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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

Secretary-1 receives Laotian delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo received a delegation led by Mr Sitaheng Rasphone, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry of Lao People's Democratic Republic, at the office of SPDC, here, this morning.

Present at the call together with the Secretary-1 were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of SPDC Office, Director-General U Tin Htut Oo of Agricultural Planning Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Laotian Minister was accompanied by Mr Kouily A Souphakhet, Ambassador of Lao PDR to the Union of Myanmar, and delegation members. — MNA

**Secretary-1
Lt-Gen
Thiha
Thura Tin
Aung Myint
Oo welcomes
Laotian
Minister Mr
Sitaheng
Rasphone
in Nay Pyi
Taw.**

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Laotian delegation led by Minister Mr Sitaheng Rasphone in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

INSIDE

Now, the government has built educational basic foundations and provided modern pedagogical and electronic aids. Teachers are, therefore, obliged to nurture and guide their students with kindness and good volition for continuous production of reliable intellectuals and intelligentsia.

PERSPECTIVES

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 23 January, 2008

Towards all-round development of the youth

Today, science and technological advancements have been followed by undesirable consequences that some countries with superiority in wealth are trying to gain domination over the Third World and exercising a strong bias in the field of international relations. The situations reflect that the people need to work hard on self-reliant basis for the motherland to be able to stand tall in the international community and enjoy development.

The drive for development of the nation and the people calls for continuous production of human resources apart from good foundations such as stability, peace and national unity.

In pursuit of national education promotion plans, the government is taking steps to create an education system that can create a life-long learning society.

Only a competent teacher can sharpen the abilities of a student effectively. Ensuring high ability, education qualifications and concepts of students depends on teachers' competence in educating, guiding and nurturing them.

In particular, teachers have to nurture the students at full capacity for superb improvement in the subjects, after identifying interest, innate nature, personality and size of diligence of each student.

Now, the government has built educational basic foundations and provided modern pedagogical and electronic aids. Teachers are, therefore, obliged to nurture and guide their students with kindness and good volition for continuous production of reliable intellectuals and intelligentsia.



STI
Education
Centre.

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

Minister looks into No 2 Auto Factory (Htonbo)

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin visited No 2 Auto Factory (Htonbo) of Padaung Township in Bago Division (West) yesterday.

At the assembly hall, the minister heard reports the officials concerned and discussed with them matters to meet the production target, standized quality, to minimize production cost, loss and waste and electric power.

The minister inspected the maintenance of the factory, Myanmar Station Wagon vehicles and the engine parts production of DS-70 in TE vehicles.—MNA

Minister inspects TB Hospital and Mingaladon Industrial Zone

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi went on an inspection tour to Htantabin Township Tuberculosis Hospital (100-bed) of Social Security Board of the Ministry of Labour on 20 January.

The minister met with officials concerned and discussed matters on worksite safety measures, effective prevention and treatment of infetious diseases, health care services of workers and enhancement of the health standards.

Yesterday morning, the minister together with Director-General of the Factories and General Labour Laws Inspection Department U Aung San Tin and met with members of the Management Committee of Mingaladon Industrial Zone.

The minister inspected the trainees who were attending Work Proficiency Course of Myanmar Asia Optical Co Ltd.

MNA



Seminar on services and tourism management diploma course to be held

YANGON, 22 Jan—STI Education will hold Seminar on Services and Tourism Management Diploma Course No 9 on 26 January.

The seminar covers topics on management, human resources manage-ment, wholesome foods services and financial management.

The centre will also hold workshop on management of small and medium scale businesses from 15 to 18 February in conjunction with the certificate presentation ceremony to mark its second anniversary.

In cooperation with London Teacher Training College (L TTC), Association of Managers and Administrators (AMA), Queensfield International Business and Australian Institute of Training and Education, STI Education is conducting diploma courses.

Interested persons may contact the centre, at No 377, Shwe Bontha Street, Pabedan Township (Tel 01-250056 or 01-700273) or Room No 7, Building No 4, Myanmar Info-Tech, Hline University Campus (Tel 01-507046, 507047, 507048 or 01-507151, 507152). — MNA

Awareness of elephantiasis raised in PyinOoLwin

PYINOOLOWIN, 22 Jan — Measures for elimination of elephantiasis in PyinOoLwin District were explained to health staff and volunteers at General Hospital in PyinOoLwin on 15 January.

First, Commandant of the 700-bed Defence Services Hospital in PyinOoLwin Brig-Gen Myo Myint Thein recounted experiences in dealing with the disease and Medical Superintendent of the 300-bed General Hospital Dr Tin Nyo Nyo Latt briefed on measures for fighting the mosquito-borne disease in the district.

Afterwards, health staff and members of social organizations received skills in combating elephantiasis.

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Obama says Bill Clinton's criticism is "troubling"

COLUMBIA (South Carolina), 22 Jan—Democratic White House hopeful Barack Obama said in an interview airing on Monday that former president Bill Clinton's recent criticism of his record and campaign were "troubling" and he was ready to fight back.

Obama, an Illinois Senator who is dueling Bill Clinton's wife Hillary

for the Democratic presidential nomination, said the former president had made statements about him that were untrue.

"You know the former president, who I think all of us have a lot of regard for, has taken his advocacy on behalf of his wife to a level that I think is pretty troubling," Obama said in an ABC interview to

air on "Good Morning America".

"He continues to make statements that are not supported by the facts—whether it's about my record of opposition to the war in Iraq or our approach to organizing in Las Vegas," he said.

"This has become a habit, and one of the things that we're going to have to do is to directly confront

Bill Clinton when he's making statements that are not factually accurate," Obama said. Bill Clinton has been an active presence on the campaign trail for his wife, a New York Senator, and has become increasingly critical of Obama as the rivalry between the two senators has intensified.

MNA/Reuters

Musharraf to improve Pakistan's image in Europe visit

ISLAMABAD, 22 Jan—Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf said Sunday that his four-nation European visit is aimed at improving Pakistan's image and removing certain misperception about happenings in the country and the region.



Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt (R) meets with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf in Brussels.—INTERNET

Musharraf made the remarks to the media at the Chaklala Airbase before his departure for an eight-day visit to Belgium, France, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Musharraf said that during his

bilateral meetings with leaders of these countries and during his address on different issues of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in the eastern Swiss city of Davos, his focus would be on clearing misperceptions and giving them correct perspective of the developments in Pakistan and the region.

He said that the organizers of the WEF annual meeting at Davos were keen to listen to him and they would provide him an opportunity to address the number of meetings, which is the rare privilege.

About his engagements in Brussels, he said that the European Union was an important international player and he would have an exchange of views with the leadership of the European Union on bilateral and global issues.

MNA/Xinhua

Bomb blast injures eight soldiers in Thailand

BANGKOK, 22 Jan—Suspected insurgents in Thailand's southernmost province of Narathiwat on Monday detonated a roadside bomb and then launched gun attacks, injuring eight soldiers of a security patrol team.

The soldiers were ambushed as they were on patrol duty along the railway tracks in Rueso District, according to the *Bangkok Post's* webnews.

MNA/Xinhua



Black smoke rises from bombs dropped by US warplanes on suspected Al-Qaeda hideouts in Arab Jabour. — INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Olmert says fuel-starved Gazans can walk

JERUSALEM, 22 Jan—Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said on Monday that Palestinians in the Gaza Strip might have to go without Israeli-supplied petrol for their cars as long as militants continue to fire rockets across the border.

"As far as I'm concerned, all the residents of Gaza can walk and have no fuel for their cars, because they have a murderous terrorist

regime that doesn't allow people in the south of Israel to live in peace," Olmert said in broadcast remarks.

Israel has closed its border crossings with the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip, cutting fuel supplies to the territory's main power plant and petrol stations. The United Nations and the European Union have urged Israel to restore the flow of fuel.

MNA/Reuters

Palestinians shout slogans in front of the Rafah crossing calling on Egypt to open their border with the Gaza Strip on 21 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET



Kenya Govt lashes opposition, summons UK envoy

NAIROBI, 22 Jan—The Kenyan Government condemned as "sabotage" on Monday a plan by the opposition to widen its protests against President Mwai Kibaki's re-election to a boycott of companies

linked to his allies. And in an increasingly militant reaction to criticism from abroad, Foreign Minister Moses Wetangula summoned Britain's High Com-missioner Adam Wood to express

displeasure at criticism of Kenya's 27 December election made in Britain's Parliament.

"Our elections don't need a stamp of authority from the House of Commons," Wetangula told reporters in the latest salvo by the government against Western powers doubting the vote.

The British mission confirmed the meeting on Monday with Wood, but would not comment further. After a bloody weekend that added to the death toll of around 650 since the vote, the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) has vowed to continue street rallies from Thursday and also called for economic protests.

MNA/Reuters

17 killed in Sri Lankan heavy fighting

COLOMBO, 22 Jan—The military in Sri Lanka said at least 15 rebels and two soldiers were killed in heavy fighting broke out between Tamil Tiger rebels and the government troops in the northern Jaffna Peninsula Monday morning.

Officials from the Media Centre for National Security said the Army launched an attack against Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels, killing 15 and injuring 30 at Nagarkovil in the Jaffna Peninsula around 2:30 am local time (2100 GMT).

Two soldiers were killed and nine were injured when the troops destroyed 24 rebels' bunkers in the battle.—MNA/Xinhua

DPRK accuses US of deploying warplanes in S Korea

PYONGYANG, 22 Jan — The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Saturday accused the United States of deploying fighter planes in South Korea recently, saying the move is contrary to the denuclearization process of the Korean Peninsula. "Such moves reflect

the true intention of the hostile US policy toward the DPRK," a spokesman of the official Peaceful Fatherland Unification Council told the *Korean Central News Agency* (KCNA). "The aforementioned deployment by the US is evidently an open challenge to the improving of inter-Korean relations and the process of peaceful

settlement of the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula," the KCNA quoted the spokesman as saying. The spokesman demanded the United States stop such provocations immediately and honestly fulfill its obligation to peace on the Korean Peninsula.

MNA/Xinhua



Leader of Thailand's People Power's Party Samak Sundaravej, right, and party's deputy Yongyuth Tiyapairat, left, take part in a group photograph on the ground outside parliament house in Bangkok, Thailand on 21 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Asian countries discuss migrant labour in UAE

DUBAI, 21 Jan — Officials from more than 20 labour importing and exporting countries meet in Abu Dhabi on Sunday to discuss the regulation of the market for Asian migrants amid growing calls for their protection from abuse.

Asian workers fill all sorts of low-paid construction, domestic, retail, manufacturing and agricultural jobs across the Gulf, often outnumbering the nationals.

The issue of migrant workers' rights has come into focus in recent

months as the weak dollar means the real value of their remittances have fallen.

Most are paid in dollar-linked Gulf currencies and the issue has led to strikes and riots in Dubai.

MNA/Reuters



A view of the swimming pool at the resort of San Alfonso del Mar in Algarrobo city on the southern coast of Chile, some 100 km (62 miles) west of Santiago, on 21 Jan, 2008.

INTERNET

Pakistani forces attack on militant stronghold

ISLAMABAD, 21 Jan — Pakistani villagers said gunship helicopters launched strikes on Sunday in an area regarded as a stronghold of a Taliban commander linked with the assassination of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto.

The air attack on positions held by fighters loyal to Baitullah Mehsud, a commander with close ties to al-Qaeda, followed overnight shelling of villages around Ladha, a town in the remote South Waziristan tribal region.

There were no fresh casualty reports available, but the military said on Saturday that it had captured 40 militants, and killed 90 during operations in the area on Friday.

Mehsud was linked to a spate of suicide attacks last year, and his supporters are believed to be giving sanctuary to al-Qaeda fighters and Pakistani jihadi groups angered by President Pervez Musharraf's alliance with the United States. — MNA/Reuters



Jordanian opposition supporters shout anti-Israeli slogans against a fuel blockade which led to power cuts in Gaza during a rally for the Islamic Action Front in front of the Jordanian parliament building in Amman on 21 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Poll shows more Americans ready for Black president

WASHINGTON, 21 Jan — More Americans than ever before are ready for a Black president in the country, according to a poll released on Monday.

The poll by CNN and Opinion Research Corp from 14 to 17 Jan shows that 72 percent of white Americans and 61 percent of black Americans said the nation is ready for a black president, compared to 65 percent of whites and 54 percent of blacks surveyed in 2006. The poll that interviewed 743 whites and 513 blacks was released as Americans honor Martin Luther King's Day, the third Monday in January,



US Democratic presidential candidate Senator Barack Obama talks at a rally in Columbia, South Carolina.—XINHUA

and Democratic presidential candidates' campaign heat up in South Carolina before the state holds its Democratic primary on

26 Jan, where a large number of black voters are seen to play decisive role.

The black civil rights leader and Nobel winner, who is famous for his "I have a dream" speech, advocated peaceful resistance and equality for people of all races. He was assassinated on 4 April, 1968, at 39 while standing on the balcony of a motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

Four decades later, about 52 percent of black Americans and 43 percent white Americans said they believe that race relations will always be problem in the United States, according to the poll. —Internet

Senior Saudi prince offers Israel peace vision

KRONBERG (Germany), 21 Jan — A senior Saudi royal has offered Israel a vision of broad cooperation with the Arab world and people-to-people contacts if it signs a peace treaty and withdraws from all occupied Arab territories.

In an interview with *Reuters*, Prince Turki al-Faisal, a former ambassador to the United States and Britain and adviser to King Abdullah, said Israel and the Arabs could cooperate in many areas including water, agriculture, science and education.

Asked what message he wanted to send to the Israeli public, he said: —MNA/Reuters

Blast hits Bucharest's sports centre

BUCHAREST, 22 Jan — An explosion ripped through Romania's Lia Manoliu national sports centre in the capital on Sunday, causing extensive damage to its gymnasium, but no casualties, the official *Rompres* news agency reported.

Three fire engines rushed to the scene and preliminary investigations showed the blast was caused by a gas leak in the gym. The gym's floor was destroyed and all the doors and windows were shattered, said Catalin Eftene, spokesperson for Romania's emergency authorities. — MNA/Xinhua

Singapore attracts record investments in 2007

SINGAPORE, 22 Jan—Singapore attracted 16.1 billion Singapore dollars (about 11.3 billion US dollars) in manufacturing fixed asset investments (FAI) in 2007, exceeding 10 billion Singapore dollars for the first time ever, the Economic Development Board (EDB) announced Monday.

It grew by 82.95 per cent from 2006's 8.8 billion Singapore dollars, and also exceeded the target of 8.5-9 billion Singapore dollars set a year ago.

When fully imple-

mented, the investments committed in 2007 will create 28,600 new jobs and add 11.6 billion Singapore dollars per year to the country's gross domestic product (GDP), said the EDB.

Singapore has been trying to pursue capital-, knowledge- and innovation-intensive investments, which the EDB said are key to the continued and sustained development of Singapore's economy.

Close to 400 projects were committed last year.

Among the key projects was the multi-billion-dollar petrochemical expansion project of ExxonMobil.

When completed in 2011, it would be ExxonMobil's largest integrated chemical and refining site in the world.

Finland's Neste Oil is also building the world's largest next-generation biodiesel manufacturing plant here, while Switzerland's Novartis is building a large-scale biotechnology plant.

MNA/Xinhua



This Image released by the Jordanian Royal Palace in Amman, shows Jordan's Queen Rania, right, visiting a Palestinian patient from the Gaza Strip as she receives treatment at King Hussein Medical Centre in Amman, Jordan, on 21 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET



Models display creations with a Mickey Mouse theme at Hong Kong Disneyland on 21 Jan, 2008. —XINHUA

ECONOMIC NEWS

Sinopec crude oil output up 2.27%, natural gas up 10.33% in '07

BEIJING, 22 Jan—China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Sinopec) announced on Monday that its crude oil output reached 291.67 million barrels last year, up 2.27 per cent from 2006.

According to unaudited figures released by Sinopec, it produced 283 billion cubic feet of natural gas in 2007, up 10.33 per cent. Sinopec processed 155.58 million tons of crude in 2007, a year-on-year increase of 6.33 per cent. Output of gasoline rose by 7.35 per cent to 24.69 million tons; diesel, up 3.84 per cent to 60.08 million tons; kerosene, up 31.02 per cent to 8.32 million tons and light chemical feedstock, up 3.21 per cent to 23.47 million tons.

Output of ethylene, synthetic resins and synthetic rubbers rose by 6.02 per cent, 12.08 per cent and 19.76 per cent, respectively, from 2006.

However, output of synthetic fibers fell 5.66 per cent and that of urea was down 2.73 per cent.

Total domestic sales volume of refined oil products rose 6.9 per cent to 119.39 million tons in 2007.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korea considers opening Govt jobs to foreigners

SEOUL, 22 Jan—South Korea's incoming administration is considering allowing foreigners to compete for all South Korean Government positions, except for those related to national security and intelligence, the transition team of President-elect Lee Myungbak said Monday.

Lee's transition team said it has finalized its decision to almost fully open government jobs to foreigners and is to present a revision of the public service law to the National Assembly later Monday.

"We have decided to revise the law so that competent foreigners can

be appointed to needed positions," transition committee spokesperson Lee Dong-kwan said in a briefing. "We will also seek measures to commit foreign officials to confidentiality even after retirement."

The decision came after Lee last week told his team to work out measures to take advantage of foreign specialists' expertise in helping South Korea revitalize and upgrade its economy. The current public service law allows temporary recruitment of foreign nationals only in a small number of fields such as research, technology and education.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian IMS eyes market-based pricing system

JAKARTA, 22 Jan—To prevent illegal coal trading due to the introduction of the proposed domestic market obligation (DMO) policy, producers in Indonesia urged the government to introduce a market-based pricing system, local Press reported Monday. The Indonesian Mining Society (IMS) said setting up a market-based pricing system domestically would address the huge disparity between local and international coal prices. The domestic coal price currently averages around 20 US dollars per ton under existing contracts between producers, industries and the government, while the international price hit the 90 dollars mark last week. —MNA/Xinhua

World oil prices fall on demand fears

LONDON, 21 Jan—World oil prices slid on Monday on deepening worries about a potential drop in energy demand owing to the weakness of the US economy, analysts said.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for February delivery, shed 1.76 dollars to 88.81 dollars per barrel in electronic deals.

US markets are closed on Monday for the Martin Luther King holiday but electronic trading is open.

Brent North Sea crude for March delivery slumped by 1.46 dollars to 87.77 dollars after earlier dipping to 87.55 dollars — a low point last seen in mid-December. —Internet



Citizens choose shopping basket in Qionghai, south China's Hainan Province, on 21 Jan, 2008. —XINHUA



In this file photo provided by 20th Century Fox, Jessica Alba as Sue Storm and Ioan Gruffudd as Reed Richards encounter the Silver Surfer in ‘Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer.’ Alba recieved Razzie nominations on 21 Jan, 2008, for three films, ‘Awake,’ ‘Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer’ and ‘Good Luck Chuck.’— INTERNET

US patrol agent killed at border with Mexico

LOS ANGELES, 21 Jan — A US Border Patrol agent was killed during an operation, prompting Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff to call the incident a “heinous” act, authorities said on Sunday.

The incident took place Saturday when the patrol agent was struck and killed by a fleeing vehicle he was pursuing in an anti- smuggling operation at the California-Mexico border, according to Jeremy Schappell, a spokesman for the Border Patrol.

The agent was trying to stop two vehicles that had illegally entered the United States from Mexico when he was hit, said Schappell. The name of the victim was being withheld until relatives could be notified, Schappell said.

The death, the first for the Border Patrol in 2008, drew a sharp response from US Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. “Dangerous criminal groups have chosen to respond to our tougher security posture at the border with increased violence,” Chertoff said in a statement. —MNA/Xinhua

France’s oldest man dies, one WWI survivor left

PARIS, 21 Jan — France’s oldest man, a First World War veteran who refused a medal and spoke powerfully about the horrors of war, has died at 110, leaving just one veteran alive from the conflict. Louis de Cazenave died at his home in the Auvergne region in central France on Sunday, the government said.

President Nicolas Sarkozy called his death a reminder of the 1.4 million French who had lost their lives in the 1914-18 war.

Cazenave survived both the Battle of the Somme in 1916 and the Second Battle of the Aisne a year later, two of the bloodiest episodes of the

“war to end all wars”.

Born in October 1897, de Cazenave became an infantryman in 1916 and retired in 1941. He refused a military decoration but was eventually awarded the civilian Legion of Honour in 1999.

“Some of my comrades weren’t even given a wooden cross,” he told *Le Monde* newspaper in 2005. Recalling events etched into his mind 88 years earlier, he gave a grim account of the offensive on German positions along the river Aisne which caused about 350,000 French and German deaths and led afterwards to a partial French mutiny.—MNA/Reuters

Iran gets 4th batch of nuclear fuel from Russia

TEHERAN, 21 Jan— Iran received a fourth delivery of nuclear fuel from Russia on Sunday to power Teheran’s first atomic power plant and it expects four more before the consignment is complete, an official *Iranian news agency* said.

Russia delivered the first batch of about 80 tons of uranium fuel rods to Iran on 17 December and urged Teheran to scrap its own, controversial programme for making fuel.

Iran says it wants the

capability to make its own fuel so that it will have secure supplies in the future.

“The fourth shipment of Bushehr nuclear power plant fuel arrived in Iran,” *IRNA news agency* reported, quoting Iran’s atomic energy production and development company. The shipment of 11 tons arrived on Sunday.

“The process of delivering the remaining four shipments will take place based on a specific timetable,” it said without giving dates.

Washington and other Western powers fear Iran’s uranium enrichment and other nuclear activities are aimed at building nuclear weapons.

MNA/Reuters

Colombian President “open for dialogue” on hostages

PARIS, 21 Jan—Colombian President Alvaro Uribe said on Sunday he was “open for dialogue” with rebels holding scores of hostages in the jungle, after an offer by the Catholic Church to help create a safe haven for talks.

He was speaking in Paris after meeting relatives of French-Colombian hostage Ingrid Betancourt at the start of a tour to discuss European efforts to release the prisoners.

Betancourt, a former Colombian presidential candidate who has been held since 2002, is among dozens of hostages in the hands of Marxist rebels the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, known as the FARC. After meeting Betancourt’s son Lorenzo and ex-husband Fabrice Delloye at the Colombian Embassy in Paris, Uribe said he was ready to hold a dialogue with FARC under a framework proposed by the Church with the support of European envoys.

“We are open for dialogue in the same way as we have been strict in fighting terrorism,” he told journalists. “We fight terror acts and are open for dialogue to give our country a permanent solution.”

MNA/Reuters

GAZA, 21 Jan— Israeli forces fired missiles in northern Gaza Strip early Saturday, killing two Hamas militants and wounding three others, medical sources said.

Mu’awia Hassanein, director of ambulance and emergency in the Palestinian Health Ministry, said Ihab al-Bana, 30, and Ali Jum’a, 25, were dead when they were rushed to the hospital, adding that three other militants were moderately hurt.

MNA/Xinhua



Israel Aerospace Industries Ltd said an advanced imaging satellite it produced, employing synthetic aperture radar (SAR) technology, was launched into orbit on Monday on an Indian Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle. XINHUA

Two Hamas gunmen killed in Gaza Strip

This photo, published on 21 Jan, 2008, shows a giant dead whale suspended in the air by a crane at a fishing dock in the eastern Shandong Province. XINHUA



UAE pledges to build world's greenest city

ABU DHABI, 22 Jan—A company of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) vowed to build the world's greenest city with zero-carbon, zero-waste and car-free, local newspaper *Khaleej Times* reported on Sunday.

Under a Sustainability Action Plan, UAE's Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (Masdar) will finish the project by 2015 with its partner and adviser, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), an international nongovernmental organization.

The six-square-kilometre project, named "Masdar City", will be located near Abu Dhabi International Airport, and

is claimed to be the world's first zero-carbon, zero-waste and car-free city.

Masdar City's electricity will be generated by photovoltaic panels, while cooling will be provided via concentrated solar power. According to the report, the city's water will be provided through a solar-powered desalination plant.

Landscaping within the city and crops grown

outside it will be irrigated with grey water and treated waste water produced by the city's water treatment plant.

Masdar City is part of the Masdar Initiative, which was launched in April 2006 by the Abu Dhabi government to foster the development and commercialization of advanced and innovative technologies in renewable, alternative and sustainable energies.

MNA/Xinhua



Russia's President Vladimir Putin (R) and his Moldovan counterpart Vladimir Voronin speak as they meet in Moscow's Kremlin, on 22 Jan 2008. Voronin is on a working visit to Russia.
INTERNET

Private plane collision kills four in S California

LOS ANGELES, 22 Jan—At least four people were killed after two private planes collided in midair on Sunday afternoon in southern California, authorities said.

The collision occurred near the Corona Municipal Airport, about 72 kilometres southeast of Los Angeles, according to Ian Gregor, spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration.

MNA/Xinhua

Two Russian soldiers killed in Chechnya

MOSCOW, 22 Jan—Two Russian soldiers were killed in an attack in the Caucasus region of Chechnya, Russian news agencies reported on Monday, citing local police.

Two soldiers were killed and another wounded in an exchange of fire with unidentified militants in eastern Chechnya on Sunday evening, RIA Novosti, Interfax and ITAR-TASS news agencies said.

Russian troops and police on Monday continued hunting for at least 20 militants in a neighbouring district of the region, RIA Novosti said.

MNA/Xinhua

Mexican army captures senior drug cartel member

MEXICO CITY, 22 Jan—Mexico's Army has arrested a leading member of one of the country's most notorious drug cartels, the attorney-general's office said on Monday.

Soldiers detained Alfredo Beltran Leyva on Sunday in the northwestern city of Culiacan, a spokeswoman for the office said. Beltran Leyva and three other people arrested with him were carrying some 900,000 US dollars in cash in two suitcases.

MNA/Reuters

Two graffiti artists drown in Sydney

SYDNEY, 22 Jan—Two Australian graffiti artists drowned when a flash storm swept them along a drain they had been spray painting in Sydney before trapping them at its barred ocean outlet, police said.

A third graffiti artist, who remained conscious during the ordeal, managed to squeeze himself through the bars and into the ocean where he was rescued by surfers on Sunday.

"It's believed three

people, two men and one woman, were allegedly spray painting the walls of a stormwater drain at Maroubra (Beach), when it started to rain," police said in a statement on Monday.

"As a result of the storm, the drain is believed to have filled with water, trapping the two men and a woman inside, before they were washed further down the drain toward Lurline Bay about 1km away," said police.

MNA/Reuters

S Korea indicts crewmen, ship owners for oil spill

SEOUL, 22 Jan—South Korean prosecutors indicted the Chinese owners of an oil tanker and Samsung Heavy Industries on Monday along with five crew members of the vessels involved in the country's worst oil spill in December.

A sea-bound crane mounted on a Samsung barge punched holes in the Hong Kong-registered tanker Hebei Spirit on 7 December, causing a leak

of more than 10,000 tons of crude oil that washed up on South Korea's west coast beaches, including a nature reserve.

An official at the prosecutors' office said they indicted the Indian-national captain and the first officer of *Hebei Spirit* and the captains of the barge and two tug boats that towed it, all for failure to exercise due caution.

MNA/Reuters

The prosecution also

Japan's NHK chief resigns over insider trading

TOKYO, 22 Jan—The president of Japan's public broadcaster NHK said on Monday he would resign to take responsibility for an insider-trading scandal involving staff at the media group.

NHK President

Genichi Hashimoto said he has tendered his resignation.

"The management's responsibility for sharply denting the audience's confidence is grave," he told reporters.

Hashimoto said two of NHK's 10 managing

directors would step down on Tuesday over the scandal. The Securities and Exchange Surveillance Commission was looking into the scandal, while NHK itself said it would check all of its 11,000 employees.

MNA/Reuters

A Citibank branch is pictured in Singapore 22 Jan, 2008. Purchase of stakes by Singapore state-owned funds in Western banks such as Citigroup and UBS were "good long-term investments", the city state's finance minister said on Monday. —
INTERNET



US military death toll rises to 3925

BAGHDAD, 22 Jan—Two American soldiers were killed on Saturday in two incidents in central Iraq, the US military said on Monday.

One soldier was killed by a roadside bomb attack in the area of Arab Jabour in south of Baghdad, a military statement said.

The area, which is a stronghold of militants affiliated to al-Qaeda in Iraq network, was the scene of ongoing major offensive launched by US and Iraqi troops.

In western Iraq, a marine was killed during combat operations in Anbar Province, another statement said.

The names of the deceased soldiers are being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statements said.

The latest deaths brought the number of US soldiers killed in Iraq to more than 3,925 since the US-led invasion in 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.—MNA/Xinhua

Lt-Gen Myint Swe hoists Htidaw, Seinbudaw, Hngetmyatnardaw atop Aungmyay Bodhi Pagoda in Thanlyin Township

YANGON, 22 Jan — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay hoisted Seinbudaw (diamond bud) and Hngetmyatnardaw atop Aungmyay Bodhi Pagoda at Latyatsan Village in Thanlyin Township today.

The ceremony to hoist Seinbudaw (diamond bud), Hngetmyatnardaw and htidaw (umbrella) atop the pagoda, was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa.

Afterwards, the congregation led by Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife received Five Precepts from Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw of Yankin Maha Dhammikarama Kyaikpi Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Gunasana and Sayadaws recited Parittas.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Daw Khin Thet Htay presented the Seinbudaw (diamond bud) donated by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing to Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Gunasana.

Next, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko and departmental heads presented Shwehtidaw (golden umbrella) to fix atop the pagoda and offertories to Members of the Sangha.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gunasana delivered a sermon and the congregation shared merits gained.

Afterwards Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife,



Aungmyay Bodhi Pagoda in Latyatsan Village (Htamalon) in Thanlyin Township. — MNA

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, senior military officers and departmental heads

conveyed Seinbudaw (diamond bud), Hngetmyatnardaw and tiers of golden htidaw (golden umbrella) around the pagoda clock-wise and sprinkled scented water on the religious objects.

At the auspicious time, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife, the deputy minister, departmental

heads and local people hoisted Seinbudaw (diamond bud), Hngetmyatnardaw and tiers of golden htidaw (golden umbrella) atop the pagoda.

Officials concerned and members of the board of trustees of the pagoda also hoisted tiers of golden umbrella atop pagodas circling

Aungmyay Bodhi Pagoda.

The ceremony concluded with the three-time recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Ciram Tiitthatu*.

After the ceremony, Members of the Sangha led by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gunasana consecrated Aungmyay Bodhi Pagoda. — MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay present Seinbudaw (diamond bud) to a Sayadaw. — MNA

USDA Secretary-General meets members of Meikhtila Township USDA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan — Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo met executives and members of Meikhtila Township USDA at the

office of the district and township USDA on 19 January.

In his speech at the meeting the Secretary-General stressed the needs for USDA members to make efforts for the

development of the region by performing constructive works and collectively participate in uplifting the agricultural sector, main economics of the nation.

MNA

Educative talks given at Traders Hotel

YANGON, 22 Jan — Organized by Chemical Industry Group of Myanmar Industrialists Association and funded by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Yangon, educative talks on 'Anatomy of Responsible Care (RC)', 'Guide for Initiating RC' and 'Points of RCMS for Chemical Industry in Myanmar' will be given at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda

Road, here, this afternoon.

Chairman of Myanmar Industrialists Association U Paw Hein and executive officers, departmental officials and entrepreneurs were present on the occasion.

Chairman of Chemical Industry Group Dr Kyaw Htin and Managing Director Mr Eitaro Kojima of JETRO (Yangon) made opening speeches. Then, Senior

Researcher of Japan Chemical Industry Association Mr Konoshin Eukuma gave educative talks on 'Anatomy of Responsible Care (RC)', 'Guide for Initiating RC' and 'Points of RCMS for Chemical Industry in Myanmar' and answered the queries shot by those present. Afterwards, Advisor of JETRO (Yangon) gave a concluding speech.

MNA



Senior Researcher Mr Konoshin Eukuma of Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA) gives talks at Traders Hotel in Yangon. — UMFCFI

Thai delegation on study tour



Thai delegation led by Lt-Gen Panumat Sivara visits Tooth Relic Pagoda in Yangon.

MNA

YANGON, 22 Jan—The visiting delegation led by Lieutenant General Panumat Sivara of National Defence College of Royal Thai Army accompanied by officials visited the Tooth Relic Pagoda in Yangon Township, here, this morning and offered flowers and water to the pagoda.

Members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees explained the historical background of the pagoda. Lieutenant General Panumat Sivara signed in the visitors' book, made cash donations to the funds of the Pagoda and paid

obeisance to the Pagoda.

Next, the guests visited the Chaukhtetkyi Pagoda on Shwegondine Road in Bahan Township. They then offered lights and paid homage to the Pagoda. Lieutenant General Panumat Sivara signed in the visitors' book and made cash donations.

Later Thai delegation members paid a visit to the National Museum on Pyay Road. Lieutenant General Panumat Sivara signed in the visitors' book and presented souvenirs to the officials of the museum.

MNA

Who harbours hatred is not appeased

“He abused me, he defeated me, he robbed me”, the hatred of them, who harbours this thought, is not appeased.

Dhammapada 3

Transformers, Sub-power stations opened in Okpo Township

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Minister for Electric Power-2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint accompanied by CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Bago Division (West) in-charge Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay and Vice Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Sein Myint inspected the site chosen for building of 33/11 KV (1250) KVA sub-power station at Gonnyindan village-tract in Othegon Township, Bago Division on 20 January.

At the briefing hall, Electrical Engineer of Bago Division (West) U Ye Myint Htay and officials reported on tasks for construction of the subpower station. The minister gave necessary instructions.

Next, the minister and party attended the opening ceremony to start distribution of power from 11/0.4 KV (100 KVA) transformer at Thayetpinseik village in Okpo Township.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay formally cut the ribbon and then Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint turned on the main switch. The transformer was installed with the contribution of wellwishers.

The minister and party also attended the opening ceremony of 33/11 KV (2500 KVA) sub-power station and Moenyodan Street in Okpo Township.

Managing Director U Maung Thaung of Yangon Transformer and Electronic Co presented documents related to the plot of land worth K seven million to the minister.

CEC member of the USDA Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay accepted the related documents of the chosen site for 33/11 KV (1250) KVA sub-power station.

Vice chairman Brig-Gen Sein Myint received K 101 million— K 100 million from YTEC Managing Director U Maung Thaung and one million from owner of Aung

Thu Passenger Bus Service U Htay Win.

Afterwards, CEC member Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, Vice-chairman of Bago Division PDC Brig-Gen Sein Myint and officials formally opened the 33/11 KV (2500) KVA sub-power station and the minister formally unveiled the signboard of the sub-power station. — MNA

Myanmar Tennis Championship Tourney on 26 Jan

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan — Myanmar Tennis Championship Tournament organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation will be held at Theinbyu tennis court in Yangon from 26 to 30 January.

Tournament includes men's open division, women's open division, men's 35 and above, 45 and above, 55 and above and 60 and above and singles and doubles.

The tennis players may contact and enroll at MTF up to 25 Jan (Tel: 01-372360). — MNA



**Myanmar PGA
&
Myanmar Golf Federation
President Cup
2008**



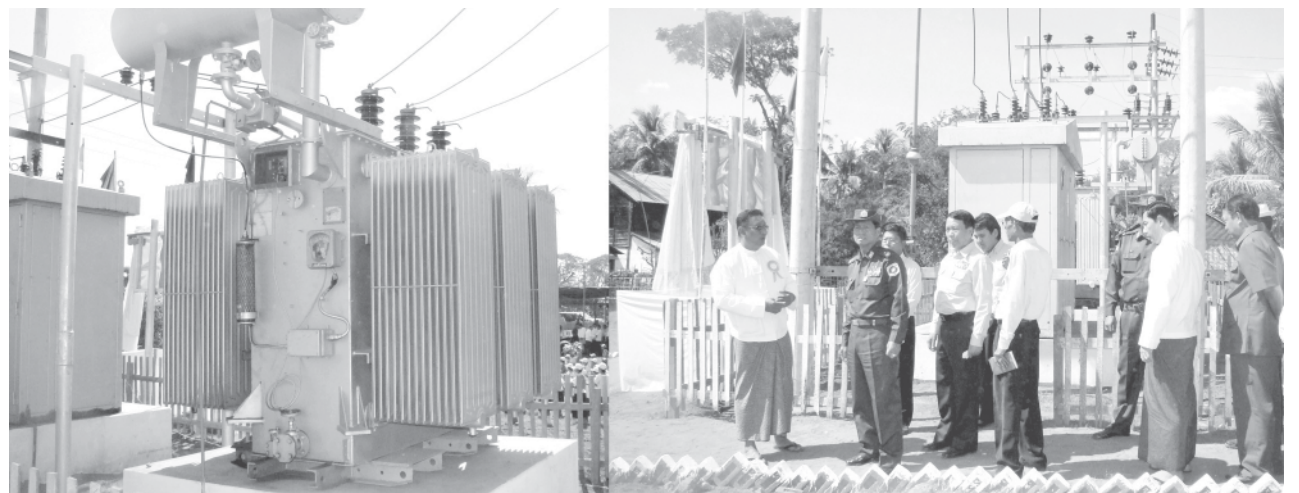
Myanmar PGA and MGF President Cup Golf Tournament 2008 to be held

YANGON, 22 Jan — Myanmar PGA and MGF President's Cup Golf Tournament 2008 organized by Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation, will be held at Hanthawady Golf Club at Hsemainggon in Bago Township, from 19 to 22 February.

The competitions will

include Professional Golfers level, Men's amateur level handicap and Women's amateur level handicap.

Those wishing to take part in the competitions may contact phone numbers 651374, 09-9972554 and 052-22254 not later than 4 pm on 16 February. —MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay inspect self-reliant sub-power station in Okpo Township. — MNA

Experts discuss measures for monitoring, controlling infectious diseases in 2008

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan — Health experts held a meeting and discussed measures for monitoring and controlling preventable diseases including polio and infectious diseases in 2008 and laid down future tasks at the Health Department here yesterday.

The meeting was organized by the Health Department under Ministry of Health and World Health

Organization-WHO.

The meeting was participated by deputy Director-General of the Health Department Dr San Shwe Win, Resident Representative of WHO Prof Adik Wibowo, Dr Nihal Singh of WHO, Ms Karen Hymbaugh and Dr Nalini Ramamurty of specialists for infectious diseases and officials concerned. — MNA

Teachers to strive for students to be culturally civilized and morally upright Special Refresher Course No 30 for Basic Education Teachers of CICS (Upper Myanmar) opened

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Special Refresher Course No 30 for Basic Education Teachers conducted by the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board was opened at the Yadana Hall of CICS (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division yesterday 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, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein made a speech.

Also present on the occasion were Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, deputy ministers, the Deputy Chief Justice (Upper Myanmar), members of CSSTB, the Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mandalay Mayor, departmental heads, the Rector of CICS (Upper Myanmar), pro-rectors, division-level departmental officials, heads of department of CISC (Upper Myanmar), course instructors and teacher trainees.

In his address, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein said that nowadays the government is shaping the future of the nation by enhancing the efficiency of new generation youths based on education.

Basic education teachers are the ones who nurtured and trained students since their younger days, he said and stressed the need to nurture and train the youths to become able and reliable ones to be in line with the requirements of the State while enhancing their talents and personality traits, making better use of the already-achieved



Minister Dr Chan Nyein delivers an address at opening of Special Refresher Course No 30 for Basic Education Teachers of CICS (Upper Myanmar). — MNA

education infrastructures.

Not only that, teachers are to inculcate a sense of duty as well as moral character in the youths to be capable and morally upright in addition to teaching while imbuing them with a spirit of cherishing the State and the people and good habit and character, he said.

He spoke of the need for teachers to make a constant effort for the promotion of education standard of students, for the development of students individually and for the realization of education infrastructures.

He also called on teachers to nurture students to be fully equipped with aptitude and efficiency to become ones capable of living a life of determination and serving the interest of the State.

In the meantime, they are to strive for students to be culturally civilized and morally upright so that they will be able to shape their future and to try their utmost to be exemplary, he added.

Teachers are to make constant efforts to be in oneness with students, and only then, will attributes in teachers be brilliant all the more as a result, he noted.

He said out-

standing students will turn out continuously due to the training of the teachers with high qualification. Patriotic teachers are able to nurture their pupils to possess patriotism and Union Spirit. It is necessary for the teachers to learn the respective subjects for ever, he said.

He said Head of State Senior General Than Shwe had given guidance that efforts are to be made for enhancing the teaching skills of the teachers as the first requirement. He urged the teachers to strive for upgrading teaching skills.

The education world will develop if the teachers are better qualified. With the emergence of brilliant younger generation in various fields the nation and its people will be prosperous, he added.

Next, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and party cordially greeted trainees.

The five-week course is being attended by 1302 the trainees from the basic education schools of Upper Myanmar.—MNA

Round-table discussions of MWAFF at No 1 BEHS in South Okkalapa Township. — YCDC

Mines Minister visits Thanlyin Tin Refinery

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint on 20 January inspected the sculpturing of a jade Buddha image at the Myanmar Gems Enterprise.

He viewed polishing of precious stones and sales of gems at the gems sale centre of Myanmar Ves Joint Venture Company Ltd, and local gems shops at the Myanmar Gems Museum.

He also inspected ar-

ranging jade lots for the Gems Sales due to be held in March at the Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road, calling for coordination of respective committees formed for successful exhibition of the gems sales.

During the inspection tour of the Tin Smelting Plant in Thanlyin, he heard reports by Managing Director of No 2 Mining Enterprise U Hla Thein and the factory manager on

production process and progress of repairing the factory. He called for worksite safety, and exceeding the target. He inspected the production process at the plant and the crop plantations grown by the service personnel.

He visited the Salt Grinding Mill and Oral Rehydration Salt Factory of the Myanmar Salt and Marine Chemicals Enterprise in Thakayta Township.—MNA

Health education talks, round-table discussions conducted

YANGON, 22 Jan—The Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation organized health education talks and round-table discussions at No 1 Basic Education High School on Yazadarit Street in Ward 7, South Okkalapa Township, this morning.

Present at the talks were the secretary and

members of MWAFF, Head of Administration Department Dr Daw Khin San Nwe and officials, teachers and students.

At the talks, the head of the Administration Department made an opening address. Secretariat Member Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin gave talks on garbage and health, and Assistant Head

U Sai San Oo of the Environmental Conservation Department under Yangon Civil and Development Committee, on garbage. YCDC donated 10 rubbish boxes and garbage bags.

At the round-table discussion, Dr Daw Khin San Nwe and officials discussed facts about garbage.—MNA





Aymara Indians row their boat toward a floating island in Sahuina, northern Bolivia, on 20 Sunday, Jan, 2008.

INTERNET

Images of the Day

The Sandovaz family from Mexico snap pictures by the 110-ton stainless steel Anish Kapoor sculpture called 'Cloud Gate' and nicknamed 'The Bean' during a visit to Millennium Park in downtown Chicago on Friday, 4 Jans, 2008.

INTERNET



A diver dances with a nurse shark at the Donghu Aquarium in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 21 Jan, 2008.

INTERNET



A preview of the Dunhuang Art Exhibition is held at National Art Museum of China in Beijing, capital of China, on 19 Jan, 2008. The exhibition will officially open on 22 Jan, in which 120 pieces of copies of Mokao Grotto murals and ten pieces of unearthed cultural relics will be displayed.

XINHUA



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Tin Ohnmar Tun

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(For. Domnarn Somgiat & Boonma Attorneys at Law, Thailand).

Dated: 23 January 2008

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ROTOR FOR WIND TURBINE

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In respect of: A rotor for a wind turbine includes a rotation shaft having a first flange and rotatably supported on a support frame; a single disc installed on the rotation shaft; wind guide parts defined through the disc to guide wind blowing on surfaces of the disc; first wind collecting parts formed around the wind guide parts on the surfaces of the disc to collect wind blowing on the surfaces of the disc; second wind collecting parts secured to the rotation shaft and the disc to collect wind; a first universal coupling having one end on which a second flange is provided to be coupled to the first flange and the other end which is formed with internal splines; and a propeller shaft having one end which is formed with external splines engaged with the internal splines and the other end which has a third flange and a second universal coupling. Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Patent shall be dealt with according to law.

U Myint Lwin, Advocate,
LL.B, DBL
Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)
myint.advocate@mptmail.net.mm
Ph: 371 990 23 January 2008

Tajiks see new plant as way out of energy crisis

SANGTUDA (Tajikistan), 21 Jan—Tajikistan, its utilities paralysed by the coldest winter in decades, on Sunday opened a new Russian-built power plant hailed by the authorities as a step towards solving an energy crisis.

Millions of Tajiks were struggling to survive without heating and electricity in their homes as temperatures plunged to below -20 degrees Celsius (-4 Fahrenheit) across the mountainous nation north of Afghanistan.

Tajik President Imomali Rakhmon, speaking at the opening ceremony of the Sangtuda-1 hydroelectric power plant, said additional electricity capacity would help avoid such crises in the future.

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CLOSING DATE will be on 5 February 2008 at 16:00 hr and RFQ 034304, 028399, 031715, 031786 will be closed on 29 January 2008 at 16:00 hr.

Tender documents are available at the following addresses:

70 (I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Myanmar

Tel: (95) 1 514194 to 7; Fax: (95) 1 514208; Email: miccl@miccl.com.mm

Site: Tel: (95) 71 22225/6; Fax: (95) 71 22522; Email: supply@miccl.com.mm

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Queries can be done between 10am to 4pm at Supply Department; Tel: (95) 71 22225/6;

Email: supply@miccl.com.mm before the Tender Closing Date.

MARRIAGE

Too Shin Yin, AWP Executive, Legacy Capital Group, Singapore
(Final Year Bachelor of Business Econs & Finance, RMIT, Melbourne) Daughter of Too Kong Chin & Tan Tung Hoon, Jahor Bahru, Malaysia
and

Htin Si, Engineer, Seagate Technology International, Singapore
(Bachelor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, NTU, Singapore)

The eldest son of Dr Maung Thin & Daw Khin Saw Aye
on 2nd December 2007, at The Grassroots' Club, Singapore

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY INVITATION TO QUOTATION

Sealed quotations are invited by the Myanma Port Authority, for the supply of the following items;
(1) 50 Ton Diesel Hydraulic Mobile Crane-(One Unit)
(Including 5 Years Recommended Spares)

Quotation Closing date/ time 7.2.2008 (Thursday) 15:00 hours. Quotation forms and documents are available at the Stores Department, Seik Kan Township, Myanma Port Authority, starting from 24-1-2008 during office hours.

For further details, please contact telephone number 292334, 292292, and 292301.

**Controller Of Stores
Myanma Port Authority**

Indian bus falls into gorge, 38 dead

MUMBAI, 21 Jan — At least 38 people were killed and dozens injured after a bus packed with pilgrims fell into a gorge in western India, police said on Monday.

The accident occurred on Sunday night, when the driver lost control negotiating a bend along a hilly stretch about 200 kilometres (125 miles) north of India's financial capital Mumbai.

The victims, mostly from Mumbai, included five children and 14 women. Forty passengers were injured, police said.

MNA/Reuters

Sri Lanka says fighting kills 41 rebels, soldier

COLOMBO, 21 Jan—Sri Lanka's forces have attacked five Tamil Tiger boats in the north, while separately troops have killed 41 rebels and one soldier died in fresh fighting, the military said on Sunday.

A six-year truce between the state and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) formally ended on Wednesday, opening the way for a military push for the Tigers' northern stronghold and a bloody escalation in a 25-year civil war.

The fighting in the northern Jaffna Peninsula, northern districts of Vavuniya, Pollonnaruwa and north-western district of Mannar came days after 27 people were killed in a bus ambush in the central town of Buttala,

which the military blamed on the Tigers.

"Troops attacked a line of LTTE terrorist bunkers ... south of Adampan Tank in Mannar and completely destroyed six to eight of them," said a spokesman at the media centre for national security, asking not be name in line with policy.

"Troops also recovered the bodies of two female terrorists and some weapons."

The military said they had killed 39 Tamil Tiger rebels in fighting on Saturday and one soldier also died. Separately the military in northern Jaffna Peninsula had attacked five boats of the Tigers. The clashes were the latest in renewed civil war that has seen near daily air raids, bombings and land and sea battles.

MNA/Reuters

Volcano eruption under Antarctica ice sheet confirmed



Antarctica

BEIJING, 21 Jan—Evidence of a powerful volcano, which erupted under the ice sheet of West Antarctica around 325 BC and might still be active now, has been confirmed by British scientists, according to media reports Monday.

A layer of volcanic ash and glass shards frozen within an ice sheet in West Antarctica was identified in an

article published in the journal *Nature Geosciences* by Hugh F J Corr and David G Vaughan. The volcanic eruption from beneath rated “severe” to “cataclysmic” on an international scale of volcanic force. It punched a massive breach in the ice sheet and spat out a plume some 12,000 meters (eight miles) into the sky.

“We believe this was the biggest eruption in Antarctica during the last 10,000 years,” Corr said.

Evidence for this comes from a British-American airborne geophysical survey in 2004-5 that used radar to delve deep under the ice sheet to map the terrain beneath. “This is the first time we have seen a volcano beneath the ice sheet punch a hole through the ice sheet,” Vaughan said.— *Internet*

Oman bans poultry imports from India, Iran

MUSCAT, 21 Jan—Oman has banned the import of all poultry and poultry products from India and Iran, the state news agency *ONA* said on Saturday, after outbreaks of avian influenza in those countries.

The report gave no official reason for the ban. Veterinary workers began killing thousands of chickens in eastern India on Wednesday after what the World Health Organization (WHO) said was the worst outbreak of bird flu in the country.

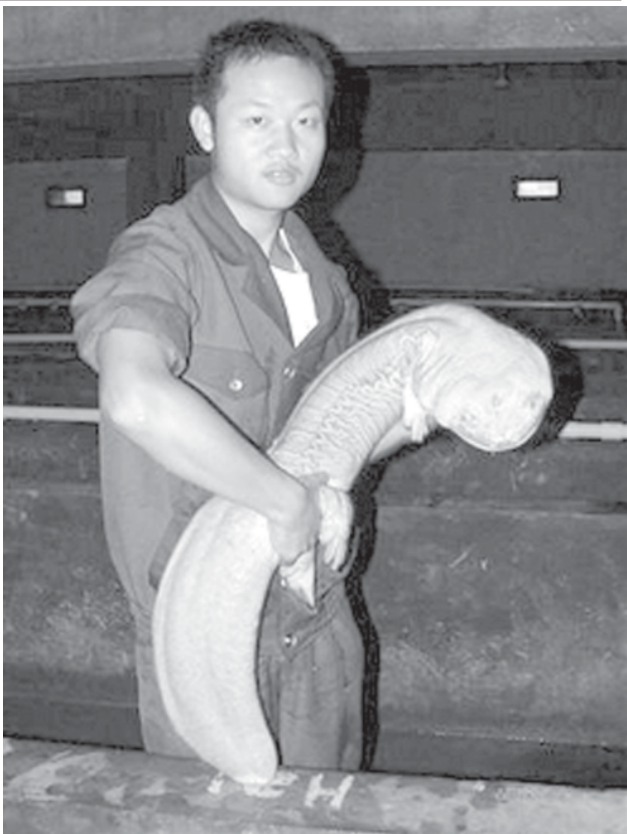
The outbreak in West

Bengal was the fourth in India since 2006 and presented the country’s toughest challenge yet.

Iran has also found the deadly H5N1 strain of bird

flu in ducks and geese in the north of the Islamic Republic. No human cases were reported, local media said.

MNA/Reuters



A man holds a giant Chinese salamander in this undated handout. A giant Chinese salamander that predates *Tyrannosaurus rex* and the world’s smallest frog are among a group of extremely rare amphibians identified by scientists as being in need of urgent help to survive.—INTERNET

East China province to open 40 air routes

NANJING, 21 Jan—East China’s Jiangsu Province plans to open more than 40 air routes and carry 13 million passengers in 2008, according to provincial transport bureau sources.

Pan Yonghe, the bureau director, said 30 of the air routes linked to domestic cities, with the rest overseas.

The province will spend 400 million yuan (about 53.3 million US dollars) this year in building a new airport in Huai’an City, and in expanding three others, including the Nanjing Lukou International Airport.

Last year, the province’s airports handled 10.76 million passengers, an increase of 30.3 per cent over 2006.—MNA/Xinhua

Two killed in spate of shootings in Los Angeles area

LOS ANGELES, 21 Jan—A spate of shootings occurred overnight and early Sunday in the Los Angeles area, killing two and wounding nine others, three critically, authorities said.

The first shooting happened at a birthday party in Long Beach late Saturday when several gang members apparently crashed the party and started a fight, said Sergeant Dina Zapalski, a police spokeswoman.

A 17 year-old boy and a 15 year-old girl were critically wounded and later died from their injuries, Zapalski said. Another 17 year-old boy suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

The second shooting took place early Sunday in Compton City, when four or five men turned up at a party and opened fire, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Deputy Tony

Moore said.

Eight people were shot and three were critically wounded. Moore said it was not known if the attack was gang-related.

No suspect was arrested in both shootings, police said.—MNA/Xinhua

Israel arrests six Palestinians in West Bank

RAMALLAH, 21 Jan—Israeli forces arrested six Palestinians in the West Bank on Saturday night, Palestinian security sources said on Sunday.

Four detainees, including three teenagers, were arrested in Jenin during overnight raids at the houses, the sources added. The other two people were detained by Israeli troops who rolled into the holy city of Bethlehem, according to the sources.

Israeli radio reported that the detainees were wanted by Israel, adding that the Israeli police arrested 650 Palestinians this week for intruding inside Israel without permission. Separately, in an internal Palestinian conflict on Sunday, Hamas movement said security forces, loyal to President Mahmoud Abbas’ Fatah movement, arrested four Hamas members in the West Bank. Three were arrested in Tulkarem and a fourth in Jenin, Hamas said in a Press statement.—MNA/Xinhua



A file photo provided by TriStar Pictures shows Lindsay Lohan in ‘I Know Who Killed Me.’ The film, in which Lohan plays two characters who may or may not be the same person, received a leading nine Razzie nominations on 21 Jan, 2008, among them worst picture of 2007.—INTERNET



A model displays a creation from Amapo’s Fall/Winter 2008 collection during Sao Paulo Fashion Week on 21 Jan, 2008.

INTERNET

SPORTS



Nigeria's Peter Odemwingie, right, in action as Ivory Coast's Boka Arthur, centre, with teammate Abdoulaye Meite, left, try to defend during their Africa Cup of Nations group B soccer match in Sekondi, Ghana, on 21 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Kalou kicks Ivory Coast to perfect start

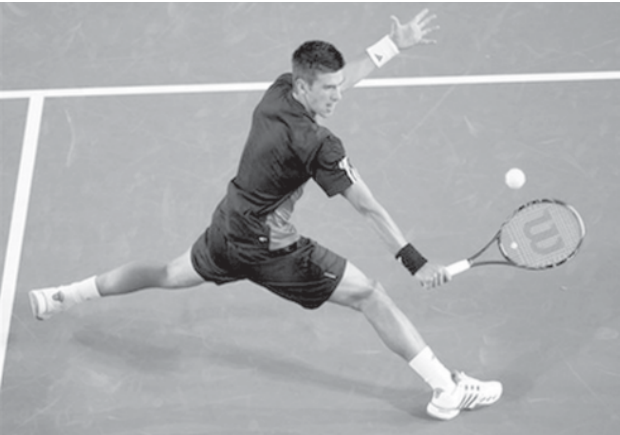
SEKONDI, 22 Jan — A second-half goal by Salomon Kalou earned Ivory Coast a 1-0 victory over Nigeria in a clash of heavyweights at the African Nations Cup on Monday. The Chelsea striker netted on 66 minutes against the run of play to give the Elephants a dream start in Group B at the Essipon stadium.

Both teams struggled to play lively football in scorching heat, with the temperature reaching 35 degrees Celsius. Nigeria had the best chances with Olympique Marseille defender Taye Taiwo hitting Boubacar Barry's bar with a powerful free kick after 14 minutes.

Ivory Coast coach Gerard Gili added to his front line by replacing midfielder Steve Gohouri with forward Abdelkader Keita at halftime.

The Super Eagles continued to dictate the play but Yakubu Aiyegbeni wasted two clear chances within the first five minutes of the second half.

Ivory Coast went ahead when Kalou dribbled past three Nigerians before beating keeper Austin Ejide from close range. — MNA/Reuters



Novak Djokovic of Serbia lunges for a return to Lleyton Hewitt of Australia during their fourth round men's singles match at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne, Australia, on 21 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Ferguson denies making offensive gesture to fans

LONDON, 22 Jan — Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has refuted allegations that he made offensive gestures to Reading fans as his team battled to a 2-0 Premier League victory at the Madejski Stadium on Saturday.

Television pictures showed Ferguson pumping his fists and putting his left hand on to his right arm after Cristiano Ronaldo's late goal secured all three points to keep the champions at the top. Wayne Rooney had broken the deadlock after 77 minutes.

An FA spokesman confirmed that they would study video evidence of the incident, but Ferguson denied he was responding to taunts from the home fans. "All I was doing was expressing my relief at winning what was one of our hardest games of the season," the United boss told reporters in Riyadh where United are playing in a testimonial match for former Saudi Arabia skipper Sami Al-Jaber.—MNA/Reuters

Crouch saves Liverpool on angry night at Anfield

LONDON, 22 Jan — Peter Crouch grabbed a late equalizer to earn Liverpool a 2-2 draw with Aston Villa in a Premier League game at Anfield played out against a backdrop of anger and protest on Monday.

The England striker's 88th-minute goal rescued the troubled home side after Villa had scored twice in three minutes against the run of play.

Villa substitute Marlon Harewood cancelled out Israeli Yossi Benayoun's first-half strike with an acrobatic scissors kick, his first touch of the game, in the 69th minute before the visitors made it 2-1 with an own goal from Fabio Aurelio.

Liverpool, who had

hoped to leapfrog city rivals Everton into fourth place on goal difference, edged up to fifth on 40 points and ahead of Villa and Manchester City on goal difference.

Champions Manchester United have 54 points from 23 matches and lead Arsenal on goal differ-

ence at the top, with Chelsea third on 50.

"We'll keep going, it's not over until it's over," Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard told Setanta Sports television when asked about the title chase. "But it's certainly not good enough."

MNA/Reuters



Slovakia's Daniela Hantuchova prepares to hit a shot during her fourth round match against Russia's Maria Kirilenko at the Australian Open in Melbourne. Hantuchova won 1-6, 6-4, 6-4.—INTERNET



Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps swims the butterfly in the men's 400 yard individual medley during the 2008 Toyota Grand Prix of Swimming at the Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool in Long Beach, California.—INTERNET

Early hat-trick earns Morocco easy win

ACCRA, 22 Jan — A hat-trick from Soufiane Alloudi inside half an hour ensured an easy 5-1 win for Morocco over Namibia in their African Nations Cup Group A match on Monday.

The rising star of Moroccan football netted twice in the opening five minutes in a shocking start to Namibia's second Nations Cup appearance -- a decade after the first.

Alloudi completed his hat-trick with a rare headed goal in the 28th minute after Tarik Sektioui had teased the porous Namibia defence to provide the perfect cross.

Namibia, despite the early jitters, did well to fight back to 2-1 when midfielder Brian Brendell scored in the 24th minute but were thoroughly outplayed by a creative Morocco team.

A penalty by Sektioui made it 4-1 before halftime and substitute Moncef Zerka got his first international goal three minutes after coming on as a substitute in the 70th minute. —MNA/Reuters

FIFA, UEFA agree \$252m deal with clubs

NYON (Switzerland), 22 Jan — FIFA and UEFA have agreed to pay around 252 million US dollars over the next six years to compensate clubs whose players take part in World Cups and European championships.

The deal, involving a

110-million-US-dollar payment by FIFA and approximately 142 million US dollars by UEFA, was announced following a meeting with club representatives at UEFA's Swiss headquarters on Monday.

It forms part of a package of agreements aimed at ending years of legal wrangling between the continent's top clubs and the sport's governing bodies.

As well as receiving compensation when their players are on international duty, the clubs have received assurances that FIFA and UEFA will look to reduce the number of interna-

tional matches on the calendar.

In return, the 18 members of the self-appointed G14 group of top clubs are set to disband, making way for a new independent European Club Association.

MNA/Reuters

Roma fans banned from Sampdoria game after violence

MILAN, 22 Jan — AS Roma fans have been banned from attending Wednesday's Italian Cup quarter-final first leg at Sampdoria following violent incidents this weekend, Italy's anti-hooligan body said on Monday.

Three Catania fans were injured when they were stabbed in disturbances before Sunday's 2-0 defeat by Roma at the Stadio Olimpico in the Italian capital.

The hooligan body said in a statement it had decided to intervene "in a rigorous manner against Roma fans" and was determined to act for the long term.

MNA/Reuters



Venus Williams (R) and Serena Williams in action during their women's doubles third round match against Estonia's Maret Ani and Meilen Tu of the US at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne.

INTERNET

Rebel leader killed in N Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 22 Jan—The Sri Lankan Army said a regional leader of Tamil Tiger rebels was killed in a battle in the northern Jaffna Peninsula Sunday afternoon.

Army troops ex-changed fire with a group of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels in Kaithady area of Jaffna around 4:30 pm (1100 GMT), killing two rebels including a regional leader named Chengan, said Army officials.

The Army also said two LTTE rebels were killed in the northern Mannar District and another two were killed in the northern Vavuniya District, both on Sunday morning.

Some 44 civilians were killed by the rebels in a series of attacks in southeast of the country since the government officially abandoned the six year old Norwegian backed ceasefire on 16 January.

MNA/Xinhua

Bomber kills 15 at funeral in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 22 Jan—A suicide bomber killed 15 people and wounded 10 when he blew himself up at a funeral ceremony in the northern Iraqi city of Baiji on Monday, a security official said.

The attack is the latest in a spate of deadly bombings in Iraq's northern provinces, where the US military says al-Qaeda militants have regrouped after being forced out of other areas.

The bomber walked into a tent where

residents were mourning the death of a relative of a provincial official.

Baiji, home to Iraq's biggest oil refinery, has been the scene of a number of bombings in the past few months. On 25 December, a suicide bomber killed more than

20 people in the city, 180 kilometres (112 miles) north of Baghdad.

The commander of US forces in northern Iraq, Major-General Mark Hertling, said last month that Sunni Islamist al-Qaeda was regrouping in northern Iraq after being pushed out of Baghdad and western Anbar Province and was still capable of launching "spectacular attacks". — MNA/Reuters

Crash-landed plane moved from Heathrow

LONDON, 22 Jan — A recovery operation was underway on Sunday to move a British Airways Boeing 777 that crash-landed at London's Heathrow Airport on Thursday.

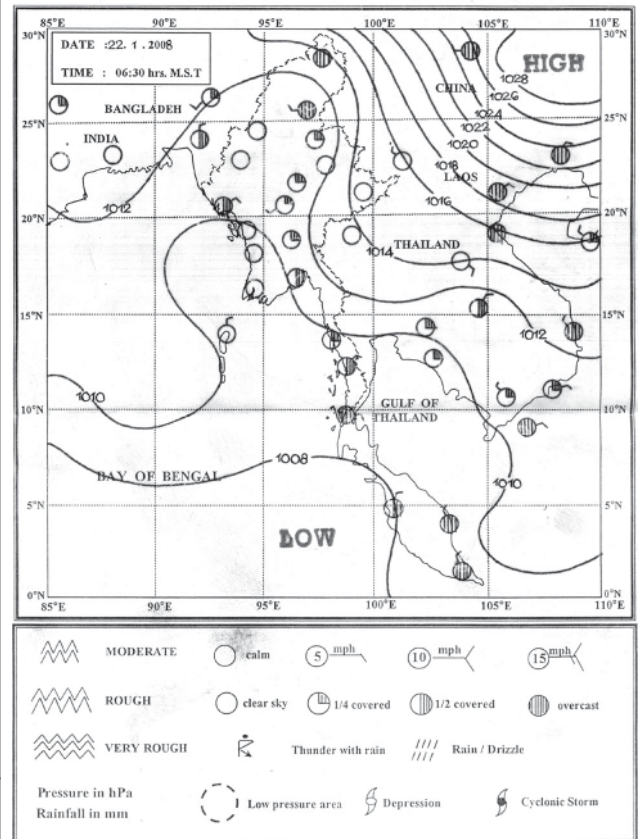
The 200-ton aircraft, which suffered engine problems and came down well short of the southern runway, was being moved onto electronically controlled platforms in an operation expected to take several hours.

The plane will then start a 500-metre journey from the end of the runway to the airline's engineering base at Hatton Cross, which is expected to take a further two hours.

Bruce Hunter, BA's general manager for operational maintenance, said: "BA's specialist recovery team of 20 engineers flies round the world helping airlines move stranded aircraft."

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 22 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 generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (5°C) above January average temperatures in Kachin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in Shan State and Magway Division and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (0.08) inch and Machanbaw (0.04) inch. The significant night temperatures were Pinlaung and Loilem (1°C) each, Heho (2°C), Lashio and Namhsan (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 21-1-2008 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 22-1-2008 was 61°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 22-1-2008 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 21-1-2008 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfall on 22-1-2008 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 (4) mph from Northwest at (13:30) hours MST on 21-1-2008.

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 23-1-2008: Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly 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 (35) mph. Seas will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 23-1-2008: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-1-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-1-2008: Fair weather.



Wednesday, 23 January
View on today

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:15 am

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

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. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:05 am

7. အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am

8. ရွှေလင်းပန်းတံတား

8:20 am

9. အဆိုဖြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-တတိယနှစ် (သရုပ်အထူးပြု)(သရုပ်)

4:40 pm

4. Song of national races

4:55 pm

5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:05 pm

6. Classical song

5:20 pm

7. ရှုဖွယ်စုံလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

5:30 pm

8. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်

5:30 pm

8. လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. မြန်မာဓလေ့ရိုးရာ လက်ရာ

6:50 pm

12. "မြူတိမ်ကင်းသောနေ့"

(ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ မင်းထက်ကျော်စင်၊ စိုးမိုးကြည်၊

ပုလဲဝင်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-

သိန်းဟန်(ဖီးနစ်)

7:00 pm

13. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

7:15 pm

14. The Mirror Images

of the musical Oldies

7:45 pm

15. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည့်ဝစေရာ

စာပဒေသာ

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. FRANZ HARARAY'S

MAGIC PLANET

20. Myanmar video

feature:

"အက်စစ်ချို"

(လူမင်း၊ ထက်ထက်မိုးဦး)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ - နေဝိုင်း)

17. The next day's

programme

People's Desire

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



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win views broadcasting of fertilizer on model irrigated field of Farmer U Bya Yaw Han in Mongpan. — MNA

Building of discipline-flourishing democratic nation will be completed soon only with development of towns and villages

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Shan State Peace and Development Council Chairman Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Brig-Gen Tin Maung Win of Mongpan Station, had a meeting with officers and other ranks of Mongpan Station and their family members at the station in Langkho District, Shan State (South) on 19 January morning.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win underlined the importance of cooperation of Tatmadaw members and local people all the more for development of Mongpan Township,

and stepping up agricultural and livestock farming.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and the commander presented TVs, bicycles and other personal goods to them.

They viewed the broadcasting of fertilizers on the two-acre model summer paddy field of U Bya Yaw Han, and inspected the one-acre mixed-crop plantation of U Ree Kham.

In meeting with service personnel in Mongpan Township, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented a TV set, the commander fire service suits and Red Cross uniforms, Secretary of Shan State PDC U Khin Maung Gyi, a video cassette player, and Secretary of Shan State USDA U Nyan Lin, publications to Mongpan Town-

ship.

In his speech, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that today is the Age of Knowledge, so the nation needs more human resources. The government is opening more and more schools and universities in the states and divisions, he said.

He pointed out that the building of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation will be completed soon only after the towns and villages in the state have enjoyed development. In the process, national brethren are required to equip themselves with Union Spirit for sustainable progress of the already-achieved infrastructures.—MNA

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