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Prime Minister visits factories in Kyaukse Industrial Region

Development of industrial sector important for nation's wealth

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspected factories in Kyaukse Industrial Region on 19 January.

After attending the ceremony to open Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Inyang), the Prime Minister and party went to the ceramic and steel ware factory (Minsu) of Ministry of Industry-1. At the factory, the Prime Minister inspected ceramics and steel ware produced by the factory and production process of the factory. Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and officials concerned conducted them around the factory.

The factory has a capacity to produce 750 tons of ceramics and 500 tons of steel ware includ-

ing medical equipment per year. The factory will also produce basins, cookers, vacuum flasks, steel pipes and other ware. Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party went to the agriculture machinery factory of Agricultural Mechanization Depart-

ment under Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and inspected engines and machinery produced by the factory.

During the inspection tour of the factory, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Lt-Gen

Tin Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council reported to Prime Minister General Thein Sein. Next, Director-General of the Agricultural Mechanization Department U Win Maw reported on production capacity and the number

of employees of the factory, and possession of power reapers and tillers for farmers.

After hearing reports, Prime Minister General Thein Sein gave instructions. Afterwards, the prime minister and party inspected production of engines and machinery parts, test-run of engines, foundry works, power reapers and power tillers produced by the factory and bio lubricants produced from physic nut oil.

This factory has

already manufactured 2,307 tractors, 2307 diesel engines ranging from 16 to 22 HP, 45 reapers, 2307 ploughs, 501 two-blade harrows, three-blade harrows, 5 farm trucks and 3 combine-harvesters until the end of December of 2007-2008 fiscal year, it is learnt.

Upon arrival at Hsinmin Cement Plant, the Prime Minister heard reports on conditions of electric power and natural gas presented by Member (See page 8)

The ceramic and steel ware factory has a capacity to produce 750 tons of ceramics and 500 tons of steel ware including medical equipment per year. It will also produce basins, cookers, vacuum flasks, steel pipes and other ware.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein visits Myanma Farm Implements Factory (Inkon).—MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 22 January, 2008

Enhance health care services of the entire nation

In an effort to enhance health care services and ensure uplift of health and fitness of the entire nation the government is producing specialists, doctors and nurses. And it is nurturing and training technicians for systematic application of advanced equipment. In the meantime, it is building modern pharmaceutical factories, hospitals and other related facilities.

More pharmaceutical factories are being established in order to meet the demand of medicines of the growing population in addition to Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Yangon) that produces quality medicines.

Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Inyaung) of the Ministry of Industry-1 in Kyaukse Industrial Region, Mandalay Division was opened on 19 January. The newly-opened factory will produce disposable syringes, intravenous fluids and injection. The emergence of the facility contributes much to development of health care services provided for local people in central and upper Myanmar.

At present, medicines and medical equipment are being produced by MPF (Inyaung), MPF (PyinOoLwin), MPF (Yangon), MPF (Yangon) Extension as well as MPF (Sagaing), Hepatitis-B Vaccine Factory, Special Medicine Factory No 1 and No 2.

With the emergence of more pharmaceutical factories officials concerned are to try their utmost in producing quality medicines and enabling the public to have easy access to the medicines. Only then, will uplift of health and fitness of the entire nation be possible.

Prof Suphachai of Chaophya Hospital in Bangkok explains health services of the Hospital. — 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

Commander, Deputy Minister open auto-exchange in Myanaung



Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe unveils signboard of an auto-exchange office. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe and Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay attended a ceremony to open an auto-exchange at Naychi Market in Myanaung on 14 January.

At the ceremony, the commander unveiled the signboard of the auto-exchange and made a first call to mark the opening ceremony.

Before attending the ceremony, the commander and the deputy minister went to Mazaligon Village in Ingapu Township and inspected maintenance

of Kanyin River bank which was eroded by the river.

Afterwards, they inspected condition of the 237-foot long Kanyin Creek at mile post No 35/6 across Kanyin River and gave instructions on construction of temporary bridge during the construction period of a new bridge.

Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, CEC Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association, also met with residents in Kanyin Ngu Village in Myanaung township on 14 January and fulfilled the requirements of the local people. — MNA

Workshops on epidemiological risks held

YANGON, 21 Jan — Workshop on Value Chain Assessment of Economic and Epidemiological Risk Related to HPAI Outbreak and Their Control in Myanmar jointly sponsored by Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and FAO was held at Micasa Hotel here on 19 January.

Deputy Director-General Dr Than Tun of LBVD, FAO Resident

Representative to Myanmar Mr Tang Zhengping, Vice-President U Win Sein of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation and Livestock Policy Officer Dr Nancy Morgan of FAO Asia and Pacific Office in Bangkok delivered speeches.

Dr Araya Trangam of FAO and members Dr Than Kyaw and Dr Khin Hlaing explained the findings of the field trips as regards value chain assessment of economic and epidemiological risk related to HPAI outbreak and their control, followed by a general round of discussions. The workshops ended with the concluding remarks by Adviser to FAO Dr Masao Sasaki.—MNA

Chaophya Hospital of Thailand introduced

YANGON, 21 Jan — A ceremony to introduce the Chaophya Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand, was held at International Health and Beauty Centre (IBHC) on Bo Aung Kyaw Road in Kyauktada Township here this morning.

Chairman of the centre Dr Tin Tun Oo and Management In-Charge of the Chaophya Hospital U Myint Thein made opening speeches.

Managing Director Dr Chumrum Sorapipatana of the hospital presented salient points of the hospital. Prof Suphachai of Heart Centre of the hospital gave information on treatments at the hospital while Dr Moe Aung Kyaw explained facts related to medical care.

Chaophya Hospital is a hospital in Thailand that plays a leading role in providing medical care to people. It was

founded in 1988 as ‘Health Care Department’ by Specialists from all Medical Care Centres and has been now over 15 years.

The hospital is located on 5.5 acres of land on the bank of Chaophya River, which means ‘King of Rivers’. There is easy access to the hospital by land and water as the river flows through Bangkok.

The hospital has met its success as it could provide cardiac patients with stem cell treatment system.

Better and advanced medical treatment and health care services are mainly offered. All kinds of medical treatments can be accessed at one place as there are all specialist centres at the hospital.

MNA

Clinton slams 'shameless' pro-Obama ad in Nevada

ELKO (Nevada), 21 Jan—Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton called on her chief rival Barack Obama on Friday to denounce ads being run on Spanish-language radio that accuse Clinton of not respecting Hispanic

people.

"They're shameless and offensive," Clinton said of the ads after a rally in the Nevada mining town of Elko, a day ahead of caucuses that are next in the state-by-state process to choose presidential

nominees.

The ad backs Illinois Senator Obama and says that "Hillary Clinton does not have respect for our people," referring to a lawsuit aimed at stopping voting taking place at Las Vegas casinos on Saturday.

Casinos workers, who are largely represented by a union that endorsed Obama, will be able to vote at their workplaces after a judge rejected the lawsuit, a result that Clinton's campaign called disappointing.

Hispanic voters are a key demographic in Nevada, and many work in Las Vegas's plethora of casinos, hotels and restaurants.

Clinton won the New Hampshire primary this month after losing to Obama in Iowa, setting up a close race for the Democratic nomination to run in the 4 November election.—MNA/Reuters



A Ford that uses ethanol is on display at the "Gruene Woche" (Green Week) International Food and Agriculture Fair in Berlin.—INTERNET

Seven killed in Kenya's new deadly, ethnic clashes

NAIROBI, 21 Jan—Seven people were killed, many of them on Sunday, in clashes in the Kenyan capital and western region as the country reeled from deadly opposition protests against President Mwai Kibaki's re-election, police said. Police recovered three bodies in Nairobi's Mathare slums after overnight clashes between rival gangs, bringing to 45 the number of deaths over the past five days of unrest. Police commander Paul Ruto said a man was hacked the death in Sunday afternoon fighting, bring the Mathare toll to four.

"Members of one community started terrorising members of the rival community," Ruto said.

"These people are criminals. They are armed with pangas and pistols but our officers are on the ground," Ruto added.—Internet



Kikuyu tribe members run from teargas during ethnic clashes in Nairobi's Huruma neighbourhood on 20 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Iraq's Sadr followers reconsidering ceasefire

NAJAF (Iraq), 21 Jan—Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr's Mehdi Army militia might not renew its six-month ceasefire, a key cause of the decline in violence in Iraq, unless attacks against it stop, a Sadr aide said on Saturday.

Salah al-Ubaidi, a senior official in Sadr's political movement in the holy Shi'ite city of Najaf, accused "criminal elements" inside Iraqi security forces of attacking Sadr's followers and Mehdi Army fighters.

"If the government security forces do not stop their campaigns of detention and arresting our followers, we may recon-

sider our decision to freeze the Mehdi Army," Ubaidi told Reuters. The six months of the declared ceasefire run out next month. Sadr announced it

after clashes between his followers and police during a pilgrimage in Kerbala, another holy Shi'ite city in southern Iraq, in August.

MNA/Reuters



Students wear nature-inspired costumes during the CARACOL festival in Makati's financial district of Manila on 20 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Hizbollah chief warns to beat back any Israeli attack

BEIRUT, 21 Jan—Lebanese Hizbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah warned on Saturday that his group will beat back any attack from Israel.

Any violation from Israel to the Lebanese territories or the civilians in the country's south will not pass without any actions from our side, Nasrallah told a southern Beirut rally marking Shiite religious festival of

Ashura. Talking about threats of a new Israeli war against Lebanon, Nasrallah said "the Israeli command and the Israeli Army do not have the capabilities to launch a war, but in return, we are committed to the resistance and we are capable and ready". He, meanwhile, confirmed

that his guerilla group possessed body parts of Israeli soldiers left on southern Lebanon's battlefields during the July war in 2006. Addressing the Israelis, Nasrallah said "your Army is lying to you ... your Army has left the body parts of your soldiers in our villages and fields."

MNA/Xinhua

LA police cracking down on paparazzi

LOS ANGELES, 21 Jan—Los Angeles law enforcement agencies are cracking down on celebrity photographers after some high-profile incidents, the Los Angeles Times reported on Friday.

The crackdown was prompted by increasing complaints about paparazzi tactics which were intensifying as paparazzi become ever more competitive in their quest for the perfect tabloid photos, said the report.

"Their numbers—and aggressiveness—have grown exponentially," said Los Angeles Sheriff's Department spokesman

Steve Whitmore, who cited a case this week in which West Hollywood Sheriff's deputies were called to a gym after paparazzi brought traffic on Melrose Avenue in downtown Los Angeles to a standstill as they jostled to photograph a film star.

Both the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles Police Department have begun keeping a running record of complaints about paparazzi, including names and the agencies that employ problem photographers, said the report.

MNA/Xinhua



A giant flag of the African Nations Cup is displayed on the pitch before the first match, Ghana vs Guinea, of the 2008 African Cup of Nations football tournament. Portsmouth midfielder Sulley Muntari struck in the last minute to lift hosts Ghana to a 2-1 win against Guinea in the opening game of the African Nations Cup here on Sunday.—INTERNET

200 anti-globalization demonstrators detained in Bern

GENEVA, 21 Jan—Police in the Swiss capital Bern used tear gas and rubber bullets against leftwing anti-globalization demonstrators and detained about 200 of them on Saturday, the semiofficial Swissinfo website reported.

The event, which came four days before the annual meeting of the Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF) in the alpine resort of

Davos, had been banned by local authorities for fear of violence.

But the organizers of the demonstration, the “Alliance for a Global Opposition”, said they would not respect the ban, with their leader, Giovanni A Schumacher, claiming that the group wanted a march that was calm and without violence.

The group, which criticizes “the World Economic Forum, the

capitalist system and repression”, had originally been allowed to demonstrate by city officials, but the authorities reversed their decision after remarks made by Schumacher in a television interview.

Schumacher was among about 200 people detained by the police. Several hundred are said to have taken part in the demonstration.

MNA/Xinhua

Man dies after shot from police Taser gun

LONDON, 21 Jan — A man has died after being shot by a Taser stun gun in Bedford, police said on Sunday.

Officers were called to a house in The Spinney, in the Goldington area of the city, at around 7 pm on Saturday evening, following reports of a domestic dispute between a mother and son.

Outside the property, they found an injured man, aged in his 30s, armed with a knife, a spokeswoman for Bedfordshire Police said. The man threatened officers and was shot with a Taser.

He retreated inside the property, where officers later found him in need of urgent medical treatment.

He was taken by ambulance to Bedford Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. A post-mortem will be carried out on Monday.

The case has been referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission.

MNA/Reuters



A model presents an outfit by Giselle Nasser during the 2008 Autumn-Winter collections of the Sao Paulo Fashion Week.—INTERNET

Bomb hoax evacuates Bulgarian airport

SOFIA, 21 Jan — Bulgaria’s Sofia airport was temporarily evacuated and flights suspended for over an hour on Sunday, after a bomb threat which proved a hoax, police said.

Authorities received the threat from an anonymous female caller but a bomb squad found nothing suspicious after checking the airport’s terminals.

“It turned out to be a false alarm. The airport was evacuated for about an hour. There are only three outgoing flights that were slightly delayed,” a police spokeswoman said. The airport was operating normally now.

MNA/Reuters

McCain beats Huckabee in South Carolina primary

WASHINGTON, 21 Jan—Senator John McCain of Arizona beat former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee in South Carolina’s Republican primary Saturday, according to preliminary results.

With 97 per cent of precincts reporting, McCain has won 33 per cent of the votes, beating former Governor Mike Huckabee of Arkansas, who grabbed 30 per cent of the votes.

Huckabee has conceded his defeat and congratulated McCain.

Former Senator of Tennessee Fred Thompson and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney came

in the 3rd and 4th places, with 16 per cent and 15 per cent of votes each.

The state’s Grand Old Party (GOP) primary voters have picked their party’s eventual nominee in every election since 1980, but with the race so volatile, that may not hold true this year.

McCain said his victory in the South Carolina primary is an evidence that his campaign “can carry right through” Florida into the Super Tuesday on 5 February, when 22 states hold primary elections.

But he cautioned that there is still “a long way to go.”

MNA/Xinhua

Civilian killed in Baghdad bombing

BAGHDAD, 21 Jan— A civilian was killed and two policemen were injured in a bomb attack in Baghdad on Sunday morning, an Interior Ministry source said.

“A roadside bomb struck a police patrol near the Passport Office in Baghdad’s eastern neighbourhood of Zaiyounah, killing a bystander and wounding two policemen,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The blast damaged a police vehicle and several nearby buildings and cars, the source said.

Also in the capital, the source said that police patrols collected two unidentified bodies dumped in two different areas in Baghdad during the past 24 hours. —MNA/Xinhua

Taleban bomb kills five civilians in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan), 21 Jan — A Taleban roadside bomb killed five Afghan civilians and wounded two others in the south of Afghanistan, a provincial official said on Sunday. Taleban insurgents killed more than 950 civilians last year in suicide attacks, roadside bombs and ground assaults, the Afghanistan NGO Safety Office said in a report.

The bomb hit a van in the Panjwai District, west of the main southern city of Kandahar, on Saturday.

“The bomb was planted by the Taleban to attack foreign or Afghan forces’ convoys in the Panjwai District but it killed poor civilians,” said a District police official, Ghulam Mohammad.

MNA/Reuters



Riot police patrol the streets of Nairobi, Kenya, on 20 Jan, 2008. INTERNET

Bulgaria denies US, EU pressure on gas pipeline project

SOFIA, 21 Jan—Bulgaria's Regional Development Minister Asen Gagauzov rejected claims that the government was under pressure from the United States and European Union against signing the agreement for the South Stream gas pipeline project with Russia, local Press reported Saturday.

The Bulgarian Government managed to strike a deal for joining the project

during the two-day visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin in Sofia, which ended Friday.

"What is good for Bulgaria is also good for Greece, as well as the whole European Union," Gagauzov cited his Greek counterpart in an interview.

The minister added that during his meetings with representatives of the US business, he

was shown interest and support for both the South Stream gas project and Burgas-Alexandroupolis pipeline, which is to take Caspian oil to the Mediterranean.

Gagauzov said Bulgaria also takes active part in the Nabucco project, which proposes to take gas from Azerbaijan's Caspian Sea coast toward Austria through Bulgaria.

MNA/Xinhua



These electric multi-purpose vehicles manufactured by Chinese based Li Shi Guang Ming Automobile Design Co, Ltd are on display for the opening day of the North American International Auto Show, on 19 Jan, 2008 in Detroit.

INTERNET

BP signs clean energy agreement with China

BEIJING, 20 Jan—British Petroleum (BP) announced it had signed a series of agreements with China on Friday, including those in clean energy and wind power generation, during British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's visit to China. Brown and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao attended the signing ceremony.

Under the agreement, BP and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), will study the feasibility of setting up a joint Clean Energy Commercialization Centre (CECC) later this year.

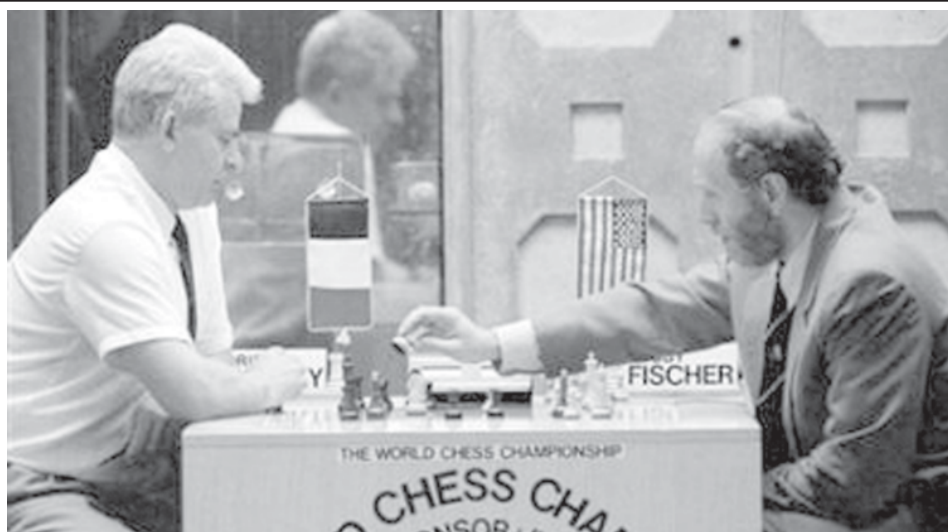
The CECC, proposed last year, aims at commercializing clean energy technologies, including coal gratification, coal to liquids, coal to chemicals, carbon capture and storage.

The two sides would use the centre as a platform to promote research and development in the near zero emissions clean coal initiative and launch related pilot programmes.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia to cut foreign worker numbers

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Jan—Malaysia wants to cut its Army of foreign workers, sending home at least 200,000 by 2009, as it tries to reduce dependence on overseas labour and free up jobs for locals, a local newspaper said on Sunday. "We are in the stage of calling together large companies, associations that represent industry and outsourcing companies for talks to reduce the number," Raja Azahar Raja Abdul Manap, the top civil servant in Malaysia's home ministry, told the *Star*. —MNA/Reuters



Former world chess champion Bobby Fischer (R) moves a piece during a September 1992 match against his archrival, the Soviet Union's Boris Spassky, in the Yugoslav resort of Sveti Stefan. Fischer has died of a serious but unspecified illness, Iceland national radio reported on Friday. —INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

S'porean food court chain opens 2nd branch in HK

HONG KONG, 21 Jan—Megabite Hong Kong Ltd announced Saturday the opening of its second food court, Food Republic Citygate, in Tung Chung of Lantau Island.

The Food Republic

Citygate is composed of 18 food stalls and four mini restaurants. With 770 seats in total, Food Republic Citygate aims to offer an exceptional experience for diners by providing a wide variety

of Southeast Asian cuisine. Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion at Invest Hong Kong, Charles Ng, welcomed the company's expansion in Hong Kong.

MNA/Xinhua

China's AVIC II delivers 132 airplanes in 2007

BEIJING, 21 Jan—China Aviation Industry Corporation II (AVIC II) delivered 132 airplanes in

2007, setting a record over the past five years as the company made new progress in aviation products manufacturing.

The record surpassed the 2006 figure by about 30 planes.

A new contract with Hainan Airlines brought the company an order of 50 ERJ145 aircrafts, three of which are already delivered, the company told *Xinhua* at a work conference here on Sunday. —MNA/Xinhua

Official says China signs new FTA agreement

BEIJING, 21 Jan—China has signed a new free trade area (FTA) agreement, sources with the Ministry of Commerce disclosed here at a national commerce working conference on Saturday.

Commerce Minister Chen Deming said that China has so far signed and implemented agreements on establishment of six FTAs.

Sources with the ministry told *Xinhua* that China did sign a new FTA agreement but decline to elaborate.

Previously, China has established five FTAs with Chinese Hong Kong, Chinese Macao, Chile, Pakistan and the Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN). —MNA/Xinhua

Gambian leader says uranium reserves discovered

BANJUL, 20 Jan—The tiny West African country of Gambia has discovered commercially-exploitable deposits of uranium and other rare minerals, President Yahya Jammeh said on Saturday.

Jammeh, who seized power in a military coup in 1994, said in an address on state television to celebrate the Muslim New Year that his government had also detected titanium, silicon and iron reserves.

"But the biggest discovery is the discovery of uranium in Gambia," he said. "These minerals I have talked about, we are 100 per cent certain that they are in this country and can be exploited." —MNA/Reuters



Palestinian children hold candles during a protest against severe fuel cuts which led to power cut in Gaza on 20 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET

Exit poll shows PPP's fresh victory in Thai by-elections

BANGKOK, 21 Jan — The People Power Party (PPP) looked set to win most of the 17 Parliament seats in by-elections held in six Thai provinces on Sunday, according to an exit poll conducted by ABAC University.

While official results were to be announced later, the famous ABAC survey indicated the PPP will regain all the 12 seats which were won by the party and later

disqualified by the Election Commission (EC). Moreover, the party was likely to gain two or three additional seats.

After handing out yellow and red cards to winning candidates in the 23 December general election for alleged electoral wrongdoing, the EC organized by-elections for Sunday in the provinces of Nakhon Ratchasima, Sakon Nakhon, Udon Thani, Lampang, Phrae and

Nakhon Nayok.

A total of 16 winning candidates in the six provinces received yellow cards, which allowed them to re-contest in the by-elections. Twelve of them were from PPP, two from the Democrat Party and two from the Puea Pandin Party. Another PPP contender was given a red card, which disqualified him from re-running in the contest.

MNA/Xinhua



Protesters shout slogans during a rally against South Korea-US free trade agreement (FTA) talks near the National Assembly in Seoul on 21 Jan, 2008. The banner reads: "Stop the ratification of South Korea-US FTA talks".—INTERNET



Models wear creations by Cavallera, on the banks of the highly polluted Tiete River, during the Sao Paulo Fashion Week in Sao Paulo, on 20 Jan, 2008
INTERNET

UN strongly condemns terrorist attack in Lebanon

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Jan — The UN Security Council strongly condemned on Friday Tuesday's terrorist attack in Beirut, which killed at least three persons, wounded several others and struck a diplomatic vehicle from the American Embassy.

"The members of the Security Council expressed their deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims and to the people and government of Lebanon," the Council said in a Press statement read out by Council president Giadalla Ettalhi of Libya.

The Council "reaffirmed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed," the statement said.

The Council expressed support for Lebanese efforts to bring those responsible for the attack to justice and urged member states to extend their cooperation with the Lebanese authorities in this regard.

MNA/Xinhua

Hillary declared winner of Democratic Nevada caucuses

WASHINGTON, 21 Jan — US Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton was declared by major US news wires and TV networks as the winner of Democratic Nevada caucuses Saturday.

With 70 per cent of precincts reporting, Hillary has 51 per cent of the vote, compared to 45 per cent for Barack Obama, her archrival.

John Edwards came in with a remote third place, grabbing only 4 per cent of the votes.

Nevada is the first test of the Democratic candidates' support among Hispanics.

Democrats moved Nevada's primary up, in part, to showcase the Hispanic vote, and all the major Democratic candidates are vying to capture it.

MNA/Xinhua

EU aid commissioner arrives in Kenya

NAIROBI, 20 Jan — European Union Development Commissioner Louis Michel arrived in Kenya Saturday to assess post-election situation after last month's disputed presidential election.

EU official in Nairobi said Michel who arrived in Nairobi is holding separate meetings with President Mwai Kibaki whose re-election sparked violent protest across the country and opposition leader Raila Odinga who says he was rigged of victory.

Michel has held talks with Kenya's Vice-President Kalonzo Musyoka where he expressed concern that the post election violence had led to loss of life and wanton destruction of property, and called on the parties involved in the conflict to urgently dialogue and negotiate a way forward. During the

meeting, the EU pledged to donate 5.5 million euros to assist in the humanitarian relief effort following the post election violence.

Michel said EU regards Kenya as a model of democracy in Africa and a key player in the region. Musyoka thanked EU for the donation and said the money will assist in providing shelter and food besides other basic necessities for the displaced Kenyans.—MNA/Xinhua

Four killed in gunfire attacks in north of Baghdad

TIKRIT (Iraq), 21 Jan — Four people were killed, including a former senior member of Saddam's Baath Party, in two attacks in the city of Samarra in Salahudin Province, a provincial police source said on Sunday.

"Unknown gunmen in a car opened fire on Rasheed Nsaeyf Jasim, a former local senior Baathist, killing him near his house in northern the city," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident,

clashes erupted in the centre of the city when gunmen attacked a group of local Awakening councils fighters near a football stadium, the source said.

The clashes resulted in the killing of three attackers and the capturing of a fourth, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Police inspect the site of a suicide bomb attack in Falluja, 50 km (30 miles) west of Baghdad, on 20 Jan, 2008. A suicide bomber killed six people in a town south of Falluja where people were celebrating the release of a man from US military custody, local officials said. The bomber walked into the man's house and blew himself up.—INTERNET



One-stop Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market

Article by Thura Zaw
Photos by Nyi Nyi Tun (MNA)

Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market is a one-stop trade facility that comprises modern shops, brokerage houses, a highway bus terminal, restaurants, and shops where a wide range of goods such as clothes and garments, car spare parts and computers and accessories are available.

A media team of the Myanma Alin Daily conducted an interview with personnel of Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market Administrative Committee for some salient points about the market.

When asked about the market, Head of Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market Administrative Committee U Min Lwin Soe said, "Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market consists of more than 200 RC shops, more than 500 temporary shops, grocery



"We also sell clocks and watches at the same prices as that at our sales centre in Yangon."

(U Zaw Naing Oo, in-charge of Cherry Oo Watch Sales Centre)

at our sale centre in Yangon. We have also opened a branch near the corner of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Market. At Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Market, we also sell clocks and watches at the same prices as that at our sale centre in Yangon. Now we have launched promotion programmes".

U Myat Khaing of Angle Store said, "I have run this store for more than five months, and now I am doing well. It is the



"I have run this store for more than five months, and now I am doing well".

(U Myat Khaing, Angle Store)



We have laid down first come, first served system for vendors to take the temporary shops.

(Head of Myoma Market Administrative Committee U Min Lwin Soe)

than in Yangon. I can save much time and transport is smooth. So, business is very good now".

Doing business in Nay Pyi Taw



A wide range of personal goods are arranged.

stores, brokerage houses, a highway bus terminal and restaurants. Like the system of tax-free markets, we have laid down first come, first served system for vendors to take the temporary shops. So, whoever comes first can take the shops for one-day sales. One-day's rental rate is 100 kyats a temporary shop. The market has a highway bus terminal, and goods from various regions are transported to this market. So, the commodity flow is swift. There are also car servicing centres and car spare parts shops for servicing the buses. Another salient point is that there is a night bazaar that opens from 3 pm to 10 pm daily. So, when office hours is over, government staff can easily get

goods and foodstuff they want there. Many of the staff buy goods before going home in the evening. Unlike in other markets, high mark lamps are lit in this market. People can apply for shops of Myoma Market to sell goods if they want to. We give permits to those who really want to get shops for trade. The market hours is from 7 am to 7 pm. We set up two shifts of sanitation workers to keep the market clean. In addition, we fine those who throw away rubbish and spit betel spittle indiscriminately, and those who violate disciplines".

U Zaw Naing Oo, in-charge of Cherry Oo Watch Sales Centre, said, "We sell our goods at the same prices and quality as that



Quality watches are on display.

marriage season now, so the store is busier than usual. I had to pay only 10,000 kyats to Nay Pyi Taw Development Affairs Committee for the shop. I get the goods I want from Mandalay. I am not a native of this region. My mother is posted here, so I have happened to do my business here. It is more convenient for me to do trade here

Myoma Market, one of the model markets in Myanmar, is, indeed, a prudent investment because traders can distribute their goods to various parts of the nation swiftly with less cost thanks to smooth transport.

Translation: MS
Myama Alin: 19-1-08



Shop-keepers making preparations for the night bazaar of Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market.

Prime Minister visits factories...

(from page 1)

of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye. Next, manager U Myo Win of Taw Win Plastic Ware Factory presented reports on manufacturing and selling of the products. Afterwards, Manager U Soe Tin submitted reports on production process of No 1 and No 2 Hsinmin Cement Plants.

After asking the questions with respect to the reports, the Prime Minister made a speech, saying that the development of industrial sector is of utmost importance for the wealth of a country. Therefore, the Government is giving encouragement for the equitable development both in the State and private industrial sectors providing necessary assistance. The products manufactured by the factories in the Kyaukse industrial region are contributing much to nation-building, agricultural and health sectors and fulfilling the basic needs of the people. In addition, the factories are creating job opportunities for the improvement of the region. The Head of State had given guidance on beefing up quality products and improving industrial sector step by step whenever necessary. Officials concerned are instructed to manage the factories and workshops to run at full capacity, domestically produce raw materials necessary for the factories cut produc-

tion costs, check the income and expenditure, supervise production and distribution of products to the market overcoming waste and loss and corruption, strive for becoming better quality products, take preventive measures against natural disasters, carry out worksite safety measures, constantly check production activities in the factories and



Prime Minister General Thein Sein delivers an address in meeting with officials at Hsinmin Cement Plant. — MNA

The products manufactured by the factories in Kyaukse industrial region are contributing much to nation-building, agricultural and health sectors and fulfilling the basic needs of the people.

perform short-term and long-term work plans. Officials concerned are to boost production of goods, minimize production costs, make efforts to manufacture better quality products, produce the goods that can live up to the market demand and to ensure the satisfaction

of the customers and take innovative measures for the progress of the factories in accord with the guidance of the Head of State.

Next, the Prime Minister inspected the factory in a motorcade and the 500-ton Cement Plant of Myanma Ceramics Indus-

Pacified mind

All states have mind as their fore-runner, to them mind is supreme and of mind are they made. Therefore, if one with pacified mind, speaks or acts, on account of that does happiness follow one as the shadow that does not depart.

Dhammapada 2



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects ceramics and steel ware at the Ceramic and Steel Ware Factory (Minsu). —MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein visits a factory in Kyaukse Industrial Region. — MNA

tries of the Ministry of Industry-1. Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party oversaw the bicycle factory and sewing machines factory (Kyaukse) of Myanma General and Maintenance Industries. At the factory, they looked into production of spare parts, forging shop and foundry shop, installation of machine parts, test run and production of physic nut oil stove and gave necessary instructions to officials concerned.

Myanma Farm Implements Factory

(Ingon), three Cement Plants, two Plastic Factories, Myanmar Pharmaceuticals Industry (Inyong), Ceramics and Steel Factory (Minsu), Sewing Machine Factory (Kyaukse), Candy Factory, Vest Factory, Shoe Factory, Firebrick Factory and Bicycle Factory concentrated in Kyaukse Industrial Region is distributing items to all parts of the country.

Later, the Prime Minister and party left Kyaukse in a motorcade and arrived at Mandalay.

MNA

Realization of educational aims of students and parents and expectations of State rely on strengths of teachers

Special Refresher Course No 64 for Basic Education Teachers opened

YANGON, 21 Jan — Special Refresher Course No 64 for Basic Education Teachers was opened at Nawarat Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service in Hlegu Township this morning.

On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, delivered a speech.

community.

It is also important for the nation to possess modern technology for national development. The teachers from the education sector need to nurture the students to inculcate knowledge, spirit and qualification in the students to safeguard the nation so that it stand tall as an independent, sovereign state, he said.

In accord with the objectives the government is trying to achieve science and technology of

educated, he said.

Therefore, all the teachers are to dutifully carry out their tasks in the education sector with the belief that the successful realization of the national education promotion programmes are associated with the emergence of a new nation with human resources as well as the perpetuation of that new nation. Educational aims of students and their parents and the expectations of the State mainly rely on the strengths of teachers.

Knowing the fact that only a good teacher can nurture a good student and Only good students will be able to implement the objectives of the State. The teachers are to actively take part in the efforts for the improvement of the education sector, he said.

In conclusion, he said, it is necessary for the nation of today to further promote the already-built infrastructures such as peace and stability and economic growth through the education sector. It is clear that the State will be able to stand tall as a consolidated Union only when the nation is armed with nationalistic fervour and Union Spirit alongside high technologies and human resources. All in all, teachers are to train their students as well as the people to have high education and cultivate

Wide technology gap causes the existing wealth and standard inequality and development gap among the nations of the world.

Chairman Dr Than Nyun said education dominates various aspects such as economic, social and defence fields due to the rapid development of science and technology.

Wide technology gap causes the existing wealth and standard inequality and development gap among the nations of the world and this creates a strong bias in the field of international relations.

He said it is very important for the nation to build better educational foundations that can bring about development to keep abreast of the international

international standard to contribute towards the national development and economy in the respective sectors. At the same time, it is building an education system that preserves national culture, tradition, customs and Myanmar social value, he added.

It is certain that prestige and values of a new nation such as national solidarity, social equality, justice, tranquillity, proper management, high standard of living, Myanmar social values and morale will emerge when the entire people including the young are well-

Pearl culture and production works in Taninthayi Division inspected



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint visits Myanmar Andaman Pearl Company. — MINISTRY OF MINES

YANGON, 21 Jan— Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, accompanied by departmental officials, inspected the pearl culture and production station under Myanma Pearl Enterprise in Malikha Island in Myeik on 14 January. After hearing the reports presented by officials concerned, he attended to the needs.

Next, the commander, the minister and departmental officials

presented gifts and note books to students and children of the camp.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister looked into culturing of mop (mother of pearl) with the application of Long Line method and gave necessary instructions. After that, the commander and the minister inspected Kyaukhtayan BEPS and the dispensary.

On arrival at Myanmar Atlantic Company in Donepearlaw, the minister inspected culturing of mop (mother of pearl) and called for speedy implementation of work plans.

On 16 January, the

minister and party proceeded to the pearl culture and production station of Myanmar Tasaki Co in Dome island. After hearing the reports of responsible persons, he gave necessary instructions. He then viewed the production of pearls and called for effort to exceed the production target and penetrating the international market.

Later, he inspected staff quarters and the dispensary. In the evening, the minister arrived at Oriental pearl company in Zinyaw island and stressed the need for production of pearls of high quality.

MNA

patriotism and Union Spirit in accord with the education goal of the State.

Next, Dr Than Nyun cordially greeted the trainee teachers. A total of 1,500 teachers from the schools of No 1 Basic Education Department (lower Myanmar) and No 3 Basic Education

Department will take the five-week course.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi, Minister for Electric Power-1 Col Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power-2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Finance and Revenue

Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, the deputy ministers, the deputy auditor-general, members of CSSTB, departmental heads, the rector of CICS (Phaunggyi) and heads of departments, instructors and trainees.

MNA



Chairman of CSSTB Dr Than Nyun delivers an address at Special Refresher Course No 64 for Basic Education Teachers. — MNA



Thai delegation led by Lieutenant General Panumat Sivara pays homage to Lawka Chantha Abhaya Laba Muni Buddha Image in Insein Township. — MNA

Cash donated for constructing three-storey patients’ ward

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — A ceremony to present cash donations for constructing three-story patients’ ward building of Mandalay General Hospital was held at the

meeting hall of the hospital this morning.

First, on behalf of the donors, wellwisher owner of Hsu Htoo Pan Gems Company U Kyaw Htay explained the purpose of

the donations. Next, U Kyaw Htay and wife Daw Khin Htwe and family presented cash donations K 300 million for construction of the three-storey building through

Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe; Daw Khin Su and family of Mandalay, K 175 million through Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, and Daw San San as well as her brothers and sisters, K 100 million through Patron of Mandalay Division Women’s Affairs Organization President of Supervisory Committee for Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Khin Thida.

It was attended by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, wife of the commander Dr Daw Khin Thida, who is also Patron of Mandalay Division Women’s Affairs



Wellwishers Daw Khin Su and family donate K 175 million to Minister Dr Kyaw Myint for construction of three-story building at General Hospital in Mandalay. — MNA

Delegation of National Defence College of Royal Thai Army arrives

YANGON, 21 Jan — A 39-member delegation led by Lieutenant General Panumat Sivara of National Defence College of Royal Thai Army arrived at the Yangon International Airport this morning.

They were welcomed by Commandant of the National Defence College Maj-Gen Mya Win, senior military officers, Thai Ambassador Mr Bansarn Bunnag, Military Attache of Royal Thai Embassy Col Ekachi Harnpoonvittaya and officials.

The Thai delegation members, accompanied by officials visited Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image on Mindhamma Hill. Chairman of the Pagoda Board of Trustees and officials reported on the historical background of the Buddha Image.

Lieutenant General Panumat Sivara signed in the visitor’s book and paid

obseisance to the image.

The Thai delegation visited Botahtaung Kyaikday-ut Hsandaw Oo Pagoda and donated cash. Members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees presented the picture of the sacred hair relic to the guests.

They proceeded to the National Defence College on Shwedagon Pagoda Road in Dagon Township. Commandant Maj-Gen Mya Win extended greetings and explained the activities of the college.

Officials reported on the functions of various ministries.

Commandant Maj-Gen Mya Win and Lieutenant General Panumat Sivara exchanged gifts.

The Thai guests presented souvenirs to the officials of the ministries concerned.

The guests observed library and booths at the college and signed in the visitors’ book. They went to the Shwedagon Pagoda and offered flowers, water and lights. He signed in the visitors’ book and presented cash for the pagoda. A member of the Pagoda Board of Trustees presented the picture of the Shwedagon Pagoda. They observed the religious structures on the pagoda platform.—MNA

Couple sustain injuries in mine blast

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — A couple got injuries in a mine blast that occurred in Bago Division on 18 January.

Ko Kyi Moe, 43, son of U Tin Aung, of Ward 5 at Mone village-tract in Kyaukkyi Township of Bago Division and Ma Swe Swe Win, 31, daughter of U Tun Sein, were on their way with bullock cart to gather fire-woods while a mine planted by insurgents blew

off as the wheel rolled on it at about two miles east of Kyakpyin Village. The male victim got injuries on right foot and the female victim on her right hand in the blast.

The two victims were taken to Mone Station Hospital and medical treatment and necessary helps were provided to them. The authorities concerned are investigating the case.

Insurgent destru-

Horizon League Basketball Tourney goes on

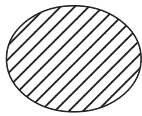
YANGON, 20 Jan— Horizon League Basketball Tournament for 2007-08, jointly

ctionists are undermining stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. They are also committing destructive acts with intention of killing and injuring innocent people using various ways and means.

MNA

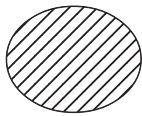
organized by Myanmar Basketball Federation and Horizon Int’l Education center, was held at Kaikkasan Gymnasium on 19 and 20 January.

In the events, Cow Boy beat Last Vampire 81-42 points, the Gyuts beat WHO 63-49 points, KKS beat GB 105-48 points, Shadows beat CCY 61-57 points and Red Star beat Filipino 79-52 points. The tournament continues on 2 and 3 February.—NLM



Kandaw-galay Team plays against Precious Team.

NLM

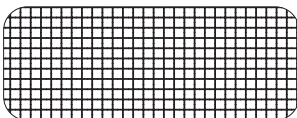


Images of the Day



A sculpture by Greek artist Giannis Adamakis entitled "A traveling heart" is seen during the exhibition "Hearts in Athens" on 21 Jan, 2008.

INTERNET



South Korean men dressed in traditional military uniforms, march for guard in a heavy snow inside the Gyeongbok Palace in Seoul, South Korea, on 21 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET



A helmet sculpture called "Helmet-Telephone" made by Catalan designer and sculptor Alvaro Soler is displayed in an exhibition in central Barcelona on 19 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Mickey Mouse displays his Chinese New Year costume designed by Vivienne Tam during a promotional events at Hong Kong Disneyland on 21 Jan, 2008. This year marks the year of the mouse in Chinese zodiac.—INTERNET



A tanker, pulled by a SkySails high-tech kite, the world's first commercial ship pulled by a high-tech kite designed to cut fuel consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions sets off on its eagerly awaited maiden voyage from Germany on Tuesday. — INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CALMY CORAL VOY NO (20)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CALMY CORAL VOY NO (20) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 22.1.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY 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 EASTERN CAR LINER LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV HUA SHAN VOY NO (83)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HUA SHAN VOY NO (83) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 20.1.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 COSCO SHIPPING CO, LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (205)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (205) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 22.1.2008 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

Britain to
deploy
knife
detectors
in schools

LONDON, 21 Jan — Airport-style metal detectors are to be installed in British schools in a bid to curb the rise of knife crime among youths.

Home Secretary Jacqui Smith will announce the details next month as the centerpiece of the government’s new violent crime action plan, Sky

News reported on Sunday. The search facilities will be introduced at some of the country’s toughest secondary schools in cities including London, Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham. Senior police officers and head teachers are all supporters of the plan, the report said. “There are schools

—MNA/Xinhua

Drive
with
care

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GEE HONG VOY NO (724)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG VOY NO (724) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 22.1.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 EAGLE SHIPPING CO, LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Chinese police detain 31
stowaways in N-E China

DALIAN, 21 Jan— Frontier police in Dalian, a port city in northeast China, cracked a human trafficking ring and caught 31 stowaways on Friday, local authorities said.

The would-be migrants, who hailed from the southeastern Fujian, northeastern Heilongjiang and Jilin provinces, were arrested en route to the port on a bus, police said.

Police later stopped a car and arrested three “snakeheads”, or human smugglers, who were directing trafficking with their cell phones.

All the stowaways, ranging from 28 to 47 years, were required to pay the snakeheads 75,000

yuan (about 10,000 US dollars) once they got to the Republic of Korea (ROK).

Statistics said 105 people were arrested on suspicion of trying to stow away from Dalian Port last year. — MNA/Xinhua

Moussa describes Syria as cradle of Arab culture

DAMASCUS, 21 Jan— Visiting Arab League (AL) Secretary General Amr Moussa affirmed on Saturday that Damascus was and would always be the cradle of Arab culture and civilization, as history itself proves.

Moussa made the remarks in a statement to the official SANA news agency hours before an official ceremony in which Damascus would be officially announced the Arab Cultural Capital for 2008. “Damascus has a special place in Arabs’ hearts because of its history, with Arab culture emerging from it and spreading all over the world, carrying with it the Arab and Islamic

Syrian President meets
AL chief on Lebanon

DAMASCUS, 21 Jan—Syrian President Bashar al-Assad held talks with visiting Arab League Secretary General Amr Moussa on Saturday on the political crisis in neighbouring Lebanon and the “dangerous developments” in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Moussa reviewed the political developments in Lebanon and the consultations he made to solve the pending issues among the Lebanese parties in the framework of an integrated Arab plan endorsed in Cairo on 6 January, the official SANA news agency reported.

The two sides underscored the importance of achieving consensus among the Lebanese people to ensure unity, security, and stability in Lebanon, the report said.

They also discussed the current arrangements for holding the forthcoming Arab summit in Damascus in March, it added.

The necessary steps to be taken on the Arab and international levels to force Israel to halt its aggression on the Palestinian people were also stressed in the meeting.

An official accompanying Moussa told reporters that Moussa briefed Assad during the meeting the outcomes of his talks with the different Lebanese political leaders during his trip to Beirut.

Moussa also held meetings with Vice-President Farouk al-Shara and Foreign Minister Walid al-Muallem, SANA said. —MNA/Xinhua

civilization that contributed to the evolution of mankind,” Moussa was quoted as saying. Moussa underlined the significance of the Arab Capital of Culture and the role of culture in forming the Arab mind and conscience.

“Damascus’ role in civilized history is well-known which makes this occasion an important step

for facing the attack on Arab and Islamic culture,” he added.

“We have learned and known the past, and it’s not enough to stand and praise, but we must also prepare ourselves with everything that can help us face this clash of cultures that is taking place in the world today,” stated the AL chief.

—MNA/Xinhua



Jenny Wolf of Germany celebrates her overall victory in a horse drawn sledge after the World Sprint Speed Skating Championships in Heerenveen, The Netherlands, on 20 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

ECOWAS leaders plan Sahara security conference

OUAGADOUGOU, 20 Jan — West African heads of state agreed on Friday to convene a regional summit to discuss instability in the Sahel, particularly the Tuareg uprisings in northern Mali and Niger.

Weeks after the killing of four French tourists in Mauritania by al-Qaeda, the 15 nations of the

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) agreed to hold the conference in the Malian capital Bamako in the first quarter of 2008.

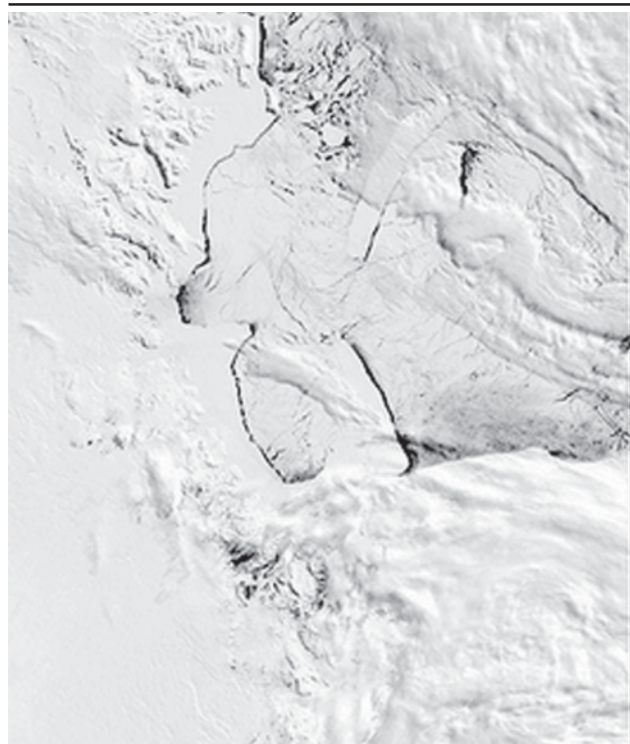
The meeting will aim to “reduce the tensions in this part of the region and allow a debate on security issues, the circulation of light arms, drug trafficking and the

development needs of the population,” said a final statement on Friday at the ECOWAS summit in the Burkina Faso capital Ouagadougou. Burkina Faso’s President Blaise Compaore applauded efforts by his counterpart in Niger Mamadou Tandja and Malian leader Amadou Toumani Toure to resist a rebellion led by nomadic Tuareg peoples in the Sahara and the arid Sahel belt to the south.

MNA/Reuters



Government representatives, sponsors and sports officials attend a ceremony to unveil the official uniforms of volunteers, technicians and referees of the Beijing Olympics and Paralympic Games in Beijing on 20 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET



This image released by NASA in 2002 shows Antarctica. A powerful volcano erupted under the icesheet of West Antarctica around 2,000 years ago and it might still be active today, a finding that prompts questions about ice loss from the white continent, British scientists report on Sunday. — INTERNET

Bird flu spreads to new districts in E-India

KOLKATA(India), 20 Jan — Bird flu spread to two new districts in an eastern Indian state, officials confirmed on Saturday, as veterinary staff struggled to cull thousands of birds in the face of resistance from farmers.

The H5N1 virus was found in dead birds in Burdwan and Nadia, taking to five the number of infected districts in West Bengal state.

The virus was also spreading to new areas within already infected districts.

India, which is witnessing its fourth bird flu outbreak in poultry since 2006, has not reported any human infection.

Officials said they were immediately extending culling operations to the newly affected areas. West Bengal began culling more than 400,000 chickens and ducks in three districts this week.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodian police block Mia Farrow’s Darfur rally

PHNOM PENH, 21 Jan — Baton-wielding police barred Hollywood actress Mia Farrow from holding a rally in Cambodia’s “Killing Fields” on Sunday as part of a campaign to end atrocities in Sudan’s Darfur.

Some 100 military police blocked Farrow, who fronts the Dream for Darfur pressure group, and her fellow activists from entering the compound at Tuol Sleng, the Phnom Penh high school that became Pol Pot’s main torture centre. “Darfur has nothing to do with Cambodia. Go protest in Darfur,” Phnom Penh police chief Touch Naruth told reporters after the hour-long stand-off ended without incident.

The group, which had planned to lay flowers and light a symbolic Olympic torch in the compound, has held similar events in Chad, Rwanda, Armenia, Germany and Bosnia as part of a campaign to persuade China to push Khartoum into ending the violence in Darfur. — MNA/Reuters

Activists admit throwing stink bombs at Japanese whalers

CANBERRA, 20 Jan— The anti-whaling activists admitted that they had thrown about 12 stink bombs onto a Japanese whaling ship after two of its crew were released.

Two members of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, who were being detained on the whaling boat *Yushin Maru No 2*, were handed to an Australian Customs’ vessel on Friday and then returned to their ship, *The Steve Irwin*.

The Japanese Whaling Association (JWA) accused earlier in a statement that the activists had thrown acid onto the sister vessel of the *Yushin Maru No 2* - the *Yushin Maru No 3* - overnight.

Captain of the *Steve*

Irwin Paul Watson denied any attack on the *Yushin Maru No 3*, saying he had not even seen such a boat, according to a report by the *Australian Associated Press*.

But he confirmed the group launched a “retali-

atory strike” of butyric acid “stink bombs” at the *Yushin Maru No 2*, about one hour after activists Benjamin Potts and Giles Lane were transferred to the Australian Customs boat.

MNA/Xinhua

Snowfall, rains strand trucks to Three Gorges Dam area

YICHANG (Hubei), 20 Jan — More than 1,000 trucks were stranded on Saturday at an overburdened ferry en route to the Three Gorges Dam area in central China’s Hubei Province when continuous snowfall and

rains have forced several other roads to close.

The trucks queued up at the ferry waiting to board when the dock only had a daily ferry capacity of 700 vehicles.

The trucks were heavily loaded with variety of goods, including glass, equipment, cables and fresh foods.

“I intended to transport some facilities from east

China’s Jiangxi Province to the central Chongqing Municipality and I have waited for three days here due to the heavy snow,” a driver in the queue said.

The snow was said to be the heaviest in the past 30 years in Yichang city, where the dam is located.

It has forced several highways to close, according to local traffic authorities.

MNA/Xinhua



Experts at the Indian Space Research

Organization in Bangalore. India successfully launched an Israeli satellite on Monday in a mission carried out under a veil of secrecy, the NDTV news channel reported, citing officials at the Indian space agency. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Nice go fourth with 1-0 win over Nancy

PARIS, 21 Jan — Nice moved up to fourth in Ligue 1 on Sunday with a 1-0 win over Nancy which prevented their opponents from reclaiming second place from Girondins Bordeaux.

Midfielder David Hellebuyck hit the winner in the 79th minute with a powerful shot from the edge of the box.

Nancy, beaten 3-0 by struggling Racing Lens in the quarter-finals of the French League Cup on Wednesday, are mired in a slump after stretching their winless run to six games.—MNA/Reuters



US Bode Miller competes during the first leg of the men's slalom race during the FIS Ski World Cup in Kitzbuehel. Bode Miller became the most successful US skier on the World Cup circuit with a combined victory here on Sunday which boosts his chances of winning the overall title.—INTERNET

Late Ibrahimovic double snatches Inter win

MILAN, 21 Jan — Serie A leaders Inter Milan came from behind to beat Parma 3-2 at home on Sunday after Zlatan Ibrahimovic's controversial late double in foggy conditions. Inter, who maintain their seven-point advantage at the halfway stage of the season, were 2-1 down with two minutes to go when Parma defender Fernando Couto was adjudged to have handled an Ibrahimovic shot off the line.

Replays were inconclusive and despite Parma protests that he had used his head, Couto was sent off and Ibrahimovic converted the penalty before chesting down and firing in a stoppage-time winner with Parma's defence weakened. "We didn't play very well. A great player has won it for us at the end," Inter coach Roberto Mancini, celebrating his 200th game in charge, told Sky Sport. —MNA/Reuters

Zaragoza mark Garitano's league debut with win

MADRID, 21 Jan — Real Zaragoza celebrated Ander Garitano's Primera Liga debut as coach with their first win in 10 outings when they beat Real Murcia 3-1 at home on Sunday.

The former Zaragoza midfielder took charge at the start of last week following Victor Fernandez's dismissal but saw his side crash out of the King's Cup on Wednesday after a 4-2 loss at Racing Santander. His team were in far better form against Murcia, a first-half strike from Ricardo Oliveira and a second-half double from Diego Milito earning them a win that lifted them into 11th place in the table.—MNA/Reuters



Roy Jones Jr, left, lands a punch against Felix Trinidad during light heavyweight boxing action on 19 Jan, 2008 at Madison Square Garden in New York.—INTERNET

PSV, Ajax held by lowly Venlo, Nijmegen

AMSTERDAM, 21 Jan — PSV Eindhoven and Ajax Amsterdam were held to 1-1 draws away to lowly opposition in the Dutch league on Sunday.

PSV, held by 10-man VVV Venlo, remain top with 40 points after 19 matches, three points above Ajax, who drew at NEC Nijmegen.

Feyenoord, beaten 2-1 at neighbours Excelsior Rotterdam on Friday, are a point further back in third.

Rachid Ofrany opened the scoring for VVV in the second minute with a superb lob but 10 minutes later Balazs Dzsudzsak equalized at close range from Jefferson Farfan's pass. VVV, who have also drawn at home against Ajax and Feyenoord, were reduced to 10 men after 32 minutes following a second booking for full back Peter Reekers.

MNA/Reuters

Lyon crash 3-0 at struggling Lens

PARIS, 21 Jan — Olympique Lyon suffered a fresh setback when they crashed 3-0 at struggling Racing Lens on Sunday four days after being ousted from the French League Cup by Le Mans.

The result cut to three points the French champions' lead over Girondins Bordeaux, who claimed second place in Ligue 1 with a 2-1 win at Le Mans on Saturday despite playing with 10 men for the entire second half.

Lens, who had only five wins in 19 Ligue 1 games this season, opened the scoring in the 55th minute through Toifilou Maoulida.

MNA/Reuters

Everton go fourth with victory at Wigan

LONDON, 21 Jan — Everton moved into fourth place in the Premier League on Sunday with a scrappy 2-1 victory at lowly Wigan Athletic.

First-half goals from Andy Johnson and Joleon Lescott gave Everton a comfortable interval lead before an own goal from defender Phil Jagielka gave Wigan a lifeline in the second half.

Manchester City climbed the table to fifth although they were below-par in a 1-1 draw with West Ham United that maintained their unbeaten league record at home this season.

Carlton Cole's acrobatic overhead kick gave West Ham an early lead but Darius Vassell equalized before halftime.

Everton moved to 42 points, three above city rivals Liverpool who drop to sixth albeit having played two games fewer and face Aston Villa on Monday. City have 40 points.

Memories of 2005 when David Moyes guided Everton to a fourth-place finish are beginning to stir as his side again threaten the established big guns in the Premier League. —MNA/Reuters

Real beat Atletico 2-0 at Calderon

MADRID, 21 Jan — First-half strikes from Raul and Ruud van Nistelrooy and another brilliant display from keeper Iker Casillas earned Real Madrid a 2-0 win away to city rivals Atletico Madrid on Sunday.

Real captain Raul lived up to his reputation as Atletico's bogey player when he scored his 11th goal against them in city derbies, steering in at the near post with just over 30 seconds on the clock.

Van Nistelrooy scored the second against the run of play and took his tally for the season to 12 when he clipped home from a corner two minutes from the break.

"It wasn't a spectacular victory, but it was a necessary one," said Real coach Bernd Schuster. "What I'm pleased about is that we are working as hard as every other team, but the quality we have means we are a cut above all our rivals."

Real's seventh league win in a row kept them seven points clear of Barcelona who claimed a flattering 1-0 win over a well organized Racing Santander at the Nou Camp. Thierry Henry scored the winner with an opportunist header in the first half. —MNA/Reuters



Real Madrid's Jose Maria Gutierrez 'Guti', left and Atletico de Madrid's Jose Antonio Reyes collide during a soccer derby match at the Vicente Calderon stadium in Madrid, on 20 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Roma beat Catania to stay in touch with Inter

MILAN, 21 Jan — AS Roma moved to within four points of Serie A leaders Inter Milan after a 2-0 home win over Catania on Sunday. Second-placed Roma's win came courtesy of Ludovic Giuly's eighth-minute strike and Daniele De Rossi blasting home a second-half penalty in the absence of flu victim Francesco Totti.

Three Catania fans were injured before kickoff after being stabbed in disturbances, media reported.

Third-placed Juventus could only draw 0-0 with Sampdoria while AC Milan substitute Alberto Gilardino struck in injury time to give the European champions a 1-0 win at fifth-placed Udinese, who lost fourth spot to Fiorentina on Saturday when the Florence side beat Torino 2-1 at home.



US tennis player Serena Williams(R) shakes hands with Czech opponent Nicole Vaidisova as she celebrates victory in their womens singles match. Williams revived memories of last year's stunning Australian Open win on Sunday when she overpowered 12th seed Vaidisova to reach the quarter-finals.—INTERNET

Milan, in ninth, have their eyes on fourth place after enduring a difficult first half of the campaign where they failed to win at home in the league until last weekend's 5-2 victory against Napoli.

Carlo Ancelotti again fielded a Brazilian front three at Udinese with Ronaldo hitting the post in the first half and teenager Pato combining well with Kaka to slip in Italy's Gilardino for the winner.

MNA/Reuters

Daw Khin Kyi Kyi (a) Daw Molly Maung
Age 82
B.A, B.Ed, B.E.S (1)
Retired Headmistress
No (6) BEHS, Mingala Taungnyunt

Daughter of (Secretary of Treasury U Maung Maung and Daw Yi) of Yamethin, daughter-in-law of (Retired Deputy Commissioner U Ba Thein and Daw Khin Swe Sit) of Myingyan, beloved wife of (Major Kyaw Nyein), retired Deputy Director of Paper and Chemical Industry) of Room 22, Building 5, Wailuwun Estate, Sangyoung, Yangon, beloved mother of Lt-Col Thet Naing Oo (Retired), Deputy Director of Settlements and Land Records Department, and Daw Win San Phyu, U Ko Oo-Daw Sanda Nyein, beloved grandmother of Ma Yamon Phyu Oo (BBM) and Maung Paing Sit Hmu, sister of (U Tun Ohn-Daw Khin Khin Lay), U Hla Maung-Daw Mi Mi Khin, (U Thaug Tin-Daw Tin Tin), (U Tha Din-Daw Mya Mya Than), (U Ohn Pe)-Daw Khin Hla Hla, (U Khin Maung Than)-Daw Nwe Win, U Maung Maung Lay (USA)-(Daw Khin Ma Gyi), Daw Mu Mu (USA), U Ko Ko Lay (Thailand) (Retired Principal of Magway College)-Daw San San Ni, aunt of 15 nephews and nieces, passed away peacefully at 3:40 am (Sunday) on 20.1.2008 at Asia Taw Win Hospital. The remains will be buried at Hteinbin Cemetery at 1:pm (Tuesday) on 22.1.2008. Cars will leave the house at 11:00 am.

Bereaved family

Russia rejects Kosovo's unilateral independence

Moscow, 21 Jan — Russia's position on Kosovo's status remains unchanged, and Moscow will not recognize its unilateral independence, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Kislyak said on Saturday.

"We will consider illegitimate the unilateral declaration of Kosovo's independence and the

granting of independent state status to it," Kislyak was quoted by the *Interfax* news agency as saying at a national security conference in Moscow.

Russia should also enhance its involvement in peacekeeping operations, he said. "We have about 290 peacekeepers now, which makes (Russia) the 45th in this respect among the 119 UN members taking part in peace-keeping operations," he said.

The UN Security Council held consultations last month on the future status of the Serbian province of Kosovo. But no conclusions were reached due to major differences among the parties. —MNA/Xinhua

Rocket attack on Ashura ceremony kills seven in N Iraq

MOSUL (Iraq), 21 Jan — A rocket hit a Shiite religious ceremony in a town in the northern Iraqi province of Nineveh on Saturday, killing seven people and wounding 17 others, a senior local police officer said.

"A *Katyusha* rocket struck a rally of Shiite pilgrims commemorating the Ashura ceremony in the afternoon in the town of Tal Afar, 420 kilometres northwest of Baghdad, killing seven people and wounding 17 others," Brigadier Najim Abdullah, who is also the mayor of the town, told *Xinhua* by telephone.

Hundreds of thousands of Iraqi Shiite Muslims rallied in the

mainly Shiite cities across Iraq, particularly in the holy city of Karbala, some 110 kilometres south of Baghdad, to commemorate the Shiite religious festival.

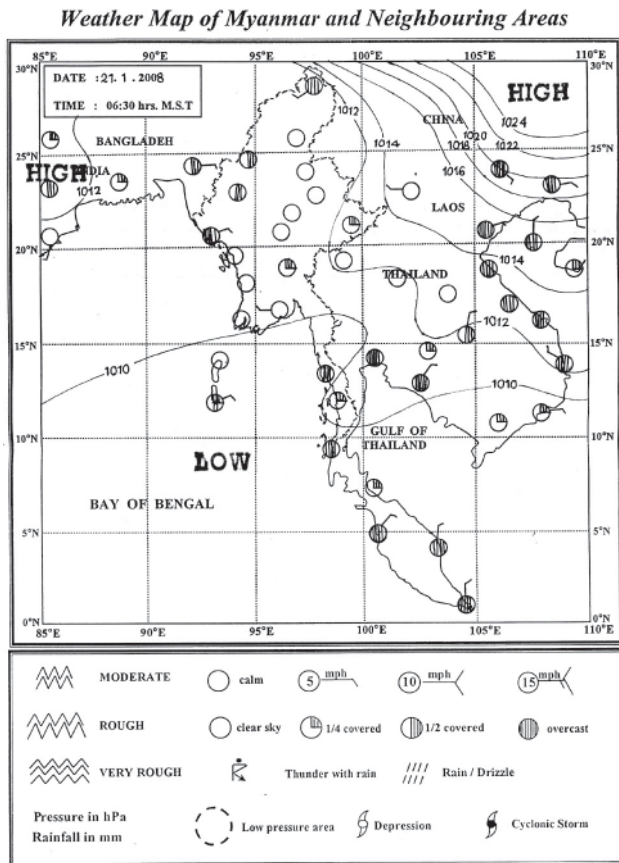
The Ashura occasion, on Friday, marks the death of Imam al-Hussein, Prophet Muhammad's grandson and the third holiest Imam of the 12 Imams most revered by Shiite Muslims, who was killed in a battle named Taf in Karbala in the seventh

Century.

In a separate incident on the day, five mortar rounds landed on an Iraqi Army base in the Mosul Hotel in western Mosul, some 400 km north of Baghdad, a provincial police source told *Xinhua*.

The attack resulted in wounding of four Iraqi soldiers and damaging parts of the hotel's building, the source said on condition of anonymity.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Monday, 21 January, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers has been isolated in Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) below January average temperatures in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Kachin State, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above January average temperatures in Mon State and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Putao (0.08) inch. The significant night temperatures were An, Haka and Loiilem (2°C) each, Namhsam (3°C) and Pinlaung, Heho and Mogok (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 20-1-2008 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 21-1-2008 was 63°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 21-1-2008 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 20-1-2008 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfall on 21-1-2008 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 Northwest at (16:30) hours MST on 20-1-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 22-1-2008: Possibility of isolated rain in Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Easterly strong wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in Strong wind may reach (30) to (35) mph. Seas will be slight elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of isolated light rain or thundershowers in the extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 22-1-2008: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-1-2008: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-1-2008: Fair weather.



Tuesday, 22 January
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓဇမဟာ ရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓဇအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ။ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူ အပ်သော ဥပ္ပါဒ်သန္တတိပဋ္ဌိတော်

7:25 am

3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning news

7:40 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

6. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

8:05 am

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

8. Song of yesteryears

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for everyday use

4:45 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု) (ဥပဒေပညာ)

5:00 pm

5. Dance of national races

5:10 pm

6. Sing and enjoy

5:50 pm

7. ပူဇော်မပြတ်အစဉ်မြတ်ရင်ခွင်

6:00 pm

8. Evening news

6:30 pm

9. Weather report

6:35 pm

10. သုတစုံလင် ရွှေညွှတ်ရှင်

7:15 pm

11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မြူနိုင်းဝေချစ်သက်တည်” (အပိုင်း-၁၇)

8:00 pm

12. News

13. International news

14. Weather report

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“အချစ်စေတမန်”

(အပိုင်း-၁၉)

16. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး

ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏

အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာ

ဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်

17. The next day's

programme

People's Desire

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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe welcomes back Myanmar Tatmadaw sports contingent



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence meeting with Myanmar Tatmadaw sports contingent at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

YANGON, 21 Jan—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence this afternoon welcomed back a 38-member Myanmar Tatmadaw sports contingent led by Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, which played friendly matches with Indian army football and volleyball teams in the Republic of India, at Yangon International Airport.

Also present at the

airport to welcome the Tatmadaw sportsmen were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Com-

mand Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, senior military officers, Defence Attaché of India to the Union of Myanmar Col Manoj Mukund Naravane and

officials.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe met members of the Tatmadaw sports contingent at the airport lounge and spoke of the need to

make constant efforts to become selected Myanmar athletes, constantly reviewing their strengths and weaknesses.

At the friendly

matches, Myanmar Tatmadaw football and volleyball players were able to play against their Indian counterparts on equal terms.—MNA

Doing business in Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market, one of the model markets in Myanmar, is, indeed, a prudent investment because traders can distribute their goods to various parts of the nation swiftly with less cost thanks to smooth transport.

Article by Thura Zaw

Photos by Nyi Nyi Tun (MNA)

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One-stop Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market



- ★ RFA, VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies
- ★ RFA, VOA and BBC saboteurs, watch your step!
- ★ The public be warned of killers in the air waves — RFA, VOA and BBC