

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 Kyaw Win attends cash donation for construction of school building, inspects progress of Shweli Hydropower Project

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and officials attended the golden jubilee ceremony of Basic Education Middle School in conjunction with the donation ceremony for construction of

(See page 10)



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects Shweli Hydropower Project in Shan State (North). — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends ceremony for Accreditation of NHL as National Influenza Centre

YANGON, 26 Feb — A ceremony for Accreditation of the National Health Laboratory as National Influenza Centre was held at the NHL on Mawguntaik

Road in Dagon Township, here, this morning, attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

First, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint

made an opening speech. He said:

It is indeed a pleasure for me to deliver the opening remarks on this auspicious ceremony for Accreditation of the National Health Laboratory as a National Influenza Centre.

First and foremost, I would like to thank all our partners present here today, especially WHO for its close collaboration with the Ministry of Health with technical support which is evidenced by successful

(See page 10)



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence visits National Influenza Centre in Dagon Township. — MNA

INSIDE

The National Convention was held for emergence of a constitution. The constitution prescribes whom and which ways to share the three sovereign powers, and it guarantees fundamental rights of the citizens. So, the State constitution is the basic law of the laws of a country.

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MAUNG KA LU

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 27 February, 2008

Maubin-Kyaiklat-Pyapon new tarred road for better transport in Ayeyawady Division

Better transport plays a pivotal role in bringing about regional development. The government has built a large number of new roads and bridges the length and breadth of the nation. This has contributed a lot to regional development and improvement of the socio-economic life of local people.

The 40 miles long Maubin-Kyaiklat-Pyapon new tarred road in Ayeyawady Division was opened on 25 February. The road was upgraded from earth road to gravel one and then to tarred facility beginning 1996-1997.

In the past, people from Pyapon, Maubin and Kyaiklat had to rely solely on waterways. They had to take a long time to travel from one place to another. Now, making better use of the tarred road, access to those regions is possible in a short time. Moreover, the new tarred road has greatly contributed to ensuring smooth and swift commodity flow in Ayeyawady Division.

The emergence of the new tarred road has also brought about the development of economic, education, health, agricultural and livestock breeding sectors of local people in Minba, Thalangyi, Kyonsout, Hsuganan and Tapaytamaw villages that are lying along the facility.

In the past, one had to use the waterways as the only means to travel from Yangon Division to Ayeyawady Division. Now, Twantay-Kawhmu-Kungyangon-Dedaye-Pyapon motor road and the Yangon-Pathein motor road and Hsamalauk-Maubin-Kyaiklat motor road have cut the travelling time between the two divisions. Such better transport has enabled the division to see swift and smooth flow of local products especially marine products.

Director-General U Than Win delivers an address at special course on financial rules and regulations and cooking course No 2.

PBANRDA



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

Cash donation for ear, nose and throat patients

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb — Cash donation for free surgery for ear, nose and throat patients sponsored by Bago Division Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at the People's Hospital in Toungoo on 24 February.

Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, CEC member of USDA Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Secretary of Division PDC U Pe Thein donated K 1 million each and wellwishers cash to Head of Bago Division Health Department Dr Ngwe San.

The commander and the minister inspected performance of operation at the operation theatre. They

provided cash assistance to the patients. Altogether 272 patients will receive surgical treatment at the hospital free of charge.

After the ceremony the commander and the minister attended an inauguration of rural road in Kwingyi Village in Yedashe Township.

First Secretary of Bago Division USDA U Saw Maw Tun formally opened the road linking Taingwa Village and Kwingyi Village. It is one mile and two furlongs long and 12 feet wide.

The commander and the minister presented offertories to Sayadaw U Pandita of Shankyaung Monastery in Amatgyikhon Village.

They also met USDA members at the village. —MNA

Banks executive committee, Myanmar Banks Association hold meeting



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivers an address at coordination meeting on achievement in implementing objectives of the F & R Ministry. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb — The 97th meeting of Bank executive committee and Myanmar Banks Association under the Ministry of Finance and

Revenue was held at the meeting hall of the ministry here, today. Patron of Banks Executive Committee Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun

delivered a speech on the occasion.

Afterwards, Chairman of Banks Executive Committee Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue

Col Hla Thein Swe and Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar discussed matters related to banking services.

The executive committee members and officials of the Myanmar Banks Association reported on the matters of the progress of banking.

The coordination meeting on achievement in implementing objectives of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue was followed.

The managing-directors and directors-general reported on matters related to implementation of tasks by departments concerned.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the Minister. — MNA

Director-General of Education and Training Dept attends opening ceremonies of courses

YANGON, 25 Feb — Director-General U Than

Win of Education and Training Department of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs attended opening ceremonies of special course No 19 on financial rules and regulations and cookery course No 2 at the central training school of the department in Dagon Myothit (North) this morning.

Present on the

occasion were officials of departments of the ministry, instructors of Auditor-Generals Office, guests and trainees.

Next, the Director-General inspected hostels, lecture halls and mess at the training school. Ninety-five trainees are attending the course No 19 and 30 are participating in the course No 2 which last six weeks.

MNA



A woman stands in the ruins of a village destroyed in recent fighting near West Darfur's capital el-Geneina, on 22 Feb, 2008. Fighting has continued in Sudan's Darfur region despite an agreement to deploy the world's largest UN-funded peacekeeping operation there and people say they are losing faith in the international community's will or ability to help them. —INTERNET

Israel says Arabs will not withdraw peace plan

JERUSALEM, 26 Feb—Israeli officials have dismissed as “a storm in a teacup” reports from Arab League officials that the organization may withdraw its 2002 peace plan unless Israel explicitly accepts the initiative, local daily *Jerusalem Post* reported Sunday on its website.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's spokesman Mark Regev was quoted as saying that Israel has welcomed the initiative and spoken of positive elements in the Arab League plan. Saudi Foreign Minister

Prince Saud al-Faisal, whose country sponsored the Arab peace initiative, warned over the weekend that “despair would force us to review these options”, including

withdrawing the proposal. He further accused Israel of “sabotaging” the initiative, which was now “facing grave danger”.

MNA/Xinhua



Palestinian children take part in a human chain protest near Erez crossing with Gaza, calling for an end to the Israeli blockade of the Gaza Strip on 25 Feb, 2008. INTERNET

Two US soldiers killed in attacks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 26 Feb—Two American soldiers were killed in two attacks in the Iraqi capital on Sunday, the US military said on Monday.

A soldier assigned to the Multi-National Division-Baghdad was killed by insurgents' small-arms fire during combat operations in southern Baghdad, a military statement said.

Another soldier was killed in the same day when his vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb during a combat patrol in northern Baghdad, another statement said. —MNA/Xinhua

Kurdish rebels say kill 47 Turkish troops in N Iraq

ZAKHU(Iraq), 26 Feb—Kurdish PKK guerillas said on Sunday they had killed 47 Turkish troops since Turkey launched an offensive against their positions in northern Iraq. Ahmed Danees, head of foreign relations for the separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), also said only two rebels had been killed and eight wounded since Turkey began its incursion into the largely autonomous region of Kurdistan on Thursday.

Earlier, Turkey's military General Staff said it had killed 112 guerillas since fighting began. A statement on its website reported eight Turkish troops had been killed on Sunday. It is almost impossible to verify the claims of either side because the fighting is taking place in largely inaccessible terrain in tough winter conditions.—MNA/Reuters

Iran says work plan closed, US intelligence fake

VIENNA, 26 Feb—Iran said on Sunday it had cleared up all past outstanding issues over its nuclear programme with the United Nations nuclear watchdog and accused the United States of providing intelligence that was fake.

“The work plan is finished,” Ali Asghar Soltanieh, Iran's envoy to the International Atomic Energy Agency, told *Reuters*, referring to a pact between Teheran and the

IAEA to answer outstanding questions about its nuclear activities one by one.

In its latest report published on Friday, the IAEA said Iran had responded to questions and clarified issues raised in the context of the work plan struck in August, with the exception of alleged studies into the possible weaponization of nuclear materials.

The agency said it

confronted Iran for the first time with Western intelligence reports of work linked to making atomic bombs, adding Teheran had failed to provide satisfactory answers.

Soltanieh said the intelligence, coming mainly from the US and a laptop spirited out of Iran in 2005, was fake. “This is 100 per cent fabricated and forged,” said Soltanieh.

MNA/Reuters

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US troops in Okinawa under curfew at least until 3 March

TOKYO, 26 Feb—The US military said Tuesday it would maintain a curfew on troops and their relatives on Japan's southern island of Okinawa at least until 3 March amid tension over an alleged rape by a US serviceman. The sweeping curfew took effect on Wednesday last week in the wake of calls from Japanese leaders for stricter discipline on the more than 40,000 US troops in the country, half of whom are stationed in Okinawa.

Marine Corps Lieutenant General Richard Zilmer, the senior US commander in Okinawa, met with senior military leaders Sunday and decided the curfew “will remain in place until further notice,” a statement said.

It said the restriction “will be reassessed again by senior service leaders on 3 March”. Japanese prosecutors must decide by 3 March whether to indict Staff Sergeant Tyrone Luther Hadnott, 38, who was arrested on 11 February on allegations that he raped a 14-year-old girl in Okinawa.—Internet

Protesters carry signs representing 50 bullets fired on the first day of the trial of three New York City police officers charged in the shooting of Sean Bell, outside the courthouse in Queens, New York, on 25 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET





A man casts his ballot as he takes part in early voting for Russia’s presidential election in the Tundra region, near the village of Yar-Sale, located in the Yamal peninsula above the polar circle, some 2,150 km (1,336 miles) northeast of Moscow, on 25 Feb, 2008. —XINHUA

Sudan’s FM lauds China’s role in solving Darfur issue

KHARTOUM, 26 Feb — Sudanese Foreign Minister Deng Alor Sunday said China is very much welcome in helping the country find a solution to the Darfur issue.

China is not directly involved in the Darfur conflict, but as a partner, “China is using its good relations with Sudan to help it solve the Darfur issue”, Alor told reporters after a 40-minute meeting

with Liu Guijin, the Chinese Government’s special representative for Darfur.

“There is a perception in the West that China is helping Sudan, whether directly or indirectly, (do something) against the Darfur Region.

And I think it is the responsibility of our government and China to change that perception,” said the top Sudanese

diplomat.

“China is not here to help Sudan in a way that will prompt the Darfur conflict to continue. China is here to help Sudan in issues regarding economic developments.

China is here to help build Sudan, and China is engaged in business not only in the oil sector, but also other sectors,” Alor said.

Xinhua

S American countries mull forming milly alliance

BUENOS AIRES, 26 Feb— Brazil and Argentina are seeking to establish a military alliance in South America that would implement a coordinated defence policy, Argentina’s Defence ministry said Saturday.

During a meeting with his Argentine counterpart Nilda Garre on Friday, Brazil’s Defence Minister

Nelson Jobim said South America should speak with one voice and seek a unified position on major issues.

That would give South America a bigger say in international affairs, Jobim said.

Garre agreed and said the two countries shared many views on regional security and defence

issues. The Brazilian government has been advocating the establishment of a new military alliance aimed at maintaining regional peace and avoid an arms race.

Ecuador, Colombia and Chile have also voiced their support for the idea of forming a military alliance in the region.

Xinhua



A two-faced calf was born in Indonesia recently. The animal has a normal set of lungs, heart, liver and intestines — but an extra face. —XINHUA

A citizen clears up street that covered with snow in Jinan, capital of east China’s Shandong Province, on 25 Feb, 2008. The snowfall in most parts of Shandong Province recently is said in favour of spring farming. XINHUA



Pakistan’s ambassador to Afghanistan remains missing

ISLAMABAD, 25 Feb— Pakistan’s ambassador to Afghanistan Tariq Azizuddin has gone missing for 13 days but the government believes the missing diplomat is safe and alive, Foreign Office spokesman

said on Saturday.

Tariq Azizuddin went missing on 11 February in Khyber tribal agency, one of seven semi-autonomous tribal regions along the Afghan border.

Tariq Azizuddin was travelling to Kabul from Peshawar, capital of North West Frontier Province, by road in his car with a driver and body guard when the local administration lost contact with them. Foreign Office spokesman Mohammad Sadiq said security forces

were actively searching the missing official in the area. Expressing his confidence that the ambassador was safe and alive, Sadiq said all measures would be taken to trace him.

Last week local media reported that local Taleban had claimed responsibility for the kidnapping and said Tariq would be released in exchange for the release of their detained leader Mulla Mansoor Dadullah.

Xinhua

Venezuelan police officer killed in bomb attack

CARACAS, 26 Feb— An off-duty police officer was killed on Sunday by a bomb that exploded outside Fedecamaras, Venezuela’s chamber of commerce, director of the forensic police Marcos Chavez said.

Scattered leaflets handed out by a group called the People’s Left-Wing Army were found at the site that read “Boliva-

rian Republic of Venezuela. The guerilla front will win. The People’s Left-wing Army. Caracas 24 February”.

The group claimed responsibility for the attack saying that Fedecamaras is conspiring against the government and is responsible for the food shortages in the country.

Chavez said a document found on the dead man identified him as a Metropolitan Police officer, but declined to comment on whether the officer might also be responsible for detonating the bomb.

A senior official from Fedecamaras Lope Mendoza condemned Sunday’s attack saying he was saddened that the private sector is being blamed for food shortages across the country. —Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Bomb explodes in northern Spain

MADRID, 25 Feb — A bomb exploded at a radio and television transmission station outside Spain’s northern city of Bilbao Saturday, causing property damage but no injuries, police said.

Police received a warning call in the name of Basque separatist group

ETA at 8:50 am (0750 GMT) that a bomb would explode at 10:00 am (0900 GMT) at the Arnotegi station, just south of Bilbao, according to local media reports.

A cardboard box was found by a window at the station and it went off at around 12:00 pm (1100

GMT) when a defusing robot approached it, causing damage to the building and the robot.

“It was a booby trap bomb against the police with some kind of movement activated device,” a police spokesman was quoted as saying.

Xinhua

Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia agree on energy policies

BUENOS AIRES, 25 Feb—The presidents of Argentina, Brazil and Bolivia agreed on Saturday that a ministerial working group will be established to coordinate the three countries’ energy policies.

Earlier, Argentine President Cristina Fernandez held a meeting with Brazil’s Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Bolivia’s Evo Morales.

The working group, which will be formed by ministers in charge of energy affairs, is aimed at assuring the sustained economic growth of the three South American nations, Argentine Foreign Minister Jorge Taiana told a news conference after the meeting.

In addition, changes in the three countries’ energy demand, alternate energy and Bolivia’s natural gas exports will also top the agenda of the working group, Taiana said.

Brazil gets about half its natural gas from Bolivia — between 27 million and 29 million cubic metres daily — while Argentina generally buys between 2.5 million and three million cubic metres each day.

Under an agreement reached last year, Bolivia should increase its daily exports of natural gas to Argentina to seven million cubic metres in 2008.

MNA/Xinhua



An Indian missile on display in New Delhi. India conducted its first test of a nuclear-capable missile from an undersea platform, completing its goal of having air, land and sea ballistic systems, the defence ministry said.—INTERNET

China begins 2nd West-to-East gas pipeline project

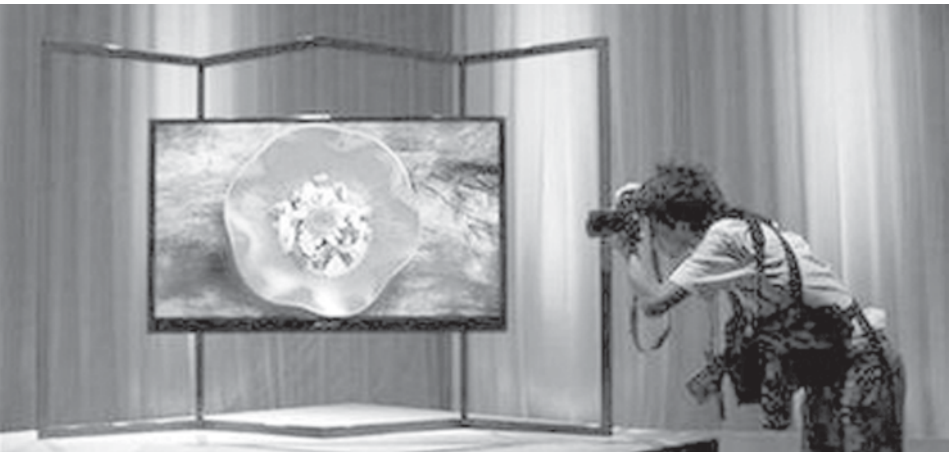
BEIJING, 25 Feb—China on Friday began work on its second west-to-east natural gas transmission pipeline, which will mainly carry natural gas from Turkmenistan and China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region to the Yangtze and Pearl River Deltas, the country’s two most developed regions.

Construction of the 9,102-kilometre gas pipeline, which consists of a main line and eight sub-lines, will cost an investment of 142.2 billion yuan (20 billion US dollars). With a designed gas transmission capacity of 30 billion cubic metres per year, the pipeline would traverse 12 provinces and autonomous regions before reaching eastern municipality of Shangha and southern Guangdong Province.

The main line extending 4,843 kilometres would start from Khorgos in the northwestern Xinjiang to Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province.

The western segment of the main line will go into operation by 2009, and the eastern segment by the end of June in 2011, said Jiang Jiemin, general manager of China National Petroleum Corporation.

The first massive project to pipe natural gas from the west to the east was put into commercial operation at the end of 2004, starting from the Tarim Basin of Xinjiang and arriving in Shanghai. — MNA/Xinhua



A photographer takes a photo of a Sharp LCD TV at a news conference in Tokyo. Sony is planning to start buying TV-use LCD panels from Sharp as early as in the next business year that begins in April, a source close to the matter said on 23 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Dubai to build power plant worth \$6b

ABU DHABI, 26 Feb—A power plant running on synthetic gas (syngas) with an initial budget of six billion US dollars will soon be launched in Dubai, the commercial and financial hub of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), local newspaper *Khaleej Times* reported on Monday.

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) has signed a memorandum of understanding on the plant with a consortium consisting of the New York-based Sino Global International, Samena Power & Energy of Canada and the Dubai-based Skyline Services Group.

DEWA would more likely guarantee the purchase of power and water supply from the plant, an independent project by the consortium, the authority’s managing director and CEO Saeed Mohammad Al Tayer said.

The plant is based on the Integrated Gasi-fication Combined Cycle (IGCC) that uses syngas, a mixture of carbon monoxide and hydrogen, to produce electricity and water with a hazardous-waste emission of almost zero.—MNA/Xinhua

UK petrol, diesel prices hit record high

LONDON, 26 Feb—British drivers are having to dig deep to pay record prices for diesel and petrol following a surge in oil prices to all-time highs, motoring group the AA said on Monday.

Britain’s petrol prices are the fourth most expensive in Europe and more than double those in the United States.

According to the AA, the average car owner is now spending 18.84 pounds (37.01 US dollars) more a month on petrol.

A litre of diesel averages 110.31 pence, compared with 91.09

pence a year ago. The average price of petrol has climbed to 104.85 pence a litre, up from 87.27 pence a year ago.

“Record fuel prices will bring record levels of misery to many millions of drivers,” AA President Edmund King said in a statement.

The AA called on the government not to go ahead with its proposed increase of 2 pence in the tax on petrol and diesel, saying fuel prices had risen enough already.

Oil hovered on Monday around 98 US dollars, supported by speculative buying. Last

week, crude hit a record high of 101 US dollars on fear OPEC could hold output steady or even cut it when it meets next week.

MNA/Reuters

UAE Co to build offshore gas processing plant in Pakistan

ABU DHABI, 26 Feb—Dana Gas of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the largest private-sector natural gas company in the Middle East, plans to build an offshore gas processing plant in Pakistan, local newspaper *Khaleej Times* reported on Monday.

The Sharjah-based Dana Gas intends to be the top investor in a floating storage re-gasification terminal that is being planned in Port Qasim in southern Pakistan’s Karachi, a spokesman of the company was quoted as saying.

The terminal will process liquefied natural gas (LNG) for sale to Pakistani power suppliers to meet a gas shortage of about one billion cubic feet a day.

The company expects to reach agreements with customers in Pakistan in the next six months.

MNA/Xinhua

The Microsoft XBOX 360 is seen at the 2008 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in January 2008 in Las Vegas. Microsoft confirmed on Monday that it will no longer make HD DVD drives for its Xbox 360 video game consoles.—INTERNET



Fidel Castro passes Cuba reins to his brother

HAVANA, 25 Feb — Raul Castro took over from his brother Fidel Castro as Cuban President on Sunday, ending the rule of the bearded rebel who defied the United States for five decades but vowing to continue his communist revolution.

A former hardliner who is feared for his ruthlessness but has

adopted a softer tone in recent years, Raul Castro, 76, nodded and smiled as legislators applauded his selection by National Assembly.

He is expected to pursue limited economic reforms but in a sign that change is unlikely to be deep or abrupt, Communist Party ideologue Jose Ramon Machado Ventura was

named first Vice-President, or Cuba's No 2. In his first speech as President, Raul Castro said he would continue to consult his older brother on important issues.

"The mandate of this legislature is clear ... to continue strengthening the revolution at a historic moment," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Sarkozy accused over constitutional court move

PARIS, 25 Feb — French President Nicolas Sarkozy faced accusations on Saturday of trying to subvert the authority of France's top constitutional body over a law to incarcerate dangerous criminals indefinitely.

The controversy arose after the Constitutional Council set restrictions on a law passed by

Parliament earlier this month to keep violent offenders in jail after their sentences expire if they were still deemed to pose a public menace.

On Friday, Sarkozy directed France's top magistrate to look at ways of implementing the law, despite the council's ruling, prompting accusations that he was trying to challenge the authority of a body that has final say over whether legislation is constitutional or not. "If the President wants to get past a decision of the council,

there is one clear way: ask Parliament to change the Constitution," Robert Badinter, a former justice minister and president of the Constitutional Council said in Le Monde.

The law, which applies to violent offenders serving sentences of at least 15 years, was approved in principle by the council but it said offenders currently serving or who were sentenced before the law was passed should not be affected.

MNA/Reuters

Suicide bomber kills 40 in Iraq

KERBALA, (Iraq), 25 Feb — A suicide bomber targeting pilgrims heading to one of Shiite Islam's holiest festivals killed 40 people, including women and children, south of Baghdad on Sunday, police said.

Police and the US military said the bomber struck in the town of Iskandariya, 40 kilometres (25 miles) south of Baghdad, hours after militants killed three pilgrims and wounded 36 others in an attack in southern Baghdad, police said.

Police said 40 people were killed and 46 wounded, despite a major tightening of security. The US military had said hospital officials were reporting 25 dead and 50 wounded.

The military said in a statement that the attack took place on a two-lane highway near a residential area where about 42,000 pilgrims had passed through earlier in the day.

MNA/Reuters



North Korean dancers perform a water jar dance onstage for members of the New York Philharmonic orchestra on the eve of their concert in the North Korea capital, Pyongyang on 26 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Ralph Nader starts US presidential bid

WASHINGTON, 25 Feb — Consumer advocate Ralph Nader, blamed by many Democrats for their loss of the White House in the 2000 election, said on Sunday he is launching another independent campaign for the White House.

Nader, who will turn 74 this week, announced his longshot presidential bid on NBC's "Meet the Press" saying that neither the Democrats nor the Republicans were addressing problems facing Americans.

Nader called Washington "corporate occupied territory" that

turns the government against the interests of the people. "In that context, I have decided to run for President," he said.

Democrats said they do not expect Nader, who also ran as an independent in 2004, to have much of an impact.

"When you get into running for your third or fourth time, I don't think people will pay that much attention to it, and I wouldn't see it having any effect on the race," Virginia Democratic Governor Tim Kaine said on "Fox News Sunday".

In an interview with Reuters, Nader said he will

push the candidates on a number of issues including health care and changing the tax system to shift the burden away from wage earners and put it on things like pollution, tobacco and "Wall Street speculation" and reduce taxes on wages.

Nader dismissed Democratic criticism of his latest bid for the White House.

MNA/Reuters

Pakistan Taliban warn new Govt to keep clear

ISLAMABAD, 25 Feb — Pakistan militants linked to al-Qaeda warned any incoming civilian government on Sunday that they would strike even more viciously if President Pervez Musharraf's war on terror was continued in tribal areas.

Following last week's inconclusive election, several political parties are in talks to form a coalition big enough for a ruling majority in the National Assembly. How they deal with the militants will be one of their most pressing challenges.

In northwest Pakistan on Sunday, militants attacked a security post and killed a policeman

and two paramilitary servicemen and wounded six others, officials said.

Maulvi Omar, a spokesman for the Pakistan Taliban, told Reuters by telephone from an undisclosed location that any new operation against militants in tribal areas would lead to violence.

"Whoever makes the government, we want to make it clear to them we don't want fighting. We want peace, but if they impose war on us, we will not spare them," he said.

"We don't want political parties to repeat the mistake which Musharraf committed and follow a path dictated by the US".

MNA/Reuters



People sit among their families belongings after being evicted from a building by the police in Buenos Aires, on 25 Feb, 2008. A local court ordered the eviction of nearly 240 families from the property, where a construction company will build a new shopping centre.

INTERNET



A Nenets woman works at her settlement in the Tundra region near village of Yar-Sale, located in the Yamal peninsula above the polar circle, some 2,150 km (1336 miles) northeast of Moscow, on 25 Feb, 2008. The Nenets are indigenous people in Russia's arctic region north of the Urals.—INTERNET

Fires break out in Bogale, Palaw

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb — A fire broke out at No 20, 5th Seinpan street, Ward 4 in Bogale at 2.40 am yesterday, destroying 11 houses and leaving 57 people homeless.

Likewise, a fire broke out at No 32-A of Shumawa street, Ward 1 in Palaw at 1.40 pm on 24 February. A total of 196 houses were destroyed and about 1,400 people were left homeless in the fire. The fire victims were accommodated at East-Palaw Monestry and West Monestry.

Officials provided necessary assistance and cash to the fire victims. — MNA

Use fire systematically

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb — Fire Services Department has issued a reminder that there were outbreaks of fire in the townships due to the ember and electric wire shock.

The reminder urged the people to be careful of fire and to avoid filling petrol and filling diesel near the generator with the use of candles and using lighted candles and mosquito repellent with negligence and it urged the public to put out fire in the stove and to use the fire systematically. — MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures

Horizon League Basketball Tournament continues

YANGON, 25 Feb — Jointly organized by the Myanmar Basketball Federation and the Horizon Int'l Education Center, the Horizon League Basketball Tournament for 2007-2008 season continued at Kyaikkasan Gymnasium, here, yesterday.

In the competitions, Red Star won over Furious 89-56 points; The Gyt defeated Filipino 65-62; and Blue boy crushed GB 79-45.

After the matches, KKS and Red Star stood top on the chart with five points in five matches and Cow Boy put its position behind with leading teams with four points in four matches. Four matches in the men's event will continue on 2 March. — MNA



Special refresher course No 30 for basic education teachers concludes in PyinOoLwin

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb — The closing ceremony of special refresher course No 30 for basic education teachers was held at Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township yesterday.

On behalf of the Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung attended the ceremony and made a closing speech on the occasion with the presentation of prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to trainees.

In his speech, Minister U Thaung said basic education teachers are the ones who are nurturing the students, the prime resources for the future of the state so as to realize goals and plans of the state. The special refresher courses will bring many advantages not only for the teachers but also for students and the country after realizing the State's prevailing conditions, historical backgrounds, future prospects and national goals while attending such courses.

Blue Boy Team plays against GB Team.

NLM

In the past, the opportunity of pursuing education was mainly focused only in the cities. Now the youth have already access to learning education at remote areas and rural areas. With the effective utilization of the opportunities, the objective to promote national education and to turn out human resources will fully be realized. At the same time rural development endeavours will also be achieved.

He said the teachers are to make efforts for promotion of education and to organize the people to provide teaching aids and other furniture.

He spoke of the need for the teachers themselves to be well-versed in the respective subjects, to nurture the students to be polite and patriotic and to abide by laws and regulations in their youth so that they will become good citizens who safeguard the national interest when they grow up.

He said the teachers on their part have to trust the government and to explain the policy of the government and national objectives to the students in the regions.

He urged the teachers to make strenuous efforts for turning out highly-qualified human resources.

Next, Minister U Thaung presented best training awards to Katha No F-30 U La Yein who is a schoolhead of Myitkyina Town No 5 Basic Primary School of Kachin State



Minister U Thaung presents award to an outstanding trainee.

MNA

and Katha No A-188 Daw Saw Myat Nwe who is a junior assistant teacher of Practising School of Ywathagyi National Races Development University of Sagaing Division, and awards for perseverance to Katha No F-132 U Kyaw Kyaw Han who is a JAT of Kalaywa BEHS of Sagaing Division, Katha No E-161 Daw Than Than Win who is a PAT of Aungmyaykon village BEPS of Aunglan Township of Magway Division and Katha No E-48 Daw Khin Ma Ma who is a schoolhead of Myohla village BEPS of Thayet Township, Magway Division and best hostile awards to leaders of the companies. Next, the minister gave away completion certificates to leaders of the companies.

A total of 1537

trainees— 221 males and 1316 females— attended the five-week course.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Deputy Ministers, Deputy Chief Justice U Khin Maung Latt, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, Member of CSSTB U Nyi Tun, heads of departments and officials, principal of CICS (Upper Myanmar) U Aung Hsan Win, instructors and trainees.

MNA

Briefing on Myanmar Furniture Fair 2008

YANGON, 26 Feb — A briefing on Myanmar Furniture Fair 2008 was held at the meeting hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street on 21 February.

At the briefing,

Chairman of Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association U Sein Lwin explained the purpose of holding the Myanmar Furniture Fair and General Manager U Htoo Aung of Myanmar Timber Enterprise under the

Ministry of Forestry, pieces of furniture to be displayed at the fair.

The fair will be held at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall from 3 to 7 March. There will be 154 booths indoors and 12 outdoors.

MNA

Is that so, Maung Ka Lu? More than that, Grandpa

Maung Ka Lu

Grandpa: Where have you been lately, Maung Ka Lu? And what were you doing?

Lu: I was just reading all the time at home.

Grandpa: What did you read?

Lu: Many kinds of books because I wanted to understand well the expression “democracy”.

Grandpa: Oh, everybody knows this word. Why were you spending your valuable time just for a word you did not know well?

Lu: You are right, but today, western media are shouting for democracy every day, and so are western politicians, some local groups, and leftist and rightist forces. I wonder why colonialists and neo-colonialists who are invading and exploiting other countries are also shouting for democracy. Don’t you think it is confusing?

Grandpa: I don’t think so. **It is very simple. It is derived from Greek word “demokratia”. After centuries, English adopted the word as “democracy”. In Greece, the term “demos” means the people, and the term “kratia”, means administration. So, the term “demokratia” means that the people set up public administrative mechanism for the public. The term “democracy” was defined freedom of the majority of the people to make a decision with common consent in their interests.**

Lu: Then, it means self-determination according to the fundamental principle of the UN Charter, doesn’t it.

Grandpa: Yes, it is freedom or real democracy. Let it be. In this regard, according to Socialists, democracy is freedom to establish Socialism that can save the poor of the majority from poverty. According to capitalists, democracy is freedom to establish Capitalism because a nation can have a prosperous future only when Capitalism flourishes in the country. But, in the

national politics, national interest is served with national outlook according to the consent of the people for ensuring peace, stability and a prosperous future and raising the living standard of the entire people. In this regard, the people have to respect the disciplines. Now, our country is laying a sound foundation for practising discipline-flourishing democracy. That is a character of national politics that is free from alien reliance and instigation, sectarianism and dogmatism.

Lu: I am not criticizing the countries that practise Socialism or Capitalism according to the consent of the majority. Our country will have to practise genuine and discipline-flourishing democracy on the trend of national politics.

Grandpa: You are right, Maung Ka Lu. The term “democracy” comes from a Latin word. Greek democracy was that the public had the right to hold discussions and make decisions in Greek city states whose population was just four or five digits. English people rose against the feudalism and shared the power with the king to freely set up capitalism. Then, they practised parliamentary system in which only rich people could be members of the parliament. Capitalists named it “democracy”.

Lu: **The British and European industrialists invaded, occupied and colonized more than 100 countries for their wealth. They exploited and took away the agricultural produce and natural resources of their colonies. So, the democracy capitalist countries are claiming is not real democracy, and that is just the right to invade and colonize other countries freely. They are like crows that are disguising themselves as peacocks.**

Grandpa: How clever you are! Now, you are able to distinguish between right and wrong And the people have become united. The people have

gone through the alien subjugation. In the Knowledge Age, we people have realized that voices of democracy of colonialists and neo-colonialists are bitter to hear.

Lu: That was why Bogyoke Aung San reminded many times that the people had to obey discipline if they wanted to regain independence and democracy. Some persons are shouting for democracy many times but are reluctant to respect discipline.

Grandpa: Some gave priority to the interests of their own and their party and said that they should have the right to organize the people, express their feelings, and stage a boycott freely. They also deceived the people that it was as usual that demonstrations were followed by various forms of mobism such as terrorist acts, looting of shops and burning down cars, and the people should understand that. They also said that they would have to stage protests and continue confrontations with the government till they came to power. They said the people should endure poverty and economic sanctions till the country enjoyed democracy (till they came to power). And they said that they have to accept alien instigation, blockage and assistance to ensure that they came to power.

Lu: Of course. They are trying to confront with the government, disobey all the orders of the government with the intention of seizing power. The people have realized that their acts are barriers to democratic transition because they not only disregard the public interest but also try to seize power and encourage the nation’s enemies at the expense of the public interests,

Grandpa: That is why **the government is mobilizing the strength of the people in implementing the State’s seven-step road map. The National Convention or the first step was held successfully on 3 September 2007.**

Lu: The National Convention was held, overcoming various forms of hindrances.

Grandpa: **The National Convention was held for emergence of a constitution. The constitution prescribes whom and which ways to share the three sovereign powers, and it guarantees fundamental rights of the citizens. So, the State constitution is the basic law of the laws of a country. The prescribing and defining of other laws shall be based on and is not against the constitution. The constitution is the treasury of the public concerning sovereign powers, as well as the agreement between the people and the government.**

(See page 9)

In the national politics, national interest is served with national outlook according to the consent of the people for ensuring peace, stability and a prosperous future and raising the living standard of the entire people. In this regard, the people have to respect the disciplines. Now, our country is laying a sound foundation for practising discipline-flourishing democracy. That is a character of national politics that is free from alien reliance and instigation, sectarianism and dogmatism.

Is that so, Maung Ka Lu? More than that, Grandpa

Maung Ka Lu

(from page 8)

Lu: Oh, I see that is why every independent country has to write a constitution without fail.

Grandpa: Right, a constitution has to prescribe specific provisions for perpetual existence, progress and peace of a union or country, and deciding political affairs democratically. So, the government is working hard for emergence of a constitution that is necessary for democratic transition.

Lu: So, the National Convention was completed, despite various disruptions and difficulties, wasn't it?

Grandpa: The government did not make the decision of its own idea to hold the National Convention. Its concept was that it would have to draw an enduring constitution which will be more perfect than that of 1947 and 1974 constitutions, so in the process, it adopted a policy to make coordinations with legal parties, and representatives-elect of the 1990 elections.

Lu: I got it. In June 1992, the representatives of ten political parties, representatives-elect, and representatives of the government held discussions in that regard. The number of NLD representatives was two times that of the government. Am I right?

Grandpa: Right, the meeting laid down objectives of the National Convention, and patterns of holding the National Convention. The National Convention held in January 1993 with representatives of national races from various regions, representatives of workers, peasants, intellectuals and intelligentsia, State service personnel, representatives of national race peace groups, representatives of ten political parties, and representatives-elect.

Lu: Of the representatives-elect, more than 100 representatives were from NLD including U Aung Shwe, U Lwin, U Than Tun and U Nyunt Wai. They participated in the process of laying down the 15 chapters for the new constitution, 104 fundamental principles, and fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for the chapter of State Structure, the chapter of the Head of State, and the chapter of the President. They also participated in the process of designating legislative, executive and judicial formations and self-administered division and self-administered zones.

Grandpa: At first, they were attending the National Convention, and so the restrictions on Daw Suu Kyi were lifted. I think it was in July 1995, former US State Secretary US Ambassador to the UN Ms Madeleine Albright visited Myanmar

and held a meeting with Daw Suu Kyi in Yangon. After she went back home, 86 NLD representatives who had attended the National Convention for nearly three years walked out of the National Convention.

Lu: NLD's policy was so changeable.

Grandpa: A western country that has stationed its more than 750 military bases all over the world to establish its military empire was not happy with one of the 104 principles "No foreign troops are permitted to be deployed within the borders of the Union". According to the independent and active foreign policy, our country has remained neutral in the international affairs. And our country is one of the 108 members of the Non-Aligned Movement. In this regard, the principle does not mean foreign troops of a particular country, that means the troops of any foreign country.

Lu: Since then, NLD has confronted with the government, and relied on external elements, and practised four-blockage system to disrupt the National Convention. So, the National Convention had to be adjourned temporarily. It resumed in May 2004. Now, it has been held successfully. The Commission of Drafting the State Constitution has drafted the State Constitution based on the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention adopted, and the draft has been approved. It is an auspicious news to the people.

Grandpa: In May 2004, the National Convention was reinforced with more delegates. The number of National Convention delegates increased from 702 in 1993 to 1081 in 2004. In response to the written request of NLD, the National Convention Convening Commission sent an invitation letter to the party to the National Convention. But, the party made many demands. In the end, the representatives yielded to the wish of Daw Suu Kyi and decided not to attend the National Convention again. The National Convention was successfully over on 3 September 2007. Before the National Convention was over, NLD, the West Bloc and expatriates plotted a scheme to disrupt the process of the National Convention.

Lu: They were claiming democracy constantly, but they have never done things democratically. They should respect the principles the majority of the National Convention delegates adopted. They should accept the State constitution that the National Convention of the Union of Myanmar drew according to the wishes of the majority and that will be approved through a referendum. And they should stand for election

Democracy does not mean any confrontations and riots that are just in the interests of an individual, a group of people, and a particular party. It means the right to serve the public interests according to the consent of the majority of the people. In a country, the people's democracy can be considered successful if the nation is peaceful and stable with development.

to be held according to the constitution to know the votes of the public. If they believe the public and democracy, they should stand for election, instead of confronting with the government and doing anti-government movements at home.

Grandpa: In fact, democracy does not mean any confrontations and riots that are just in the interests of an individual, a group of people, and a particular party. It means the right to serve the public interests according to the consent of the majority of the people. In a country, the people's democracy can be considered successful if the nation is peaceful and stable with development. Any foreign country or countries have no right to impose sanctions against or disturb such a nation. Doing so means interfering in the internal affairs of other country and violating the code of international relations, in other words, shouting for democracy but doing for self-interests.

Lu: Western countries' democracy is criticized by none other than a person of a western country. Worldwide famous dramatist George Bernard Shaw said, "Democracy is the election by the ignorance by the corrupted few". It should be "democracy of the people, for the people by the people". Actually, what they are shouting is the democracy George Bernard Shaw meant. We people will continue to work for emergence of genuine discipline-flourishing democracy. In the end they will become rubbish.

Grandpa: Is that so, Maung Ka Lu?

Lu: More than that, Grandpa.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 26-2-2008

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attends cash donation for...

(from page 1)

new school building at the town hall in Muse yesterday morning.

Chairman of Muse District Peace and Development Council U Kyi Win reported on progress of the district and the commander gave a supplementary re-

port.

After hearing the report, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attended the needs and made a speech. At the donation ceremony, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win accepted K 20 million donated by U Myat Zin-Daw Hla Yin (Ma Cho Store) and K 1 million each by U Myint Than-Daw Cho Cho Lwin and U San Win-Daw Nang Loung Hkam. On behalf of 100 donors, member of the school board of trustees U Sai Ba Oo handed over K 8.5 million to the Commander.

Next, the Township Education Officer spoke words of thanks. Today donation amounted to K 35.5 million.

At the briefing hall of Shweli bridge (Namhkam) construction project site, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, the Commander and party heard a report on construction of the bridge presented by Deputy Superintending Engineer U Win Kyi of Bridge Construction Special Group-16. After giving instructions, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win viewed progress of Shweli bridge (Namhkam).

Afterwards, they arrived at Shweli Hydropower Project site. At the briefing hall, Assistant Director of No 2 Construction Group U Nay Lin under the Ministry of Electric Power No 1 presented reports on progress of the project. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged officials to complete the project tasks earlier than the schedule and inspected construction of the embankment.

Shweli Hydropower Project is being implemented to generate 40.22 million kwh yearly and the construction tasks of the project has completed by 79.48 per cent.

At Mantat Hall of Kutkai Station, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met servicemen and family members of the station and presented gifts to them. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends ceremony...

(from page 1)

accreditation of the National Health Laboratory as the National Influenza Centre and also marks the success of the Ministry of Health and its endeavours to uplift the health status of our people.

I would like to state that Avian Influenza H5N1 has been occurring among poultry farms in 61 countries all over the world since 2003 and now bird to human transmis-

sion is occurring in 14 countries including Myanmar.

With the emergence of H5N1 avian influenza infection among human, there is a need for strengthening of National Influenza Surveillance System which is surveillance for cases of severe pneumonia and influenza like illness.

In Myanmar, the National Health Laboratory has been upgrading

its institutional capacity as well as professional capacity with the support from WHO and National Institute of Infectious Diseases (NIID) in Tokyo, especially promoting the virology section.

I would like to briefly touch upon the situation and response to HIV and AIDS and Tuberculosis in Myanmar. One of the achievements in response to HIV and AIDS includes the declining

trend in the HIV prevalence in the country: from 1.5 % in 2000 to 0.7% in 2007.

Regarding Tuberculosis Control programme, DOTS strategy was introduced in 1997 and expanded to all 325 townships by 2003. I would like to state that Myanmar National TB Control Programme has achieved the Global TB target of 85% cure rate and 70% case detection rate.

Regional Director of WHO SEA Region Dr Samlee Plianbangchang made a speech and presented accreditation and the tactical programme 2008-2011 which will be carried out by the Ministry of Health and WHO to Deputy Director-General Dr Win Myint.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the signboard of the National Influenza Centre and sprin-



Minister U Aung Kyi receives Mr Kari Tapiola, Executive Director of International Labour Organization.— MNA

Labour Minister receives Executive Director of ILO

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb — Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi received Executive Director Dr Kari Tapiola and party of International Labour Organization (ILO) at his office, here, this morning.

They discussed the activities for continuous cooperation between the government of the Union of Myanmar and the ILO.

The ILO officials also called on the Working Group for Prevention Against Forced Labour led by Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Tin Tun Aung at the Ministry of Labour, here.

They discussed implementation of the Order No 1/99 and the Order Supplementing Order No 1/99 issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs not to practise requisition of forced labour and the Directive issued by the State Peace and Development Council on 1 November 2000 for prohibiting the requisition of forced labour. In addition, they reviewed progress in implementing the supplementary agreement signed by Myanmar and the ILO on 26 February 2007. As Myanmar has pledged to eradicate the activities of forced labour, it was agreed to extend the supplementary understanding for another one year.

MNA

Takaw Sluice Gate inaugurated in Thongwa Township...

(from page 16)

The sluice gate will contribute to cultivation of double or triple crops of monsoon and summer paddy and beans and pulses in 11 villages of the region. The government has spent K 193.9 million on construction of the sluice gate. Therefore, locals are to participate in the tasks for safeguarding the sluice gate.

On behalf of the locals, Dr U Myint Thein expressed words of thanks.

The Commander unveiled the signboard of the sluice gate and sprinkled scented water on it together with the minister.

Afterwards, the Commander and the Minister

opened the gate and inspected it.

At the briefing hall, they heard reports by officials concerned on benefits of the gate. Later, they called the people for regional developments and boosting of production through double crops.

The concrete Takaw sluice gate was built on Takaw Creek. It has 21 valves measuring 6 feet by 16 feet each. The inlet channel run 1,085 feet and the outlet one, 500 feet.

Thanks to completion of the gate, the local people will enjoy fruits of agriculture and transport sectors.

The gate benefits 15,000 acres of land. — MNA

Drilling of test oil well No 1 Shwe Pyi Thit launched ...

(from page 16)

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu and Vice President Mr Zhou Shou Shouwei of CNOOC had made speeches and formally opened the launching ceremony.

Afterwards, the minister pressed a button to launch drilling of test oil well. After inspecting the drilling platform, the minister and guests posed for a documentary photo. At the briefing hall of the drilling platform, Mr Li Mingde briefed the minister on prospects of block No M-10 and tasks to be

carried out for drilling the test well and progress in exploring oil and gas in the blocks of inland and offshore of CNOOC Company.

After hearing the reports, the minister discussed matters of exploration of oil and gas with officials concerned. Next, the minister gave instructions on timely completion of drilling oil wells.

Mottama offshore block No M-10 is located south east of Yadana natural gas oil field and north of Yetagun natural gas field. The CNOOC Company will then drill No 1, 2 and 3 in the open season.

MNA



A camera man films an art piece entitled 'Wish Tree' created by Japan artist Yoko Ono inside the 'Mobile Art' exhibition in Hong Kong, on 26 Feb, 2008. 'Mobile Art,' is a traveling exhibition featuring pieces by 20 contemporary artists, in which all of the works are inspired by the iconic Channel quilt bag. The exhibition will begin in Hong Kong on 27 Feb, and will then travel around the world to Tokyo, New York, London, Moscow, and Paris. —INTERNET

Images of the Day



Skilled craftsmen examine a nearly finished bamboo model of the "Bird's Nest," also known as the Beijing National Stadium, at a Hangzhou tourism site, in eastern China's Zhejiang Province, on 24 Feb, 2008. This one-twentieth scale model of the "Bird's Nest" required nearly one thousand bamboo branches and about two weeks to make. —XINHUA



A two-headed Greek turtle named Janus is seen at the Natural History Museum in Geneva on 5 Sept, 2007. —XINHUA



A pair of intimate parrots enjoy early spring at Hongshan wild zoo in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 24 Feb, 2008. —XINHUA

Britons dither over fixing car faults

LONDON, 26 Feb—Over 23 million motorists in Britain delay repairing their cars despite knowing they have a fault, according to a survey released on Monday.

The poll found a third of drivers cited financial

reasons for ignoring car defects, with 10 per cent of motorists continuing to drive until their vehicle's MOT was due. Nearly half of respondents preferred to spend money on clothes or book holidays than fix a faulty car.

Over 24 million

motorists did not understand the meaning of warning symbols on the car dashboard and nearly half of all drivers — 49 per cent — ignored an "emergency" flashing light because they were unable to decipher its meaning.

MNA/Reuters

Gene discovery may lead to new baldness drugs

LONDON, 26 Feb—Researchers have identified a gene linked to hair loss that could lead to new drugs to treat baldness.

The gene is responsible for a rare hereditary form of hair loss known as Hypotrichosis

simplex, a condition affecting one in 200,000 people, in which people begin going bald in childhood, the researchers reported in the journal Nature Genetics.

"There is a very good chance of developing a

therapy to treat hair loss based on this finding," the study's leader Regina Betz, a researcher at the Institute of Human Genetics, said in a telephone interview on Monday.

MNA/Reuters

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (VDG-087)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (VDG-087) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.2.2008 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.

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N Korea says US-South
drill could hurt N-talks

SEOUL, 25 Feb—North Korea has criticized a joint military drill between the United States and the South, saying the exercise will harm six-way talks for Pyongyang’s denuclearization, the official media reported on Sunday.

The six-party negotiations, in which two Koreas, the United States, China, Japan and Russia are involved, have been stymied by North Korea’s failure to meet a 31 December deadline to declare all its nuclear programmes.

South Korea and the United States plan to hold military drills from 2 March to 7 March, a Seoul Defence Ministry official said.

“The projected joint military war exercise of the US runs counter to the six-party talks. Through the adventurous nuclear test war exercise the US warmongers intend to pose a serious menace to the DPRK and spoil the atmosphere for dialogue,” the official KCNA news agency quoted an article of the official Rodong Sinmun as saying.

The North’s official name is the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. “Their aim is to ignite a war against the north when a chance presents itself, while wasting time under the pretext of the six-party talks. Levelling a gun at dialogue partner while talking about dialogue and improved relations is an act contrary to common sense and diplomatic practice,” said the newspaper article, according to KCNA. — MNA/Reuters

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Dated 27 February 2008

Amazon nuts help fuel
first biofuel airline flight

LONDON, 26 Feb— Nuts picked from Amazon rainforests helped fuel the world’s first commercial airline flight powered by renewable energy on Sunday.

A Virgin Atlantic jumbo jet flew from London to Amsterdam with one of its fuel tanks filled with a bio-jet blend including babassu palm oil and coconut oil.

“Today marks a vital breakthrough for the whole airline industry,” Virgin founder Richard Branson told reporters in a hangar at Heathrow airport prior to the flight’s departure.

Many scientists believe so-called second generation biofuels, which could be made from products such as municipal waste, will provide more substantial environmental benefits without competing with food crops for land. The biofuels blend on the Virgin flight contained 20 per cent neat biofuel and 80 per cent conventional jet fuel.

Branson said tests had shown it was possible to fly with a 40-per-cent blend.

Branson, whose Virgin Group business spans an airline, a rail service, drinks, hotels and leisure, has committed to spending all the profits from his airline and rail business to combat global warming by cutting carbon emissions. —MNA/Reuters

Kurdish rebels say Turkish helicopter shot down

ZAKHU (Iraq), 25 Feb— Kurdish PKK guerillas said on Sunday they had shot down a Turkish Cobra attack helicopter during clashes in northern Iraq on

Saturday. “At 6 pm (1500 GMT) yesterday, our fighters shot down a Cobra helicopter,” Ahmed Dan-ees, head of foreign relations for the separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), told Reuters by telephone. He gave no details of casualties but said more information would be released later.

On Saturday, Danees

said PKK fighters had killed 22 Turkish soldiers since Turkey began a cross-border offensive into Iraq’s largely autonomous Kurdistan region on Thursday evening.

Turkey’s military General Staff said in a statement on its website that only seven Turkish troops had been killed.

MNA/Reuters

Iraq’s Kurds vow to defend
themselves against Turkey

ZAKHU (Iraq), 25 Feb—Angered by heavy shelling and aerial bombardments, Kurds in northern Iraq’s mountainous provinces vowed to defend themselves against Turkish attacks on Sunday, and accused Turkey’s troops of targeting their villages.

Turkish troops backed by warplanes and artillery crossed into Iraq’s largely autonomous northern Kurdistan region last Thursday, to rout Kurdish separatist rebels who have hideouts in the mountains from which they launch attacks in southern Turkey.

As Turkish forces pressed on with the incursion on Sunday, pickup trucks and minibuses full of Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga security forces were patrolling the region’s snow-covered mountain roads.

MNA/Reuters

Geneva votes to ban smoking in public places

GENEVA, 26 Feb—Geneva, home to the United Nations’ European headquarters and scores of banks catering to the very rich, will ban smoking in public places following a referendum on Sunday, the Swiss news agency ATS said.

Some 79 per cent of voters in Switzerland’s second-largest city supported the prohibition, which the local government said it would quickly put in place, ATS said.

MNA/Reuters

Uruguay police arrest Mexican smugglers

MONTEVIDEO, 25 Feb— Uruguayan police seized 142 kilos of cocaine valued at 15 million US dollars and arrested 11 drug smugglers Friday, Uruguayan newspaper El Pais reported Sunday.

The smugglers included three Bolivians, two Uruguayans and six Mexicans, Julio Guarteche, the head of Uruguay’s Anti-Drug Brigade, told the paper. The Mexicans led an organization that set up a front company exporting meat and fish from the port

of Montevideo. Their exports to Europe and Mexico included hidden cocaine. At least one of the Mexicans was in touch with Mexican cartel bosses, Guarteche said, adding that one of the Mexicans detained had been freed due to lack of evidence.

“We don’t have the evidence to know this well, but we believe that this was a large-scale operation,” said the police officer, adding that he was saddened by communication problems with Mexican

authorities.

Criminal judge Anabella Damasco has ordered the prosecution of 10 of the suspects for conspiracy, and the import and trafficking of drugs. The cocaine had been brought into Uruguay by aircraft from Bolivian Province Santa Cruz, and was seized in Montevideo. The arrests took place both in Montevideo and a farm in Dolores, a rural area in Soriana Province, 224 kilometres northeast of Montevideo.

MNA/Xinhua



A Romanian bus lies crashed on the side of the A4 autobahn near Schwechat in Austria’s province of Lower Austria early morning on 25 Feb, 2008.

INTERNET

Chavez jokes with new Cuba leader, promises help

CARACAS, 25 Feb—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez chatted, joked and sang with Cuba's new leader Raul Castro on Sunday and promised to continue supporting the country despite the retirement of his close friend Fidel Castro.

Raul Castro was named President of communist

Cuba on Sunday, ending his brother Fidel Castro's 49-year rule but keeping the country on a Communist path.

Soon after his acceptance speech in Cuba's National Assembly, Raul Castro spoke by phone on socialist Chavez's weekly live television show. Chavez reaffirmed his commitment to Cuba and

denied speculation that the two men did not get on well.

"Nothing is going to change," Chavez said during the call. "I ratify my commitment to Cuba, the commitment of the Venezuelan people, of the Bolivarian revolution, to you, to Fidel, to the Cuban revolution, to the people of Cuba."—MNA/Reuters



Britain rules out compulsory DNA database

LONDON, 25 Feb—Britain has ruled out introducing a compulsory DNA database on practical and ethical grounds, the Home Office (Interior Ministry) said on Saturday. Last week DNA evidence helped convict a man who murdered five women in eastern England and another who killed a model, Sally Anne Bowman.

The police detective superintendent who led the Bowman investigation said that had there been a national DNA register, her murderer could have been identified within 24 hours.

"There are no government plans to introduce a universal compulsory, or voluntary, national DNA database and to do so would raise significant practical and ethical issues," the Home Office said in a statement.—MNA/Reuters

Infectious diseases claim 13,000 lives in China in 2007

BEIJING, 25 Feb—China saw a 22 per-cent rise in death toll caused by infectious diseases last year, with a peaking 45 per cent increase in cases of HIV/AIDS, according to the annual epidemic report released by the Ministry of Health on Friday.

More than 4.7 million cases of infectious diseases were reported, up 2.95 per cent on 2006, it said. The diseases led to the deaths of 13,037 people, 2,311 more than the previous year.

Cases of respiratory tract and blood-borne/sexually transmitted diseases rose by 3.55 and 6.96 per cent, respectively, it said.

Scarlet fever and measles were the two respiratory tract infections to have registered the sharpest increase in the number of people infected.—MNA/Xinhua

A vendor carries chickens at a poultry market in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province on 25 Feb, 2008.

INTERNET

Thousands of protesters march towards the Presidential Palace in Manila on 26 Feb, 2008, to call for the ouster of Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

INTERNET



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Malaysian PM Abdullah Ahmad Badawi (R) shows a booklet on his ruling party's manifesto for the upcoming general election during its launch in Kuala Lumpur on 26 Feb, 2008 on 26 Feb, 2008. —INTERNET

Bird flu strikes another Bangladesh district

DHAKA, 25 Feb—Bird flu has spread to another district in Bangladesh despite massive culling by authorities to fight the deadly outbreak, officials said, bringing the number of affected districts to 44 out of the country's 64.

The latest outbreak of H5N1 avian flu was

detected in Munshiganj, 60 kilometres (40 miles) from Dhaka, while the virus re-emerged in several other districts, livestock officials said on Sunday.

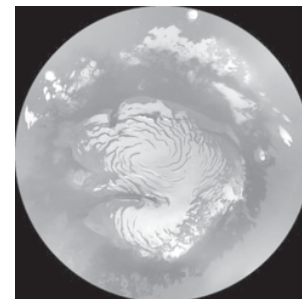
Nearly 911,000 birds have been culled to fight the virus since March 2007, but it continues to spread and now covers more than

two-thirds of the impoverished country of more than 140 million people. Bird flu has caused losses of about 45 billion taka (650 million US dollars) to the poultry sector, which generates more than 1.8 billion US dollars annually, industry officials said.—MNA/Reuters

Martian surface hints at groundwater torrents

BEIJING, 26 Feb—Scientists said surface features of the Red Planet hint at a watery past where torrents of groundwater carved out deep canyons, formed sweeping fans of sediment and cemented together huge fault lines, media reported Tuesday.

"Groundwater probably played a major role in shaping many of the things we see on the Martian surface," said George Postma, a sedimentologist at Utrecht University in the Netherlands.—Internet



This image is a composite mosaic of four polar views of Mars, taken at midnight, 6 am, noon, and 6 pm local Martian time taken by NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter spacecraft.

XINHUA

Egypt confirms 44th human bird flu case

CAIRO, 25 Feb—The Egyptian Ministry of Health confirmed Monday that a four-year-old girl was infected with bird flu virus in Egypt, bringing the number of human infection case to 44 in the populous Arab country. The latest case was detected in El Minya governorate, Upper Egypt, some 220 km south of the Egyptian capital of Cairo, Health Ministry spokesman Abdel Rahman Shaheen was quoted by the official MENA news agency as saying.

The girl was hospitalized for fever on Monday and later moved to Manshiat al-Bakri hospital in Cairo, said the report. The Egyptian government has exerted more efforts to prevent further spread of bird flu since the fatal virus caused four human deaths in less than a week in late December, 2007.

Internet

SPORTS

Panathinaikos go back on top in Greece

ATHENS, 26 Feb— Panathinaikos returned to the top of the Greek Super League with a 1-0 win over Levadiakos on Sunday while Asteras Tripolis parted company with their Brazilian coach Paulo Campos. Panathinaikos, who were knocked out of the UEFA Cup by Rangers in midweek, made heavy weather of securing the points. The only goal of the game came after just 12 minutes when Ioannis Goumas, who scored with a superb half-volley against Rangers, added to his tally with a more trademark header from close range. The Greens had numerous other chances but, as has been their habit this season, were wasteful in sight of goal. Panathinaikos now head the table with 49 points, one more than Olympiakos Piraeus. Three points further back are AEK Athens who managed a 1-0 win over Iraklis in Thessaloniki. — MNA/Reuters

Necaxa, Puebla step up chase as Guadalajara slip

MEXICO CITY, 26 Feb— Necaxa and Puebla notched up resounding victories on Sunday to close the gap on Guadalajara in the race for Mexico's Clausura Championship title. Colombian Hugo Rodallega scored twice as Necaxa beat Pumas UNAM 3-0 away, with Angel Reyna scoring the other. "We did exactly what we had planned and showed enough intelligence to get the result against a strong team who were runners-up last year," said Necaxa coach Salvador Reyes. — MNA/Reuters

Everton close in on Champions League spot

MANCHESTER (England), 26 Feb— Everton piled the pressure on to Liverpool in the battle for next season's final Champions League spot with a convincing 2-0 win over Manchester City on Monday. First-half goals from Aiyegbeni Yakubu and Joleon Lescott ensured David Moyes' side came away from the City of Manchester stadium with three points which lifted them back into the top four at the expense of their Merseyside rivals. The win also sent Everton six points clear of Manchester City and, on this evidence, Sven Goran Eriksson's side will struggle to get their own bid to join Europe's elite back on track. City, who finished the match with ten men after Martin Petrov received a

late red card, were a pale imitation of the side that beat Manchester United at Old Trafford in their last league outing and Everton could have been ahead after only six minutes.

Internet



Manchester City's Mwaruwari Benjani (C) is tackled by Everton's Joseph Yobo.—INTERNET

Injured Ivanovic confident of competing in Dubai

DUBAI, 26 Feb— World number two Ana Ivanovic is confident she can recover from an ankle injury in time to compete in this week's Dubai Championships. The Australian Open runner-up withdrew from the Qatar Open last week after falling during her second round match. However, after intensive treatment, the Serb was ready to take to the practise court on Monday. "It's much better. Now I can walk without any pain and that's definitely a bonus," Ivanovic told reporters. "I had lots of treatment and lots of sleepless nights. I had to keep waking up to ice it through the night, but it definitely helped my foot to recover faster.—MNA/Reuters



China's Wang Hao returns a shot to Romania's Constantin Cioti during the men's preliminaries of the World Team Table Tennis Championships in China's southern city of Guangzhou on 25 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Sharapova seals second title of year in Doha

DOHA, 26 Feb — Maria Sharapova claimed her second title of the year and the 18th of her career when she defeated unseeded Vera Zvonareva 6-1, 2-6, 6-0 in an all-Russian final at the Qatar Open on Sunday. The Australian Open champion, who extended her unbeaten run this year to 14 matches, lost to Zvonareva in their last meeting at Indian Wells 11 months ago and after dominating the opening set once again found herself in trouble against her former top ten opponent. "I had a really slow start," Sharapova told reporters. "I was kind of sleeping in the beginning of the match. I had to get myself going somehow and I did, and I played really, really well." Playing in a packed 5,000-seat stadium, fourth seed Sharapova made a dreadful start, dropping the opening game to love. But she repaired the situation immediately, levelling at 1-1 and then overwhelming her opponent with her deep groundstrokes and powerful forehand. Moving with increasing fluency, her aggressive play forced a number of errors from Zvonareva and allowed her to break twice more for the set, and it appeared as if she would continue on to an easy victory. But the second set saw a complete reversal.— MNA/Reuters

Goalkeeper banned for 15 months for slapping referee

SYDNEY, 26 Feb — Central Coast goalkeeper Danny Vukovic has been banned for 15 months for manhandling referee Mark Shield in Sunday's Australian A-League grand final loss to Newcastle. The Football Federation of Australia (FFA) disciplinary committee found Vukovic guilty of violent conduct on Monday after he appeared to slap Shield's hand in the final minute of the match. The suspension was reduced to nine months with the remaining six months to be served under probation, meaning Vukovic will be eligible to resume playing in the A-League in November. "If Vukovic re-offends in the 12 month period after 24 November 2008, he will be required to serve the remaining six months of his 15 month suspension (in addition to any new sanction)," the FFA said in a statement.

The ban only relates to the A-League but the FFA are considering extending it to all matches, ruling Vukovic out of this year's Beijing Olympics, where he was expected to represent Australia. The incident occurred as Central Coast players began remonstrating with Shield when he failed to award them a penalty for a blatant handball by Newcastle midfielder James Holland.— MNA/Reuters



Japan's Fukuoka Haruna returns a shot against Netherlands' Timina Elena during the World Team Table Tennis Championship in Guangzhou. Japan beat the Netherlands 3-1. INTERNET

Japan beats China to claim title at EAFF Women's C'ship

CHONGQING, 26 Feb — Japan was crowned at the 2008 EAFF Women's Championship after downing host China 3-0 at the Yongchuan Sports Centre here on Sunday. The visitors enjoyed a flying start with their forward Shinobu Ohno driving home a low pass from Yuki Nagasato, who capitalized a through ball on the right flank to beat China's defending force in the 18th minute. The Nadeshiko extended their margin three minutes before the second half. Playmaker Homare Sawa's long range shot was blocked by the bar before Ohno used her chest to rebound the ball into the open gate. With only one mis-targeted shot in the first half, China substituted a midfielder with a forward to strengthen attacking when the game resumed. But their hope to equalize the score was ruined 10 minutes into the second half. The in-form Ohno swung in a pinpoint cross to find Nagasato in the far post, whose powerful header put their throne-taking triumph beyond doubt. — MNA/Xinhua

Juventus demand action over referees

MILAN, 26 Feb — Juventus have written to the Italian football federation and the referees' association demanding that action be taken to improve the performance of officials after recent controversial incidents. Juve, third in Serie A, lost 2-1 at Reggina on Saturday after conceding a debatable penalty in stoppage time. Claudio Ranieri's side felt especially aggrieved after having three strong penalty appeals of their own turned down. "Juventus again asks the federation to take immediate action to clean up a seriously compromised situation. We need to rediscover faith in referees and reinvigorate Italian football," said the letter which was published on Juventus' website (www.juventus.com) on Sunday. — MNA/Reuters

Arsenal says Eduardo should make full recovery

LONDON, 26 Feb — Arsenal striker Eduardo da Silva should make a full recovery after fracturing his left fibula and dislocating his ankle against Birmingham City at the weekend, the Premier League leaders said on Monday. The Brazilian-born Croatia international was injured by a tackle from City defender Martin Taylor after three minutes, with many players visibly shocked by the extent of the damage. Eduardo underwent surgery at Selly Oak Hospital in Birmingham before being transferred to a London hospital on Sunday. Despite horrific photographs in many newspapers showing the player's foot dangling at a sickening angle, the extent of the injury appears not as bad as first feared. After consultations between the club's medical staff and the orthopaedic surgeon, a tentative time frame has been put on his recovery.—MNA/Reuters

Asleep in Jesus U Saw Raleigh

(Ayeyawady)
Aged 80 years

Son of (U Tha Mya Oo+Daw Lal Htoo) at No 25, Daw Hla Pan Street, Ward 2, Mayangon Township, beloved husband of (Dr Daw Marjorie Dun), father of Saw Gay Wah (JSM)+Naw Hsa Gru and grandfather of Naw Sar Gay Mu+Ko Min Thant Oo, Saw Hsa Law La and Naw Hsa Ler Bwe, U Saw Raleigh peacefully passed away at 3.30 pm on Tuesday (26-2-2008). The memorial service will be held at Thamaing Kayin Baptist Church at 9 am on Thursday (28-2-2008) and the remains will be entombed at Yayway Kayin Baptist Christian Cemetery.

Bereaved Family

Archeologists find 5,500 year old plaza in Peru

LIMA, 26 Feb — A circular plaza built 5,500 years ago has been discovered in Peru, and archeologists involved in the dig said on Monday carbon dating shows it is one of the oldest structures ever found in the Americas.

A team of Peruvian and German archeologists uncovered the plaza, which was hidden beneath

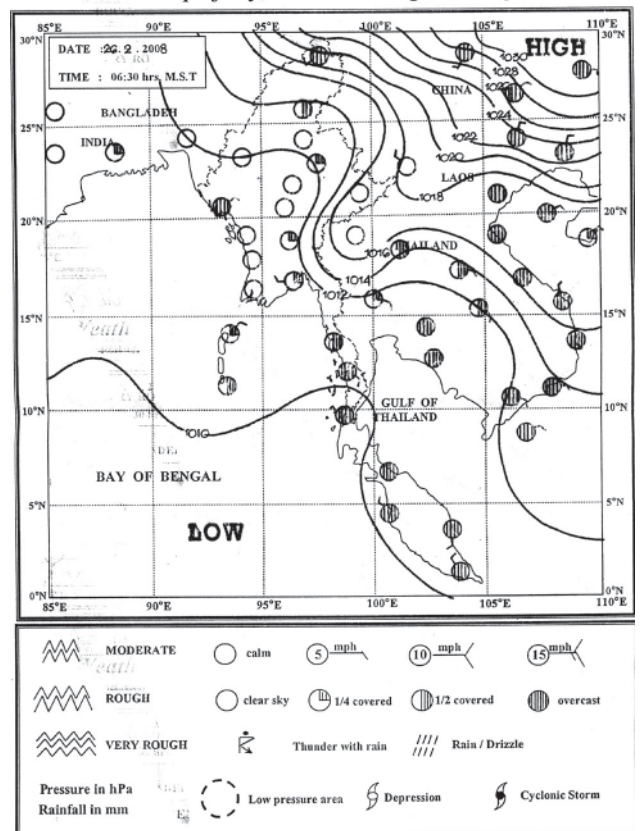
another piece of architecture at the ruins known as Sechin Bajo, in Casma, 229 miles (370 kilometres) north of Lima, the capital.

"It's an impressive find, the scientific and archeology communities are very happy," said Cesar Perez, the scientist at Peru's National Institute of Culture who supervised the project. "This could redesign the history of the country."

Prior to the discovery at Sechin Bajo, archeologists considered the ancient Peruvian citadel of Caral to be one of the oldest in the Western Hemisphere, at about 5,000 years.

Scientists say Caral, located a few hours drive from Sechin Bajo, was one of six places in the world — along with Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, India and Mesoamerica — where humans started living in cities five thousand years ago. —MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 26 February, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather have been partly cloudy in Mon and Kayin States upper Sagaing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (5°C) below February average temperatures in Chin and Kayah States, (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Rakhine and Kayin States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and about February average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilem and Namhsan (2°C) each, Haka (3°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthoung (0.27) inch.

Maximum temperature on 25-2-2008 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 26-2-2008 was 62°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 26-2-2008 was 68%. Total sunshine hours on 25-2-2008 was (8.8) hours approx.

Rainfall on 26-2-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and 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 (5) mph from Northeast at (16:30) hours MST on 25-2-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 27-2-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Eastern Shan States and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Mon and Kayin States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 27-2-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-2-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-2-2008: Partly cloudy.

US Democrats criticize McCain over campaign finance

ROCKY RIVER (Ohio), 26 Feb — The Democratic Party asked the US Government on Monday to investigate whether Republican presidential candidate John McCain has violated campaign-finance laws by exceeding spending limits he agreed to last year.

In a letter to the Federal Election Commission, the Democratic National Committee said McCain has probably surpassed the roughly 50-million-US-dollar limit he agreed to observe when he applied for public funding last year.

McCain, the front-runner for the Republican nomination to contest November's presidential election should not be allowed to withdraw from

the public-funding system now that he no longer needs it, the DNC argued.

"He intends to simply ignore and flout the law," it said. "Senator McCain is not free to do that without the Commission's approval."

At a campaign stop in suburban Cleveland, McCain noted that Democratic committee Chairman Howard Dean had similarly withdrawn from

the system when he was a presidential candidate in 2004.

"What we're doing is exactly what Howard Dean did in the previous election," the Arizona Senator said.

The DNC said Dean obtained permission from the FEC before leaving the public funding system, which was set up in the 1970s after the Watergate scandal. —MNA/Reuters



Wednesday, 27
February

View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မေဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (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. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:00 am

7. အတိုးမြှင့်ပွဲ

8:10 am

8. ချင်းပြည်နယ်ရဲ့အလှတစ်ပါး ဗားရိတ်တား

8:20 am

9. (ဝေ)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. ၂၀၀၈ခုနှစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင် စာမေးပွဲဘာသာရပ် ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ (ဘောဂဗေဒဘာသာရပ်)

5:00 pm

4. Song of National Races

5:10 pm

5. Classical song

5:15 pm

6. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုတေးသီချင်း ဖြိုင်ပွဲဆုရတေးများ(၂၀၀၃ခုနှစ်)

5:25 pm

7. ရွယ်စုံလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

5:35 pm

8. ရသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင် လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:55 pm

12. မြန်မာလေ့ရိုးရာလက်တွေ့

7:10 pm

13. "ဘဝသစ်ရဲ့စာမျက်နှာ" (ငြိမ်းချမ်း၊ မြတ်ကောသီအောင်၊ စိုးပြည့်သခင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး(ပဲရစ်))

7:25 pm

14. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင် အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

7:50 pm

15. (ဝေ)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. Myanmar video feature

- "မြေမှာပေါက်တဲ့သခင်" (ဇာနည်၊ ကြည်လဲ့လဲ့ဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကုသိုလ်)

20. The next day's programme



Wednesday, 27
February

Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music -If I only had the heart
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music -Just a little bit of love
- 8:50 am National news
- 9:00 am Music -Iron horse
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music -The day & the time
- 1:30 pm News/ Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music -How happy -You take it all
- 9:00 pm Variations on a tune "Without you" -Herry Nelson -Mariah Carey -Lionel Richie
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25 pm Music at your request -Stuck on you -Lipstick on your collar -Let it be me
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm Portfolio for easy listening

People's Desire

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

Takaw Sluice Gate inaugurated in Thongwa Township

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—Takaw Sluice Gate, built by Construction-6 of Irrigation Department, was inaugurated near

Takaw Village in Thongwa Township this morning. In his address, Chairman of Yangon Di-

vision Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win said that Takaw

Sluice Gate was the 208th irrigation facility of its kind throughout the nation and the 18th in Yangon Division. As part of carrying out the greening tasks for 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport, canals are being dredged to supply surplus water from irrigation facilities in the east part of Bago Yoma to farmlands in Thanlyin, Kyauktan, Thongwa and Kayan townships through

Moeyungyi Lake, Bago-Sittoung Canal and Kayan Creek. In doing so, Shwehlay and Kayan sluice gates will control the water from canals for supplying water to 55,000 acres of farmlands in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin townships. Takaw Sluice Gate is one of the tasks for greening 30-mile radius of Yangon International Airport. In conclusion, the commander urged those present

to maintain the sluice gate for its durability. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered an address. He said that Takaw Sluice Gate was built with a view to preventing floods in rainy season, drawing out water from the wetland after rainy season, protecting against salty water in summer and controlling fresh water in the region. (See page 10)

Drilling of test oil well No 1 Shwe Pyi Thit launched at Mottama offshore

YANGON, 26 Feb — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi together with Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu, Vice President Mr Zhou Shou Shouwei of China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), Managing Director U Myint Htay of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and officials concerned attended a ceremony to launch drilling

of test oil well No 1 Shwe Pyi Thit at block No M-10 of Mottama Offshore this morning. Chairman of CNOOC (Myanmar) Lim-

ited Mr Li Mingde and officials extended greetings when the minister and party arrived on the drilling platform Non Hai-2 (Semi-Submersible). (See page 10)

**BEWARE
OF
FIRE**



Takaw Sluice Gate in Thongwa Township. — MNA

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