

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 14 December, 2008

## Senior General Than Shwe visits Yeywa Hydropower Project site As project is nearing completion, step-by-step tasks need to be done carefully



*Senior General Than Shwe inspects progress of Yeywa hydropower project work.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected Yeywa hydropower project work being implemented on the Myitnge River to the southeast of Mandalay in

Mandalay Division on 10 December.

Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral

Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Maj-Gen Maung Shein of the Ministry of Defence, chairmen of

(See page 8)

**As the tasks for supply of electricity are being implemented, the work for distributing power to the consumers also needs to be done as scheduled. Power supply tasks are to be carried out systematically without any loss and wastage.**



*Yeywa hydropower project being implemented on Myitnge river, south-east of Mandalay.—MNA*



PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 14 December, 2008

Build efficient Tatmadaw in national interest

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address to the Graduation Parade of the 51<sup>st</sup> Intake of the Defence Services Academy in PyinOoLwin the other day.

The Senior General in his address said, “Our Tatmadaw is required to be strong, skillful and highly advanced. Only then will we be able to safeguard each and every inch of our territory from alien invasion. In constructing a strong, capable and patriotic Tatmadaw, we should be equipped with intellectual and academic aptitudes besides being outfitted with physical and mental prowess”.

A powerful Tatmadaw is necessary for building a modern developed nation. So, the Tatmadaw is trying to become a strong and powerful patriotic one to be able to protect the motherland and lives and property of the people.

With respect to building a strong Tatmadaw, qualitative improvement is more important than quantitative improvement. Therefore, every Tatmadaw member has to try constantly to have high calibres. It is required of newly-graduated junior officers to stay in touch with the changes in military strategy and warfare.

Moreover, when they get to their respective postings, they need to devote themselves to their tasks with a sense of duty while observing the motto “Keep your forces in a good shape, and win your battles”. So, they also have to organize their men to obey their command through full understanding.

Being “Triumphant Elites of the Future”, the newly-graduated junior leaders will be able to continue to equip all national brethren with Union Spirit, while defending the State's territory and the lives and property of the people in accordance with the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

*Col Chit Swe (Retd) explains purposes of holding book fair at the Diamond Jubilee of Hninzigon Home for the Aged.—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

Meeting on National Immunization Days (2009) held in Mon State

YANGON, 13 Dec — Work coordination meeting for holding National Immunization Days (2009) in Mon State took place in Mawlamyine on 10 December.

Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win addressed the meeting.

Head of Mon State Health Department Dr Htay

Aung gave an account of work programmes for the days and the heads of ten township health departments reported on arrangements made for the days and work to be done.

Beginning from January 2009, poliomyelitis vaccines will be given to under-five children at the designated days and places in Mon State.

MNA

Basic Spoken English course of Ministry of H&T concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec — Basic Spoken English course (4/2008) of Ministry of Hotels and Tourism concluded at the ministry here yesterday morning with an address by Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing.

At the closing ceremony, the trainees reported in English on Myanmar's participation in the development of tourism in the community of the six-country Greater Mekong Sub-region. Next, the minister presented completion certificates to the trainees and awarded three outstanding trainees.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing presents prize to an outstanding trainee of Basic Spoken English Course No. 4/2008.—MNA

Maternal and child care tasks carried out in storm-affected regions

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec — Vice-President Daw Aye Aye and Secretary Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Chairperson of Ayeyawady Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Win Win Maw on 10 December inspected fly-proof latrines in Tanyingon village-tract and Hmawai village and the delivery room of Hmawwai village MCWA in Dedaye Township and fulfilled the requirements.

Next, they visited the pre-primary school in Kyonku village in Pyapon Township and donated clothes to the storm victims.

Afterwards, the vice-president and party donated bicycles and clothes to the storm victims at Bogale Township MCWA office. They also viewed construction of a maternal and child care centre undertaken by MMCWA and UNFPA and the delivery room in Maubin Township and comforted pregnant women and presented cash and kind. They also inspected preventive measures against mother-to-child HIV infection infection and fulfilled the needs.

On 11 December, they inspected functions of the maternal and child care centre in Kangyidaunt Township and the primary school of MCWA in Pantanaw Township. They later donated K 100,000 each to the delivery rooms and K 50000 each and aid to the pre-primary schools.—MNA

Second book fair opens

YANGON, 12 Dec — To mark the Diamond Jubilee of Hninzigon Home for the Aged, the second book fair was opened at the home in Bahan Township here this morning. Chairman Col Chit Swe (Retd) of Committee for organizing the second book fair

explained the purpose of holding the book fair. Next, National Literary Award winner writer Takkatho Sein Tin spoke on the occasion and looked round the book stalls together with the guests. The book fair continues till 18 December from 9 am to 5 p.m. daily. —MNA





*Bomb attack victims receive treatment in a hospital in Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad on 11 December, 2008.—INTERNET*

## US troops kill 4 Afghans on bus that wouldn't stop

KABUL, 13 Dec — US troops opened fire on a bus carrying civilians Friday in central Afghanistan, killing four passengers after their driver refused to stop, officials said.

A spokesman for NATO's International Security Assistance Force said the bus was heading toward 20 troops on foot patrol on a highway in central Wardak province. The troops first fired warning rounds in the air to stop the vehicle, then shot into the engine block. The bus kept coming, so they opened fire on the vehicle in self-defense. The provincial governor and area residents confirmed that the troops were US forces.

At least 10 other passengers were wounded, Wardak Gov Halim Fidai said. An ISAF statement said the wounded were evacuated to military hospitals.

The incident is one of a series that threaten to undermine Afghan support for foreign troops just as the United States prepares to boost its presence in the country. The UN said in September that 577 Afghan civilians had been killed this year by US, NATO and Afghan troops, a 21 percent jump from 2007. Taliban fighters and other insurgents killed another 800 civilians this year.—*Internet*

## Suicide bombs tearing at ordinary Afghan families

KABUL, 13 Dec — The 50-year-old father of eight died, shovel in hand, simply doing his job.

Dressed in fluorescent orange overalls, the blue-collar attire of a Kabul municipal employee, Nasir Ali was standing near two steel-gray trash bins when a suicide bomber threw himself at a passing vehicle 10 yards away. Shrapnel pierced Ali's skull, killing him.

The bomber's target was a German Embassy vehicle but everyone inside the armored SUV escaped unharmed. The only people killed in the attack late last month were two Afghans.

Taliban suicide attacks typically target US or NATO troops, Afghan security forces or government officials, but far more bystanders usually get killed, leaving Afghan families in tatters. Late last month alone, two relatively small suicide attacks killed five people. The result was five children quitting school because their families' breadwinners died, making it impossible to pay for school costs.—*Internet*

## Karzai reviews process for Afghanistan air strikes

MANAMA (Bahrain), 13 Dec — US naval officials hosted Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai aboard an American carrier this week to assure him that the military is taking all precautions to avoid civilian casualties during airstrikes in his country.

US Vice Adm Bill Gortney, commander of the Navy's 5th Fleet, said naval officers walked Karzai through their process as they conduct air operations against suspected insurgents. Gortney said that Karzai did not detail his concerns about civilian deaths in military strikes during the visit. But the Afghan president has made public his anger over recent strikes that left civilians dead.

The US and its allies routinely turn to air power to combat Taliban and other insurgents because of Afghanistan's mountainous terrain and limited or impassable roads.

Karzai has said civilian deaths erode support for the war among his people and has pushed for a review of the use of US and NATO air power.—*Internet*

## British soldier in Iraq dies after shooting himself

LONDON, 13 Dec — A British soldier serving in Iraq has died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound, the Ministry of Defence in London said Friday, adding that an investigation is underway.

The soldier — who has not been identified — was serving with 20 Armoured Brigade at the British base outside the main southern Iraqi city of Basra. He died Thursday. "At approximately 2200 hours (1900 GMT) local time, a report was received of a soldier who had suffered a gunshot wound, within the Contingency Operating Base," the ministry said in a statement.

"Immediate medical assistance was provided, but sadly the soldier died at the scene." No enemy forces were involved, and there was "no evidence at this stage to suggest that any third party was involved in the incident".

The soldier's death brings to 178 the total number of British troops who have died in the Iraq operation since the US-led invasion in March 2003. Of these, 136 were killed as a result of hostile action.—*Internet*



*Debris are scattered on the floor of a restaurant after a suicide bomb attack near Kirkuk, about 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, on 12 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET*

## Four British soldiers killed in Afghanistan

LONDON, 13 Dec — British Defense Ministry announced on Friday that four British Royal Marines had been killed in two separate explosions in Afghanistan.

The first blast killed a marine in a Jackal armored vehicle in the Sangin district of northern Helmand province. An hour later three other marines were killed in an explosion after being approached by a young Afghan pushing a wheelbarrow in another part of Sangin.—*Internet*

## Pakistan militants kill two alleged US spies

MIRAN SHAH (Pakistan), 13 Dec — Police say Taliban militants killed two Afghan men they accused of spying on behalf of US forces behind missile strikes in northwest Pakistan.

Official Sakhi-ur-Rehman says authorities found the men's bodies Saturday in Miran Shah, the main town in the North Waziristan tribal region, after being alerted by residents. One had his throat slit. The other had multiple bullet wounds.

A letter found nearby alleges the men gave information to the US that aided missile strikes in the militant-plagued region. Rehman says the letter claims a CD containing the pair's alleged confession is forthcoming.—*Internet*

*People are seen standing next to vehicles loaded with supplies for US and allied forces in Afghanistan destroyed by militants in Peshawar, Pakistan, on 12 Dec, 2008.*

INTERNET







*The entrance to a Ford car plant. The United States is mulling urgent new steps to prevent the collapse of its embattled auto sector as the European Union announced the sealing of a massive US\$260 billion bailout package to fight off the global recession.—INTERNET*

**Bomb blast at an Oregon bank kills one**

WOODBURN, 12 Dec—A bomb exploded inside a bank here late Friday afternoon after explosives experts arrived to check on a suspicious object and authorities said at least one person was killed by the blast.

Oregon State Police said the explosion at the West Coast Bank caused “serious injuries” and

that police officers were in the area when the device detonated. They did not say how many police officers were injured.

A spokesman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives told The Oregonian at least one bomb technician had been injured.

Marion County deputy

medical examiner Rodge Womack said he has been told of at least one fatality. He said he did not know the identity of the victim.

Bank President and CEO Bob Szniewajs told The Associated Press that some bank employees might have been injured by flying glass but that none was seriously hurt.

Internet



*West Coast Bank shown in the back ground is ‘where Oregon State Police said a bomb detonated after police arrived to inspect a suspicious device on 12 Dec, 2008, in Woodburn, Ore. The Oregon State Police said there were ‘serious injuries.’—INTERNET*

**Eurozone industrial production drops by 1.2% in October**

BRUSSELS, 12 Dec — Industrial production in the eurozone dropped by 1.2 percent in October, compared with the previous month, the European Union (EU)’s statistics bureau Eurostat said on Friday.

The monthly index fell by 1.8 percent in September, according to revised figures.

In October, production

of non-durable consumer goods grew by 0.3 percent. Production of energy dropped by 0.1 percent. Durable consumer goods decreased by 1.4 percent. Both capital goods and intermediate goods declined by 2.0 percent.

Figures showed that industrial production in Germany, the biggest economy within the euro

zone, dropped by 2.0 percent in October after a sharp decrease of 3.3 percent in the previous month. France, the second largest, dropped by 2.7 percent following a decrease of 0.8 percent in September.

Compared to October 2007, the eurozone industrial production decreased by 5.3 percent.—Internet

**SKorea, China, Japan show unity at first summit**

FUKUOKA, 12 Dec— Japan, China and South Korea moved to ward off the effects of the global financial crunch at a trilateral summit Saturday, while Tokyo and Seoul criticized North Korea for stalling denuclearization talks. The three Asian nations — which together make up 75 percent of the east Asian economy — have held meetings on the sidelines of broader international gatherings

but this was the first time they held an independent three-way summit.

Though their countries are often at odds over the legacy of Japan’s militarist past, solidarity was the word of the day.

In their key statement, Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso, South Korean President Lee Myung-bak and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao were expected to issue an action plan to make the trilateral summit

an annual event and strengthen ties through increased political and cultural exchanges.

Meeting ahead of the three-way talks, Aso and Lee welcomed a deal reached the night before to increase a bilateral currency swap arrangement to the equivalent of \$20 billion. The Bank of Korea also announced a deal with the People’s Bank of China worth about \$26 billion.—Internet



*A Toyota assembly plant in Aichi. The Japanese auto giant is likely to suffer a 1.1 billion dollar loss for the second half of the current fiscal year due to a stronger yen and a global industry slump, news reports said.*

INTERNET

**US Big-3 automakers to shut down temporarily in Canada**

OTTAWA, 12 Dec—All the Canadian plants of the US Big-3 automakers will shut down temporarily in January, the president of the Canadian Auto Workers union said on Friday. The plants will be closed for different periods of time through December and January, said Ken Lewenza, adding the temporary layoffs are “a result of declining sales in

the United States.”

General Motors has 12,574 active workers in Canada, Chrysler LLC has 7,865 and Ford Motor Co has 7,402.

The news came as Canada’s Finance Minister

Jim Flaherty said he is still open to helping the Canadian auto industry, although the US Senate rejected a 14-billion-US-dollar bailout package for the Big-three on Thursday.

Internet



*Map of Sudan and the Darfur region. At least 75 people, including six policemen, were killed in separate tribal clashes in south Darfur.—INTERNET*

**Darfur clashes kill 75, including policemen**

KHARTOUM, 12 Dec—Seventy-five people, including six policemen, were killed in separate tribal clashes in south Darfur on Friday, security officials and tribal sources said.

Thirty-five members of Al-Falata tribe died in fighting with the rival Habaniya tribe while 17 tribesmen were wounded in the clashes, a security official said.

“Six policemen, including an officer, were killed while attempting to stop the tribal conflict,” the official, adding that six other men who were not immediately identified were also killed in the clashes.

The official did not provide reasons for the clashes but said that the government in south Darfur had sent reinforcements earlier in the day to contain the violence. In a separate incident, 28 members of the Al-Gamir tribe were killed in an attack by unidentified gunmen on a village in the Ed al-Fursan region, tribal chief Othman Hashim told AFP. He did not provide further details.—Internet



## Reform, opening-up have given Chinese greater happiness, freedom, says Vietnamese scholar

HANOI, 13 Dec — “What did the Chinese gain from 30 years of continuous reform and opening-up to the outside world?” The answer to this question may be as varied as there are people in the world. For Do Tien Sam, a Vietnamese scholar on Chinese affairs, the answer is “happiness and freedom.”

“The Chinese now enjoy greater protection of their property and freedom after years of reform and opening-up. We can say that they enjoy greater freedom and happiness today,” said Do in a recent

interview with *Xinhua*.

The scholar, who can speak fluent Chinese, has read many books on China and visited a number of provinces along the China-Vietnam border and on the eastern coast of China.

Professor Do, who has accumulated comprehensive and in-depth knowledge about Chinese affairs through years of study, is currently director of the Institute of Chinese Studies under the Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences.

He believes that the great achievements of China’s

reform and opening-up policy are visible in all aspects of the Chinese society, including the economic, scientific and cultural sectors.

The recent successful mission of the Shenzhou-7 manned spacecraft and China’s successful hosting of the Beijing Olympics are further proof of the country’s growth, said Do. These major events have enhanced the national strength of China and highlighted its role in the international arena, he added.

*Xinhua*



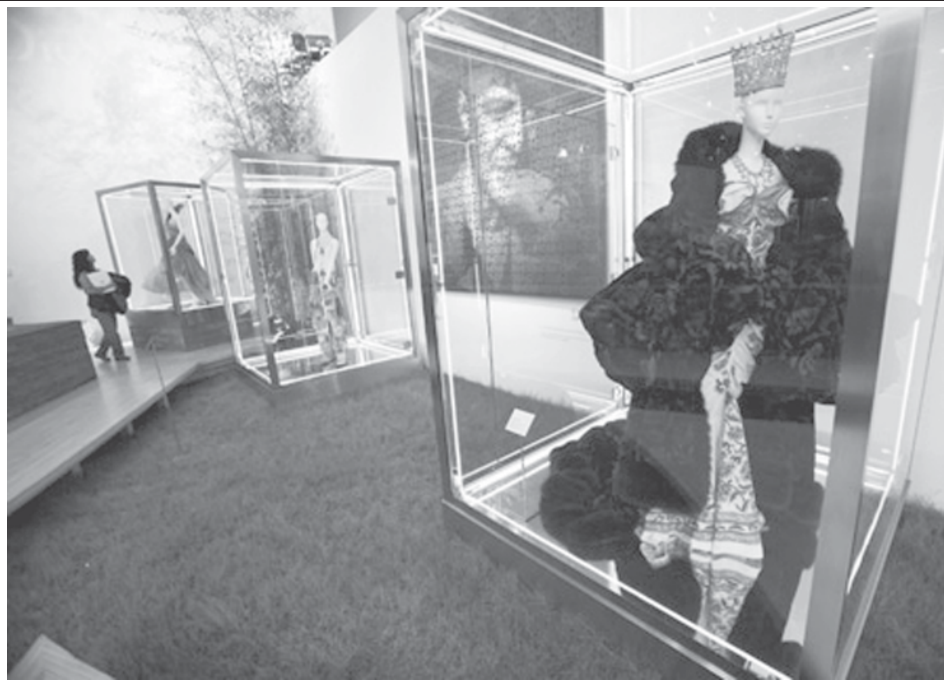
*A total of 99 newly wed couples and old couples from home and abroad came to the Huge Rock with Four Characters of “Tian Ya Hai Jiao (the Remotest Corner of the World)” on the coast south of Sanya City, to attend the 12th Sanya International Wedding Celebration Festival, south China’s Hainan Province, on 12 Dec, 2008. — XINHUA*

## US plane makes emergency landing in Nicaraguan airport

MANAGUA, 13 Dec — A plane from the US airline Continental Airlines, with 150 passengers aboard, made on Friday an emergency landing in the airport of Nicaragua’s capital after detecting mechanic failures in the undercarriage.

The official radio station “Nueva Radio ya” reported that the plane circled over the Augusto C Sandino international airport for many hours, in order to finish the fuel and reduce the risks during the maneuvering. — *Xinhua*

## All items from Xinhua News Agency



*A visitor look at a dress designed by John Galliano for Christian Dior, during an exhibition held at the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art at the 798 Art Zone in Beijing, China, on 10 Dec, 2008. — XINHUA*

## Number of homeless people increases in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 13 Dec — The number of homeless people has dramatically increased in Los Angeles due to the worsening economic downturn, it was reported on Friday.

Despite efforts by the city, county and non-profit agencies to help keep homeless families off the streets, officials at rescue missions and winter shelters in the Los Angeles area have received overwhelming homeless families at their facilities, according to the local Daily News.

Andy Bales, president of the Union Rescue Mission in downtown Los Angeles, said the number of homeless families staying at the mission has tripled to 45 over this time last year, the paper said. — *Xinhua*

## Brazilian police arrest 41 for drug trafficking

RIO DE JANEIRO, 13 Dec — Forty-one people were arrested in Brazil on Friday in connection with an international cocaine trafficking operation, Federal Police said. As many as 400 police officers were involved in the arrests, which took place in seven Brazilian states, including Mato Grosso and Sao Paulo, and the capital city Brasilia.

Police said the investigation, which began in September 2007, showed that the gang received large amounts of coca paste from two Bolivian suppliers. The drugs entered Brazil by plane and were stored on farms in Mato Grosso state before being distributed in other parts of the country. — *Xinhua*

## China’s top maker of solar water heaters wins 100-mln-dollar injection from foreign investors

BEIJING, 13 Dec — Himin Solar Energy Group, China’s top maker of solar water heaters, has secured an investment of nearly 100 million US dollars from Goldman Sachs and CDH Investment, the English China Daily reported on Saturday.

The deal comes at a time when venture capital activities are slackening in the country as IPOs dry up, proving that investors remain zealous about China’s promising solar industry.

The investment is expected to help Himin’s expansion drive both at home and overseas. The company, based in east China’s Shandong Province, produces solar water heaters that are sold both home and abroad. — *Xinhua*

## Gaza militants attack Israel with more rockets

GAZA, 13 Dec — Several Gaza militant groups on Friday claimed responsibility for firing more homemade rockets from Gaza at southern Israeli towns and military bases.

Abu Ali Mustafa Brigades, the armed wing of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) said in a leaflet sent to reporters that its militants fired five homemade rockets from Gaza at southern Israel.

The group said that the rockets attack were carried out to mark the 41-year-anniversary of establishing the Palestinian left-wing organization, and “to send a message to the occupation that resistance wouldn’t stop.” — *Xinhua*



*An Indian labourer talks on his cellular phone while waiting for customers at a wholesale grain market in New Delhi in April 2008. India could double its number of mobile subscribers by 2012 to 650 million, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh forecast Thursday. INTERNET*



# Brain enzyme may play key role in controlling appetite, weight gain

WASHINGTON, 13 Dec — US researchers have found that over activity of a brain enzyme may play a role in preventing weight gain and obesity.

The findings were reported Friday in the journal Cell Metabolism.

To understand what drives hunger and causes metabolic disease, many scientists have focused on the hypothalamus, an almond-sized structure located deep within the brain that controls body temperature, hunger, and thirst.

Specialized nerve cells in the hypothalamus sense whether the body contains adequate amounts of nutrients and stored body fat. The cells then send out signals telling other parts of the brain to adjust food intake, metabolic rates, and physical activity accordingly — keeping the body’s caloric intake in balance with calories burned.—Internet

# Italian airline Alitalia officially sold to private investors

ROME, 13 Dec— The flight operations of Italy’s bankrupt national carrier officially changed hands on Friday, sold to Compagnia Aerea Italiana (CAI), a group of private Italian investors created to launch a new Italian national airline.

Although the sale represented a breakaway from the carrier’s state-controlled past, CAI Chairman Roberto Colaninno said the new national airline will retain the name Alitalia, according to Italian News Agency ANSA.

12 Jan is the date set for the conversion from the old state-owned carrier to the new private national airline.

Before the new airline officially takes off, CAI will merge its Alitalia assets with those of Italy’s biggest private airline Air One, controlled by CAI partner Carlo Toto, which it formally acquired on Thursday.

A decision is also expected on CAI’s strategic foreign partner, which many pundits believe will be Air France-KLM.

CAI is paying a total of

1.052 billion euros (1.41 billion US dollars) for Alitalia’s flight division, which includes assets as well as selective debts from ordering new aircraft.

Internet

# Snow causes chaos in southwestern Austria

VIENNA, 13 Dec— Due to heavy snowfalls over the past two days, many roads in southwestern Austria were blocked, many households suffered blackouts, and some schools were forced to close.

According to a Friday report released by Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics of Austria (ZAMG), Austria’s southwestern states of Carinthia and Tyrol suffered most from the snowfalls. As much as 102 centimeters of fresh snow have fallen in Lienz of East Tyrol within 48 hours.

Austrian Television ORF also reported on Friday that in the southwestern city of Lesachtal near Italy, which is now totally cut off from the outside world, the accumulated snowfall has reached 200 centimeters in two days.—Internet

# Ice storm causes massive blackouts in eastern US

WASHINGTON, 13 Dec — An ice storm ripped through eastern United States over Thursday night from Maine to Pennsylvania, causing massive blackouts and leaving 1.25 million customers in the dark, the National Weather Service (NWS) said on Friday.

The storm has dumped more than 18 centimeters of snow in the region and

forced many roads and schools to close, it said. The governments of Massachusetts and New Hampshire declared state of emergency.

In Maine, Governor John Baldacci ordered state government closed for the day.

The American Red Cross opened shelters throughout the region to help people affected by the storm.—Internet



French frigate Nivose (centre at left) escorts commercial ships in the Gulf of Aden. Somali pirates have released a Greek chemical tanker seized in October but three crew members are feared dead, a Kenyan maritime official has said.—INTERNET

# NEWS ALBUM

## Woman accused of trying to smoke pot near officer

Police said a woman was arrested after asking a state trooper whether she could smoke — and then trying to light up a marijuana joint. Honesty Knight, 32, was a passenger in a vehicle that Trooper Eric Perkins pulled over for a traffic violation early Friday. While the trooper was talking to the driver, Knight obtained the trooper’s permission to smoke.

Police say Perkins then asked to see the cigarette, which contained marijuana, not tobacco.

Knight faces a preliminary charge of possession of paraphernalia. She was released from jail on bond, but couldn’t be located for comment because no home telephone number was listed in her name.



## Homeless dog tries to save dog hit by car in Chile

Chileans have a new hero: an apparently homeless dog that pulled the body of another dog through traffic off a busy highway. A surveillance camera on a Santiago freeway captured images of a dog trotting past speeding cars to pull the lifeless body of the other canine, which had been run over by a vehicle, away from traffic and onto the median strip.

The scene was broadcast by Chilean television stations and then posted on Web sites such as YouTube.com, and hundreds of thousands of people had viewed versions of it by Monday.

Highway crews removed both the dead and live dogs from the median strip of the Vespucio Norte Highway shortly after the 4 Dec incident. But the rescuer dog ran away.

Authorities say images of the rescue prompted some people to call and offer to adopt the dog, but neither highway workers nor a television crew could find the animal.

Checker Chuck drives the truck “Iron Outlaw” over wrecked cars at Monster Showdown, a monster truck competition in Monterrey, northern Mexico.

## Nagging wife, sausage help man win \$4.2m lottery

A “nagging” wife who pushed her husband to buy a lottery ticket helped scoop the \$4.2 million (\$7.7 million New Zealand dollar) first prize — with only minutes to spare. The man from New Zealand’s biggest city, Auckland, bought his ticket just two minutes before ticket sales closed Saturday night.

“My wife had been nagging me all week to get a ticket, so I when saw the Lotto sign ... I sprinted in to get the ticket before they closed,” said the man, who asked not to be identified — normal practice among lottery winners in New Zealand.

“I must have been their last customer

of the night,” he said, adding that the young married couple had had a “rough” couple of years, reduced to one income after having children.

“I have never been so glad to listen to my wife’s nagging,” the man said Tuesday.

He discovered their newly won fortune Sunday thanks to his wife’s request for a barbecued sausage.

Out shopping for bargains, the man said he didn’t have enough money to buy his wife the sausage she’d asked him for. So he decided to check his Saturday lottery ticket in case he’d won a small prize.

“I could not believe it when they said I was actually the big winner,” he said.

When he showed the printout to his wife, she initially thought they had won \$4,200 (NZ\$7,700).

“When she realized how much it really was, she fell to the floor, and then said: ‘but all I wanted was a sausage.’”



As Andalusian horseman performs next to flamenco artists during the rehearsal of Sicab the International Pre Horse Fair show in Seville.

A group of red starfish is seen on the seabed of Antarctica.





## China makes first 2,210-kw coal mining machine

XI'AN, 13 Dec — The first China-made 2,210 kilowatt coal mining machine passed check and appraisal on Saturday in the northwestern Shaanxi Province, reducing the reliance on exports.

Trial operation showed the remote control

machine, produced by Xi'an Coal Mining Machine Co Ltd, can mine eight million tons of coal annually, according to the Shaanxi Provincial Science and Technology Department.

The price for each was 16 million yuan (2.3

million US dollars), more than 40 percent lower than exported ones.

China's coal production doubled in the recent decade and reached 2.5 billion tons last year. But it can only produce coal mining machine with power capacity below 1,800 kw.

Machines above 2,000-kw were exported from the US and Germany.

*Internet*



*A lady takes photo in front of a Christmas tree made of over 1,800 deserted bottles near the Shanghai Ocean Aquarium in Pudong District in Shanghai, east China, on 12 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET*

## Six persons die in fire in Oslo

STOCKHOLM, 13 Dec — At least six persons died in a fire in the downtown of Oslo in the early morning of Saturday, said reports reaching here from the capital of Norway.

The local police has not ruled out that more people died in the fire, the Norwegian news agency NTB said in a report.

A total of 33 people were evacuated from the four-storey building. Fifteen were evacuated by ladder truck. Twelve are injured in the fire, with one seriously.

*Internet*

*Japan's Mao Asada, center, South Korea's Kim Yu-na, left, and Italy's Carolina Kostner pose during a medal ceremony of women's Free Skating for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final in Goyang, west of Seoul, South Korea, on 13 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET*



## Indian navy arrests 23 pirates in Gulf of Aden

NEW DELHI, 13 Dec — The Indian navy captured 23 pirates who threatened a merchant vessel Saturday in the lawless waters of the Gulf of Aden, where dozens of ships have come under attack by gunmen in recent months.

An Indian navy ship, the INS Mysore, was escorting merchant ships in the region near Somalia when it received a distress call from seamen on board the MV Gibe, who said they were being attacked by two boats.

The distress call said the pirates were firing as their boats closed in on the Gibe, according to a statement from the Indian government. The pirate boats attempted to escape when they saw the Mysore and its helicopter, but were boarded by Indian marine commandoes, the statement said.

The pirates had "a substantial cache of arms and equipment," including seven AK-47 assault rifles, three machine guns, a rocket-propelled grenade launcher and other weapons, the statement said. They also found a GPS receiver and other equipment.

The pirates were from Somalia and Yemen, two countries on the coast of the Gulf of Aden. The Gibe was flying an Ethiopian flag, the statement said, but there was no further information about the ship.—*Internet*

## NATO forces wound 5 Afghan civilians in clash with insurgents

KABUL, 13 Dec — The NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) has wounded five civilians in Afghanistan's troubled Helmand province as the troops came in contact with insurgents, a press release of the alliance said on Saturday.

"ISAF accidentally injured five locals in Helmand province, during an engagement with the Taleban on 12 Dec," the press release added.

The incident, according to the press release, occurred in Garmsir district on Friday when the troops patrolling the area were engaged from four different compounds with militants using small arms.

In a similar incident in southern Uruzgan province, two men and one woman were reportedly killed as the US-led Coalition forces clashed with insurgents on Wednesday.

Coalition forces conducting a night-time dismounted reconnaissance patrol in Deh Rawood district were ambushed on 10 Dec, when the forces returned fire and successfully disengage from enemy contact, a press release of the troops said Saturday.—*Internet*

## Iraqi PM rejects comment of US troops may remain 10 years

BAGHDAD, 13 Dec — Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki rejected comments by his spokesman that US troops may stay in Iraq for ten years, according to a statement Xinhua obtained on Saturday.

"What Dr Ali al-Dabbagh said about Iraqi forces will need ten years to be ready was only his personal view and does not represent the Iraqi government," Maliki's office said in the statement issued late on Friday.

On Thursday Dabbagh said at a Pentagon press briefing that some US forces could be needed for 10 years. "We do understand that the Iraqi military is not going to get built out in the three years. We do need many more years. It might be 10 years."

*Internet*



*The space shuttle Endeavour returns atop a NASA 747 aircraft to the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 12 Dec, 2008. The shuttle was transported back to KSC after bad weather in Florida forced it to land at Edwards Air Force Base in California.—INTERNET*

## Five killed in roadside bomb blast in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 13 Dec — At least five people were killed in a roadside bomb blast in northwestern Pakistan on Saturday, private TV channel DAWN NEWS reported.

The incident occurred when a car was hit by a roadside bomb in Khawzakhela tehsil of Swat district of North West Frontier Province, said the report.

Details about the incident are not immediately available.

Pakistan's security forces have been fighting militant groups in Swat valley, a stronghold of pro-Taleban militants.

*Internet*



*This photograph released by India government Press Information Bureau in New Delhi, on 13 Dec, 2008, shows arms and ammunition recovered by the Indian Navy from pirates in the Gulf of Aden on 13 Dec, 2008.*

INTERNET



As project is nearing completion, step-by-step...

(from page 1)

Mandalay Division, Sagaing Division and Shan State (North) Peace and Development Councils, the ministers, senior military officers and officials of the SPDC Office, arrived at the Yeywa hydropower project site near Ye-Yaman Village at 12.45 p.m.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min reported to the Senior General and party saying that Yeywa hydropower project is the project of the State that will generate 790 megawatts and 3,550 million kilowatts hours yearly. The roller compacted concrete main dam with 2,264 feet in length and 433 feet in height is being built on the Myitnge River and the construction has been completed by almost cent per cent.

Minister Col Zaw Min also reported on progress in construction of the diversion tunnel and inlet and outlet, intake structure and spillway, installation of

penstock and building of power station and switch yard, completion of the project as scheduled and arrangements being made for storing water in the dam in the coming rainy season.

Managing Director Dr San Oo of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 reported on construction of Yeywa-Belin (Kyaukse) 230 KV power line, Yeywa-Meiktila 230 KV power line and Belin-Meiktila 230 KV power line for supply of 790 megawatts from Yeywa hydropower station to the National Grid, construction of sub-power stations and power supply tasks of Belin-Shwesaryan 230 KV power line and Meiktila-Thazi 230 KV power line.

In response to the reports, Senior General Than Shwe said Yeywa Hydropower Project is a large-scale project of the State. As the project is nearing completion, all the step-by-step tasks of the project need to be done carefully. Moreover, efforts are to be made for fully tapping of water resources of the Myitnge River. As the tasks for supply of electricity are being imple-

mented, the work for distributing power to the consumers also needs to be done as scheduled. Power supply tasks are to be carried out systematically without any loss and wastage, said the Senior General.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe presented gifts to the responsible personel of Colenco Power Engineering Ltd and China Gezhouba Group Corporation and the staff of Construction Group-2 of Hydropower Department, who are participating in the Yeywa project.

The Senior General and party viewed the construction work from the viewing deck of the briefing hall. He also looked into the project site, construction of Yeywa water tank, laying of RCC concrete on the main dam, construction of the power station and spillway and digging of the canal.

Of the major tasks of the project, construction of diversion tunnel Nos 1 and 2 and the spillway has completed cent-per-cent and RCC main dam will be completed very soon. The whole project has been completed by 67.32 per cent. —MNA



Yeywa hydropower project being implemented on Myitnge river, south-east of Mandalay.—MNA

Auditor-General’s Office meets

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec —A work coordination meeting of state/division level directors of the Auditor-General’s Office took place at the office yesterday morning with an address by Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung. In his speech, he stressed the need of responsible personnel to be free from irregularities and corruptions and to expose any malpractices. He also spoke of the need to try to complete the auditing of departments and organizations for 2007-2008 by the end of March 2009.

Next, the state/division directors presented their reports and the director-general of the Auditor-General’s Office gave a supplementary report. The auditor-general gave a concluding remark. —MNA

Hospitals in Bago Division (West) under inspection

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Secretary of National Health Committee Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo met members of Township Health Committee, specialists, assistant surgeons, nurses, health staff, townsenders and members of social organizations in Paungde on 7 December.

Next, the deputy minister viewed the compound of Paungde Township Hospital.

Director Dr Nay Win (Lab), Director Dr Soe Lwin Nyein (disease control) and Director Dr Kyee Myint (Treatment) of Health Department also met health staff at Nattalin, Zigon and Gyobingauk Hospitals. They instructed matters related to promoting of laboratories, feeding vaccine and safely treatment of patients.—MNA

Chief Justice meets judges of Yangon Division

YANGON, 13 Dec—Chief Justice U Aung Toe met with division, districts and townships judges of Yangon Division at Supreme Court (Yangon) yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Chief Justice U Thein Soe of Supreme Court (Yangon), supreme court judges, and officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Justice said that judges need to understand regulations and ethics they are to abide by, so that people may put trust in and rely on judicial pillar and they are to try to become good and able persons and judges at different level are to make the decision in accord with law and regulations without corruption.—MNA



Chief Justice U Aung Toe meets division, district and township judges of Yangon Division.

MNA



## Teachers capable of guiding youths to respective fields in accord with their bent, good prospects

### Special Refresher Course No. 67 for basic education teachers concludes



*On behalf of Chairman of MEC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, CSSTB Chairman Dr Than Nyun presents prize to JAT U Myint Oo of Muhtaw Post Primary School in Pyay Township. — MNA*

YANGON, 13 Dec— The Special Refresher Course No. 67 for basic education teachers concluded at Nawarat Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division this morning.

Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, on behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, delivered an address on the occasion.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi, deputy ministers, members of CSSTB, departmental heads, the Rector of CICS (Phaunggyi), pro-rectors, heads of department, course instructors and trainee teachers.

In his address, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, on behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and

Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, said it is his belief that all the trainees will fully equip with national outlooks and nationalistic fervour as the course will inculcate them with the past history of the State, efforts of the government in the process of building a new modern and developed nation and the future national objectives and prospects.

The teachers are a national force that produces and nurtures highly qualified human resources which play an important role in building a new peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

When discharging the State responsibilities in accord with the demand of history, the State Peace and Development Council is making all-out efforts for warding off evil legacy and for development of the nation in all aspects.

With the aim of bringing about equitable and harmonious development in different regions of the states and divisions, the government

has laid down the border area development projects, the five rural development tasks and the 24 special regions development plan and is implementing them with added momentum. In other words, the government has paved the way for the emergence of new peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation aspired by the entire national people.

Meanwhile, efforts are being made to

effectively utilize natural resources in agriculture and production sectors while striving for development of human resources. As a result, the education standard of the entire nation has changed and developed both in content and essence during the period of two decades.

The qualitative and quantitative development of new generation youths being nurtured and trained by the teachers largely depends on capability and efficiency of each teacher of present day.

The people, local authorities and social organizations are making concerted efforts for successful realization of the 30-year long term national education promotion programme. With that regard, local people of different regions are to try their utmost for ensuring the school enrollment of each and every school-age child, which is prerequisite for success of the programmes, realizing the importance of education in bringing about the long-term development.

Cooperation among the people who are

## Mayor views lecturing at gratis education class

YANGON, 13 Dec—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin toured gratis education class opened by YCDC on Bo Aung Kyaw Road in Ward 18 of Hlinethaya Township here this morning. He met teachers and viewed studying of the students.

YCDC opened the gratis education classes in Ward 18 of Hlinethaya Township, Ward 7 in South Okkalapa Township and Ward 8 in Dagon Myothit (East) Township for students who will take the matriculation examination. Any students can attend the class free of charge.—MNA

parents of the youths can contribute towards the success of the tasks in the basic education sector, he said.

He said there are various kinds of socio-economic challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The teachers are capable of guiding the youths to the respective fields in accord with their bent and good prospects. It is necessary for them to produce intellectuals and intelligentsia needed in building a new nation, he said.

Continuing, he said, the State and the people has acknowledged the endeavours of the teachers in the country where they have always valued and respected the role of education and teachers in successive periods. That is why the teachers, who are organizational leaders and shaping the future of the State, should possess political, economic and

social outlooks and genuine patriotism, firm stand on national interest and upright morale. He urged them to implement the educational tasks.

He quoted Head of State Senior General Than Shwe as saying at the conclusion of the course on Myanmar affairs and international studies that participation in the national tasks personally after realizing the events as a citizen is serving the national interests and dutiful citizens with high concepts are the strengths of the nation.

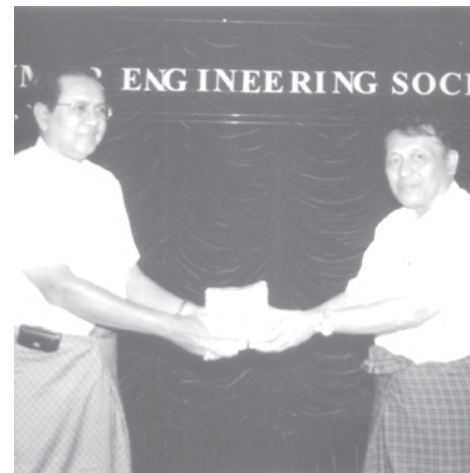
He urged the teachers to discharge the duties of producing human resources for the nation after accepting the guidance of the Head of State as the work guidelines.

Next, Dr Than Nyun presented awards to the outstanding trainees and certificates to the trainees through their leaders.—MNA

## Cash presented to hold respect paying ceremony

YANGON, 13 Dec—The donation ceremony of graduated civil engineering students was held at Myanmar Engineering Society on Hline Campus, Yangon University on 6 December for third respect paying ceremony to full time and part time faculty members at Yangon Institute of Technology and Yangon Technological University.

At the ceremony, chairman of organizing committee U Ohn Kyaw accepted K 700,000 donated by U Tint Hsan (81) (ACE construction), K 500,000 by U Win Naing (80)-Daw Than Than Swe (81), K 300,000 by graduated students (1980-intake), K 1.5 million by U Win Naing (80) on behalf of wellwishers, K 200,000 by U Khin Lat on behalf of graduated students (1975-intake) and Principal U Ko Ko (Superintending Engineer) of Central Construction Training School.—NLM



*The cash donation ceremony for paying respects to former faculty members of YIT and YTU in progress. NLM*

## All this needs to be known

- \* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- \* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- \* Do not be softened whenever appeased



# Mass walk in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—A mass walk took place here as part of 2008 December mass sports activity here this morning.

Member of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, departmental heads, officials, government employees and people participated in the walk.

Next, they took exercise at the gathering point of Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market.

MNA



Departmental personnel, staff family members and people taking part in mass walk of December 2008 in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA

# Basic diplomatic skills course concludes

YANGON, 11 Dec – The course on basic diplomatic skills (BDS-19/2008) conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs concluded at the ministry this morning. At the ceremony, U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs delivered a course concluding speech.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general of the departments under the ministry, departmental officials, retired Myanmar ambassadors, senior diplomats and professors and lecturers from universities and institutes.

Altogether 188 trainees including those interested in international affairs, entrepreneurs dealing with foreign firms, company officials and service personnel attended the 12-week course.

The simulation of a formal banquet was held later in the evening at Park Royal Hotel in the presence of Deputy Minister U Maung Myint and wife.

MNA



Departmental personnel, staff family members and people taking physical exercise near Myoma Market in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA

# Magway College old students pay respect to teachers

YANGON, 13 Dec—The 6th respect paying ceremony of Magway College students (1964-1976) was held at Universities Dhammayon in Kamayut Township on 7 December.

At the ceremony, the old students paid respect and presented cash and kind to old teachers. On behalf of old teachers, Dr Maung Di, U Win Maung, Dr Soe Yin and Daw Khin Nu delivered addresses. Daw

Kyi Kyi Tin and Daw Khin Than Sein on behalf of organizing committee explained matters related to ceremony and U Bar Bar Cho and Daw Tin Tin Yi expressed words of thanks.—NLM



Old students of Magway College present gifts to former faculty members at respect paying ceremony. NLM



National Kandawgyi Gardens teeming with visitors in Pyin Oo Lwin on 13-12-2008. —MNA

# Flower Festival draws holidaymakers

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—The 77th anniversary celebration of National Kandawgyi

Gardens (Pyin Oo Lwin) and the 2nd anniversary of the National Landmarks Garden and the opening

of Modern Amusement Park and the third Flower Festival were taking place under the arrangements of the Ministry of Forestry.

The National Landmarks Gardens was crowded with knowledge seekers and holidaymakers and the children parked the newly-opened Modern Amusement Park.

The families and photographers went sightseeing in the gardens where floral statues and stalls are on display.

The 3rd flower festival was drawing the attention of the visitors. Well-known music bands entertained music-lovers with songs and about over 70,000 people visited the gardens.

MNA



Holiday makers and visitors seen at National Kandawgyi Gardens in Pyin Oo Lwin on 13-12-2008. —MNA



# Picturesque Maungmagan Beach Resort

*Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)*

Maungmagan Beach Resort near Dawei, Taninthayi Division, is a well-known tourist attraction.

On a tour of Taninthayi Division to write articles about regional development, our media team of the Myanmar Alin Daily happened to enjoy the natural beauty of Maungmagan Beach Resort for our firsthand

knowledge.

Maungmagan Beach Resort is located in Longlon Township, close to Dawei. It is 10 miles or a 30 minutes drive from Dawei.

We went to Maungmagan Beach Resort in a car of Township Reporter U Khin Maung Gyi. It was at nearly 5 p.m. when we reached our destination.

The sun was setting



*A group of family members collecting colourful seashells to make and sell strings of seashell beads.*



*A row of traditionally-decorated lodging houses in Maungmagan Beach Resort.*

on the mountain ranges among the islets. Upon arrival on the beach, we noticed lovely lodging houses and garden-like compounds with beautiful buildings in them.

Unlike other beach resorts, Maungmagan Beach Resort has many pine trees, instead of coconut palms. Now, coconut palm saplings are being grown near the resort.

Maungmagan Beach Resort stretches from south to north with high

mountain ranges and many small islets in the south, thus adding to its scenic beauty.

Along the beach, many people were strolling and riding motorbikes for relaxation and recreation. And the beach was teeming with people collecting seashells and lively with restaurants, rows of shops, and souvenir shops.

The sea was found pleasant with waves splashing on the shore. The clouds in the whole

sky were glowing brightly with reflected rays of the sun. Seagulls were flying back in flock to the sea to roost, but small groups of fishing boats were still at work in the sea.

A woman who collects colourful seashells and makes and sells strings of seashell beads to earn her living said, "The beach starts to be crowded with visitors at about 8 o'clock in the morning. And it is busy in summer. Not all the visitors are local people.

The people from around the country visit the beach while they are in Dawei. The beach has been well-known for ages, so the number of visitors to the beach is on the increase".

Going well with mountain ranges and the sea, Maungmagan Beach Resort is definitely worth visiting for recreation.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Translation: MS**  
Myanma Alin:  
11-12-2008



*Maungmagan Beach Resort is very pleasant with mountain ranges in the background at sunset.*



### Invitation to Submit "Expression of Interest" to Construct School cum Cyclone Shelter

Myanmar Engineering Society (MES) will build a school cum cyclone shelter in Kungyangon Township, Yangon Division utilizing funds received from various donors.

MES invites locally registered construction companies to submit an "Expression of Interest" to construct the mentioned school cum cyclone shelter by 22-12-2008.

Detail information can be obtained from MES.

Tel : (01) 519673-76, 579038, 09 50 10386 (U Ko Ko Gyi)

Fax: (01) 519681

Address: MES Building, Hlaing Universities Campus, Hlaing Tsp, Yangon.

**Myanmar Engineering Society**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

#### MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (261)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (261) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.12.08 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER  
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

### Hawaii flood causes waste water leaks

HONOLULU, 13 Dec — A total of 347,680 gallons of treated and untreated waste water overflowed into streams, lakes and the ocean during a slow-moving Hawaii storm, officials said.

The Honolulu Advertiser reported on Friday that about 226,000 gallons of fully treated and untreated waste water went into Wahiawa Reservoir, officials said.

The newspaper reported that state health officials are monitoring water quality at a dozen Oahu locations.

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin reported that residents could expect continued heavy rainfall because of the slow-moving storm.

The Advertiser reported that about 14,000 homes and businesses were without electricity for different periods on Thursday.—Internet

### Pregnant woman shot, killed at Mexico highway checkpoint

CIUDAD JUAREZ (Mexico), 13 Dec — Soldiers shot to death a pregnant 35-year-old woman after she reportedly failed to stop at a highway checkpoint in the northern state of Chihuahua, authorities said on Friday.

Silvia Arzate died after soldiers opened fire on the sport utility vehicle she was driving near the capital of Chihuahua, which is experiencing a surge of violence as drug gangs battle each other and authorities, said the state

prosecutors' spokesman, Eduardo Esparza.

The circumstances surrounding Thursday's shooting remain unclear.

Esparza said Arzate, who died of several gunshot wounds, had been carrying a cousin in her vehicle who had been wounded in an earlier gunbattle. Her mother was also aboard, but was not injured.

It was unclear if the cousin had been a participant in the earlier gunfight. Initial reports

### Vancouver, BC, Christmas party shooting kills one

VANCOUVER (British Columbia), 13 Dec — A former employee recently let go from his job opened fire at an office Christmas party on Friday, killing one person, police said.

"The suspect, a 61-year-old man, entered the business, which had at least a dozen people inside enjoying a Christmas party," police said in a statement.

Police Const Tim Fanning said the gunman entered the party around 4 pm. One man was shot and killed but the other partygoers managed to escape and no one else was injured.

"Police 'locked down' the neighborhood and negotiated with the suspect, who gave himself up to police just after 6:00

pm," Fanning said in the statement.

The business at the location of the shooting is listed as TallGrass

Distribution Ltd, a natural health product supplier. Police said the victim's name would not be released until next of

kin had been notified. They said the name of the suspect would be released after he is formally charged.—Internet



*Police officers stand outside a building in Vancouver, BC, on 12 Dec, 2008. A former employee recently let go from his job opened fire at an office Christmas party on Friday, killing one person.—INTERNET*

### Ex-Ford engineer sentenced to 10 years

DETROIT, 13 Dec — A former Ford Motor Co engineer who tried to smuggle night-vision goggles and other military gear overseas has been sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Fawzi Assi, 49, attempted to send the equipment in 1998 to help drive Israelis out of southern Lebanon, the Detroit Free Press reported.

He was sentenced in Detroit by US District Judge Gerald Rosen as friends and family members looked on, the newspaper said.

Among other items

Assi tried to smuggle were global positioning satellite modules and a thermal imaging camera.

He pleaded guilty in November to providing material support for a foreign terrorist organization. He fled the United States in 1998 to avoid prosecution, but returned in 2004 to face charges.

The judge gave him credit for the 4 1/2 years he has spent in custody.

Internet

### Iran cuts support for Iraq groups

BAGHDAD, 13 Dec — There are signs that Iran has reduced its support for militant Shia groups in Iraq, say US and Iraqi officials.

The US says there has been a big drop in the number of Iranian-made bombs in recent months, suggesting Iran has decided to rein in militants.

An Iraqi official said Iran had restrained its activities because it believed that the US-Iraqi security pact posed no threat to Tehran.

Iran government has consistently denied arming or funding Iraqi militants.

Lt Gen Thomas Metz said the numbers of Iranian-made Explosively Formed Penetrators (EFPs) in Iraq decreased in recent months.

These are a type of shaped charge that is particularly effective at penetrating armour.

Internet

### Triple suicide tragedy in France

PARIS, 13 Dec — A mother and her adult daughter, devastated by the suicide of another daughter, have killed themselves on the same railway track in southern France.

They went to a section

of a high-speed TGV line near the town of Solliès-Pont, near Toulon, where the elder daughter killed herself in July.

Both they and the father of the family had been regarded by local officials as a suicide risk

after the death.

They were placed in psychiatric care for three weeks.

After being released, the three members of the unnamed family returned to their native region in northern France, Lorraine, but came back to Solliès-Pont a few weeks ago, town mayor Andre Garron told AFP news agency.

The mother and daughter, aged 56 and 22, left a letter for the father, who was at work, before they went to the Paris-Nice railway track late on Wednesday afternoon, local newspaper Nice-Matin reports.—Internet



*The three women threw themselves under high-speed trains.—INTERNET*



## Heavy rains pound Italy, Rome declares emergency

ROME, 13 Dec — Rome declared a state of emergency as the swollen Tiber river threatened to flood Friday and the death toll from the heavy rains battering much of Italy rose to four. The Civil Protection Department said the Tiber had risen about 16 feet (5 meters) in the past two days and warned it might burst its banks.

Officials evacuated Gypsy camps along the Tiber's banks and boats

broke loose from their moorings in the surging water. The smaller Aniene river, which flows into the Tiber, already overflowed, forcing officials to close down some streets in Rome and evacuate hundreds of people.

"It is as if there has been an earthquake," Rome Mayor Gianni Alemanno told the daily La Repubblica.

Italy has been hit by days of bad weather, and TV

footage has shown entire neighborhoods flooded or submerged by mud. In Venice, alarms sounded early in the morning as the high tide came in and parts of the city flooded. Still, the water was far less than the unusually high tide recorded in the lagoon city last week, when residents and tourists waded through knee-high water, shops were flooded and much of the city was brought to a halt.

Internet



The Tiber river flows in downtown Rome on 12 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET

## Girl caught in crossfire dies in Congo



Congolese walk on a road near the front line near Kibati.—INTERNET

KIBATI, 13 Dec — Stray gunfire struck two girls at a civilian displacement camp in eastern Congo,

killing one and wounding another, the UN refugee agency said on Friday.

Fighting between gov-

ernment troops and rebels has raged near two UN High Commissioner for Refugees displaced persons camps in Kibati — located in the Democratic Republic of Congo's war-ravaged North Kivu Province. The warfare has prompted the displacement of 250,000 people since August.

The two girls were shot around 1 am Friday, with a 5-year-old dying instantly. A 7-year-old remains alive but "is fighting for her life," said UNHCR spokesman Ron Redmond.—Internet

## Fatty acids in formula can boost immunity

EVANSVILLE, 13 Dec — Infants fed formula DHA, an omega-3 fatty acid, and ARA, an omega-6 fatty acid, show better respiratory health during winter, a US pediatrician said.

Dr Laura Jana, pediatrician and author of "Heading Home with Your Newborn; from Birth to Reality" said that human milk is widely considered to be the optimal source of nutrition for infants, since it provides a variety of biological factors — including antibodies, which help support the development of the infant's immune

system.

But there is emerging science that suggests that mothers who cannot or chose not to breastfeed can improve their infants' respiratory health by feeding an infant formula that includes DHA and ARA — important nutrients found naturally in breast milk, Jana said.

Infants fed Enfamil LIPIL during the first year of life experienced improved immune outcomes, including improved respiratory health, compared to infants fed the prior formulation without DHA and

ARA — a health benefit shown for the first three years of life, Jana added.

"This is intriguing news for moms who choose to feed their babies infant formula," Jana, said in a statement. "DHA and ARA have been increasingly recognized as important nutrients in infant nutrition. 'The fact that they are found naturally in breast milk and as added nutrients in infant formula means that all infants, whether they are fed breast milk or infant formula, stand to benefit.'"

Internet

## Response to alcohol has genetic component

SAN FRANCISCO, 13 Dec — US researchers have identified a region of the human genome that appears to determine how strongly drinkers feel the effects of alcohol.

Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco, Ernest Gallo Clinic and Research Center, found that a DNA sequence variation, known as a single nucleotide polymorphism, on chromosome 15 is significantly associated with the level of response to alcohol and could signal the genetic factors that affect alcohol abuse. The researchers investigated two sentinel single nucleotide polymorphism markers — RS1051730 and RS8034191 — that previously had been associated with nicotine de-

pendence and lung cancer. They found a strong association with the first marker.

"We know that the level of response to alcohol is heritable and think there are genetic factors behind 40 percent to 60 percent of alcohol dependence, but until now, the chromosomal locations of these factors have not been clear for the most

common forms of alcohol use disorders," senior author Raymond L. White, director of the Gallo Center, said in a statement. "By understanding which portion of our genetic makeup influences our response to alcohol, we can begin to understand what type of treatments might be most successful in helping reduce alcohol use disorders."—Internet

## Earth enjoys full moon close-up

LONDON, 13 Dec — A full moon has occurred closer to the Earth than it has done at any time for the past 15 years.

The Moon's elliptical orbit means its distance from the Earth is not constant. It was a little over 350,000km away as it passed over the northern hemisphere, about 30,000km closer than usual. Astronomers said the moon would appear brighter and larger than

usual, but the sky in the UK was almost completely covered by cloud.

Friday's full moon was predicted to appear up to 14% bigger and 30% brighter than other full moons this year, according to NASA. The Moon's orbit is elliptical, meaning it does not follow a circular but rather an oval path.

It has reached the point where this oval orbit is nearest to the Earth.

"It's only every few

years that a full moon happens to coincide with the part of the Moon's orbit when it's closest to the Earth," said Marek Kukula, an astronomer at the UK's Royal Observatory. The moon appears largest as it rises and sets, but this is a psychological illusion, Dr Kukula said. "When it's close to the horizon, our brain interprets it as being bigger than it actually is, this is called the moon illusion," he said.—Internet

## Kidney treatment may be denied due to cost

CAMBRIDGE, 13 Dec — A British oncologist says he is dismayed that kidney cancer patients may be denied four new treatments due to cost.

Dr Tim Eisen of the University of Cambridge reports in BJU International that the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence has provisionally decided sunitinib, sorafenib, temsirolimus and interferon plus bevacizumab are too costly.

While none of these new drugs cure the condition, they sometimes can ex-

tend life, Eisen said. For instance, some patients taking sunitinib get an extra year.

The variability of the natural history of kidney cell carcinoma makes it possible a minority of patients may benefit very significantly, Eisen says, but "no provision is made for the importance of gaining even a few months of extra life for patients, despite the fact that these benefits are deemed to be extremely important by all patient groups."

Internet



The moon will appear high in the night sky.

INTERNET



SPORTS

Milan and Juve play down importance of crucial clash



AC Milan's Brazilian midfielder Kaka

ROME, 13 Dec—AC Milan and Juventus have been trying to play down the significance of their must-win clash at Turin's Stadio Olimpico this weekend.

Both sides sit six points behind champions and runaway Serie A leaders Inter Milan, who face the seemingly straight-forward task of a home match against rock-bottom Chievo.

Should Jose Mourinho's star-studded team win that match, a draw or defeat for either Milan or Juve would leave them eight or nine points off the pace — a daunting prospect for any team with title aspirations.

But both Juve and Milan have been trying to calm expectations ahead of Sunday night.

Internet

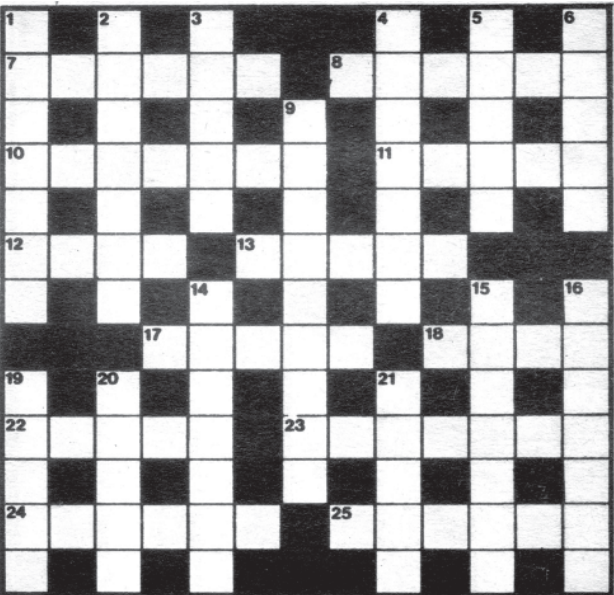
Former PGA president dies

BETHESDA, 13 Dec—Max Elbin, the longtime head pro at Burning Tree who was president of the PGA of America when tournament players broke away to form the PGA Tour, died on Friday. He was 88.

He died of heart failure, the PGA said. Elbin played and taught six US presidents at Burning Tree, the private club outside Washington where presidents, congressmen and business executives play golf.

He became the 15th president of the PGA of America in 1965, serving three years during tumultuous times that reshaped the organization. With tour pros feeling their needs were not being met, Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus led a move to create a separate division, which eventually became the PGA Tour.—Internet

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 7 Silly smile
- 8 Upper parts of legs
- 10 Cradle-song
- 11 Scope
- 12 Certain
- 13 Guide
- 17 Dutch earthenware
- 18 Greek letter
- 22 Vagranat
- 23 Humbug
- 24 Pact
- 25 Inn

DOWN

- 1 Futile
- 2 Entreat
- 3 Open to bribery
- 4 Abridge
- 5 Representative
- 6 Remains
- 9 Puzzled
- 14 Notwithstanding
- 15 Traduced
- 16 Laundry
- 19 Condition
- 20 Vacillate
- 21 Recompense

New Madrid coach Ramos in baptism of fire at Barcelona

MADRID, 13 Dec—New Real Madrid manager Juande Ramos faces a real baptism of fire in his first league match in charge with the struggling double champions travelling to Barcelona's Camp Nou on Saturday night.

If Barcelona win the league leaders will extend their advantage over Real to 12 points heading into the Christmas break and surely all but end Real's hopes of a third successive league crown.

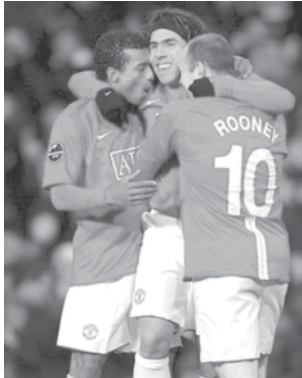
Ramos, who started with a 3-0 win over Zenit St. Petersburg in Tuesday's Champions League match, has a chance to endear himself to the Real supporters by dragging their stumbling side back into the title race.—Internet



Real Madrid's new coach Juande Ramos (C, bottom) attends a training session in Madrid, on 11 Dec ahead of its December 13 El Clasico match against familiar foe Barcelona at Camp Nou in Barcelona.—INTERNET

United face crunch time at Tottenham

LONDON, 13 Dec—Sir Alex Ferguson admits Manchester United's Premier League clash against Tottenham on Saturday is one of the champions' most



Manchester United forward Carlos Tévez (C), forward Wayne Rooney (R) and midfielder Nani, seen on 10 December.

INTERNET

important games of the season.

While leaders Liverpool and second-placed Chelsea have winnable home games against Hull and West Ham respectively this weekend, United go in search of a cure to their away-day blues at White Hart Lane.

Ferguson's team have already been beaten at Liverpool and Arsenal this season, as well as drawing at Chelsea, Aston Villa and Everton.—Internet

Hughes puts quality ahead of quantity

MANCHESTER, 13 Dec—Mark Hughes insists Manchester City won't spend money for the sake of it during the January transfer window after admitting that the intense speculation surrounding the club's intentions is proving impossible to tone down.

Hughes, whose team face Everton at Eastlands on Saturday, is expected to make at least four signings in January, with Chelsea defender Wayne Bridge, Portsmouth's French midfielder Lassana Diarra, Blackburn forward Roque Santa Cruz and an experienced goalkeeper at the top of his list.



Mark Hughes

Internet

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

(13.12.2008)		
Aston Villa	4 - 2	Boton
Liverpool	2 - 2	Hull City
Manchester City	0 - 1	Everton
Middlesbrough	1 - 1	Arsenal
Stoke City	0 - 0	Fulham
Sunderland	4 - 0	WBA
Tottenham	0 - 0	Man Utd
Wigan Athletic	3 - 0	Blackburn



Arsenal's Emmanuel Adebayor, right, scores his goal during their English Premier League soccer match against Middlesbrough at Middlesbrough's Riverside Stadium, Middlesbrough, England on 13 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET



Andy Reid scores a third for Sunderland before Djibril Cisse's penalty just after the break gives the hosts a comfortable lead.—INTERNET

Sorenstam leads after 2nd round of last tournament

DUBAI, 13 Dec—Annika Sorenstam had an eagle and four birdies in a 6-under 66 Friday that gave her a one-shot lead after the second round of the Dubai Ladies Masters, her last tournament before retiring.



Annika Sorenstam of Sweden plays a ball on the 12th during the second round of the Dubai Ladies Masters golf tournament in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 12 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET

After dropping two shots on her final two holes on Thursday, Sorenstam managed a bogey-free second round to sit at 8-under 136, one shot ahead of Nikki Garrett of Australia.

First-round leader Johanna Head of England was among three players tied for third, another shot back.

"I was very pleased with the front nine today," said Sorenstam, who is aiming to win the tournament for the third straight year. "A nice eagle on the third hole where I hit a 5-iron to 10 feet and rolled that in. That kick-started my day right there."

Internet



## Beijing stages anti-terror drill after Mumbai attack

BEIJING, 13 Dec—Beijing armed police conducted an anti-terror drill Saturday to strengthen its prep-aredness against militant attacks like the one in Mumbai. The scenario was that a group of terrorists rocked the city with a series of explosions and kidnapped hostages at a hotel. Members of the Beijing Special Armed Police Unit (BSAPU) used a helicopter and ropes to get 10 meters down to the ground within two seconds. They then shot targets of swaying eggs 15 meters away within 1.5 seconds to practice killing terrorists. After breaking through windows, police were able to rescue hostages.

“The drill was aimed at preventing terrorist

attacks, especially after the Mumbai attack which had definite targets and careful plan. We noticed that the terrorists attacked different sites of the city in different ways such as explosions, shooting, kidnapping and a gunfight with the police,” said Xiao Yong, the head of the unit.

Internet

## Somali pirates release Greek ship

NAIROBI, 13 Dec—A regional maritime official confirmed on Saturday that Somali pirates have freed a Greek chemical tanker hijacked on October 10 in the Gulf of Aden with 20 crew members.

Andrew Mwangura, East Africa’s Coordinator of the Seafarers Assistance Program (SAP) said the MV Action was released on Saturday and was currently sailing on safe waters amid fears that her three crew members were dead. “MV Action was released by pirates. She is currently limping to safe waters. It is feared that three crew members lost their lives under questionable circumstances,” Mwangura told *Xinhua* by telephone.—Internet

## African illegal migrant killed at Egypt-Israel border

CAIRO, 13 Dec—Egyptian border guards shot dead an African national who tried to sneak into Israel illegally via the Egyptian border in the Sinai peninsula, a security source said on Saturday.

The Togolese man was spotted by a team of Egyptian police patrolling the border on late Friday

when he was trying to get through the border fence, the source said on condition of anonymity.

The Egyptian police opened fire after the 25-year-old man refused to stop and killed him on the

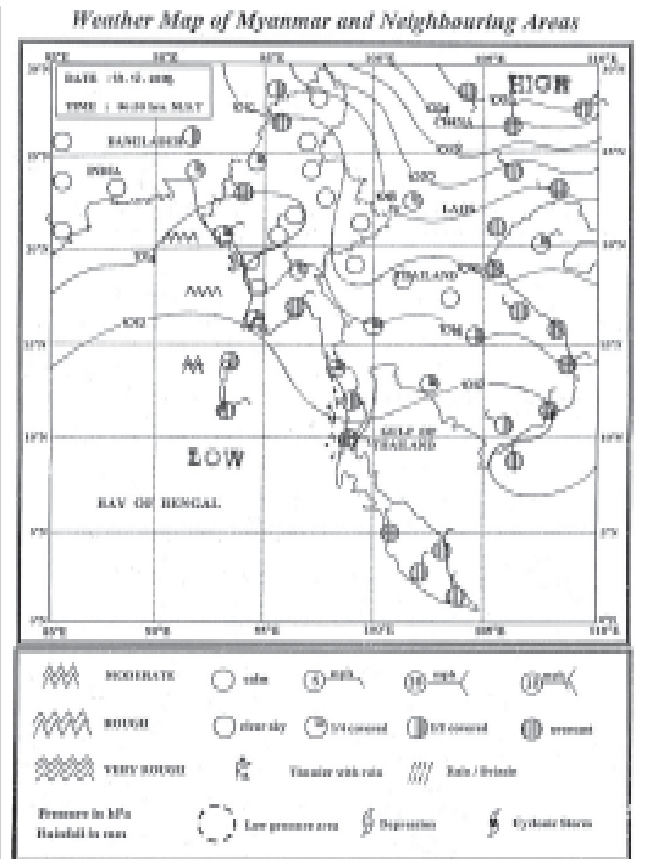
spot, added the source.

According to media counts, at least 28 illegal migrants have been shot dead at the Egyptian border with Israel this year.

Internet



**Volvo Ocean Race participants leave Cochin, India, Saturday, on 13 Dec, 2008. Eight yachts in the Volvo Ocean round-the-world race left for Singapore on the third leg Saturday. The Volvo Ocean race started in Alicante and ends in St. Petersburg, Russia, in June 2009 after 10 legs that take the fleet around the world and six in-port regattas.—Internet**



## WEATHER

Saturday, 13 December, 2008

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:** During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in upper Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Chin, Mon States and Taninthayi Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was Hakha (0°C).

Maximum temperature on 12-12-2008 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 13-12-2008 was 63°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 13-12-2008 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 12-12-2008 was (7.0) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 13-12-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (110.31) inches at Mingaladon, (120.95) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from East at (15:30) hours MST on 12-12-2008.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2008:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperature in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 14-12-2008:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-12-2008:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-12-2008:** Generally fair weather.



Sunday, 14 December  
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်  
ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်  
ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏  
ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am

5. တိရစ္ဆာန်ဥယျာဉ်နေပြည်တော်  
သွားလိုက်ကြစို့တူပျော်ပျော်  
(အပိုင်း-၂)

8:00 am

6. အကဖြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am

7. ရေလှောင်တစ်ရံနွယ်

8:15 am

8. Musical programme

8:30 am

9. International news

8:40 am

10. “အလံလေးတော့ကိုယ်ပြပါ”  
(ဇွန်ဝင်း၊ ရတနာခင်)  
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုတ်စိုင်း)

11:00 am

1. Matial song

11:10 am

2. Musical programme

11:20 am

3. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ

11:30 am

4. Round up of the week’s  
international news

11:45 am

5. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ  
“အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ”  
(အပိုင်း-၅)

12:30 pm

6. Golf magazine (TV)

12:50 pm

7. မြန်မာ့ဒီဒီယိုဇာတ်လမ်း  
“ဆူးကြားကဘူးခါး”  
(မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ နေအောင်၊  
ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ ဦးမြင့်အောင်)

ချိုမြိန်၊ နိုင်ငံသားကြည်)  
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝင်းထွန်းထွန်း)

2:30 pm

8. အဆိုဖြိုင်ပွဲ

2:45 pm

9. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. Dances of national races

4:20 pm

3. အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

4:30 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး  
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ  
ပထမနှစ် (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာအထူးပြု)  
(အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)

4:45 pm

5. Songs to uphold  
national spirit

4:50 pm

6. “မီးမီးရဲ့ဆုံးဖြတ်ချက်”  
(နေအောင်၊ ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊  
မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ ပြည့်ဖူးနိုင်၊  
ဇာဇာမင်းထက်) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-  
အောင်မိုး(ပဲရစ်)]

5:00 pm

7. သွေးလျှင်မြင်းများနေ့တေးများ

5:10 pm

8. Musical programme

5:20 pm

9. Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

10. Evening news

6:30 pm

11. Weather report

6:35 pm

12. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ်  
“Pocket dragon  
advanture”

6:50 pm

13. တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ  
“ခြံတံခါးပိတ်ထားပါ”  
(သတ္တိ၊ ဂျူးဂျူးစိသာ)  
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပွဲကြိုက်ခင်)

7:05 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ  
“သစ္စာနှင့်ယဉ်သောမေတ္တာ”  
(အပိုင်း-၂)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ  
“အချစ်စစ်ရှာဖွေခြင်း”  
(အပိုင်း-၁၆)



# Senior General Than Shwe attends graduation dinner of 51<sup>st</sup> Intake of DSA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—The graduation dinner to honour the graduate officers of the 51<sup>st</sup> Intake of Defence Services Academy was held at the parade ground of Anawrahta battalion of DSA in PyinOoLwin at 5.30 p.m. yesterday, attended by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

Also present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, SPDC Secretary-1 Quartermaster-

General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC Member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Defence Services Inspector-General Maj-Gen Thein Htaik, Military Appointment-General Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and

Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Maj-Gen Maung Shein of the Ministry of Defence, commanders of military commands, ministers, senior military officers, the Mandalay mayor, officials of the SPDC Office, the commander of PyinOoLwin Station and senior military officers of PyinOoLwin Station, the director (literature), commanding officers of cadet battalions, professors, faculty members, graduate officers and their parents and relatives.—MNA



*Senior General Than Shwe attends the graduation dinner to honour graduate officers of the 51<sup>st</sup> Intake of Defence Services Academy.—MNA*

## 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