

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 looks into regional development of Hsipaw Township



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win unveils signboard of tubewell in Hsinkyawt Village of Hsipaw Township. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and officials, viewed condition of Tangyan-Mongyai junction yesterday morning.

Superintending Engineer U Win Naing reported on laying of gravel on 12-mile section of 29 miles and four furlongs long Pannyu-Hsaungkye-Mongyai Road.

After hearing the report, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave necessary instructions.

They attended the launching ceremony of the tubewell in Hsinkyawt Village. Hsipaw Township Development Affairs Committee Executive Officer U Thant Zin submitted the report on sinking the tubewell. U Kaung Tai of the local national race

group spoke words of thanks.

The commander and leader of local national race group U Sao Lwe MOUNG cut the ribbon to launch the tubewell. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win unveiled the signboard of the new tubewell and opened the taps together with the commander and U Sao Lwe MOUNG.

At the hall of the local national race group, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met U Sao Lwe MOUNG and party and urged them to strive for achieving success in regional development tasks and the targeted plans. Next, he presented gifts to U Sao Lwe MOUNG.

U Sao Lwe MOUNG also presented Shan traditional turbans to Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and the commander.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected Hsinkyawt Station Hospital and presented K 500,000 to the medical funds of the hospital.

Later, he looked into Hsinkyawt Basic Edu-

cation Middle School and gave school uniforms to teachers. — MNA

Radio play on 2 March to hail Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 29 Feb — As a gesture of hailing the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the radio play entitled “Love as the Sun, loving-kindness as the moon” will be broadcast at 7.15 pm on 2 March (Sunday).

Actor Moe Yan Zun, Singer May Yu Maw and staff of Myanma Radio and Television participated in the play. Manuscript of the play was written by Thabyay Nu.— MNA

INSIDE

Let's steadfastly march towards democratic nation

Studying the State Constitution in brief, a person can understand that it serves the interests of the nation and national races many times more than the 1947 constitution and the 1974 constitution.

PAGES 8+9

SAI THIHA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 1 March, 2008

Conserve forests for greening and development of national economy

Forests are indispensable for all living beings to survive. Deforestation often causes climate change. Consequently, soil degradation, flash floods and desertification are likely. Hence, all the global nations are in the process of drawing forest management plans for the conservation of forests and wildlife.

Every nation blessed with forests is producing forest products for domestic use and export. This being the case, natural forests have depleted to a certain extent. In this regard, efforts are to be made for ensuring reforestation.

In Myanmar the Ministry of Forestry in cooperation with the relevant ministries is establishing forest plantations and public forests in different regions.

The Arid Zones Greening Department enlisting the strength of the people is extensively engaged in greening tasks. As a result, forest plantations are now thriving in 13 arid districts. In the meantime, special teak plantations of Ngali Reserve Forests in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township, special teak plantations of Minbyin Reserve Forest in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township and special teak plantations of Yanpe Reserve Forests are also thriving.

As teak grows well in Bago Yoma forest plantations are being established there for greening of the region. The Forest Department established over 6,000 acres of forest plantations in 2007-2008 and had distributed over 70,000 saplings to local people so that they can help establish forest plantations.

Forests are not only a decisive factor for development of national economy but also for greening arid zones. Hence, all the local people are to actively take part in establishing more forest plantations and in conservation of forests.

UMFCCI General Secretary receives Japanese guests

YANGON, 29 Feb — General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Joint-Secretary-1 Dr Maung Maung Lay and members of the Educational Working Committee of the UMFCCI received Professor Mr Sherman Abe of Hitotsubashi University of the Young Leaders' Programme (YLP) of Japan accompanied by First Secretary of the Japanese Embassy to Myanmar Ms Satoko Toku at the federation office, here, on 26 February afternoon.

They cordially discussed matters related to the Young Leaders' Programme, Business Management Course and special scholarship, and opportunities of cooperation in education sector between the two countries. — MNA

Meeting of Prof Mr Sherman Abe and UMFCCI General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and responsible personnel in progress. — UMFCCI

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

USDA members donate blood in Kachin State



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw meeting with departmental officials and townselders in Sadon, Kachin State. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb — Hailing the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association made blood donation at General Hospital in Myitkyina, Kachin State on 23 February.

Patron of Kachin State USDA Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council

Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and USDA Secretariat Member Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw viewed the blood donation and presented gifts to the blood donors.

The minister paid homage to Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Abhidaja

Maha Ratthaguru Bhaddanta Silavamsa Wuntho Monastery in Myitkyina and donated offertories to the Sayadaw.

Later, the minister met departmental staff and

members of social organizations and townselders at town hall of Sadon and fulfilled their requirements. And he visited Sibinthaya market in Sadon.

MNA

Meeting on production of quality traditional medicine held

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb — Jointly organized by Traditional Medicine Department and Traditional Medicine Council, Advocacy Meeting on Production of Quality Assured Traditional Medicine Drug was held at National Herbal Garden here yesterday.

The meeting was opened with an address by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe.

Director-General of Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) Dr Thein Tun briefed on "Quality Assured Traditional Medicine Drug" and Director-General of Myanmar Traditional Medicine Department Dr Tin Nyunt on "Quality and Good Agricultural Collection Practice"

Dr Khin Maung Lwin of Fame traditional medicine production and U Bo Gyi of Yokepyo traditional medicine production discussed matters related to good manufacturing practice and current situation in traditional medicine production.

Participants of the meeting also took part in the discussion and the meeting ended with concluding remarks by the director-general of the Traditional Medicine Department. — MNA

Progress of Kyungon Bridge inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb — Public Works of the Ministry of Construction is building Kyungon Bridge across Pyamallow River at mile post 11/1 on Wakema-Kangyi Road.

On 26 February, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspected progress of the construction task. Engineer in-charge Daw Thein Nu reported on adjustment between the main cable and the suspension cables and work to be done. After hearing the reports, the minister gave instructions. Kyungon Bridge is beiley suspension type stretching 420 feet long. Both sides of approach bridge are 40 feet long each, and the whole bridge, 500 feet long, is 18-ton loads.

At mile post 11/4, the minister viewed tarmarking of the road section on Yangon-Pathain Highway being undertaken by Project Special Group-16. — MNA



Hlawga Garden opens on Peasant Day

YANGON, 29 Feb — Hlawga Garden opens from 8 am to 5 pm on the Peasant Day which falls on 2 March.

Regular opening hours of the garden are from 8 am to 4 pm daily. — MNA



A 72-carat flawless white diamond worth an estimated \$10 to \$12 million is seen in this undated handout photo released by Sotheby's Asia to Reuters on 29 Feb, 2008. —INTERNET

US senators seek probe on wartime equipment

WASHINGTON, 29 Feb—US senators asked Defence Secretary Robert Gates on Wednesday to launch a broad investigation into Pentagon acquisitions of wartime equipment, including armoured vehicles, saying its methods may be putting US troops at risk.

In a letter to Gates, a bipartisan group of four lawmakers—including the chairmen of the Senate foreign relations and intelligence committees—said Defence Department acquisition practices may not be working well enough to protect US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan against the most sophisticated roadside bombs.

A Defence Department spokesman had no immediate comment. The letter was dated Wednesday and posted on the website of the public advocacy group, Project on Government Oversight.

“We urge you to conduct a thorough and comprehensive evaluation of all of our wartime acquisition processes, in all of the services and at the joint level,” said the letter. —MNA/Reuters

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Canada's Senate passes crime bill, election avoided

OTTAWA, 29 Feb—Canada's Senate passed the Conservative government's omnibus anti-crime bill Wednesday, averting an election showdown over the issue. The Liberal-dominated upper chamber approved the legislation just three days before a deadline by Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Harper had threatened to call an election if the bill was not passed by Saturday.

The Senate voted 19-16 for the bill, with most Conservatives supporting it and many Liberals abstaining.

The legislation includes five bills that would toughen mandatory minimum sentences for gun-related crimes and strengthen bail rules for people awaiting trial on such offenses, among other things.

It passed the House of Commons in late November. Harper had accused the Liberals of intentionally holding it up in the Senate. —MNA/Xinhua

Kenyan town plans protest over Obama's Somali photo

ISIOLO (Kenya), 29 Feb—Residents of a remote Kenyan town plan to demonstrate on Friday after a photo of US presidential hopeful Barack Obama in Somali dress took centre stage in an increasingly acrimonious race for the White House.

The picture, which appeared on a US website, showed the Illinois Senator donning a traditional white headress and robes during

a 2006 trip to Wajir in northeastern Kenya.

Aides to Obama, whose late father was from Kenya, accused his rival Hillary Clinton's campaign of “the most shameful, offensive fear-mongering” of the election season so far after the picture was published.

Clinton's camp denied officially approving the photo's release.

Obama has fought a whispering campaign by

fringe elements that say erroneously that he is Muslim.

The controversy made headlines in Kenya, where many people already support the Democratic front-runner in the way the Irish idolized US President John F Kennedy in the 1960s—as one of their own who succeeded beyond their wildest dreams.

MNA/Reuters

British says Prince Harry deployed in Afghanistan



Britain's Prince Harry. —INTERNET

LONDON, 28 Feb—Prince Harry has been serving with the British Army in Afghanistan for 2-1/2 months, the Defence Ministry said on Thursday.

Following leaks in the international media about his deployment, officials are now reviewing whether he should

remain there. Harry, third in line to the British throne, was sent to Afghanistan with his regiment in December.

The 23-year-old was due to be sent to Iraq but those plans were scrapped in May. His deployment was cancelled after it was decided it would be too dangerous for the second son of Prince Charles and the late Princess Diana.

Militant groups threatened to kidnap or kill him after it was made known that his regiment could be deployed to Iraq.

The Ministry of Defence determined he could be deployed to Afghanistan if his presence there was not reported. For the past 10 weeks, British and international media have maintained an embargo on reporting his activities.

MNA/Reuters

Fireman dead, 40 injured in gas blast in French city of Lyon



View of the site where a gas explosion occurred during road maintenance rocking the city centre of Lyon. —INTERNET

PARIS, 29 Feb—An explosion caused by a gas leak rocked the French city of Lyon on Thursday, killing a firefighter and injuring 40 people, one of them seriously, police said.

Some 160 firefighters

were dispatched to the scene on the Cours Lafayette shopping street in the heart of Lyon where the blast occurred around midday during maintenance work on an underground gas pipe.

Fire engulfed several buildings in the centre of France's third biggest city and police evacuated close to 1,000 people from the area. A 35-year-old firefighter and father of two children who was investigating a leak of gas into the basement of a building was killed in the blast, said Lyon Mayor Gerard Colomb. Interior Minister Michele Alliot-Marie, who travelled immediately to the scene, told reporters that lax security was partly to blame. She said she was sorry that “all the security procedures were not sufficiently taken into account” and pledged to find ways to boost safeguards for gas maintenance work. —Internet



A gallery assistant looks at a painting in London. A contemporary art auction raised 95 million pounds (125 million euros, 188 million dollars) on 27 Feb, in London, the highest total for such a sale in Europe, auction house Sotheby's said. —INTERNET



This photo taken on 28 February shows portarits of Russian presidential candidate Dmitry Medvedev and President Vladimir Putin.

XINHUA

British expert warns of robot arms race

LONDON, 28 Feb— A leading British expert has warned that a robot arms race is underway as governments around the world are rushing to develop military robots capable of killing autonomously without considering the legal and moral implications.

Noel Sharkey of Sheffield University, Britain, gave the warning before a one-day

conference in London on Wednesday, according to *New Scientist*.

Over 4,000 semi-autonomous robots are already deployed by the United States in Iraq, and other countries including several European nations as well as Canada, South Korea, South Africa, Singapore and Israel are developing similar technologies, according to the expert.

The US Department of Defence published in last December an Unmanned systems roadmap” proposing to spend about four billion US dollars by 2010 on robotic weapons.

Sharkey said he became “really scared” after researching plans outlined by the United States and other nations to roboticize their military forces.

Xinhua

Five killed in Tennessee shooting

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—A young gunman fatally shot four people before committing suicide in an apartment building in Bristol, Tennessee on Wednesday afternoon, police said.

Bristol police chief Blaine Wade said the shooting, which took place in the Edgemont Towers apartment complex in Bristol, is thought to be “domestic-violence related”.

The gunman and a victim died at the scene while three others were seriously wounded and died in hospital later. The victims have not been identified.

Xinhua

Bomb attack kills one trooper, injures four in Thai south

BANGKOK, 28 Feb—A paramilitary trooper was killed and four others were injured when insurgents detonated a bomb to ambush them in Thailand’s southernmost province of Yala on Wednesday afternoon.

The five troopers were patrolling by a military vehicle in Jarosipoh Village of Yala’s Krong Penang District when the insurgents ambushed them by a roadside bomb soon after noon, local news network *The Nation* reported.

The insurgents also opened fire at them after detonating the homemade bomb but a company of border patrol police, who were stationed nearby, moved in to rescue them immediately, prompting the insurgents to retreat.—Xinhua

Colombia’s FARC releases four hostages

CARACAS, 28 Feb—The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia (FARC) handed four hostages on Wednesday to a mission of Venezuela’s Government and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in a spot of Colombia’s jungle.

The international mission’s helicopter received on Wednesday Gloria Polanco de Losada, Luis Eladio Perez, Orlando Beltran and Jorge Gechem.

The FARC handed over the four Colombian politicians to Venezuelan Justice Minister Ramon Rodriguez.

Xinhua

Pakistan, India swap over 3,000 prisoners

ISLAMABAD, 28 Feb— Pakistan has released 2,657 Indian prisoners while India has freed 827 Pakistani prisoners since 2003, Pakistan’s Foreign Office spokesman Muhammad Sadiq said on Wednesday. Speaking at the weekly news briefing here, Sadiq said that both countries had been making efforts to swap prisoners through a joint judicial committee.

Sadiq disclosed that there were still 500 Indian nationals under arrest in Pakistan and 450 Pakistani people in custody in India.

The first meeting of the Pakistan-India joint Judicial Committee on Prisoners was held in New Delhi on Tuesday, the Foreign Office said in a statement on Wednesday. The Committee recommended to the two governments that a consolidated list with full particulars and their present status of nationals in each other’s jails should be exchanged on 31 March, 2008. According to an agreement between the two governments, the fishermen in custody whose nationality status has been confirmed should be released and in remaining cases, consular access should be provided to them by 31 March, 2008, according to the statement.—Xinhua



A reseacher discovers parts of the fossilised skeleton poking out of the side on an island in the Arctic.—XINHUA



A turquoise encrusted mask is displayed during a media preview of the “Isis and the feathered serpent” exhibition at Mexico City’s National Museum of Anthrology and History on 27 Feb, 2008.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China allocates 1.6b yuan for farmer training

BEIJING, 28 Feb—China’s Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) will allocate 1.6 billion yuan (about 223.8 million US dollars) for two farmer training programmes.

One is designed to improve farmers’ anti-disaster abilities and production skills right before the spring plough, said the MOA here on Tuesday. The other is to provide professional training for farmers who want to become migrant workers.

To date, drought and snow have affected about 22.9 million hectares of the country’s arable land, more than one-sixth of the total, according to official figures.

About 33,000 villages in 670 counties, which accounts for about one-third of the total, will each receive 15,000 yuan in training subsidies, the MOA said. The villages are major produce bases, disaster-hit areas or poor and remote places.

The programme for migrant workers plans to train 3.5 million farmers this year with a subsidy of 314 yuan each, according to the ministry.—Xinhua

L’Oreal China sales up 30% to 523m euro in 2007

SHANGHAI, 28 Feb— French cosmetics maker L’Oreal on Tuesday reported its China sales rose 30 per cent to 523 million euros (777.4 US million dollars) in 2007, the seventh consecutive year of double-digit growth.

The rapid increase pushed L’Oreal’s global sales up eight per cent to 17.1 billion euros last year. In Asia, its sales rose 14 per cent to 1.6 billion euros.

“Compared with the mature European and

American markets, Chinese people have spent much less on cosmetics every year,” said L’Oreal China President Paolo Gasparrini. “The great market potential here will make China the biggest market of L’Oreal in the future.” L’Oreal entered the Chinese Mainland market in 1996 and its has since become one of its top-10 markets globally. Currently, 14 of its 19 global brands, as well as two local brands, are on the domestic market.

Xinhua

Malaysia’s new vehicle sales up 31% in January

KUALA LUMPUR, 29 Feb— Malaysia’s new vehicle sales rose 31 per cent year-on-year in January but are expected to slow in February, Malaysian Automotive Association (AAA) has said.

Sales volume for January grew to 45,828 units from 35,047 units in the same month in 2007, AAA said in its monthly sales and production data released on Wednesday.

“Sales for February 2008 are expected to be lower than in January because of a shorter working period,” the *New Straits Times* Thursday quoted AAA as saying.

The number for February this year, however, should be better than that in the same month in 2007, which stood at 31,284 units, AAA said. —MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia eyes sugar production at 2.8m tons in 2008

JAKARTA, 29 Feb — Indonesia’s sugar production is expected to grow to between 2.7 million tons and 2.79 million tons this year from 2.44 million tons in 2007, the industry association said Wednesday.

The growth target is based on estimated sugarcane output of 36.3 million tons from 433,000 hectares of plantation across the country, according to the Indonesian Sugar Experts Association (Ikagi).

“We hope that productivity in sugarcane plantations can reach 6.44 tons per hectare in 2008,” Ikagi Deputy Secretary General Adig Suwandi was quoted by the national *Antara* news agency as saying. —MNA/Xinhua



BMW plans further massive job cuts

BERLIN, 29 Feb— German carmaker BMW said Wednesday that it will cut another 5,600 jobs as part of its broad restructuring plan to cut expenses and boost profits, local media reported.

The Munich-based company, one of the world’s leading luxury carmaker said it will slash 5,600 jobs by the end of 2008, bring the total of job cuts to 8,100.

It has already eliminated 2,500 positions last year.

According to BMW’s head of personnel Ernst Baumann, the latest planed job cuts include 2,500 full-time workers, 2,500 temporary workers, as well as 600 positions in BMW’s international distribution networks.

BMW’s sales in 2007 rose by 14.3 per cent to 56 billion euros, but the company’s pre-tax return on sales is still lagging behind other luxury car groups, said a report by German news agency *DPA*.

The rising euro, which for the first time broke the 1.50-dollar mark on Wednesday, has been making it harder for the company to export cars to markets outside of the 15-nation euro zone, analysts say.

MNA/Xinhua



Small handmade figurines, called “Martisor”, are displayed at the Romanian Peasant’s Museum during the “Martisor Fair” in Bucharest on 28 Feb, 2008. —XINHUA



Boats are on display at the Samira Mumbai International Boat Show on 28 Feb, 2008. The three-day show, which begins on Friday, will showcase international brands from the leisure boating industry.—INTERNET

Tourists from China

visit the Sun Moon

Lake in Nantou

County.

XINHUA

China’s ABC sees 2007 surge in intermediate business

BEIJING, 28 Feb— The Agricultural Bank of China (ABC) said on Wednesday that its intermediate business rose 64 per cent last year to 25.3 billion yuan (about 3.54 billion US dollars).

The surge was largely driven by commissions for the sale of such finance products as funds, the bank announced here.

Commission revenues jumped 209 per cent year-on-year in 2007 thanks to the booming capital market, ABC said. Traditional intermediate business, including banking card, transaction and insurance sales, surged 22 per cent year-on-year to 13.7 billion yuan. The bank did not disclose total revenues.

However, ABC’s intermediate business income accounted for only about 21 per cent of the big four state commercial banks’ total, sources said. ABC is the only non-listed bank among the big four, whose other members are the China Construction Bank, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China and the Bank of China. —MNA/Xinhua

UAE airline to launch flights to Almaty, Moscow

ABU DHABI, 29 Feb — Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), will launch flights to Kazakhstan’s Almaty and Russian capital Moscow in 2008, local newspaper *Gulf News* reported on Thursday.

Etihad will continue expanding its network in 2008 after launching nine new routes last year, the airline’s CEO James Hogan was quoted as saying.

“We look forward to launching services to Beijing at the end of March —our first route in China,” he said.

“This will be followed later in the year by Almaty and Moscow,” he added.

Besides, the airline has obtained rights to fly to another four Indian cities —Jaipur, Chennai, Kolkata and Kozhikode, in addition to four existing routes—Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram, Mumbai and Delhi.—MNA/Xinhua



Homes are surrounded by floodwaters due to heavy rains in Guayas Province, Ecuador, on 28 Feb, 2008. Ecuador’s President Rafael Correa said that 25 percent of the country’s territory is flooded.—XINHUA

Olmert says still time to prevent Iranian bomb

TOKYO, 28 Feb—Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said on Wednesday it was not inevitable that Iran would produce a nuclear bomb—a goal Iran says it is not trying to achieve. “I think there is time,” said Olmert when asked by reporters if Iran could be stopped from achieving nuclear weapons capability. “The time is not unlimited but it is defined

by more than months.” Olmert, who ends a four day visit to Japan on Thursday, made the comments a day after Israel’s military intelligence chief told a parliamentary committee in Jerusalem that Iran could have a nuclear option by 2010. Israel, widely believed to have the only nuclear arsenal in the Middle East, has said a nuclear Iran

would be a threat to its existence and called for tougher international sanctions to Press the Islamic Republic to halt uranium enrichment. Olmert said that he and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda discussed the issue of Iran “in all of its manifestations, including all of its connections with North Korea”. MNA/Reuters

Heathrow protesters scale House of Commons roof

LONDON, 28 Feb—Three men and two women climbed onto the House of Commons roof on Wednesday and unfurled banners protesting at plans to expand Heathrow Airport. The demonstration by the “Plane Stupid” group coincided with the end of a public consultation process on proposals to build a third runway at

the world’s busiest international airport. The group evaded tight security to reach the roof and hang banners down the side of the building. One read “No Third Runway”, the other “BAA HQ,” referring to the British Airports Authority which owns Heathrow and which protesters say is in league with the government.

“This major breach of security is over-shadowed by Gordon Brown’s breach of climate security with these expansion plans,” Plane Stupid spokesman Malcolm Carroll said. “It shows the seriousness with which we treat these plans and the kind of direct action we are prepared to take.” MNA/Reuters

Larijani says Iran’s nuclear issue in final stage

TEHERAN, 28 Feb—Iran’s former chief nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani said on Wednesday that Iran’s nuclear issue is in its final stage and the recent UN nuclear watchdog report has removed its ambiguities, Iran’s Student News Agency (ISNA) reported. The report by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed ElBaradei

disarmed the Westerners and put an end to their excuses, said Larijani, who is now representative of the supreme leader to the Supreme National Security Council. The IAEA said last Friday that Iran had clarified the majority of open issues in its nuclear programmes, but it was still unable to give a definite verdict on Teheran’s nuclear ambi-

tions as the progress is not enough. “We should wait for severe reactions from the west but it is advisable for them to avoid amateur acts and adopt their intellect,” he said. “If the westerners suppose that Iranians, in the face of threats, will give up our peaceful nuclear programme, they are making a big mistake,” Larijani said. MNA/Xinhua



A model of a space shuttle stands in the lobby at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren’s Palace in Pyongyang, North Korea on 27 Feb 2008. INTERNET

Rice voices deep regret for Okinawa rape case

TOKYO, 28 Feb — US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice voiced deep regret on Wednesday for a US Marine’s alleged rape of a 14-year-old Japanese girl, a case that has sparked outrage and official condemnation in Japan. “We just regret deeply

that this happened,” Rice told reporters at the start of a one-day trip to Japan. “(It) is very hard to see something like this happen and it’s especially hard because it involves a young girl.” A 38-year-old Marine, Tyrone Hadnott, has been arrested on suspicion of raping the girl in a car on Okinawa island, where the bulk of the 50,000 US troops in Japan are based. Police have said he denied rape but admitted forcing her to kiss him. The incident has revived bitter memories of the rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl on the southern Japanese island in 1995, which sparked huge protests against US bases and raised doubts about the bilateral security alliance. MNA/Reuters

Afghan minister survives rocket attack, ambush

KABUL, 28 Feb — Afghanistan’s Interior Minister survived a rocket and small arms ambush by suspected Taliban insurgents to the east of the capital Kabul on Wednesday, a ministry official said. Interior Minister Zabar Ahmad Moqbel was travelling through the Tangi Abrishim area of Laghman Province when the attackers opened fire on his convoy with a single rocket, then followed up with a volley of small arms fire, the official said. The minister’s guards returned fire, but there was no news of any casualties in the exchange and it was not clear if the attackers knew he was in the convoy, said the official, who declined to be named. MNA/Reuters

New-born baby girl of Bhuri Kalbi, 33, lies inside a hospital in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad on 28 Feb, 2008. The baby girl survived an ignoble birth after slipping down the toilet bowl of a moving train onto the tracks when a pregnant woman unexpectedly gave birth while relieving herself on Tuesday. INTERNET



Tenders invited to offer gold foils to Shwezigon Pagoda

YANGON, 28 Feb —The gold foils will be offered to the Shwezigon Pagoda in NyaungU, NyaungU District, Mandalay Division. Those wishing to present tenders for supplying gold foils are to submit application form together with a 2 by 2 gold foil sample to the pagoda board of trustees not later than 15 March. For more information please contact Office of the board of trustees Ph: 060 60825. — MNA

Course for Theravada Buddhist missionaries concludes

YANGON, 29 Feb—Training Course No 18 for Theravada Buddhist missionary monks and Basic Training Course No 10 on health care through traditional medicines organized by Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana concluded at State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) on KabaAye Hill here this afternoon.

First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Dhammikarama Kyaikpi Monastery of Yankin Township Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Gunosana and Chairman of Theravada Buddhist Missionary Ovadacariya Society Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Bhaddanta Kundalabhivamsa gave *Ovadakatha*.

Next Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicated on religious affairs and presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

After that, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kundalabhi-vamsa presented completion certificates to trainee monks.

Later, Dr Myint

Kyi, Pro-rector (Admin) of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University presented gifts to course instructors.

The course was attended by 23 members of the Sangha.

After the ceremony, well-wishers presented traditional medicines and offertories to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

MNA

New Daewoo brand electronics displayed at ceremony to introduce them at Inya Lake Hotel.

MNA



Managing Director U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing extends greetings at ceremony to introduce Daewoo brand electronic products at Inya Lake Hotel.

MNA

Collection of articles by U Than Tun (Shwebo) in circulation

YANGON, 29 Feb — A collection of articles written by U Than Tun (Shwebo) comes out today.

The book entitled “Beautiful Myanmar and other articles” includes 38 colourful articles which were covered in Do Kyeywa Journal and is available at Offices of Information and Public Relations Department in states, districts and townships and at the book shop of Sarpay Beikman in Yangon. Unit price is K 800.

The book is published with the aim of flourishing patriotic spirit and national spirit and disseminating general knowledge among the people. — MNA

New Daewoo brand electronics introduced

YANGON, 29 Feb—OK Myanmar Co Ltd introduced new Daewoo brand electronics at the Inya Lake Hotel, here, this evening.

Managing-Director U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing extended greetings and member of the Board of Directors U Zaw Weik elaborated upon the new

The refrigerators are widely used all over the world.

Purchasers may contact OK Myanmar Co Ltd, head office No 163 on Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Ph- 377627, 392986, 392997 and sale centres of the company, Daewoo Showroom No 175 on Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Ph-256947, HQ I Showroom No 124 on Maha Bandoola Park Street, Ph-376997, HQ II Showroom No 201/203 on Pansadan Street Ph-241077, Nay Pyi Taw Showroom No 156 in Thiri Mingalar Modern Market, Ph-067-420813, Mandalay Daewoo Showroom No 135 on 84th Street between 30th and 31st Streets, Ph 02-31582. Those interested in the items may contact OK Myanmar Service at the corner of Aungthabye street and Padauk street backward of Yuzana Plaza in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Ph- 299401, 298491, 09-99-26582.— MNA

Fire breaks out in Chanaye Thazan Township, Mandalay

YANGON, 29 Feb—A fire broke out at a boarding house between 32nd Street and 33rd Street in Myetshin Ward, Chanaye Thazan Township, Mandalay at 9.50 am yesterday.

Soon after the fire started, altogether 32 fire engines with 300 firemen arrived at the scene and tried to

extinguish the fire which was put under control at 10.15 am.

The fire which started from the burning of a voltage regulator engulfed four buildings and injured two members of auxiliary fire brigade. The injured were admitted to Mandalay General Hospital for medical treatment.—MNA

Let's steadfastly march towards democratic nation

Sai Thiha

In 2008, Myanmar people will have to make an important choice of transforming the nation from the old system into a new one. Now, Myanmar is on the turning point, so it is required of the people to make a correct choice for speedy transition to democracy.

The government issued Announcement No 2/ 2008 on 9 February, which said, "..., it is most appropriate to transform the administration of Tatmadaw into democratic administration of the people. Thus, in accordance with the forthcoming State Constitution, the multi-party democracy general elections will be held in 2010".

It also announced, "Hence, in accordance with the fourth step of the seven-step Road Map, which was announced in August 2003, the approval of the Constitution draft will be sought in a National Referendum to be held in May 2008".

The people with constructive attitude living at home and abroad especially welcomed the announcements with pleasure. The people are pleased with the news as the nation will soon be transformed into a new one that will be based on the Union system, will guarantee the multi-party democracy system and will practise the market economy.

Unlike them, certain persons are not happy with the announcements, as evidenced by the broadcasts of some foreign radio stations.

Throughout the course of Myanmar's political world, agitators have been making accusations variously to mislead the international community into misunderstanding the nation. One of them is that the government is paving the way for the domination of Bamar people with chauvinist attitude and ignoring the rights of national races.

For the persons who do not weigh the past incidents, the accusations seem correct. All those

who had first-hand experiences and those who are knowledgeable about the colonialists' nature understand well that the accusations are part of the divide-and-rule tactic the colonialists applied to rule Myanmar for more than 100 years.

To be able to surmount the part of the divide-and-rule tactic, Panglong Conference was thus held in 1947, and the 1947 constitution was drafted in haste to regain independence as soon as possible. In consequence, the people of national races fell victim to over-40-year internal armed insurgency of those nationals with different political views.

In the meantime, there emerged neo-colonialists' plan to eliminate Communist countries. Indochina Peninsular saw several localized wars. Myanmar also suffered the effects of the Cold War. Some members of feudal lineage with localism and racism were snared in the deception of regional military groups.

In 1962, there were strong demands for federal system made through clandestine scheme to secede from the Union and then join SEATO. At that time, the Union came to stand on the edge of abyss due to the political bargain in the ruling party. Then, Myanmar had to pass through the period of the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party.

Anyhow, **the entire people remained standing firmly on the side of ensuring non-disintegration of the Union and perpetuation of sovereignty. The Tatmadaw standing firmly by the people repulsed all the dangers of the Union at risk to lives of its members. Then, the Tatmadaw has been equipped strongly with Union Spirit and nationalistic spirit.**

After taking responsibilities for political transformation under the bounden duty in 1988, the Tatmadaw gave priority to national reconsolidation, as evidenced by Announcement No 1/90 it issued on 27 July 1990.

The announcement said, "Today, Myanmar has a large number of national races with political awareness, so it is particularly needed to draw an enduring constitution ascertaining their stances". That indicated the faithfulness of the Tatmadaw and the government to national races.

The Tatmadaw did as it pledged. Since 1989, it has striven hard in building internal peace to regain national unity or national reconsolidation. Pondering the Tatmadaw's benevolent attitude and practical performances, 17 major national race armed groups and many small ones returned to the legal fold and participated in building peace.

The national race peace groups included armed groups of different national races that broke away from the Burma Communist Party (BCP), SSA, PNO and PSLA from Shan State, KIA and KDA from Kachin State, KNPP and Ka-La-La-Ta from Kayah State, and DKBA and KNU/KNLA from Kayin State.

Even MTA with more than 10,000 troops led by U Khun Sa, who once declared independent Shan State due to the wedge driven by the colonialists, entered the legal fold and exchanged arms unconditionally for peace. Myanmar managed to persuade nearly 100,000 armed insurgents to give up armed opposition in six years, thus reflecting strong national solidarity. There has been no similar incident in such a short period in the world.

It is common knowledge that it is very difficult to change the political policy and opinion of an individual. It is apparently clear that the peace built between many national race armed groups that had risen against successive governments for over 40 years and the Tatmadaw is largely due to their belief that the Tatmadaw government is sincerely in perpetual service of the national races.

So, representatives from the national race peace groups were included in the Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons and they, based on trust, attended the National Convention, the first step of the State's seven-step Road Map. They took part in the cordial and frank discussions with other delegates to lay down the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that can guarantee the affairs of the Union and national races.

(See page 9)

The three sovereign powers—legislative, executive and judicial powers—are bestowed even upon small ethnic groups. At the central level, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw made up of the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw will exercise the legislative power of the Union.

Let's steadfastly march towards democratic nation

Sai Thiha

(from page 8)

The State Constitution was drafted, based on the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles. So, they know best that the adopted principles of the State Constitution bestow the rights upon national races democratically. **All those who study the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles with uprightness are well convinced that the upcoming State constitution guarantees the rights of national races best according to the prevailing situation of the nation and the people.**

Studying the State Constitution in brief, a person can understand that it serves the interests of the nation and national races many times more than the 1947 constitution and the 1974 constitution.

The three sovereign powers—legislative, executive and judicial powers— are bestowed even upon small ethnic groups. At the central level, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw made up of the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw will exercise the legislative power of the Union.

Respective hluttaws will be composed of representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw representing the people from the constituencies concerned and of equal number of representatives of the Amyotha Hluttaw from seven regions and seven states. Various national races are among local people in various townships. The Pyithu Hluttaw representatives will be from respective constituencies, and so there will be national race representatives to the Pyithu Hluttaw.

Therefore, it is noticed that respective hluttaws guarantee the rights of national races equally. Moreover, Region and State hluttaws will be formed and they will have the legislative power. Under the 1947 constitution, the parliament was made up of two chambers and only Kachin State, Kayah State, Kayin State and Shan State councils had the right to exercise legislative powers but Special Division of the Chins had no legislative power. The 1974 constitution prescribed seven states, but they had no hluttaws that could practise legislative power. So, it can be deduced from these points that the forthcoming State constitution will give equal rights without any discrimination against or in favour of a particular national race.

Furthermore, there is a better right to form a self-administered division and five self-administered zones, which will be vested with power to practise legislative power and self-administration. And the National Convention prescribes a detailed basic principle that every national race that does not have

Myanmar has stood for over 1000 years. Except in the colonialist period and the parliamentary democracy period, Myanmar has built national solidarity. Throughout the course of the history, various national races have lived together without conflicts on the affairs of national races, sharing joys and sorrows. The people notice that the alleged practices of chauvinism are indeed the opinions of colonialists and neo-colonialists and the excuses of those who rely on external elements rather than on the people of their lineage.

self-administration with a population of at least 10,000 may have legislative power by representing in the self-administered division or self-administered zones.

With respect to the sharing of executive power, the Union government will be formed at the central level. There is no restriction on national races in electing the head of the Union government or the President of the State. The three groups from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for electing the President will have to elect and appoint a nominee each for the presidential position. The three groups are the group formed with Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, the group formed with Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, and Tatmadaw member representatives.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will have to appoint one of the three candidates as the President, and the remaining two will become Vice-Presidents. So, the President and Vice-Presidents will be the ones among the people of national races of the Union and they will be elected by hluttaw representatives. Thus, the process of electing the Head of State is free from attachment to a particular party, localism, and racism.

The executive power is vested in the Union government, and there will be respective governments that will be vested with the power to exercise the executive power Region- and State-wise. So, any of the representatives of national races elected Region- and State-wise will have the right to exercise executive powers in the respective region and state governments.

There is no restrictions on national races in appointing ministers of the Union government and Region/State governments. So, every citizen (every national race) with set qualifications for a hluttaw member will have opportunity to become a minister or deputy minister. The process of sharing the judicial power is the same. So, I wonder why they are making such accusations against Myanmar.

The real intention of the accusations is none other than the plot to push the nation and the people into an abyss conspired in collusion by those who want their party to come to power and manipulate Myanmar sovereign power, and elements who are anxious with racism to brake up the Union.

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In the present time, indispensable is the process for laying a foundation for a new constitution that can guarantee Union system, multi-party democracy system, and market economy. So, the future nation will have to be built through Union Spirit of the people of national races. Internal and external destructive elements trying to suppress Union Spirit have come into shape as common enemy of the Union and the entire people.

The people are convinced that in 2008 a defining moment is going to fall for them to make an important choice for a new system. Now, the nation and the people are at an important junction. So, the people are urged to overcome all forms of wedges and continue to pursue the goal steadfastly to help transform the nation into a democratic one.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 29-2-08

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends opening of 16th Defence Services ...

(from page 16)

committee and subcommittees, members of the panel of judges, contesting military bands and guests.

First, the military bands led by the parade adjutant took the designated positions.

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe on the dais took the salute of the military bands and saluted the State Flag. They also paid tribute to the fallen Tatmadawmen. Afterwards, members of the bands recited four oaths.

Next, Chairman of the Leading Committee Lt-Gen Aung Htwe delivered an address.

After taking the salute of the military bands, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe left the dais.

The State Military Band demonstrated the skills. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presented cash rewards to the band. — MNA

Military Band Competition starts

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb — The 16th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition to mark the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2008 commenced at the parade ground (Thittat), here, at 5 pm today.

Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the Competition Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, members of the panel of judges, servicemen and military bands were present.

The military band representing Yangon Command, the military band company No 1 representing North-East Command and the military band representing No 44 Light Infantry Division took part in the competition.

The Military Band Competition continues tomorrow. —MNA



Managing Director U Hla Win presents prize to a sales agent. — MNA



Mr Francis Au Seng Huat of Client Focus Technology Group Co extends greetings at Epson System Integrator Workshop. — MNA

Transport Minister meets Korean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb— Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe met with Korean delegation led by President Mr Lee Byoung Hwa of International Agricultural Development Institute(IADI) from the Republic of Korea and President (CTO) Mr Lee Sung Min of Saman Corporation at his office here yesterday morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung, departmental heads and officials



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe receives delegation led by President of IADI Mr Lee Byoung Hwa and Mr Lee Sung Min of Saman Corporation. — MNA

concerned. At the meeting, they discussed bilateral cooperation on flight services and ports between Myanmar and Korea.—MNA

Rumour about deaths of three students in Yadanabon Market fire untrue

YANGON, 29 Feb — Foreign broadcasting stations and the Internet spread rumour among the civilians of Mandalay that two female students and one male student died after they had been stranded in an elevator in the fire that started at Shop No 261, ground floor of Yadanabon Market in Chanayethazan Township at 8.15 am on 25-2-2008. However, according to the investigation of authorities concerned, there were only two elevators in the market: one was used by Yadanabon Cyber and the other by Relax Restaurant. As soon as the fire started, the staff checked

the elevators and kept them locked. On the morning of 26-2-2008 after the fire had been extinguished completely, the officials concerned of Mandalay City Development Committee and security officials checked the elevators but found no deaths. Authorities concerned are still conducting a thorough check. The Township Health Department gave treatment to the injured people by opening a temporary clinic to the north of Yadanabon Market and transferred 21 to Mandalay General Hospital. But no deaths were found in the case and the rumour was totally untrue. — MNA

Rico brand new products introduced

YANGON 29, Feb— A ceremony to honour sales agents and introduce Rico brand new products was held at Traders Hotel here today.

At the ceremony, Managing Director of Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd U Hla Win made a welcoming speech and Admin Manager of Lolane Complex Daw Aye Aye Tha Tun introduced RICO CURL BOOSTER hair

cream & RICO body shampoo for men and women, a new comestics product produced by Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd.

Afterwards, responsible personnel of the company presented prizes to sales agents who could promote the sales figure of Lolane comestics product in 2007 and Lolane professional hair technician and models of Talent & Model Agency

demonstrated use of Lolane Aroma Colour & Daily Hair Oil.

Next, responsible personnel of the company picked up lucky draws for regular customers of Lolane comestics products, sales agents and guests.

RICO CURL BOOSTER hair cream and RICO body shampoo were sold at a discount at the ceremony.

Grand Wynn

Enterprises Ltd produces and distributes high quality comestics products under Lolane and Rico & Rina brand. Those wishing to distribute the products may contact Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd No 40,67th Street Botahtaung Township (Tel: 294045, 290170, 291318) Fax- 296928, E mail: g r a n d w y n @ myanmar.com.mm.

MNA

Workshop on Epson System Integrator held

YANGON, 29 Feb— The Workshop on Epson System Integrator, organized by Client Focus Technology Group Co

Ltd, was held at the meeting room of Parkroyal Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road in Dagon Township here at

9.30 am today. Responsible persons of software companies and guests attended the workshop.

companies discussed matters related to POS system. Client Focus Technology Group Co Ltd distributes Epson Receipt Printer as the sole agent of Myanmar. And the company is giving services for the customers.

Managing Director Mr Francis Au Seng Huat of Client Focus Technology Group Co Ltd extended greetings. In-charge of Presales Department Mr Singh of Epson Thailand discussed technologies for use of softwares and Epson receipt printers at shopping centres.

Programmers of Myanmar software

For further information, may contact Epson Sales Centre at No 130, Seikkantha Road, Kyauk-tada Township here. Ph-249344, 249345, 249364, 374110 and 391409.

MNA

Images of the Day



A car piece entitled "Inopportune: Stage One" at the Guggenheim Museum in New York on 21 Feb, 2008.
INTERNET

A child sells pagan charms, displayed on the left, made by kindergarten children, at a spring fair in Bucharest, Romania, on 29 Feb, 2008. The charms are offered to women on 1 March. The tradition began over 2,000-years ago in the Balkans region, it celebrates the arrival of spring and renewal.—INTERNET



A doctor and his colleagues inspect the lung X-ray results of a young child at a hospital in Vietnam. Patients with end-stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) who have two lungs transplanted in place of one live nearly two years longer on average, according to a study released on Friday.—INTERNET

The SC1151 flight from east China's Shandong Province, the first one landing on Capital airport's new terminal in Beijing on 29 Feb, 2008. Capital airport's new terminal, a major expansion project in preparation for the passenger surge during the Olympics, received its first commercial flight after opening on Friday morning.—XINHUA



Scientists unveil draft sequence of corn genome

WASHINGTON, 29 Feb — A team of scientists have completed a working draft of the corn genome, an accomplishment that should accelerate efforts to develop better crop varieties to meet society's growing demands for food, livestock feed and fuel.

The genetic blueprint was announced on Thursday by the project's leader, Richard Wilson, director of Washington University's Genome Sequencing Centre, at the 50th Annual Maize Genetics Conference in Washington, DC.

Corn is only the second crop after rice to have its genome sequenced, and scientists will now be able to look for genetic similarities and differences between the crops.—Xinhua

Scientists find gene that can block some forms of HIV

OTTAWA, 29 Feb— Canadian researchers have discovered a gene that can block certain forms of HIV and may perhaps one day be used to prevent the onset of AIDS.

Scientists from the University of Alberta identified a human gene called TRIM22 that can block HIV infection by preventing the virus from replicating.

When researchers prevented human cells from turning on TRIM22, the natural defence system generated by the body when a foreign invader attacks, the cells could not protect themselves against HIV.

Xinhua

New blood marker may predict prostate cancer spread

WASHINGTON, 29 Feb — Researchers at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre announced Wednesday they have found a new blood biomarker that enables close to 98 per cent accuracy in predicting the spread of prostate cancer to regional lymph nodes.

Their study is published in the March 1 issue of Clinical Cancer Research.

When cancer spreads beyond a solid tumor, it often does so at a microscopic level that typically cannot be identified by conventional imaging methods such as CT scans. The new blood test measures levels of endoglin, a plasma biomarker that has been previously shown to predict the spread of colon and breast cancer.

In this study, researchers concluded for the first time that endoglin could help predict whether a patient's prostate cancer would spread beyond the solid tumor site into their lymph nodes.—Xinhua

New York using "green carts" in latest obesity fight

NEW YORK, 29 Feb — New York City will issue 1,000 new permits for mobile fruit and vegetable stands in its latest drive against obesity and unhealthiness among its residents.

The City Council voted on Wednesday to issue the new permits for low-income neighbourhoods, saying a scarcity of fresh produce has led to high rates of obesity and other health problems.

City Council Speaker Christine Quinn said underserved New Yorkers would have better access to fresh produce as early as this spring.

There are more than 4,000 permits for so-called green carts in New York and the stands are a common sight in wealthy Manhattan.

MNA/Reuters

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV EAGLE PRIDE VOY NO (803)

Consignees of cargo carried on MVEAGLE PRIDE VOY NO (803) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.3.2008 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE SHIPPING CO, LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI PRESTIGE VOY NO (30308)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI PRESTIGE VOY NO (30308) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.3.2008 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.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S GATI COAST TO COAST A
DIVISION OF GATI LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Thaksin comes home, no political plans

BANGKOK, 28 Feb—Ousted Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra returned home from exile on Thursday swearing to stay out of politics, although most analysts suspect he will be running the country from behind the scenes.

His first action was to be to surrender to police at the airport on a corruption charge, then head to the Supreme Court to seek bail. Thousands of supporters thronged the airport, waving "We Love Thaksin" banners and cardboard cutouts of their hero. As the telecoms billionaire's flight from Hong Kong touched down, chants of "Thaksin, Thaksin" echoed round the arrivals hall.

"I love him so much," said 65-year-old Wilai Scott. "I want Thaksin to

be PM again." In a sign of widespread support among Bangkok's rank and file, Wilai said the taxi driver taking her to the airport refused to accept a fare.

Before boarding the flight, Thaksin said he was looking forward to spending time with his family and seeing the land of his birth for the first time in 18 months. He was at the United Nations in New York at the time of the September 2006 coup. "There is no place like your homeland," he said after receiving flowers from an old Thai lady in the departure lounge in Hong Kong.

When pressed about a possible return to politics, Thaksin repeated a well-rehearsed line about wanting to be a private citizen.—MNA/Reuters

MYANMAR IVANHOE COPPER COMPANY LIMITED (TENDER NOTICE)

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Tender documents are available at the following addresses:

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

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

Sealed Bids are to be reached the above offices on or before the closing date.

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

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for Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited

P. O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 1 March 2008

Drive with care

Nearly 70,000 fowls culled in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 28 Feb—Another 69,862 fowls were culled and 2,35,408 eggs destroyed in the last two days in three districts of Bangladesh due to infection of avian influenza virus, leading newspaper The Daily Star reported on Wednesday.

Livestock department personnel culled 58,130 chickens including 37,000 chicks and destroyed 2,26,813 eggs from one single poultry farm in Mymensingh District, about 120 kilometres north of capital Dhaka.

Bird flu infection was detected at the farm on February 23, said bird flu control room sources.

In Boalkhali sub-district of southeastern Chittagong District, a team of livestock department culled 2,333 chickens,

pigeons and ducks from a farm. The team also destroyed 140 eggs from neighbouring houses, the bird flu control room sources added.

Besides, in western Pabna District, 2,804 fowls and 8,455 eggs were destroyed from a farm in Atghoria sub-district and 300 ducks, pigeons and other domestic fowls were culled from nearby houses on Monday.

Following the detection of bird flu in the farm, the livestock department sent out a team to cull the fowls in the farm. Bird flu, which broke out in March last year, became devastating early this year forcing thousands of farms closed and tens of thousands jobless.

MNA/Xinhua



A model wears a creation by British fashion designer Stella McCartney as part of her fall-winter 2008-2009 ready to wear collection in Paris, on 28 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Study shows bacteria help form snow, rain



Farmers harvest vegetable in the snow-covered fields in Dayu township of Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, on 27 Jan, 2008.—XINHUA

BEIJING, 29 Feb— Atmospheric scientists have long known that most snow and rain forms in chilly conditions high in the sky, under most conditions, the moisture needs something to cling to in order to condense.

Now, a new study shows a surprisingly large share of those so-called “something

to cling to” turns out to be bacteria that can affect plants, according to Friday’s edition of the journal *Science*.

“Bacteria are by far the most active ice nuclei in nature,” said Brent C Christner, an assistant professor of biological sciences at Louisiana State University.

Christner and his colleagues sampled 20 snow samples from Antarctica, France, Montana and the Yukon.

Christner said in some samples bacteria amounted to 85 percent of the nuclei. The bacteria were most common in France, followed by Montana and the Yukon, and was even present to a lesser degree in Antarctica.

Pseudomonas syringae was found to be the most common bacteria, which can cause disease in several types of plants including tomatoes and beans.

Xinhua

Kidnapped US aid worker, Afghan driver feared dead

KABUL, 28 Feb—An American woman aid worker and her local driver who were abducted in Afghanistan may have been killed, foreign groups said.

Cyd Mizell, 49, an employee of the Asian Rural Life Development Foundation (ARLDF),

and her driver were kidnapped by unidentified gunmen last month while heading for work in a car in the southern city of Kandahar.

“Although we have no confirmation of their deaths, we have received information over the past few days indicating that

our two aid workers have been killed,” ARLDF said on its website.

No group has claimed responsibility for the abductions, and the Taliban insurgents behind many of the recent year's kidnappings have denied involvement.

MNA/Reuters

Venezuelan plane makes emergency landing in Panama

PANAMA CITY, 28 Feb— A Venezuelan passenger plane carrying 112 people made an emergency landing in Panama on Wednesday after its pilot saw smoke coming out of its air conditioning equipment, Panamanian authorities said.

The aircraft landed safely at Panama City’s

Tocumen International Airport, and no injuries were reported, Panama’s aviation authority said in a statement.

The plane, operated by the Empresa Aerea Venezolana airline, was flying a charter route from Panama City to the Venezuelan city of Maracaibo, according to

aviation authority spokesman Victor de la Hoz.

The aviation authority initially said the plane landed in Panama after taking off from Maracaibo en route to Maiquetia, just outside the Venezuelan capital of Caracas, but later clarified the plane’s route.

MNA/Reuters

This undated artist drawing released by NASA shows the Mars Science Laboratory, a mobile robot for investigating Mars’ past or present ability to sustain microbial life. The mission to land a nuclear-powered, next-generation rover on Mars is facing development problems and ballooning costs that could threaten its scheduled launch next year.—INTERNET



CT scans lower risk of unnecessary appendix surgery

BOSTON, 29 Feb — The chance of having an appendix removed unnecessarily has plummeted since 1996 in the United States, possibly because more doctors are using CT scans to confirm appendicitis diagnoses, researchers said on Wednesday.

The likelihood of an unnecessary appendectomy went from 24 per cent in 1996 down to 3 per

cent in 2006, according to a team led by Dr Steven Raman at the University of California, Los Angeles. Their survey of 1,081 people who had had an appendix removed, showed the use of CT scans to check for suspected appendicitis went from 20 per cent in 1996 to 85 per cent 10 years later.

About 8 per cent of the population develops appendicitis at some point

in their lives as the finger-like sac at the start of the large intestine becomes enlarged and inflamed.

If the sac bursts, it can be fatal. Doctors have historically erred on the side of surgery when it looked like a patient with abdominal pain might have appendicitis.

The results appear in a letter to the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

MNA/Reuters

Children among 19 killed as Israel pounds Gaza

GAZA CITY, 29 Feb— Israel pounded Hamas-run Gaza on Thursday, killing 10 militants, four children and four civilians, as Prime Minister Ehud Olmert vowed to make the Islamists pay a heavy price for rocket attacks.

The children, aged eight, nine, 11 and 12, were killed as they played in a field during an Israeli air strike around the northern town of Jabaliya, Palestinian medics said.

Another 12-year-old boy died of wounds sustained in a Gaza raid the previous day, and a shepherd was killed in northern Gaza.

The Israeli army said it carried out several air strikes targeting rocket-

launching sites.

Palestinian medical sources said four people were killed in two separate air strikes in the northern Gaza Strip on Thursday evening.

Two of them were killed

in one car driving in the north of the Gaza Strip.

A third was found dead in an electricity company vehicle, which carried another Palestinian who later died of his injuries, they said. —*Internet*



Israelis gather at the site where a rocket fired from Gaza landed in the southern Israeli town of Sderot.—INTERNET

NASA says moon south pole more rugged than thought

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb— The moon’s south pole region, a possible future landing site for human or robotic lunar missions, is far more rugged than had been thought, with towering peaks and deep craters, NASA said on

Wednesday.

Using an Earth-based radar system in California’s Mojave Desert, the US space agency collected the most accurate, highest-resolution terrain mapping data to date on the moon’s south pole. NASA looked at an area around Shackleton Crater, with some terrain in perpetual darkness and other areas almost always sunlit. Scientists previously have gotten images of the area, but never in such detail, NASA said.

The Shackleton Crater rim area is a landing site candidate for a future crewed mission to the moon, NASA said. There have been previous indications water ice might exist in darkened areas of

the crater, although that remains controversial.

The region has a peak towering 3.8 miles (6 kilometres)—rivaling North America’s tallest mountain, Mount McKinley in Alaska — and craters 2.5 miles (four kilometres) deep, NASA said. The scientists noted that the largest volcano on Earth—Mauna Loa in Hawaii — would fit easily inside these depths.

“It continues to be an area of high interest for future human landings. And this type of information is critical for us in understanding what we’re getting into if we choose to land here,” said Doug Cooke of NASA’s Exploration Systems Mission Directorate.—*MNA/Reuters*

SPORTS

Feyenoord reach Dutch Cup semis thanks to late winner

ROTTERDAM (Netherlands), 29 Feb — Striker Michael Mols headed the winner seven minutes from time to earn Feyenoord a 2-1 home victory over Second Division Zwolle in Thursday's Dutch Cup quarterfinal.

Roy Makaay had put the hosts in front after good work by Giovanni van Bronckhorst in the eighth minute.

Portuguese Toze scored a deserved equaliser for Zwolle just before halftime but Mols saved the day for Feyenoord when he converted a late cross from Jonathan de Guzman.

MNA/Reuters



Germany's Renate Lingor (L) challenges China's Wang Kun (R) during their international friendly women's soccer match in Freiburg on 28 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Getafe close on King's Cup final with 3-1 win over Racing

MADRID, 29 Feb — Getafe moved a step closer to their second consecutive King's Cup final by beating Racing Santander 3-1 in their semi-final first leg on Thursday.

Goals from Ruben de la Red, Francisco Casquero and Manu del Moral sank Racing, making their first appearance in the last four.

Getafe, who lost 1-0 to Sevilla in their first final appearance last June, travel to Santander for the return leg on 19 March. Wednesday's semi-final finished 1-1 after Barcelona scrambled a last-minute equalizer against Valencia at the Nou Camp.

Two former Real Madrid youth team players combined to put Getafe in front in the 25th minute when De la Red headed in a corner by Esteban Granero.— MNA/Reuters



Bolivia's San Jose's Sandro Cohelo left, fights for the ball with Colombia's Cucuta Deportivo's Fredy Arizala during a Copa Libertadores soccer game in Cucuta, on 28 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Denmark defender Helveg retires from int'l arena

COPENHAGEN, 29 Feb — Denmark defender Thomas Helveg is to retire from international football at the age of 36.

"The national team has been a big part of my life during the last 14 years, so it's obviously a difficult decision for me," the former AC Milan player said in a statement on the Danish FA's website (www.dbu.dk) on Thursday.

Helveg, who currently plays for Danish Superleague club OB Odense, made the first of his 108 international appearances against Hungary in 1994.

He captained Denmark between 2004 and 2007.

MNA/Reuters



Lorena Ochoa of Mexico tees off a shot at the 9th hole during the first round of the HSBC Women's Champions golf tournament in Singapore.—INTERNET

Nakata invites Mourinho for exhibition game

TOKYO, 29 Feb — Former Japan international Hidetoshi Nakata has invited Chelsea's ex-manager Jose Mourinho to coach in an exhibition game in June, a Japanese newspaper reported on Thursday.

Nakata wants Mourinho involved in the game Japan's most recognisable ex-footballer plans to stage in Yokohama on 7 June to raise awareness of environmental issues.

Liverpool's Steven Gerrard, Chelsea pair Didier Drogba and Andriy Shevchenko and Luis Figo of Inter Milan are among players Nakata wants to invite, according to Japan's Sports Hochi.

Nakata, who won an Italian Serie A title with Roma in 2001, stunned Japanese fans by retiring after the 2006 World Cup at 29 years old.

MNA/Reuters



Germany's Jorg Roskopf returns a shot against Slovak's Lubomir Pistej during the men's last round of 16 at the World Team Table Tennis Championships in Guangzhou.—INTERNET

Thaksin vows to make Man City "Pride of Thailand"

BANGKOK, 29 Feb — Ousted Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra has vowed to make Manchester City, the English Premier League soccer club he bought in July 2007, the pride of Thailand.

"It will be the team Thais are proud of," Thaksin, who returned to Bangkok from exile 18 months after being ousted in a coup, told Army-run Channel 5 television from Hong Kong.

He also reiterated a commitment to spread the club's name across Asia with a network of training and recruitment academies.

"There will be Man City China, Man City Japan, Man City US. In the next season, Man City will be another Man United," Thaksin said.

He gave no details of the plan but said fans would be surprised by an improved performance.—MNA/Reuters

Kaka extends AC Milan contract until 2013

MILAN, 29 Feb — AC Milan have extended Brazilian playmaker Kaka's contract by two years until June 2013, the European champions announced on Thursday.

"Ricky (Kaka) has repeatedly said that he wants to become a symbol of this team," Milan vice president Adriano Galliani told the club's website (www.acmilan.com).

"He is, he is the greatest player in the world, he has decided to tie himself definitively to the Rossoneri colours.

"This is the contract of his life. I hope to be able to do another contract in 2013, but this is proof that Kaka will keep delighting our fans for all of his career."

MNA/Reuters



Caroline Wozniacki, of Denmark, returns a shot to Lindsay Davenport in a quarterfinal match at the Cellular South Cup tennis tournament in Memphis, Tenn, on 28 Feb, 2008. Davenport defeated Wozniacki, 6-0, 6-2.—INTERNET

FC Thun suspend four players accused of sex with minor

BERNE (Switzerland), 29 Feb — Swiss top division side FC Thun have suspended four players accused of sexual activity with a 15-year-old girl.

"Two first team players and two members of the Under-21 side have been suspended from both playing and training with effect from Thursday," the club announced on its website (www.fcthun.ch).

The four players are among a group of seven current and former Thun players facing prosecution over the incidents.

Police said on Monday that at least 10 men were due to stand trial for activities ranging from kissing to full sex with the girl's consent and two charges of alleged rape.

According to the FC Thun statement, the rape allegations relate to one of the club's former players and a non-player.

Under Switzerland's strict privacy laws, none of the men facing charges have been named by police.

"The situation has been extremely difficult for the club, particularly because the presumption of innocence still applies for all four players," the club added. — MNA/Reuters

Aggressive teens have different brain structures

WASHINGTON, 29 Feb — Teens who are more likely to argue aggressively and persistently with their parents also have brain structures of different sizes, finds a new study available Wednesday.

On average, a sassy kid has a larger amygdala, the

part of the brain that processes emotional responses, than a cooperative one. The findings, published in the latest online issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, could help scientists understand the roots of aggressive behaviour in

teens.

Nicholas Allen from the University of Melbourne, Australia, wanted to find out whether brain structure influences a teenager's day-to-day emotional state. He and colleagues from the Orygen Research Centre in Melbourne and the Oregon Research Institute in the United States videotaped 137 preteens and teenagers between the ages of 11 and 14 as they talked with their parents about issues that often lead to disagreements — such as bedtime, homework, or cell-phone use. — MNA/Xinhua

A Nintendo DS Lite. Japan's fair trade watchdog raided Sharp Corp and Hitachi Ltd on Thursday on suspicion of limiting competition by fixing prices of displays for portable game consoles such as the DS Lite, officials said.

INTERNET

Australian fisherman survives 30 hours at sea

SYDNEY, 29 Feb — A fisherman swam 12 hours to reach the shore while another survived 30 hours at sea until a helicopter spotted him on Thursday after their trawler sank off the Australian coast, rescuers said.

A third fisherman is still missing.

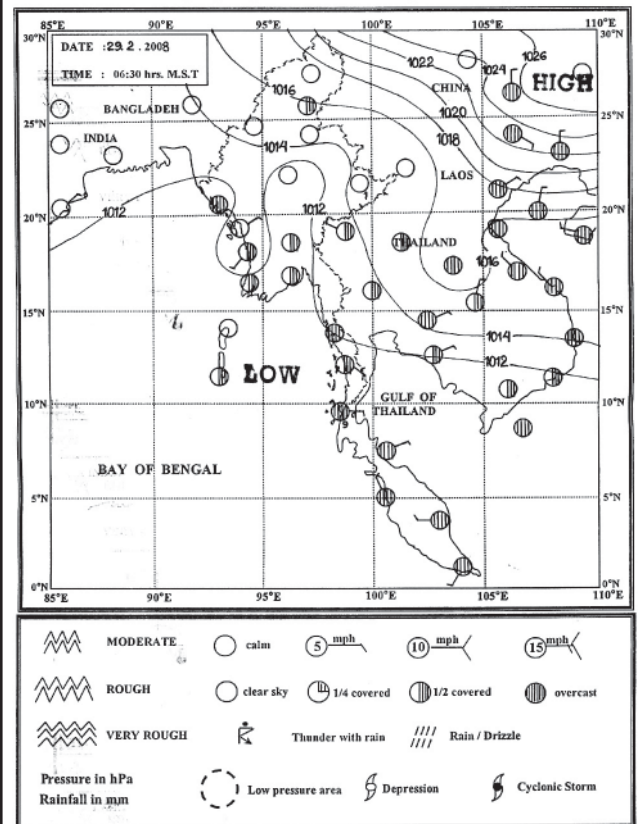
Their trawler sank after hitting a reef 15 kilometres (nine miles) off the mid-northeast coast of Australia on Wednesday, prompting a major search and rescue operation.

One of the fisherman crawled ashore near Brunswick Heads, exhausted, dehydration and bloodied, some 12 hours after his ship sank.

"He had pretty bad cuts and bruises to his legs and his arms, he was pretty exhausted, pretty badly sunburnt," said Chris Gort who helped the fisherman on the beach.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 29 February, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Shan and Kayin States, Taninthayi Division and weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States, Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Kachin and Shan States, Magway and Mandalay Divisions (5°C) below February average temperatures in Chin State and Bago Division, (4°C) above February average temperatures in Taninthayi Division and about February average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (2°C), Haka (3°C), Lashio, Namhsan and Pinlaung (4°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Kawthong (0.35) inch.

Maximum temperature on 28-2-2008 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 29-2-2008 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 29-2-2008 was 66%. Total sunshine hours on 28-2-2008 was (7.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 29-2-2008 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 (4) mph from Southeast at (21:30) hours MST on 28-2-2008.

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 1-3-2008: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Shan State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Kayin and Mon States, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-3-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-3-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-3-2008: Generally fair weather.

Weather outlook for first weekend of march 2008: During the coming weekend, weather will be generally fair in NayPyiTaw and Mandalay Division and partly cloudy in Yangon Division.



Saturday, 1 March
View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာ ရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

- အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

7:55 am

- Musical programme

8:10 am

- တံတားအလှပန်လောင်

8:15 am

- (၆၃)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Grammar made easy

11:00 am

- Martial song

11:15 am

- Musical programme

11:40 am

- Games for children

12:05 pm

- Roung up of the week's TV local news

12:15 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "စစ်သူကြီးဆွန်ကြီး" (အပိုင်း- ၁၁)

1:00 pm

- "လောကနီတိ"(၅) "မေတ္တာအတိမ်အနက်ကို ချိန်ဆက်၍ကြည့်သောအခါ" (ပိုင်ဇေရီထွန်း၊ စည်သူတင်ဦး၊ လင်းဇာနည်ဇော်၊ ခင်ဇာမြည်ဇော်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်ဇော်)

2:00 pm

- အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

2:15 pm

- Musical programme

2:25 pm

- Dance of National Races

2:40 pm

- မောင်းကတောရေလှောင်တံခံ

2:45 pm

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- English for everyday use

4:45 pm

- အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-စတုတ္ထနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု) (ဥပဒေပညာ)

5:05 pm

- မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

5:10 pm

- တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြု တေးသီချင်းဖြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုတေးများ (၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်)

5:20 pm

- မြန်မာ့လေ့ရိုးရာလက်စွဲ

5:35 pm

- ရသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင် လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- အလှရှာမယ်၊ လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:00 pm

- (၆၃)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

7:15 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူအားမာန်" (အပိုင်း-၁၇)

8:00 pm

- News

14. News

- International news

15. International news

- Weather report

16. Weather report

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မာယာထောင်ချောက်" (အပိုင်း-၅)

17. The next day's programme

People's Desire

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

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe attends opening of 16th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe enjoys performance of State Military Band at 16th Military Band Competition to mark 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb— A ceremony to open the 16th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition to mark the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day was held at the parade ground, here, this morning, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Ob-

servance of the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the Management Committee for Observance of the

63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the 16th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, senior military

officers of the Ministry of Defence, the parade commander and column com-

manders who will participate in the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day

Parade, members of the organizing (See page 10)

Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden packed with holiday-makers

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb — Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee

opened the Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden near the Nay Pyi Taw City Hall on 4 January 2008 with the aim of keeping the Nay Pyi Taw clean, beautiful and green and of enabling the people and staff to take relaxation.

The Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden is located on 65 acres land with a 48 square feet steel structure archway. Also included in the garden are a 15-million-gallon-capacity main pond, 11 small ponds with 10 fountains, three walkways under the fountains, one 30 feet high clock tower, nine recreation centres, two small gardens and three stone gar-

dens decorated with thriving flowery plants and shade trees. In addition, ten feet wide buggy road and footpaths were constructed in the compound of the garden, and arrangements have been made for the visitors to enjoy the various scenes of the garden by buggy.

The garden is being kept open from 8 am to 7 pm daily free of charge for the people and staff families. Therefore, the people residing in Nay Pyi Taw and staff families take relaxation at the garden. Especially, the garden is packed with holiday-makers on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

MNA



Holiday-makers visit Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden. — MNA