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Sunday, 27 January, 2008

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

Industrial Development Committee holds meeting 1/2008

Government, entrepreneurs to make coordinated and integrated efforts for development of private sector

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan —The Industrial Development Committee held meeting No 1/2008 at the Ministry of Industry-1, here, this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Also present were members of Industrial Development Committee the ministers, the Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee

Mayor, members of Myanma Industrial Development Committee and Work Committee the deputy ministers, chairmen of subcommittees, directors-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office and the Government Office, heads of departments, members of industrial zone supervisory committee and chairmen of management committees, the President of the Union of Myanmar

Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, officials, industrialists and guests.

In his address, the Prime Minister said the ministers were assigned duties to supervise 18 industrial zones and 28 sub-zones for industrial development.

He said the government laid down four economic objectives for economic progress. He said the Head of State had given five guidelines on

development of agro-based industries, increase of quantity and enhancement of quality of industrial products, production of new equipment, production of industrial equipment and creation of better foundations for the emergence of an industrialized nation.

The government provides technical assistance for the use of modern equipment in the industrial zones, the key to the industrial development and financial assistance for purchase of machinery, he said.

Continuing, he said, the government established modern workshops in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi Ayethaya Industrial Zones. The operating of the Zones was undertaken in cooperation with the companies.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses Industrial Development Committee Meeting 1/2008.—MNA

Situated closely to populous countries the nation is required to try its utmost for producing the agro-based items. And steps are to be taken for the development of agro-based industry under the guidance of the Head of State.



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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 27 January, 2008

Service personnel to participate in regional development tasks

The government is implementing various projects for ensuring equitable development of states and divisions including border areas. At the same time, it is building many infrastructures in the transport, education, health and social sectors to achieve the goal.

So far, it has constructed roads stretching more than 60,000 miles and 230 bridges, with the length of 180 feet and above, across the nation, thus ensuring smooth transport and swift commodity flow.

In addition, the government is exerting strenuous efforts for the national education promotion plans to disseminate modern technologies to the youth of all regions. In the education sector, it has opened a large number of schools to ensure that all school-age children can attend classes and the youth can pursue higher education in their regions.

Similarly, the government has established specialist hospitals, hospitals and dispensaries and appointed doctors, nurses and health assistants in the medical facilities for providing better health care to the people.

These are not all. The government is building good basic foundations for development of all regions the length and breadth of the nation. Service personnel are therefore to take part in the projects with good volition for improving the living conditions of local people, while contributing towards development projects and economic enterprises in the regions where they are posted.

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လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနဲ့ဖြစ်သည်။

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နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
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၂၀၀၈-ခုနှစ် ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလ အတွက်

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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

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspects construction of Haka-Gangaw road section



Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspects roadworks at Haka-Gangaw road section.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan — Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Chin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Hong Ngaing and officials met servicemen and their families at the station hall of Haka Township on 20 January.

In meeting with departmental officials, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw discussed cooperation in regional development tasks, breeding of mythum and cultivation

of tea, extended cultivation of other crops and monsoon and summer paddy.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party inspected the site for new building of the government technical institute in Haka and Women's Domestic Science and Vocational Training School and provided cash.

They also inspected construction of 200-bed ward of the People's Hospital, Haka-Gangaw road section and repair of retaining walls.—MNA

Inter-Ministry Women's Volleyball Tourney continues

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan—The group matches of the First Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Women's Volleyball Tournament (2008) continued at volleyball ground, here, this morning.

Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement beat Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee and Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs beat Ministry of Industry-1.

Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development played against Ministry of Finance and Revenue, and Ministry of Culture, against Ministry of Industry-2.

The tournament continues on 28 January. Ministry of Hotels and Tourism competes with Ministry of Rail Transportation, Ministry of Cooperatives with Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Commerce with Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.—MNA

17th Customs Day observed

YANGON, 26 Jan — The 17th Customs Day of Customs Department was held at the hall of training school of the department this morning, with an address by Director-General U San Thaung.

It was also attended by the deputy director-general, directors, officers and other ranks and staff.

The director-general and deputy director-general presented prizes to those who were awarded good service medals by the State, outstanding personnel and outstanding students of staff.

All Customs departments in the world hold Customs Day which falls on 26 January annually. Myanmar became a member of World Customs Organization in 1991. —MNA

Biosafety level 3 Laboratory inspected

YANGON, 26 Jan — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe inspected Biosafety level 3 Laboratory of Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) in Dagon Township, here yesterday.

Director-General Dr Khin Pyone Kyi and officials conducted the deputy minister around the laboratory, which was built in 2003 at a cost of over K 40 million including laboratory equipment.

The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries also had built the second Biosafety level 3 Laboratory and the Ministry of Health established the third laboratory in 2005 that are being put into operation now.—MNA



Director-General U San Thaung awards an outstanding staff.—MNA

Obama with 13-point lead in South Carolina

CHARLESTON, (South Carolina) 26 Jan — Barack Obama has a 13-point lead on rival Hillary Clinton but his support has eroded slightly on the eve of South Carolina's Democratic presidential primary, according to a Reuters/C-SPAN/Zogby

poll released on Friday.

Obama's edge on Clinton slipped by two points overnight but remained in double digits, 38 per cent to 25 per cent, in the rolling poll, with John Edwards gaining two points to climb to 21 per cent and inch closer to

second place.

The poll has a margin of error of 3.4 percentage points.

Obama, an Illinois senator who would be the first Black US president, had an 18-point lead over Clinton in the initial poll published three days ago

but has seen his support fall from 43 per cent to 38 per cent.

Obama and Clinton have battled fiercely over the last week, trading accusations about their records in an increasingly rancorous duel for the right to represent the Democratic Party in November's election.

Obama continues to enjoy strong backing among Black voters, who are expected to be more than half of the electorate in Saturday's Democratic primary. Obama won 55 per cent of blacks in the poll, with Clinton at 18 per cent.—MNA/Reuters



An astronaut completes a space walk on the International Space Station. China may broadcast its first ever spacewalk live when it launches its third manned space mission later this year, state media reported on Friday.—INTERNET

Verbal attacks stoke Kenya crisis, despite talks

NAIROBI, 26 Jan — Kenyans faced more turmoil on Friday after both sides in the country's deadly political crisis accused each other of trying to sink mediation efforts. Hopes of an end to violence that has killed nearly 700 people rose after President Mwai Kibaki met his rival Raila

Odinga for the first time since disputed 27 December polls.

The two men shook hands and vowed to seek a solution. But in remarks to reporters, Kibaki's description of himself as the nation's "duly elected" leader brought an explosive reaction from Odinga's party, which says

he stole the vote.

"Kibaki lost the last general election and his claim to the presidency is illegal and illegitimate," Anyang' Nyong'o, a senior opposition figure, told reporters shortly after the talks, which were brokered by former UN chief Kofi Annan.—MNA/Reuters



Ethnic clashes killed at least 15 people in Kenya's western Rift Valley, dashing hopes of an end to weeks of unrest sparked by disputed presidential polls.—INTERNET

Thailand launches raid, detains suspected insurgents

BANGKOK, 26 Jan — Local police and Army soldiers launched raids on two villages in Thailand's southernmost province of Narathiwat on Friday and detained 12 insurgents suspected of being involved in violence in the

region during past years.

Two combined groups of policemen and soldiers, on Friday raided Ban Lalae Village of Cha Nae District and Bagno Kubo Village of Rangae District respectively and arrested a total of 12 suspected

insurgents, according to local news network *The Nation*.

The report said the raids lasted more than four hours. All the suspects were taken for DNA test and questioning.

MNA/Xinhua

Egypt, Jordan call for dealing positively with Gaza

CAIRO, 26 Jan — Egypt and Jordan shared the identical views on the necessity of dealing positively with the humanitarian situation in Gaza, Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman Hossam Zaki said on Thursday.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit met with his visiting Jordanian counterpart Salaheddin Al-Bashir earlier in the day during which the two agreed on the need to maintain the chances of achieving peace and supporting the Palestinian National Authority in this regard, Zaki said.

Attended by the heads of the Egyptian and Jordanian intelligence services, the meeting was part of continuing coordination between Egypt and Jordan on all regional issues including the Lebanese crisis and the situation in Iraq, Zaki added. — MNA/Xinhua



Egyptian border guards and riot police officers clash with Palestinians trying to cross the border after militants exploded the wall between Gaza Strip and Egypt earlier this week, in Rafah, southern Gaza Strip, on 25 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Envoy says UN aide played down attacks on Israel

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Jan — Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations criticized the organization's humanitarian affairs chief on Thursday for failing to acknowledge the suffering caused by Palestinian rocket attacks against Israel from Gaza.

Israeli Ambassador Dan Gillerman was referring to comments last week by UN Under-secretary-General for

humanitarian affairs John Holmes, who said Israel's decision to shut all border crossings with Gaza had led to a humanitarian crisis and was "collective punishment" for its 1.5 million people.

"I did not hear Mr Holmes describe the 4,100 rockets which have been launched at Israeli cities aimed at the killing of Israeli babies and children, innocents, as a humanitarian

crisis," Gillerman told reporters.

"I want to remind Mr Holmes and everybody else who is so worried about the situation in Gaza that Israel left Gaza over two years ago completely," he said after a third day of discussions at the UN Security Council failed to produce agreement on a statement about the situation in Gaza.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistan tests missile, rejects nuclear safety worry

ISLAMABAD, 26 Jan — Pakistan's Army chief dismissed on Friday fears that the country's nuclear weapons could fall into the hands of Islamist

militants as the military test fired a nuclear-capable missile.

Pakistan is a staunch ally in the US-led war on terrorism but

deteriorating security and political turmoil has raised international concern about the safety of its nuclear weapons.

General Ashfaq Kayani, who became Army chief in November when Pervez Musharraf stepped down to become a civilian president, rejected the worry as "unrealistic". Speaking at the test-firing of a medium-range *Shaheen-1* (Hatf-IV) ballistic missile, he said such concerns were based on a "lack of understanding of Pakistan's command and control mechanisms".

MNA/Reuters



Pakistan's medium-range Shaheen-1 (Hatf-IV) ballistic missile takes off during a test flight from undisclosed location in Pakistan on 25 Jan, 2008.

INTERNET

British police swoop on child slave gang

LONDON, 26 Jan — Almost two dozen people were arrested on Thursday after police swooped on a Romanian child slave gang operating in Britain.

Six children aged under 10 were rescued in the pre-dawn raids and taken into care, after they had been forced to steal and beg on London streets and on public transport, Scotland Yard said in a statement.

Hundreds of police from forces in England and Romania were involved in the operation, codenamed Caddy, at several addresses in Slough, west London.

Authorities believe they have smashed a major

operation, which trafficked young Eastern European children into Britain to steal, beg, pick pockets and target consumers at cash point machines on the streets of London.

Commander Steve Allen, who led the operation, said more

arrests were expected.

"While many of these crimes committed appear to be low level, we have evidence that organized crime networks are exploiting and driving the most vulnerable members of their own community," he said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters



A worker adjusts glasses in an attempt to break the world record for the "Largest Champagne Fountain" in the shopping centre Wijnegem near Antwerp, on 25 Jan, 2008. The 7 metre (22.9 feet) high pyramid will contain more than 43,000 glasses and weigh 8,750 kg (19,290 pounds) to set a new record. —XINHUA

B'desh court gives green light for Hasina trial

DHAKA, 26 Jan—The Bangladesh Supreme Court ruled on Thursday that a Lower Court could go ahead and prosecute detained former prime minister Sheikh Hasina for allegedly extorting more than 400,000 US dollars from a businessman, lawyers said.

The trial was suspended last Thursday after the High Court asked the Lower Court judge to stop proceedings while it heard an appeal.

The Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions judge, Mohammad Azizul Haque, on 13 January charged Hasina, her sister Sheikh

Rehana and her cousin Sheikh Selim, a former minister in her Cabinet, with illegally taking 30 million taka (440,000 US dollars) from a businessman when Hasina was in power between 1996 and 2001. Both denied the charge.

MNA/Reuters

Singapore frees six militants, nabs two

SINGAPORE, 26 Jan — Singapore has freed five militants belonging to the al-Qaeda-linked group Jemaah Islamiah (JI) and one member of the Philippines' separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the government said on Thursday.

The Ministry of Home Affairs said in a statement that it has also detained two "self-radicalized" men and has placed another on restriction orders, under which his movements would be monitored for posing "potential terrorist threat".

The five members of the Southeast Asian militant group JI and the Singaporean MILF member, detained between

2002 and 2005 under the city-state's Internal Security Act, were released between December and January, the statement said. It was not clear from the statement if the five JI members were Singapore nationals and the ministry was not immediately available to comment.

The ministry said in the statement the men "had cooperated in investigations and responded positively to rehabilitation which included religious counselling".

The Internal Security Act allows authorities to hold suspects without trial and without immediate public notice of the arrests. — MNA/Reuters

Blazing cars are seen at the site of a

bomb attack in

Beirut.

INTERNET



At least ten killed in bombing in E Beirut blast

BEIRUT, 26 Jan— At least ten people, including a senior police officer were killed in a powerful explosion in a Christian neighbourhood in eastern Beirut on Friday morning, the pan-Arab al-Jazeera TV reported.

The Lebanese private Future TV also reported the ten deaths, saying that Lebanese Internal Security Forces (ISF) Captain Wissam Eid was among the victims, adding Wissam Eid is a senior officer with the ISF's

Intelligence Bureau.

Charred bodies could be seen at the site of the blast on the outskirts of Beirut, said the report.

Earlier, local LBC TV reported that the huge blast, which targeted a military vehicle in the Chevrolet neighbourhood northeast of Beirut, left at least three person dead and 16 injured. TV footage shows huge plumes of black smoke rising from the area and several cars burning. During the latest three years Lebanon has been rocked by a series of blasts, starting with the October 1, 2004 assassination attempt against Telecommunications Minister Marwan Hamade.

MNA/Xinhua

Around 200 German businesses enter China each year

FRANKFURT, 26 Jan — Around 200 German businesses open affiliates in China each year, Germany's leading business organization said Thursday.

The Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK) cited the huge market and low labor and production costs when explaining its member's rush into the world's largest

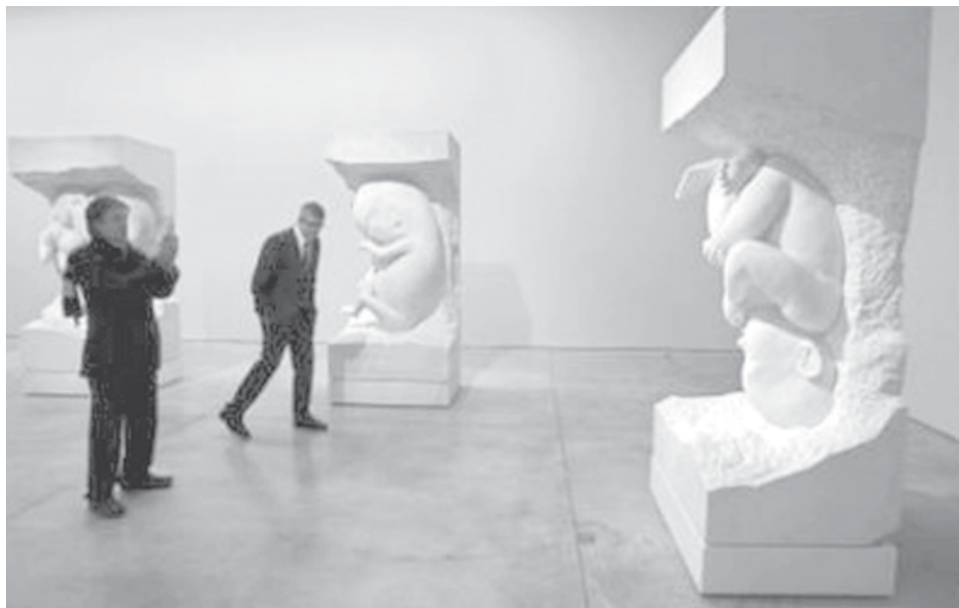
developing country.

Some 4,500 German businesses to date have invested in China's development zones and hi-tech zones, with around 200,000 people on their payrolls, DIHK reported, citing recent research findings.

The average annual turnover of German businesses in China ranges from 15 million euros (about 21.9 million US

dollars) to 20 million euros (29 US million dollars), with an average number of employees between 100 and 120, according to the research. DIHK pointed to plagiarism, corruption, bureaucracy and lack of talent as the major obstacles facing German businesses in China, most of which deal with machinery-manufacturing and engineering.

MNA/Xinhua



Sculptures made by artist Marc Quinn, part of an exhibition entitled *Evolution*, on the opening night at the White Cube gallery in London on 24 Jan, 2008. — INTERNET



Rogue trader blamed for \$7b loss at French bank

PARIS, 26 Jan — A junior trader is being blamed for a record loss of seven billion US dollars in bad debts in one of the biggest frauds in financial history, French bank Societe Generale said Thursday.

The trader was identified as Jerome Kerviel, 31, who had worked at Societe Gene-

rale in Paris since 2000 and earned a salary and bonus of less than 100,000 euros (145,700 dollars), bank executives said.

"The transactions which involve the fraud were simple — taking a position on shares rising, but hidden using extremely sophisticated and varied techniques," said Daniel Bouton, chairman

of the bank, in a statement.

Bouton, failing to identify Kerviel's whereabouts, said he had confessed to the fraud and legal action would be taken against him.

"He is not here and we do not know when he will be back," said a colleague of Kerviel who answered his line at the bank's trading room in La

Defence, the business district west of the French capital, reported *The Times* of London.

The bank has said several staffs "responsible for the supervision and controls on the operations concerned" with the scandal have been fired, and Bouton's offer to resign was rejected by the board. — MNA/Xinhua

Tiger of Germany performs with hula-hoops at the 7th International Circus Festival in the Capital Circus of Budapest, Hungary, on 25 Jan, 2008.

INTERNET

Iran's petrochemical exports hit \$4.3b in 10 months

TEHERAN, 25 Jan — Iran exported 7.026 million tons of petrochemical products, valued at 4.269 billion US dollars, in the first 10 months of its calendar year (from 21 March, 2007 to 20 January, 2008), local daily *Kayhan International* reported on Thursday.

Liquefied gas had the lion's share among export-bound products in terms of weight as its volume stood at 1.879 million tons, the report said, quoting the Iran Petrochemical Commercial Co (IPCC).

Based on predictions, the value of export-bound petrochemical goods will soar to five billion dollars by mid-March 2008. Iran exported 6.48 million tons of petrochemical products from 21 March to 21 December, 2007. The exports fetched the country 3.84 billion dollars.

Pars Special Economic Energy Zone (PSEEZ) in Assaluyeh, southern Iran, exported 3.058 million tons of petrochemical products to the world markets in the nine month period.

MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

Vietnam, Chile to approve free trade agreement

HANOI, 26 Jan — Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung said he believed Vietnam and Chile would soon ratify a bilateral free trade agreement, developing trade and investment cooperation between the two countries, local newspaper *Vietnam*

News reported Friday.

Receiving Chilean Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Furche Thursday, Dung said Vietnam wanted to learn and share experience and cooperate more strongly with Chile in all sectors, especially trade and investment.

Furche, visiting Vietnam to work with relevant agencies on negotiating the bilateral trade agreement, said Chile was ready to be a gateway for Vietnamese goods to enter the Latin American market, and hoped that Vietnam would do the same to Chilean commodities in the Southeast Asian market.

MNA/Xinhua

GM not happy with Indonesian sales

JAKARTA, 26 Jan — US top car maker General Motors said Thursday it had failed to tap Indonesia's fast growing auto market and was not pleased with the performance in the Southeast Asia's largest economy.

"Basically, we aren't satisfied with the

Indonesian markets. Given the great potentials, the sales should have been bigger than we achieved," visiting GM Asia Pacific president Nick Reilly was quoted by leading news website Detikcom as saying.

Relying on the Chevrolet brand, GM booked sales of a mere

1,396 in the country last year. The 2008 sale target is put at 3,000 units.

In a sharp contrast, fellow Detroit, Ford, has claimed its Indonesian sales surged 54 per cent to 6,309 units in 2007, the record year since the company's presence 18 years ago.

MNA/Xinhua

EU ministers backed plans to collect data on air travellers coming to Europe. The European bloc hopes to have the so-called passenger name record (PNR) plan — modelled along lines similar to the one agreed with the US last year — in operation early next year.

INTERNET





A model arranges her hair before a presentation of bridal outfits during a wedding fair in Bucharest on 25 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Israeli strike kills two Palestinians in Gaza

GAZA, 25 Jan— An Israeli airstrike on a car killed at least two Palestinian militants in the southern Gaza town of Rafah on Friday, security officials and medical staff said.

An Israeli Army spokeswoman confirmed the military had carried out an airstrike, saying that the target had been “terror operatives”.

Israel frequently carries out strikes against Gaza militants in an effort to stop them launching rockets and mortar bombs across the border into nearby towns in the Jewish state.

Rafah became the focus of international attention on Wednesday when tens of thousands of Palestinians poured into Egypt from the Gaza Strip to stock up on food and fuel which is in short supply due to an Israeli blockade.

The border wall was breached in a series of explosions.

Israel stepped up a blockade on the coastal territory which is controlled by Islamist Hamas, in an effort to clamp down on the militants.

MNA/Reuters

NATO soldier killed, two injured in S Afghanistan explosion

KABUL, 25 Jan— A soldier of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was killed and two were injured in an explosion during a patrol in southern Afghanistan Thursday, the ISAF said.

“The wounded soldiers were transported to an

ISAF hospital where they are being treated,” said a statement issued by the ISAF.

The military did not identify the exact time and place the blast occurred.

Without identifying the nationalities of the killed and injured, the statement said, “In accordance with

ISAF policy, ISAF does not release the casualty's nationality prior to the relevant national authority doing so.”

An over 41,000-strong multi-national force under the flag of NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) are deployed in war-torn Afghanistan, assisting in Afghan Government's anti-militants and reconstruction efforts.

MNA/Reuters

Suicide attack kills police chief in N Iraq

MOSUL (IRAQ), 25 Jan— A suicide bomb attack targeted the police chief of Nineveh Province in its capital city of Mosul, on Thursday, killing him and a bodyguard and wounding five others, a senior provincial police source said. “Brigadier General Salih Muhammad Hasan, police chief of Nineveh Province, died from fatal wounds sustained when a suicide bomber blew up his explosive vest near Hasan’s convoy,” Brigadier Said al-Jubouri, head of the provincial police media office, told Xinhua by telephone.

Hasan was touring the site of Wednesday’s huge blast at a three- storey building in the Zanjili area in Mosul that claimed the lives of 15 people and wounding 141 others, according to the latest police reports. Earlier, police reports put the toll at 14 dead and 114 wounded.

MNA/Xinhua

US - led air raid kills 11 in Afghanistan

GHAZNI, 25 Jan— Nine police and two civilians were killed in an airstrike by US-led troops in Afghanistan, a provincial doctor said on Thursday, but the coalition said Taliban fighters had been killed.

The raid, which sparked protests, happened in a village outside Ghazni Town to the southwest of Kabul on Wednesday night, Dr Ismail Ibrahimzai, the head of the local public health department said.

“Nine police, including an officer, two civilians, one of them a woman, were killed in the raid,” he told Reuters. Five police were wounded, he said, adding they were in a vehicle patrolling the area when it was hit in the airstrike.

The US-led coalition confirmed the attack but said several Taliban insurgents were killed in the raid involving small-arms and aerial-delivered conventional munitions.

Coalition troops arrested nine suspected

insurgents and destroyed a cache of explosives, it said in a statement. Civilian casualties fuel resentment of foreign forces in Afghanistan and the Western-backed government of President Hamid Karzai has repeatedly urged US and NATO troops to do everything they can do to minimise civilian deaths.

MNA/Reuters



Technician examines samples in a stem cell lab. An international team of scientists has isolated pancreatic stem cells in adult mice, a breakthrough that could lead to treatment for juvenile or Type 1 diabetes, researchers said in a study published on Thursday.—INTERNET

Indonesia mily leader vows to reform armed forces

JAKARTA, 26 Jan — Indonesia’s new military commander vowed on Thursday to push ahead with reforms of the armed forces, turning it into a law-abiding, professional body.

Indonesia’s military wielded considerable political power under former president Soeharto,

who ruled for more than three decades. During that time, it was involved in massacres, extrajudicial killings and human rights abuses, often conducted in the name of maintaining national unity.

But after Soeharto was forced to step down in 1998 and Indonesians embraced

greater democracy, the military, known by its Indonesian acronym TNI, was stripped of its fixed quota of seats in Parliament.

“The TNI will complete and evaluate the reform process and maintain its neutrality in politics,” General Djoko Santoso told a news conference at military headquarters in Jakarta. He also vowed to increase soldiers’ welfare, improve the Armed Forces’ professionalism and play a wider role in disaster relief.

MNA/Reuters

Policemen inspect the site of an explosion in Beirut suburbs, on 25 Jan, 2008.

INTERNET



Human resource development and rural libraries

Gyobingauk Tin Maung Oo

Today, the world has been like a village thanks to the advanced communication system. Other sectors are also making dramatic progress due to inventions and innovations.

The globalization process has become acceptable to every country because no country in the world wants to be isolated from the international community. And every country has come to work hard to keep abreast of other countries. It has been common knowledge that natural resources alone are not enough to make a nation industrialized, and the process also calls for development of human resources.

Only with human resource development will it be possible for a nation to enjoy development by applying effectively the intellectual power, knowledge and innovative power of its people along with advanced technologies.

A nation with no human resource development will lag behind other nations in development in this Knowledge Age. That point forces the world nations to pay a serious attention to human resource development.

Human resource development means educational improvement and application of advanced technologies.

Human resource development means educational improvement and application of advanced technologies. With this concept, the Ministry of Education is now taking responsibilities for raising the education standard of the younger generations in order that their education standard can be on a par with that of the youth in developed countries in the 21st Century. As a result, there have been human resource development and golden opportunities for the youth to catch up with their fellow youths of other nations.

In Myanmar, rural population makes up more than 70 per cent. Therefore, it is required to expand the horizons of rural folks to achieve human resource development. Development of a nation rests largely on high living standard and human resource development of rural people of that nation.

The Ministry of Information is playing an important role in the plans for human resource development necessary for national development. It has set up self-reliant libraries in the villages in rural areas for improving the knowledge and reasoning power of local people.

The ministry is building more and more sub-printing houses, TV re-transmitting stations, and self-reliant libraries in states and divisions with the aim of enabling the people to know what is going on in the world.

The Information Division of the Information and Broadcasting Department was reconstituted into the

Information and Public Relations Department on 24 January 1991. So far, the IPRD has opened 389 libraries and 55,755 self-reliant libraries throughout the nation since 2004-2005.

An important role is played by the knowledge bank libraries, schools of practical life and libraries or window of the world in relaying knowledge to others. So, ensuring sustainable progress of the self-reliant libraries is a priority.

In this regard, it is needed to cooperate and coordinate with local authorities, social organizations for the processes — helping rural people cultivate the good habit of reading, keeping the publications and raising the funds, practising the borrowing system, setting up separate library buildings on separate plots, providing the facilities with reasonable furniture, and appointing librarians.

The plan also needs contributions of four communities—local authorities, social organizations, wellwishers and local people, and IPRD staff.

Members of the committees of the libraries concerned have to work hard in collaboration with relevant organizations for making sure that every village has a library, and sustainable development of the libraries so as to develop human resources.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 24-1-2008

Bago Division facilitated...

(from page 16)

was opened to control the flow out of its water to Moeyungyi Lake through Wagadok Creek. Afterwards, water from the lake will be used for the greening of 30-mile radius of Yangon City through Bago-Sittoung Canal and the drain along Thanatpin-Thongwa Road. The supporting dam will contribute toward cultivation of monsoon paddy beyond the target of 3 million acres and summer paddy against the target of 300,000 acres in Bago Division. In addition to Wagadok Dam, Kodukwe Dam is under construction. On comple-

tion, the dam will supply water to the Zaungtu irrigated areas and greening the 30-mile radius of Yangon East Area. The dam is the 207th irrigation facility in the nation and the 44th in Bago Division. The government has facilitated Bago Division with dams, sluice gates and diversion dams accounting for the 23 percent of the number existing in the whole nation.

In his address, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo said that the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is making a constant effort for development of na-

tional economy through the agricultural sector. Boosting the agricultural production amounts to enhancing the socio-economic life of rural people.

He went on to say that the government is taking every possible step for self-sufficiency in rice and for exporting the surplus. Hence, the Head of State himself has given guidance, calling for the implementation of projects of dams and reservoirs as well as embankments and river water pumping projects the length and breadth of the nation while in the pursuit of underground water tapping projects for the agricul-

tural purpose.

Not only that, the ministry is building small-scale and medium scale dams and reservoirs that can be completed in a short time while engaging in greening works in arid zones of Upper Myanmar. In the meantime, extended reclamation of fellow and virgin land is being carried out, he disclosed.

He said that relentless efforts are being made in the agricultural sector for boosting the per acre yield, for farmers to be able to apply double and mixed cropping, for acquisition of quality strain crops and for transforming from the manual farming to the

mechanized farming.

As efforts are being made for self-sufficiency in rice and edible oil Bago Division has been able to exceed the target in that regard. At present, the eastern part of Bago Yoma can see a total of 43 dams and reservoirs and sluice gates benefiting 600,000 acres of farmland.

Water supply is of utmost importance in the pursuit of the projects for greening the 30-mile radius of Yangon all the year round that are being implemented under the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, he added.

In conclusion, he said

that Wagadok Supporting Dam will be capable of irrigating 1200 acres of farmland in Thanappin and Thongwa townships and of boosting the per acre yield. Moreover, it will be able to benefit 43,000 irrigated acres of Moeyungyi Lake.

Next, U Kyaw Zin Win of Thabyeyo Village, on behalf of local people in Bago Township expressed thanks for the emergence of the dam.

After that, the commander and the minister cordially greeted those present on the occasion.

Later, the commander unveiled the stone inscription of the dam and the minister sprinkled scented water onto it.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister formally opened the dam and had a documentary photo taken together with those present on the occasion.

Next, the commander and the minister inspected the dam.

The 86 feet and 6400 feet long dam is of earthen type and is able to store 32 600 acre feet. Its spillway is 255 feet long and is of reinforced concrete type.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko unveils the plaque of Wagadok Supporting Dam.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein observes booths of ministries and industrial zones. — MNA



Industrial Development Committee holds meeting 1/2008...

(from page 1)

The share unit of the companies was K 6,278 million. The zones manufactured products worth K 1,488 million in 2006-2007 fiscal year and about K 1,440 million up to December 2007-2008 fiscal year. Industrialists

Proper ways and means are to be sought for mutual benefits. Based on the industrial zones efforts are to be made for development of private industry, he said. The government also provided necessary assistance to the zones in accord with

that it is sensible to bring about the development of the agricultural sector as the national economy is based on agriculture. However, it is required to have a vision and an outlook to set up the industries and to ensure the emergence of agrobased industry and woodbased industry. At present, woodbased industry is making progress as

agrobased items. And steps are to be taken for the development of agrobased industry under the guidance of the Head of State.

Thanks to concerted efforts of the respective ministries and industrial zones extended production of new spare parts of machines is now under way for running of the State-run factories at full capacity.

As the private sector constitutes over 90 per cent of the economic sector of the State the government is giving priority to development of the private

sector. In that regard, the government and entrepreneurs are to make coordinated and integrated efforts for development of the private sector, boosting the income of individuals and creating job opportunities, acquisition and dissemination of technology and saving foreign exchange.

At the same time, preventative measures are to be taken against land, water and air pollution. And efforts are to be made to minimize loss and wastage in the use of fuel with the application of Energy Saving Technology. He spoke of the need for en-

trepreneurs to take part in the drive for substituting bio-fuel. With this end in view, physic nuts are being grown across the nation for producing bio-fuel while extended cultivation of sugarcane is being launched for producing ethanol.

For development of the industrial sector efforts are to be made not only to produce import-substituted parts but also to produce export items capable of penetrating foreign markets. In the process, arrangements are to be

(See page 9)

Inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources abroad the government set up the special economic zones and special industrial zones and is now drafting laws and bylaws for Myanma Special Economic Zone in the long-term interest.

can repay the loan to the government, he added.

He said ten sub-committees were formed to gain progress in production. Considerable progress has been made in production of power tillers, light trucks for farm use, two-wheeled and three-wheeled motorcycles, passenger buses and trucks, small rice mills and hydro-power turbines, rubber and others.

As industrial talent is different the position of the zones is different.

the economic objectives, he added.

He said the industrial sector includes small and medium enterprises most and they are small private enterprises with small amount of investment. Private entrepreneurs should give encouragement to SMEs in various ways.

He urged the officials to make endeavours for combination of small industries.

He quoted the Head of State as saying

an export industry. The foodstuff-based industry constitutes 64.77 per cent of the industries.

The majority of imported foodstuff were produced from raw materials of the nation. As such, if the national entrepreneurs are able to produce items like that the nation will be able to save foreign exchange and extend its markets.

Situated closely to populous countries the nation is required to try its utmost for producing the



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views machines and spare parts displayed in the compound of the Ministry of Industry-1. — MNA



Minister U Aung Thaung.—MNA



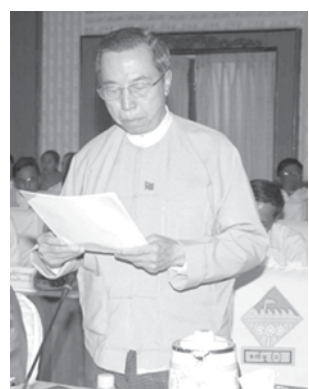
Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin. —MNA



Minister U Soe Tha.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw. —MNA



Minister U Thaung.—MNA



Minister U Aung Kyi.—MNA

Industrial Development Committee holds meeting 1/2008...

(from page 8)

made for generation of electricity, full acquisition of energy, application of technology, training and nurturing of skilled workers and gaining of investment. And all entrepreneurs, technocrats and researchers are to exert energetic efforts for industrial development with the effective application of

He stressed the need for the Myanmar Industrial Development Committee, the Myanmar Industrial Development Work Committee, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Computer Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Engineering Society and Myanmar

The Pairs

All states have mind as their fore-runner; to them mind is supreme and of mind are they made. Therefore, if one, with defiled mind, speaks or acts, on account of the suffering follow one as the wheel follows the foot of that does wagon-bearer.

Dhammapada 1



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views bio fuel-used stoves. — MNA

It is necessary to set up industries for the uplift of living standard of the people.

Reverse Engineering and the establishment of laboratory.

Inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources abroad the government set up the special economic zones and special industrial zones and is now drafting Myanmar Special Economic Zone Bill and rules in the long-term interest.

Forest and Forest Products Association to try hard for industrial development.

Secretary of the Industrial Development Committee Chairman of the Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung said that the IDC pursued the Head of State's guidance on five objectives for industrial development.

Coordination meetings for industrial development were held whenever opportune. Collaborative measures will be taken for development of the private sector, economic growth, job opportunities, and boosting production of value-added products, he said.

He said that agricultural produce-based industries, forestry, meat and fish, and mineral pro-

duction industries have been designated as priorities for industrial development.

He also reported on plans for production of bio-diesel.

The government organized steps for building foundry plants, forging shops and mould factories for development of industrial zones, he said.

Now, industrial zones have made progress to an extent in producing motor cycles, three-wheeled motor cycles and vehicles, he said.

Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Work Committee Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin said that in 2007-2008 Mandalay Industrial Zone produced 1938 jeeps; Meikhtila Industrial Zone, 420; and Taunggyi Industrial Zone, 309. Likewise, Mandalay Industrial Zone produced 1832 trucks; South Dagon (2) Industrial Zone, 1143; and Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone, 777. Regarding the production of motorbikes, Yenangyoung Industrial Zone produced

6000 motorbikes; and Pakokku Industrial Zone, 3000. In addition, Mandalay Industrial Zone produced 1000 three-wheeled motorcycles; and Yenangyoung Industrial Zone, 590. Mandalay Industrial Zone produced three-ton trucks; and South Dagon Industrial Zone, 60. But, Mandalay Industrial Zone could produce only five buses.

The minister also said auto manufacturers of the industrial zones are granted permission to produce the quota of vehicles, to import permitted spare parts, to produce parts domestically, to ensure quality products and to take systematic measures in issuing licences in accord with the directives of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee.

He continued that the auto industry is developing as the industrialists on their part are importing moulds, welding machines and paint blowers for the production of quality cars, inventing moulds and dies for domestic production of car bodies and trying to ensure produc-

tion of quality products to win markets.

Mandalay, Monywa, Taunggyi and (Ayethaya) industrial zones where foundry and forging shops have been established are not only repaying the State loans but also boosting production. The minister next reported on the functions of the subcommittees under the work committee.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha reported on industrial development in States and Divisions and the plans for development of the industrial sector.

Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung also reported on progress of training programmes being provided for technicians of industries.

Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi submitted reports on peace and stability at factories and workshops, settling the disputes between employers and employees and protection of social lives of workers.

(See page 10)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views vehicles manufactured by the industrial zones. — MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein observes displays of industrial products. — MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views transformers manufactured by the industrial zones. — MNA

Industrial Development Committee holds meeting 1/2008...

(from page 9)

Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Brig-Gen Win Myint presented a reports on prospects for supply of more power for development of the industrial sector and supply of electricity to industrial zones.

Managing Director U Kyaw Htoo of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading of the Ministry of Commerce reported on matters for boosting trade of industrial products.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint explained thriving of physic nut for production and use of bio-diesel.

Director U Win Tint of Myanma Machine Tool & Electrical Industries under the Ministry of Industry-2 submitted reports on prospects for production of bio-fuel and Director-General U Soe Myint of Energy Planning Department under the Ministry of Energy on preparations for fulfilling

the requirements of technology, investment and others to utilize bio-diesel.

Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw explained assistance to be provided by the CPT Ministry for development of the industrial sector.

Vice-Chairman U Zaw Min Win of Myanmar Industry Association presented reports on improvement of small and medium-scale industries, Vice-Chairman Col Nyan Tun Oo of Myanmar Engineering Society on efforts being made for enabling new generation engineers to have experiences and technologies and Chairman of Myanmar Banks Association U Than Nyein on disbursement of loans for industries.

Chairmen of Industrial Zone Supervisory Committees and industrialists submitted reports on requirements for development of the industrial sector.

Next, the industrial zone in-charge ministers reviewed and discussed the reports.

After attending to the needs, the Prime Minister said that it is necessary to set up industries for the uplift of living standard of the people. After assessing today's reports, he said that the requirements will be fulfilled equally to improve the local industries for their long-term existence.

The Prime Minister stressed the need to set up the agro-based industries according to the nature of the nation. Therefore, he cited that priority is to be given to establishment of the industries. In addition, emphasis is to be placed on setting up of import-substitute industries, he said. He added that the systematic plans are to be implemented for ensuring human resources development. In conclusion, the Prime Minister urged them to make concerted efforts for development of the industrial sector.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister

and party viewed personal goods, household goods and equipment manufactured by factories of Myanmar Textile Industries, Myanma Paper and Chemical Industries, Myanma General and Maintenance Industries, Myanma Foodstuff Industries, Myanmar Ceramics Industries and Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1 displayed at the hall of the ministry. Minister U Aung Thaung and departmental heads conducted round and briefed the Prime Minister and party on matters related to the products.

Next, the Prime Minister and party viewed booths of the ministries displayed at the car parking of the Ministry of Industry-1 and heard reports on physic nut miller, oil refinery and spare parts produced by Mandalay Tawwin Industrial Co Ltd of Mandalay Industrial Zone and arrangements being made for the production of spare parts to be used in farm and vehicles presented by officials.

The Prime Minister and party looked into tractor, agricultural implements, light truck frame and 235 spare parts produced by Thiha Tun Co Ltd of Monywa Industrial Zone and rice cookers. They also observed the agricultural implements and spare parts, foodstuff, samples of moulds and dies of Fair Sun Mould and Die Industry at the booth of Ayethaya Industrial Zone.

Next, they viewed physic nut miller displayed by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and production process of bio- diesel.

Management system, Purchasing Management system and others.

Moreover, he also explained the Route Track System and Employee Time Attendance and Pay Roll Management System and answered the enquiries. Next, those who attended the seminar viewed the application software and related items.

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan —The State Peace and Development Council has appointed the following person as head of service organization shown against on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Name	Appointment
Dr Mya Aye	Rector
Pro Rector	Mandalay University
Mandalay University	Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar)
Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar)	Ministry of Education
Ministry of Education	Ministry of Education

MNA

At the booth of the Ministry of Industry-2, they inspected home-used and commercial-used meter boxes, rice cookers, dry cell and batteries, bio fuel-used stoves and millers, diesel-fired physic nut seed crusher. They also viewed vehicles, motorbikes, bicycle tyres and rubber products of Myanma Tyre and Rubber Industries.

Next, they oversaw displays of Nibban Co, Supreme Group Co and Hein Engineering Co, Soe Co, Popular Plastic Co, SOGO Co, Chemical Engineering Cooperative Society and Myanmar Industry Association and paddy husk-fired generator of Myanmar Engineering Society.

The Prime Minister supervised locomotive-used machines and spare parts of Myanma Railways and various kinds of small vehicles, motorcycles, three-wheeled motorcycles and combine harvesters of Industrial Zones. — MNA

Qualifying round of the Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf C'ship on 9-10 Feb

The logo features a silhouette of a golfer in mid-swing, positioned above the text 'GRAND ROYAL SPECIAL RESERVE' in a bold, serif font. Below this, 'Golf Championship' is written in a smaller, sans-serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a rectangular border.

YANGON, 25 Jan — The qualifying round of the Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf

Championship, to be organized by Myanmar Golf Federation will be held at Shwe Mann Taung Golf Club in Mandalay on 9 and 10 February.

The championship will be held in accord with the St Andrews rules and regional rules and regulations and the handicap system 36.

Five best players of the scratch event will be selected for the final round.

International Beverages Trading Co Ltd will sponsor the competition together with co-sponsors Dusit Inya Lake Hotel, Srixon and Alpine. Han Event Management will perform the organizing tasks of the championship.

Amateur men's golfers may enlist at Shwe Mann Taung Golf Club, Tel: 02-60570, not later than 6 February.

MNA



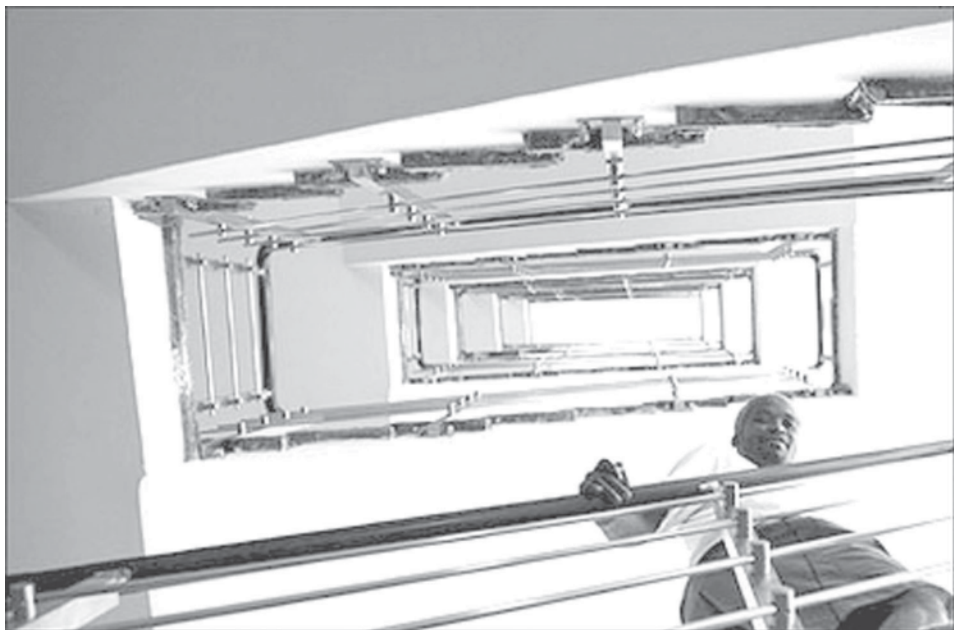
Visitors view software and accessories displayed at Software Application Product Launch Seminar. —MNA

Software Application Product Launch Seminar held

YANGON, 26 Jan — Computer Software Application Product Launch Seminar organized by Cho Cho Co Ltd was held at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here this afternoon. Present at the seminar were entrepreneurs. Management Accountancy and Training Ltd and Design Printing Service staged booths.

Managing Director Dr Tin Latt of Management Accountancy and Training Ltd made an inaugural speech and explained points relating to the seminar. General Manager U Wai Phyo Linn of Cho Cho Co Ltd explained the Point Sales of retail management system, streamline selling by Barcode Reader system, Inventory

Images of the Day



*Stairway to heaven :
Zambia's Joseph
Musonda climbs
stairway of his hotel
after a lunch, in
Kumasi during the
African Cup of Nations
football championship.*

INTERNET



*Elizabeth Suarez
Cedros performs on
stage wearing her
"Heroica" during the
Las Palmas Carnival
Queen contest in Las
Palmas de Gran
Canaria , Spain on 25
Jan, 2008. — INTERNET*



*In this photo illustration released by Disney Parks, singers Jennifer Lopez,
portrayed as Jasmine and husband Marc Anthony as Aladdin from
Disney's 'Aladdin,' soar through the Arabian night in part two of a dream
scene entitled 'Where a Whole New World Awaits,' created by
photographer Annie Leibovitz. —INTERNET*



*'Night Glow', a spectacular light and sound
show with hot air balloons and fireworks, is seen
in the village of Chateau d'Oex, in the Swiss
Alps on 25 Jan, 2008. Over 95 balloons from 20
countries are participating in the 30th
International Hot Air Balloon week.*

INTERNET



*Revelers are sprayed with water during the Ceu na Terra carnival parade in Rio de Janeiro's Santa
Teresa neighborhood, on 26 Jan, 2008, one of many parades before the famed Carnival beginning
2 Feb. — INTERNET*

ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရန် ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း (Ks/F.E)

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်	အရေအတွက်	တင်ဒါခေါ်ရက်	တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက်
1.	Engine For Dump Truck	2 Units	25.1.2008	4.2.2008
2.	Coal Block Making Machine	2 Nos	25.1.2008	4.2.2008
3.	Kiln Hanging Chain (Ordianry)	2 Items	25.1.2008	4.2.2008
4.	Conveyor Chain	8 Items	25.1.2008	4.2.2008
5.	Excavator (1.5~ 2.0m³)	2 Units	25.1.2008	4.2.2008
6.	Excavator (0.7~ 1.0m³)	1 Unit	25.1.2008	4.2.2008
7.	Dump Truck (5 Tons)	4 Units	25.1.2008	4.2.2008
8.	Dump Truck (15 Tons)	4 Units	25.1.2008	4.2.2008
9.	Wheel Loader (2~3m³)	2 Units	25.1.2008	4.2.2008

အမှတ် (၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့ကြွေထည်မြေထည်လုပ်ငန်း၊ ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ်(၄၁)နေပြည်တော်တွင် ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းပြီး တင်ဒါပုံစံများကို လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

တင်ဒါပုံစံတရားဝင် ဝယ်ယူများထံမှ တင်ဒါကိုသာ လက်ခံပါမည်။

(အသေးစိတ် သိလိုပါက စုံစမ်းရန် တယ်လီဖုန်း အမှတ် ၀၆၇-၄၀၈၂၉၈)

မြန်မာ့ကြွေထည်မြေထည်လုပ်ငန်း

Clinton, McCain win “New York Times” endorsements

WASHINGTON, 25 Jan — *The New York Times* on Thursday endorsed Democratic Senator Hillary Clinton and Republican Senator John McCain for their party’s nominations to contest the US presidential in November.

In selecting Clinton, a New York Senator, the influential newspaper’s editorial board said her experience gave her an advantage over her chief rival in the Democratic race, Illinois Senator Barack Obama, though on the major issues they were not that different.

Clinton is embroiled in tight nomination battle with Obama, who would be the first African American president if elected. Former North Carolina Senator John Edwards has been running in third place. In backing McCain, the *Times* editorial board said it had strong disagreements with all the Republicans running for president, but among them, the Arizona Senator was an easy choice.

Russia delivers 50,000 tons of fuel oil to DPRK

Moscow, 25 Jan — Russia has shipped 50,000 tons of fuel oil to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to implement a six-nation agreement on the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue, *RIA* news agency reported on Wednesday. “The last batch (of the fuel oil) was shipped from our tanker to a Korean port yesterday,” a spokesman for the state-controlled oil company Rosneft was quoted as saying.

The fuel aid was provided under an agreement reached last October at the six-party talks in Beijing in which the DPRK agreed to disable its nuclear facilities and receive economic aid from the other countries.

China and South Korea have delivered similar aid to the DPRK. China, South Korea, the United States, Russia and Japan have offered Pyongyang a series of diplomatic incentives in return for denuclearization .

China train accident kills 18

BEIJING, 25 Jan — A Chinese train hit a group of maintenance workers on the line, killing 18 and injuring nine, state television said on Friday.

The train was travelling from Beijing to the eastern coastal resort city of Qingdao, it added. No other details were immediately available.

S’pore detains two for posing potential terrorist threat

SINGAPORE, 25 Jan — The Singapore authorities announced on Thursday that they have recently detained two men and restricted one man’s movements for posing potential terrorist threat.

The three men were involved in “activities that posed a potential terrorist threat”, the Ministry of Home Affairs said in a statement.

Two of the men, Muhammad Zamri Bin Abdullah, 26, and Maksham Bin Mohamed Shah, 26, were detained under the Internal Security Act, while the third man, Mohammad Taufik Andjah Asmara, 26, was issued with a Restriction Order on December last year.

Zamri was “self radicalized” through propaganda in publications, videos and the internet, and intended to go overseas to join a mujahidin network to “wage armed jihad and die a martyr”, said the statement, adding that Zamri succeeded in influencing Maksham and Taufik with his pro-armed jihad ideology.

Meanwhile, the authorities have released five Jemaah Islamiyah detainees since December last year, it said.

The men were released as they “had cooperated in investigations and responded positively to rehabilitation, including religious counselling”, according to the statement.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Ban says panel to review UN security worldwide

GENEVA, 25 Jan — United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon said on Wednesday he was setting up an independent panel to review the safety and security of UN staff and offices worldwide after the deadly bombing in Algiers.

Ban, who earlier held talks with Algerian Foreign Minister Mourad Medelci in Geneva, was speaking at a memorial service for 17 UN employees who died in the twin blasts last month.

The bombs, one of which hit UN buildings, killed at least 41 people and were claimed by al-Qaeda. “In the light of recent events, and after consulting with the Algerian authorities and receiving their agreement, I am setting up an independent panel of experts to review the safety and security of UN personnel and premises,” Ban said.

In 2003, 22 people, including the UN envoy Sergio Vieira de Mello, died in a bombing of the UN office in Baghdad. That attack prompted the UN to pull out its international staff from Iraq, leaving only local staffers to conduct minimal activities. In recent months that UN expatriate staff have progressively returned.

“Such a panel will address the strategic issues vital to United Nations staff security around the world,” Ban said.

Four Brazilian policemen arrested for robbery

RIODE JANEIRO, 25 Jan — The Brazilian authorities have arrested four policemen who were photographed robbing a driver of his truckload of beer.

A policeman and another man stopped the truck Friday afternoon, and then forced the driver to pull over somewhere out of the way, before they and some other people waiting there started to unload the beer, Brazilian daily *O Globo* quoted the driver as saying Wednesday.

Three policemen who passed by on patrol joined the robbers later instead of stopping them, and within 15 minutes the truckload worth 14,075 reais (about 7,800 US dollars) was gone, the victim added.

The robbers focused so much on the beer that they did not notice residents nearby were shooting them with cameras. Soon after the pictures were sent to the police and the newspaper, the four policemen were put into custody.



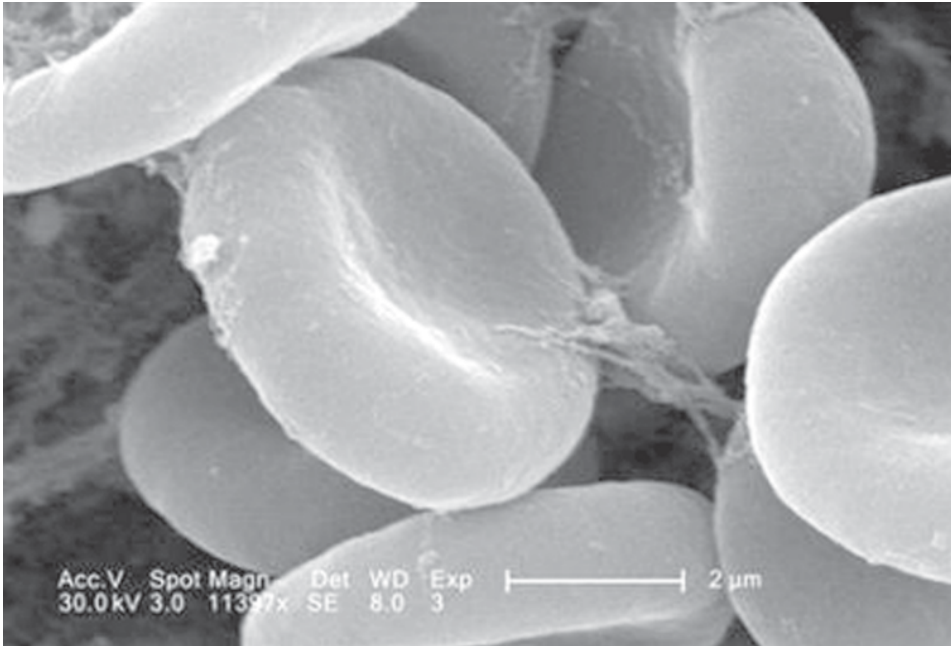
A 3 kilometre long, 33 metre wide bridge in Rui’an City, in eastern China’s Zhejiang Province, is completed on 2 Jan, 2008, after the two sections of the bridge met in the middle. The Rui’an Bridge, a two-way road with six lanes, has a weight capacity of 3,000 tons.—INTERNET

China needs to enhance indigenous innovation capability

THE HAGUE, 25 Jan — Although China’s research and development spending has shot up in recent years, the country still suffers from a lack of local innovation, an official from the Chinese Science and Technology Ministry said Thursday.

At a conference in The Hague this week, Zhang Weixing, Vice Director General of the ministry’s Torch Hi-Tech Industrial Development Centre, said to stimulate science and technology development, China is working to integrate science and technology with industry.

China’s R&D expenditure, at 37.7 billion US dollars in 2006, was the fifth largest in the world after the United States, Japan, Germany and France, he told a largely Western audience Wednesday at the conference, “Organizing Science-based Business with China”.—*MNA/Xinhua*



An undated scanning electron micrograph of red blood cells. An Australian teenage girl has become the world's first known transplant patient to change blood groups and take on the immune system of her organ donor, doctors said on Friday, calling her a 'one-in-six-billion miracle.' — INTERNET

Israel Holocaust museum launches Arabic site

JERUSALEM, 25 Jan — Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial launched an Arabic-language website on Thursday, saying it wanted to bring accurate information to the Arab world about the Nazis' killing of six million Jews.

"There is denial, there is revisionism, there is ignorance in many parts of the Arab world but we also know there is an interest among many people to actually be able to learn about the Holocaust," said Estee Yaari, a Yad Vashem spokeswoman.

A survey last March by Israel's Haifa University found that 28 per cent of the country's Arab citizens do not believe the Holocaust took place.

The new website includes academic articles, archival documents and online video testimony from Holocaust survivors, as well as

accounts about non-Jews, including Muslims from Turkey and Albania, who saved Jewish lives during World War II.

MNA/Reuters

New bird flu outbreak found in N Thailand

BANGKOK, 25 Jan — A new bird flu outbreak has been found at a farm in Thailand's northern province Nakhon Sawan Province, local media reported Thursday.

Thailand's Livestock Department official Somboon Srisuthep was quoted as saying on Thursday that the presence of H5N1 virus was suspected at Sri Thai Farm in Chumsaeng District, Nakhon Sawan, where thousands of chickens were found dead, according to the *Bangkok Post* website report.

A lab test conducted in nearby province Phitsanulok confirmed the chickens had died of the bird flu virus, the report said. Officials have now ordered a quarantine of all avian livestock and requested the blanket disinfection of all poultry farms in the area within a five-kilometre radius of the infected farm.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia to stockpile food, possibly fuel

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 Jan — Malaysia plans to set up a national food stockpile to safeguard the country against rising prices and possible shortages, local newspapers said on Thursday.

The plan, outlined to local media on Wednesday, could also see the establishment of a petroleum reserve, even though Malaysia was a net energy exporter, the newspapers added.

"It is possible," economist Kamal Salih, who is advising the government on the new measures, was quoted as saying in the *New Straits Times*.

"Advanced countries are already stockpiling petrol, but not us as we are currently a net exporter of oil. However, we will discuss this."

On food, Malaysia is looking to stockpile essentials such as rice and cooking oil, the dailies said.

MNA/Reuters



A woman holds prescription contraceptives. The contraceptive pill has prevented some 200,000 cases of ovarian cancer and 100,000 deaths from this disease since its introduction nearly half a century ago, according to a study published in next Saturday's Lancet medical journal.

INTERNET

Caring for aged project launched in Beijing

BEIJING, 25 Jan — The China Association of Social Workers (CASW), a non-governmental organization, has launched a large-scale project to care for the elderly here on Wednesday.

According to the CASW's plan, about 20 centres for the service for the elderly will be set up in provinces with large populations of old people in the next five to eight years. All the centres will have facilities for senior citizens' housing, entertainment and recovery, sources with the CASW said.

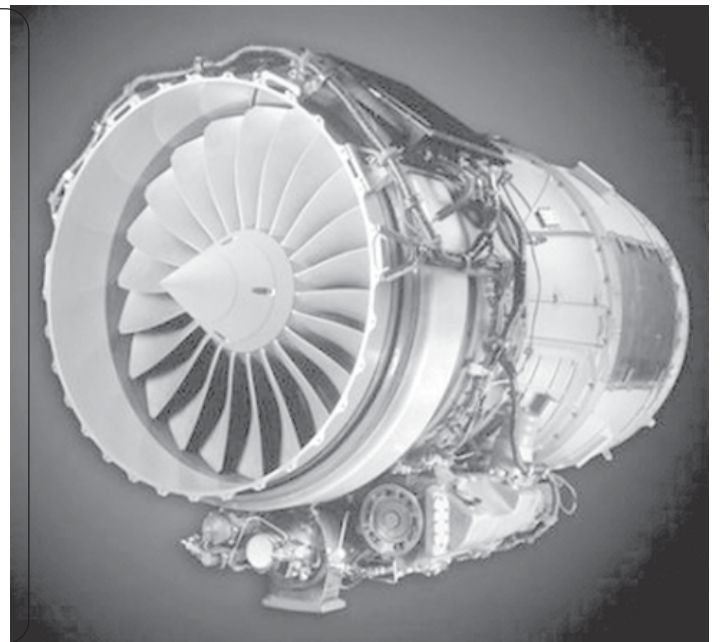
Under this project, an elderly service network will be set up and forums

spreading health care knowledge for the senior citizens will be held regularly.

"The long-term promotion of the project is arduous, but it will certainly be significant in developing a better system of elderly service in the country," said Zhou Tienong, vice-president of the association.

The total number of Chinese citizens aged above 60 in 2007 has jumped from 126 million to 149 million, or 11.3 per cent of the total population, according to a report released at the end of last year by the China Elderly Work Committee Office. —MNA/Xinhua

An aerospace product in an image courtesy of Honeywell. The diversified manufacturer Honeywell said on Thursday its fourth-quarter profit and sales rose from a year earlier, helped by strong economic conditions.
INTERNET



Western Tibet jolts by third earthquake this month

LHASA, 25 Jan — An earthquake measuring 5.5 on Richter Scale hit Gerze County in western Tibet Autonomous Region at 2:43 am Beijing Time on Wednesday, the third quake in the region this month.

The epicentre was located at 32.4 degrees north and 85.2 degrees east, about 100 kilometres

to the east of Gerze County seat in Ngari Prefecture, according to the China Seismological Monitoring Network.

An earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter Scale rocked the same area on 9 January followed by another of six degrees on 16 January.

Hong Xuefeng, an official with the prefectural government of Ngari, said the three

earthquakes had affected almost 2,000 people in 394 households, damaged 331 houses and 140 sheep pens, leaving losses estimated at 3.86 million yuan (533,000 US dollars).

The occupants of at-risk homes have been accommodated in tents. The prefectural and county governments have allocated funds, food and tents for the area.

MNA/Xinhua

New York Mayor signs plastic bag recycling bill

NEW YORK, 25 Jan — New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg signed a bill on Wednesday that forces large retailers to set up plastic bag recycling programmes as part of the city's efforts to improve its environmental record.

The measure, which aims to reduce the number of bags handed out to city consumers from an estimated one billion a year, comes on the heels of other environmental initiatives including a mandate for more fuel-efficient taxis and a proposed congestion pricing plan designed to cut car traffic in Manhattan.

The bill requires all stores that occupy at least 5,000 square feet to implement bag recycling programmes as well as make recycled bags available.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS



A group of snowmobile riders ride and fly over rollers of snow at the eliminations for the Snowmobile SnoCross on 25 Jan, 2008 at the Winter X Games at Buttermilk Ski Area near Aspen, Colo. Finals for the SnoCross will be held on Saturday.—INTERNET

Albania drafts new law to jail match-fixers

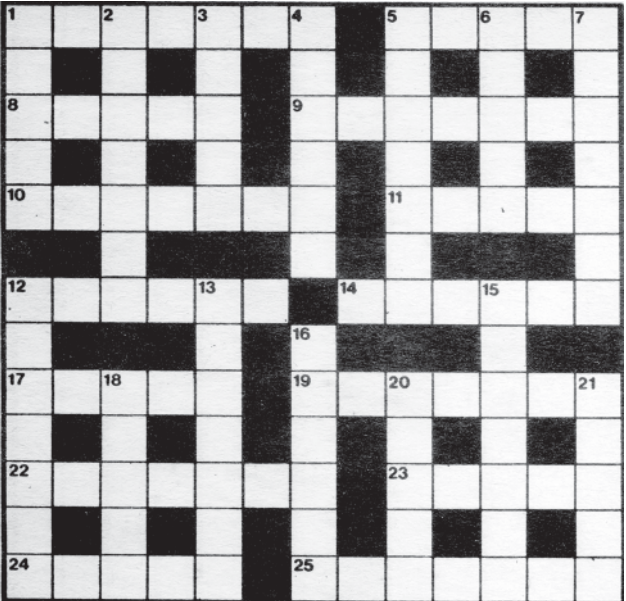
TIRANA, 26 Jan — Albania's sports ministry and anti-corruption groups have joined forces to draft a new law that would send match-fixers to jail, officials said on Friday. The country's culture minister last month accused the president of the national soccer federation of "selling" two Euro 2008 qualifiers.

Prime Minister Sali Berisha also branded the national soccer team a "mafia group".

"Unfortunately, Albania has not escaped the virus of the fixing of matches and other sports races," Deputy Culture and Sports Minister Ekrem Spahia said in a statement on Friday.

He said writing the "Clean Feet" draft law would make those responsible of match-fixing liable to up to seven years in jail while also bringing Albanian laws in line with the European Union's. —MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



- ACROSS

 - 1 Chief
 - 5 Wet season
 - 8 Serious
 - 9 Distinguished
 - 10 Passage
 - 11 Praise highly
 - 12 Acrimonious
 - 14 Asserts
 - 17 Shatter
 - 19 Anguish
 - 22 Fling impatiently
 - 23 Clique
 - 24 Supple
 - 25 Nominal
- DOWN

 - 1 Pale
 - 2 Unyielding
 - 3 Notions
 - 4 Welcomes
 - 5 Clothing
 - 6 Fatuous
 - 7 Ends a dispute
 - 12 Shy
 - 13 Intensify
 - 15 Clover
 - 16 Bear witness
 - 18 Concerning
 - 20 Correct
 - 21 Drunkard

Guinea captain Feindouno gets two-match ban

SEKONDI, 26 Jan — Guinea captain Pascal Feindouno has been handed a two-match ban for stamping on an opponent in his team's 3-2 victory over Morocco in the African Nations Cup on Thursday.

The midfielder, who scored two goals and set up another at Accra's Ohene Djan Stadium, got a straight red card in the 67th minute.

"The Disciplinary Committee of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) has handed a two match ban to Guinea captain Pascal Feindouno," CAF said on their Web site (www.cafonline.com) on Friday.

Feindouno will miss Guinea's last Group A game again Namibia and a quarterfinal tie if his team reach the last eight. —MNA/Reuters

Benin coach to expand on bribery claim

SEKONDI, 26 Jan — Benin coach Reinhard Fabisch said he is willing to make an official affidavit, giving details of an attempt to bribe him at the African Nations Cup finals in Ghana.

The German alleged on Thursday he had been approached at the weekend to try and fix his country's opening match at the tournament which they lost 1-0 to Mali on Monday.

The Confederation of African Football on Friday demanded he sign an affidavit within 24 hours or face charges of bringing the game into disrepute.

"I am prepared to do all that is necessary to clarify this. I have not yet been told what is wanted of me but I will be happy to do it," he told Reuters in Sekondi on Friday.

"To want clear up the issue and to protect other teams and African football from this happening again," he said.

"When something like this happens I have a duty to report it and bring it to the public's attention. —MNA/Reuters



South Korea's Lee Yong-dae (front) and Lee Hyo-jung return a shot from China's Xie Zhongbo and Zhang Yawen during mixed doubles semi-final of the Yonex Korea Open Badminton Super Series in Seoul on 26 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Russia's Maria Sharapova holds a trophy after beating Serbia's Ana Ivanovic during the final of the Women's singles at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne, Australia, on 26 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET



Aston Villa's Stilian Petrov, front, vies for the ball with Blackburn Rovers David Dunn during their English Premier League soccer match at Villa Park, Birmingham, England, on 26 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET

Liverpool's Sami Hyypia (L) challenges Havant and Waterlooville's Richard Pacquette during their FA Cup fourth round soccer match at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 26 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET



Mali draw leaves Nigeria floundering

SEKONDI, 26 Jan — Nigeria's African Nations Cup hopes suffered another blow on Friday after a 0-0 draw with Mali left them floundering in their opening round group.

Nigeria are third in Group B with just a single point, three behind second placed Mali.

The draw confirmed Ivory Coast, who have six points, as the first team to qualify for the quarterfinals.

Nigeria, despite their star-studded attack, failed for a second successive game to score.

Mali might have snatched victory with seven minutes to go when Seydou Keita hit the woodwork with a thunderous drive.

Nigeria did have an effort ruled offside in the 80th minute. The flag went up against striker Yakubu Aiyegbeni, who had the most of the Nigerian chances in the first half. —MNA/Reuters

Las Vegas casino hotel engulfed in flames, no injuries

LOS ANGELES, 26 Jan — A three-alarm fire on top of the Monte Carlo casino hotel in Las Vegas forced evacuations and shutdown of the Las Vegas Strip Friday morning, with no injuries reported.

The fire started around 11 am local time at the Las Vegas Strip hotel. It was reported that the fire was burning on the south side of the hotel along the top floors sending black plumes of smoke into the sky.

Fire officials said there were no known injuries and they have almost contained the fire, however, eyewitnesses told local television channels that embers were falling and sparking smaller fires.

A former hotel worker said that the top floor of the hotel contains suites. The cause of the fire is not officially determined yet, but there are reports that welders were working on the roof of the hotel. — MNA/Xinhua



Smoke and flames rise after a fire broke out at the Monte Carlo hotel-casino in Las Vegas, Friday, on 25 Jan 2008. The fire, which was reported around 11 am, Friday halted gambling at the casino as it spread from the center of the building across the roof. No major injuries were reported, said Clark County spokesman.

INTERNET

Police find over dozen dead in north Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 26 Jan —

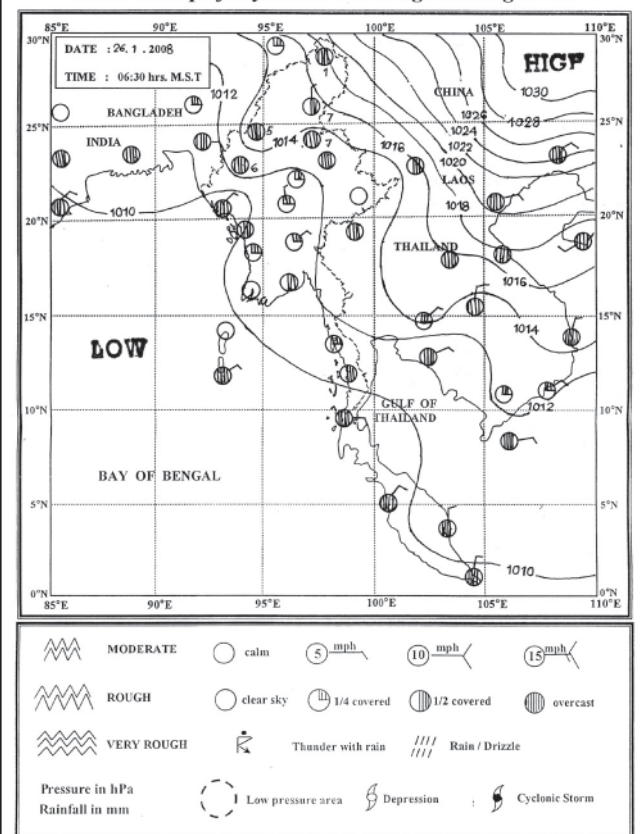
Police found more than a dozen unidentified bodies, some with their hands tied behind their backs, in northern Sri Lanka on Thursday, the military and a witness said.

Rights groups have reported hundreds of abductions and disappearances in recent months after the military and separatist Tamil Tigers resumed a two-decade civil war, which has cost nearly 70,000 lives since 1983.

Police found the decomposing bodies in a grave in the north central district of Anuradhapura after a report by a local resident, a military spokesman said.

“An incident has been reported and investigative teams have rushed to the scene.—MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 26 January, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin and Chin States, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan States, Lower Sagain and Mandalay Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (4°C) below January average temperatures in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Kachin. Eastern Shan, and Rakhine States and Bago Divisions, (6°C) above January average temperatures in Northern Shan State and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilin (3°C), Pinlaung and Hakha (6°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Falam (0.83) inch, Myitkyina and Bhamo (0.35) inch each, Hakha and Kalaywa (0.32) inch each, Katha (0.28) inch, Homalin (0.20) inch, Machanbaw (0.16) inch.

Maximum temperature on 25-1-2008 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 26-1-2008 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 26-1-2008 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 25-1-2008 was (8.2) hours approx.

Rainfall on 25-1-2008 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 Northeast at (7:30) hours MST on 25-1-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 27-1-2008: likelihood of isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Chin, Northern Shan and Northern Rakhine States and upper Sagaing Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Mandalay, Magway lower Sagaing, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthy 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: Likelihood of continuation of rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 27-1-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-1-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-1-2008: Partly cloudy.



Sunday, 27 January
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am

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

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. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ

8:10 am

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

8. ကတိကရလောကတံ

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Say it in English

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. Musical programme

11:25 am

3. Round up of the week's International news

11:35 am

4. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင် အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

12:05 pm

5. Myanmar video feature: “ပျော်စရာကြီး” (ဒွေး၊ သားညို၊ ပြေတီဦး၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်သခင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သီဟတင်သန်း)

1:35 pm

6. ထွက်နုန်းများလွန်တိုးပွားလွန် ကျော်ခြံ၏ ငွေချည်(၆)စွမ်းအား

1:50 pm

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:00 pm

8. Musical programme

2:15 pm

9. “ရေမြင့်-ကြာတင့်” (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ဇရာ၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ ထင်ပေါ် မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဝမ်းပျံ၊ မျိုးမျိုးခိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)

2:30 am

10. ယူးချောင်းတံတား

2:45 am

11. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song for uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for everyday use

4:45 pm

4. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ပထမနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒ၊ ဓာတုဗေဒ သင်ခန်းစာပြုများ)(ရူပဗေဒ)

4:55 pm

5. Song of national races

5:10 pm

6. Musical programme

5:25 pm

7. Sing and Enjoy

6:00 pm

8. Evening news

6:30 pm

9. Weather report

6:35 pm

10. “စင်စင်နှင့်ခြင်ကျား”

(စင်စင်စောမြင့်၊ လင်းလင်းစောမြင့်(ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်စောမောင်မောင်)

6:50 pm

11. ဂြိုဟ်တုအသုံးပြုရုပ်မြင်သံကြား ထုတ်လွှင့်ခြင်းနှင့်နိုင်ငံ တကာကျင့်ထုံးများ

7:05 pm

12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်သူအားမာန်”

(အပိုင်း-၈)

8:00 pm

13. News

14. International news

15. Weather report

16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“ချိုမြိန်သောအချစ်နေ့”

(အပိုင်း-၁၆)

17. The next day's programme



Sunday, 27 January
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music

-One heart

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music

-Baby one more time

8:50 am National news/ Slogan

9:00 am Music

-If you had my love

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar

-A wonderland of pagodas, Bago and its environs

9:20 am Music

I am

1:30 pm News/ Slogan

1:40 pm Children's delight (Story)

-“One who freed someone's life”

1:50 pm Songs for children

9:00 pm Weekly news review

9:10 pm Article

9:20 pm Music/LIETS

-As long as you love me

-Look for a star

9:45 pm News/ Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

People's Desire

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

Secretary-1 attends reception to mark 59th Anniversary of Republic Day of India

YANGON, 26 Jan —Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin attended the reception to mark the 59th Anniversary of the Republic Day of India at the residence of the ambassador of the Republic of India on Thantaman road in Dagon Township, here this evening.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin were welcomed by Indian Ambassador Mr Bhaskar

Kumar Mitra and officials.

Also present at the reception were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, the deputy ministers, senior military of-

icers of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, departmental heads, ambassadors, charges d'affaires and military attaches of the foreign missions in Yangon, officials and their wives of UN agencies, entrepreneurs and invited guests.

MNA

Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin being welcomed by Indian Ambassador

Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra at the reception to mark the 59th Anniversary of the Republic Day of India.—MNA



Bago Division facilitated with 23 per cent of dams, sluice gates and diversion weirs of the whole nation

Wagadok Supporting Dam inaugurated in Bago Township



Wagadok Supporting Dam near Taunghsat-in Village in Bago Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan —Wagadok Supporting Dam, built by the Construction-1 of Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, was inaugurated near Taunghsat-in Village in Bago Township this morning.

In his address, Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko said that Wagadok Dam (See page 7)