with the full utilization of productive resources for the development of industrial sector and industrial zones will enhance the quality of life of the people.

PAGE 2

PERSPECTIVES

- ★ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
- ★ BBC lying
- ★ VOA deceiving
- ★ RFA setting up hostilities
- ★ Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers