

Sippaāñca, to acquire skill in sciences; this is the way to auspiciousness.

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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Lt-Gen Ye Myint visits 6th Computer Technology Show in Mandalay, Hsintat river water pumping project in Sagaing Tsp



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects construction of Hsintat River Water Pumping project in Sagaing Township. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and officials, paid homage to Kakuthan Buddha Image of Hsutaungpyi Pagoda on Mandalay Hill in Mandalay yesterday morning.

They viewed tarmacking of 76th road between 12th street and Ohbo road in Aungmyethazan Township.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint attended the opening of the 6th Computer Technology Show of Mandalay Division Computer Entrepreneurs Association and Computer Professionals Association at the City Hall in Mandalay. The commander and the mayor cut the ribbon to open the show.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party visited booths of the show.

A total of 40 IT companies displayed 54 booths at the show.

Accompanied by Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed cultivation of 500 acres of summer paddy in Sitee Village-tract in Sagaing Township.

They looked into dredging of the main canal of Hsintat river water pumping project.

In Htihsaung Village of Myinmu Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on cultivation of summer paddy, onion and cold season crops presented by officials and met local farmers.

At the cotton plantation in MaU Village-tract of Monywa Township, they inspected thriving cotton plantations, wool and cotton seeds. —MNA

MRTV-4 and related channels to be upgraded

YANGON, 2 Feb — MRTV-4 and related channels and MRTV-4 (Free to Air) channel have been aired by Myanma Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information in Yangon and its surrounding areas with the use of digital system and analog system. Measures will be taken to upgrade the machines with the aim of sending out better transmitting frequency from 5 to 8 February.

During the period, the broadcasting of MRTV-4 and some related channels will continue but some related channels and MRTV 4 (Free to Air) channel will be suspended temporarily. MRTV-4 and all related channels as well as MRTV 4 (Free to Air) channel with high-resolution will be aired starting from 9 February. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 3 February, 2008

Strive for development of border trade

Today, the global nations are striving for economic development. And they are exploiting and producing natural resources, agricultural produce as well as fish and meat and are exporting them to international markets.

At such a time efforts are to be made for the development of economy of the State through national solidarity. As trade plays a pivotal role in the development of the national economy emphasis is being placed on the development of trade sector by means of signing agreements on bilateral trade and border trade.

The shift from border trade to normal trade will benefit both trade partners and traders in the long run. Entrepreneurs who are mainly engaged in trade need to give priority to exporting quality goods and securing a sound market.

With the emergence of the Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone traders are now able to export marine products such as fish, lobsters, crabs, eels, industrial finished products, maize, green gram, pepper, rubber and dry elephant foot yam. In the meantime, the On-line truck weighing machines used at the trade zone have been reliable and helpful.

Likewise, the Myawady Border Trade Zone is being established with a number of cold storages and shops and it will be opened soon.

As goods can be exported directly not only through port terminals but also through border trade zones entrepreneurs, traders and service personnel are to try their utmost for the development of national economy.

Renewal date for hotels and tourism licenses

YANGON, 2 Feb— The Directorate of Hotels and Tourism has instructed since 17 January that licences of entrepreneurs for hotels and tourism services and tour guides that will be expired in 2007-08 fiscal year are to renew the licences at the departments concerned before 30 March 2008 in accordance with rules and regulations.

The detailed information has been announced at Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Yangon Branch), Myanmar Tourism Service (Airport) and Training School of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services (Bo Sun Pat Street).

MNA

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Minister meets D-G of CPI

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min met with Director-General of China Power Investment (CPI) Mr Cao Baojun and party of the People's Republic of China at the ministry, here, on 31 January.

The meeting focused on bilateral cooperation in production of hydropower. — MNA

Functions of departments, enterprises under Ministry of Finance and Revenue supervised in Taninthayi Division

YANGON, 2 Feb— Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, accompanied by Managing Director of Myanmar Economic Bank U Myat Maw and Deputy Director-General of the Customs Department U Aye Ko, inspected departments and enterprises under the ministry in Myeik on 29 January.

In the meeting hall of the Customs Department, he met officials of the border trade combined team and gave necessary instructions. The Deputy



Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe inspects functions of departments and enterprises in Myeik. —F & R

Minister

met entrepreneurs at the hall of the Fisheries Department and fulfilled

the requirements.

On 30 January, he inspected the tasks of Internal Revenue

Department, Customs Department and Myanmar Economic Bank in Kawthoung.

In meeting with the service personnel, he called for collection of tax in accord with the procedures and supervision to be made for ensuring rapid and smooth facilitation of banking services and border trade. —MNA

YIT old students pay respects to former faculty members

YANGON, 2 Feb— The old students of civil engineering major of Yangon Institute of Technology for the 1980-1984 academic year held the second respect paying ceremony to former faculty members and the

get-together at Universities' Dhammayon, here, at 3 pm today. Old student Ko Aung Hsan Win gave an opening speech.

Next, old students paid respects to the former faculty members and

presented gifts to them. Afterwards, the former faculty members gave advice to the old students.—H

Old students of civil engineering major pay respects to former faculty members of Yangon Institute of Technology. — H



Obama raises \$32m campaign fund in January

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb — US Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama has raised 32 million US dollars in January, allowing him a boosted campaign team and wider reach to voters before a full-scale race on “Super Tuesday”, his campaigner said on Thursday.

According to Obama campaign manager David Plouffe, about 170,000 new donors have contributed to the African-American candidate's bid for the White House, adding to 650,000 the total number of donors.

The fund raised in the single month of January, which will be all used for primary, was equal to

the total of the campaign's best three-month fundraising period in 2007, Plouffe told reporters.

“We think that the strength of our financial position and the number of donors does speak to financial sustainability if it ends up going through March and April,” he said.

“We think we will have the financial resources to conduct vigorous campaigns in the states to come.” Illinois Senator Obama and New York Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton are facing a serious test on 5 February when more than 20 states will hold primaries and caucuses. —MNA/Xinhua

British Parliament suspends MP, calls for audits

LONDON, 2 Feb — Parliament has approved the suspension of Conservative MP Derek Conway for 10 days after he was found to have paid his son almost 50,000 pounds of taxpayers' money for work

he apparently never did.

MPs on Thursday also ordered Conway, 54, to pay back 13,161 pounds of the money while Prime Minister Gordon Brown backed calls for greater transparency over

members' expenses.

Several MPs said they would support a random audit of expense accounts but there was little enthusiasm for a ban on employing family members. Conway was suspended for paying his son Frederick, 22, almost 12,000 pounds a year, plus bonuses, for almost three years from his publicly funded allowance.

Frederick was a geography student at Newcastle University at the time he was supposed to be employed by his father. —MNA/Reuters

A visitor looks at a relic at Afghan National Museum in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, on 1 Feb, 2008. Omara Khan Masoudi, curator of Afghan National Museum, asked in a Red List released in Kabul on Friday that the international community return Afghan relics to Afghanistan. —XINHUA

Suicide bomber kills six in N-W Pakistan

MIRANSHAN (Pakistan), 2 Feb — A suicide bomber rammed an explosive-laden car into a Pakistani security force checkpoint in the North Waziristan tribal region on Friday, killing six men, a security official said. The attack occurred near Mir Ali, a town known as a sanctuary for al-Qaeda militants. A senior al-Qaeda leader, Abu Laith al-Libi, was killed in a missile attack in the area, apparently fired by a US drone this week.

“Two Frontier Corps and four policemen were killed,” said a security official, referring to a paramilitary force. A military spokesman confirmed the attack on the joint paramilitary-police post but said he had reports of only three dead. —MNA/Reuters



Armed youths prepare to attack their neighbors at Chebirate trading centre in Borabu District, Nyanza, Kenya on 1 Feb, 2008. Another opposition legislator was killed on 31 Jan, which further deteriorate the situation in Kenya. The violence erupted following the disputed presidential election on 27 Dec in Kenya has claimed over 800 lives and left more than 200,000 homeless. —XINHUA

Kenyan flower workers weigh lives against jobs

NAIVASHA (Kenya), 2 Feb — Having escaped mobs tearing through his neighbourhood hunting him and his kinsmen, farm worker Jacob Owour is breathing a sigh of relief.

But now his worry has turned from his life to his

job. “I fear I might lose my job on the flower farm as I have not reported for the last few days,” he said in the police station of this Kenyan Rift Valley Town, now a makeshift shelter for 8,000 people displaced by days of ethnic violence.

As relative calm returned to Naivasha, a farming town where over 40 people have been killed in ethnic fighting since Sunday, thousands of farm workers like Owour face the same dilemma.

MNA/Reuters

One more US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 2 Feb — One more American soldier was killed and another injured by indirect fire on Thursday, the US military said on Friday.

A brief military statement said that a soldier, assigned to A 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, was killed and another wounded by indirect fire at Convoy Support Centre Scania, without saying the exact place of the incident.

However, the area of responsibility for the Convoy Support Centre Scania is located south of Baghdad. —MNA/Xinhua



New snow set to cause further havoc on China roads

CHANGSHA, 2 Feb — The meteorological bureau of central China's Hunan Province warned on Friday that more heavy snow and black ice had increased the risk of road travel. Snow fell in 13 counties and cities, including Jishou, Changde, Yiyang, Yueyang and Chenzhou, on Thursday night and Friday morning. Ningxiang county got the biggest dump at 16 millimetres.

The cold spell continued to wreak havoc in most parts of the province. In Changning County, ice on power cables was six-centimetre thick.

The Hunan section of the Beijing-Zhuhai Expressway, the country's key north-south trunk road, has been paralyzed by black ice, leaving tens of thousands of vehicles and people stranded for days in the cold winter. —MNA/Xinhua



Local villagers clear snow on an expressway near Maoye Village, Xiangjiang Township of Hengyang City, east China's Hunan Province, on 1 Feb, 2008. A heavy snow hit the city on Friday and nearly 10,000 people were mobilized to sweep snow to ensure normal life and road traffic. —XINHUA

US missile strike in Pakistan hit al-Qaeda nest

PESHAWAR (Pakistan), 1 Feb — A suspected US missile strike that killed up to 13 foreign militants in Pakistan’s North Waziristan region this week had targeted second or third tier al-Qaeda leaders, according to residents in the tribal area.

Initial reports said 10 people were killed in the attack on Monday on a house in Torkhali Village near the town of Mir Ali.

An intelligence official, however, told *Reuters* on Thursday that

based on information gleaned from tribal contacts there were seven Arabs and six Central Asians killed.

He said the attack was believed to have been carried out by a pilotless US *Predator* aircraft flown across the nearby border with Afghanistan.

“The missile appeared to have been fired by a drone,” the intelligence official said.—*MNA/Reuters*



Some Palestinians demonstrate on the Palestinian side of the breached Rafah border between Egypt and the southern Gaza Strip on 1 Feb, 2008. — XINHUA

“Los Angeles Times” endorses McCain, Obama

LOS ANGELES, 2 Feb — The Los Angeles Times editorial board said on Friday it endorses Republican Senator John McCain and Democratic Senator Barack Obama for the presidential primary election in the paper’s first presidential endorsements since 1972.

The liberal newspaper, the largest on the US West Coast, said McCain’s “conservatism is, if not always to our liking, at least genuine”. “It reflects his fundamental individualism, spanning his distrust of big government, his support for immigration reform and his insistence on a sound American foreign policy,” the board said in an opinion piece that will run in Sunday’s paper.

The paper says McCain’s closest rival, former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, “refuses to renounce torture, a position that for us disqualifies him”. The *LA Times*, with daily readership of 2.2 million and 3.2 million on Sundays, said either Obama or Senator Hillary Clinton would make a strong nominee, but Obama is “most focused on steering the nation toward constructive change.”

MNA/Reuters

Schwarzenegger announces endorsement for McCain

LOS ANGELES, 2 Feb — California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger announced his endorsement for John McCain Thursday, the latest in a growing series of boosts for the former Arizona senator’s campaign for the Republican presidential nomination.

McCain was earlier endorsed by former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani Wednesday, a day after McCain’s victory in the Florida primary made him the Republican front-runner and Giuliani’s third-place finish knocked him out of the race.

MNA/Xinhua

Senators question US strategy in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb — The Bush Administration defended its achievements in Afghanistan on Thursday as both Democratic and Republican lawmakers contrasted official

accounts of progress with new studies warning of looming failure.

The US Senate Foreign Relations Committee grilled the administration’s top diplomat for South Asia a day after two non-

governmental studies said Afghanistan risked reverting into a failed state and a terrorist haven without new international efforts to win the war and bring about economic development.

Democrats on the panel restated their longstanding view that the war in Iraq had diverted US attention from a more critical fight in Afghanistan, where the radical Islamic Taliban was staging a comeback after being ousted from power by a US-led invasion in 2001.

The question here, in my view, is whether or not we’ve neglected Pakistan and Afghanistan because of our overemphasis on Iraq,” said Senator Russ Feingold, a Wisconsin Democrat.

MNA/Reuters

Clinton says she will clean up after Bush dynasty

LOS ANGELES, 2 Feb — Former first lady Hillary Clinton addressed the question of political dynasties on Thursday with a one-liner that she hoped would allay concerns over two families dominating the White House for decades if she becomes president next year.

Clinton, a Democratic Senator from New York, said she would “clean up” after Republican President George W. Bush just as her husband, Bill Clinton, had done after the presidency of Bush’s namesake father.

“It did take a Clinton to clean (up) after the first Bush, and I think it might take a second one to clean

up after the second Bush,” she said to applause at a televised debate with Democratic rival Barack Obama, a senator from Illinois. The senior George Bush was vice president under Ronald Reagan from

1981 to 1989, and president for four years thereafter. Bill Clinton served as president from 1993 to 2001, after which George W. Bush began the first of his two four-year terms.

MNA/Reuters

Sri Lanka says rebel suicide bomber kills three in north

COLOMBO, 1 Feb — A suspected Tamil Tiger suicide bomber blew himself up in a crowded marketplace in northern Sri Lanka on Thursday killing three people, and the Air Force bombed rebel positions also in far north, the military said.

Thirteen other people, also civilians, were wounded in the blast in Thirunaweli in the northern Jaffna Peninsula, where fighting between the military and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam has escalated in recent weeks.

“The bomber arrived at the site riding a bicycle and exploded himself,” military spokesman Brigadier Udaya Nanayakkara said. There was no immediate comment from the Tigers who have in the past denied attacking civilians.— *MNA/Reuters*



An Iraqi soldier inspects the site of an explosion in the market of Baghdad al-Jadida neighbourhood, on 1 Feb, 2008. — INTERNET

Death toll rises to 98 in Baghdad Friday bombings

BAGHDAD, 2 Feb — The death toll from Baghdad’s Friday bombings on pet markets, rose to 98 and some 130 people wounded, an Interior Ministry source said on Saturday.

“The latest toll from both deadly attack on pet markets yesterday rose to 98 people killed and 130 wounded after some wounded people in critical condition died during the past hours,” the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

On Friday, the police said that 65 were killed and 150 others were wounded when two female suicide bombers blew themselves up in two crowded pet markets in central and southern Baghdad.

The first explosion was carried out by a female suicide bomber who blew up herself among crowds at the popular al-Ghazil market in central Baghdad in the morning, a ministry source said.—*Xinhua*

US eco slowdown has little impact on Indonesia

JAKARTA, 1 Feb — The US slowdown would slightly affect the Indonesia's economic growth but would put pressure on the country's inflation, Indonesian Finance Minister Sri Mulyani said here on Thursday.

The minister said that the soaring global oil price would also increase the deficit on the state budget of the southeast Asia biggest economy.

The US Federal Reserve on Wednesday made a second cuts of 50 basis points in eight days to 3 per

cent, in a bid to stimulate economic growth that has been slowed down by the subprime mortgage.

The cut follows the slowdown of the US economy, which only reach 2.2 per cent in the fourth quarter last year, far from analyst

expectation.

Minister Mulyani said that the downrisk of the slowdown would make the Indonesia's economic growth to decrease from the target of 6.8 per cent this year to no more than 6 per cent.

The prediction was based on the latest growth of 6.5 per cent at this quarter and about 6.4 per cent in the fourth quarter last year.

"This year we see the risk on the economic growth will be a little bit disturbed from the target of 6.8, but the level is still above 6 per cent. We see the downrisk rises," she said.—MNA/Xinhua



Employee of a store shows silk book "Analects of Confucius" in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 1 Feb, 2008. —XINHUA



Sinopec, SABIC Industries Corp agree to build \$1.7b JV

BEIJING, 1 Feb — Saudi Basic Industries Corp. (SABIC) said it signed Thursday a framework agreement with China Petroleum and Chemical Corp (Sinopec) to build an ethylene derivatives plant with an annual production capacity of one million metric tons.

The two companies would hold an equaling 50 per cent stake in the 1.7-billion-US-dollar joint venture in northern Chinese port city of Tianjin.

The plant, construction of which was expected to be finished in September 2009, would be the first China joint venture for Saudi Basic Industries Corp.

It would produce 600,000 metric tons of polyethylene and 400,000 metric tons of ethylene glycol after going into operation, the Saudi Arabian-based chemicals giant said. Sources with Sinopec has confirmed the news.

MNA/Xinhua

Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Ghannouchi (R) meets with visiting Chinese Vice Minister of Culture Meng Xiaosi in Tunis to discuss bilateral cooperation between the two countries on 1 Feb, 2008. —XINHUA

Volvo fined in France for brake fault in accident

SAVERNE (France), 2 Feb — Swedish carmaker Volvo was fined 200,000 euros (297,400 US dollars) by a French court on Thursday after a deadly accident in which the

brakes could have been at fault.

A driver lost control over her Volvo 850 TDI and knocked down three children on the pavement in the centre of Wasselone

in northeast France in June 1999.

Two of the children died, the third was seriously injured.

The driver, a school teacher who was 49 at the time, received a suspended jail sentence of six months, a 300-euro fine and a one-year suspension of her driving licence.

She claimed the brake had become very rigid and she could not stop in time.

Volvo Car Corporation, a unit of Ford, has rejected the theory that the incident was caused by a mechanical defect the car and the firm is expected to appeal the court decision.

MNA/Reuters

Kenya's post-election violence hits national carrier

NAIROBI, 2 Feb — Kenya's national carrier, Kenya Airways has introduced a cost cutting programme aimed at mitigating the negative impact of the post-election violence on the firm's performance.

The airline Chief Executive Officer Titus Naikuni said they had planned to send home part of its workforce in the next two months as part of the strategy to stay afloat in the midst of misfortunes that has seen its passenger

numbers in major routes plunge by over 15 per cent in the last four weeks. Naikuni blamed Kenya Airways' dismal performance on post-poll violence sparked by the disputed December presidential elections.

MNA/Xinhua

Court rules Samsung pay car arm creditor \$2.4b

SEOUL, 1 Feb — A South Korean court ruled on Thursday that Samsung Group companies and its chairman pay creditors of its failed car-making business 2.4 billion US dollars.

The ruling by Seoul Central District Court is another blow to the conglomerate already being investigated over graft allegations.

The court called for Samsung companies to

sell 2.3 million shares in its life insurance unit, part of the collateral Samsung Chairman Lee Kun-hee had given the creditors, and pay 1.6 trillion won (1.69 billion US dollars).

The ruling also said Samsung should pay about 680 billion won (720 million US dollars) in accumulated interest, a court spokesman said by telephone.

Samsung can appeal the ruling. A Samsung Group

spokesman declined to comment.

Creditors led by debt guarantor Seoul Guarantee Insurance Co had taken 3.5 million shares in Samsung Life Insurance Co, South Korea's top life insurer, as collateral for debt owed by Samsung Motors.

They sold some of the shares but have had difficulty in cashing in the rest.

MNA/Reuters



A man walks past a burning shop during tribal clashes at Chebirate trading centre in Borabu District, Kenya, on 2 Feb, 2008. —XINHUA

Media bidding war starts for Guantanamo ex-detainee

SYDNEY, 1 Feb — Australian David Hicks, the only Guantanamo Bay detainee convicted of terrorism charges, is at the centre of a worldwide media bidding war for his story, with a possible price tag of one million Australia dollars (892,000 US dollars), local media said.

Hicks, 32, has had 30 offers from television and publishing firms in Australia, the United States and

Italy, his lawyer told *The Australian* newspaper.

Media analysts say Hicks' story could fetch one million Australian dollars, the newspaper said on Friday, but Australian laws preventing people profiting from their crimes may deny Hicks any money. Hicks' father, Terry, told *The Australian* that most of the money paid for his son's story would be donated to charity, but that he should keep some

to compensate for his six years in prison.

Hicks is currently prevented from talking to the media until a US-gag order expires on 26 March. Hicks, who is now free and living in his hometown of Adelaide, was released from an Australian prison in December after spending over six years behind bars, the majority in solitary confinement in Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.—MNA/Reuters



He Guoqiang (L, front), member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and head of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), inspects at a market in Xunyang District of Jiujiang City in southeast China's Jiangxi Province, on 31 Jan, 2008. —XINHUA

British troops accused of “off-the-scale” abuse in Iraq

LONDON, 2 Feb — A lawyer representing nine Iraqi civilians accused British troops on Friday of “off the scale” torture and abuse in Iraq, and Britain's Ministry of Defence said it was re-investigating the case.

The allegations concern events that took place in the southern Iraqi town of Majar-al-Kabir on 14 May, 2004, when British forces fought an intense gun battle with insurgents. The Ministry of Defence says that around 28 Iraqis were killed in the fighting and that nine others were detained.

But lawyers, basing their evidence on witness statements, death certificates and video footage shot by relatives of the victims, allege that 22 people were killed while in British custody and that nine survived torture and abuse.—MNA/Reuters

Thailand confirms bird flu outbreak in new province

BANGKOK, 2 Feb — The H5N1 bird flu virus has been found in a second province in northern Thailand, a senior Agriculture Ministry official said on Friday.

Tests confirmed the outbreak in Phichit, 345 kilometres (215 miles) north of Bangkok, where about 30 village chickens died last week, Livestock Development Department chief Sakchai Sriboonsue told Reuters.

“Laboratory tests showed the chickens had the H5N1 virus, the second case this year. We have already ordered the slaughter of chickens in the area,” he said.

The first outbreak of 2008 was confirmed last week in neighbouring Nakhon Sawan Province, where more than 4,000 chickens died, forcing the culling of 10,000 more. —MNA/Reuters



Gabonese President El Hadj Omar Bongo Ondimba (Front) and his Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, Francophone and Regional Integration Jean Ping (Back) receive interview after Jean Ping's election as the new chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, on 1 Feb, 2008. Jean Ping was elected as the new chairperson of the AU Commission during the ongoing 10th AU summit on 1 Feb. —XINHUA

Four including police chief killed in Mexico's Oaxaca

MEXICO CITY, 1 Feb — Four people including a police chief in Mexico's southern Oaxaca state were killed by gunmen Wednesday at a sports centre near Oaxaca city, police said.

An unidentified group of gunmen armed with long-range weapons stormed into El Tequio,

a sports centre near the airport of Oaxaca City, capital of Oaxaca state on Wednesday morning, police said.

They shot at Alejandro Barrita, director of Oaxaca's Banking and Industrial Police, his bodyguard and two civilians and then fled.

The Radio Formula

network said the assailants used AK-47 rifles and Oaxaca's sports star Virginia Galan was among the victims.

According to local media, about 20 people, including six minors, have been killed in Oaxaca in gun violence so far this month.

MNA/Xinhua

Spanish Police find Basque guerilla explosives stash

MADRID, 1 Feb — Spanish police found 30 kilos of explosives hidden in a beer barrel on Thursday, possibly to be used in an attack by Basque guerillas ETA weeks ahead of a general election, they said.

The explosives, hidden down a dirt track in Getxo, a town near Bilbao, were spotted by a resident who tipped off police.

“Initial evidence ... indicates the delivery of material between members of ETA,

possibly with the final intention of using the receptacle as an explosive device to carry out an attack,” police said in a statement.

Spain's 9 March general election has put the government's treatment of ETA under the spotlight.

Government talks with the guerillas led to a ceasefire in 2006, but the truce collapsed in December of that year with an attack on a carpark at Madrid airport that killed two people.

The Socialist government has been cracking down on ETA since then in the face of fierce criticism from the conservative opposition, who argue Zapatero should never have opened the door to talks. ETA has killed about 800 people in a four-decade fight for a Basque state independent of the rest of Spain.—MNA/Reuters



Libyan leader Muammar al-Qathafi receives interview after arriving to attend the 10th African Union (AU) summit held at the headquarters of the United Nations on 1 Feb, 2008. —XINHUA

Figures suggest new increase in US Army suicides

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb — As many as 121 US soldiers may have committed suicide in 2007, a record number if confirmed, according to Army statistics released on Thursday.

The Army reported 89 suicides and 32 suspected cases among active-duty soldiers in 2007. If the 32 cases are confirmed, the 121 suicides would be a nearly 20-per-cent increase over 2006, when 102 soldiers

committed suicide.

Army officials said relationship problems were the main cause of suicides among soldiers, but those problems were increasing due to repeated long deployments as the force is strained by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. “I think that it is a marker of the stress on the force,” Army psychiatrist Colonel Elspeth Ritchie said.

“Families are getting

tired,” Ritchie told a news conference at the Pentagon. “Therefore, sometimes they're more irritable, sometimes they don't take care of each other the way they should, are not as nurturing as they should be.”

The number of suicides has risen in four of the past five years for which complete data is available and the 2006 figure was the highest since 1991.

MNA/Reuters

Setting foot in Golden Triangle Region (2)

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

In a visit to Golden Triangle Region, I found the region peaceful and pleasant and located at the border shared by Myanmar, Thailand and Laos.

On arrival at Meisai, we paid a visit to a pagoda known as U Aung Zeya Pagoda. Under the agreement of the two neighbouring countries, the Tatmadaw government of Myanmar renovated and offered gold plates to it. On the upper terrace, four monks of us consecrated the marble Buddha Image that had been brought from Mandalay.

Then, we proceeded to the Golden Triangle Region. In the past, the region was notorious for occurrence of crimes. However, now it is no longer notorious and peace and stability has been restored well, resulting from the measures taken collaboratively by the three countries.

One of the salient points I noticed during the trip was the 20-foot-high sitting Buddha image kept on the hill on this side of the Mekhon River. It was distinct due to its glittering appearance.

I found the region packed not only with Buddhist pilgrims but also with tourists. The region was attractive with the Mekong River, beautiful silvery beaches and lush and green foliage.

Under the arrangements of Colonel Myint Han, I made another tour of Mongla through Kengtung. I took great interest in Mongla Region because I wanted to witness the progress of the region that was declared a drug-free zone on 22 April 1997.

There, most of the houses were built of raw bricks. Local people's costumes were the same as that of the people of Wa region in Shan State (North).

Since the start of the trip, I had noticed many

interesting things. Both sides of all the roads along the trip were covered with paddy fields. And all the mountainsides and hills were taken up by perennial crop plantations such as mango and banana especially by rubber.

I thought in the past, Mongla might be a region where poppy plants were in bloom. According to the book "Golden Triangle Region's circle of heroin" by U Tin Maung Yin (MA), Asians including Myanmar lived below the poverty line. Since 1500, European merchants stuffed local people with a bad habit of smoking opium. In the 1700s, the British East India Company smuggled poppy most into China. In the 1800s, every colony saw a large number of opium dens, it says.

In consequence, opium dens were mushrooming not only in the cities and towns but also in rural villages of the area stretching from northern Borneo to Myanmar in the end of the 19th Century. The opium trade was monopolized by the colonial government. Therefore, the health conditions of local people were deteriorating, while the colonial government was making large profits from opium trade. Opium trade contributed 40 per cent of the colonialist government's income, it says.

In the colonial days, Myanmar was a slave to opium till it regained independence. The situations of the nation went from bad to worse, stemming from multi-coloured armed insurgent groups. Only with the emergence of the Tatmadaw government, could the nation stop the circle of opium.

The magnificent achievement was reflected by the progress of Mongla. It had developed to a certain degree with fine transport facilities, modern buildings,

a large market, Drug Elimination Museum, hydropower plant, sugar mill and the Dvenagara Pagoda.

On the way to the Drug Elimination Museum in Mongla Region, I was struck by a thought that till 1988, the region was under complete control of the Burma Communist Party (BCP). BCP (815) led by U Sai Lin and BCP (768) that broke away from the BCP returned to the legal fold under the name of Military and Regional Administrative Committee of Shan State (East) of National Democracy Allied Force in June 1989. Then, they established Special Region (4) and strove with might and main joining hands with the Tatmadaw government for community peace and stability, regional development, and eradication of narcotic drugs.

When peace was made, the region had 262 villages with 2716 acres of poppy fields, and it produced 8968 kilos of raw opium a year. With the assistance of the Tatmadaw government and the UNDCP, U Sai Lin and party dedicated themselves to the six-year drug elimination plan.

They set up a target of elimination of poppy cultivation in Monghe and Mongkham regions in the first two-year plan, and in Mongwa and Kyinkham regions in the second two-year plan. Under the third two-year plan, they made strenuous efforts to eradicate poppy cultivation in Mongla, Mongma, Hsilu, Mongkwei and Hsamtak regions and in the whole region, and to ensure that the practice of poppy cultivation would never rear its head again. Besides, they expanded the agricultural farming as an alternative business.

As a result of various programmes including reclamation of vacant lands every year, distribution of high-yield strains of crops, conducting agricultural courses, cultivation of sugarcane and watermelon as poppy-substitute crops along with rubber, and construction of irrigation facilities, on 22 April 1997, Mongla Region was declared as a drug-free zone.

The museum shows formidable tasks Myanmar has made for eradication of narcotic drugs in it.

On my way back, I was engrossed in a thought of Golden Triangle Region's bad reputation for occurrence of crimes by unscrupulous people in the past, and prosperity of the whole eastern Shan State including Golden Triangle Region at present.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin & Kyemon: 2-2-2008

In consequence, opium dens were mushrooming not only in the cities and towns but also in rural villages of the area stretching from northern Borneo to Myanmar in the end of the 19th Century. The opium trade was monopolized by the colonial government. Therefore, the health conditions of local people were deteriorating, while the colonial government was making large profits from opium trade. Opium trade contributed 40 per cent of the colonialist government's income, it says.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends consecration of Shwehtidaw (umbrella), Seinbudaw (diamond orb) and Hngetmyatnadaw for Danok Pagoda

YANGON, 2 Feb — A ceremony to consecrate Shwehtidaw (umbrella), Seinbudaw (diamond orb) and Hngetmyatnadaw (pennant-shaped vane) to be hoisted at Danok Pagoda of Dalla Township was held in conjunction with the cash donation ceremony at the prayer hall on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda, here, yesterday morning.

Nine Ovadaçariya Sayadaws of Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees consecrated the Shwehtidaw, Seinbudaw and Hngetmyatnadaw.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon

Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and party offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and officials accepted K 40,915,000 by well-wishers including K 5 million each donated by Myanmar Winery Distillery Co Ltd and Zay Gabar Co; K 10 million by Dr Kyaw Khaing-Thudhamma Theingi Daw Sein Htwe (Khaing Thitsa Jewellery Co); and K 500,000 by Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa-Daw Khin Nyunt Myaing and

presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

The ceremony was also attended by Maha Aungmye Bonsan Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa and members of the Sangha.

Under the supervision of Sayadaw Ashin Sujata, ancient Danok Pagoda was enshrined with two sacred relics of the Lord Buddha by Thaton King Çulasimasoka in 240 religious era.

While Shwehtidaw (umbrella), Seinbudaw (diamond orb) and Hngetmyatnadaw for Danok Pagoda were



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence accepts cash donation of a wellwisher.

MNA

being kept at Shwedagon Pagoda, a donation centre was opened at Shwedagon Pagoda on 28 January.

MNA

Country Workshop on Quality Children TV Production concludes

YANGON, 1 Feb—The conclusion of Country Workshop on Quality Children TV Production co-organized by Myanmar Radio and TV of the Ministry of Information and AIBD/EBs/FEs took place at the MRTV on Pyay Road here this afternoon.

Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay delivered an address. The director-general and officials presented completion certificates to the trainees and a gift to Programme Manager Ms. Hyunsook Chung of AIBD.

Twenty-five trainees from the ministry completed the five-day course.—MNA

Information Minister attends 17th anniversary ceremony of IPRD

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — The ceremony to mark the 17th anniversary of Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information was held at the ministry, here, this morning.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended the ceremony and extended greetings on the occasion.

Afterwards, the minister presented prizes to Excellent Performance in Administrative Field (Third Class) award winners Assistant Director U Kyi of Bago Division (East) IPRD, Assistant Director U Sein Toe of Bago Division (West) IPRD and Assistant Director U Maung Maung Aye (Retd), Excellent Performance in Social

Field (Third Class) award winner security staff U Tin Myint of Chanmyathazi Township IPRD, Model District Office Award to Staff Officer U Win Shwe of Patheingyi District IPRD, Model Township Office Award to Deputy Head of Hinthada Township IPRD U Maung Maung Nyunt and prize for many news released in the newspapers to state/division, district and township offices through Assistant Director U Kyaw Than Tun of Mandalay Division IPRD.

The minister presented cash assistance K 170,000 for representatives of States and Divisions and K 290,000 to the staff who are discharging duties in Nay Pyi Taw Myoma, Nay Pyi Taw Pinyinana, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon and Nay Pyi Taw Lewe through Deputy Director U Tin Than Win of Sagaing Division IPRD.

Later, Director-General U Chit Naing of IPRD presented outstanding awards to respective officers and



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents award to an outstanding employee.

MNA

staff and cash assistance K 2,847,000 to the personnel through Staff Officer U Tin Win (Accounts).

At today's ceremony, a total of 97 awards were presented to the outstanding staff.

MNA



Director-General U Chit Naing presents award to Staff Officer Daw Hla Hla of Bago District IPRD.—MNA



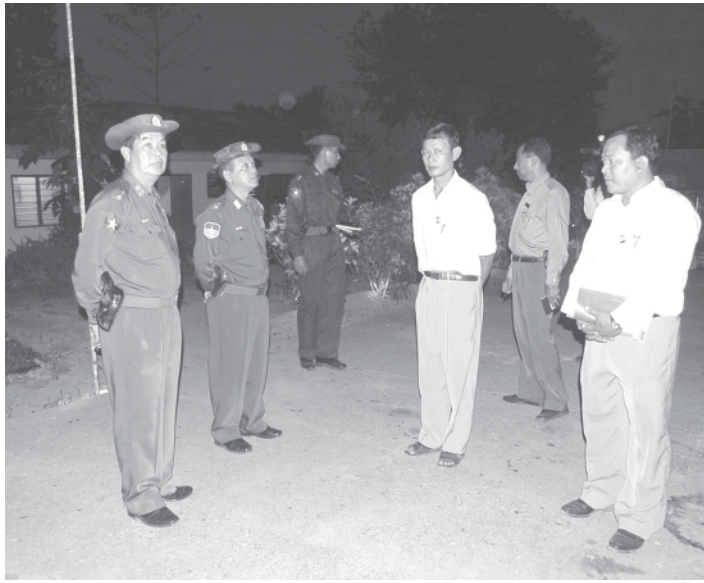
Director-General U Khin Maung Htay presents a certificate to a trainee.—MNA

Maj-Gen Tha Aye meets personnel, local people in Palaw, Thayatchaung, Launglon Townships

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb —Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and departmental officials on 30 January inspected culture of pearl oysters and various kinds of pearls produced by Myanma Pearl Enterprise (Mali Island) in Palaw Township.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye gave necessary instructions and presented cash assistance.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party looked into Mali island auto-exchange of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications in Kyaukh-tayan Village. At Mali Island Basic Education High School (Affiliated), they viewed learning of students at computer room, audio room and library and met with members of Village Peace and Development



Maj-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence inspects oil palm factory (Launglon).—MNA

Councils in the township, teachers and members of social organizations.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye inspected chosen site for the construction of 16-bed station hospital and thriving kitchen crop plantations of local battalion. He met with the servicemen and their families and presented edible oil, foodstuff and cash assistance.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party met with departmental personnel,

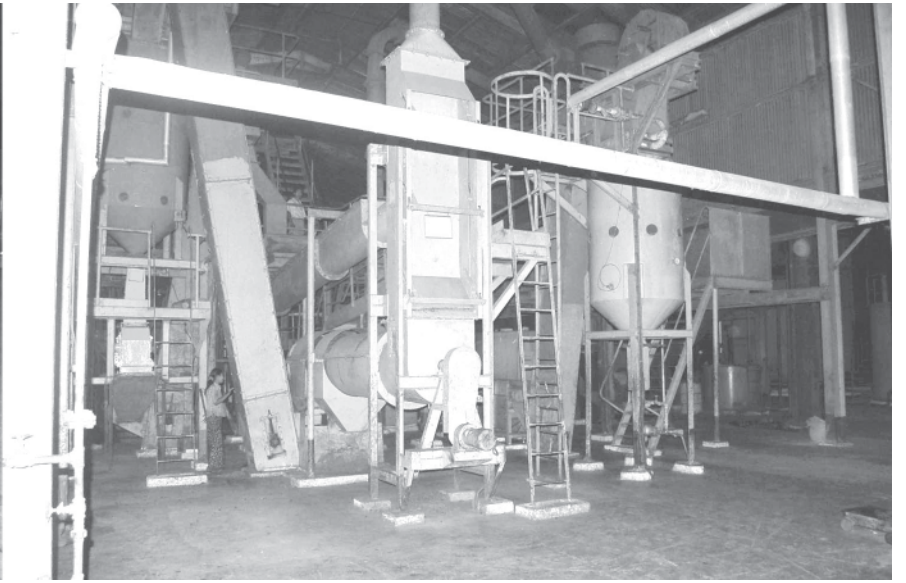
members of social organizations and townsenders in Thayatchaung and gave necessary instructions.

Next, they paid respects to the members of Sangha at Gawthidarama monastery in Dawei and donated provisions.

They also attended summer paddy growing ceremony at Myohaung Village in Launglon Township. So far, 31 acres against the target of 100 acres of summer

paddy had been grown at Field No 483 in the village.

At Bahtoo Hall in the township, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townsenders. Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye inspected production process of oil palm factory (Launglon) with the use of electricity through bio-fuel-fired turbine and growing of oil palm plants. —MNA



Success of free treatment for eye patients in Rakhine State marked

YANGON, 2 Feb — Under the leadership of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Transport and social organization members organized a ceremony to mark the success of free medical treatment for eye patients within Rakhine State in the compound of the State General Hospital this morning.

Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Shein and USDA CEC member (Rakhine State In Charge) Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe spoke on the occasion. Professor Dr Kan Nyunt explained the programmes for giving free treatment to the eye patients.

From 28 January to 1 February 5120 outpatients and 603 inpatients with eye complaints of the townships of Rakhine State received free medical treatment and operations. Power glasses and sunglasses were also donated to the patients. Ministry of Transport, Rakhine State USDA, Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and other social organizations and health staff also contributed to the treatment. The necessary medicine and medical equipment were donated by Golden Wax Co Ltd. — MNA



USDA CEC member Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe presents glasses to eye patients.

MNA

Commander attends opening of new tarred street in Insein



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win unveils the signboard of new tarred Shwewah 2 Street in Insein Township.—MNA

YANGON, 2 Feb —Hailing the 61st Anniversary Union Day, the opening of new tarred Shwewah 2 Street was held at the archway of the new street in Myothit (Ga) Ward in Insein Township this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win pressed the button to open the signboard of the street. The new tarred

street measuring 960 feet by 10 feet was built at a cost of K 7.2 million.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win looked into sanitation tasks and educative talks conducted by personnel, social organization members and local people along Myitta 1, 2, 3 and 4 streets in North Okkalapa Township. The commander also visited No 19 Basic Education Primary School in the township and attended to the needs.—MNA

Guard against enslavement (or) division and domination

Hlaing Aung

According to a historian, the history of human beings was that of the empires. An empire can be said to be some weak countries or societies that are controlled with force by a powerful country for its economic, political or religious gains.

Therefore, it is fair to say that the history of the empires is that of strong countries' oppression, domination and colonizing weak countries. This statement can be deemed logical and reasonable to an extent if it is compared with the incidents of the history. In various periods, the world saw strong countries' colonization of weak ones. In the period of feudalism in which agriculture was the major business, there sometimes occurred occupation of nearby regions for cultivable lands. And in the colonial period in which trade was carried out for profits, colonialists, while travelling with warships, built fortresses in opportune port cities overseas to monopolize international trade.

After the Industrial Revolution, industrial countries colonized non-industrialized countries with the use of superiority of arms, technology and manpower and monopolized the areas for raw materials and markets, vying with each other.

The majority of the wars that have broken out almost continuously since living memory are the ones powerful countries have waged for expansion of their empires or the ones in which empires have vied each other for power.

However, in accordance with the improvement of lifestyles and socio-economic life of human beings and technological advancements, there have been changes in empires' nature, life-spans, and methods of colonizing other countries.

The life-spans of empires were long in the distant past, and were getting shorter afterwards. Roman Empire, for instance, lasted for thousands of years. Ottoman Empire of Turkey lasted about 700 years only. The British empire, the last of its kind, existed over 200 years only.

Due to the industrial development, the areas of the empires grew. Ottoman Empire dominated the Middle East and half of Europe. But, the British managed to establish an empire where the sun never set or the whole world.

Today, there are no specific empires. Nevertheless, the essence of the empires that certain powerful countries resort to various means to gain domination over weak countries to expand their global power has not ceased yet. Instead, it is flourishing more than ever due to the sophisticated technologies. In other words, it is an invisible and strong empire.

With the use of aircraft that can outwit the radar, this invisible empire can launch bomb attacks on any other place all over the world. Now, it has stationed many fleets in every ocean so that it can attack any part of the world. So far, it has stationed hundreds of thousands of troops throughout the world. And using powerful airwave receivers and super computers, it is monitoring other countries' electric magnetic field broadcasts of telephones, e-mail, Internet, radio and television. It is resorting to various ways and means to

squeeze the governments of other countries to serve as its minions. Moreover, it is propagating its policies, culture and educational methods to gain spiritual influence over the world people. Applying hostile and tangible methods and gentle and intangible ways, the empire is pursuing the goal of setting the whole world under its control which no country had done in the past.

However much its technological power and military power have advanced, it is still using a traditional method that ancient empires used for expansion and long-lasting existence of their empires. It is none other than driving a wedge.

In that regard, a salient point is that ancient empires used the tactic of driving a wedge mostly for their perpetuation. It is known as divide and rule.

In the time of the invisible empire, it has come to use 'divide and conquer', while taking measures to dominate other countries.

In fact, a nation or organization is like a human body. If a person's resistance is high and the functions of his body's organs go well, diseases cannot enter into the body. If his body loses resistance and the body's functions do not go well, he will come under various diseases.

Similarly, in a nation, if the national races, different social classes, and people of different religious faiths are disunited and lack patriotism and Union Spirit, and the people fail to do their bit in national duties, the nation will fall under alien subjugation sooner or later.

Today, falling under alien rule no longer means kneeling at the foot of colonialists, having to call them masters and serving their interests, but relying on them economically. Slaves have to do what they have been asked politically, and follow and practise what they have been stuffed in policy. Some people have become slaves of the colonialists, trying to copy their culture.

Some people have become slaves but they do not know their situations because colonialists have not opened fire and sent their troops but they have driven a wedge cleverly among the people.

There are many countries that are facing bloodshed due to the fact that the people of the nation concerned have sought the interference and intervention of colonialists instead of solving internal problems by themselves in a peaceful way.

In the past, empires easily colonized the nations that had collapsed already lacking national unity. But, they could not manage to drive a wedge effectively among the people of a nation. For example, the British occupied one after another the states of Maha Rajas of India that were disunited and were vying each other for power. In the end, the British could colonize the whole Indian sub-continent. In the time of Manchu emperor, the Chinese warlords ruled the port regions of the country separately. So, several colonial nations could split these regions at will. They occupied small countries by force and enslaved them.

When they had colonized the countries, they studied the conditions of their colonies and sowed seeds of hatred and discord among the national races and the people of different religions to prolong their rule. The Hindu-Muslim conflict in India sub-continent, Sinhali-

Tamil conflict in Sri Lanka, Israel-Palestine conflict in the Middle East, and Hutu-Tutsi conflict in Africa that have remained are due to the evil legacy of the divide-and-rule tactic of the ancient empires.

Now, the system of openly colonizing other countries is no more. So, today's invisible empire has come to use the indirect method of domination over other countries rather than directly colonizing other countries with the use of force. In this regard, the divide-and-conquer is the most possible and the most effective method.

This has been reflected by the collapses of the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and the Warsaw Bloc after the Cold War period. Since 1991 when Yugoslavia collapsed, Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo saw bloodshed clashes. After the countries had seen conflicts of their peoples, alien troops invaded and launched bomb attacks on the countries. The internal conflicts of these nations have not ended yet. Kosovo region is planning to secede from Serbia and announce independence unilaterally. As a result, bloodshed will be likely to happen between Serbs and Albanians in Kosovo.

Apparently, one can notice who has gained benefits from the collapse of the Soviet Union. Now, political unrest is rife in the old East European countries around the Russian Federation. The movements aided and abetted by the West Bloc have been followed by the coming to power of the western big country's lackeys in some nations. By pushing these countries into NATO Bloc, it can keep a watchful eye on the Russian Federation that will be likely to become its future enemy. Furthermore, it can lay oil pipelines through Caspian Sea.

I do not want to present the conditions of the countries that are still battlefields with bloodshed due to the instigation of the invisible empire because those incidents are already known to the world. Today, there are no specific empires, but the essence of empire period still exists. Certain powerful countries are still trying to dominate weak ones, and if possible, over the entire world. In order to achieve their goals, they have disregarded the international law and sovereignty of other countries.

Mostly, the nations whose national races are not united have usually come under the influence of the divide and conquer tactic of the invisible empire, and are fighting each other due to the doubts and suspicions sowed by the empire. Many historic incidents have showed that many world nations have fallen under alien subjugation, while their national races are engaged in bloody conflicts.

Therefore, consolidated unity is the only thing with which the people can avert the possibility of being enslaved again. And only with consolidated cohesion, will it be possible for national brethren to avoid any bloodshed resulting from the instigation of the colonialists. I would like to exhort the entire national brethren to work in harmony for perpetual existence of the Union, while protecting the clever and cunning conspiracies of the invisible empire, with constant vigilance and care.

Translation: MS

Images of the Day



The sun shines down on onions on sale at a market. Scientists in New Zealand and Japan have created a "tear-free" onion using biotechnology to switch off the gene behind the enzyme that makes us cry, one of the leading researchers said on Friday.—INTERNET



Keeper receives a kiss from Margaret, a 10-day-old Rothschild Giraffe, at Chester Zoo in Chester, northern England. Margaret, who stands at only five feet (1.2 metres) tall, is being hand-reared after she was born two weeks early.—INTERNET



Kaede Maejima, 3, tries to reach out to the face of world's biggest statue of Hello Kitty in Tokyo on 1 Feb, 2008. The 2.5-meter tall 1.7-meter wide statue is covered with tiles.

INTERNET

The MacBook Air is displayed at the Apple Store in New York on 1 Feb, 2008. Apple Inc in January introduced the three-quarters of an inch thick aluminum-clad laptop, seeking to bring a new computer to market with the same cachet as its iPod and iPhone devices.

INTERNET



Premature births lower in women taking folic acid

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb—Women who take folic acid supplements for at least a year before becoming pregnant can greatly reduce their risk of delivering a baby prematurely, researchers said on Thursday.

Folic acid, a B vitamin, already is known to prevent major birth defects that involve a baby's brain or spine.

This study shows it may provide another benefit—cutting down on premature births in which babies have less time to develop in the womb and are more likely to experience serious medical problems.

The study tracked about 35,000 pregnant women between 1999 and 2002 who disclosed their folic acid intake. It found that women who took folic acid supplements for at least a year before pregnancy cut their chances for very early pre-term births—20 to 28 weeks into the pregnancy—by 70 per cent compared to other women. —MNA/Reuters

China's "Chang'e I" captures pictures of moon's polar areas

BEIJING, 2 Feb—China's first lunar probe, Chang'e-1, has successfully captured pictures of the moon's polar areas, Chinese officials said on Thursday.

The Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence released on Thursday a picture of the moon's polar areas, the first-ever such picture taken by Chinese.

"We have obtained good quality pictures," said spokesman Pei Zhaoyu of China National Space Administration (CNSA). Scientists tuned the camera aboard the satellite on January 4 so that it could start taking photos of the moon areas above 70 degrees north or south Latitude, Pei said.

The camera was previously positioned to take photos of moon areas below 70 degrees north or south Latitude, according to Pei. He also said all facilities on Chang'e-1 were functioning well and lunar probing missions would continue as planned.—MNA/Xinhua

Stormy weather linked with sea surface temperature

LONDON, 2 Feb—Stormy weather is linked with rising sea surface temperature which causes more frequent and fierce hurricanes, according to a study published in *Nature* Thursday.

Researchers of University College London, Britain, have quantified, for the first time, the contribution of sea warming to the increase in hurricane activity, and found that local sea surface warming was responsible for around 40 per cent of the rise in number of storms between 1996 and 2005, compared to the 1950-2000 average, in the North Atlantic, according to the magazine.

The number of North Atlantic hurricanes has been above normal in 9 of the last 11 years, reaching a peak in 2005, a record number of 15 hurricanes formed between June and December 2005, making it the most active hurricane season on record.

MNA/Xinhua

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV EAGLE PRIDE VOY NO (802)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EAGLE PRIDE VOY NO (802) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 3.2.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE SHIPPING CO., LTD
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Lebanon says Israel report sets scene for new war

BEIRUT, 1 Feb — Lebanon's Prime Minister said on Thursday that an Israeli report on the war against Hizbollah guerillas in 2006 set the scene for a possible future conflict and failed to address "Israel's crimes against Lebanon".

The Israeli Government-appointed Winograd Commission issued a report on

Wednesday that criticized the conduct of the Army and government during the war, but which endorsed key decisions at the time by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.

"The report calls for preparation for the next war, which shows that Israel has not learned the appropriate lesson from its defeat," a statement from Lebanese Prime

Minister Fouad Siniora's media office said.

"The enemy's aims towards Lebanon have stayed the same — that is attacking Lebanon in the future." Israel's retired Supreme Court Justice Eliahu Winograd said in a speech presenting his report that Israel must seek peace with its neighbours.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesia, Australia sign transport safety deal

JAKARTA, 1 Feb — The Indonesian and Australian governments have signed a preliminary pact to improve Indonesia's transport safety and broaden levels of cooperation between the two countries, the Australian Embassy said on Thursday.

"It is essential the travelling public of both

countries have confidence that transport safety is a priority and that lessons from previous transport accidents are being acted upon," Australian Transport Minister Anthony Albanese said in a statement.

Under the transport safety pact, Australia will provide almost 200 billion rupiah (21.54 million US dollars) over three years for training and technical assistance.

Indonesia has suffered a string of airline accidents in recent years, raising questions about safety standards and prompting

the European Union in June to ban Indonesian planes from flying to EU nations.

MNA/Reuters

Philippine Army clashes with Maoist rebels, five dead

MANILA, 1 Feb — At least five Philippines soldiers were killed and six were wounded when about 70 Maoist-led rebels attacked an Army detachment on the southern island of Mindanao on Wednesday, a military spokesman said.

Colonel Benito de Leon said troops were rushed to reinforce soldiers defending an Army patrol base near Cateel Town in

Blast heard near Egypt-Israel border was gunfire

CAIRO, 1 Feb — Egyptian security sources reported hearing an explosion on Thursday near the Kerem Shalom border crossing between Israel, Egypt and Gaza, but later said they had determined the sound was gunfire.

An Israeli Army spokesman said he was not aware of a blast in the area, and an Israeli police spokesman was checking the report. Egyptian security sources said the gunfire was on either the Gaza or Israel side of the border. Witnesses at the Rafah border area reported a shot being fired there because of the large crowd. It was unclear who fired the shot, and there were no reports of casualties.

Egypt had earlier sealed off roads near the Gaza-Egypt border, and there was no immediate access to the Kerem Shalom crossing from the Egyptian side.

Palestinian militants blasted open the border with Egypt last week in defiance of an Israeli-led blockade, allowing tens of thousands of Palestinians to flood into Egyptian territory.

MNA/Reuters



Employee of local power supply bureau repair electricity transmission line in Zhaoping County, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 1 Feb, 2008. Over 300 employees of local power supply bureau were called on to repair electricity transmission line damage caused by continuous heavy snow and frost to ensure safe power supply in the county. —XINHUA

MNA/Reuters

Singapore to halve vehicle growth rate to 1.5%

SINGAPORE, 1 Feb — Singapore will lower the vehicle population growth rate from the current 3 per cent to 1.5 per cent in 2009 as part of the government's far-ranging measures to ease traffic congestion.

In the last of three major announcements on changes to the land transport system, Singapore's Transport Minister Raymond Lim Wednesday also announced that his ministry will introduce more electronic road pricing (ERP) entries in the downtown area and raise ERP rates to manage traffic more effectively.

To offset the higher ERP charges, the government will lower the annual road tax on all vehicles by 15 per cent, said Lim.

The government will also invest up to 10.5 billion Singapore dollars (about 7.3 billion US dollars) in the next 12 years to build two new

expressways.

The city state, with 850,000-strong vehicle population on the roads, introduced in 1990 the Vehicle Quota System to restrict the annual vehicle growth rate of about 3 per cent. About 25,000 vehicles have been added onto the roads each year.

MNA/Xinhua



A visitor looks at various teapots displayed in a museum in Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 1 Feb, 2008. The museum, which will be open to the public in March 2008, is the first museum in China that combines the country's mah-jong and tea culture together. —INTERNET

Australia's La Nina rains set to last until mid-'08

SYDNEY, 1 Feb — A rain-bearing La Nina weather pattern, which has begun to end years of serious drought in Australia, was expected

to remain until the middle of 2008, the weather bureau said on Thursday.

Australia's parched farm sector welcomed the forecast, although weather officials warned that La Nina also brought the risk of more floods

and cyclones.

"There's a higher-than-normal chance of that happening when you're in a La Nina," Brad Murphy, senior climatologist at the National Climate Centre, told *Reuters*.

MNA/Reuters

China's Air Force flies to snow-affected areas

BEIJING, 1 Feb — Four Chinese Air Force *Ilyushin II-76* military transport aircraft on Thursday began flying relief materials to south China areas affected by severe winter weather.

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) on Thursday announced that the General Staff Department had ordered the aircraft to carry quilts and winter coats from bases in Xi'an city, Shaanxi Province, and Changzhi city, Shanxi Province to south China. The supplies would be delivered to people whose homes had been damaged by the extreme weather, said Lieutenant-Colonel Chen Zheming, of the PLA emergency response

group.

"After receiving a request for air assistance from the State Disaster Relief Commission, the four military carriers immediately suspended their military tasks and flew to the appointed bases in 40 minutes," he said.

One aircraft took off at 1:17 am on Thursday from Changzhi and landed at Nanning, capital of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, at 3:57 am. However, aircraft scheduled to leave Xi'an just after midnight were delayed when sleet closed the airport at their destination in Guiyang, capital of Guizhou Province, said Chen. They were still awaiting orders.

MNA/Xinhua

Study suggests birds can truly navigate

LONDON, 2 Feb — Eurasian reed warblers captured during migration and then dumped 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) off course were able to find their way back to their original route, according to a study suggesting some birds can truly navigate.

This means that the birds could identify at least two coordinates roughly

corresponding to geographic latitude and longitude and suggests they are not limited to north-south direction as some had thought, the researchers said on Thursday.

"This finding is surprising and presents a new intellectual challenge to bird migration researchers, namely which cues enable birds to determine their east-west position" Nikita Chernetsov at the Zoological Institute in Russia wrote in the journal *Current Biology*.

MNA/Reuters

Soldiers of Chinese People's Liberation Army load rescue materials on aerotransport at an airport in Changzhi, north China's Shanxi Province, on 1 Feb, 2008. —INTERNET



India sprays markets, roads to halt bird flu outbreak

KOLKATA (India), 1 Feb — Workers sprayed roads and markets in Kolkata with disinfectants and culled thousands of birds as authorities in eastern India battled to stop an outbreak of bird flu in poultry reaching the crowded city.

Bird flu has spread to 13 of West Bengal's 19 districts and authorities in the Communist-ruled state said they were culling sick chickens in a private farm about an hour's drive from Kolkata, one of India's biggest cities.

"We are not taking chances as the farm reported bird deaths and preliminary tests suggest bird flu," Anisur

Rahaman, the state's Animal Resources Minister told *Reuters*.

Over two million birds have already been culled, but authorities now say they will slaughter thousands of more birds.

They will also ban rearing backyard poultry in infected districts for at least three months.

India was checking hundreds of villagers and health workers for possible symptoms of bird flu, officials said.

Experts fear the H5N1 strain could mutate into a form easily transmitted from person to person, leading to a pandemic, but there have been no reported human infections in India yet. —MNA/Reuters

EP president welcomes ratification of Lisbon Treaty

BRUSSELS, 1 Feb — President of the European Parliament Hans-Gert Poettering welcomed here on Wednesday the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty by the parliaments on Slovenia and Malta.

"The early ratification of the Lisbon Treaty in Slovenia, the country holding the Presidency of the Union, is an encouraging signal of the importance with which member states are treating

the ratification process and clearly illustrates their willingness to swiftly go forward with it," he said in a statement.

Parliament of Slovenia ratified the treaty on Tuesday night, making the country the second to approve the treaty after Bulgaria. Poettering extended his congratulations to Slovenia on "taking this important decision which will bring Europe closer to the future".

"Today the successful and swift ratification of the Lisbon Treaty is the top priority in the European Union," he noted, adding that the Treaty "will provide the instruments which are necessary to deal with the challenges Europe is facing in the future".

The treaty, a revised edition of the rejected constitution treaty, was signed by EU member states' leaders on December 13 last year. —MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Middlesbrough sign Brazilian Alves in nick of time

LONDON, 2 Feb — Middlesbrough broke their transfer record to sign Brazilian striker Afonso Alves from Dutch side Heerenveen less than an hour before the end of the transfer window on Thursday.

Middlesbrough did not disclose the fee on their website (www.mfc.premiumtv.co.uk) but said it was a record. Local media reported it as being around 12 million pounds (23.87 million US dollars).

The Premier League club confirmed that Alves had signed a four-and-a-half year contract at the Riverside.

They were only able to complete the deal after a work permit was granted on appeal earlier in the day. Alves now needs international clearance before making his debut. — MNA/Reuters



Japan's Ryo Ishikawa chips during a practice round at the Lakes Golf Course in Sydney on 2 Feb, 2008. The 16-year-old Ishikawa is practising ahead of the Open Championship in Sydney next week. —INTERNET

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE

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15		16					17	18				19
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26						27						
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- ACROSS
- 1 Oil of roses

4 Strain

8 Within view

9 Twing broom

10 Couplet

11 Gem

13 Get up

15 My robe (anag.)

17 Drink of the gods

20 Sightseeing trip

22 Alike

24 Concluded

26 Shellfish

27 Evangelist

28 Slow tempo

29 Enamel
- DOWN
- 1 Unfavourable

2 Piquant

3 Theft

4 Ancient Egyptian city

5 Aristocratic

6 Moment

7 Wanderer

12 Bill of fare

14 Small amount

16 Assault

18 Soon

19 Blushes

21 Flamboyant

22 Cuttlefish

23 Flaxen matrial

25 As before

Gilberto joins Spurs, Stalteri, Gardner leave

LONDON, 2 Feb — Tottenham Hotspur completed the signing of Brazil defender Gilberto from Hertha Berlin just before the close of the transfer window on Thursday.

The deal had appeared to have fallen through earlier in the day when it was thought the 31-year-old Gilberto had failed a medical but Tottenham's website (www.tottenhamhotspur.com) later said it had been rescued. No transfer fee was disclosed.

"The club is delighted to announce the signing of Gilberto. In the interests of accuracy the club wishes to make it clear that, contrary to reports in

Legally blind Florida golfer, 92, gets hole-in-one

MIAMI, 2 Feb — Leo Fiyalko, 92 years old and legally blind, got his first hole-in-one last month after playing golf for more than 60 years, a Florida newspaper reported on Friday.

In his prime, Fiyalko had a seven handicap but now needs help lining up his shots and finding his ball, the St. Petersburg Times said. "It was my first hole-in-one, and I never saw it," Fiyalko said. "I was just trying to put the ball on the green."

MNA/Reuters

Holmes, LaBelle take clubhouse lead in Phoenix

SCOTTSDALE (Arizona), 2 Feb — J B Holmes and Doug LaBelle II shared the clubhouse lead after the second day of the Phoenix Open, both ending their rounds tied on nine under par 133.

Colombia's Camilio Villegas, whose first round was affected by a frost delay on Thursday and finished it early on Friday before beginning his second round, was also at nine-under par.

MNA/Reuters

this morning's papers, there were no issues arising from his medical.

"The delay was entirely due to the player needing to return to Germany as part of the work permit process in order to obtain his entry clearance visa."

Tottenham also announced that defenders Paul Stalteri and Anthony Gardner had been allowed to join Fulham and Everton respectively on loan until the end of the season.

MNA/Reuters



Russia's Maria Sharapova practises during a training session for the Fed Cup tennis tournament in Ramat Hasharon Stadium near Tel Aviv on 1 Feb, 2008. Russia, the defending Fed Cup champions, will play Israel in the Fed Cup world group first round on Saturday and Sunday. —INTERNET

Shearer turns down coaching role at Newcastle

LONDON, 2 Feb — Former Newcastle United striker Alan Shearer said he had turned down new manager Kevin Keegan's offer of a coaching role at the struggling Premier League club.

"He (Keegan) basically told me I could come in as his assistant or in any role I wanted but the timing is just not right," Shearer was quoted as saying in The Sun on Saturday.

"I have not snubbed anyone or anything like that... (but) right now, I think the last thing they would need is another dominant personality, another name."

Keegan took Shearer to Newcastle for a then-world record fee of 15 million pounds (29.85 million US dollars) in 1996 and the home-town boy was adored by the local fans as he scored a club record 206 goals, including 148 in the league.

"It needs one personality driving things forward at the club and that is Kevin Keegan," Shearer added. "It needs to be his way and, if it is, I think he can turn things round."

MNA/Reuters

Ribery, Toni see Bayern to victory over Hansa Rostock

BERLIN, 2 Feb — Goals by Franck Ribery and Luca Toni gave leaders Bayern Munich a 2-1 win at Hansa Rostock on Friday in the first Bundesliga match after the mid-season break.

The result took Bayern three points ahead of second-placed Werder Bremen with 39 points from 18 matches. Werder are not in action until Sunday, when they host Bochum.

Bayern, who warmed up for the match with a 5-2 Cup win at Wuppertal in midweek, were quickly on the attack and went ahead in the 10th minute when France midfielder Ribery supplied a deft finish to Ze Roberto's cross. After a number of near misses, Italy striker Toni doubled the lead just before the break when he swept the ball in from 10 metres for his 10th league goal of the season, putting him top of the Bundesliga scoring charts. —MNA/Reuters

Kanoute named African Footballer of the Year

LOME, 2 Feb — Mali striker Frederic Kanoute won the 2007 African Footballer of the Year award on Friday, the Confederation of African Football (CAF) announced.

The Sevilla forward is the first European-born player to win the award after beating off competition from Ivory Coast captain Didier Drogba and Michael Essien of Ghana.

Kanoute was nominated for his role in helping Mali qualify for this year's African Nations Cup finals and triumphs last season with Spanish club Sevilla in the UEFA and King's Cups.

The African Footballer of the Year award is voted for by the national coaches of the 53 CAF associations.

Kanoute played for his native France as a junior international before switching allegiance in 2004 to Mali, his father's country. He is the first Malian to win the award since Salif Keita took the inaugural title in 1970. —MNA/Reuters



Russia's Vladimir Lebedev rotates during the qualification round of the men's World Cup freestyle aerials competition on 1 Feb, 2008, at Deer Valley Resort in Park City, Utah. He finished in second place.

INTERNET

Argentina declares emergency due to heavy rains

BUENOS AIRES, 2 Feb — The Argentine Government declared on Thursday a state of emergency in many municipalities affected by floods and heavy rainfalls in the northern Salta area.

Argentina's Health Minister Graciela Ocaná ordered humanitarian aid be sent to the affected people and said local residents in Rivadavia,

Banda Norte and Rivadavia Banda Sur faced sanitary problems.

"Argentina's Sanitary Emergency Department will coordinate the distribution of the aid," Ocaná said. The floods forced the displacement of many families living near the Pilcomayo River, which overflowed its banks due to the heavy rainfalls.

MNA/Xinhua

Egypt has only 40% Internet after cable fault

CAIRO, 2 Feb — Egypt had only about 40 per cent of its Internet capacity available on Thursday because of a disruption to an undersea cable that has also affected the Gulf region and south Asia.

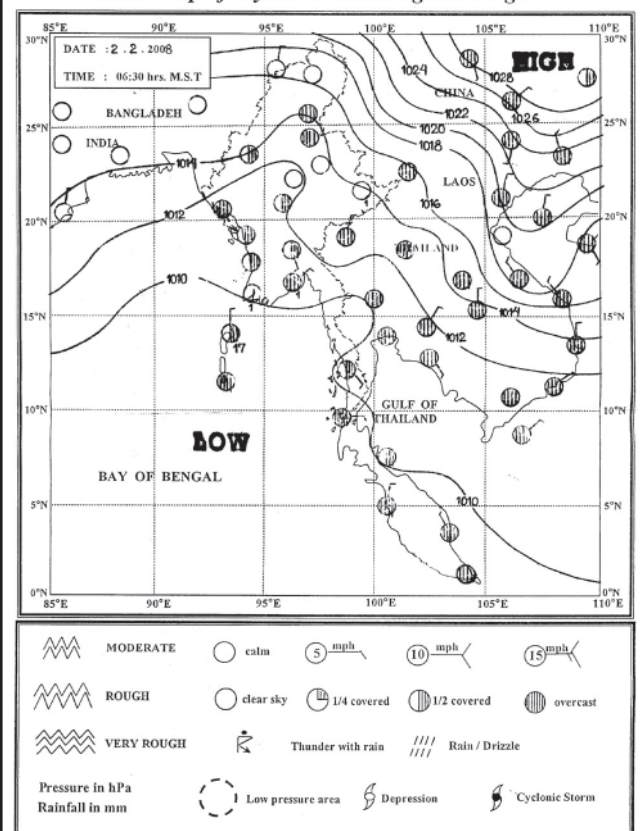
The cable connection broke off Egypt's northern coast on Wednesday,

slowing or stopping Internet access for users across large parts of Asia, and forcing service providers to try to reroute traffic via other cables or satellites. "The service will come up to 40 per cent this morning. And by tomorrow up to 70 per cent," said Mariam Fayeze, a spokeswoman for the Egyptian Telecommunications Ministry.

"We are seeking alternative solutions such as satellite and alternative cable." In Cairo, some residents reported that their Internet connections were working at slow speed, while others still had no workable access to the Web. Egypt had said on Wednesday it would take several days for services to return to normal.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 2 February, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers have been scattered in Kayin and Mon States, Bago and Yangon Divisions, isolated in Shan State and Ayeyarwady Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (6°C) to (7) below February average temperatures in Kachin and Chin States, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Shan and Kayah States, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and about February average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (-2°C), Putao (3°C) and Pyinoolwin (4°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hpa-an (0.31) inch, Mawlamyine (0.28) inch and Thaton (0.24) inch.

Maximum temperature on 1-2-2008 was 80°F. Minimum temperature on 2-2-2008 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 2-2-2008 was 91%. Total sunshine hours on 1-1-2008 was (Nil) hours approx.

Rainfall on 2-2-2008 was (0.12) inch at Mingaladon, (0.04) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.15) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (0.67) inch at Mingaladon, (0.47) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.35) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from South-east at (13:30) hours MST on 1-1-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 3-2-2008: Weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine State, Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions and rain or thunder-showers are likely to be isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%)

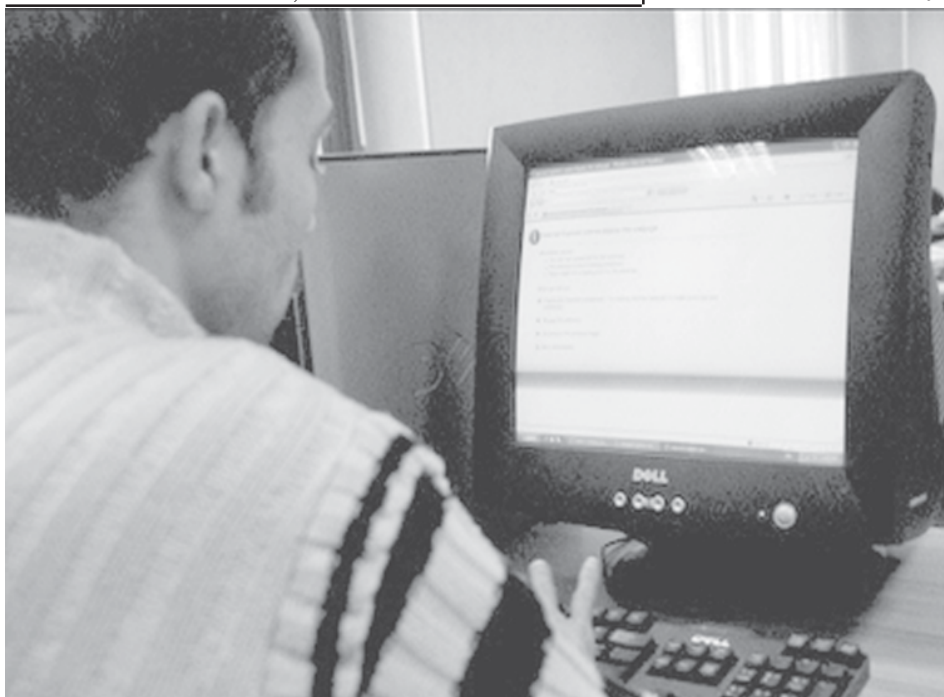
State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 3-2-2008: Partly cloudy to cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-2-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 3-2-2008: Partly cloudy to cloudy.



An Egyptian man tries to access a website at an internet cafe, during disruption of the internet service in Cairo, on 31 January. —INTERNET



Sunday, 3 February
View on today

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am**
5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 8:00 am**
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am**
7. ရွှေလောင်းတံတား
- 8:30 am**
8. International news
- 8:45 am**
9. Say it in English

- 11:00 am**
1. Martial song
- 11:10 am**
2. Musical programme
- 11:25 am**
3. Round up of the week's International news
- 11:40 am**
4. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင် အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်
- 12:05 am**
5. Myanmar video feature "အဖြူရောင်ကြိုးကလေး" (လူမင်းကြည်လဲလဲဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကျော်စောလင်း)
- 2:00 pm**
6. မြတ်ဗုဒ္ဓမဇ္ဈိမ၏အနှိုင်းမဲ့ရတနာ
- 2:15 am**
7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:30 am**
8. စလင်းရေလှောင်တံ
- 2:45 am**
9. International news
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Song for uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. English for everyday use

- 4:45 pm**
4. အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့လုပ်သည့်အခန်းစာ-ပထမနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)
- 5:00 pm**
5. Dance of national races
- 5:15 pm**
6. Musical programme
- 5:30 pm**
7. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm**
8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
10. "ညောင်မယ်ဗိုလ်" (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ငှက်ပျောကြွေ၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဝမ်းပုံ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)
- 6:50 pm**
11. Musical programme
- 7:14 pm**
12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူအားမာန်" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)
- 8:00 pm**
13. News
- 8:15 pm**
14. International news
- 8:30 pm**
15. Weather report
- 8:45 pm**
16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူအားမာန်" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
- 9:00 pm**
17. The next day's programme



Sunday, 3 February
Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music - You sung to me
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music - My oh my
- 8:50 am** National news/ Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music - Take a chance on me
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Cultural images of Myanmar - Hsoon bowl and Myanmar Resin
- 9:20 am** Music - Airals
- 1:30 pm** News/ Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Children's delight (story) - Master thumb
- 9:00 pm** Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm** Article
- 9:20 pm** Music/LIETS - To love you more - Someday
- 9:45 pm** News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

People's Desire

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

Pet Show (2008) in Insein Township

YANGON, 2 Feb — The Pet Show (2008) was held at Thiri Annawa Hall of Myanmar Fisheries Federation in Insein Township here this morning, and it was attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, President of Myanmar Fisheries Federation Dr Mya Han formally opened the Pet Show (2008).

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party viewed pets and booths on veterinary vaccines and food stalls.

The pet show continues tomorrow.

The eighth annual meeting of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation was held at the same venue.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Patron of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein delivered speeches.

Wellwishers presented K 4.6 million for the federation through Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and the minister.—MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects a booth on veterinary vaccines at Pet Show (2008). — 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 temperatures

Haka	(-2°C)
Putao	(3°C)
PyinOoLwin	(4°C).

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