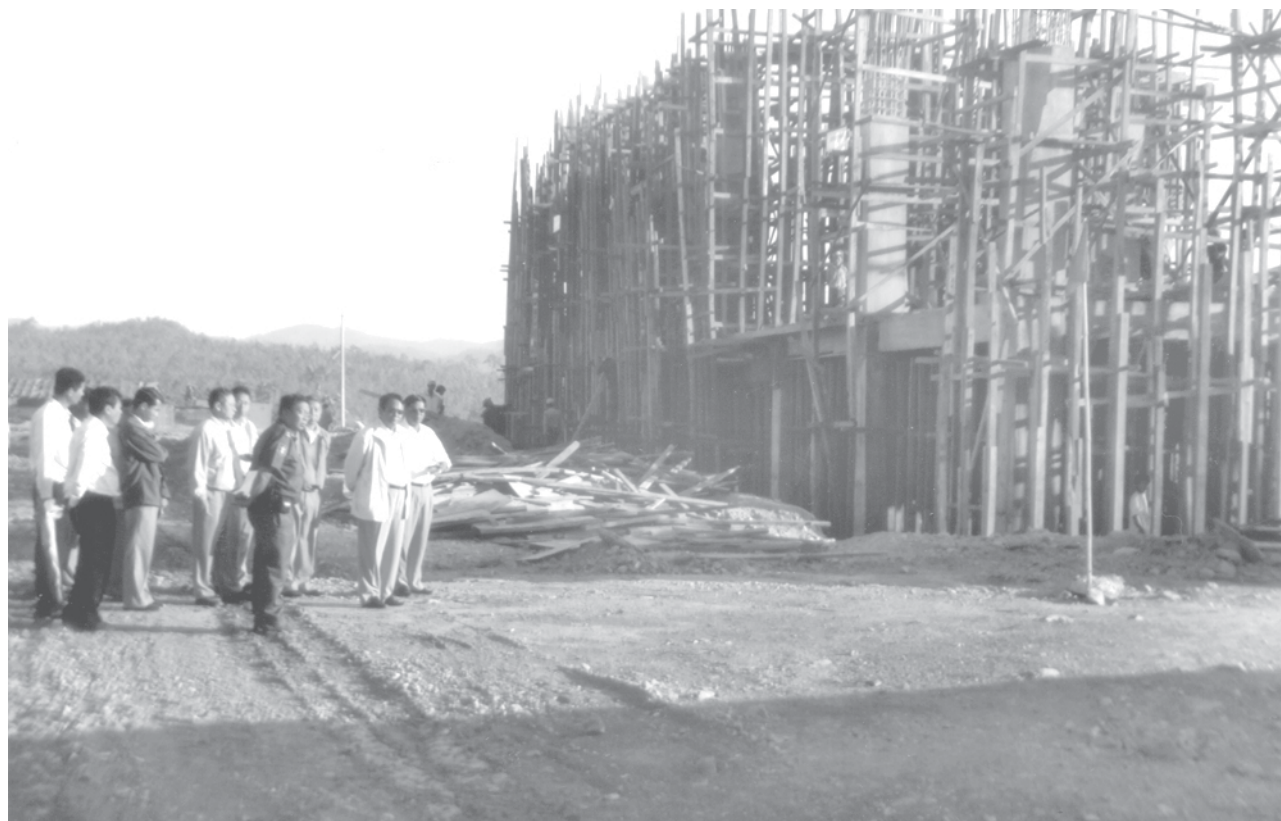


Briquette produced from factory waste



Minister U Aung Thaung inspects progress of 500-ton Nay Pyi Taw Cement Plant Project (Taungphilar).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Jan — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected installation of machinery at the 50-ton pulp factory and the 80-ton brown paper factory (Yeni) in Yeni in Yedashe Township, Bago Division, today.

During the tour of inspection, he also inspected producing gasiter and fuel wood-substitute briquette with the use of wastes of the factory. The factory produces 500 briquettes per day.

In the afternoon, the minister went to the brick factory project (Pantin) of Myanma Ceramics Industries and inspected construction of the factory. Upon completion, the factory is expected to produce 150,000 peices of brick per day.

The minister looked into progress of 500-ton Nay Pyi Taw cement plant project (Taungphilar) of Myanma Ceramics Industries in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township yesterday. Afterwards, the minister visited the 500-ton cement plant project being constructed by Max Myanmar Group of Companies. — MNA

INSIDE

Graduate trainees are to serve the interest of the people by taking care of them and participating in the development activities of the State.

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PERSPECTIVES

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

Petronas Oil Company grants scholarships to Myanmar students

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Jan — With the joint sponsorship of Ministry of Energy and Petronas Oil Company Ltd of Malaysia, a ceremony to grant scholarships to three Myanmar students to study at Petronas Technological University, was held at Yadana hall of the

Ministry here this morning.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, departmental heads, responsible persons of Myanmar Petronas Trading Co., Ltd, the students and their parents. (See page 8)

Volcanoes cool tropics, but global warming may have helped override some recent eruptions

JAKARTA, 9 Jan — Climate researchers have shown that big volcanic eruptions over the past 450 years have temporarily cooled weather in the tropics—but suggest that such effects may have been masked in the 20th century by rising global temperatures. Their paper, which shows that higher latitudes can be even more sensitive to volcanism, appears in the current issue of Nature Geoscience.

Scientists already agreed that large eruptions have lowered temperatures at higher latitudes in recent centuries, because volcanic particles reflect sunlight back into space. For instance, 1816, the year following the massive Tambora eruption in Indonesia, became known as "The Year Without a Summer," after low temperatures caused crop failures in northern Europe and eastern North America. More extensive evidence comes in part from tree rings, which tend to grow thinner in years when temperatures go down.

This is one of the first such studies to show how the tropics have responded, said lead author Rosanne D'Arrigo, a scientist at the Tree Ring Lab at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. "This is significant because it gives us more information about how tropical climate responds to forces that alter the effects solar radiation," said D'Arrigo. The other authors were Rob Wilson of Lamont and the University of St. Andrews, Scotland; and Alexander Tudhope of the University of Edinburgh, Scotland.—Internet



PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 10 January, 2009

Strive to be fully equipped with spiritual and physical prowess

Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science is producing skillful nurses, paramedical and pharmaceutical professionals who are imbued with spiritual and physical prowess for the national Tatmadaw upholding Our Three Main National Causes.

The Graduation Parade of the 6th Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science was held at the parade ground of the Defence Services Medical Academy in Yangon on 8 January with an address by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye.

In his address on the occasion, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said to the graduation trainees that as patriotic Tatmadawmen, they were to be physically strong and endowed with military science to safeguard the State; that likewise, they were to have prowess and courage and strong desire to crush the enemies; and that they must be able to discharge duties in battlefield with medical science and lead the battle when necessary.

Only those endowed with compassion, sympathy, sacrifice, loving kindness and tenacity are able to discharge the nursing duties. The graduate trainees have already learnt various subjects on medical science in order to serve the best interest of the State.

And the graduates are to make continued efforts for acquiring much battlefield experiences as they have been taught not only nursing subjects but also paramedical science. Meanwhile, they are to serve the interest of the people by taking care of the people and participating in the development activities of the State.

Being trained Tatmadawmen, the graduates are to strive to become good Tatmadawmen equipped with spiritual and physical prowess, while discharging nursing and paramedical duties in accord with the fine traditions of the Defence Services Medical Corps.

Myanmar delegation led by MFF General Secretary U Win Kyaing seen at Yangon International Airport before their departure for Thailand.—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

Lebanese President sends felicitations to Senior General Than Shwe

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Jan—The following is the message of felicitations sent from President General Michel Sleiman of the Republic of Lebanon to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, on the occasion of the 61st Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

In my own name and on behalf of the Lebanese people I would like to convey to Your Excellency, on the occasion of the National Day, my sincere congratulations as well as my best wishes of happiness and success to Your Excellency and prosperity to the people of Myanmar.

MNA

Forestry Minister receives Vietnamese Consul

YANGON, 9 Jan—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung received a delegation led by Consul Mr. Dam Trung Bac from Myanmar Honorary Consulate opened in Ho Chi Minh of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Present at the call were Director-General and Deputy Directors-General of the Ministry of Forestry. They discussed trade of timber and forest products and tourism promotion between the two countries.—MNA



Forestry Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung meets Consul Mr Dam Trung Bac and party.—MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 9 Jan – A Myanmar delegation led by General Secretary U Win Kyaing of Myanmar Fisheries Federation left here for Thailand this morning.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by MFF President U Htay Myint, Senior Vice-President (1) U Hla Maung Shwe and officials.

The delegation comprising six members from Fisheries Department and eight from MFF will study fisheries in Thailand up to 16 January.

MNA

Talks on Tour Lectures on Geotechnical Engineering 15 Jan

YANGON, 9 Jan—The Myanmar Geosciences Association and the Myanmar Engineering Society will jointly organize the talks on Tour Lectures on Geotechnical Engineering in collaboration with International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) and Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (SEAGS) at the office of MES in Hline Township from 8.45 a.m. to 6 p.m. on 15 January.

Chairman of ISSMGE Professor P. Pinto will give lectures on Dam Engineering, Vice-Chairman Prof. M. Madhav on Granular Piles for Soft Ground, General Secretary of SEAGS Prof. D Bergado on Behavior of Stiffened Deep Cement Mixing Pile on Spft Ground, Myanmar geo-engineers U Toe Hlaing and Dr Tun Than Tun on Geotechnical and Engineering Geology.

Those wishing to attend the talks may register at U Kyaing Sein (Tel: 092042054), U Aye Lwin, (Tel: 095006258), U Aung Myo Thaik, (Tel: 095157276), U Aung Myat Kyaw (Tel: 095162169), U Soe Thura Tun (Tel: 095144005) and Myanmar Geosciences Association (Tel: 01519675-extension: 501).—MNA



UN soldiers on Thursday inspect the site in Lebanon thought to be the source of rockets fired into Israel.—INTERNET

Lebanese PM condemns rocket attack on Israel

BEIRUT, 9 Jan—Lebanon’s Prime Minister condemned the firing of rockets into northern Israel after an attack wounded two Israelis on Thursday. He said his government is trying to determine who was responsible.

Israel’s military warned Israeli civilians to stick close to shelters after police said at least four rockets hit near the city of Nahariya, about 6 miles (10 kilometres) south of the Lebanese border. The Israeli military said it returned fire across the border with mortars.

Schools and kindergartens were closed in Nahariya and the nearby town of Shlomi, the Israel Defence Forces reported.

“What happened in the south of Lebanon is a violation of Resolution 1701 and is rejected by Lebanon,” Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniora said, referring to the UN resolution that ended the 2006 conflict between Israel and Lebanon’s Hezbollah militia.

In a statement issued by his office, Siniora said he has asked Lebanese authorities to investigate the attack alongside troops from the UN peacekeeping force deployed along the border. He also condemned the Israeli retaliatory strikes, which the Lebanese military said inflicted no casualties.—Internet

Roadside bombs kill six Iraqi soldiers

BAGHDAD, 9 Jan—Two simultaneous roadside bombs tore through an Iraqi army patrol responding to a mortar attack Thursday north of Baghdad, killing six Iraqi soldiers, police said. Two other Iraqi soldiers died in another blast near the city of Kirkuk. The ambush north of the Iraqi capital came as US and Iraqi officials expressed concern about an outbreak of violence in the run-up to 31 Jan provincial elections as well as the aftermath. Thursday’s coordinated attack appeared to be the latest effort by militants who have targeted Iraqi security forces in their bid to disrupt recent security gains that have led to a sharp decline in violence in Iraq.—Internet

Afghan governor says ten killed by suicide bomber

KANDAHAR, 9 Jan—A suicide bomber walked into a produce shop in southern Afghanistan on Friday and detonated explosives strapped to his body, killing at least 10 people, the provincial governor said.

The bomber was apparently targeting a police official who was inside the shop, said Ghulam Dastagir Azad, the governor of Nimroz Province. The explosion in the provincial capital killed the official, another police officer and at least eight civilians, he said. Nimroz Police Chief Gen Jabar Pardeli confirmed the death of at least one police official and said there were other deaths but he did not have exact figures. Four shops were also destroyed in the blast.

Separately Friday, the US military said coalition forces killed five militants in an attack on a bomb-making network in the southern province of Zabul.

Internet



School children sit by the sidewalk during celebrations on the Anniversary of Fidel Castro’s triumphant march into Havana when he defeated Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista on 1959 in Havana, Cuba, on 8 Jan, 2009. INTERNET

An Israeli woman and her two children take cover during a rocket attack near Kfar Aza, just outside the northern Gaza Strip on 7 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET



Israeli strike kills at least one aid worker, UN says

GAZA CITY, 9 Jan—Israeli forces fired on a UN aid convoy on Thursday in Gaza, killing at least one contract worker and prompting the UN to halt some of its operations in Gaza, UN officials said.

The UN has “lost confidence” in the Israeli military’s attempts to allow humanitarian aid into the Palestinian territory, the UN Relief and Works Agency’s director said.

Meanwhile, the UN Security Council late Thursday overwhelmingly approved a resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza.

Fourteen of the council’s 15 members voted in favour of the resolution—with US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice abstaining from the vote.—Internet

Qaeda Pakistan leader believed dead

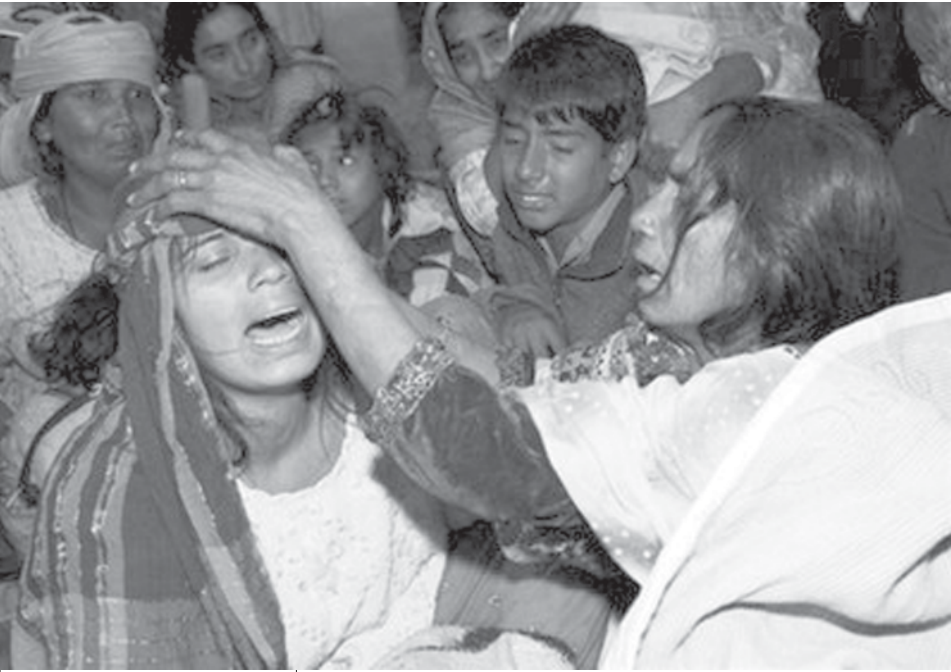
WASHINGTON, 9 Jan — Al Qaeda’s operations chief in Pakistan and a top aide are believed to be dead, a US counter-terrorism official said on Thursday, in what appeared to be the latest results of a campaign targeting the militant group’s leadership.

Operations chief Usama al-Kini was

thought responsible for attacks, including the bombing of a Marriott hotel in Islamabad that killed 55 people in September, and an unsuccessful attempt to kill former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who was later assassinated in a separate attack, the official said.

“These deaths are a significant near-term degradation of al Qaeda’s leadership,” the official said. His comments echoed public remarks by Bush administration officials increasingly confident that al Qaeda’s central command structure has been significantly weakened.

Internet



Residents mourn for their dead relatives at a hospital in Karachi on 9 Jan, 2009. At least 39 people were killed, more than half of them children, when a fire tore through dozens of homes in a shanty town in Pakistan's largest city Karachi, officials said on Friday.

INTERENT

An airplane covered with snow is parked at Linate's airport in Milan on 7 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET



340 mysteriously sickened on cruise ship off Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 9 Jan — Hundreds of passengers on a Swiss-owned cruise ship were stricken with severe vomiting and diarrhea caused by a mysterious ailment, Brazilian health officials said Thursday.

At least 340 victims have been sickened on the MSC Sinfonia, now docked in Salvador, Bahia, according to a spokeswoman for the National Agency for Sanitary Vig-

lance. She spoke on condition of anonymity, in line with department policy.

The illness didn't appear to be life-threatening and most passengers were recovering Thursday.

The agency said later in a statement that an inspection found problems with the amount of chlorine in the ship's drinking water and with the storage of some perishable food

items, notably mayonnaise.

But officials said they would not know what caused the illness until they wrap up their investigation.

The health agency said the outbreak was under control, and the victims were being interviewed and treated on board the ship. Most fell ill on Monday and Tuesday.

Internet

Colombia drugs lord shot dead in Madrid hospital

MADRID, 9 Jan — One of Colombia's most notorious drug lords, Leonidas Vargas, was shot dead in his Madrid hospital bed on Thursday, Spanish police said.

At least one person entered the room in Madrid's October 12th Hospital where Vargas was being treated for a serious illness, and shot the drugs kingpin four times just before 8 pm local time,

police said.

Spanish newspaper El Mundo said the assassin asked another patient who was sharing the Colombian's room if he was Vargas.

When the man said no, he took out a gun fitted with a silencer and shot Vargas, who was asleep. The hospital was still locked down at 10 pm as police searched for his killer, El Mundo said.

Neither police nor newspaper websites said whether Vargas had been under police guard.

In the 1980s Vargas, allegedly a former partner of the late Medellin cartel drug chieftain Pablo Escobar, ran his own cocaine manufacturing and smuggling operation out of a remote, jungle-covered area of Colombia's southwestern Caqueta province.—Internet

Fire in slum in Pakistan's Karachi kills 39

KARACHI, 9 Jan — Fire swept through a slum in the Pakistani city of Karachi early Friday killing 39 people, including 20 children, officials and witnesses said.

The fire broke out at about 1 am (2000 GMT) and quickly engulfed about 40 huts erected on a vacant piece of land surrounded by buildings in a congested city neighbour-

hood. "We were fast asleep when the fire broke.

It spread quickly through the entire area," said resident Maqsood Ahmed, who lost three members of his family in the blaze.

Provincial Health Minister Sageer Ahmed said the blaze was believed to have been started by a fire some residents had lit out-

side a hut to keep warm on a chilly night.

A local police official, Ameen-ur-Rehman, told Reuters many people died because the shanty was hemmed in on three sides by the surrounding walled buildings.

"They only had the western side to run, and that caused more deaths," Rehman said.

Internet

Moderate earthquake hits Southern California, no damage reported

LOS ANGELES, 9 Jan — An earthquake estimated at about magnitude 5.0 hit Southern California on Thursday evening, according to the US Geological Survey and the Southern California Earthquake Center.

The quake occurred about 7:50 pm local time (0350 GMT Friday) and was centered in San Bernardino, nearly 100 kilometres east of Los Angeles. Witnesses from across the region reported they felt the temblor.

There were no immediate reports of damage.

Internet

Serial moderate aftershocks hit West Papua, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 9 Jan — Two tremors with magnitude of 5.2 and 5.1 rock West Papua, Indonesia, on Friday, with no report of damage or casualty, local meteorology agency said here.

The 5.2 magnitude quake struck after midnight at 00:51 Jakarta time (1751 GMT) with epicenter at 87 kilometres northwest Manokwari city and at 23 kilometres in depth, the agency said.

The other quake occurred at 10:08 Jakarta time (0308 GMT) with epicenter at 154 kilometres northeast Sorong town and at 20 kilometres in depth, it said.

Internet

Paralegic Japanese fisherman Toshiyuki Nashiro is rescued by Coast Guard personnel near Miyako Island. The paralegic fisherman survived for 15 hours after falling into the sea by keeping himself afloat without a life jacket.

INTERNET



China presents top awards to outstanding scientists



China's 2008 State Top Scientific and Technological Awards were presented in Beijing, China, on 9 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

BEIJING, 9 Jan—China's 2008 State Top Scientific and Technological Awards on Friday went to neurologist Wang Zhongcheng and chemist Xu Guangxian for their outstanding contributions to technological innovation. President Hu Jintao presented the two 5-million-yuan (730,000 US dollars) awards to the scientists at the Great Hall of

the People.

Premier Wen Jiabao said in a keynote speech that scientific and technological strength decided the country's destiny and its modernization would depend on the development of science and technology. Wen said knowledge and technology were important factors in sustainable development, especially during the present

global financial crisis.

He urged science and technology workers to help businesses and rural areas to speed up development and become productive. They should help improve management, develop new products and technologies, and actively involve themselves in economic development.

Wang Zhongcheng, 83, a native of east China's Shandong Province, is a member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and director of the Neurosurgery Science Institute of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences.

Xu Guangxian, 89, a native of east China's Zhejiang Province, is an academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and former president of the Chinese Chemical Society.

Xinhua



Cars and trucks drive on a motorway after snowfalls in the western town of Gevelsberg in Germany on 5 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

4-year-old boy shoots babysitter for stepping on foot

BEIJING, 9 Jan—A 4-year-old boy shot his babysitter because the sitter accidentally stepped on his foot in Jackson, Ohio, media reported on Tuesday. Nathan Beavers, 18 years old, and several other teenagers were babysitting several young children in a mobile home on Sunday when the shooting occurred. Police said the 4-year-old child was angry because Beavers accidentally stepped on his foot. Witnesses told police the child retrieved the shotgun from a bedroom closet and shot Beavers. Beavers was hospitalized with minor pellet wounds to his arm and side. Another teen was also injured with shotgun pellets, according to the police.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency



Mannequin hands are displayed as visitors look at an exhibit from the "Museum of Broken Relationships" during the M1 Singapore Fringe Festival 2009 on 7 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

Weaker pound forces Britons to tighten holiday budget

LONDON, 9 Jan—Julia Foster from Essex, a county on the southeast coast of England, is still pondering whether she should spend an already booked holiday for March in the French resort of Nice.

Usually a trip to France is not uncommon for her—she visits the country at least three times a year on long holidays or one-day trips—this year, however things are different.

Britons have begun to feel the effects of a depreciating pound mainly caused by sharp cuts in interest rates as part of ef-

forts to bring about an economic recovery in the country.

The latest reduction sunk the basic rate to 1.5 percent, the lowest since the Bank of England came into existence in 1694.

"Before the devaluation of the pound, it was good value for money to visit France, but now, it is no longer cheap. I can even find cheaper champagne in British supermarkets".

Xinhua

Xiamen:Favored destination for those at home and abroad

BEIJING, 9 Jan—Xiamen, a sub-provincial city in Fujian Province that looks out to the Taiwan Straits, was recently voted one of China's cleanest cities and its second-most comfortable city to live in.

Xiamen and the surrounding countryside areas are famous as ancestral homes to overseas Chinese and one of China's earliest Special Economic Zones in the 1980s. It covers an area of more than 1,500 sq km with a local population of 5 million.

Xiamen boasts one of the most vibrant economies on the east coast of China. In 2007, its GDP amounted to 137.5 billion yuan, an increase of 16.1 percent over the previous year. Its per capita GDP was 56,595 yuan. By the year 2010, the GDP is expected to rise to 14,000 US dollars per head. Xiamen aims to establish itself as a thriving centre for shipping, logistics, finance, commerce, tourism, convention, exhibition, culture and education on the east coast of China.—Xinhua



Gulangyu in Ximan. A Xiamen, a sub-provincial city in Fujian Province that looks out to the Taiwan Straits, was recently voted one of China's cleanest cities and its second-most comfortable city to live in.—XINHUA

Explosion kills seven in eastern Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 9 Jan—Three Air Force personnel and four civilians were killed on Friday morning in a Claymore mine explosion carried out by suspected Tamil Tiger rebels in eastern Sri Lanka, officials from the Defence Ministry said.

Military spokesman Udaya Nanayakkara said that they were killed when the bus they were traveling in came under an attack by a Claymore mine at about 09:30 am local time (0400 GMT) at Morawewa area in the Trincomalee district.

Two Air Force personnel and four civilians were also injured in the explosion, Nanayakkara said, adding "it definitely was carried out by Tamil Tiger rebels." Government troops and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) are currently engaged in a fierce battle in the north, with the troops getting upper hand by taking most of the territory formerly controlled by the rebel group.

Xinhua

Black holes likely came before galaxies

BEIJING, 9 Jan—Black holes — those massive, invisible objects that suck in everything around them — may have appeared before the galaxies that host them, astronomers said on Wednesday.

The findings could change the understanding of how galaxies first formed, and what role black holes play in the universe.

Most or all galaxies are believed to have black holes at their centers. Just

last month astronomers confirmed that our own Milky Way galaxy has a black hole at its center.

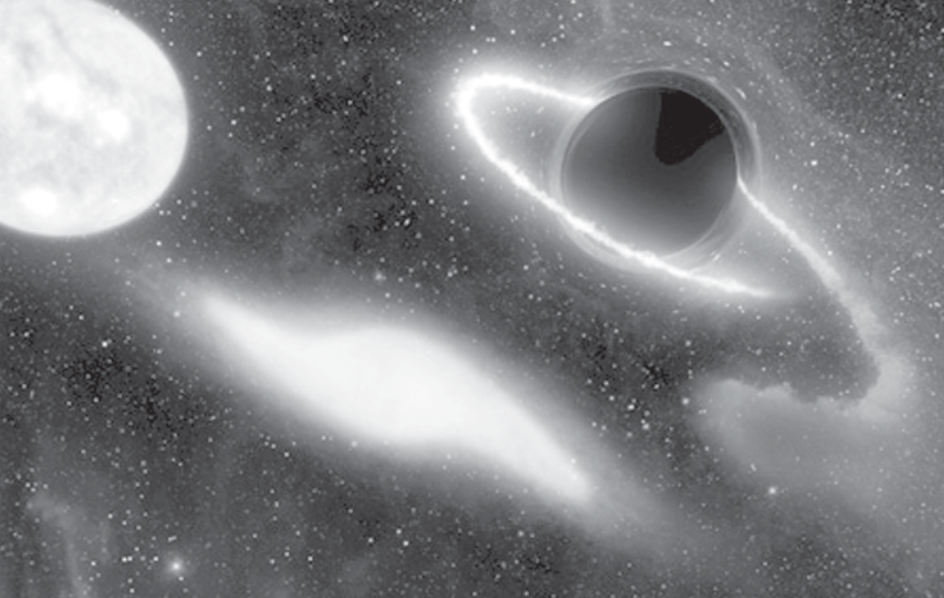
Researchers told a meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Long Beach, California, that they had seen a clear link between the size of a black hole, as measured by its mass, and the galaxy where it was found.

A black hole’s mass is about one one-thousandth of the mass of the surrounding galactic

bulge, they said.

“This constant ratio indicates that the black hole and the bulge affect each others’ growth in some sort of interactive relationship,” said Dominik Riechers of the California Institute of Technology.

“The big question has been whether one grows before the other or if they grow together, maintaining their mass ratio throughout the entire process.”—Internet



An artist’s concept shows a supermassive black hole at the center of a remote galaxy digesting the remnants of a star.—INTERNET

Whole genome study reveals clues to solving mystery behind Kawasaki disease

WASHINGTON, 9 Jan — A group of new human genes that appear to be involved in making some children more susceptible to Kawasaki disease has been identified, according to a study to be published on Friday in the journal *PLoS Genetics*.

Research teams from the University of Western Australia, the Genome Institute of Singapore, Emma Children’s Hospital in the Netherlands, Imperial College London in Britain and the University of California San Diego in the United

States studied naturally occurring genetic variation in almost 900 cases of Kawasaki disease in their countries, the first genetic study of an infectious disease to examine the whole genome rather than selected genes.

The study showed that genes involved in cardiovascular function and inflammation may be particularly important and some seem to function together.

The researchers believe these findings could lead to new diagnostics and better

treatment and may offer information about adult cardiovascular disease as well.

As the findings do not yet prove that the new genes are functionally involved, the researchers are now planning detailed studies of the function of these genes and larger collaborative studies including East Asian populations, who are at particular risk of Kawasaki disease.

One in 150 Japanese children are affected by the disease.

Internet

Elderly couple dies 90 minutes apart

COLUMBUS, 9 Jan—The last survivor of the worst mine disaster in Ohio history died within 90 minutes of his wife in the same hospital room, hospital officials said.

Sigmund Kozma was 97 and his wife, Virginia, 88, The Columbus Dispatch reported. Both died on Saturday.

Kozma was hospita-

lized last week after a fall that fractured his neck. Virginia had been at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus for several days after she had fallen.

Virginia Kozma died of heart failure after her husband suffered a fatal heart attack.

At 16, Kozma was one of 19 survivors of an

explosion at the Millfield Mine in Athens County. The blast killed 82 people, including top executives of the Sunday Creek Coal Co who were inspecting safety equipment.

Kozma and the other survivors were found in an area of the mine about 3 miles from the main shaft.

Internet

NEWS ALBUM



German singer Helene Fischer performs as circus director during the TV recording of the circus presentation “Stars in the Circus Ring” in Munich, southern Germany. The show will be broadcast. The idea harkens back to “Circus of the Stars” which ran in the US from the 1970s to the 1990s, and the more recent “Celebrity Circus,” which began in Australia and has been exported.



Ohio judge lectures man after his 109th case

A Cincinnati judge said he has seen long criminal records before, but this one was notable. Hamilton County Municipal Court Judge Ted Berry gave 41-year-old Norman Holmes a 90-day jail sentence and a lecture Monday after Holmes’ 109th misdemeanor conviction.

Police who arrested Holmes for stealing toothpaste from a drug store Sunday found he also was wanted for taking vodka, a screwdriver and air freshener from a convenience store.

Holmes pleaded guilty to a theft charge but had no answer when the judge asked why he didn’t become productive instead of stealing.

Records show nearly a third of Holmes’ convictions were for theft. He also has served five short prison stints on minor felony charges such as breaking and entering and for drugs.

Zhu Yalin, a chemistry teacher from Meishan, Sichuan Province, uses two ping-pong bats as oars to finish his 800-m voyage in a self-made paper boat near Xiamen, East China’s Fujian Province. Zhu made the boat from everyday paper using cooked flour soup as glue.

Colorado town tries to solve mystery of no water

About 6,000 people were left without water for about 10 hours over the weekend and town officials were unable to immediately explain why. Milliken public works director Mike Woodruff said the town lost 750,000 to 1 million gallons of water but crews could not locate a water line break or other reason for the missing water.

Water had been restored to most of the town by Sunday afternoon.

Tankers staffed by the Milliken Fire Department to provide emergency water were not used.

Milliken is about 40 miles north of Denver along Colorado 60 west of Interstate 25.

Thieves yank ATM machine away from California store

Police said Friday that thieves used a pickup truck to force open a large roll-up door of a warehouse store in California and yank away an ATM machine.

The theft occurred at a Costco store in Carlsbad, more than 100km south of Los Angeles, before police were called to the scene around 3:40 am by a security company, according to Carlsbad police officer Matt Magro.

Store managers told police that a vehicle was driven into the roll-up door near the store entrance and the ATM machine with



A steam train chugs through a wintry landscape. The engine is climbing up the narrow-gauge track that leads to the peak of the “Brocken.” At 1,142 metres, it is the tallest mountain in the Harz mountain chain and the highest peak in northern Germany. The mountain is currently covered by a 75-centimetre-thick blanket of snow. Traditionally, many hikers climb the Brocken in the period around the New Year.

an undetermined amount of cash was missing.

Four thieves in black hooded sweatshirts used an early 1990s white Chevrolet pickup to force open the door, and left behind a portion of the truck’s bumper in the process, Magro said.

Reports of thefts, robberies and other crimes have been on the rise in recent months in many US cities as the economic recession was deteriorating across the country with unemployment rates at multi-year record high.

Seaside Thandwe full of thriving cottage industries

Article: Reporter Singu Soe Win; Photos: Tin Soe (MNA)



The 540 feet long Dwarawady Bridge linking Taungup and Thandwe.

We members of the media team from the Myanma Alin Daily came along with local authorities and departmental officials to attend the harvesting of the 200-acre model plot of monsoon paddy at the entrance to Thandwe, Rakhine State.

On the way in a Super Saloon, the secretary of Thandwe Township Peace and Development Council explained to us that previously if a local needed to go to Taungup or Yangon from Thandwe, he had to cross the Thandwe Creek by boat or by ship with great difficulty; that in the time of the Tatmadaw government, Public

Works constructed Dwarawady Bridge spanning the Thandwe Creek on 1 April 1995, spending 115.4 million kyats; that the reinforced concrete type facility was 540 feet long and 28 feet wide; and that it was an invaluable asset for local people.

The 200-acre model plot belongs to 38 farmers on which they grow paddy under the inspiration of agricultural staff to demonstrate inorganic farming.

Rakhine State gets an average annual rainfall of over 200 inches, and all crops thrive naturally in the region. So, local people take a dim view of educative talks on

advanced methods and use of inorganic fertilizer, given by staff of the Myanma Agriculture Service. Instead, they persist in utilizing conventional methods to grow crops.

The per acre yield of the 200-acre model paddy plot was higher than that of organic farms. Last year, the paddy per acre yield of model plots was 103 baskets, and the monsoon paddy field of U San Aung yielded 117 baskets an acre.

Thandwe Township's rice supply exceeds the demand by 48.41 per cent and edible oil supply, by 76.66 per cent. It earns a good reputation for its high yields of cold season

Daily, "I am U Myint Oo. My native town is Chaung Oo Township of Sagaing Division. So, I am a country folk. I got married to a Rakhine woman in Thandwe. I run Kaungsan Ngapali brand perfumed coconut hair-oil. Here, coconut is plentiful, so I get raw material easily. The coconut oil I produce is pure, so my product is in demand. There are two perfumed coconut hair-oil producers in our township." Kaungsan Ngapali brand perfumed coconut hair-oil enterprise is situated on Maha Bodhi Street in Ward 6, Thandwe



U Soe Myint, proprietor of a weaving industry.

and they are in demand. So, we produce table mats of attractive designs."

The industry has 12 female workers, and



A young woman weaving table cloth.

crops.

This year, the township has set a target of 27,890 acres of cold season crops: sunflower, niger, sesame and oil mustard. It put 50,893 acres under monsoon paddy, and now it has started harvesting the paddy fields. After reaping all the paddy fields, it will grow cold season crops. It has no irrigated paddy fields, so it does not grow summer paddy.

The township stretches 28.33 miles from east to west and 48 miles from south to north with an area of 136.60 square miles. It is constituted with 73 wards and 63 village-tracts with a population of 152,113.

In an interview, a local told the Myanma Alin

Township.

We also visited Dwarawady cottage industry of U Maung Pu (a) U Saw Hlaing in the same township. It produces fish meat crispies, chick pea snack and potato crispies. It has eight workers, each earns a daily wage of 2000 kyats.

In an interview, U Soe Myint, proprietor of Soe Myint weaving industry on Thugati Street in Ward (1) said, "I have run this business for 46 years. That is our family business. We produce women's wear nether garments. We used to produce Rakhine men's wear nether garments. These days, trade of Rakhine men's wear nether garments is not so good. Now, we have tried production of table cloth,

produces Rakhine men's wear nether garments, table cloth, bamboo chick rolls, and exports ceilings and doormats.

A table mat is priced at only around 1000 kyats in Thandwe Township. Tourists to Ngapali Beach Resort, hotels and many others also buy table mats, so the product is in high demand.

Therefore, it is fair to say that local people of Thandwe Township lead a peaceful life by running cottage industries in an honest way and generating job opportunities for family members.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
6-1-2009



A work site of Kaungsan Ngapali brand perfumed coconut hair-oil industry.



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein visits Thingangyun Township BEHS No-1.— EDUCATION

Education Minister tours Universities, Colleges, Basic Education Schools

YANGON, 9 Jan — Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein arrived at No. 3 Basic Education High School in Mingalar Taungnyunt Township this morning and met with Township Education Officer, Headmaster and teachers.

The minister called for high passing rate and measures for greening of the school and physical exercises for students.

The minister vis-

ited classrooms where kindergarten and matriculation students are learning.

After that, the minister also looked into No. 6 Basic Education Primary School in Kyuaktada Township and No. 1 Basic Education High School in Thingangyun Township.

During the tour, the minister inspected the Internet room, teaching aids and viewed students

learning at classroom in Thingangyun Education College and Yankin Education College.

The minister also met with Rector and Heads of Department in Yangon University of Foreign Language and gave instructions.

Afterwards, the minister visited Yangon University of Distance Education and Yangon Institute of Economics.

MNA

Customs service personnel donate blood

YANGON, 9 Jan — To hail the 18th International Customs Day, the blood donation ceremony of 40 service personnel of Customs

Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue was held at No. 2 Military Hospital (500-bed) here this morn-

ing.

At the ceremony, Director U Kyaw Win of Customs Department explained related matters of blood donation and Head of Pathology Department Lt-Col Daw Khin Moe Kywe, facts about blood.

Next, Director U Kyaw Win presented laboratory use medical equipment and blood bags to Lt-Col Daw Khin Moe Kywe.

MNA



Director U Kyaw Win presents laboratory-used medical equipment and blood bags to Lt-Col Daw Khin Moe Kywe.

MNA

Kyaikkhami gets Digital Auto-Telephone Exchange

YANGON, 9 Jan — A ceremony to put Kyaikkhami Digital Auto-Telephone Exchange into service was held at the exchange building in Thanbyuzayat Township on 31 December, attended by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win.

Chairman of Mawlamyine District

Peace and Development Council U Maung Maung, Mon State Manager of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications U Myo Swe cut the ribbon to open the archway of the new auto-telephone exchange.

The Mon State Manager of MPT presented commemorative pennants to the commander and officials.

The commander viewed use of 400 tel-

ephone lines installed at the exchange.

The 400-line auto-telephone exchange will provide communication service to the local people.

At CDMA-450-MXZ microwave station in Kyaikkhami, the commander inspected progress in construction of the microwave tower and installation of 700 lines.—MNA



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay presents scholarship to a student who is qualified to attend Engineering course at Petronas Technological University. —MNA

Petronas Oil Company grants scholarships to Myanmar...

(from page 1)

Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay and resident representative Mr Abu Baker Bin Salleh of Myanmar Petronas Trading Co., Ltd made speeches on the oc-

casion.

Afterwards, the deputy minister gave scholarships to the students, who are qualified for attending Engineering course at Petronas Technological University. The

scholarships will sponsor university fees and the students are to discharge the duties in the Ministry of Energy after completing the course. Petronas Oil Company has been giving stipends to Myanmar students since 2004 and has given stipends to altogether 28 students, including the fifth time (2009).—MNA

Mr. Myanmar and Miss Myanmar Contest 2009 on 7 Feb

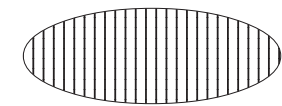
YANGON, 9 Jan — Myanmar Body-building and Physical Culture Federation and Myanmar Distribution Group Co Ltd will jointly organize the Mr. Myanmar and Miss Myanmar Contest 2009 at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road, here, on 7 February.

Anyone may take part in the Mr. Myanmar (Senior) contest. Those who had secured first, second and third prizes in the

Mr. Myanmar (Senior) contests conducted by the federation, Olympic Day Commemorative Mr. Myanmar (Senior) contests and Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Mr. Myanmar (Senior) contests and first prize winners in the Mr. Myanmar (Junior) contests will not be allowed to compete in the Mr. Myanmar (Junior) contest. The contestants for the Miss Myanmar (Open) are to show off their skills and talents with

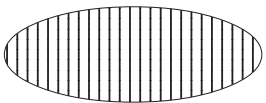
two sets of costumes, and the contestants must have above five feet and three inches high. They must be singles between 16 and 30 years old.

Those wishing to take part in the contests may enlist at General Secretary of the federation U Kyaw Than, Head of Budget and Accounts Department of YCDC and Joint Secretary U Win Kyi, in-charge of YCDC Sports Centre in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.—MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint addresses work coordination meeting for Yangon Division Secure and Smooth Transport.

MNA



Mayor attends opening ceremony of road

YANGON, 9 Jan — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin attended the opening ceremony of Boyoke asphalt concrete road in No.1 Ward of Mayangon Township, here this morning. The road is 780-foot-long and 18-foot-wide.

Afterwards, the mayor also attended the ceremony to open the new school building of No.14 Basic Education Primary School in Myothit Ward-6

Insein Township. The mayor made a speech on the occasion and handed over the related documents to the new school building to deputy director-general U Myo Myint of No.3 Basic Education Department. The new school building is 120-foot-long and 30-foot-wide and one-storey steel structure building.

Of the school buildings jointly opened by YCDC and social organizations, the newly opened school building is nineteenth.—MNA

Measures for traffic rules enforcement, road safety discussed

YANGON, 9 Jan — Yangon Division Secure and Smooth Transport Supervisory Committee held its work coordination meeting at Yangon Command today.

The meeting was opened with an address

by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint.

Participants of the meeting discussed matters related to ferry services to

universities, traffic rules enforcement and measures for road safety. The commander attended to the needs for the traffic rules enforcement in Yangon Division and the meeting ended.

MNA

Installation of national grid, power station inspected

YANGON, 9 Jan — Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Brig-Gen Win Myint met staff at the office of Bago Division Electrical Engineer on 7 January.

At Kamanat (Bago) power station, he inspected the control room, the switch yard, the power line carrier and extended construction of the switch yard.

The deputy minister and party arrived at pylon No. 299 in the construction site of Kamanat (Bago)-

Thanlyin national grid project. They viewed installation of power lines and parts of pylon being undertaken by Yangon City Electric Power Supply Board.

At Thanlyin Power Station, the deputy minister looked into arrival of electrical equipment and other materials for Kamanat (Bago)-Thanlyin national grid and Thakayta-Thanlyin national grid projects and progress in installation of pylons and power lines.—MNA

8th OG Conference 18-19 Feb

YANGON, 9 Jan — The Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (Myanmar Medical Association) will hold the

8th OG Conference at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road, here, on 18 and 19 February.

Those who are

interested in development of medical education and OG specialists may attend the conference.

MNA

Professional Software Engineer course to be opened

YANGON, 9 Jan — The launch of Yadanabon Cyber City designed to help improve Myanmar's IT Industry calls for skilled software engineers, following foreign investments in the city.

In that regard, Gusto is now planning to conduct Professional Software Engineer with C#.Net 3.0 Course soon for those graduates wishing to join software development industry. The training centre focuses on Software Development courses in order that trainees may become international level programmers in a short time.

The course's curriculum comprises

five subjects: (1) Programming with C#.Net 3.0, (2) Database Design & Development, (3) Object Oriented Analysis & Design with UML, (4) Design Pattern with C#.Net 3.0, and (5) Essential Soft Skill. Trainees also can improve project management skills and presentation skills.

Enrolment of trainees for a course is limited to 20. For further detail, those interested may contact Gusto Programming Training Centre at No. 11, Shwedaungdan Street, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon (Ph: 222052, 0951 44885).—MNA

Village-to-Village road opens in Twantay Tsp

YANGON, 9 Jan — Under Cash for Work Programme of Myanmar Red Cross Society and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the

opening ceremony of new Ziphyukon-Hsamikon-Madaing village-to-village road was held at Ziphyukon village in Twantay Township here this morning.

First, President of MRCS Professor Dr Thar Hla Shwe delivered a

speech. Chairman of Ziphyukon Village Peace and Development Council U Kyaw Shwe explained construction of new road.

Afterwards, the president of MRCS and the chairman of Ziphyukon Village PDC opened the new road.—MNA

Fire drill demonstrated

YANGON, 9 Jan — A fire drill took place at Myanma Radio and Television (Yangon) under the Ministry of Information this afternoon.

First, Deputy Director U Myint Aung of MRTV spoke on the occasion and then Staff Officer U Aung Myint Swe of Sangyoung Township Fire Services Department gave talks on fire preventive measures.

After that, a responsible person of the Fire Services Department demonstrated how to operate fire extinguisher.—MNA



The opening of new Ziphyukon-Hsamikon-Madaing village-to-village road in progress.

MNA

17th AGM of MPEPA on 26 Jan

YANGON, 9 Jan — The 17th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Printing Entrepreneurs and Publishers Association will be held at 9 a.m. at the Mingala Hall of UMFCI building on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street in Lanmadaw

Township here on 26 January (Sunday).

Suggestions for the meeting are invited not later than 20 January and members of the association are invited to attend the meeting without fail.

MNA

Kachin State facilitated with communication network

Article: Kyaw Kyaw (Bhamo); Photos: Htay Aung (Kyemon)

(from page 16)

With regard to installation of mobile phones for the local national people, the Kachin State Manager disclosed that six D-AMPS cellular mobile telephone stations, one GSM mobile telephone station and 23 satellite communication stations were opened in the state and permits were given to the local people for hiring of mobile telephones from MPT. At present, most of the local people hire the cellular mobile telephones. To fulfil the requirements of the local people better, CDMA 450 MHz mobile telephone stations were built in Myitkyina and Putao and test-running was being conducted. Use of CDMA 450 MHz telephone line is convenient for the customers, he said.

He continued to say that plans are under way to install CDMA 450 MHz telephone lines in far-flung regions and border areas including



U Moe Hsaung, Kachin State Manager of MPT.

Putao, Kanbaikte, Lwejel and Panwa. As Putao has not yet been equipped with microwave station and fiber optic linkage, efforts are being made to provide the region with CDMA 450 MHz mobile telephones as the satellite communication facility. The remaining regions have been installed with fiber linkage. Therefore, communication equipment can easily be installed in the region. Soon, CDMA 450 MHz mobile telephone will be hired to the local people of the whole state, he explained.

After that, the news team of the Kyemon Daily viewed the installation and use of telephones in the

town. On arrival at the cellular GSM radio station of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, we had the opportunity to visit there. We saw modern machines made in China and Malaysia installed at the station. In going sight-seeing in the downtown area, we witnessed many Internet cafes and e-mail booths on both sides of the road.

While in Myitkyina, we visited the P.A.C. Internet and e-mail computer station opened by MPT for public convenience. All the booths were filled with Internet and e-mail users. In an interview, computer user Ma Nwe Nwe Aung said

that she lives in Ayeya Ward. She, being an enthusiast of computer science, attended the training courses conducted by Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and is applying the computer technology. She added that she has got registered to join the TCSC course through online service. By applying computer two hours per day, she is widening her scope of knowledge, she said. She expressed her opinion that opening of the Internet cafes and e-mail centres at the satellite communication centres in the region contributes to intellectual development of the local youth.

On arrival at the post office, we saw functioning of postal services such as registering of letters and parcels and money orders, collection of charges for TV and video licences and sales of stamps. We have the opportunity to observe the future programme for speedier flow of postal

service and earning of incomes at 83 post offices in the state.

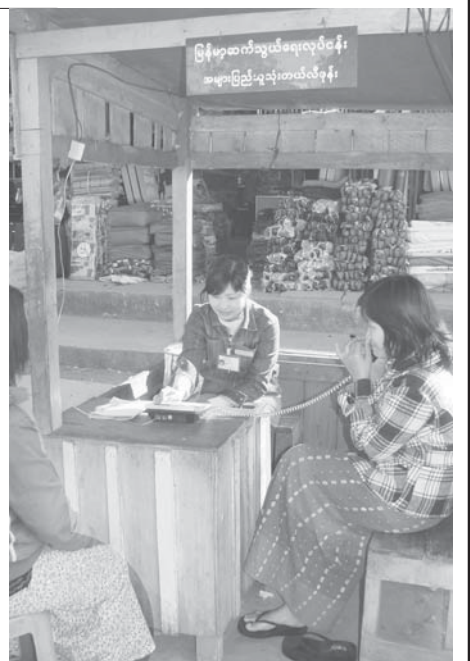
At the market, we witnessed the services of MPT at PCO telephone booths for enabling the local people to have easy access to the telecommunication facilities. A total of 58 PCO telephones are allotted at the busy places of Myitkyina.

It is known to all that the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs is striving for

more improvement of communication sector across the nation through the modern technology. On our trip, we had an opportunity to observe the widening of communication network in Kachin State. Therefore, we firmly believe that the local people in the whole Kachin State will have to enjoy fruits of better communication facility soon.

Translation: TTA Kyemon: 6-1-2009

A local girl chatting at P.C.O. being opened near Myitkyina Market for the public convenience.



Aquaculture's growth seen as continuing

ANN ARBOR, 9 Jan — Aquaculture production of seafood will probably remain the most rapidly increasing food production system worldwide through 2025, according to an assessment published in the January 2009 issue of BioScience.

The assessment, by James S. Diana of the University of Michigan

at Ann Arbor, notes that despite well-publicized concerns about some harmful effects of aquaculture, the technique may, when practiced well, be no more damaging to biodiversity than other food production systems. Moreover, it may be the only way to supply growing demand for seafood as the human population increases.



Diana notes that total production from capture fisheries has remained approximately constant for the past 20 years and may decline. Aquaculture, in contrast, has increased by 8.8 percent per year since 1985 and now accounts for about one-third of all aquatic harvest by weight. Finfish, mollusks, and crustaceans dominate aquaculture production; seafood exports generate more money for developing countries than meat, coffee, tea, bananas, and rice combined.

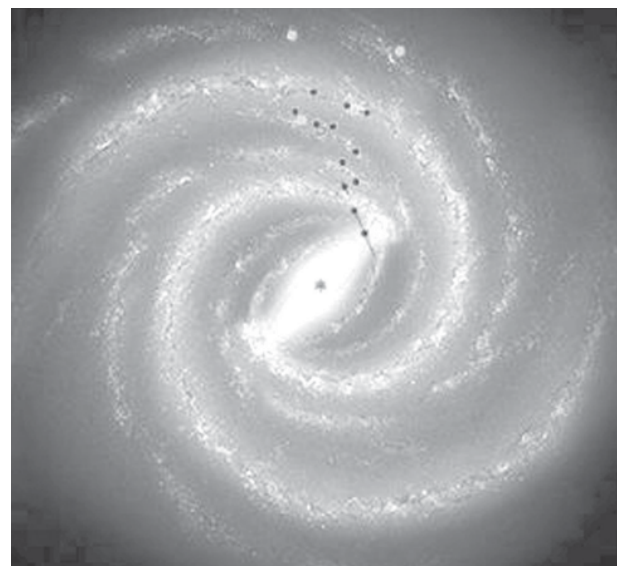
Among the most potentially harmful effects of aquaculture, according to Diana, are the escape of farmed species that then become invasive, pollution of local waters by effluent.—Internet

Milky way a swifter spinner, more massive, new measurements show

SCIENCE DAILY, 9 Jan — Fasten your seat belts — we're faster, heavier, and more likely to collide than we thought. Astronomers making high-precision measurements of the Milky Way

say our home Galaxy is rotating about 100,000 miles per hour faster than previously understood.

That increase in speed, said Mark Reid, of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics,



increases the Milky Way's mass by 50 percent, bringing it even with the Andromeda Galaxy. "No longer will we think of the Milky Way as the little sister of the Andromeda Galaxy in our Local Group family."

The larger mass, in turn, means a greater gravitational pull that increases the likelihood of collisions with the Andromeda galaxy or smaller nearby galaxies. Our Solar System is about 28,000 light-years from the Milky Way's center. At that distance, the new observations indicate, we're moving at about 600,000 miles per hour in our Galactic orbit, up from the previous estimate of 500,000 miles per hour.—Internet

US unemployment rate jumps to 15-year high in December

WASHINGTON, 9 Jan—US unemployment rate rose to 7.2 percent in December, the highest level in 15 years, as 524,000 jobs were slashed in the month, the Labour Department reported Friday.

Total non-farm payroll employment fell by 524,000 over the month, bringing total job losses in 2008 to 2.6 million, and by 1.9 million over the past four months, said the report, adding that the unemployment rate for December was the highest since January 1993. Employment in nearly all major industry sectors dropped over the last four-month period of 2008.

The manufacturing sector has lost 791,000 jobs since the start of the recession in December 2007, the report said. The largest declines over the month occurred in fabricated metals and in motor vehicles with 28,000 and 21,000 job losses respectively. In December, construction employment dropped by 101,000, the services sector lost 81,000 jobs, while employment in retail and wholesale trade fell by 67,000 and 30,000 separately.

Employment in health care increased by 32,000 over the last month and added a total of 372,000 jobs in 2008, the report said, noting that it was the only major private industry sector that continued to add a significant number of jobs.—Internet



A girl walks past pin-composed portraits of late Chinese leader Mao Zedong at the Jianchuan Museum in the town of Anren in Dayi County, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 9 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Renault's global vehicle sales down 4.2% in 2008

PARIS, 9 Jan—France's second largest carmaker Renault has posted a 4.2 percent drop in worldwide vehicle sales in 2008 as the global economic crisis led to a brutal fall in the market, French media reported.

Inventory management and reduction will remain a priority throughout 2009, the company said in a statement Friday.

Patrick Blain, executive vice president of sales and marketing, said Renault's market share saw growth despite the steep fall in the main markets affected by the crisis.

Its global market share for the year reached 3.6 percent, while the world market fell 4.8

percent.

Renault's vehicle sales fell 28.5 percent in December to 146,758 units. The company sold 2.38 million cars and trucks last year, down from 2.49 million in 2007. However, its sales outside Europe increased by 1.5 percent in 2008, to 873,798 units.—Internet



A member of staff polishes the Toyota Motor Co's custom vehicle iQ x Verbal at the Tokyo Auto Salon 2009 at Makuhari Messe in Chiba, east of Tokyo on 9 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET



Civil servants attend voluntary work at a farm in Mangyongdae, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), in this picture released by Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) on 9 Jan, 2009. Many government officials in the DPRK take part in the traditional voluntary work.—INTERNET

Swedish central bank: Financial crisis to dissipate in 2009

STOCKHOLM, 9 Jan—The global financial crisis would dissipate in 2009 and the Swedish economy would recover in 2010, Sweden's central bank Riksbank said Friday.

"We expect the financial crisis to peter out during the course of the

year that has just begun," Barbro Wickman-Parak, Riksbank deputy governor, said in a statement.

"A large part of the explanation comprises falling energy prices and falling interest expenditure. These are factors that are favorable

to growth," she said.

Inflation would continue to drop rapidly over the coming year, Wickman-Parak added, "It should not be confused with a prolonged process with falling prices that affects long-term inflation expectations."

Riksbank will continue to analyze the situation and discuss the need for regulatory changes, but the worst of the current crisis is expected to pass in the year ahead, according to the statement.

The most devastating financial turmoil in 80 years, which started in the US mortgage lending market, has dragged the euro zone economy into recession, with its impact on the real economy becoming more obvious.

Internet

Gold price closes higher in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 9 Jan—Gold price in Hong Kong rose 102 HK dollars to close at 7,868 HK dollars per tael on Friday, according to the Bank of China (Hong Kong). The price is equivalent to 852.31 US dollars a troy ounce, up 10.67 US dollars at Friday's exchange rate of one U.S. dollar against 7.749 HK dollars.

Internet



Christine Hsu pets two Paro therapeutic robots on display at the 2009 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, Nevada, on 8 Jan, 2009. The show kicked off with exhibitors displaying gadgetry ranging from snazzy new smart phones to envelope-sized computers to 3D high-definition television sets.—INTERNET

Lithuanian airlines sold to Swiss firm

VILNIUS, 9 Jan —A Switzerland-based firm has purchased Lithuania's troubled FlyLAL airline, FlyLAL announced on Friday. Airline officials said that SCH Swiss Capital Holdings agreed to pay US\$1 million for the shares and cover the carrier's debts of approximately euro1 million as part of the deal.

The Swiss investors expressed hope that they would be able to restructure and modernize the airline in two years. Since it was privatized in 2005, FlyLAL has struggled under the weight of sizable debts, primarily to Vilnius International Airport, where it is based. "We do not see these debts as a big problem," said Jan Erik Jansson, CEO of SCH Swiss Capital Holdings.

"We were looking for an airline to purchase, and this is a good company to invest in. With its skilled staff and huge experience, FlyLAL can be a very strong regional carrier," he added.—Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BANG PAKAEW VOY NO (164)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG PAKAEW VOY NO (164) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 WONG SAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Ricola Ltd., of Basel-
strasse 31-4242 Laufen
(Switzerland), is the Owner
of the following Trade Mark:-

RICOLA
Reg. No. 3335/1998
in respect of "Pharmaceu-
tical preparations including
medicated confectionery;
non-medicated confec-
tionery, tea".
Fraudulent imitation or
unauthorised use of the
said Trade Mark will be
dealt with according to law.
Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Ricola Ltd.
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 10 January 2009

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DONG HO VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DONG HO VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W 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: KOOK YANG SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256924/ 256914

An official inspects a crack in the road after an earthquake in San Pedro de Poas, 40 km (25 mi) north of San Jose on 8 Jan, 2009. A strong 6.1-magnitude earthquake struck Costa Rica on Thursday, killing two children who sold candy to tourists in a national park and damaging buildings in the capital.—INTERNET

At least two die during climb on Argentine peak

BUENOS AIRES, 9 Jan—An Italian climber and an Argentine guide both died when a storm trapped five mountaineers just below the summit of the highest mountain in the Americas, an Italian diplomat said on Thursday. The three others survived. Rescuers reached the alpinists and their guide on Aconcagua peak at 22,000 feet (6,700 meters), according to Italian consular official Giorgio Giacomello.

The deaths were confirmed by the Italian consul in the city of Mendoza, Pietro Tombaccini, who spoke to *The Associated Press* by

telephone. Tombaccini identified the victims as an Italian woman and an Argentine male guide and the survivors as two Italian men and one Italian woman. He did not reveal their names.

The survivors and about 50 rescuers were descending the mountain, making communication difficult. The group was expected to arrive at the Condor’s Nest base camp, at about 16,400 feet (5,000 meters), by Friday afternoon and then take helicopters off the mountain, weather permitting. The survivors “are walking by themselves,” Tombaccini said. “That is a good sign.”—*Internet*



Chunk of NZ glacier crushes two Australian tourists

WELLINGTON, 9 Jan—A falling chunk of glacier crushed two brothers to death at a popular tourist spot, and one remained buried under ice blocks the size of large vehicles, police said on Friday.

The two Australians apparently ignored rope barriers set up to prevent

hikers from wandering into dangerous areas.

They were struck when a section of ice sloughed off the main face of South Island’s Fox Glacier on Thursday afternoon, said Constable Tony LeSueur.

One body was recovered. “It was too dangerous to carry on” to dig out

the other, LeSueur said, adding that rescuers with a mechanical digger would consider whether to resume the operation later Friday. The glacier face is steep and prone to random ice collapses, Department of Conservation area manager Jo Macpherson said on Thursday.—*Internet*



Partial view of a glacier. Two Australian brothers were killed when around 100 tonnes of ice fell on them at the base of Fox Glacier in New Zealand’s South Island, police said on Friday.—INTERNET

Gastrointestinal drug may slow aging

MONTREAL, 9 Jan—Animal studies show at once popular gastrointestinal drug may slow aging, Canadian researchers say.

The study, published in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, suggests the drug clioquinol reverses the progression of Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s and Huntington’s diseases in animals —perhaps because clioquinol acts directly on a protein called CLK-1, informally called

“clock-1.”

“Clioquinol is a very powerful inhibitor of clock-1,” study leader Sigfried Hekimi of McGill University in Montreal said in a statement. “Because clock-1 affects longevity in invertebrates and mice, and because we’re talking about three age-dependent neurodegenerative diseases, we hypothesize that clioquinol affects them by slowing down the

rate of aging.”

The exact age-slowng mechanism is still unknown, but Hekimi said “one possibility is that clioquinol is a metal chelator.” Chelation binds ions and is used to treat heavy metals poisoning.

Hekimi said he is optimistic but warns “clioquinol can be a very toxic substance if abused, and far more research is required.”

Internet

Polarized light can kill animals

LANSING, 9 Jan—A US study suggests artificial light that alters natural light cycles acts as “ecological traps” that can lead animals to injury or death.

A classic example is the way in which street lamps and building lights confuse baby sea turtles who use star and moonlight reflected off the water to help them find the ocean when the emerge from their beach nests, the Ecological Society of America said Thursday in a release.

The report, published in the journal *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*, said animals often mistake human-made objects for water because horizontal, shiny, dark surfaces —such as dark glass surfaces of buildings, asphalt, dark-colored cars and black plastic sheeting—reflect horizontally polarized light that is more strongly polarized than that reflected by water.

Internet

Explorers say they set record in South Pole trek

SYDNEY, 9 Jan — A trio of Canadian adventurers said on Friday they have set a new record for fastest trek across Antarctica to the South Pole, after suffering through whiteout conditions, temperatures as low as minus 40 °C and a steady diet of deep-fried bacon and butter. Ray Zahab said he and his teammates completed the 700-mile (1,130-kilometer) journey from Hercules Inlet on Antarctica's Ronne Ice

Shelf to the South Pole in 33 days, 23 hours and 30 minutes, finally arriving Thursday. "If you took a cloud, wrapped it around your head and then duct-taped it, that's what a whiteout is like," a weary yet animated Zahab, 39, of Chelsea, Quebec, told The Associated Press by satellite phone from Antarctica. "It was exhausting."

Zahab is best known for his epic 4,300-mile (6,920-kilometer) run across the

Sahara Desert in 2007, which was the subject of a documentary narrated by actor Matt Damon entitled "Running the Sahara." Tom Sjogren, founder of ExplorersWeb.com, a New York-based Web site that compiles statistics on adventurers' feats, said the men beat the previous record of 39 days, 7 hours and 49 minutes, which was set by American Todd Carmichael just last month.—Internet



A file photo of a campsite near the South Pole. Three Canadian adventurers have set a world record for the fastest crossing of Antarctica to the South Pole, traveling 1,130 kilometers on skis, snowshoes and on foot.—INTERNET

Global warming studied from research jet

CAMBRIDGE, 9 Jan — US and other scientists have begun the first global greenhouse-gas sampling across many altitudes in some of the world's least accessible regions.

The pole-to-pole mission will cover more than 24,000 miles over the next three years in a series of five flights in an advanced research jet known as HIAPER, the team led by Harvard University said.

Research partners include the US government's National Science Foundation and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the non-governmental National Center for Atmospheric Research and Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

Until now, much of scientists' understanding of greenhouse gases — believed to be the fundamental cause of global warming — has been acquired from distant satellites, balloon launches or supercomputer models.

The HIAPER mission will give scientists real-time global observation data from a wide range of altitudes to correlate with those climate models, the researchers said. HIAPER stands for High-performance Instrumented Airborne Platform for Environmental Research. The mission's modified Gulfstream V jet can fly at high altitudes for extended time periods and can carry 5,600 pounds of sensing equipment.—Internet



A kite-flying enthusiast tightens the strings of a 30 feet in diameter kite during a practice session ahead of the 19th International Kite festival in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad on 7 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

Locals blame wind turbine damage on UFO

LINCOLN, 9 Jan — Residents of a British town said a wind turbine that lost one of its 65-foot-long blades was hit by what appeared to be a UFO. Some residents of Conisholme, England, reported lights in the sky

and a loud noise at about 4 am Sunday and the turbine was discovered later in the morning with one of its blades ripped off and another blade twisted, The Daily Mail reported on Thursday.

The company that operates the wind farm, Ecotricity, said the cause of the damage to the turbine has not been determined and an investigation is under way. Robert Palmer, 66, head of the East Lindsey District Council and member of the Lincolnshire County Council, reported seeing a bright white light with orange borders while he was driving near the turbine early Sunday morning. "I would be very interested to find out what it was," Palmer said. "If we are being looked at by other people, by other planets, it would be interesting to find out why they have chosen this part of the country."

Internet



A woman looks at heating appliances displayed in a shop in Sofia, Bulgaria. Europe's cold snap claimed up to 13 more lives as the region battled another day of icy weather and eastern Europe felt the effects of Russian gas cuts.—INTERNET

Explosions reported in E Pakistan, at least 6 injured

ISLAMABAD, 9 Jan — Four blasts took place in eastern Pakistan's Punjab province on Friday, injuring at least six persons, private TV channel DAWN NEWS reported.

The explosions occurred in the electric-control room of Al-Falah theater on Mall road, the main road in Lahore, capital city of Punjab province, said the report. The police have cordoned off the area and the rescue team have started relief activities. TV footage showed that the blasts created a panic in the area, which is located on the main road of the city.

The rescue team said six people were injured in the incident, but DAWN NEWS TV channel quoted a local official as saying that none was injured.—Internet

Van towed with 5-year-old inside

LAKEWOOD, 9 Jan — Police in Colorado said a tow truck crew that took a van from an apartment complex to an impound lot discovered a 5-year-old girl sleeping inside the vehicle.

Investigators said the girl's family had left her sleeping inside the van while they visited friends at an apartment complex in Lakewood and the vehicle was towed after the apartment complex manager saw that it did not

have a permit to park in the lot, the Rocky Mountain News reported Thursday.

"It's never a good idea to leave a child alone in a car — 30 seconds, 10 minutes or over an hour," Lakewood police spokesman Steve Davis said. Davis said the tow truck crew called police after they discovered the sleeping girl while removing the van from the tow truck at an impound lot in Denver.

Internet



The dessert which will be served at the 66th annual Golden Globe Awards at the hotel is placed on the table during a press preview on 6 Jan, 2009 in Beverly Hills. The dessert served will feature a golden chocolate globe with organic yogurt Pistachio mousse. The Golden Globe Awards will be presented on 11 January.—XINHUA

SPORTS

Football star Ronaldo escapes injury in horror smash



Cristiano Ronaldo's mangled Ferrari after he collided with a barrier near Manchester airport. The Manchester United star escaped unscathed Thursday from the car crash and will be fit to play in Sunday's Premier League showdown with Chelsea.—INTERNET

LONDON, 9 Jan — Manchester United star Cristiano Ronaldo walked away unscathed on Thursday despite writing off his Ferrari in a spectacular car crash near Manchester airport. His luxury sports car's front end was smashed to pieces and it lost a wheel as he collided with a roadside barrier while driving to training, the morning after a disappointing defeat for his team.

Ronaldo's team-mate Edwin van der Sar, United's goalkeeper, was following in his Bentley at the time of the crash but was not involved in the collision, said police. Skid marks were clearly visible leading up to the crash scene, and a photographer who arrived shortly afterwards described the 23-year-old Portugal winger's bright-red car as a "terrible mess."

But Greater Manchester Police said no one had been injured. "Officers attended and discovered a Ferrari had collided with a barrier," a statement said. "No one is believed to have been injured." Witness Jody Lomax was driving behind Ronaldo when the collision occurred.—*Internet*

Arsenal face defensive woes as Gallas, Silvestre injured

LONDON, 9 Jan — Arsenal's hopes of regaining a place in the top four of the Premier League have suffered a blow with the news that defenders William Gallas and Mikael Silvestre have been ruled out of action for three weeks.

Gunners boss Arsene Wenger revealed on Thursday that he expects Kolo Toure to return to action following a groin problem in time for Saturday's meeting with Bolton at the Emirates.

Internet



Arsenal's Spanish midfielder Cesc Fabregas (left) and French defender William Gallas at a team training session at London Colney.—INTERNET

Mauresmo injury puts Bartoli into tennis final against Azarenka



France's Marion Bartoli, seen here, moved into the final of the Brisbane International when compatriot Amelie Mauresmo withdrew injured during their semi-final on Friday.—INTERNET

BRISBANE, 9 Jan — France's Marion Bartoli moved into the final of the Brisbane International when compatriot Amelie Mauresmo withdrew injured during their semi-final on Friday.

Bartoli was leading 4-0 when Mauresmo called for the trainer after suffering a left thigh strain and decided she couldn't continue.

"It happened in the second game," Mauresmo said. "It wasn't such a big pain so I kept going but I couldn't really push off the serve and move the way I wanted."

Internet

Venus Williams hints at secret knowledge in glory bid



Venus Williams eyes the ball before returning to Jelena Jankovic.—INTERNET

HONG KONG, 9 Jan — A confident Venus Williams says she is going into the new season armed with knowledge that will help her defeat her rivals after a thumping win over world number one Jelena Jankovic.

The Wimbledon champion beat the world number one 6-2, 6-2 on Thursday, helping inspire her Americas team to a semi-final victory over Europe in Hong Kong's World Team Challenge.

She admitted she had gleaned vital information about her own game and her opponents' games from her final two events of 2008, both of which she won, including her first victory at the season-ending WTA Tour Championships.

Internet

French tennis ace Monfils hands Nadal shock Doha defeat

DOHA, 9 Jan — Rafael Nadal made a miserable start to the first season he has ever begun as world number one, losing in the Qatar Open quarter-finals to Gael Monfils in less than an hour and a half on Thursday.

But although the Wimbledon, French Open and Olympic champion was not at his best, he certainly did enough to have survived against most other players apart from the superbly in-form Monfils.

The 22-year-old Frenchman reminded everyone during his 6-4, 6-4 win that he was tipped as a future world number one himself and that he still has the speed of foot,



French tennis player Gael Monfils celebrates after defeating Spanish Rafael Nadal during the quarter-finals of the Qatar Open 2009.—INTERNET

the weight of shot, the passion, and enough time left to achieve that goal.

Internet

Ogilvy opens the PGA season with a 67 and the lead



Geoff Ogilvy, of Australia, hits from the 18th tee of the Plantation Course during the first round of the Mercedes-Benz Championship golf tournament in Kapalua, Hawaii, on 8 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

KAPALUA, 9 Jan — Geoff Ogilvy felt his game was still sharp after winning in Australia last month.

It must have been for him to play bogey-free Thursday and beat his best score at Kapalua by five shots.

Ogilvy opened the PGA Tour season by saving par on the last hole — the only time he got in trouble all day — for a 6-under 67 that gave him a one-shot lead in the Mercedes-Benz Championship, a score that only surprised him because of the location.

"I haven't shot very many good rounds around this course, so maybe that's a surprising thing," said Ogilvy, who had not broken 72 in his previous two trips to the winners-only tournament.

"But the fact that I'm playing OK is not surprising."

Internet

Match-fixer Moggi sentenced to jail term

ROME, 9 Jan — Luciano Moggi, the man at the centre of the 2006 Italian match-fixing scandal, was sentenced to a year and a half in prison by a Rome court on Thursday.

The former Juventus director general, whose son Alessandro was also given a one-year, two-month sentence, was punished for his dealings in GEA, the largest football agent company in Italy, as well as his role in the match-fixing.

GEA had 41 top flight Italian league players on their books, plus three Serie A presidents and several well-known coaches.

Internet

UEFA reject Madrid's Champions League bid

MADRID, 9 Jan — European football's governing body UEFA on Thursday night rejected a bid by Real Madrid to have both new signings Lassana Diarra and Klaas-Jan Huntelaar eligible for Champions League action.

"The European body confirms that this was rejected in accordance with regulations which state that only one player who has played UEFA club competition matches for another competing club in the current season may exceptionally be registered," said a UEFA statement.

Earlier Spanish media reports suggested the defending Spanish champions would appeal to the



European football's governing body UEFA on Thursday night rejected a bid by Real Madrid to have both new signings Lassana Diarra, pictured in 2008, and Klaas-Jan Huntelaar eligible for Champions League action.—INTERNET

Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) should they have their request turned down.—*Internet*

China sets up nationwide testing network for bird flu virus

BEIJING, 9 Jan—An official with the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention said on Friday that a nationwide network for the testing of bird flu virus has been established.

Shu Yuelong, vice director of virus control and prevention with the CDC, said the network connects 63 labs in 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.

“Every lab has the ability to test and identify virus of avian influenza and some in provincial disease control centers are capable of analyzing the virus,” Shu said.

He said China will add another 21 new labs to the network in 2009.—Internet

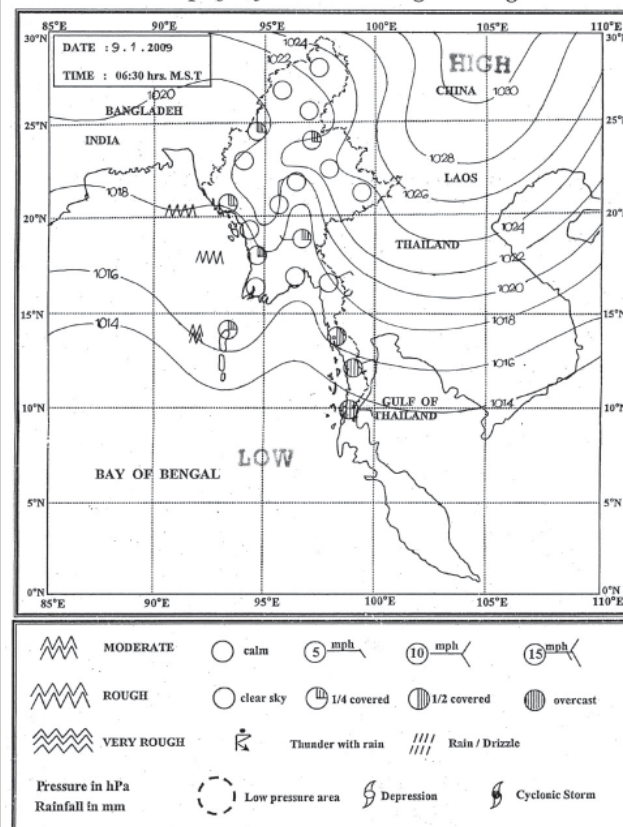
Somali pirates release Saudi tanker after ransom payment

NAIROBI, 9 Jan—Somali pirates have released Saudi Arabian oil supertanker which was hijacked in November off the pirate-infested waters of the Somali coast. Andrew Mwangura, East Africa's Coordinator of the Seafarers Assistance Program (SAP), confirmed the development on Friday saying the Sirius Star started moving away from the coast since Thursday.

“The Sirius Star has been moving slowly since Thursday. This means the vessel might have been freed by the Somali pirates on Thursday,” Mwangura told *Xinhua* by telephone.

The Sirius Star, operated by Vela International, was carrying two million barrels of crude oil and was hijacked when a group of pirates managed to scale the 10-meter high side of the ship. It was hijacked on Nov. 15 about 780 km off Somalia and was carrying 25 crew members. The ship was sailing under a Liberian flag and its 25-member crew includes citizens of Croatia, Britain, the Philippines, Poland and Saudi Arabia.—Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 9 January, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in Chin and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) above January average temperatures in Taninthayi Division and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (-1°C), Loilem (1°C), Namhsan (3°C), Pinlaung and Mogoke (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 8-1-2009 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 9-1-2009 was 59°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 9-1-2009 was 67%. Total sunshine hours on 8-1-2009 was (9.6) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 9-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) m.p.h from East at (16:30) hours MST on 8-1-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 10th January 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

State of the sea: Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in strong easterly wind may reach (35) to (40) m.p.h. Sea will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 10-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-1-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Weather outlook for second weekend of January 2009: During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Yangon Division, generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.

Finland to send more peacekeepers to Afghanistan

STOCKHOLM, 9 Jan—Finland will send more peacekeepers to monitor the upcoming presidential and provincial elections in Afghanistan, according to reports reaching here from Helsinki.

Finland is preparing to send about 100 troops to temporarily reinforce its participation in military crisis management in northern Afghanistan, the Finnish government said in a statement Friday.

The deployment schedule for the temporary troops will be

specified when the Afghan administration reaches a decision on the exact date of the elections, it added.

The polls are expected sometime between June and September.

The smooth running of the elections is of great significance to Afghanistan's stability and democracy, the statement said.

Internet

Members of a special railway police team react during a drill at the Qingdao Railway Station in Qingdao, a coastal city in east China's Shandong Province, on 9 Jan, 2009, prior to the Spring Festival travel period, known as Chunyun in Chinese.—INTERNET



Saturday, 10 January
View on today

7:00 am

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော် ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am

- “သတိတစ်ချက်တစ်သက်အမှား” (ကျော်မင်းနောင်ကြည်လဲ့လဲ့ဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)

8:15 am

- ကဗျာပန်းညွှန့်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Musical programme

11:00 am

- Martial song

11:10 am

- Musical programme

11:25 am

- Yan can cook

11:40 am

- Round up of the week's TV local news

12:40 pm

- ချစ်စရာအရွယ်ကစားကြမယ်

1:05 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ” (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

1:50 pm

- ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ (Telematch)

2:35 pm

- အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:45 pm

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:20 pm

- မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

4:30 pm

- နားဝင်ပီယံသူ့လက်သံ

4:45 pm

- အဆေးသင့်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)

5:00 pm

- Songs to uphold national spirit

5:10 pm

- Musical programme

5:20 pm

- Dance of national races

5:25 pm

- မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ

5:35 pm

- Musical programme

5:45 pm

- “အမျိုးနှင့်မျိုး”

[နေမျိုးအောင်မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်အောင်၊

ဧရာဝတီနိုင်ငံ(အနုပညာ)]

(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- အလှူရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:00 pm

- ပဉ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်

7:20 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သစ္စာနှင့်ယဉ်သောနှလုံးသား” (အပိုင်း-၉)

8:00 pm

- News

- International news

- Weather report

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“ကြမ္မာမုန်တိုင်း”

(အပိုင်း-၁)

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး

ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်

ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာဘာဝနာ

ပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်

Kachin State facilitated with communication network

Nowadays, communications plays an important role in development of a region. To present article on development of communication sector, we the news team of the Kyemon Daily visited Myanma Posts and Telecommunications of Kachin State on 30 December morning. When I arrived at the office, Kachin State Manager of MPT U Moe Hsaung welcomed me.

At the hall, the Kachin State Manager explained progress of the communication sector of the region with the aid of charts and power point. He said that the state's communication system was poor before 1988. At that time, there were only 66 post offices, 20 telegraph offices, one

**Article: Kyaw Kyaw (Bhamo);
Photos: Htay Aung (Kyemon)**

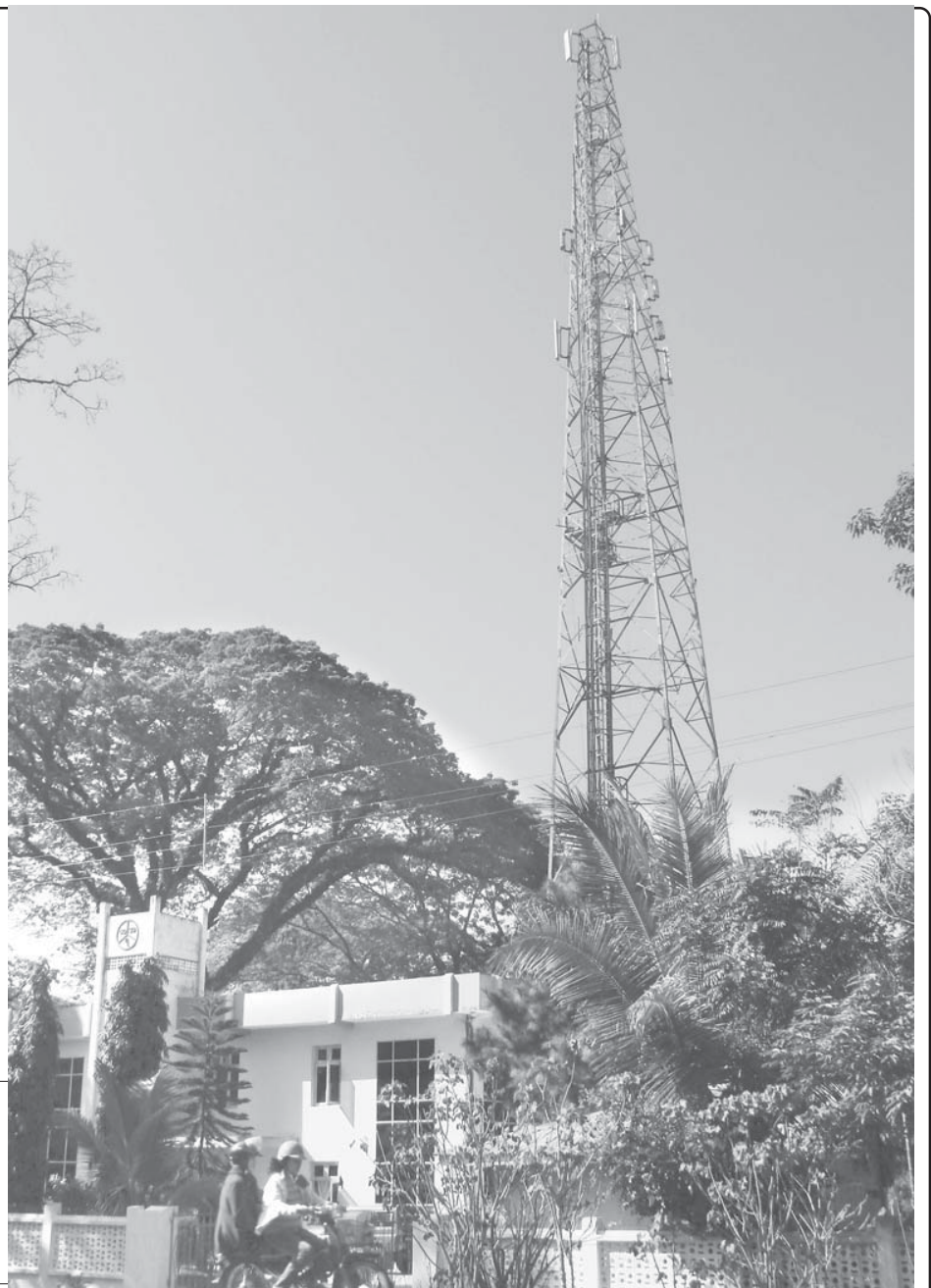
auto telephone exchange and 11 magneto exchanges in Kachin State. At present, peace and stability is prevailing in the region. Therefore, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications has so far opened 83 post offices, 31 telegraph offices, 17 auto telephone exchanges, 41 magneto exchanges, 18 microwave stations, six D-AMPS cellular telephone stations, one GSM mobile telephone station and 23 satellite stations in the region. Moreover, MPT set the plans for installation of more auto-telephones in the region, he said.

The Kachin State Manager further clarified

that as livelihoods of local people improved, plans were laid down for construction of 500-line Lonkhin auto-exchange, 500-line Tanai auto-exchange, 500-line Hsahmaw auto-exchange, 400-line Pinbaw auto-exchange, 300-line Karmaing auto-exchange and 480-line Seikmu auto-exchange for providing communication services to the local people and the region.

(See page 10)

**A microwave station
of Myanma Posts
and Telecommunications in Myitkyina.**



LONDON, 9 Jan — The pain-relieving effects of nitrous oxide – laughing gas – may be enhanced by suggestion or hypnosis, according to a new study by UCL (University College London). The study's findings – that people are more suggestible under the gas – mean that dental patients may benefit from being coached to relax while undergoing sedation.

Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) is commonly used by dentists to sedate their patients before treatment, but some dentists believe their patients also become more suggestible while under the influence of the gas. A number of dentists have been trained in hypnosis and find that their patients respond well to being spoken to in a quiet, hypnotic manner – the new findings suggest that these effects could be further enhanced with laughing gas.

The UCL study set out to establish whether laughing gas does indeed boost imaginative suggestibility – a trait closely related to hypnotic suggestibility – and imagery vividness. —Internet

People are more suggestible under laughing gas



Four, three, two, one... Pterosaurs have lift off

SCIENCE DAILY, 9 Jan — Pterosaurs have long suffered an identity crisis. Pop culture heedlessly — and wrongly — lumps these extinct flying lizards in with dinosaurs. Even paleontologists assumed that because the creatures flew, they were birdlike in many ways, such as using only two legs to take flight. Now comes what is believed to be first-time evidence that launching some 500 pounds of reptilian heft into flight required pterosaurs to use four limbs: two were ultra-strong wings which, when folded and balanced on a knuckle, served as front “legs” that helped the creature to walk — and leap. —Internet



Beware of Fire

Bullish Higuain backs Real title bid

MADRID, 9 Jan — Real Madrid striker Gonzalo Higuain maintains his side can still win the Primera Liga title despite trailing leaders Barcelona by 12 points.

The reigning champions made a dismal start to the season but, in contrast, arch-rivals Barca have lost just once and look to have built an unassailable lead at the top of the table.

Higuain has not given up hope though, telling Spanish sports daily AS: "Without a doubt we can (do it). It's a significant difference but it's not definitive.

“(Barca) are involved in the Copa del Rey and Champions League and they will drop some points along the way.” —Internet

