

Kataññuta, gratitude towards the grateful; this is the way to auspiciousness

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Thursday, 13 March, 2008

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Mandalay Division Sub-Commission for Holding Referendum for Approval of Draft Constitution meets

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March—Mandalay Division Sub-Commission for Holding the Referendum for Approval of the Draft Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held a meeting at its office at 11.00 am on 7 March.

Present on the occasion were members of the Commission for Holding the Referendum for Approval of the Draft Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Tin Maung and U Sai San Tin, the chairman and members of Mandalay Division Sub-Commission and chairmen of District and Township Sub-Commissions.

Member of the Commission for Holding the Referendum U Tin Maung and the chairman of Mandalay Division Sub-Commission gave speeches.

U Ye Aung Myint, member of Mandalay Division Sub-Commission, explained the referendum law and by-law and member U Bo Shwe, preparations for voting rolls.

The chairman of Mandalay Division Sub-Commission reported on the design of polling booth and voting system.

Those present discussed general matters and the chairman of Mandalay Division Sub-Commission gave concluding remarks.—MNA



Meeting of Mandalay Division Sub-Commission for Holding Referendum for Approval of Draft Constitution in progress. — MNA

Let's approve State Constitution (draft) to shape prosperous future (3)

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The democratic processes the government had presented are all clear. They are also transparent because they were presented to the people and were made known to the international community. The processes were carried out in accordance with the time frame. These transparent processes are clear to Myanmar people of more than 56 million. There is no need to be doubtful that certain elements do not know the processes because they are turning a blind eye to them. The subversive elements at home and abroad do not know and pay attention to more than 56 million people of Myanmar. They know a single person only. They are showing total disregard for the interests of the entire people, and are heeding the interests of a particular person and party.

PAGES 7+8

KHAING MYO NYILAR AUNG

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 13 March, 2008

Try to boost coffee production for export

In order to export more coffee that is in demand in the international market coffee plants are being grown extensively in the country. They can be usually grown in cool hilly regions and hill resort regions with few plains.

Myanmar grows highland coffee and lowland coffee and the former is grown in Shan State (East), Chin State, PyinOoLwin and Nawngkhio Townships and the latter in East Bago and Thantaung Township, Kayin State.

More coffee plants are being grown in Yaksawk, Pindaya, Pinlaung, Hopong and Taunggyi Townships. PyinOoLwin, Nawngkhio, Ywangan and Yaksawk have been designated as regions of coffee project. With much experience in growing coffee for many years, the country has a prospect to grow it on a commercial scale.

There were only more than 14000 acres of coffee in 1998. But there were over 50000 acres in 2007-2008 and more than 4000 tons of coffee seeds were produced. Besides, a project has been launched to grow up to 100,000 acres of coffee in coming cultivation seasons.

The ministry concerned has allotted over 100,000-acre reclaimed land so as to grow more coffee in PyinOoLwin and Nawngkhio Townships. Coffee growers have been granted agricultural loans. In addition, plans are under way to disburse special loans to those who cultivate more than 10 acres of coffee as well as successful coffee growers.

As township agricultural departments are providing quality coffee seeds and modern cultivation methods alongside the efforts of the coffee growers, there will be an increased production of Myanmar coffee that has been popular in the global market.

Myanmar ICT Exhibition on 21-23 March

YANGON, 12 March—Myanmar Computer Professionals Association and Myanmar Computer Industrialists Association will conduct Myanmar ICT Exhibition 2008 at Tatmadaw Convention Hall here from 21 to 23 March.

The exhibition will be organized by Myanmar Computer Federation.

A total of 90 companies of local and foreign will showcase accessories of computers, new technology for networking, software solutions, computer courses and books at the exhibition.

During the exhibition, the companies will sell computer related equipment at reasonable prices.

More information is available at MCPA (ph 652276) and MCIA (ph 652238).— MNA

People's Desire

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

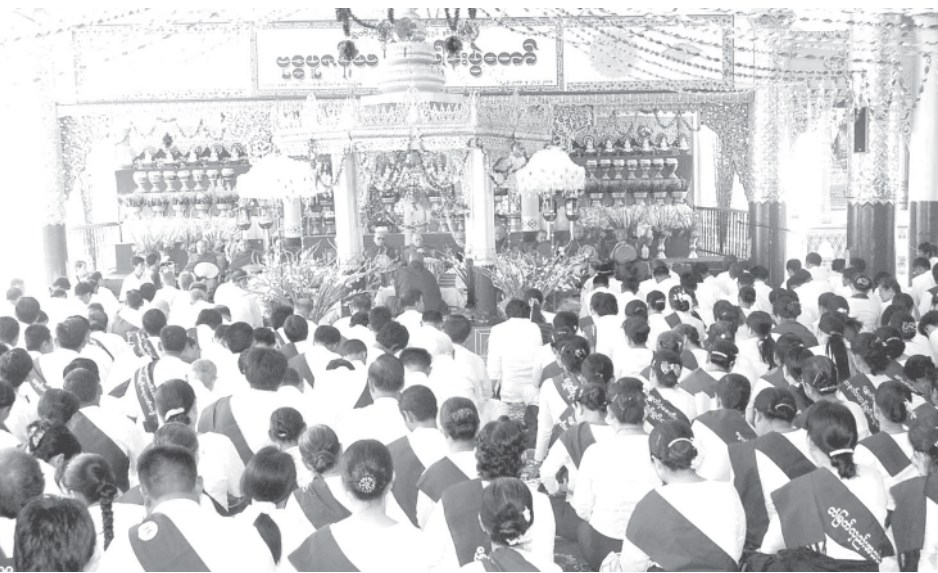
2596th Buddha Pujaniya of Shwedagon Pagoda commences

YANGON, 12 March — A ceremony to open the 2596th Buddha Pujaniya of Shwedagon Pagoda, organized by the Pagoda Board of Trustees, was held at Chanthagyi Prayer Hall of Shwedagon Pagoda, here, this morning.

State Ovadaçariya Aungmyebonsan Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa of Bahan Township and members of the Sangha consecrated the Hnakeik Shithsu and Panpaung Buddha Image. The Sayadaw and members of the pagoda board of trustees lit the lights at the opening of the Buddha Pujaniya.

After the ceremony, members of the pagoda board of trustees offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha.

During the Buddha Pujaniya, Maha Pathana Desana will be recited from 12 to 21 March. On 20 March, rice and alms will be offered to members of the Sangha and nuns. In the early morning of Fullmoon Day of Tabaung on 21 May, 'soon' will be donated to the Buddha Image of the pagoda, and the ceremony to share merits gained will be held at 9.30 am. — MNA



A ceremony to open 2596th Buddha Pujaniya of Shwedagon Pagoda in progress. — MNA

Commander inspects Tilaw Farming Special Zone in Nyaungshwe

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye visited Tilaw Farming Special Zone in Nyaungshwe Township on 6 March and gave instructions to officials on growing of perennial trees.

During the visit, the commander first inspected condition of mango trees on 42 acres of land.

He also inspected the growing of vine on 150 acres and land preparation to grow sugarcane on 100 acres by private farming

companies. Fifty acres have been put under rubber and another 50 acres under coffee in the zone.

The commander also viewed the land preparation to grow sugarcane on 100 acres of land by Myanmar Sugarcane Enterprise and 10-acre of vine of the command.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye visited land reclamation for highland cultivation by Myanmar Agriculture Service and Agricultural Mechanization Department.

At the meeting with the commander at the zone, officials concerned and businessmen reported on target for growing perennial trees on 3,000 acres in the zone, and Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye attended to the needs of the businessmen.

After the meeting, the commander visited Tonaya Sugar Factory in Ayethaya Industrial Zone of Taunggyi and inspected production process of the factory.

MNA

“The Call of Defence Service” (Myanmar-English) in circulation

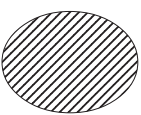
YANGON, 12 March — The book entitled “The Call of Defence Service (Myanmar-English) — Defence Service Needs You for the Country” written by Dr Htila Sitthu came out recently.

The book featured milestones of the country such as the difficult journey of Myanmar and the difficulties of Myanmar people from 1949 to 1952 after regaining the independence. In addition, the writer recounted his experiences of life in overcoming the troublesome period.

The writer described bitter incidents of the post-independence period, the lamentation of mothers for their young children and hoping the going home of their sons.

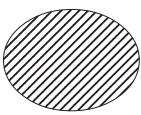
The writer compiled the book with the best purpose for today's youth not to break the laws and regulations.

MNA



Cover of the book entitled “The Call of Defence Service”.

MNA



Poll says most Americans do not read political blogs

NEW YORK, 12 March—A majority of Americans do not read political blogs, the online commentaries that have proliferated in the race for the US presidency, according to a poll released on Monday.

Only 22 per cent of people responding to the poll said they read blogs regularly, meaning several times a month or more, according to the survey conducted by Harris Interactive.

Political blogs, in which writers, pundits and other

participants voice opinions in online forums, burst into the spotlight in the 2004 and 2008 presidential campaigns. Some of the most high-profile blogs are influential on campaign strategies, media coverage and public perception of the candidates and issues.

Unlike traditional, mainstream media, blogs often adopt a specific point of view. Critics complain they can contain unchecked facts, are poorly edited and use unreliable sources.

Despite the attention blogs can get, the poll said 56 per cent of Americans say they never read blogs that discuss politics. Another 23 per cent read them several times a year, the survey showed.

While blogs are largely considered the realm of young people who are most Internet-savvy, only 19 per cent of people ages 18 to 31, and 17 per cent of those ages 32 to 43, regularly read a political blog, the poll said.

MNA/Reuters



Aurora australis is seen from China's Antarctic ice breaker the Snow Dragon, or "Xuelong" in Chinese, during its journey in the floating ice region in the Antarctica on 11 March, 2008. —XINHUA

Iran to continue cooperation with IAEA

TEHRAN, 12 March—Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad-Ali Hosseini said on Monday that Teheran

would continue its cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the state-run Press TV channel reported.

Iran "will continue to work with the IAEA and to conduct its nuclear activities within the framework of the Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and international regulations", Hosseini was quoted as saying at his weekly Press briefing.

He expressed Iran's readiness to hold talks with the five permanent members of the UN Security Council—China, Russia, Britain, France and the United States—plus Germany on issues agreed to by both sides.

The UN Security Council adopted another resolution last week slapping stronger sanctions to press Iran to suspend its uranium enrichment activities.

Last Monday, the 15-member UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1803 with a vote of 14-0.

Indonesia abstained from endorsing the document.

The new sanctions include travel restrictions and bans on more Iranians, an expansion of asset freezes, curbs on dual-use items, export credits, financial monitoring, cargo inspections on aircraft and vessels, and possible "next steps".

MNA/Xinhua



A worker walks past the under construction leaning tower of the new China Central Television (CCTV) headquarters building shrouded with air pollution in Beijing, China, on 12 March, 2008.

INTERNET

Panama progresses in canal expansion

PANAMA CITY, 12 March—Some 40 per cent of the top of the Cerro Paraiso hill has been removed to make way for the expansion of the Panama Canal, the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) said on Monday. The 136-metre-high hill is now down to 84 metres and 25 per cent of its rocks have now been removed, the ACP said. The project will take away a total of 7.4

million cubic metres of material.

Panama construction company Constructora Urbana (CUSA) has also completed the cleaning of a 146-hectare military US Army firing range, destroying 600 bomb and mortar remains.

The range was used from 1990 to 1999, when the United States handed control of the canal to Panama.—MNA/Xinhua

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

44 killed as Iraq and US ponder future American role

BAGHDAD, 12 March—At least 44 people were killed in violence across Iraq on Tuesday, including 16 in a bomb attack on a bus, as US and Iraqi officials began talks on the US military's future role in the country.

The day's bloodiest attack was on a bus travelling from the port of

Basra to Nasiriyah when it was struck by a bomb, some 430 kilometres (265 miles) south of Baghdad, Nasiriyah police Lieutenant Colonel Ali Siwan said.

At least 16 people were killed and 22 wounded, he said.

Separately, eight people were killed when a suicide bomber rammed his explosives-laden car into a checkpoint manned by Iraqi soldiers and members of a local group fighting Al-Qaeda in Iraq, police said. —Internet

Clashes kill 13 in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 12 March—At least 10 Tamil Tiger rebels and three Sri Lankan soldiers were killed in a fierce battle in the north on Monday, said the military.

Officials from the Media Centre for National Security said the Army launched a strong attack

on a line of LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) bunkers around 4:30 am (2300 GMT, Sunday) in the Ilanthivan area of the Mannar District.

Officials said 10 LTTE rebels were killed and eight LTTE bunkers were captured by the Army.

However, three government soldiers were killed in action while 12 others injured.

Meanwhile, the military said two LTTE rebels were killed by security forces in the eastern Ampara District Monday afternoon.

MNA/Xinhua

An Iraqi boy stands next to the wreckage of a bus which was destroyed in Sadr City.—INTERNET





Indian employees work on the production line at Honda Siel Cars India Ltd (HSCI) factory in Noida, a satellite town on the outskirts of New Delhi in February 2008. India's industrial production dropped unexpectedly sharply in January, fuelling worries about slowing economic growth in Asia's third-largest economy.—INTERNET

Thai deputy PM denies Thaksin seeking political asylum

BANGKOK, 11 March — Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Somchai Wongsawat on Monday denied that former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra is planning to seek political asylum abroad.

He was responding to claims made by Prasong Soonsiri, a former member of the National Legislative Assembly,

that the ousted leader was paving the way for himself to seek asylum by asking the Supreme Court for permission to leave for the United Kingdom on 13 March.

"There is no reason for Thaksin to run away. The reason why he came back in the first place was to fight corruption charges against him," he said.

Thaksin, who was ousted from the Govern-

ment House during a military coup in 2006, returned to Thailand on 28 February, ending the 17-month exile life.

On 12 March, the Supreme Court will hold the first hearing with Thaksin and his wife as defendants, who face corruption and conflict of interest charges regarding the purchase of a land lot in downtown Bangkok in 2003. —Xinhua

Vietnam, Croatia agree to foster ties

HANOI, 11 March—Vietnam and Croatia have agreed to boost their friendship and bilateral multi-faceted cooperation as well as coordination on dealing with regional and international issues.

"We have agreed on beefing up bilateral co-operation extensively and intensively in many fields, including economy, trade, investment, construction, oil and gas, education, science and technology and tourism," Vietnamese State President Nguyen Minh Triet told reporters Monday right after holding talks with visiting Croatian President Stjepan Mesic.

Both Vietnam and Croatia are non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, which create conditions for the two countries foster bilateral and multilateral cooperation, Triet said, noting that Mesic's visit will help bring the bilateral relations to new height in

a more substantial and effective manner.

The Croatian President said that the two sides agreed on all issues they discussed, and that his country wants to strengthen cooperation with Vietnam in various spheres.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 9 March, 2008 shows the bird's-eye view of Antarctica.—XINHUA

China vows to save energy, cut pollution in 2008

BEIJING, 11 March — China will take tangible measures to save energy and cut pollution in 2008, Li Pumin, the spokesman for the National Development and Reform Commission, said on Saturday in an interview posted on the Chinese www.gov.cn website.

"The country will continue eliminating outdated production capacity, including 13 million kilowatts of small thermal power plant capacity, 50

million tons of cement capacity, six million tons of steel capacity and 14 million tons of iron production capacity," said Li.

China plans to eliminate 100 million tons of iron production capacity and 55 million tons of steel production capacity from 2006 to 2010.

To protect the environment and save energy, China had eliminated 29.4 million tons of outdated iron smelting capacity and

15.21 million tons of outdated steel smelting capacity as of the end of November.

"The government will make full use of tax, fiscal and financial policies to push forward energy-saving and pollution-cutting goals," added Li.

China's top five banks offered loans of more than 100 billion yuan (14.08 billion US dollars) last year to support companies' environmental plans.—Xinhua



Farmers carry saplings to plant on the Dabieshan Mountain in Yuexi County of East China's Anhui Province, on 10 March, 2008. Almost a million saplings have been planted in the area.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Nepal, NZ sign agreement to raise household incomes

KATHMANDU, 11 March — An agreement was signed here Sunday between the government of Nepal and the government of New Zealand on improving household incomes by producing barley crop for fodder,

which is useful for livestock. According to the National news agency RSS, Executive Director of Nepal Agricultural Research Council Nanda Prasad Shrestha and New Zealand's Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade Keith w signed the documents to this effect.

Focus is given on the production of barley crop as it can be grown in both summer and winter seasons and improves animal health, fertility and milk yields.

Nepali farmers will be trained on producing its seeds and the farming methods with an objective of helping alleviate poverty and will be publicized through media, the RSS said. —Xinhua

HK to reduce 25% energy intensity by 2030

HONG KONG, 11 March — Hong Kong is working to achieve a 25-per-cent reduction in energy intensity by 2030, the top environment official of Hong Kong said here Monday.

"Apart from cost-saving, energy conservation is one of the main measures to sustain development and build a green Hong Kong," said Edward Yau, Secretary for Environment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, when officiating at the 2nd Hong Kong Energy Efficiency Awards presentation ceremony.

To meet the target, the bureau has implemented measures to promote energy conservation and the use of clean energy, he said.

The efficiency competition attracted more than 1,400 entries from January to August last year.—Xinhua

China launches world's first e-tagged int'l container route

SHANGHAI, 11 March — A Chinese vessel with e-tagged containers sailed on Monday from Shanghai to Savannah port in the United States, marking the opening of the world's first international e-tagged container route.

The doorbell-sized e-tags installed on twenty-foot container equivalent units (TEU), will record information about every

procedure in the TEU's whole transportation process, such as the delivery and off-loading time, the real-time TEU condition and the time and place of the legal or illegal opening. The information will be transmitted through a wireless regional Web network to a website for monitoring.

If a container is illegally opened enroute, the

e-tag will automatically record the "intrusion" and present a red alarm signal on the website.

The system will greatly enhance cargo safety over long sea journeys.

The vessel, Ningbo, of the China Shipping Container Liners Co, Ltd, will arrive in Savannah, a major US container port, in about one month.

MNA/Xinhua



Nintendo Co's Wii game console is displayed at an electronic shop in Tokyo's Akihabara. Nintendo's Wii game console outsold Sony Corp's PlayStation 3 nearly 4-to-1 in Japan in February as Wii software titles dominated the best seller list, a game magazine publisher said. —INTERNET



A pear-shaped 72.22-carat diamond, expected to bring up to \$13 million when it goes on the auction block next month, is seen during a Press preview on 10 March, 2008 at Sotheby's in New York. —INTERNET

“China's Hawaii” to get three new airports

BEIJING, 11 March — China's southern resort island of Hainan, which touts itself as the country's answer to Hawaii, will get three new airports by 2020 in addition to the two it already has, state media said on Monday.

The new airports will be built at Dongfang on the west coast, Qionghai on the northeast coast, and at Wuzhishan near the middle of the island, the official Xinhua news agency said.

It is part of a plan to add almost 100 airports in China by 2020, on the back of booming demand driven by strong economic growth.

Hainan already has airports at provincial capital Haikou and at Sanya on the south coast, where most of the resorts are located.

Provincial officials last week complained the island was still not attracting enough foreign visitors due to poor facilities and lack of promotion, saying they hoped one day Hainan would be as popular as Phuket in Thailand. Chinese airports last year handled 388 million passengers, up more than one fifth on the previous year. — MNA/Reuters

ECONOMIC NEWS

Bangladesh's national airlines to buy eight Boeings

DHAKA, 11 March — Bangladesh's national flag carrier Biman Bangladesh Airlines will purchase eight Boeing aircraft at a cost of 1.265 billion US dollars to revamp the country's lone dilapidated airlines.

Biman will sign an memorandum of understanding with Boeing representatives here on 15 March, Chief Adviser's special assistant for Civil Aviation Mahbub Zamil told reporters here Monday.

Presently, Biman has 11 wide bodied aircraft but only five or six are operating on international routes.

Of the eight Boeings, the first consignment of four aircraft will be arriving here in 2013 and the second consignment in 2017.

Before arrival of the new aircraft, the Biman procures four Boeing aircraft on lease.

Biman which was a huge losing concern as a state-run national flag carrier was transformed into a public limited company in July last year. — MNA/Xinhua

Gold production down by 7.4% in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 12 March — South Africa's gold production fell by 7.4 per cent in 2007, compared to an average decline of 6.3 per cent per year for the last decade, the Chamber of Mines said on Monday. The chamber said in a statement that production for members of the chamber dropped by 6.7 per cent to 219,223 kilogrammes.

“The 37-per-cent increase in capital expenditure by chamber members to 8.1 billion rand fed through to a 5.8-percent increase in the tons of material processed through the mills, but the 11.8-per-cent decrease in

the average grade mined to 4.12 grammes per ton resulted in overall production declining,” according to the statement.

In the fourth quarter of last year, the country's gold production decreased by 7 per cent to 61,845 kilogrammes.

“On a year-on-year basis the rate of decline in gold production accelerated from 5.4 per cent in the third quarter to 9.2 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2007,” it said. “A number of issues, including stoppages related to improving safety in the industry, had a negative impact on production.”

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian herbal medicine expected to soar this year

JAKARTA, 11 March — Indonesian herbal medicine, locally known as jamu, has become increasingly popular recently with sales hitting four trillion rupiah (440.9 million US dollars) last year and demands from domestic and export markets growing rapidly.

“The jamu industry has good potential for development, with an annual growth of around 20 per cent,” Charles Saerang, chairman of the Indonesian Herbal and Traditional Medicines Entrepreneurs Association (GP Jamu), was quoted Monday by local newspaper *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

The country's herbal medicines industry could reach total sales of five trillion rupiah (551 million dollars) this year, he said.

As for overseas markets, jamu entrepreneurs have aimed to double last year's four million dollars of exports.

Nyonya Meneer and Sido Muncul, the two largest jamu producers in Indonesia, both plan to diversify their export destinations this year beyond the current destinations including Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Saudi Arabia, the US and the Netherlands.

MNA/Xinhua



A model shows off new hair style of hair salon “artifata” during the Hair Colouring Collection as a special event of the Japan Fashion week in Tokyo on 11 March, 2008. Eight top Japanese hair salons took part in the annual event. —INTERNET



Stormy seas hit coastal sea defences and a lighthouse at Seaford in Sussex in southern England on 10 March, 2008. A storm rushing in from the Atlantic lashed the south west on Monday as high winds and tides brought the risk of coastal flooding.

INTERNET

Barak says Israel to continue operations in Gaza

JERUSALEM, 11 March—Israel would continue to operate against Hamas in the Gaza Strip, despite a recent relatively calm in rocket fire, local daily *Ha’aretz* quoted Defence Minister Ehud Barak as saying on Monday.

Barak said that “the fighting is ongoing and will continue and will at times increase and decrease”, adding the defence establishment’s goal was to stop the rocket fire at Israel and the terror emanating from Gaza, while dramatically reducing weapon smuggling into the strip.

A ceasefire can only be considered once these

things materialize, he stressed. Earlier in the day, a senior Army official said that Israel Army continues its defensive operations in the Gaza Strip, including attacks on *Qassam* rocket launching cells, while refraining from striking other militant targets.

MNA/Xinhua

Hamas says it cannot stop rocket attacks

GAZA, 11 March—A spokesman of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) said on Sunday that it couldn’t stop rocket attacks and wait for a ceasefire before Israel stops all forms of “aggression and crimes”.

The spokesman, Sami Abu Zuhri, said that Egypt has not offered anything for Hamas regarding the truce and the lift of the Israeli closure on the Gaza Strip.

“Our stance is clear, the Israeli aggression and crimes must be stopped first then the talks on ceasefire can start ... it is unacceptable that the rockets of Palestinian resistance are stopped first and then pressure is built on the occupation to accept the calmness,” Abu Zuhri explained. — MNA/Xinhua



An injured man walks through the site of a suicide bombing at the office of the Federal Investigation Agency in Lahore, Pakistan on 12 March, 2008.

INTERNET

States cannot pick, choose Afghan tasks

BERLIN, 11 March—NATO countries cannot pick and choose what tasks they carry out in Afghanistan, the alliance’s chief said in Germany on Monday, in a veiled criticism of Berlin’s reluctance to send its troops to Afghan hotspots.

Germany has resisted pressure from its NATO allies to deploy forces in

the more treacherous south of Afghanistan to help battle Taliban insurgents.

Germany has roughly 3,300 troops in Afghanistan, based in the more stable north.

“In an alliance in which everyone stands for each other there can not be a division of labour in which one side takes care of the

fighting and the other specialises in the aftermath of the conflict,” NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said in a speech in Berlin.

But Chancellor Angela Merkel, speaking at the same conference, once again dismissed calls for deploying German forces in the south.

And German Defence Minister Franz Josef Jung said he did not feel Scheffer was referring to Germany.

MNA/Reuters

Ban urges Israel to halt settlement plans

UNITED NATIONS, 11 March—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Monday urged Israel to halt plans to build hundreds of new homes in a Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank, Ban’s spokeswoman said.

“The Secretary-General calls on the government of Israel to halt settlement expansion and reiterates

that the fulfillment of ‘road map’ obligations by both parties is an important measure underpinning the political process between them,” Ban’s spokeswoman, Michel Montas, said in a statement.

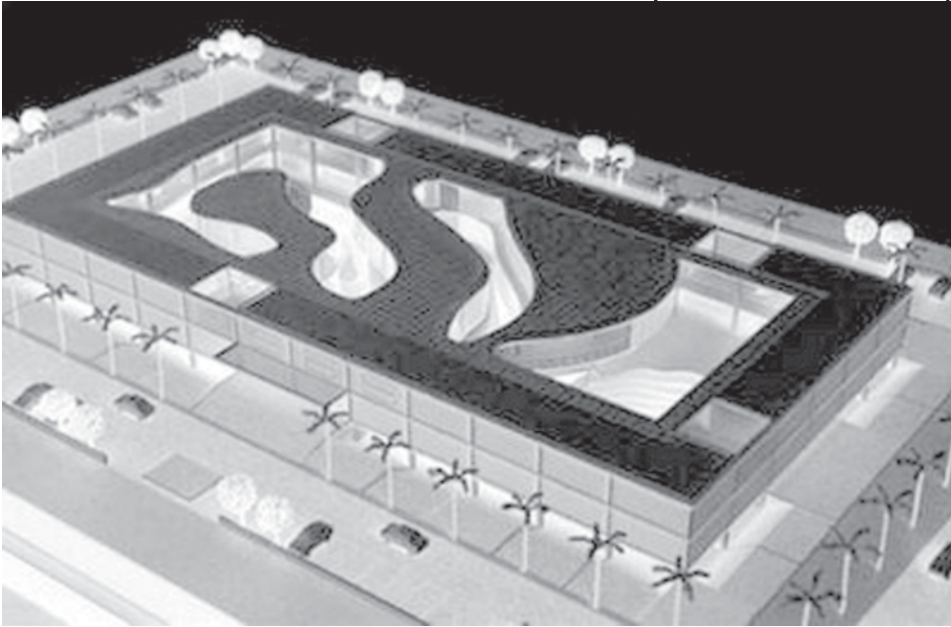
The expansion, which the Palestinians denounced as another blow to US-brokered peace talks, was

announced on Sunday, just three days after a Palestinian gunman killed eight students at a Jewish seminary in Jerusalem that was associated with the settler movement.

“Any settlement expansion is contrary to Israel’s obligations under the road map and to international law,” Montas said.—MNA/Reuters

The Pearl Academy of Fashion in Jaipur, India, is seen in this undated artists impression by architectural firm Morphogenesis released on 11 March, 2008.

INTERNET



Iraqis swing from hope to despair on US election

BAGHDAD, 11 March —Iraqis are avidly watching the 2008 US election race, searching for signs of policy change under a new president and prospects for US troop withdrawals from their country.

“I do not care if the president is a man or a woman, what really matters is the change of American policy towards Iraq,” said Muhenad

Sahib, a university professor from the southern oil hub of Basra, Iraq’s second largest city.

Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, rivals for the Democratic nomination, have squared off over Iraq.

Clinton voted to authorize the 2003 US-led invasion to topple Saddam Hussein but has since urged Congress to revoke approval.

Obama opposed the war from the outset.

Both have vowed to start bringing troops home in 2009 if elected, while Republican candidate John McCain has supported President George W Bush’s 30,000-strong troop build-up which has been partially credited for sharply falling levels of violence across Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

Let's approve State Constitution (draft) to shape prosperous future (3)

Khaing Myo Nyilar Aung

After peace and stability had been restored and the whole nation had enjoyed the taste of magnificent development, the Tatmadaw government paid more attention to democratic processes. Coming to understand the benevolent attitude, Myanmar people, who are patriotic and willing to serve the interests of the nation like me, appreciated and participated in the democratic processes.

Prior to the 1990 election, the Information Committee of the State at a press conference said that it would be necessary to draw a new constitution. The State Law and Order Restoration Council issued Announcement 1/90, saying that a constitution would have to be drawn by representatives-elect. The representatives elected by the public are responsible for carrying out public affairs to their best on behalf of the people. The people cannot exercise the sovereign power they own, so they have to elect their representatives who will have to exercise legislative, executive and judicial powers through representative democratic pattern. The entire nation or sovereign power should not be handed over to representatives-elect irresponsibly.

The State Constitution is, indeed, a document manifesting points or articles chapter-wise showing the representatives elected by the people the ways to exercise legislative, executive and judicial powers in accordance with the rules and regulations, do's and don'ts, and the ways to ensure the people can fully enjoy the fundamental rights. So, the State Constitution is the basic law of the laws, or the agreement signed to ensure that the representatives elected term-wise to carry out the procedures in accord with the law.

Britain does not have a constitution compiled chapter-wise and article-wise. As the constitution, it exercises royal inheritance law, Parliament Law, Cabinet Law, Judicial Law, Magna Carta or the Charter of people's rights in combination. So, Britain's exercise of sovereign power is called Unwritten Law.

The independence of the United States of America was declared on 4 July 1776. It drew a constitution and promulgated it through a parliamentary session about 11 years later or in May 1787. At that time, the US was formed with 13 colonies (states). Sixty representatives from 12 states exclusive of Rhode Island State drew the constitution. At that time, the representatives from southern States persisted in the disagreement about the vesting of fundamental rights

such as the right to vote and the right to stand for election upon Red Indians (native people) and Blacks (slaves). So, that chapter was omitted. After the constitution had been amended for more than 20 times, it featured the chapter of fundamental rights of citizens. While discussions were being held, some of the representatives expressed their disagreements and went home in anger. Chairman of the national convention (General) George Washington in person consoled and took them to the convention. On average, about 50 representatives attended the sessions. In September 1787, the State Constitution (draft) was endorsed for approval. Sixteen representatives refused to sign it, saying that they did not favour or accept the draft. Over 30 representatives signed it, some of them before signing it said that they had to do so just for emergence of a constitution although they did not like some articles. The draft was approved state-wise. Rhode Island State recognized and started to exercise the constitution on 29 May 1790.

At that time, the population of the US was over 3.9 million, about 700,000 were slaves, and the number of the states, 13. Now, the number of the states has increased to 50, and its population, over 298 million. The constitution drawn by over 50 representatives from 12 states and signed by over 30 representatives in 1787 was accepted by more than three million people from 13 states. Now, nearly 300 million people from 50 states accept the constitution. In France, the State Constitution has been amended or re-drawn for 15 times.

After 1988 in Myanmar, the government issued an announcement on drawing a constitution. Announcement 1/90 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council was issued, as to the process to draw a constitution. On 24 April 1992, the SLORC issued Announcement 11/92, saying that regarding the convening of the National Convention, it would hold a meeting in two months with representatives-elect from the legal political parties and independent representatives-elect; and that after an agreement was reached, the National Convention would be held in six months to lay down fundamental principles for drawing a constitution.

Then, the State Law and Order Restoration Council formed the Leading Committee for Coordination on Holding the National Convention. At the coordination meetings held with 29 representatives-elect on 23 June, 30 June, and 10 July in 1992, an agreement was reached to set up the pattern to select representatives for eight delegate groups that would attend the National

Convention, the pattern and objectives of the National Convention.

As a gesture of hailing the National Convention, the government issued Announcement 1/93 and commuted the sentences passed by civil courts, military tribunals and courts martial from 18 September 1988 to 31 December 1992. It again issued Announcement 1/97 commuting the terms of those sentenced by civil courts, military tribunals and courts martial from 18 September 1988 to 15 October 1997. It announced to hold the National Convention through Announcement No 14/92, and formed the National Convention Convening Commission through Announcement No 39/92 on 2 October 1992.

On 5 January 1993, altogether 702 National Convention delegates got together at Kyaikkasan Grounds in Yangon. On 7 January 1993, the chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission held a welcoming ceremony for the representatives. The National Convention was launched on 9 January 1993. From 9 to 11 January 1993, the six objectives of the National Convention, procedures for holding the National Convention, nature of the constitutions of other countries, and norms of a constitution were clarified by the Work Committee. Some time was given to the delegates to study the clarification. Books on constitutions of other countries were kept at the National Convention office for the delegates to study.

From 1 February 1993 to 7 April 1993, the eight delegate groups elected five chairmen each from among their members, and 15 chapter headings to be included in the constitution were designated after scrutinizing more than 2000 suggested headings.

From 7 to 16 September 1993, the groups submitted suggestions about the 104 State fundamental principles group-wise, and the National Convention plenary session adopted them.

From 18 January 1994 to 9 April 1994, the representatives unanimously laid down fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for the Chapter "The State Structure" and the Chapter "The Head of State". From 2 September 1994 to 7 April 1995, six self-administered areas were designated unanimously—(1) Wa Self-Administered Division, (2) Palaung Self-Administered Zone, (3) Danu Self-Administered Zone, (4) Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, (5) Kokang Self-Administered Zone, and (6) Naga Self-Administered Zone.

On 28 January 1995, NLD party and its 86 representatives walked out of the National Convention without asking for permission.

From 28 November 1995 to 31 March 1996, principles for formation of legislative, formation of executive and formation of judicial were laid down, and then the National Convention went into recess. All the six sessions of the National Convention were held at Kyaikkasan Grounds in Yangon and plenary sessions, at the meeting hall of the Presidential Residence on Ahlon Road.

(See page 8)

The State Constitution is, indeed, a document manifesting points or articles chapter-wise showing the representatives elected by the people the ways to exercise legislative, executive and judicial powers in accordance with the rules and regulations, do's and don'ts, and the ways to ensure the people can fully enjoy the fundamental rights.

Commander looks into development tasks in Hsadon

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, accompanied by officials concerned, inspected durability of roads and bridges existing along Waingmaw-Hsadon-Kanpaikte road section on 7 March.

Upon arrival at Hsadon, they met with the township officer of General Administration Department, departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people.

In the meeting, Township Officer U Kyaw Thu briefed the commander and party on implementation of agriculture, education, health and regional development projects and departmental officials and members of social organizations on progress in carrying out sector-wise development tasks.

Regarding the reports, the requirements were

fulfilled. In the afternoon, the commander looked into progress in construction of a road in Kanpaikte. Next, those in-charge reported tasks being carried out.

Afterwards, the commander visited No 4 border post at China-Myanmar border and inspected developments of Kanpaikte.

MNA

Digital auto-exchanges in Kachin State inspected

YANGON, 12 March — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected functions of digital auto-exchanges in Phakant and Moehnyin of Kachin State on 10 March.

After hearing the reports of engineers, he attended to the needs of the offices.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects digital auto-exchange in Phakant, Kachin State.—MPT

Ninth ordination, novitiation ceremony to be held in Insein

YANGON, 12 March — Under the aegis of Taungthugon Ward Sangha Nayaka Committee Ovadaçariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Çandobhasa, the Buddha Pujanira Oil Lights (9,900) Association (Insein) will organize the ninth ordination and novitiation ceremony at Taungthugon Ward in Insein Township from 12 to 17 April.

Wellwishers are invited to donate K 27,000 for a set of robes and requisites to each monk and K 22,500 to each novice and nun. The association will also offer one set of robe and requisites to each monk, novice and nun.

Wellwishers may contact the office of the association (Tel; 642858, 640487 and 640489), not later than 9 April to offer K 54,000 for breakfast, K 72,000 for lunch (including dessert) and K 9,000 for cold drink per day. — MNA

Preventive measures against DHF taken in Yangon

YANGON, 12 March — Service personnel of the Department of Health under Ministry of Health, staff of the health department under Yangon City Development Committee, members of social organizations and people have taken preventive measures against dengue hemorrhagic fever in the townships in Yangon.

Chairman of YCDC Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected preventive measures against DHF

and educative works on Aung Myitta street, Aung Myaytha street and other streets in Ward 2 of Mayangon Township this morning. And, the mayor gave necessary instructions to officials.

Likewise, mass activities of prevention against DHF were carried out in Hline, Ahlon, Dagon Myothit (South) and Hlinethaya townships this morning.

MNA

Let's approve State Constitution...

(from page 7)

In August 2003, the government announced the State's seven-step Road Map. The seven steps are the road map to democracy.

Under the Road Map, the National Convention was resumed in May 2004. NLD, which walked out the National Convention in 1995, informed that it would attend the NC due to be held in May 2004. So, an invitation letter was delivered to the party. However, when the NC was drawing near, the party changed its mind and said that it would not attend the NC.

The National Convention was held for five times at Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.

From 17 May 2004 to 9 July 2004, discussions were held and suggestions, made with respect to sharing of legislative power.

From 17 February 2005 to 31 March 2005, principles for sharing of legislative power were adopted, and delegate groups principles for sharing of executive power were adopted, and principles for sharing of judicial power were adopted and proposal papers were submitted for legislative functions, the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens" and the Chapter "Tatmadaw". From 10 October 2006 to 29 December 2006, principles for legislative functions, the Chapter "Citizenship,

Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens" and the Chapter "Tatmadaw" were adopted.

Then, delegate groups submitted proposal papers for the Chapters "Election", "Political Parties", "Provisions on State of Emergency", "Amendment of the Constitution", "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital", "Transitory Provisions" and "General Provisions".

From 18 July to 3 September 2007, the principles for above-mentioned chapters were adopted, and then the National Convention was successfully over. Now, the State Constitution has been drafted. The draft of the State Constitution will be approved through a referendum in coming May. Multi-party democracy elections will be held in 2010, and then, a hluttaw will be convened with the elected representatives, and processes will be carried out to elect the President and form administrative bodies.

Throughout the National Convention, the representatives held frank discussions, and coordinated thoroughly. The discussions held and fundamental principles and detailed basic principles adopted at the National Convention were stated in the newspapers, aired on radio and TV, posted on the Internet, and aired by news agencies at home and abroad. When the National Convention started at Kyaikkasan Grounds in 1993, the number of delegates stood at 702, and the number rose to more than 1080 when the National

Convention was resumed at Nyaunghnapin Camp in 2004. The eight groups consisted of the representatives from various states and divisions and townships, representatives of national races, representatives of the people from all strata of life, ex-diplomats knowledgeable about political affairs, historians, and representatives of national race peace groups.

The democratic processes the government had presented are all clear. They are also transparent because they were presented to the people and were made known to the international community. The processes were carried out in accordance with the time frame. These transparent processes are clear to Myanmar people of more than 56 million. There is no need to be doubtful that certain elements do not know the processes because they are turning a blind eye to them. The subversive elements at home and abroad do not know and pay attention to more than 56 million people of Myanmar. They know a single person only. They are showing total disregard for the interests of the entire people, and are heeding the interests of a particular person and party.

In the world, there are only few countries where the constitution concerned is approved through a referendum. The draft of the State Constitution, which will vest the people with the right to exercise democracy directly, and will shape a brighter future of the people, is going to be approved through the wishes of the people.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 12-3-2008

Commander assists in Tanaw Dam construction in Kyaikto

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and departmental officials visited the construction project site of Tanaw Dam at No 1 Sittaung Paper Factory in Kyaikto Township on March 5.

At the project site, the commander inspected earth works by machinery and called for completion of work in time and work-site safety.

On completion, the dam is expected to supply 9.5 million gallons of water to the Paper Factory per

day and drinking water to nearby villages.

At Hsindwin Village, the commander looked into construction of a road to link Winkan and Hsindwin Villages and the site for building a bridge across Kawha Creek.

At Kalaw Village, officials concerned briefed the commander on construction of district-to-district road and the commander fulfilled the requirements.

Later, the commander visited thriving of groundnut plantations and vegetables on 40 acres of Farmer U Chit Than in Bilin Township.— MNA

PBANRDA Minister receives Singaporean Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Col Thein Nyunt received Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore, at the mayor's office, here, yesterday morning.

MNA

Minister inspects power control division

YANGON, 12 March — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspected power control division of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise at Yangon City Electric Power Supply Board (Head Office) on 8

March. Officials concerned gave reports to the minister on measures taken for supply of power in the city.

The minister gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the needs.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung meeting with departmental officials and residents in Dimawhso Township. — FORESTRY

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and officials concerned paid homage to Sasana Youngchi Kyaungtaik Sayadaw Sasanadhaja Dhama-cariya Ashin Kodhañña and donated robes and alms to the Sayadaw and made cash donations for a new building through a member of board of

trustees on 10 March.

Next, the CEC member and party met with townsenders and villagers and made a speech on the occasion. Afterwards, they inspected construction of village station hospital and gave necessary instructions.

At the hall of Htiphoekaloe Village in Dimawhso Township, they met with the local people, made a speech on the occasion and donated

exercise books and text books for the village as well as made cash donations for the building of Kayhtoobo Beikman.

Next, the CEC member and party paid homage to Buddhist Missionary Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Sobhana in Myoma Ward of Dimawhso, donated robes and alms to the Sayadaw, met with local people and delivered an address on

the occasion.

Afterwards, they met with local people, members of social organizations and departmental officials in No 13 Ward of Loikaw.

The following day the CEC member donated 'soon' to members of the Sangha at Mogok Vipassana Dhamma Beik-man and shared merits gained.

MNA

CSSTB holds annual work coordination meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — The Civil Service Selection and Training Board held its annual work coordination meeting at the office of CSSTB here today.

Chairman of the CSSTB Dr Than Nyun gave an opening speech.

Members of the board U Aung Myint, U Hla Myint Oo, U Win Aung, U Soe Oo, U Nyi

Tun and U Kyaw Aung made speeches. Directors-general and rectors of the departments under the board and the universities reported to the chairman on work programmes to be implemented in 2007-08 fiscal year and future programmes.

After hearing the reports, Dr Than Nyun gave concluding remarks.

MNA



Chairman of CSSTB Dr Than Nyun delivers an address at annual work coordination meeting of CSSTB. — MNA

ကမ္ဘာတီဘီရောဂါတိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့

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“World TB Day”
24-3-2008

တီဘီကင်းစင်ကမ္ဘာတစ်ခွင်
လူတိုင်းတာဝန်ပင်

“I AM STOPPING TB”

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Take

Fire

Preventive

Measures

US retires “F-117” fighter after 27 yrs in service

WASHINGTON, 12 March — The US Air Force bid farewell Tuesday to *F-117*, the world’s first attack aircraft employing stealth technology after it served 27 years.

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, which manages the *F-117* programme, hosted an informal retirement ceremony with military leaders, base employees and representatives from

Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico.

The last *F-117*, scheduled to fly will leave Holloman on 21 April, stop in Palmdale, California, for another retirement ceremony, then arrive on 22 April at their final destination Tonopah Test Range Airfield in Nevada.

The US Air Force decided to speed up the retirement of the *F-117*s to free up funding to

modernize the rest of the fleet.

The *F-117*, is being replaced by the *F-22 Raptor*, but the government said it could bring the *F-117*, out of retirement if needed.

The aircraft made its first flight at the Tonopah Test Range in June 1981. The programme remained classified until November 1988, when a photo of the jet was first unveiled to the public.

MNA/Xinhua



The US Air Force bids goodbye to the first stealth fighter, the F-117A Nighthawk, which was developed in deep secrecy and unleashed for the first time during the 1989 invasion of Panama.—INTERNET

Woman’s body kept on ice for months in Calif hotel

LOS ANGELES, 12 March — A woman whose corpse was found packed in dry ice in an upscale Southern California hotel room last week may have been dead for more than a year, authorities said on Tuesday, although it was not clear if she was the victim of a crime.

The body of 33-year-old Monique Trepp was discovered wedged into a plastic storage container filled with dry ice when police conducted a drug raid on the Newport Beach hotel room registered to her boyfriend.

Stephen David Royds, 46, was arrested for possession of cocaine for sale but has not been charged in Trepp’s death, said prosecutors in Orange County, south of Los Angeles. —MNA/Reuters

Storm batters France, Britain, killing 2

RENNES (France), 12 March — An Atlantic storm battered southern Britain and northern France on Monday, killing two people, sinking a trawler in the Channel and blowing a cargo vessel aground on the French coast.

The storm, which began late on Sunday, brought down trees and power lines and pounded coastal defences.

French maritime authorities said a 26-year-old man fell into the sea when his small boat was hit by a large wave on Sunday in the small port of Relecq-Kerhuon, near Brest in the far west of Brittany.

His body was found early on Monday. A second man who was in the vessel was rescued by friends in another boat nearby.

MNA/Reuters

UN torture envoy says US deny access to Iraq jails

GENEVA, 12 March — The UN investigator on torture said on Tuesday the United States had denied his request to visit US-run jails in Iraq and insisted a visit could help clear its legacy of the prison abuse scandal in Abu Ghraib.

Manfred Nowak, United Nations special rapporteur on torture, said he had received credible

information the situation had improved at US detention facilities in recent years, but stressed only a visit would allow him to verify them.

An international outcry erupted in 2004 after images of prisoner abuse by US military personnel at Abu Ghraib west of Baghdad, including naked detainees stacked in a

pyramid and others cowering before snarling dogs, became public.

“I was a little astonished that the US Government is not willing to grant me access because it might perhaps even be in their own interest if I compared different detention facilities,” Nowak told a news briefing in Geneva.

“It might also be in their interest in overcoming the legacy of having been criticized so much for torture practices in Abu Ghraib and other detention facilities up to 2004,” he added.

Nowak, who has an Iraqi Government invitation for his October 18-26 planned visit, said he would also expect full access to Iraqi-run detention facilities, although this was still under negotiation. British authorities have agreed to allow him to visit their detainees in Iraq, he added.

At least 30,000 prisoners are held by Iraqi authorities, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross which made its first visit to security detainees held by Iraq’s central government last October.

MNA/Reuters

Top British police chief found dead in Wales

LONDON, 12 March — Head of one of the biggest police forces in Britain Michael Todd was found dead on Tuesday in Wales,

west Britain, BBC reported.

Todd, chief constable of Greater Manchester Police, disappeared while out walking on Snowdon, north Wales, on Monday night.

Rescue teams found the 50-year-old’s body on a mountain called Bwlch Glas on Tuesday afternoon.

The cause of his death

is not yet known but suicide is understood to be a possibility. Letters addressed to his family were also found.

Deputy Chief Constable Dave Whatton confirmed the death of his friend, a father of three, in a statement outside force headquarters in Manchester on Tuesday evening.

MNA/Xinhua

A suicide car bomber attacked a convoy of Canadian troops in southern Afghanistan on 12 March, 2008, killing a passing civilian and wounding one soldier.—XINHUA

Roadside bomb kills three US soldiers in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 12 March — A roadside bomb killed three US soldiers and an interpreter in Iraq’s Diyala Province on Monday, the same day a suicide bomber killed five US soldiers in the capital Baghdad, the US military said on Tuesday.

Ethnically and religiously mixed Diyala is one of four provinces north of Baghdad where US and Iraqi forces have mounted offensives this year to fight al-Qaeda militants who have regrouped in the

region.

The bombing in Baghdad, which the US military had confirmed on Monday, was the worst single attack on US forces in the capital in nearly nine months.

Monday’s deaths took to at least 3,982 the number of US troops killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003.

Ten soldiers have been killed this month, compared to 81 in the whole of March 2007.

Violence across Iraq

has dropped 60 per cent since 30,000 extra US troops became fully deployed in June, and a decision by Sunni tribal leaders to turn on Sunni Islamist al-Qaeda.

But recent attacks demonstrate that Iraq is far from safe, and a suicide car bomb in Sulaimaniya on Monday showed that even Iraq’s semi-autonomous Kurdish north, considered the most stable region of in the country, is vulnerable.

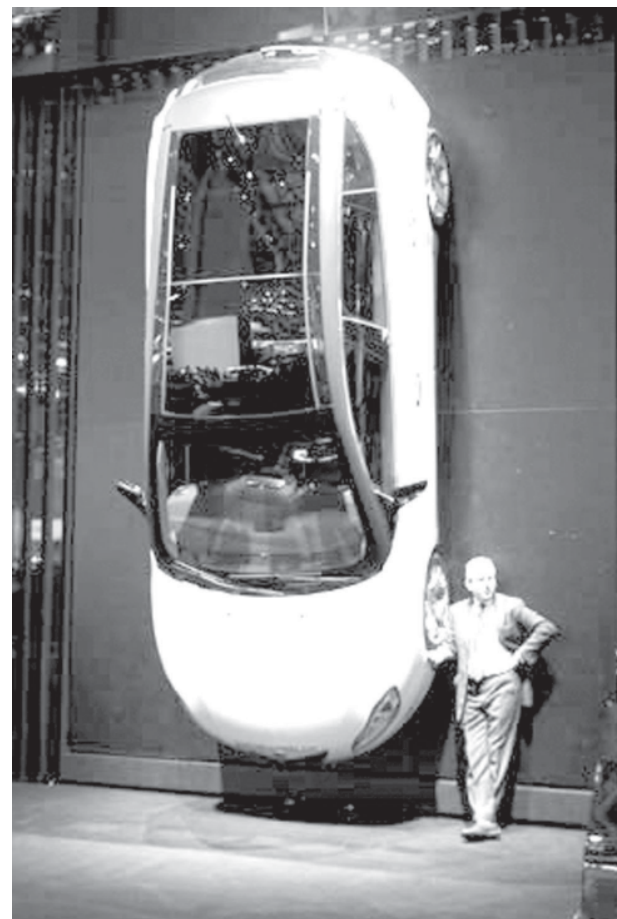
MNA/Reuters



Images of the Day



Visitors amuse themselves at a dinosaur park in Karamay of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region on 4 March, 2008. —XINHUA



A Lancia car is hung on the wall at the 78th Geneva International Auto Show in Geneva on the media day 5 March, 2008. More than 260 car manufacturers from 30 nations and regions take part in the 11-day motor show, to be opened on 6 March, 2008.—XINHUA



Workers prepare the grounds at Wukesong Baseball Field in Beijing, China, on 12 March, 2008. The Los Angeles Dodgers will play the San Diego Padres on Saturday and Sunday. Wukesong Baseball Field will be used for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.—INTERNET



The Antarctic ice breaker the Snow Dragon, or Xuelong in Chinese, sails on ice-covered waters near the Antarctic Continent on 11 March, 2008. —XINHUA



Frankfurt's Liebieghaus reopens to the public on 13 March, after undergoing a 2.5-million-euro (\$3.8-million) facelift. The sculpture collection is made up of around 3,000 works from the past 5,000 years, including this 580-year-old crucifixion altar. —INTERNET



Garden designer Carol Michener-Card (second from left) chats with flower enthusiasts inside her eco-friendly exhibit at the New England Spring Flower Show, on 8-16 March. The tent-like structure is a 'green roof' which insulates homes, reducing carbon dioxide emissions.—INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION TO TENDER
TENDER NO(1) (ES) A.M.D (2008-2009)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, for the supply of the following store (in Myanmar Kyats.)

Sr. No	Description	Quantity
1.	Tyre & Tube Sets	1-Lots,7 Items
2.	Assorted Taper Roller & Ball Bearing	1-Lots,41 Items
3.	Implement Disc, 12V Battery, Paint & Machine Tools	4-Lots,35 Items
4.	Tractor Spares (Zwe, 6711,7011, SH-50, SH-654, TN-800 JD-2800 & MF 273)	7-Lots,276 Items
5.	Excavator & Dozer Spares	1-Lots,130 Items
6.	Plunger, Delivery Valve and Nozzle Tip	1-Lot,13 Items

2. Tender Closing Date 31st MARCH 2008, 12:00 hrs

3. Tender documents are available at Equipment & Stores Branch of Agricultural Mechanization Department (Head Office), AMD Bayintnaung Road, Insein Township, Yangon, during office hours from (14-3-2008). Only Tenders purchased from AMD will be accepted.

4. For more details, Contact; 01-682209, 01-682593

Director General
Agricultural Mechanization Department

Mugabe approves Zimbabwe’s nationalization law

HARARE, 11 March—Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe has signed into law a bill giving local owners the right to take majority control of foreign companies, including mines and banks, a government newspaper reported on Sunday. Analysts fear the move could sound the death knell for an economy that has also suffered from foreign investor flight, and is struggling with the world’s highest inflation rate of over 100,000 per cent. The government has

sought to allay business fears of a blanket seizure of companies by saying the authorities would work with different industries to set timetables for foreign-owned firms to transfer shares to locals. *The Sunday Mail* said Mugabe, who is seeking re-election in general elections on 29 March, had approved the controversial bill in a seal of assent in a weekend government gazette of legal notices. “President Mugabe has assented to the Indigenization and Eco-

nomic Empowerment Bill, paving the way for the indigenisation of Zimbabwe’s economy and the economic empowerment of the country’s indigenous citizens,” the weekly said. *MNA/Reuters*

Luxury Beijing-Tibet train service to start in Sept

BEIJING, 11 March—Luxury passenger train service from Beijing to the southwestern Tibet Autonomous Region will be launched on 1 September, the operator said on Sunday. The interior of the train will be decorated according to the standards of a five-star hotel, making it the most luxurious train in the world, said Zhu Mingrui, general manager of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway Corporation (QTRC). “Such a train can only seat 96 passengers. The fare would be about 20 times the normal price and also much more than an airline ticket,” he said. Online ticket sales have begun for domestic and overseas tourists, who will enjoy the unique scenery of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, he said. Earlier reports said that the project, approved by the Ministry of Railways in November, will be operated by a joint venture between Rail Partners, a subsidiary of the Shanghai-based investment company of TZG Partners, and the QTRC. It has attracted an investment of 52.9 million US dollars from Hong Kong’s Wing On Travel (Holdings) Limited. — *MNA/Xinhua*

“Tanjug” says Serbian government dissolved

BELGRADE, 11 March—The coalition government of Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica was formally dissolved on Monday, state news agency *Tanjug* reported, opening the way for an early parliamentary election. The decision was taken at a brief Cabinet session following Kostunica’s announcement on Saturday that the government could not continue in office because of deep divisions following the

ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၈ ခုနှစ် မတ်လ ၁၁ ရက်

ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၊ အင်ဂျင်နီယာဌာန (ရေနံနှင့်သန့်ရှင်းမှု)တွင် အသုံးပြုရန်အတွက် လိုအပ်သော ကျောက်ချဉ်တန်(၁၀၀၀)ကို ဌာနသို့လှောင်ရုံအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသဖြင့် ချိပ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ တင်သွင်းနိုင်ပါကြောင်း ဖိတ်ခေါ်ပါသည်။

ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ ၂၈.၃.၂၀၀၈ နေ့ (၁၆:၀၀)နာရီ ဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံတစ်စုံလျှင် ကျပ် ၂၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်နှစ်ထောင်တိတိ) နှုန်းဖြင့်ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့် ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်း ဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးဌာနစုတွင် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ် အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်-၃၈၈၇၃၂သို့ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ် မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

TRADE MARK CAUTION

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Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for **sanofi-aventis**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 13 March 2008

99.42% of Chinese farm produce exports pass Japanese tests

BEIJING, 12 March—A Ministry of Agriculture official said on Monday 99.42 per cent of China’s farm produce exports passed Japanese quality inspections last year, quoting figures provided by the Japanese government. “Chinese products are

the most frequently tested in Japan, but report the best quality, too,” said Zhang Yuxiang, an official in charge of the ministry’s market and economic division. She said the 99.42 per cent, reported by Japan’s Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, was

higher than the international average level. “It’s also higher than figures reported of the United States and European Union,” Zhang said at a Press conference on the sidelines of the First Session of the 11th National People’s Congress.—*MNA/Xinhua*

China to invest against water pollution at Three Gorges

CHONGQING, 11 March—China plans to invest 9.08 billion yuan (about 1.28 billion US dollars) on water pollution control projects in southwest China’s Chongqing Municipality by 2010 to prevent pollution of the Three Gorges Reservoir area, an official said here on Monday. The revised edition of the water pollution prevention and control programme of the Three Gorges Reservoir area and the upper reaches, which has been approved by the State Council, includes 271 pollution control projects in Chongqing, a local official said. The investment will go to urban sewage treatment, urban garbage disposal and industrial pollution control projects. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Models display creations by designer Vikram Phadnis at the Wills Lifestyle India Fashion Week (WLIFW) Autumn/Winter 2008 in New Delhi, India, on Wednesday, 12 March, 2008. Eighty-two designers will showcase their creations between 12 and 16 March, 2008 at the WLIFW. INTERNET

Japan seeks new form of flu vaccine, investors jump

TOKYO, 11 March — A group of Japanese researchers has developed a substance that could potentially help make flu vaccines effective for multiple strains of the disease, including strains of the bird flu virus, Japan's National Institute of Infectious Diseases said on Monday.

The substance faces a lot more testing but investors seized on media reports of it on Monday, pushing the shares of a

chemical firm involved in the project, NOF Corp, up nearly 21 per cent.

Traditional flu vaccines create antibodies which act against flu viruses, but since virus surfaces frequently mutate, different vaccines have to be made every year.

The group found that when a peptide derived from the influenza virus is induced into mice, it could act against cells infected by multiple strains of influenza, including bird

flu. Part of the research was reported in the *Journal of Immunology* in 2006, and the group presented its findings last month at Japan's National Cancer Centre. The only tests so far have been on mice.

The next step is to develop a vaccine that works against multiple strains of flu and is proved safe for humans, said Tetsuya Uchida, a senior investigator at the National Institute of Infectious Diseases. —MNA/Reuters



Iraqis stand at the site of a blast in Baghdad's Habibiya neighbourhood. One person was killed and another five were wounded when a parked car bomb exploded. —INTERNET



A dolphin guided two stranded whales to safety after human attempts to keep the animals off a New Zealand beach failed, a conservation official said on 12 March, 2008. —INTERNET

Canada says seals to be killed more humanely

OTTAWA, 11 March — Canada's Government, heavily criticized for allowing hunters to shoot and club to death hundreds of thousands of seals each year, says it is imposing new rules to ensure the animals are killed more humanely.

Pictures of burly men smashing the skulls of young seals on ice floes off Canada's Atlantic coast are a huge black eye for Ottawa and a boon for animal rights campaigners, who say the seals often suffer a prolonged, painful death.

Hunters are usually permitted to kill around 325,000 harp seals in March and April. The furs are made into coats and other clothes and there is a growing market for seal

oil, which is high in omega 3 fatty acids.

Although hunters are obliged to ensure the seals die quickly, officials acknowledge this does not always happen. From now on, hunters will have to follow a three-step process recommended by an independent panel of veterinarians. After clubbing or shooting the seal, a hunter must check its eyes to ensure it is dead and if not, the animal's main arteries have to be cut. "They (the vets) think the three-step process provides more certainty around humaneness... We do really need to move ahead with this," said Kevin Stringer of the federal department of fisheries and oceans.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodia leads fight against ozone-depleting substances

PHNOM PENH, 11 March — The Ministry of Environment has said Cambodia is committed to eradicating ozone-depleting substances by 2010 under its obligations as a signatory to the 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, local media reported Monday.

The elimination is crucial for Cambodians' health, Khieu Muth, secretary of state for the environment, was quoted by the *Mekong Times*

newspaper as saying.

Since 2005, Cambodia has reduced emissions of CFC12, a substance that severely depletes the ozone layer, by 85 per cent, Khieu Muth said.

Over 95 per cent of ozone-depleting CFCs in Cambodia were found to come from pre-1996 car air conditioners, according to a UNDP study.

In total, 3,400 cars have, under the support of UNDP, had their air conditioning systems changed to reduce CFC12 emission, Khieu Muth said. —MNA/Xinhua

Environmental groups sue US over polar bears

WASHINGTON, 11 March — A trio of environmental groups sued the US Government on Monday for failing to meet a legal deadline to decide if polar bears should be considered threatened by climate change under the Endangered Species Act. "It's up to a federal court to throw this incredible animal a lifeline," said Andrew Wetzler of the Natural Resources Defence Council, one of the plaintiffs. "We need urgent action from this administration to protect the polar bear and reduce greenhouse gas pollution, not continued delay."

Polar bears live only in

the Arctic and depend on sea ice as a platform for hunting seals. A report by the US Geological Survey said that two-thirds of the world's polar bears — some 16,000 — could be gone by 2050 if predictions about melting sea ice hold true. This is the first time global warming has been a factor in proposing a threatened status for any US species.

The Bush administration was originally supposed to issue a final decision on the polar bear case on 9 January, but requested a delay of a month or so. This past Sunday was the latest final deadline for a decision. —MNA/Reuters

US researchers found biomarker for depression test

WASHINGTON, 11 March — Researchers from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) have discovered that a change in the location of a protein in the brain could serve as a biomarker for depression, allowing a simple, rapid, laboratory test to identify patients with depression, according to the 12 March issue of the *Journal of Neuroscience*.

It also can be used to determine whether a particular antidepressant therapy will provide a successful response.

"This test could serve to predict the efficacy of

antidepressant therapy quickly, within four to five days, sparing patients the agony of waiting a month or more to find out if they

are on the correct therapeutic regimen," said Mark Rasenick, UIC professor of physiology. *Internet*

An Indian Air Force MIG-29 fighter. India has awarded Russia a 965-million-dollar contract to upgrade its multi-role MiG-29 warplanes, officials said on 19 March 2008. —INTERNET



SPORTS

Stuttgart win game in hand to climb to 6th place

BERLIN, 12 March — VfB Stuttgart won 1-0 away to Energie Cottbus on Tuesday to move back into contention for a place in Europe next season.

Fernando Meira got the only goal for last season's Bundesliga champions when he headed in from a corner with half an hour gone.

Stuttgart have little hope of a successful title defence after a dreadful start to the season but their latest win, in a match postponed from March 1 because of a storm warning, puts them right back into the race for UEFA Cup berths.

With 23 games played they move up to sixth place with 37 points. The top five places in Germany give definite access to Europe, while sixth place might be enough depending on who wins the main Cup competition. Stuttgart remain 13 points behind leaders Bayern but are now within a point of Schalke 04 in fifth place and five points behind Hamburg SV in the third and final Champions League spot. —MNA/Reuters



New Jersey Nets' DeSagana Diop (14) deflects a shot from Houston Rockets' Tracy McGrady (1) during the first half of a basketball game in Houston. —INTERNET

Lille move closer to safety with northern derby win

PARIS, 12 March — Lille moved closer to safety with a 2-1 win at fellow-strugglers Racing Lens in Ligue 1 on Tuesday. Lille, who jump four spots to 11th in the 20-strong table, scored a goal in each half through defenders Michel Bastos and Franck Beria to pick up the points from a game postponed from last December because of a frozen pitch.

Lens, who reduced the arrears with a late goal from Brazilian defender Hilton, stay fifth from bottom, two points from the relegation zone. —MNA/Reuters

Parma close to appointing Cuper as boss

MILAN, 12 March — Parma are close to appointing former Valencia and Inter Milan boss Hector Cuper as their new coach, the Serie A strugglers said on Tuesday. Domenico Di Carlo was sacked on Monday after fourth bottom Parma suffered their 12th league defeat of the season on Sunday when they lost 2-1 at home to Sampdoria.

"We are practically in agreement with Hector Cuper. Tomorrow if everything goes to plan, there will be a news conference to present him," Parma president Tommaso Ghirardi told reporters. Argentine Cuper, who led Valencia to two Champions League finals in 2000 and 2001, had a largely unsuccessful spell at Inter between 2001 and 2003. —MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's Fernando Torres (C) celebrates after scoring against Inter Milan during their Champions League first knockout round, second leg soccer match at the San Siro stadium in Milan on 11 March, 2008. Fernando Torres scored a second-half goal to give Liverpool a 1-0 victory over 10-man Inter Milan on Tuesday and send the Reds to the European Champions League quarterfinals. —XINHUA

Grant dismisses talk of Chelsea crisis

COBHAM (England), 12 March — Manager Avram Grant dismissed talk of a crisis at Chelsea on Tuesday following their shock quarterfinal exit from the FA Cup at Barnsley and last month's defeat by Tottenham Hotspur in the League Cup final.

Described by one tabloid newspaper as a "dead man walking" on Tuesday, the 52-year-old Israeli insisted he was still the right man to take Chelsea forward and bring trophies to Stamford Bridge.

"There is no crisis at Chelsea," he told a news conference at the club's training ground before Wednesday's home Premier League match against bottom-of-the-table Derby County.

"We have two games in hand on Arsenal and one on Manchester United and if we win them both we will be very close to them at the top of the table."

MNA/Reuters

Own goal hands South Africa victory over Zimbabwe

JOHANNESBURG, 12 March — South Africa needed a last minute own goal to overcome neighbours Zimbabwe 2-1 in a hastily-arranged friendly in Germiston, near Johannesburg on Tuesday.

South Africa coach Carlos Alberto Parreira picked an experimental side from home-based players for the match, part of stepped up preparations for the country's hosting of the 2010 World Cup finals.

Zimbabwe led at halftime after a deflected shot from Gilbert Mushangazhike in the 12th minute but debutant Sthembiso Ngcobo equalized from a rebound with 17 minutes left. Zimbabwe defender James Matola then turned a cross into his own net to give the home team the win. South Africa host Paraguay in Pretoria in a fortnight. — MNA/Reuters



China's Liu Xiang (R) competes during the men's 60m hurdles qualifications at the 12th IAAF World Indoor Athletics Championship in Valencia, Spain, on 8 March, 2008. Liu entered the semifinals with 7.73 seconds. —INTERNET

Torres joy as Liverpool beat Inter to progress

MILAN, 12 March — Liverpool eased into the Champions League quarterfinals after a superb strike by Fernando Torres gave last season's runners-up a 1-0 win at Inter Milan on Tuesday and a 3-0 aggregate victory.

Inter, who had centre back Marco Materazzi harshly dismissed in the first leg, also went down to 10 men in the return match when defender Nicolas Burdisso was sent off for a second booking after a clumsy 50th-minute tackle on Lucas Leiva.

Torres scored his fourth goal of the Champions League campaign 13 minutes later with a turn-and-shot on the edge of the area following a good run and pass from Fabio Aurelio.

The Serie A leaders had several chances at a ca-cophonous San Siro but Argentine Julio Cruz and strike partner Zlatan Ibrahimovic were wasteful in front of goal.

Liverpool join the other three English entrants, Manchester United, Arsenal and Chelsea, in the quarterfinals with AS Roma the only Italian side through.

"Up to the sending off it was a difficult game. I think we controlled the game and deserved to go through to the last eight," Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard told Sky television. "I think if you look at our form over the season we are a force in Europe. We're lucky to have Fernando. He only needs one chance, as he showed tonight."

Premier League leaders Arsenal beat holders AC Milan 2-0 at the San Siro last week to win 2-0 on aggregate and although Liverpool were not as stylish they completed the job just as effectively in a fast-paced encounter. An early long-range effort from Cruz was well saved by Pepe Reina before the Argentine shot wide after being beautifully played in by Ibrahimovic. —MNA/Reuters



Inter Milan Argentine forward Julio Cruz (C) is pressed by Liverpool defender Martin Skrtel (L) on the ground and Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher. —INTERNET

Olympiakos sack coach in wake of Chelsea defeat

ATHENS, 12 March — Greek Super League club Olympiakos Piraeus have sacked coach Takis Lemonis, the club said on Tuesday.

Olympiakos's board made the move "having in mind the immediate improvement of the football team for the attainment of their goals for the current period," the club said on their website.

Spanish assistant Jose Segura, who joined the club last summer from AEK Athens, has been given charge of the team for the rest of the season.

Lemonis's dismissal follows the team's exit from the Champions League last week after a 3-0 defeat by Chelsea in the last 16.

MNA/Reuters

NY governor apologizes for link to prostitution ring

NEW YORK, 12 March — New York State Governor Eliot Spitzer, who was reportedly involved in an upscale prostitution ring, made a public apology on Monday to his family and the public.

"I apologize first and most importantly to my family. I apologize to the public, whom I promised better," for acting "in a way that violates my obligations to my family, that violates my or any sense of right and wrong", Spitzer said at a news conference on Monday afternoon.

With his wife at his side, he said he must now "dedicate some time to regain the trust of my family". But he did not give details on his prostitution link, and did not say if he would resign neither.

According to local media reports, the

governor's involvement in a prostitution ring was caught on a federal wiretap.

The reports quoted a law enforcement official as saying that Spitzer is identified in court papers as "Client 9" and the wiretap was part of an investigation that opened

in the last few months.

The unidentified official said that Spitzer met last month with at least one woman in a Washington hotel.

The prostitution ring, known as the "Emperor's Club VIP", was broken up by New York authorities last week. — MNA/Xinhua

LA man sentenced for trying to sell guns to Iran faction

LOS ANGELES, 12 March — A Los Angeles man was sentenced to three years and five months in federal prison on Monday for trying to buy submachine guns in the United States and sell them to an Iranian Government faction.

In his plea agreement, 50-year-old Seyed Mostafa Maghloubi Maghloubi admitted that he tried to buy submachine guns and night-vision goggles and ship them to Iran in violation of US laws.

According to the plea agreement, Maghloubi, an Iran-born naturalized US citizen, sought to deliver the equipment to Iranian Government officials aligned with a former president who is a political foe of the current President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

"These were very dangerous actions," US District Judge George King

said during the sentencing of Maghloubi.

Maghloubi's "sophisticated" acts could have contributed to much loss of life, the judge said.

Had Maghloubi succeeded with his plan, another possible effect would be "actually destabilizing an area of the world that has suffered enough from continuing upheaval", King said.

Maghloubi, who opposes Iranian President Ahmadinejad, pleaded guilty last August to violating a federal law banning the export of items to Iran. — MNA/Xinhua

Dozens of horses starved to death in Canadian ranch

OTTAWA, 12 March — At least 29 horses were found starved to death and 100 others in poor health condition at a ranch in western Canada, media reports said Monday.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty (SPCA) in Alberta Province has seized the living animals from the ranch, located 100 kilometres from provincial capital Edmonton, and taken them to a nearby feedlot to recover.

Some had damaged coats, cracked hooves and many were underweight, including those that were less than one year old, witnesses said.

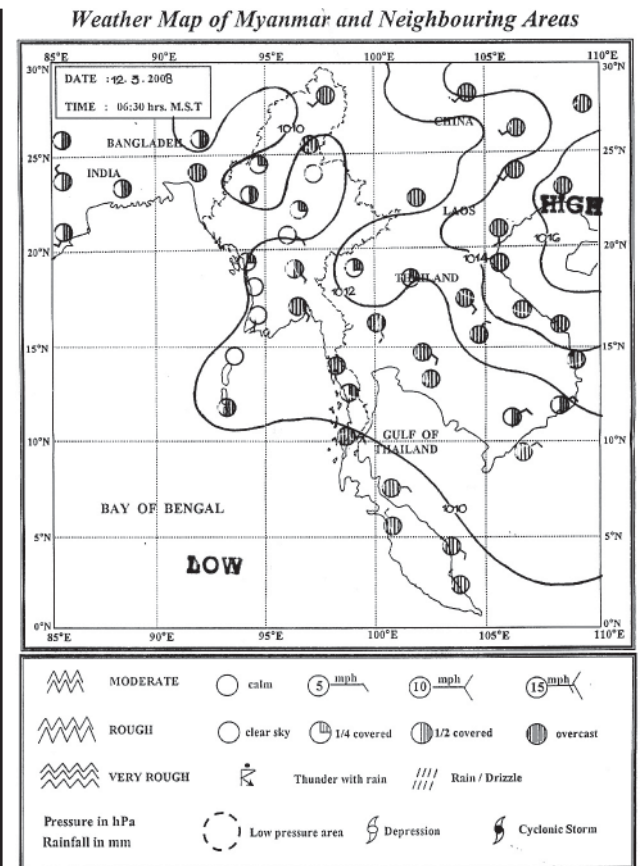
Neighbours say the horses had been neglected

for years and some filed complaints against the owner with the SPCA.

The SPCA admits it had received several complaints about the farm dating back years, but lack of evidence prevented them from acting earlier.

The owner has refused to talk to the media. No charges have been filed against him.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Wednesday, 12 March, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Taninthayi Division and weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below March average temperatures in Northern Shan State and upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) above March average temperatures in Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and about March average temperatures in the remaining areas. **The significant day temperatures were Chauk (40°C) and Minbu (39°C).**

Maximum temperature on 11-3-2008 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 12-3-2008 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 12-3-2008 was 77%. Total sunshine hours on 11-3-2008 was (7.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 12-3-2008 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 South at (12:30) hours MST on 11-3-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 13-3-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Mon State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 13-3-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-3-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-3-2008: Generally fair weather.



Thursday, 13 March
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာ ရသေ့ရုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. Dance of national races

8:05 am

6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

7. Dance variety

8:20 am

8. (၆၃)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm

4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ—တတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)

5:00 pm

5. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုတေးသီချင်း ဖြိုင်ပွဲဆုရတေးများ(၂၀၀၅ခုနှစ်)

5:15 pm

6. Cute little dancers

5:30 pm

7. Musical programme

5:45 pm

8. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. Musical programme

6:50 pm

12. သီးနှံစိုက်ပျိုးအထွက်တိုး (ပြည်ပဝင်ငွေတိုးစေရာ၊ ဆေးဖက်ဝင်သစ်ခွစိုက်ပါ)

7:00 pm

13. (၆၃)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

7:15 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “လေဒီယာနှင့်ဆုံစည်းခြင်း” (အပိုင်း-၁၅)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ဘဝဆက်တိုင်း” (အပိုင်း-၈)

19. The next day's programme

People's Desire

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

Bowling sport training course opened



Ministers Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and Col Thein Nyunt enjoy skill demonstration of athletes of Myanmar Bowling Federation. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — Jointly organized by Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee and the Ministry of Sports, the ceremony to open the bowling sport training course was held at the bowling hall of Sport Complex, here, this morning.

President of the Myanmar Bowling Federation U Thein Zaw explained matters related to bowling sport. The coach and selected Myanmar athletes demonstrated skills.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Col Thein Nyunt, officials of Nay

Pyi Taw Development Committee and the Ministry of Sports, responsible persons of the Myanmar Bowling Federation and guests.

A total of 86 trainees from ministries in Nay Pyi Taw are attending the course.

Eight athletes can play the bowling sport under control of computers at the same time at the bowling hall of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee.—MNA

Significant day temperature

Chauk	(40°C)
Minbu	(39°C).

Objectives of the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day

- * To work in concert with the people in building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation
- * To realize the seven-step Road Map of the State joining hands with the people
- * Joining hands with the people and based on Union Spirit to crush internal and external destructive elements sabotaging stability and development of the State
- * To build a strong, capable and modern patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes

Weather forecast for 13-3-2008

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area:
Generally fair weather.
Yangon and neighbouring area:
Partly cloudy.
Mandalay and neighbouring area :
Generally fair weather.

- ★ RFA, VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies
- ★ RFA, VOA and BBC saboteurs, watch your step!
- ★ The public be warned of killers in the air waves — RFA, VOA and BBC