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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

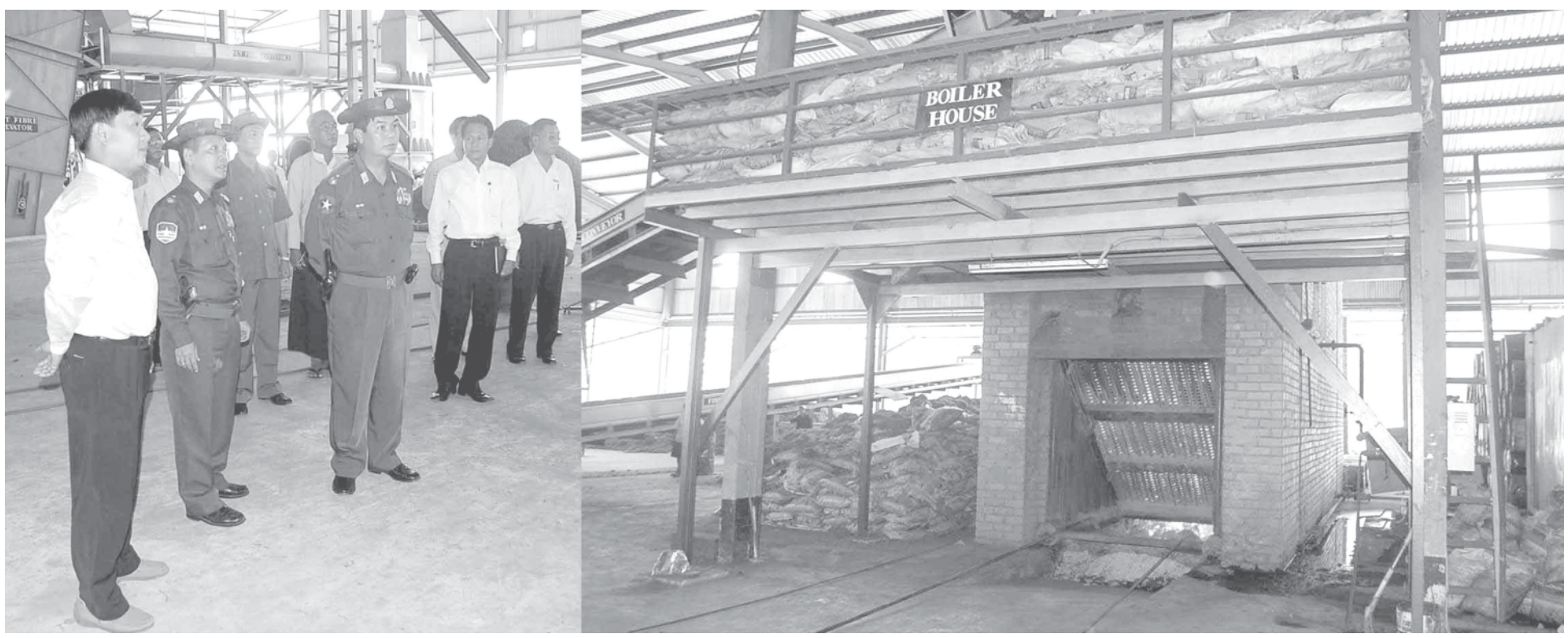
**Four economic objectives**

* 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

# Maj-Gen Tha Aye on inspection tour of Bokpyin, Karathuri in Taninthayi Division




*Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence inspects South Dagon oil palm factory in Bokpyin Township.* — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan — Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, on 25 January viewed Myeik Airport and instructed officials to grow shade trees and flowery plants for greening the airport.

In Bokpyin Township, they viewed arrival and departure of passengers at Bokpyin Airport.

They also looked into renovation of Bokpyin Gymnasium and Bokpyin Township Hospital. Maj-Gen Tha Aye presented cash assistance to the patients.

Afterwards, they inspected maintenance of Bo Hla Pe Jetty in Bokpyin, construction of Ayechantha Jetty and Ayechantha Concrete Bridge.

Next, they paid homage to Atula Dipati Maha Muni Reclining Buddha Image and donated cash to the funds of the pagoda.

At the local battalion, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party inspected vegetable plantations and provided edible oil and foodstuff to the family members of the local station.

They also inspected production process of South Dagon oil palm factory and viewed thriving oil palm plantations in the area of South Dagon Oil Palm Farm Project.

In Karathuri, they inspected construction of the 16-bed hospital. Next, they met servicemen and family members of the local battalion.

At Nawarat Hall in Karathuri Township, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met departmental personnel, social organization members and local people and explained development tasks of education, health, social, economic and transport sectors of Myeik and Dawei Development Regions, and urged them to harmoniously participate in development tasks.

*(See page 8)*

## INSIDE

**Though Mandalay hill is widely known and much visited because it is easily seen when you are in Mandalay, Yan Kin Hill seems to be far out of the sight of visitors. It lies straight to the east of Mandalay Palace, easily accessible. Your visit to it may prove very rewarding.**

**Page 7** **DR KHIN MAUNG NYUNT**

## Untimely Rainfall Warning

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan — According to the observation at 6:30 hours M.S.T today, due to the influence of the western disturbances, rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in the Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine States and Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions within next 48 hours commencing noon today.—*MNA*

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

# PERSPECTIVES

**Monday, 28 January, 2008**

## Build infrastructures for consolidation of Union Spirit

**The government is building infrastructures on transport, education, health and agricultural sectors with the aim of achieving economic growth in states and divisions including border areas.**

**It is doing so for the development of not only one particular region but the whole nation. All the national races are to make efforts for progress after realizing the goodwill of the State. The national people are also to safeguard stability and peace and prevalence of law and order which play a pivotal role in regional development.**

**It is necessary for service personnel to lead the national people for uplift of their socio-economic life securing the latter's participation in regional development tasks employing their expertise.**

**Per capita income will surely increase through the reclamation of fallow and virgin land and application of modern cultivation techniques in growing suitable crops for food sufficiency of local people.**

**Therefore the people are to make concerted efforts for success of agriculture and livestock breeding sectors through efficient exploitation of natural resources in the country.**

**Indeed, building infrastructures for regional development constitutes uplift of socio-economic life of the national people and consolidation of the already-forged Union Spirit among the national races.**

## 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**

## Communication services in Nay Pyi Taw inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan—Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw arrived at Nay Pyi Taw General Post Office this morning. He inspected land reclamation and growing of flowering plants in the GPO compound. Later, he observed the functions at the GPO and attended to the needs. Next, he procceded to Nay Pyi Taw Auto-Exchange and inspected work being done there. He also inspected tasks being carried out at Complaint Section of (106) and fulfiled the needs. Afterwards, he inspected the installation of communication equipment at Nay Pyi Taw U Pyinmana Auto-Exchange and attended to the needs.—*MNA*

*Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects Nay Pyi Taw Auto - Exchange.* — MNA

## Industry-1 Ministry organizes special sales

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan— The opening ceremony of Special Sales organized by the Ministry of Industry-1 took place at Kyaikwaing playground in Mayangon Township this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, officials of the ministry, the secretary and members of Yangon Division PDC, the chairman and members of Yangon West District PDC and guests.

First, Col Win Naung of the ministry and Chairman U Aung Myin of Yangon West District PDC opened the special sales. Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win pressed the button to open the archway of the sales. Next, the commander and party viewed the showrooms opened at the sales. The sales will be kept open up to 4 Feburary. The products manufactured by six industries of the ministry will be sold.—*MNA*

## Vice-Mayor inspects tax-free markets

YANGON, 26 Jan—Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Com-mittee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, together with Secretary of YCDC U Aung Than Win and departmental officials, inspected tax-free markets in Shwepyitha, Hlinethaya and Kamayut Townships this morning.

The Vice-Mayor met with the customers in the markets and gave instructions on low price, correct weight, sanitation in and around the markets.—*MNA*

*Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa inspects sales of commodities at Shwepyitha tax-free market.*

YCDC

## Myittamon Blood Donors Association donates blood

YANGON, 26 Jan — The 47th blood donation ceremony of Myittamon Blood Donors Association of Shine Hope Co to No 1 Defence Services General Hospital (1000-bed) was held at the hospital in Mingaladon this morning. Head of Pathology Department Lt-Col Tin Moe Mya spoke words of thanks.

U Win Myint of the association explained the purpose of the blood donation. Pathologist Captain Myo Myint Aung explained the salient points of the blood donation.

Next, the company donated K 400,000 and an refrigieafor worth K 240,000 to the hospital and 75 persons of the association donated blood.

Likewise, altogether 50 persons from the association donated blood to Defence Services Orthopedic Hospital (500-bed) and 25 persons to Defence Services O&G and Children's Hospital (300-bed).—*MNA*

## MWAF's Organizing Department holds educative talks

*Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo accepts membership applications of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township.* — MNA

YANGON, 26 Jan —An educative talk organized by Organizing Department of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was held at Myanmar Garment Factory in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township this afternoon.

It was attended by Head of Organizing Department of MWAF Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo and members, the chairpersons and members of district/township WAOs, Director Daw Khine Mie Mie Win and women staff of the factory.

First, Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo gave accounts of the federation. Deputy Head of the department Daw Thein Thein Nyunt gave talks on legal and culture and Secretary Dr Myat Lay Kyin, on HIV/AIDS.

Next, the head of department accepted 600 membership applications presented by Chairperson of township WAO Daw Than Than Myint. —*MNA*

# Turkey says US N-policy strengthens Iran

DAVOS (Switzerland), 27 Jan — US ally Turkey said on Saturday Washington's efforts to isolate Iran over its nuclear programme were undermining reformists in Teheran and bolstering Iranian influence across the Middle East.

Foreign Minister Ali Babacan said the United States was failing to win broad support for tougher sanctions against Iran, and called instead for dialogue and diplomacy.

"Simply isolating Iran in our view caused Iran to be more united, to weaken the hands of the reformists," Babacan told reporters on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos.

"Also (it led to an) Iran which had more and more influence in the region. That is the reality we are observing".

The United States and other Western powers say Iran's refusal to stop enriching uranium supports their suspicion that Teheran is seeking nuclear weapons. Iran says its nuclear programme is peaceful and has ignored repeated UN demands that it cease enrichment.

*MNA/Reuters*

***Indian soldiers perform a dare-devil show during the Republic Day parade in New Delhi on 26 Jan, 2008.*** INTERNET

## Communist leader demands Kremlin ensure fair election

MOSCOW, 27 Jan — Russia's Communist Party leader on Saturday called on the Kremlin to ensure a fair election and said President Vladimir Putin's chosen candidate was dominating air time on state television.

Veteran Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov is the main opposition contender to Putin's favourite, Dmitry Medvedev, who is set to win a sweeping victory in the March 2 election.—*MNA/Reuters*

***Palestinians carry a disabled man over the border between Gaza Strip and Egypt in town of Rafah, on 26 Jan, 2008.*** —INTERNET

## Inter-Korean mily talks end with little progress

SEOUL, 27 Jan — Officials from South Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Friday in a working-level meeting discussed security measures for various joint economic projects, but the talks ended with little progress and the one-day meeting ended shortly after 1 pm, according to the South Korean Defence Ministry.—*MNA/Xinhua*

***A residence is seen burning during post-election violence in the Rift Valley provincial capital Nakuru, Kenya on 26 Jan, 2008.*** INTERNET

# Two insurgents killed in military raid in S Thailand

BANGKOK, 27 Jan — Two insurgents were killed during a clash with soldiers who launched a raid in Thailand's southernmost province of Narathiwat Sunday morning, local radio reported.

About 200 soldiers surrounded a village in Narathiwat's Ruso district and launched a manhunt raid since early Sunday morning. A group of insurgents hidden inside the village exchanged fire with the military men.

Two insurgents were killed on the spot, local radio Chosoiroi reported.

By press time, the clash is still going on in the district.

Thailand's three southernmost provinces — Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani have been troubled with insurgency-related violence which has claimed more than 2,500 lives since early 2004.

*Internet*

# Obama rolls to big South Carolina win

COLUMBIA (SC), 27 Jan — Barack Obama easily won South Carolina's bitterly contested Democratic presidential primary with the help of heavy Black support on Saturday, dealing a setback to rival Hillary Clinton after a week of political brawling.

Obama, an Illinois senator who would be the first Black US president, routed Clinton in the latest showdown in a back-and-forth fight for the right to represent the Democractic Party in November's presidential election.

John Edwards finished third in a state he won during his failed 2004 race, casting fresh doubt on the future of his campaign.

With nearly all the votes counted, Obama had doubled Clinton's vote total, winning 55 per cent to her 27 per cent. Edwards had 18 per cent.

***Barack Obama***

The win for Obama after two consecutive loses to Clinton, in New Hampshire and Nevada, gave him new momentum heading into 5 February "Super Tuesday" Democractic contests in 22 States. Obama won the first contest in Iowa.

"Tonigh, the cynics who believed that what began in the snows of Iowa was just an illusion were told a different story by the good people of South Carolina," Obama told a cheering crowd in Columbia, the state capital.—*MNA/Reuters*

# Coalition soldier killed, five wounded in E Afghan

KABUL, 27 Jan — One soldier from the US-led Coalition force was killed and five others including two servicemen from Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) were injured when the joint forces were conducting an operation on Friday morning in eastern Afghan province of Kunar, said a Coalition statement.

While conducting a cordon and search of a compound looking for insurgents in the Nari District of Kunar, the combined forces came under fire from Taleban insurgents and they returned fire and then called in close air support, the statement said.

"One Coalition service member was killed by enemy fire, and three were wounded," it said, "An ANSF service member and an interpreter were also wounded in the firefight."

The cell of Taleban insurgents was completely destroyed in the air strike, it added.—*MNA/Xinhua*

# More suspects in Bhutto's assassination arrested

ISLAMABAD, 27 Jan — The Pakistani authorities have arrested more suspects in connection with the assassination of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto on a tip from a detained suspect, a senior official said on Saturday.

A 15-year-old boy Aitzaz Shah was arrested from the northwestern city of Dera Islamil Khan earlier this week, who had reportedly told the investigators that he was part of a back-up group who attacked Benazir Bhutto.

Caretaker Interior Minister Hamid Nawaz said that on the indication of suspect Aitzaz Shah, the authorities had taken into custody more suspects allegedly involved in the assassination of Benazir Bhutto. However, he did not disclose more details.

Hamid Nawaz said the Scotland Yard team investigated the assassination quickly and had got certain clues. He said some members of the team would return to Pakistan within the next few days.

The government had changed the strategy to quell militancy, Hamid Nawaz said, "Militants targeting the security forces will be crushed."

He also voiced the concern that the lives of prominent politicians were in danger. He said, "but we are taking tangible steps for their security".

Hamid Nawaz said that operation in the tribal region of Darra Adamkhel would continue till the militancy was wiped out from the area.

He said the general elections would be held as scheduled despite unsatisfactory law and order situation in the country. He said that elections would also be held in Swat Valley, tribal regions and other disturbed areas.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Kibaki denies offering PM post to his rival

NAIROBI, 27 Jan — Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki on Saturday denied offering his rival Raila Odinga the post of Prime Minister, saying there is no provision in the constitution for that office.

A statement from Kibaki's office said while the Kenyan leader was committed to dialogue with the main opposition party, Orange Democratic Movement (ODM), there was no time when Kibaki has offered a post of PM to Odinga. "The issue of the post of prime minister is a constitutional matter and currently there is no provision in the Kenyan Constitution for the office of prime minister," the statement said.

The ODM leader has ruled out taking a new post of prime minister in President Kibaki's government as a solution to the post-election crisis.

In an interview with *Reuters* on Friday, Odinga said the only three acceptable options would be Kibaki's resignation, a vote re-run, or power-sharing leading to constitutional reform.

"I never said I was considering taking up a position of prime minister under Kibaki," Odinga said in the interview.

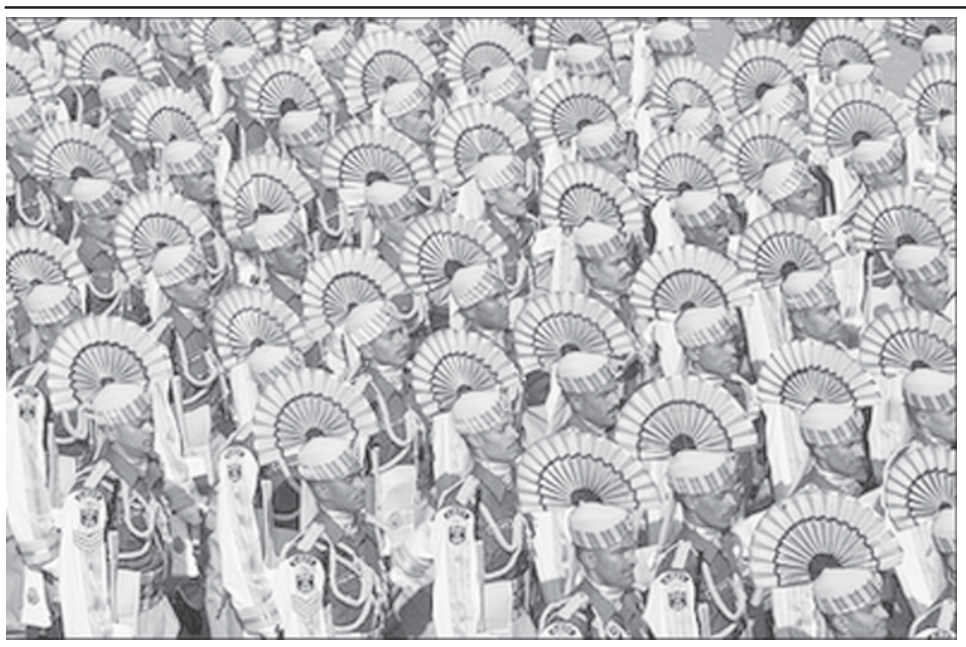
*MNA/Xinhua*

# Indonesian Navy to buy patrol planes from local firm

JAKARTA, 26 Jan — The Indonesian Navy said Friday it plans to buy *CN-212* patrol planes manufactured by state-run aerospace industry PT Dirgantara Indonesia (PTDI) in place for eight *Nomad* planes which have been grounded recently for safety concerns. "Initially we planned to buy (patrol planes) from Poland. But there is a new government policy that requires us to procure from PTDI, so we shift orders to PTDI," Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Sumardjono was quoted by leading news website Detikcom as saying.

The Navy has grounded eight of 22 *Nomad* planes in its fleets after one *Nomad* crashed off Aceh Province and killed at least two officers on 30 December, 2007.

*MNA/Xinhua*



***Indian paramilitary soldiers march during a India's 59th Republic Day parade in New Delhi.*—INTERNET**

# Russia expels Latvian diplomat

Moscow, 26 Jan — Russia expelled a Latvian diplomat following the expulsion of a Russian Embassy official from the Baltic state earlier this week, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement posted on its website on Friday.

The Latvian ambassador to Russia was called to the ministry on Friday and was told that a Latvian Embassy officer has been declared persona non grata and "must leave Russia within two days" for activities "incompatible with his diplomatic status."

Latvia on Monday expelled a Russian diplomat, accusing him of having been involved in "activities incompatible with his status," the Latvian Foreign Ministry said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

***An actor is performing Sichuan opera in Luxi Town in southwestern China's Sichuan Province on 24 Jan.* XINHUA**

***Passengers are stranded at Guangzhou Railway Station in south China's Guangdong Province, on 26 Jan , 2008. Consecutive snow, rain and cold weather have led to trains delay in central and south China and stranded tens of thousands of passengers eager to go home for the Spring Festival which falls on 7 Feb, 2008.*—XINHUA**

# Sixth swan tests positive for H5N1 in UK

LONDON, 27 Jan — A sixth swan in southern England has tested positive for the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu, Britain's Farm Ministry said on Saturday.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) said in a statement that the swan was found in the same area as five previous cases.

"There is currently no evidence to suggest widespread disease in the wild bird population and there remains no evidence of disease in domestic birds." On 10 January, the ministry said three wild swans in a bird sanctuary in Dorset had died from the virus.

Britain's first case of the strain was in a wild swan found dead in Cellardyke in Scotland in 2006 and there have since been outbreaks at poultry farms in eastern England, most recently in November 2007.—*MNA/Reuters*

# Chavez urges S America to withdraw reserves from US□□

CARACAS, 26 Jan — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez urged South American countries on Saturday to withdraw their international reserves in US banks citing a looming recession faced by the world power.

Chavez, who was presiding over the Bolivarian Alternative Summit of the Americas (ALBA), said South American countries should bring back their reserves since the United States is facing an imminent recession.

Otherwise, all South America could be plunged into this crisis, the president said, adding that Latin America could better take care of its own business.

The bank has a startup capital of 1 billion to 1.5 billion US dollars and related documents might be signed during the meeting, the sources said.

The ALBA was initiated by Chavez in 2001 aimed at promoting cooperation and integration among Latin American and the Caribbean countries in trade and economy.

*Internet*

***Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez attends an ALBA conference in Caracas on 26 Jan, 2008. Leaders of Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas (ALBA), a trade and cooperation group which aims to provide an alternative to US-backed free trade efforts in Latin America, gather this weekend in Caracas.—INTERNET***

***Waiters dressed in traditional Qing Dynasty costumes demonstrate pouring tea into a cup at Taiji Tea House in Hangzhou, East China's Zhejiang Province on 23 Jan, 2008. China has a tea history of about 5,000 years.—INTERNET***

## ECONOMIC NEWS

***Indian workers give last minute touches before the opening of a Press preview for Christie's Modern and Contemporary South Asian Art collection, in New Delhi, in Aug 2007. India's economic boom has fuelled demand for condos, cars and company stocks but some of the new wealth created in Asia's third-biggest economy is finding its way into art.—INTERNET***

# Zimbabwe arrests British property tycoon

HARARE, 27 Jan — Police in Zimbabwe have arrested British property tycoon Nicholas van Hoogstraten on charges of violating currency exchange rules, state media said on Saturday.

Police detained van Hoogstraten, 63, after a night raid on his home on Thursday and charged him with levying rentals on properties in foreign currency, the official *Herald* newspaper reported.

Zimbabwean law prohibits the payment of foreign currency for local goods and services.

Van Hoogstraten owns about 200 residential and business properties in Zimbabwe, a police spokesman told the *Herald*. He also has significant investments on the Zimbabwe stock exchange.

He had sums of dollars, British pounds and South African rands in his possession when he was arrested as well as 20 billion Zimbabwe dollars (666,666 US dollars at the official exchange rate but 3,333 US dollars on the black market), the newspaper said.

*MNA/Reuters*

# Hyundai to invest $40m in Indonesian truck plant

JAKARTA, 26 Jan — South Korean auto-maker Hyundai Motor Co plans to invest 40 million US dollars in its truck and bus assembly plant in Indonesia, local Press said Friday.

The investment will go to local subsidiary PT Korindo Heavy Industry which manufactures bus and truck chassis with a capacity of 10,000 truck chassis and 1,500 bus chassis a year.

The company, now employs some 600 workers, will increase the local content from 20 per cent to 40 per cent, reported leading news website Detikcom, quoting a statement from Korindo.

Hyundai has sold 1,132 buses since its debut in the Indonesian heavy vehicle market in June 2007.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# China to import Russian high technologies

BEIJING, 27 Jan — China will import 156 high-tech materials and items of equipment from Russia, under an agreement signed by the two sides here on Saturday.

The items include 63 energy-saving technologies, such as super-conductive materials, and 53 medical and bio-engineering technologies, such as diagnosing equipment. The cooperation also covers 17 new materials technologies, such as reinforced plastic, and 23 environment protection and agricultural technologies, such as waste-water treatment equipment.

The projects, signed in a China-Russia trade forum, would improve the trade balance between the two countries, said president of the Chinese People's Association For Friendship With Foreign Countries Chen Haosu without giving further details. — *MNA/Xinhua*

# Serious slowdown predicted for US economy

DAVOS (Switzerland), 26 Jan — Serious slowdown, though not recession, was predicted for the US economy on Saturday as political and business leaders were ready to wrap up their annual gathering at the Swiss skiing resort of Davos.

The World Economic Forum, which was kicked off here Wednesday, was clouded this year by mounting concern over the US economic outlook in the aftermath of the sub-prime mortgage market crisis, with some economists even warning the US economy is headed for a recession.

Whatever the answer is on a recession, what is clear is there will be a serious slowdown" in the United States, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, managing director of the International Monetary Fund(IMF), said at a panel discussion on the economic outlook this year, calling for a serious response.

Strauss-Kahn said the IMF was scheduled to update its economic forecasts next week, which is certain to have a lower growth figure for the United States.

We still see a period of below-potential growth as the most likely scenario for the US given the economy's good starting position," Ahmed said.

Strauss-Kahn said the priority now is to correct malfunctioning of financial markets and restore economic confidence.

He urged central banks to continue to provide liquidity to the markets as they have done since last summer, when the sub-prime mortgage market crisis in the United States soon spread globally and caused widespread credit crunch in world major financial markets.

*Internet*

# Russia strongly opposes Kosovo independence

Moscow, 26 Jan— Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday tat Moscow categorically disagrees with any unilateral proclamation of independence of Kosovo, *Interfax* news agency reported.

"At today's meeting I have once again confirmed that Russia is categorically against unilateral proclamation of Kosovo's independence," Putin told journalists after talks with Serbian President Boris Tadic and Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica. "This can seriously damage the whole system of international law and will have negative implications both for the Balkans and for stability in other world regions," Putin said.

"Russia's stance on this issue is also being supported by those politi-cians in Europe, who despite the political pressure of the alliance, of course primarily within NATO's bodies, show political courage and demonstrate independence in their judgments and ... are trying to extend the principles of democracy and justice to the international sphere," Putin said.

"Certainly, it is best proved by the resolution adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Councilof Europe on 22 January, which by calling for continued talks between Pristina and Belgrade in effect confirms the justness of Russia's stance on this issue," he said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Ex-Indonesian dictator Suharto dies

JAKARTA, 27 Jan — Suharto, the US Cold War ally who led one of the 20th century's most brutal dictatorships over 32 years that saw up to a million political opponents killed, died on Sunday. He was 86.

The former leader and army general had been ailing in a hospital in the capital, Jakarta, since 4 Jan when he was admitted with failing kidneys, heart and lungs. Doctors prolonged his life through dialysis and a ventilator, but he stopped breathing on his own overnight before slipping into a coma on Sunday. He was declared dead at 1:10 pm when his heart stopped. The cause of death was multipleorgan failure, Chief Presidential Dr Marjo Subiandono said.

***Suharto***

"My father passed away peacefully," sobbed Suharto's eldest daughter, Tutut. "May God bless him and forgive all of his mistakes." A week of national mourning was declared by the office of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, who was to oversee a state funeral after Suharto's body had been flown by a fleet of seven Air Force planes to be put in the family mausoleum.

*Internet*

# UNSG says impasse over Kosovo could be dangerous

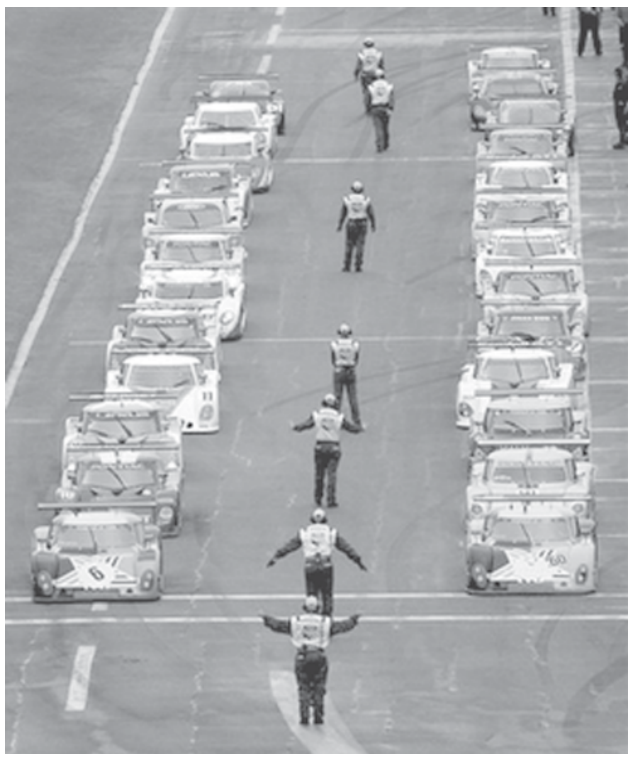
BRDO (Slovenia), 26 Jan— United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon said on Friday he was concerned that the UN Security Council remained deeply divided over Kosovo, saying the impasse there could be dangerous.

"I have expressed my concern about the fact that the Security Council still remains deeply divided on the way forward on Kosovo, this is dangerous for the situation on Kosovo," Ban said after meeting with Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Jansa. "If this impasse continues the situation may take its own dynamics ... this will be very dangerous," Ban told a news conference.

Ninety per cent of Kosovo's two million people are ethnic Albanians, whose leaders say they are within weeks of declaring independence after almost nine years under UN administration.

Ban declined to say whether he supported EU plans for a police and justice mission in Kosovo or if an existing UN Security Council resolution gave legal ground for the mission.

*MNA/Reuters*



***Cars leave pit road to go out on the track to prepare for the start of the Rolex 24 hour auto race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla, on 26 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET***

# Landslip closes part of London to Wales rail line

LONDON, 26 Jan— Rail passengers face delays on the main line between London and south Wales after a landslide destroyed a stretch of track in Gloucestershire, train operator First Great Western said on Thursday.

Part of the line in the Chipping Sodbury area must be completely rebuilt, with new foundations, track and signals.

It is closed in both directions between Bristol Parkway and Swindon, disrupting intercity services.

"The line is expected to remain closed until Saturday," the company said in a statement.

While engineers fix the line, there will be delays, cancellations and a reduced service. — *MNA/Reuters*

# Turkish police seize 47 kilos of heroin

ANKARA, 26 Jan— Turkish police confiscated 47 kilos of heroin in eastern Turkey on Thursday, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

Acting on a tip-off, Turkish police launched anti-drug and fight against organized crime teams in Agri Province linking neighbouring Iran, stopped a vehicle on Agri-Dogubayazit highway and seized 47 kilos of heroin, according to the report.

It added that Turkish police took into custody three people in suspected connection with the haul.

Turkey is a key transit route for smuggling drugs from Asia and the Middle East to markets in Western Europe. — *MNA/Xinhua*

# Roadside bomb wounds two security forces in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 26 Jan— A roadside bomb went off near an Iraqi security patrol in the Shiite neighbourhood of Sadr City in eastern Baghdad on Friday, wounding two policemen, a well-informed police source said.

"An explosive charge detonated in the morning near a police patrol in the al-Mudhaffar Square in Sadr City neighbourhood, wounding two policemen," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. The blast badly damaged a police vehicle, the source said. The Shiite-dominated neighbourhood is a stronghold for militiamen loyal to firebrand cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. — *MNA/Xinhua*

# Sri Lanka kills 30 rebels, planes bomb north

COLOMBO, 26 Jan— Sri Lankan warplanes bombed a Tamil Tiger base in the far north on Friday, a day after ground troops killed 30 rebels in clashes across the region, the military said.

Seven soldiers were killed in the battles on Thursday, the latest in an intensification of the 25-year civil war following the official scrapping of a truce with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam last week.

"We have taken a target today morning using fighter aircrafts and the target was a LTTE transport base located in Selvanagar in Kilinochchi," said Air Force spokesman Wing Commander Andrew Wijesuriya. Pilots confirmed the raid was successful, he said. Kilinochchi is the de facto capital of the LTTE fighting for an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the north and east of the island.The Tigers were not immediately available for comment on the air raid and indpendent accounts are not possible.

*MNA/Reuters*

***Laura Ojeda Ramrez performs on stage wearing her "Mousike, inspiracion divina" costume during the Las Palmas Carnival Queen contest in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain on 25 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET***

# Sacred Yan Kin Hill

*Dr Khin Maung Nyunt*

One of the hills that surround Mandalay is Yan Kin Hill. Situated in Patheingyi Township of Mandalay District it lies about four miles to the east of Mandalay-PyinOoLwin motor road. With Ye-Ta-gun Taung hill, Mya Kha Mauk Taung Hill and Labogyi Taung Hill of Shan Mountains as its background Yan Kin Hill is dotted with religious monuments of different types and sizes belonging to different periods of Myanmar history. From the platform of Mya Nan San Kyaw Palace you can see this hill straight to the east.

Stretching from north to south 6606 feet and 706 feet high Yan Kin Hill is neighboured by Aung Pinlei Lake and Nanda Lake and Min Kan Lake dammed for water storage by Myanmar kings in days of yore. To the east is Seidaw Gyi water supply projects, to the north is Patheingyi Town, and Yey Htwet Chaung Win villages, to the south are Yan Kin Taung village, Lein Pin village, to the west are Ponna Kone, Mik Kone, Myo Tha Kone, and Kyi Kone with clusters of toddy palms around them. Apart from paddy and other seasonal crops, the villagers grow in their backyard gardens, eugenia (thabye), Thanatkha, Jasmine, Zun, Myatlay, Zizawa, Land lily, crysinthynum, and roses for their supplementary income.

Two names of this hill "Nga Yant Min Taung" (banded snake head fish king Hill) and "Yan Kin Taung (Danger free Hill) originated in its legend which is associated with the birth stories of Gotama Buddha. In one of his previous existences Gotama Buddha was the Nga Yant fish king and his opponent Devadat was a fisherman. Besides there were Enapatta Naga serpents trying to catch Nga Yant Min fish. But Nga Yant Min Fish managed to escape from these enemies. During the long journey for escape, Nga Yant Min fish passed through from stations on four hills such as Nga Hmun Taung in Madaya Township where the fisherman with his knife made a number of inscions on the body of Nga Yant Min Fish, Hsin Khar Taung in Patheingyi Township where Nga Yan Min Fish shook its body to get rid of salt smeared on its body, Hman Pyay Taung (today Mandalay Hill) to where Nga Yant Min Fish ran amock, and Nga Pone Taung near Yay Htwet Chaung Win village where Nga Yant Min Fish hid itself. Finally Nga Yant Min Fish arrived on the Yan Kin Hill where it found the safest place which was a spring pool inside a deep cave on that hill. Because that hill is well-protected from all dangers it came to be called Yan Khin Hill (Abhaya Giri or No danger hill). So Nga Yant Min Taung means where Nga Yant Fish King lived and Yan Kin Taung means No danger hill and the two names are related in the legend.

Yan Kin Hill has been mentioned in Myanmar history since Bagan period. Prince Min Shin Saw, the elder son of King Alaungsithu came to the Mandalay area and founded a town of Htun Tone Pu Tet (Now called Bo tet Kone). It was he who did many development works there by damming two big reservoirs Aung Pin Lei and Nanda Kan to contain rain water from Shan mountains and supply water for consumption and cultivation through many dug canals, by reclaiming many acres of land for agriculture and founding many villages for the settlement of followers who grow paddy and other crops in the well watered fertile fields and fruits and vegetables in farms and gardens.

The entire area produced triple crops and enjoying economic prosperity. But there were times when rain was spruce and drought visited drying up all bodies of water. Prince Min Shin Saw consulted astrologers and Sayadaw Monks. They advised him that rain calling rite be performed by propitiating Nga Yant Min Fish, pouring water on its statues reciting Nga Yant Min paritta; keeping Sabbath and doing religious deeds. The Prince, his men and the public carried out accordingly. Down came rain torrentially. But as the rain calling rite was continued, rain did not stop resulting in flood, submerging fields and villages causing malaria and other water related diseases. Sayadaw Monks advised to stop the constant performance of rain-calling rite and to enshrine the Nga Yant Min Fish Statue at an auspicious place. The Prince put the statue on the back of his elephant named Toke Khe and he made a wish "May my royal mount kneel down at the right place where the fish statue should be housed. The elephant roamed about making short stops around and on the Yan Kin Hill. Later religious monuments were built at these steps to commemorate. Finally it went down the big cave and squated at the sparing pool right inside the cave. The Nga Yant Min statue was placed in the pool and a big propitiation ceremony was held to consecrate it. We can still see this marble fish statue in the pond. This rite of rain-calling by pouring water on the fish statue in the pond and reciting Nga Yant Min Parittas is held when there is scarcity of rain or drought by the people of Mandalay Division and they believe it does work.

Prince Min Shin Saw built a commemorative pagoda named Nga Yant Min Zedi on the hill in about AD 1153. Besides the marble statue of Min Shin Saw's time. There are two additions made by hermit U Khanti in AD 1918 lying side by side in the pool. An old standing Buddha Image of Bagan period style about 12 cubits high in the gesture of loving compassion (Maha Karuna mudra) on this hall was also built by the Prince.

The remaining religious monuments that dot the hill were built by kings and queens of Konbaung dynasty. Prominent are (1) Setkya Man Aung Zedi (Kyo Kya Min Phaya) built by King Bodawpaya in AD 1782. (2) Ein Thaya Sutaung Pyi Zedi (Hin Tha Min Phaya) was built by Thayawaddy Min in AD 1837. (3) Lwan Zedi on the middle summit was built by king Mindon in even loving memory of his chief queen Satkya Devi. It can be easily discerned from the Mandalay Palace. (4) Pan Paung sitting Buddha image donated by Hsin Hpyu Ma Shin, King Mindon's queen of the middle palace in Sagaing monastery at the foot of Yan Kin Hill. (5) Kyet Min Zedi on the hill built by Hermit U Khanti, (6) Zina Man Aung (Kho Min Phaya) venerated by successive kings, (7) Wa Ko Lone Zedi on the hill built by a holyman, (7) A cabalistic square with letters and numbers inscribed on a stone slab given to Hermit U Khanti by Ramon Monk Sayadaw, (8) A big standing Buddha Image of bridge and cement in gesture of divine prediction with his right hand and forefinger pointing to the Mandalay Palace. There are many other religious buildings — monasteries, nunneries, meditation centres, rest houses at and around the hill.

Geologists opine that Yan Kin Hill was once under the sea as marine fossils and ferns there prove. There are nine natural caves on the hill (1) the Nga Yant Min Cave is the largest —about 300 feet long and 40 feet wide and 100 feet high. Inside it is the natural spring pool, the shrine of the Fish Statue, (2) & (3) Twin Nyee Naung caves (4) Aung Buddhga Cave (5) Nat Naga Cave (6) Dhamma Theikdi Cave (7) Wingaba Cave (8) Gu Thit Cave and (9) Hpa Gu. A variety of flora at all seasons provide flowers, fruits, herbal medicine for the villagers. The hill has been a sacred refuge for monks, nuns and holymen, a retreat for the pilgrims.

Within the last two decades many development have been carried out there — a good motor road around and up the hill has been built and commuting bus ferry between Mandalay and the hill is in daily service. Agriculture college, Technological University, cooperative college, high schools have been established around the hill, without spoiling the natural environment. These modern teaching and training institutes are hidden behind the green screens of foliage. Up on the hill turning around you get a breath-taking panoramic view — the blue Shan hills in the distance, wide stretches of green fields and farms punctuated with hills such as Taung Pulu, Shin Thu Nge Taung, Htidaw Moe Taung, Mei U Taung, Ko Yin Maung Taung, Ein Shey Min Toddy palm grove and clusters of villagers.

Though Mandalay hill is widely known and much visited because it is easily seen when you are in Mandalay, Yan Kin Hill seems to be far out of the sight of visitors. It lies straight to the east of Mandalay Palace, easily accessible. Your visit to it many prove very rewarding.

*****

**Yan Kin Hill has been mentioned in Myanmar history since Bagan period. Prince Min Shin Saw, the elder son of King Alaungsithu came to the Mandalay area and founded a town of Htun Tone Pu Tet (Now called Bo Tet Kone). It was he who did many development works there by damming two big reservoirs Aung Pin Lei and Nanda Kan to contain rain water from Shan mountains and supply water for consumption and cultivation through many dug canals, by reclaiming many acres of land for agriculture and founding many villages for the settlement of followers who grow paddy and other crops in the well watered fertile fields and fruits and vegetables in farms and gardens.**

# Maj-Gen Tha Aye on inspection…

*(from page 1)*

Maj-Gen Tha Aye presented edible oil, foodstuff and uniforms to departmental personnel and social organizations.

At Kyaukhtanaung Station, they met servicemen and family members.

Accompanied by Commander of Taninthayi Naval Region Command Commodore Thura Thet Swe and military officers, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party proceeded to Pearl Island in the evening. —*MNA*

***Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence looks into production process of South Dagon Oil Palm Factory in Bokpyin Township.* — MNA**

# Commander inspects regional development in Seikkyi-khanaungto Township

***Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspects construction of district-to-district road in Seikkyi-khanaungto Township.* — MNA**

YANGON, 27 Jan — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspected maintenance of Kyaung street and keeping of water pump and pipes provided by Yangon Division PDC in Setkalay Ward of Kyimyindine Township yesterday morning.

Chairman of Yangon West District PDC U Aung Myin and officials reported on regional development tasks.

The commander and party viewed Tamartakaw-Kyaungwaing earth road and Konywa Creek Bridge in Setsan Ward.

They also visited the library of Setsan Ward Union Solidarity and Development Association and inspected the bridge in Seikkyi-Alatchaung Ward, the site for construction of the jetty and dock and artisan well and pump at No 15 Post-Primary School.

At Chaungwa Monastery, the commander accepted K 2 million donated by wellwishers. He paid homage to Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kodañña of the monastery.

In Chaungwainglay Village, the commander inspected construction of the district-to-district road and the bridge.

At the briefing hall, the commander heard reports on construction of the road and bridge and arrangements for installation of the power grid.

While in Seikkyi-khanaungto Township, the commander and party looked into Dhammapiti Bridge and other bridges. At the office of Township PDC, the commander met officials and social organizations and explained regional development.

*MNA*

# USDA CEC member looks into construction of new school buildings in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 27 Jan — CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected construction of new school building for Basic Education Primary School in Yongyi Ward, Dedaye Township, Ayeyawady Division and presented K 1 million.

At the office of Dedaye Township Peace and Development Council, the CEC member met with departmental personnel and townselders.

Next, the minister and officials looked into newly-built delivery room of Hmawaing village Maternal and Child Welfare Association and construction of new building for village primary school and presented K 500,000 for the construction of the building.

The CEC member attended the opening of No 5 tarred road in Pyapon and met with USDA members, local people and personnel at the training school of Pyapon District USDA.

In the afternoon, the minister and party attended opening of repaved Bogyoke Aung San road in Bogale. The minister presented 150 sheets of plywood for Bogale BEPS No 1, K 5 million and K 1 million for the construction of new buildings of Setkon BEPS and Pyapon BEMS No 1.

At the office of Bogale Township PDC, the minister met with personnel and local people. Next, he met with executives of district/township USDAs at the office of Pyapon Township USDA. — *MNA*

***Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung delivers a speech in meeting with departmental personnel and local people in Pyapon Township.* — MNA**

## Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspects…

*(from page 16)*

at the meeting hall of Htilin Township General Administration Department and stressed the need to maintain the momentum of regional development and engage in extended cultivation of physic nut plants.

Next, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party inspected Kyaukhtu airport in Saw Township, groundnut, mustard, onion and garlic plantations on both sides of Htilin-Pakokku road before arriving in Pakokku.—*MNA*

# Pacified mind

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

**Dhammapada 2**

## Work committee for prevention against flood and land reclamation meets

YANGON, 27 Jan —Work committee for prevention against flood in Sittoung Basin, Myitmakha Basin and contiguous regions and land reclamation held a meeting No 1/ 2008 at Training Session on Development of Irrigation in Bago, Bago Division yesterday.

First, Chairman of the work committee Bago Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Southern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Secretary Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered addresses. Director-General U Myat Ko of General Administration Department, Director-General U Soe Myint of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems and Director-General U Soe Win Hlaing of Forest Department reported on preventive measures against flood and land reclamation tasks. Next, Director U Kyaw Soe of Bago Division Irrigation Department reported on progress of works and Director-General U Khin Zaw gave a supplementary report. The commander and the minister responded to the reports. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the commander.

It was also attended by members of the work committee, Bago Division and Bago Division (West) PDCs and Agricultural Coordination Committee. —*MNA*

***Maj-Gen Ko Ko delivers an address at meeting of work committee for prevention against flood and land reclamation.* —MNA**

## R Piyarelal League Tournament and Ariston Knock-out Tournament 2007-08 kick off

YANGON, 27 Jan —The opening ceremony of R Piyarelal League Tournament and Ariston Knock-out Tournament 2007-08 organized by Myanmar Cricket Federation was held at Bahan cricket ground here this morning, attended by Vice-Presidents of MCF U Kyaw Kyaw and U Maung Maung, Technical Officer of the federation U Mya Thwin, Coach U Michael Musagyi and executives and fans.

First, U Mya Thwin and U Kyaw Kyaw delivered addresses and opened the tournament.

MMPCC beat MVSC (A) by 5 runs at Bahan cricket ground and MV (XI) won MVSC (B) by 173 runs at the Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna). The tournament will continue at 9 am on 3 February. —*MNA*

## Dry Day inspection teams supervised

YANGON, 27 Jan — Chairman of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myint Soe and members together with departmental officials, supervised the functions of Dry Day inspection teams at the main points, here, in the morning and in the evening.

The dry day inspection teams checked dry day pass, driver's license, wheel tax bills, wearing of departmental uniforms and breaking of traffic rules.

*MNA*

***Technical Officer U Mya Thwin and MCF Vice-President U Kyaw Kyaw make addresses at opening of League Tournament and Knock-out tournament 2007-08.* — MCF**

## National Heritage Board of Singapore observe Myanmar cultural heritage

YANGON, 27 Jan — A 21-member delegation led by Chairman Mr Tommy Koe of National Heritage Board of Singapore, accompanied by Director-General U San Win of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department, paid homage to Shwedagon Pagoda and donated cash to the funds of the pagoda yesterday morning.

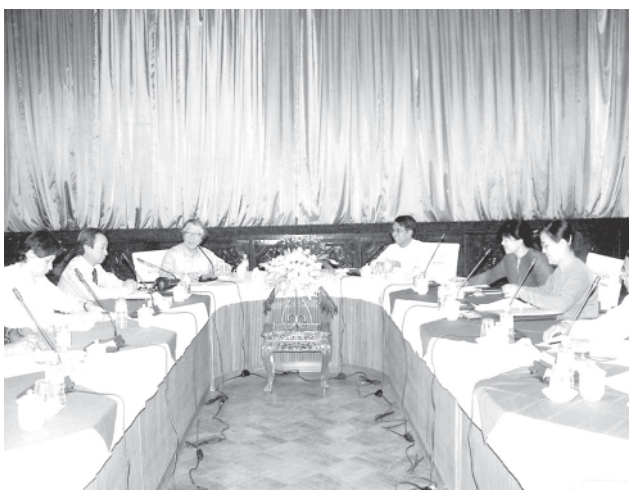
At University of Culture (Yangon), Rector U Tin Soe and officials welcomed them and explained facts about the university.

Senior officials of the board met with their counterparts of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department at the National Museum on Pyay Road in the afternoon. They discussed cultural exchange between two countries and cooperation in cultural sector. After the meeting, Director-General U San Win hosted a dinner in honour of the Singapore delegation at Seinlan Sopyay Garden Restaurant on Inya Road.

The Singapore cultural delegation arrived here by air on 21 January. On 23 January, they visited Myanan Sankyaw Golden Palace and Shwenandaw Museum in Mandalay, Shwe Kyaung, Atumashi Kyaung, gold embroidery works and other handicraft works, and visited Maha Muni Buddha Image and Mandalay Hill. On 24 and 25 January, they paid homage to Ananda, Thabyinnyu, Dhammayangyi and Shwezigon pagodas in Bagan, and visited excavation of Bagan Palace, Bagan Archaeological Museum, Lacquerware College and lacquerware works. Yesterday morning, they arrived back Yangon.

Today, they visited Myanma Gems Museum in Yangon and left for Singapore by air in the evening. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials of the Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department.

*MNA*



***Senior officials hold discussions on cultural exchange and cooperation between Myanmar and Singapore.*— MNA**

# Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan form Customs Union

Moscow, 27 Jan — The signing of a package of agreements by Belarus, Russia and Kazakhstan completed the process of forming the Customs Union of the three countries, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Zubkov said here on Friday.

"The signed documents have crucial importance for the further development of integration processes within the framework of the community," Zubkov told journalists after the signing of nine agreements about the Customs union at a meeting of the Interstate Council of the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC).

In August 2006, EurAsEC leaders agreed to create the Customs Union by the end of 2010, the Prime Minister said. "We hope that Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan will join it as soon as they are ready," Zubkov said. Four agreements that define the structure of the Customs Union and the mechanism of accepting other members were signed at the October summit of the EurAsEC. —*MNA/Xinhua*

***The Intel Classmate PC is seen in this undated photo provided by Intel Corp Little, cheap and sturdy, low-cost laptops aimed at bringing technology to developing countries are transforming lives for needy kids in remote and impoverished palaces, but don't expect them to do much for high-tech kids in the US.*** INTERNET

# China made aircraft to debut in S America

Beijing,27 Jan — Two *Xinzhou-60* passenger planes will soon fly to Bolivia and operate under a local air carrier, according to the China National Aero-Technology Import & Export Corporation.

The *Xinzhou-60* aircraft will be the first batch of China-made planes in commercial flights in South America, said vice president of the company Huang Bin.

The turboprop can accommodate 52 to 60 passengers, known outside China as the *MA60*, with a maximum range of 1,600 kilometres.

China exported seven *Xinzhou-60s* in 2007. So far 12 such planes have been delivered to Zimbabwe, Laos, Zambia, Congo and Angola.

The plane is manufactured by Xi'an Aircraft Industry (Group) Co, Ltd. —*MNA/Xinhua*

***Gold medallist Italy's Carolina Kostner (C) silver medallist Switzerland's Sarah Meier (L) and bronze medallist Finland's Laura Lepisto celebrate while up on the podium after the women's Free Program at the European Figure Skating Championships in Zagreb, on 26 Jan, 2008.***—INTERNET

# Over 60 injured in violent protests in Nepal

Kathmandu, 27 Jan — More than 60 persons were injured on Saturday when police and demonstrators clashed ahead of Seven Party Alliance (SPA) rally in southern Nepal, according to local leading news website Nepalnews.com.

In Janakpur, some 125 kilometres southeast of capital Kathmandu in southern Nepal on Terai plains, demonstrators pelted stones at the ruling SPA's supporters and activists when they were gathering for the rally.

The SPA supporters started to retaliate after stones were pelted at the assembly venue.

Among the more than 60 injured, many were injured in stampedes following the clashes between the police and demonstrators and between demonstrators and SPA supporters. Around 30 injured were treated at local hospitals. —*MNA/Xinhua*

# Police shoot dead bombing suspect in Indian Kashmir

Srinagar, (India), 27 Jan — Police in Indian Kashmir have shot dead a militant accused of masterminding a series of explosions outside courts in three Indian cities last year, officials said on Friday.

Bashir Ahmad, a senior member of the Harkat-ul-Jehad Islami (HuJI), was shot dead on Thursday night in a gun battle with police in Cahtru Village in south Kashmir, according to police.

He was suspected of plotting nearly simultaneous blasts near courts in Varanasi, Faizabad and Lucknow in November which killed 13 people and wounded 80 more. Many of the victims were lawyers. All three cities are in Uttar Pradesh in the country's north.

India has been hit by blasts frequently in recent years. Most of them have been blamed on Islamist militant groups fighting against Indian rule in Kashmir.

*MNA/Reuters*

# WTO, Ukraine reach accession agreement

Geneva, 27 , Jan — Ukraine is expected to enter the World Trade Organization (WTO) this year, as the WTO's panel for the country's candidacy have reached an accession agreement, the WTO said in a statement Friday.

Under the agreement, Ukraine will not increase the number of existing export duties, resolving the final issue in the country's pursuit of membership, the statement said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# James Bond is out for revenge in new film

London, 27 Jan — New James Bond film "Quantum of Solace" sees the British super spy out for revenge on a mission that takes him to Austria, Italy and South America.

British actor Daniel Craig, the first blonde Bond, reprises his role as 007, after critics and cinema-goers hailed his debut.

First details of the 22nd instalment in the Bond franchise were unveiled on Thursday at Pinewood Studios outside London.

According to the synopsis, Bond girl Camille, played by Ukrainian-born Olga Kurylenko, leads the secret agent to Dominic Greene, member of a mysterious organization and a ruthless businessman, seeking to control huge natural resources.

Greene is played by Frenchman Mathieu Amalric, who starred in the Oscar-nominated "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly".

The plot follows on directly from "Casino Royale", as Bond aims to uncover the truth about Vesper, the beauty who betrayed him, and discovers that she had been blackmailed.

*MNA/Reuters*

***A pedestrian is seen passing by a large cup of coffee on display in central Sydney. Two new studies paint a conflicting health picture for women coffee drinkers, with one suggesting caffeine may lower the risk of ovarian cancer and the other showing it doubles the chances of miscarriage.***—INTERNET

## Ukrainian billionaire may become owner of Kremikovtzi

SOFIA, 27 Jan—Ukrainian billionaire Konstantin Zhevago may soon become the owner of Kremikovtzi, Bulgaria's largest steel mill, said its CEO Alexander Tomov Friday.

Indian tycoon Pram Mittal, the current owner of the plant, must decide whether to invest 140 million euros (about 206 million US dollars) in the steel mill to meet ecological requirements, or sell the majority share to another investor.

The 34-year-old Zhevago, with an estimated fortune of 1.5 billion dollars, is in charge of the Ukrainian Finance and Credits group and owns the world's fourth largest iron ore deposit and a truck maker AvtoKraz.—*MNA/Xinhua*

## Brazilian Govt opens bidding for hydroelectric plant

BRASILIA, 27 Jan—Brazil's Mining and Energy Ministry Friday threw open the bidding for the May 9 sale of electricity production and construction contracts at the Jirau hydroelectric plant on the Madeira River in the Amazonian region.

The Brazilian Electric Energy Agency (Aneel) will be in charge of the bidding for this second plant at the Hydroelectric Complex of Rio Madeira, in the western state of Rondonia.

The hydroelectric complex is part the Growth Acceleration Programme (PAC), the four-year investment plan launched last January by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.—*MNA/Xinhua*

## Chinese Embassy in Argentina celebrates Spring Festival

BUENOS AIRES, 27 Jan—The Chinese Embassy to Argentina on Friday celebrated the coming Chinese Spring Festival with the members of the Chinese expedition vessel Xuelong.

Zeng Gang, Chinese ambassador in Buenos Aires, warmly welcomed the Chinese expedition team, praising their efforts and contribution to promoting China's expedition works and wishing them a happy new year.

Living far away from their families and homeland, the Chinese expedition scientists have overcome many incredible difficulties, and have even risked their lives to contribute to the Chinese expedition work, Zeng said, adding that their hard work and selfless dedication are worth emulating.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Rhino Census to be carried out in Nepal from mid Feb

KATHMANDU, 27 Jan—The Nepali National Nature Conservation Trust (NNCT) is planning to conduct Rhino Census from mid February, local media house's website nepalnews.com reported on Friday.

Member Secretary of the Trust Bimal Kumar Baniya said the census would be carried out in cooperation with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation.

"Regular Rhino count is necessary for formulating long-term policies for the protection of the wildlife," he added.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Images of the Day

*Miss Michigan Kirsten Haglund is crowned Miss America 2008 at Planet Hollywood hotel and casino in Las Vegas on 26 Jan, 2008.* INTERNET

*Masked people pose in Venice's St Mark's Square during the official beginning of Venice's Carnival celebrations, northern Italy, on 27 Jan, 2008.* —INTERNET

*A rural woman carries her baby in a bamboo-made backpack along a street in Chengdu.* INTERNET

*A woman receives botox. A consumer rights group has petitioned US regulators to bolster health warnings on Botox, the toxin used by millions around the world to smooth wrinkles.*—INTERNET

## ADVERTISEMENT

# CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

## MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (167)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (167) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.1.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD**
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# Afghanistan sets up prison for women

KABUL, 26 Jan — Afghanistan launched its first prison for women in the capital Kabul on Thursday as part of a plan to build 15 such facilities, officials said.

Built with the assistance from Italy's Government, the jail can accommodate 330 prisoners who currently languish in various prisons on numerous criminal charges. Located near a residential area in a Kabul suburb, it is equipped and furnished with furniture, sewing machines and kitchen.

Abdul Salaam Esmat, the head of prisons and detention centres, said there were 275 female prisoners lodged in Afghan jails, along with their 175 children.

"Currently we are shifting 96 female prisoners and detainees from Pul-i-Charkhi prison to the new building", he said of the main prison which also holds suspected militants to the east of Kabul.

"We are planning to build 15 more separate detention centres for women prisoners and detainees in other provinces in the near future," he said.

*MNA/Reuters*


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(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
Dated. 28 January 2008


# Japan mulls change in foreigner registry system

TOKYO, 26 Jan — Japan is considering to abolish the current registration system for foreign nationals living in Japan and launch a new one, Justice Minister Kunio Hatoyama said Friday.

Hatoyama told a Press conference that the government is moving towards the direction of "deciding to abolish it." He suggested that a bill is being drafted to be submitted to the Parliament next year.

Under Japan's registration law, foreigners (except US military in Japan, diplomats and some other individuals) expected to stay in Japan for over 90 days are required to register their personal data at local municipalities and obtain foreigner registration cards as their identification cards in Japan.

The foreigner registration system, different from that for the native Japanese residents, is conducted on an individual basis rather than on a household basis.

As the population of foreign residents has grown in some local municipalities, the system started to show its flaws.

Local municipalities have called on to scrap the system, as it has been difficult for the authorities to contact the foreigners as they are not obliged to report to municipalities a change of address, *Kyodo News* said.

Under the planned new registration system, information on foreign residents will be handled on a household basis. The foreigner registration card is also expected to be replaced by a new one, *Kyodo* said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Engineered blood may help bird flu fight

BANGKOK, 26 Jan — Blood taken from ordinary donors and engineered to recognize the H5N1 bird flu virus was able to protect mice from several strains of the disease, a researcher at Dutch biotechnology firm Crucell said on Friday.

The finding may offer another way to help fight H5N1, which experts fear could unleash a pandemic if it learns to move efficiently between people, which it cannot now.

Crucell created human monoclonal antibodies, or immune system proteins, by mixing antibody fragments taken from nine donors who were never exposed to H5N1 with antigens from two major H5N1 strains found in Vietnam and Indonesia.

Antigens are components in viruses and bacteria that stimulate the production of antibodies when they are introduced into the body.

One particular line of antibodies that Crucell created was able to neutralise several strains of the H5N1 on laboratory dishes — most notably, strains found in Hong Kong in 1997, Indonesia in 2005 and Vietnam in 2003. —*MNA/Reuters*

# Indonesian man dies of bird flu, toll up to 98

JAKARTA, 26 Jan —A 30-year-old Indonesian man who had tested positive for bird flu died on Thursday, the Health Ministry said, taking the country's death toll from the virus to 98.

The man, from Tangerang west of Jakarta, died at the Persahabatan hospital after being treated for a week, said Sunan Raja, an official at the ministry's bird flu information centre.

It was not known how the man contracted the disease.

Indonesia has had the most deaths from bird flu of any country.

Contact with sick fowl is the most common way of contracting bird flu, endemic in bird populations in most of Indonesia.

Although bird flu remains an animal disease, experts fear the virus could mutate into a form easily passed from human to human and kill millions.

*MNA/Reuters*

# Survey says Nepal has higher death rate for newborns

KATHMANDU, 26 Jan — Due to improper child delivery practices, 33 out of 1,000 Nepali babies are annually dying within a month of delivery, The *Himalayan Times* reported on Friday.

According to the daily, recent Demographic Health Survey conducted by the Department of Health Services, revealed the statistics and also pointed out that 81 per cent of total deliveries are carried out at homes, and the skilled birth attendants attend merely 18 per cent of them.

"Insecure home and community practices have resulted to the high number of newborn's death since 50 per cent of the total deaths are caused by various types of infections," said Professor Dr Dharma Saran Manandhar, executive director of Mother and Infant Research Activities and head of Paediatrics Department, Kathmandu Medical College.

"Deliveries are conducted in dark rooms, on dirty mattresses and unclean utensils are used, among others resulting it to the infections in the babies," said Manandhar.

It is believed that hospitals is the only place to treat newborns or reduce the neonatal death rate, Manandhar said adding, "But in the country, where majority of people live in the rural areas, a large number of newborn death and diseases can be reduced by implementing simple, low-cost interventions during delivery at home."

Manandhar also said that awareness programmes on proper delivery and handling of babies, signs of danger during pregnancy should be conducted.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Israeli strikes kill four militants near Rafah

GAZA, 26 Jan — Four Palestinians, including three Hamas militants were killed in two Israeli airstrikes carried out before dawn on Friday on the southern Gaza Strip town of Rafah, witnesses and medics said.

Witnesses said that an Israeli aircraft struck a car in the town and killed two militants, who were members of Hamas movement' s armed wing.

Medics at Abu Yousef al-Najjar Hospital in the town said the two were identified as Mohamed Abu Harb and Sami el Hamayda, both active militants in the Hamas armed wing.

Two hours earlier, another Israeli air-to-ground missile struck a Palestinian truck that drove in the Gaza-Egypt border town of Rafah, killing a Hamas militant and one civilian young man, the witnesses and medics said. Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinians continued for the third consecutive day flocking from the Gaza Strip into Egypt to buy goods and daily necessities which are running out after seven months of blockade.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# UN says rich world failing anti-poverty campaign

DAVOS (Switzerland), 26 Jan— Rich nations are failing the world's poor and must redouble efforts to tackle the worst effects of global poverty, United Nation Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Friday.

Ban, flanked by rock star Bono, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Microsoft chairman Bill Gates, said the developed world was not on course to meet targets set out in Millennium Development Goals.

Those goals fixed a 2015 deadline to tackle extreme poverty and improve access to education and healthcare.

"Too many nations have fallen behind. We need fresh ideas and fresh approaches. It is unacceptable that one child dies of hunger every day, every five seconds," Ban told a news conference at the World Economic Forum in Switzerland.

Ban said he would use September's annual United Nations summit to refocus attention on the millennium goals. "We will bring together the world leaders and together demand action," he said. "We must re-energise the world's commitment."

*MNA/Reuters*

*Around 2,000 skiers carrying torches ski down a hill to mark a new World record at La Masella ski resort near Barcelona, on 26 Jan, 2008. — INTERNET*

*Ballet dancers perform during a rehearsal of 'Glories of the Romantic Ballet' by the state ballet company in Berlin, on 26 Jan, 2008.*
INTERNET

# US group seeks Botox warning after 16 death reports

WASHINGTON, 26 Jan — Botox and a similar injection should come with stronger warnings following reports of 16 deaths after the botulinum toxin spread inside the body, a US consumer group said on Thursday.

Public Citizen asked US authorities to require the strongest possible warning, highlighted in a "black box," on Allergan Inc's Botox and Solstice Neurosciences Inc's Myobloc.

Botox is famous for smoothing facial wrinkles but also has approved medical uses such as treating cervical dystonia, or rigid neck muscles. Myobloc is cleared only for the neck condition.

Both injections are made with forms of the botulinum toxin, which blocks nerve impulses to muscles and makes them relax.

Public Citizen said it reviewed 180 reports submitted to the Food and Drug Administration by manufacturers involving patients injected with Botox or Myobloc.

The reports detailed cases of muscle weakness, difficulty swallowing or aspiration pneumonia, a serious condition caused by breathing a foreign material into the lungs.

*MNA/Reuters*

# 3rd suspect in Picasso painting theft arrested in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 26 Jan — The third suspect in the theft of a Picasso painting from Sao Paulo Art Museum last December turned himself in to the authorities Thursday.

The 25-year-old Moises Manoel de Lima Sobrinho arrived in Sao Paulo accompanied by his lawyer.

Sobrinho is suspected of helping plan the theft, a Sao Paulo Public Safety Department spokeswoman said. Sobrinho, who is of a middle-class background, once hosted a cooking show on a local TV channel.

Police described him as an "art lover," and said he had visited the museum several times in attempts to gather information on its security flaws before the theft.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Defunct US spy satellite falling from orbit

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan —A defunct US spy satellite is falling from orbit and could hit the Earth in late February or March, agencies reports said Saturday.

"Appropriate government agencies are monitoring the situation," Gordon Johndroe, spokesman for the National Security Council, told reporters.

"Numerous satellites over the years have come out of orbit and fallen harmlessly. We are looking at potential options to mitigate any possible damage this satellite may cause," he said.

The satellite, which has lost power and propulsion, could contain hazardous materials, US government officials said. Because the satellite could not be controlled any longer, it is unknown where the Earth it might hit, the officials said.

Asked whether it is possible to intercept the falling satellite with missiles before it hits the Earth, spokesman Johndroe refused to comment. —*Internet*

*An artist's concept illustration shows a US spy satellite.*

# New bird flu outbreak found in Thailand

BANGKOK, 26 Jan — A new bird flu outbreak has been detected in Thailand's northern province of Phichit, but no human infection was found by far, Thai livestock officials said Friday.

Laboratory tests showed samples from villagers in Sak Lek District to have the H5N1 virus, said Thailand's Livestock Development Department under the Agriculture Ministry.

According to the announcement of the department, about 30 chicken in Phichit have already died.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Australian girl changes blood group, immune system

CANBERRA, 26 Jan — 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".

Demi-Lee Brennan, now 15, received a donor liver when she was nine years old and her own liver failed.

"It's like my second chance at life," Brennan told local media, recounting how her body achieved what doctors said was the holy grail of transplant surgery. "It's kind of hard to believe."

Brennan's body changed blood group from O negative to O positive when she became ill while on drugs to avoid rejection of the organ by her body's immune system.

Her new liver's blood stem cells then invaded her body's bone marrow to take over her entire immune system, meaning the teen no longer needs anti-rejection drugs. —*MNA/Reuters*

# SPORTS

## Rangers ease to 4-0 win over 10-man St Mirren

GLASGOW, 27 Jan — Leaders Rangers stretched their lead to seven points with a comfortable 4-0 win over 10-man St Mirren in the Scottish Premier League (SPL) on Saturday.

Rangers now top the SPL standings on 53 points from 22 games while champions Celtic, on 46 from 21, face Falkirk on Sunday.

St Mirren had looked the stronger team at the start and striker Billy Mehmet went close with a 15-metre header before Rangers scored against the run of play courtesy of a close-range shot from Chris Burke in 27 minutes. Saints defender Will Haining was sent off three minutes later for his second bookable offence and Rangers took full advantage with Kris Boyd making it 2-0 in 33 minutes.

Rangers defender Steven Whittaker grabbed their third goal eight minutes from the interval with a 20-metre, right-foot shot into the bottom right of the net.

Whittaker blasted a superb rising shot into the top right-hand corner for number four in 81 minutes.

Aberdeen lost 1-0 at home to Hearts with Costa Rica striker Cristian Nade nabbing the winner while Kilmarnock lost 2-1 at home to Dundee United.

Two games, Hibernian v Gretna and Motherwell v Inverness Caledonian Thistle, were postponed due to waterlogged pitches.—*MNA/Reuters*

## Disputed late penalty gives Sevilla win over Osasuna

MADRID, 27 Jan — Luis Fabiano converted a hotly-disputed penalty four minutes into stoppage time to earn Sevilla a 2-1 home victory over Osasuna in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

Osasuna's Javi Garcia was harshly adjudged to have handled while challenging Ernesto Chevanton in the area, giving Brazil striker Luis Fabiano the chance to grab the winner from a twice-taken spot kick.

Garcia was sent off, following hot on the heels of team mate Josetxo who had been dismissed four minutes before. Earlier, Sevilla's Danish midfielder Christian Poulsen broke the deadlock in a niggly match littered with yellow cards when he steered in Chevanton's free kick in the 55th minute. —*MNA/Reuters*

***Arsenal's Emmanuel Adebayor (2nd R) shoots and scores past Newcastle United's Steven Taylor (L), Stephen Carr (2nd L) and Nicky Butt during their English FA Cup fourth round soccer match at Emirates Stadium in London on 26 Jan, 2008. —XINHUA***

## Roma cut Inter's lead with win over Palermo

ROME, 27 Jan — AS Roma cut the gap on Serie A leaders Inter Milan to four points after a header by Brazilian Mancini secured a 1-0 home victory over 10-man Palermo on Saturday.

Inter, on 49, can re-establish their seven-point advantage over second-placed Roma if they win at Udinese on Sunday. Roma were on top from the start, with Simone Perrotta shooting narrowly wide early on. Midfielder David Pizarro then appealed for a penalty after going down but television replays showed no contact.

Palermo, who have now lost four in a row in all competitions, were hanging on until defender Leandro Rinaudo was dismissed 12 minutes into the second half for a studs-up challenge on Matteo Brighi.

Two minutes later Mancini rose highest to head in Rodrigo Taddei's corner to the relief of the home crowd.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Young saves point for Villa in 1-1 draw with Blackburn

LONDON, 27 Jan — Ashley Young scored with a well-taken free-kick after 73 minutes for Aston Villa who fought back to draw 1-1 with Blackburn Rovers in the only Premier League match played on Saturday.

Blackburn wasted a great chance to take the lead when Matt Derbyshire saw his 24th minute penalty saved by Scott Carson in front of watching England manager Fabio Capello.

Blackburn did go ahead, however, in the 68th minute through Roque Santa Cruz, who slotted home a rebound after Carson parried a shot from David Dunn. It was his 11th goal of the season, 10 of which have been scored away from home.

*MNA/Reuters*

***Zambia's James Chamanga(L) stops a ball in front of Cameroon's Samuel Eto'o during their match in Kumasi at the African Cup of Nations football championship. Cameroon got their 2008 Africa Cup of Nations campaign back on course after a comfortable 5-1 trouncing of Zambia in a Group C tie as Eto'o matched the tournament's all-time record.—INTERNET***

## Benfica cut gap on Porto with Guimaraes win

LISBON, 27 Jan — Benfica moved to within eight points of Portuguese league leaders Porto with a 3-1 away win over Vitoria Guimaraes on Saturday.

The match was marred by skirmishes involving rival fans, resulting in at least three injuries, one man being stabbed in the chest, police said.

Porto can restore their 11-point advantage at the top of the table after 17 matches with victory at Sporting on Sunday.

Paraguay striker Oscar Cardozo put Benfica in front with a superb 30-metre free kick after just eight minutes.

Benfica, who had dropped points in their previous two games, doubled their lead when Uruguayan Maxi Pereira tapped in from close range after 26 minutes. Guimaraes pulled a goal back after 60 minutes when French midfielder Kamel Ghilas headed home a free kick by his compatriot Yves Desmarets.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 L | E | 2 A | D | 3 I | N | 4 G | ■ | 5 R | A | 6 I | N | 7 S |
| I | ■ | D | ■ | D | ■ | R | ■ | A | ■ | N | ■ | E |
| 8 G | R | A | V | E | ■ | 9 E | M | I | N | E | N | T |
| H | ■ | M | ■ | A | ■ | E | ■ | M | ■ | P | ■ | T |
| 10 T | R | A | N | S | I | T | ■ | 11 E | X | T | O | L |
| ■ | ■ | N | ■ | ■ | ■ | S | ■ | N | ■ | ■ | ■ | E |
| 12 B | I | T | T | 13 E | R | ■ | 14 S | T | A | 15 T | E | S |
| A | ■ | ■ | ■ | N | ■ | 16 A | ■ | ■ | ■ | R | ■ | ■ |
| 17 S | M | 18 A | S | H | ■ | 19 T | O | 20 R | M | E | N | 21 T |
| H | ■ | B | ■ | A | ■ | T | ■ | I | ■ | F | ■ | O |
| 22 F | L | O | U | N | C | E | ■ | 23 G | R | O | U | P |
| U | ■ | U | ■ | C | ■ | S | ■ | H | ■ | I | ■ | E |
| 24 L | I | T | H | E | ■ | 25 T | I | T | U | L | A | R |

## Late winner allows PSV to go six points clear at top

AMSTERDAM, 27 Jan — Danny Koevermans netted a rebound in injury time to earn leaders PSV Eindhoven a hard-fought 2-1 victory over bottom side Excelsior Rotterdam in the Dutch league on Saturday.

Balazs Dzsudzsak opened the scoring for PSV from close range after six minutes but nine minutes before time Robert Braber set up Geert den Ouden, who equalized with a well-placed chip.

PSV remain top with 46 points after 21 matches, six points ahead of Ajax Amsterdam who travel to Vitesse Arnhem on Sunday, and Heerenveen, who won 3-0 at Graafschap Doetinchem on Saturday.

Michael Bradley put Heerenveen ahead after 20 minutes and midway through the second half Miralem Sulejmani doubled the lead. Bradley added his second goal nine minutes before time.

*MNA/Reuters*

***Wigan Athletic's Wilson Palacios tackles Chelsea's Shaun Wright-Phillips (L) during their FA Cup fourth round soccer match at JJB Stadium in Wigan, northern England on 26 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET***

## Hat trick for Cisse as Marseille hit six past Caen

PARIS, 27 Jan — Olympique Marseille showed glimpses of their old form by hammering sixth-placed Caen 6-1 in Ligue 1 on Saturday thanks to a Djibril Cisse hat-trick and two goals by Mathieu Valbuena.

Marseille, without a trophy since lifting the 1993 European Cup, thrilled the home fans with an exciting display.

Midfielder Valbuena scored with a powerful shot from 25 metres and an astute lob from the edge of the box, earning a standing ovation from the Velodrome crowd when he was substituted in the second half. France playmaker Samir Nasri wrapped up the scoring in the 81st minute for Marseille, who climbed two spots in the table to eighth. —*MNA/Reuters*

# Sicily governor quits after Mafia conviction

**PLAERMO (Sicily), 27 Jan— Sicily's governor resigned on Saturday after being convicted of helping people linked to the Mafia.**

Salvatore Cuffaro denied all charges and said he did not know at the time that the people he was helping were involved with the Mafia. He plans to appeal.

After his conviction by an Italian court last week, Cuffaro said he would not quit.

His resignation on Saturday followed reports that the national government was planning a move to oust him.

The court on January 18 sentenced Cuffaro, a member of the centre-right opposition, to five years in prison for helping people linked to the Mafia and divulging confidential information about anti-mob investigations.

But the court in the Sicilian capital Palermo found him not guilty on more serious charges of aiding and abetting the Mafia.

In Italy sentences are generally enforced only once the appeals process has been exhausted.

*MNA/Reuters*

# Nicaragua proposes Latin American food enterprise

CARACAS, 27 Jan— Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega proposed here Friday the establishment of a large Latin American food enterprise to ensure the supply of basic products to member states of the Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas (ALBA).

The plan was proposed by Ortega on his arrival at the Venezuelan capital of Caracas for the 6th Presidential Summit of ALBA.

Ortega said his country has a long agricultural and fishing tradition and could be an important member of this food enterprise if it is established.

The President cited the case of the current price hikes in the international milk market due to high demand, which had caused supply shortages in countries like Venezuela since its milk supply mainly depends on imports.

Ortega said that Nicaragua could sell milk to Venezuela at a "fair price" if the food enterprise is established, adding that Nicaragua could also supply milk to other non-member countries at "free market" prices.

*MNA/Xinhua*

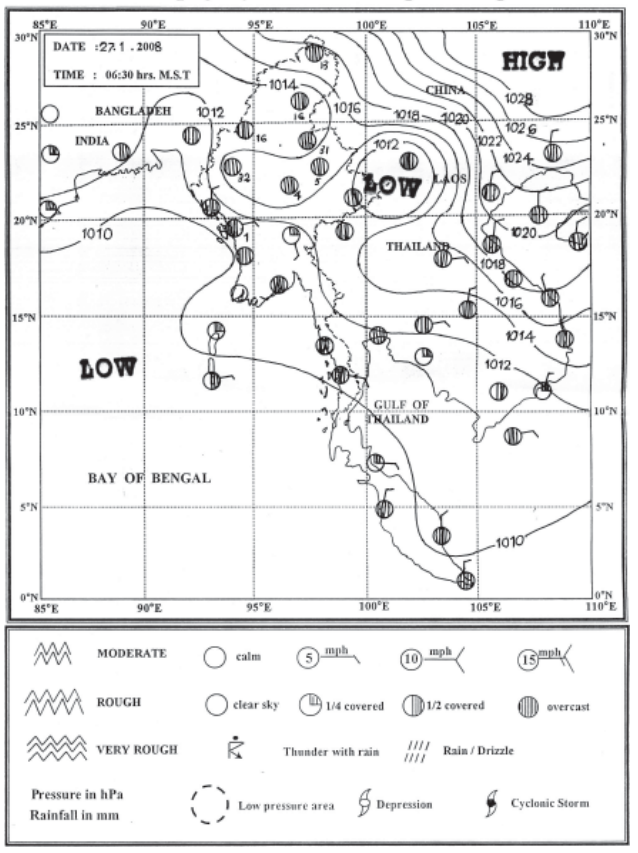
# Brazil to discuss defence deal with France, Russia

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 Jan— Brazil sent Friday a high level delegation, headed by Minister of Defence Nelson Jobim, to France and Russia for a 14 day trip to discuss defence cooperation with the two European countries.

Among the delegates are Presidency's Foreign Relations Assistant Marco Aurelio Garcia and the Brazilian Navy Commander Julio Soares.

During its visit to France, the delegation will tour the European Aeronautic, Defence and Space Company (EADS) and a nuclear submarine in the military base of Toulon. The Brazilian officials will also meet with French President Nicolas Sarkozy and Minister of Defence Herve Morin. — *MNA/Xinhua*

*Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas*




## WEATHER

**Sunday, 27 January, 2008**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widepread in Kachin, Chin States and Sagaing Division, Scattered in Shan State Mandalay and Magway Divisions withlocally heavyfall in Chin State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (5ºC) below January average temperatures in Chin State, (3ºC) to (4ºC) above January average temperatures in Kachin, Southern, Eastern Shan, Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States and Yangon Divisions,(5ºC) to (6ºC) above January average temperatures in Kayin State, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions,(9ºC) above January average temperatures in Northen Shan State and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were PyinOolwin (6ºC). The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Hakha (4.52)inchs, Falam(3.66)inches, Kalay and Mogok (1.81)inche each. Minkin (1.57)inches, Maungdaw (1.54)inches, Machanbaw (1.34)inches, Kalaywa (1.29)inches, Bhamo (1.22)inches, Kyaukse, Myingyan and minbu (0.28)inch each, Pakokku and Magway(0.20)inch each, Mandalay and Myaungoo (0.16)each.

Maximum temperature on 26-1-2008 was 95ºF. Minimum temperature on 27-1-2008 was 70ºF. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 27-1-2008 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 26-1-2008 was (8.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 27-1-2008 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 Northeast at (17:30) hours MST on 26-1-2008.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 28-1-2008:** Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing Mandalay and Magway Division, isolated in Ayeyarwady and Yangon Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy 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-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:** Likelihood of continuation of rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 28-1-2008:** Likelihood of isolated rain thundershowers. Degree of ceraintty is (60%)

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-1-2008:** Possibility of isolated rain thundershowers. Degree of ceraintty is (40%)

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-1-2008:** Likelihood of isolated rain thundershowers. Degree of ceraintty is (60%)

## TV Myanmar

**Monday, 28 January**
**View on today**

**7:00 am**
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအင်္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်

**7:15 am**
2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အင်္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိနန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

**7:25 am**
3. To be healthy exercise

**7:30 am**
4. Morning news

**7:40 am**
5. Nice and sweet song

**7:50 am**
6. Song of national races

**8:10 am**
7. Cute little dancers

**8:20 am**
8. လှပခံညားဖျားပုံတံတား

**8:30 am**
9. International news

**8:45 am**
10. Grammar made easy

**4:00 pm**
1. Martial song

**4:15 pm**
2. Song for uphold National Spirit

**4:30 pm**
3. Demonstation exercise for correct pronuncation

**4:45 pm**
4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ–၃တိယနှစ် (အရှေ့တိုင်းပညာအထူးပြု) (အရှေ့တိုင်းပညာ)

**5:00 pm**
5. Dance variety

**5:05 pm**
6. "ချောင်းကမ်းဘေးကရွာကလေး" (နွဲ့နွဲ့စန်းမြင့်မြင့်ခိုင်၊ ထင်ပေါ်၊သဇင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–မြင့်စိုး (ဝ/သရုန်ကုန်)

**5:15 pm**
7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

**5:30 pm**
8. Songs and dance of national races

**5:40 pm**
9. Musical programme (TheRadio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

**6:00 pm**
10. Evening news

**6:30 pm**
11. Weather report

**6:35 pm**
12. အလှရှာမယ် လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

**6:00 pm**
13. Musical programme

**7:15 pm**
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မြူနိုးဝေဝေချစ်သက်တည်" (အပိုင်း–၁၈)

**8:00 pm**
15. News
16. International news
17. Weather report
18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်စေတာမန်" (အပိုင်း၂၀)
19. The next day's programme

## Radio Myanmar

**Monday, 28 January**
**Tune in today**

**8:30 am** Brief news
**8:35 am** Music
-My band
**8:40 am** Perspectives
**8:45 am** Music
-Where is the love
**8:50 am** National news/ Slogan
**9:00 am** Music
- Sunrise
**9:05 am** International news
**9:10 am** Music
-Rock a hula baby
**1:30 pm** News/ Slogan
**1:40pm** Lunch time music
-These arns
-To sir with love
**9:00 pm** Sportlight on the stars
"Neil Diamond"
**9:10 pm** Article
**9:20 pm** Drug/Women affairs
**9:20 pm** Golden land melody/Vocal gems
-The end of the world
-Walking my way to you
**9:45 pm** News /Slogan
**10:00 pm** PEL

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# People's Desire

☆ We favour stability.

☆ We favour peace.

☆ We oppose unrest and violence.

## Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspects development of Gangaw, Pakokku Townships

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence met with officers and other ranks and their families of the Gangaw Station at the Yeman Hall in Gangaw, Magway Division on 21 January and gave necessary instructions.

Accompanied by Deputy Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn and officials concerned, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw looked into construction of a new two-storey building (100-bed) and the operation theatre for Gangaw People's Hospital and provided cash assistance to warded patients.

The construction of the new building has been completed by 30 per cent.

Next, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party proceeded to Myittha Suspension bridge in Gangaw where they inspected the bridge construction tasks and crop plantations on either bank of Myittha river.

At the Myittha Hall, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw met with departmental officials, social organizations and townselders, and spoke of the need for service personnel and local people to fully engage in extended growing of physic nut and maintain the momentum of development and prevalence of peace in the region.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party viewed progress in upgrading of the road section between Mile Post No 67/0 and Mile Post No 122/0 of Pale-Gangaw road and Myittha Dam in Gangaw Township.

Upon completion, the dam will benefit 12,000 acres of farmland and generate 40 megawatts, thereby contributing much to regional development. Later, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party met departmental officials, social organizations and townselders

*(See page 9)*

*Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence inspects construction works of Myittha Dam Project in Gangaw Township.* — MNA

## 61st Anniversary Union Day Objectives

— For all the national races to safeguard the national policy— non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty;

— For all the national races to keep Union Spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people;

— For all the national races to defend and safeguard the Union for the perpetual existence;

— For all the national races to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development;

— For all the national races to make endeavours for the emergence of an enduring State Constitution in accord with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention, and

— For all the national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map.

## Significant night temperature (27-1-2008)

PyinOoLwin (6°C)

☆ Skyful liars attempting to destroy the nation

☆ BBC lying
VOA deceiving
RFA setting up hostilities

☆ Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers