

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

Pungpahkyem in Mongton Township witnesses unprecedented development

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo met with servicemen and their families at the hall of local battalion in Mongton Township on 11 January and presented food to them.

After viewing development of Pungpahkyem in a motorcade, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing met with departmental officials and local people and provided them with sports gear, food and cash assistance.

Next, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing visited Pungpahkyem People's Hospital and presented cash assistance and food to patients and donated medical equipment and medicines to the hospital.

At Nakaungmu Station Hall in Pungpahkyem on 12 January, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing met with servicemen and their families.

Next, he inspected Shwe Nagar honey orange farm in Hoywet region of Monghsat Township and thriving orange plantations at Wunhon region in the

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of Ministry of Defence inspects Shwe Nagar honey orange farm in Hoywet region of Monghsat District.

MNA



township.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing met with servicemen and their families at Mongtwam

Station Hall and presented food to them.

Next, he visited 350-acre rubber plantation of U Wilson Moe in Tachilek Township. — MNA

Contamination fears over two-headed Australian fish



SYDNEY, 14 Jan—Toxic chemical contamination was the likely cause of fatal fish mutations in northern Australia in which thousands of bass larvae spawned with two heads, an expert said Wednesday.

Matt Landos, an aquatic animal specialist and member of the Australian College of Veterinarian Scientists, said the mutant larvae at a Noosa River fish farm survived just 48 hours and were dying en masse.—Internet

Bokpyin enjoying development of infrastructures

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



Scenic beauty of Bokpyin in Taninthayi Division seen with Andaman Sea and Taninthayi mountain range in the background. (Page 10)

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 15 January, 2009

Produce brilliant younger generation

The government is building a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation based on historical events and in accord with the desire of the people. Human resources consisting of brilliant intellectuals and intelligentsia play a vital role in building a new democratic nation.

The government is implementing the 30-year national education promotion programme with the aim of producing human resources that can create the future of the nation and its people. It has also built basic infrastructures and better educational environment nationwide for national education promotion plan.

In this knowledge age, Our Vision in the education sector is not in the classrooms only. It is connected with the whole society. Moreover, it widely covers literacy of all the people, national education promotion and constant learning regardless of age and educational background.

This is why the education promotion programme was laid down and students are being nurtured to be brilliant ones and to possess ability to take the initiative and spirit to abide by law, to follow discipline and social ethics and to consolidate national solidarity.

Teachers in the education sector should study not only teaching work but also advanced research work on related fields so that they can teach their students to enhance their academic qualifications, thoughts and outlook.

With the goodwill, dedicating to the teaching profession and sacrifice, the teachers are to teach their pupils advancing science and technology to turn out qualified human resources more and more.

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

55th Myanmar Medical Conference held

YANGON, 14 Jan—A ceremony to open the 55th Myanmar Medical Conference, organized by Myanmar Medical Association (Central) was held at the meeting hall of MMA in Mingala Taungnyunt Township this morning.

First, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo made a speech on the occasion. Next, Chairman of MMA Prof Dr Kyaw Myint Naing also made a speech. Afterwards, General Secretary Prof Dr Myint Thaung read out the message sent to the conference and the

ceremony came to close.

A booth of medicine and medical equipment was opened at the building. Chairman of MMA Prof Dr Kyaw Myint Naing and Sub-committee Chairperson Dr Daw Nu Nu Than formally opened the booth and the Deputy Minister and party viewed the booth.

A total of 76 booths are on display and it will continue up to 20 January. A total of 65 papers will be read out and 16 subjects will be discussed. Sporting events including golf will be conducted.—MNA



Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo makes speech at the opening ceremony of the 55th Myanmar Medical Conference.

MNA

DHF preventive measures inspected

YANGON, 14 Jan—Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa inspected collective preventive measures against dengue hemorrhagic fever taken by staff of township Development Affairs Department in North Okkalapa Township, members of social organizations and ward dwellers this morning.

Similar preventive measures were taken in Mingala Taungnyunt, Insein, Kyimyindine and Ahlon townships at the same time.

MNA

Buyer and seller meet on 15 Jan

YANGON, 14 Jan — The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Indo-Myanmar Commerce and Industry Association will jointly organize a Buyer and Seller Meet at the Mingala Hall of UMFCOI Office Tower on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Road in Lanmadaw Township here at 2 p.m. on 15 January (Thursday).

Myanmar entrepreneurs will display export quality rice and gram, gems and tools, handicraft, industrial products, traditional medicines, foodstuff, value-added wood products and rubber products at the meet and those interested may visit it.

MNA

IBTC Open Golf Championship continues

YANGON, 14 Jan—The IBTC Open Golf Championship as the second leg of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009, jointly organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA continued at Yedagun-

taung Golf Course in Mandalay this morning.

After the second round, Zaw Zaw Lat (Srixon) led the professional golfers division by firing 139 strokes. Aung Hsan Win (Srixon) and Min Naing

(Srixon) tied at the second position with 141 each. Hla Myo shot 142 strokes for the third position, and Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon) and Zaw Zaw Win (Srixon) at the fourth position with 143 each.

In the men's

amateur golfers division, Bo Bo Lay secured the top position with 140 strokes, followed by Nay Bala Win Myint with 141 at the second and Myo Win Aung with 144 at the third.

International Beverages Trading Co Ltd sponsored the competition together with co-sponsors Air Bagan Ltd, Hotel Yangon, Ruby Dragon (Jade and Gems) Co Ltd, KBZ Bank Ltd, MGW Construction Ltd, Alpine Purified Drinking Water, MY Associates Co Ltd, Srixon, Tiger Head Cement, KM Golf Centre, ACCEL International Co Ltd (Canon) and Lifeline (DHEA-Plus) with undertakings of Han Event Management.

MNA



Zaw Zaw Lat (Srixon) leading the second round. MGF

More US Marine suicides reported in 2008

LOS ANGELES, 14 Jan—A total of 41 active-duty US Marines committed suicide in 2008, up from 33 in the previous year, according to a report issued on Tuesday.

Last year’s Marine suicide rate was the highest since the US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003, said the report published by the Los Angeles Times on its website.

Forty-one Marines are listed as possible or confirmed suicides in 2008, or 16.8 per 100,000 troops, and nearly all were enlisted Marines under age 24, said the report prepared by the Defence and Veterans Affairs departments.

About two-thirds of those who committed suicide had been deployed overseas, said the report.

The Marine suicide rate is lower than the Army’s in 2007 and that for civilian populations with similar demographics.

The suicide rate of the army in 2007 stood at 18.1 per 100,000 troops and that for civilians was 19.5 people per 100,000, according to the report.

The Army suicide figures for 2008 have not yet been released, but officials said late last year that they expected the number and rate to increase from 2007.

Internet



A man is treated for wounds at a hospital in central Baghdad, Iraq after being caught up in a bombing on 12 Jan, 2009. A series of bombs targeting Iraqi security forces ripped through busy areas in Baghdad on Monday, killing at least nine people, police said.—INTERNET

Pakistan torn over how to handle Taleban

ISLAMABAD, 14 Jan—After years allowing Taleban militants to operate in the rugged tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, Pakistan is now torn over how to respond to US calls for decisive action against extremists.

Islamabad is under intense pressure from Washington, other western nations and Kabul to eliminate Taleban and Al-Qaeda havens in the tribal belt, from where fighters are said to stage attacks on foreign forces in Afghanistan.

But experts say Pakistan’s desire to please the United States, a vital political and military ally, has run up against its own strategic interests in the region and its loyalty to Pashtuns, the predominant ethnicity among the Taleban.

“Pakistan’s Taleban policy has suffered from indecisiveness, inconsistency and ambiguity,” political analyst Hasan Askari told *AFP*.

“Pakistan’s choices will become tougher in the future because its efforts to control the Taleban do not enjoy support throughout society. A good number of ordinary people see India as more of a threat than the Taleban.”—Internet



Iraqis look at a pool of blood following an explosion in the Al-Karrada district of Baghdad. A spate of blasts in Baghdad have killed at least eight people and injured 25.—INTERNET

Obama agrees to major US force increase in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—President-elect Barack Obama intends to sign off on Pentagon plans to send up to 30,000 more US troops to Afghanistan to gain time to review the conflict, the *Washington Post* reported Tuesday.

The new deployments would nearly double the current US force in Afghanistan of 32,000 troops.

According to the Post, which cites unnamed senior Obama team members and Bush administration officials, the goal is not for an Iraq-like “surge” but rather to gain time for a fresh look at US goals and develop a comprehensive new strategy for Afghanistan.

Obama, who takes office on 20 January, has vowed to boost development in Afghanistan and shift the focus of the “war on terror” from Baghdad to Kabul. A US troop increase in Afghanistan was anticipated.

“We have no strategic plan. We never had one,” an unnamed senior US military commander told the Post, describing the Afghan strategy under President George W Bush.—Internet

Court-martial for US Sergeant

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—A *United States Army* sergeant will face a court-martial on murder charges in connection with the killing of four Iraqi prisoners who were found bound, blindfolded, shot and dumped in a Baghdad canal in 2007, the American military said on Tuesday.

The soldier, Sgt First Class Joseph P Mayo, 27, will be court-martialed on charges of murder, conspiracy to commit murder and obstruction of justice stemming from the deaths, the military said in a statement. No date has been set for the proceeding. Sergeant Mayo could receive a life sentence if convicted.

Two other soldiers, Sgt Michael P Leahy Jr and Sgt John E Hatley, have also been accused of taking part in the killings.

Internet

Pace offers regret for Iraq War mistakes

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan— As the Bush administration works in its final days to cement its legacy, one of the leading architects of the Iraq war acknowledged Tuesday that he’d change some of the military advice he gave at the time, if he could.

Retired Gen Peter Pace, who was President Bush’s top military adviser from 2005-07, served as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the most volatile and deadly years of the war.

Speaking at the unveiling of his official portrait in the Pentagon, he said he’s had 15 months since he left the job to think about what went right and what went wrong. “I certainly made some wrong estimates. And I certainly made some recommendations that, if I could take them back and change them, I would,” Pace told the small crowd, which included former Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. But, adding a caveat of 20-20 hindsight, he said, “I also know, given the exact same data, at the exact same time in history, that I would give the exact same advice.” The painting of Pace was done by Maryland artist Peter E Egeli, also a former Marine. It will hang in the Pentagon.—Internet

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 566

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—As of Tuesday, 13 Jan, 2009, at least 566 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures Tuesday at 10 am EST. Of those, the military reports 413 were killed by hostile action. Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 66 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen. —Internet



Pakistani tribesmen park their trucks to block the supplies for the NATO forces from reaching the southwest Pakistan-Afghanistan border crossing, in Chaman on 13 Jan, 2009. Western military supplies passing through Pakistan to Afghanistan faced more disruption on Tuesday after protesters blocked one route and militants launched the first attack in two weeks on another.—INTERNET

Belgian official says Shanghai Expo will boost global economy

BRUSSELS, 14 Jan — The World Expo scheduled for 2010 in China's Shanghai will boost the global economy, Leo Delcroix, commissioner of the Belgian government for the exhibition, told *Xinhua* on Tuesday.

"I think the Shanghai Expo will give a big impetus, a big stimulus to the world economy," which is in difficulties due to the financial crisis, he said.

As the global economy is slowing down and most

developed economies plunged into a recession, there is a concern that the Shanghai Expo will lose its attraction for the reason that presence at the exhibition makes less economic sense at the difficult times.

But Delcroix disagreed. "I do not think so. I think especially in times of economic and financial difficulties you have to take new initiatives," he said.

"The Shanghai Expo can be a very good opportunity for western companies and Belgian companies to prove what they can do."

Delcroix said those companies struggling with the economic woes should use the Shanghai Expo as a chance both to get out of the current trouble and to catch up with the next growth cycle.

"They have to use the opportunity to overcome the problems of the financial crisis," he said.

Xinhua



Builders work at a construction site of the "Sunny Valley" located at the Expo Boulevard for 2010 Shanghai World Expo in Shanghai, east China, on 22 Dec, 2008. The "Sunny Valley" project, containing six horn-like structures, was considered to be the most difficult part of Expo Boulevard and one of the highlights of World Expo 2010.—XINHUA

Toshiba to buy Fujitsu's hard-disk drive business

TOKYO, 14 Jan—Japanese electronics giant Toshiba Corp has wrapped up talks to buy Fujitsu Ltd's hard disk drive operations, local media reported on Wednesday.

Toshiba is considering buying Fujitsu hard-disk drive business for tens of billions of yen, the Kyodo News and Nikkei both reported, citing sources familiar with the matter.

In October, Fujitsu slashed its net profit outlook for the current business year ending next March from 100 billion yen projected in July to 60 billion yen, blaming deteriorating demand for hard disks, personal computers and mobile phones.

Xinhua



A Palestinian man walk in the rubble of a building destroyed by Israeli strikes in Gaza City. —XINHUA

Brazil to produce enriched uranium on industrial scale

BRASILIA, 14 Jan — Brazil will produce enriched uranium from next month in a factory in the State of Rio de Janeiro, the Brazilian Nuclear Industries (INB) said on Tuesday.

Brazil will use technology developed by the Brazilian Marine Technology Center in Sao

Paulo (CTMSP) and the Institute of Energy and Nuclear Research (IPEN) to produce enriched uranium, according to Samuel Fayad, a high-ranking official at INB.

It will become the ninth country in the world to master the enrichment process of the mineral.

"The big breakthrough

is that in future, we do not depend on external services for an important technology," he told Agencia Brasil, Brazil's state news agency.—*Xinhua*

Indonesian rescue team finds 41 survivors of sunken ferry

JAKARTA, 14 Jan— The rescue team had found 41 survivors out of 250 total passengers registered in the manifest of the ill-fated ship which sank in Majene waters on Sunday on its way from Pare-Pare in South Sulawesi to Samarinda in East Kalimantan province, the national Antara News reported on Wednesday.

On the other hand, the forensic expert team had identified two dead victims of the sunken Teratai Prima ship.

The two identified victims were a woman found on Majene waters on Monday, and a six-year-old, found on Barru waters and then evacuated to Pare-Pare, said Mauluddin of the forensic expert team here on Tuesday.

The accident of Teratai Prima ship, with its 250 passengers and 17 crew members on board, which happened in Baturoro waters, Majene regency, West Sulawesi on 11 Jan, had prompted many circles to join the search and rescue efforts.—*Xinhua*

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China's mobile web users rise 113% in 2008

BEIJING, 14 Jan— China's mobile Internet population surged a whopping 113 percent in 2008 and could see explosive growth in the coming years, said a report issued by the China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC) on Tuesday.

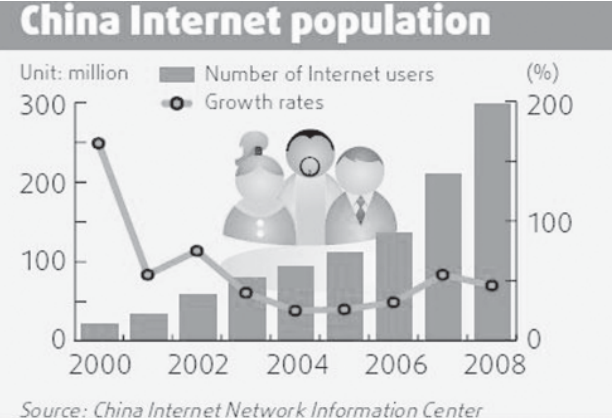
The nation's move to deploy third-generation (3G) services will benefit from the rising popularity of a mobile Internet, as more than 117 million subscribers have gone online with their cell phones.

CNNIC said 39.5 percent of Chinese Internet users adopt cell phones to surf the Web.

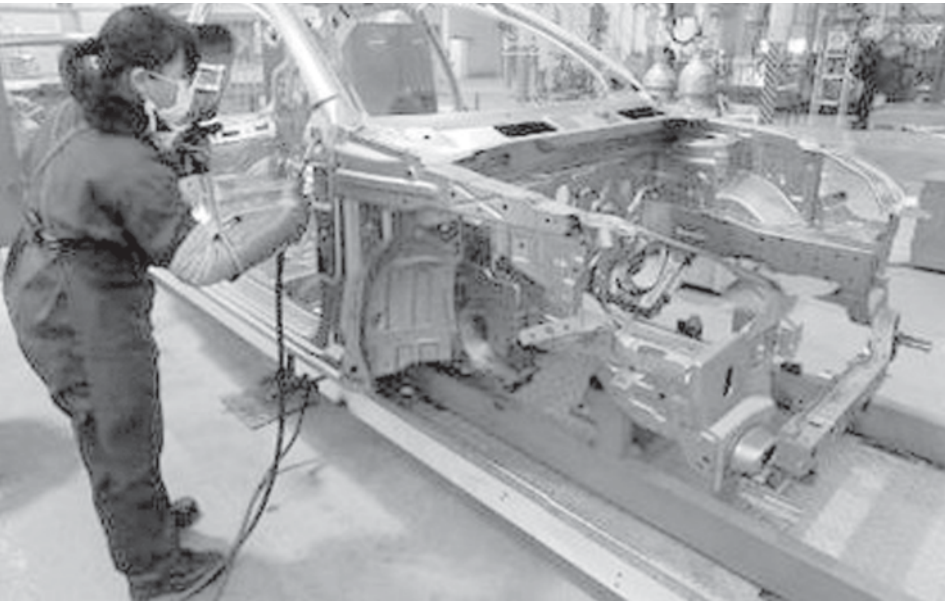
Students are the main

strength of mobile Internet users: 43.5 percent of them use their cell phones to read online news, download music, check email and perform a variety of other tasks.

"The trend will definitely benefit the deployment of 3G services, as more users will opt for high speed data-rich services," said Chi Dazhi, senior analyst of CNNIC.—*Xinhua*



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An employee works along the assembly line at Anhui Jianghuai Automobile Co Ltd in Hefei, Anhui province on 14 Jan, 2009. —XINHUA



Two women rest outside their tent at a temporary refuge for earthquake survivors, in Fraijanes on 13 Jan, 2009. The final death toll in Costa Rica from a 6.1 magnitude earthquake last week will likely rise to around 40 after an emergency official on Monday scaled back the number of people missing.—INTERNET

China is making active efforts to promote peace in Gaza, envoy says

UNITED NATIONS, 14 Jan—The Chinese government is actively promoting the relief of tension in Gaza, and China is ready to work with the international community to bring all the parties concerned back to the negotiation table at an early date in a bid to achieve the peaceful, just and durable settlement to the Palestinian-Israeli issue, a Chinese envoy said here Tuesday.

Zhang Yesui, the Chinese permanent representative to the United Nations, made the statement as he was speaking at the closed-door meeting of the UN Security Council on the Gaza conflict, which has left more than 900 Palestinians killed and 4,000 others injured.

Internet

Lebanese Minister describes rocket launching “a terrorist act”

BEIRUT, 14 Jan—Lebanese interior minister Elias Murr stressed Tuesday that those who launched rockets from south Lebanon against Israel are terrorists, Elnashra website reported.

Speaking to reporters after meeting his Italian counterpart Ignazio la Russa at Beirut airport, Murr said that “those who fired rockets at Israel are Israeli agents.”

He spoke of consensus among various Lebanese factions to “refrain from giving Israel a pretext to launch an attack on Lebanon.” —Internet



An Israeli girl suffering from shock is helped at the scene of a rocket attack in the southern city of Ashkelon on 12 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET

Gaza conflict has “devastating” effects on children

GENEVA, 14 Jan—The United Nations body monitoring a key global treaty on the rights of children voiced its deep concern on Tuesday at the “devastating effects” that the current conflict in Gaza is having on children.

“Hundreds of children have been killed or injured, many seriously. Many others have lost their loved ones,” said the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, which is currently in session in Geneva.

“Children have also experienced serious difficulties in accessing humanitarian aid. The emotional and psychological effects of these events on an entire generation of children will be severe,” said the 18-member body in a statement.

According to the Committee, the rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the right of children to life, survival and development and to be protected from all forms of violence, have been “blatantly violated” in the Gaza conflict. It joined the calls of UN Security Council Resolution 1860, which was adopted on 8 Jan, the UN Secretary-general and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights for an immediate cessation of hostilities from both sides in the conflict.—Internet

Russia to resume cooperation with NATO if US admits mistake

MOSCOW, 14 Jan—Russia will resume cooperation with NATO in the military sphere if the United States admits its wrong-doings that caused the broke-up of bilateral ties and apologizes for that, a senior Russian officer said on Tuesday.

“It is necessary that the US should explain us reasons, for which it disrupted these relations unilaterally and gave up the dialogue and bring apologies for this and

give clear signals on willingness to restore cooperation,” *Itar-Tass* news agency quoted Anatoly Nogovitsyn, deputy chief of the Russian General Staff, as saying.

The senior officer made the remarks when commenting on a statement by NATO’s Supreme Allied Com-mander Europe John Craddock on the need for restoring cooperation between the US-led

alliance and Russia in the military sphere.

NATO foreign ministers decided to suspend high-level contacts with Russia last August, accusing Russia of “disproportionate use of force” in Georgia.

In response, Russia halted cooperation with NATO’s Moscow office and called off the NATO chief’s visit to Moscow.

Internet

Palestinians suicide bombing attack kills several Israeli soldiers

GAZA, 14 Jan—Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, the armed wing of Fatah movement said on Tuesday night that one of its militants blew himself up among a group of Israeli soldiers, killing and wounding several soldiers.

The group said in an urgent statement sent to reporters that it claimed responsibility for the attack, adding that “the bomber and 20 Israeli soldiers were killed and wounded.” There was no immediate Israeli army response to confirm or deny the groups’ report that one of its militants carried out a suicide bombing attack against a group of soldiers near the northern Gaza Strip town of Beit Lahia.

The group said in a written leaflet sent to reporters that one of its militants blew himself up with explosives into a house full of Israeli soldiers in al-Atatra neighborhood in the northern Gaza Strip town of Beit Lahia. —Internet

Three children, one woman killed in rebel attack on Colombia police station

BOGOTA, 14 Jan—Three children and one woman were killed on Tuesday when a group of rebels attacked a police station in southwestern Colombia.

Eleven other people were injured, three gravely, in the attack, according to Fabio Trujillo, the government secretary of Narino Province.

Rebels of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) slipped into Magui Payan, a municipality in Narino near the border with Ecuador, and launched the attack on the regional police base, said Trujillo. —Internet



Palestinian kids play at the Barcelona Park in south of Gaza City during Israel’s 3 hours halt of fire, on 13 Jan, 2009. —XINHUA

Israelis look at the scene after a rocket fired by Palestinian militants in Gaza landed in the southern town of Sderot on 11 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

17th annual conf of APPF opens in Laos

VIENTIANE, 14 Jan—The four-day 17th annual conference of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) opened in Vientiane on Monday, with the main discussion topics from strengthening political security to promoting economic and trade cooperation and strengthening parliamentary exchanges.

Parliamentarians from 19 countries and Regions in the Asia-Pacific took part in the event. Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) General Secretary Anders B Johnsson attended the forum. Zhou Tienong, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (NPC), China’s top legislature, said at the opening session that the meeting would enhance cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and promote economic cooperation among regional countries.

At the opening ceremony, Lao National Assembly President Samdech Heng Samrin raised concerns about such difficulties and challenges that regional countries are facing as financial crisis, climate change, natural disasters, food crisis and energy crisis.

Heng Samrin called on Asian-Pacific countries to strengthen regional trade and economic cooperation to achieve lasting development in the region, contributing to the development of the world.

The APPF was founded by former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone in January 1993 in Tokyo, Japan. The APPF is a loosely-structured and non-exclusive forum of national parliamentarians who participate either as delegates of their parliaments or in their personal capacities.—MNA/Xinhua



Blast in Russian police building kills seven

MOSCOW, 14 Jan—At least seven people have been killed in an explosion at a police building in the Republic of Ingush in southern Russia on Tuesday, local media reported.

The building of the South Caucasus region’s bailiffs office went down in ruins at around 09:50 Moscow time (0650 GMT) following a blast caused by gas leak, according to regional authority.

Rescuers have pulled out 28 people from the debris, said the regional center of the Emergencies Ministry.

Internet

Iraq finds anti-freeze chemical in popular toothpaste

BAGHDAD, 14 Jan — Iraq’s health ministry on Tuesday issued a warning that a popular brand of toothpaste made by consumer products giant Unilever contains diethylene glycol, a chemical used in car anti-freeze.

“After the standards and quality control department of the health ministry tested the French-made Signal 2 toothpaste brand, it showed that it contains diethylene glycol which is highly toxic if swallowed,” the government said. The health ministry has urged the government to ban the brand.

Unilever France spokeswoman Sophie Jayet in Paris, contacted by *AFP*, said Unilever products do not contain diethylene glycol.—Internet

Israeli envoy visits Egypt for Gaza ceasefire talks

JERUSALEM, 14 Jan— A high-ranking Israeli defence official is set to visit Egypt on Wednesday for talks over a possible ceasefire in the warring Gaza Strip, local news service *Ynet* report on Tuesday.

Amos Gilad, head of the Diplomatic-Security Bureau of the Defence Ministry, is scheduled to meet with Egyptian intelligence chief Omar Suleiman for indirect bargaining with Hamas, said the report.

The Jewish state has conditioned any truce on an end to both the rocket fire from and the alleged weaponry smuggling into the Hamas-ruled area, while the Islamist group demands lifting the blockade Israel has imposed on the coastal enclave.

Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak said earlier in the day that his nation would press ahead with the ongoing Operation Cast Lead, launched in response to years of Palestinian rocket fire, and meanwhile closely monitor the development of the Egypt-led initiative. —Internet

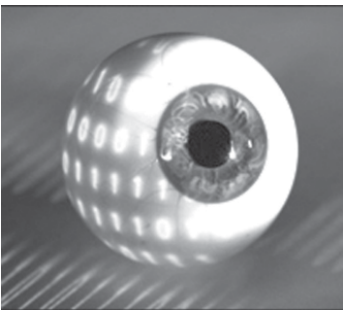


A wooden side-piece in the shape of an old fashioned pair of skates supports an ice-sailing boat on the frozen Gouwzee in Monnickendam, the Netherlands on 9Jan, 2009. The Dutch strapped on skates and flocked to icy canals this weekend as freezing temperatures afforded an increasingly rare chance to skate across their flat country. After more than a week of cold, an estimated 2.3 million skaters, out of a population of 16 million, have taken to frozen canals and lakes, according to a poll released ahead of the weekend.

Face of the future: the ‘all-seeing eye’ meets ‘all-sniffing nose’

Humankind seems to be moving closer to creating the world sci-fi writers could only imagine. After creating an electronic nose, capable of sniffing out diseases, scientists have created an ‘all-seeing eye’ that can look at different directions simultaneously.

Australian scientists have managed to engineer a kind of insect-like (or “compound”) eye which allows for an unobstructed 360-degree panoramic view. The device will help



scientists emulate what insects see when they fly around the landscape, how they find food, escape predators and navigate. The researchers are especially interested in understanding how bees find their way back home.

Driver switched seats to avoid DUI arrest

Police said a West Valley City woman tried to avoid a drunken driving arrest by putting her daughter in the driver’s seat before police arrived. Charges filed this week in 3rd District Court say the woman drove recklessly on 28 Nov through a Costco parking lot in West Valley City. Authorities said she hit a curb and blew out a tire in the process.

The charges said witnesses told police she then switched places with her 15-year-old daughter so the girl would be in the driver’s seat when police got there.

The woman was found to have a blood alcohol level of .246 percent, more than three times the legal limit of .08 percent.

Genetic drug producers that can be milked

They may look like ordinary goats but for their creators they are drug-making machines. A herd has been genetically engineered in the US to make a human protein in their milk that can prevent dangerous blood clots.

The goats produce a protein called antithrombin, which prevents blood clotting. One in 5,000 people is at risk of developing blood clots in their veins. Such clots can be extremely painful, even lethal, especially if they break loose and travel through the bloodstream to the lungs or the brain.

Experts say that in practice the medicine, produced



by the miraculous animals, fights strokes, pulmonary embolisms and other life-threatening conditions.

The whole process of production needs to be approved by the American Food and Drug Administration (FDA), but it’s clear that medicine is now entering a new era.

The FDA panel voted overwhelmingly that the process is safe and effective.

So when and if

the final decision is made, the first ever drug from a genetically engineered animal may start to be produced in the US.

Obviously it’s cheaper to create the animals than to build and maintain expensive bioreactors.

The technique could make it cost-effective for companies to develop drugs to treat diseases that affect relatively few patients.

NEWS ALBUM

Benefits of walking

Kyaw Kyaw (Sethmu Tekkatho)

Exercise is great for your health. Today, the government is giving effective encouragement to sports activities to raise the health standard of the people.

There is a saying in Pali "Arogjam Paramam Labham", which means good health is the greatest blessing. Health is termed physical and mental well-being without diseases. Of sports activities, walking is the simplest form with least cost, but the best form of exercise for your overall health.

While walking, you can view green and lush vegetations and take fresh air and fragrant smell of flowering plants along the route, and that makes you feel relaxed and refreshed.

By taking a walk, you can gain supramundane benefits, apart from mundane ones as paying constant attention to the way you are taking and your posture while walking is some way taking mindfulness to your mind and body. So, it is required to organize the entire people to walk daily so as to help elevate the health standard of the people.

All, irrespective of age, should cultivate a good habit of walking. Benefits of walking are many and various, such as fitness, being free from diseases, being in great shape with fair complexion, mental well-being, being in the pink of health with youthfulness, having a good stamina, improvement of flexibility and muscle tone, gaining new friends, good digestion, activeness, and sound sleep.

Inactivity can make your internal organs stiff and if so, you are more likely to suffer diseases; you

will look older than you are and the diseases you are suffering may persist. We tend to appreciate the value of good health only when we are ill.

Walking helps sickly persons recover from their bad health and healthy persons keep themselves fit. So, you should take a walk regularly. At first, you should walk just for a moderate distance. Then, you should extend the distance gradually day by day. While walking, you should take deep breaths. If you are feeling dizzy or dazed, take brisk paces on a path of a forest or at a secluded place.

The best time to walk is early morning. If possible, go to bed and get up and walk early, it is a great way to improve your health. If circumstances do not favour you to do so, you can walk in (not late) the morning or in the evening. You can walk alone or in group.

You can realize the benefits of walking if you do it. Many physicians around the world recognize that walking can prevent short of breath and obesity; lower the risk of cardiovascular disease, paralysis and high blood pressure; and cure chronic diseases, renal diseases and muscle stiffness.

Taking long steps a little faster is the best form of walking. Walking is the simplest and the best form of physical activity for your general health. To walk, you do not need any sports equipment. And you can walk at any place at any weather, and everyone, young or old, can take it.

The distance of walking depends on your age and health conditions. You should not walk excessively.

Take the following points as much as you can while walking.

- (1) keep your waist and body upright,
- (2) raise your chest a little,
- (3) touch your fingers together, and do not clench your fists tightly,
- (4) move forward straightly,
- (5) do not keep your body bending backwards,
- (6) try to be able to walk fast, but do not let yourself get very tired in the process,
- (7) set front part of your foot only after your heel,
- (8) swing your hands fast at a high level,
- (9) take deep breaths,
- (10) the clothes you are wearing should be according to the weather. You need to take warm clothes if the weather is cold, but avoid tight and heavy clothes.

After walking, take a breathing exercise for about 10 minutes and then drink a lot of water. According to the research done, drinking about two glasses of water after walking ensures regular flow of urine and excrement. Moreover, the walkers become more active and interested in their work than usual.

Therefore, I would like to exhort the people to regularly take a walk, which can bring a wide variety of benefits to every walker.

Translation: MS

Kyemon: 12-1-2009

Judge clears way for Bloomberg to run again in NY

NEW YORK, 14 Jan—The New York City Council had the legal right to extend term limits for itself and Mayor Michael Bloomberg, a federal judge ruled on Tuesday, clearing an obstacle for Mayor Michael Bloomberg to seek a third term.

The judge dismissed a civil rights lawsuit filed by elected officials who opposed the new law. However Bloomberg still faces a potential barrier from a state legislator who is seeking to pass a law that might stop the mayor from running again.

In November, Bloomberg signed a law increasing the term limit for elected officials to three 4-year terms from two, overturning two public referendums, held in 1993 and 1996, that imposed the two-term limit.

Bloomberg, a former Wall Street trader and self-made billionaire who was elected mayor in 2001 and in 2005, has argued that the extraordinary financial crisis requires a person of his experience, so he decided to help overturn the referendums and run again this year.

A group of elected officials and voters filed suit in Brooklyn federal court to stop Bloomberg, saying the new law denied voters "meaningful participation in the political process."

In a 64-page ruling, U.S. District Judge Charles Sifton found that city law does not limit the City Council's "ability to overturn or modify laws passed by referendum."

MNA/Reuters

Obama pushes Senate Democrats on stimulus, bailout

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—President-elect Barack Obama huddled with his fellow Democrats in the US Senate on Tuesday, trying to build support for upcoming votes on economic stimulus legislation and releasing 350 billion US dollars in unspent Wall Street bailout funds.

Obama's visit came exactly one week before he returns to Capitol Hill, where he will be sworn in as the 44th president on January 20.

His success or failure on these two massive initiatives will set the tone for his presidency as he moves into the White House.

MNA/Reuters



Students of Aungmyethazan Township No. 1 BEHS demonstrate Indian Club skills prior to a football match to mark School Family Day for the year 2009 held at No. 21 BEPS in the township, Mandalay recently.—NLM

29th conference of MDA (Central) on 4-7 Feb

YANGON, 14 Jan—The 29th conference of Myanmar Dental Association (Central) and 10th FDI-MDA joint meeting will be held at Traders Hotel here from 4 to 7 February.

Paper reading sessions, educative talks by local and foreign dentists, a

ceremony to pay respects to aged dentists and sports activities will be conducted at the conference where medical store will be staged. The association will announce the day when delegates are to register for the conference.

MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures

CPT Minister inspects auto-exchanges in Kachin State



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects auto-exchange in Mogaung.—CPT

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected auto-exchanges in Kachin State, on 12 January. During the visit to the auto-exchange in Namti, the minister fulfilled the requirements of the exchange to upgrade trunk-call lines.

Afterwards, the minister visited the auto-exchange in Mogaung and Sarhmaw Microwave station.

He also inspected the progress of construction of the auto-exchange in Pinbaw and Pinbaw station

hospital. The minister also attended a ceremony to open a new library in Kontangyi Village in Mogaung Township and donated a TV and books to the library.

During the tour of Mohnyin Township, the minister attended a ceremony to open “Alinpya” library in Mayingon Village and donated a TV to the library.

On 13 January, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw attended a work coordination meeting for investment in Yatanarpon Myothit Project of Mandalay Division.

Deputy Minister for

Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Maj-Gen Thein Tun, the director-general, officials from Mandalay City Development Committee and departmental officials discussed matters related to construction of roads in Yatanarpon Myothit Project and tasks carried out for supply of power and water to the project. The minister also heard reports of those who have invested in the project and fulfilled the requirements. Afterwards, the minister visited the project and inspected the construction works.—MNA

Head Feed Type combine harvester demonstrated

YANGON, 14 Jan—A ceremony to demonstrate Head Feed Type combine harvester invented by Agriculture Mechanization Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was held at the meeting hall of No 1 Mechanical Workshop of the department in Mingaladon Township here this morning.

It was attended by Director-General U Win Maw of Agriculture Mechanization Department and officials concerned, members of Yangon Division Agriculture Supervisory Committee, agriculturists, media persons and guests.

First, the director-general made a speech on the occasion. Next, Deputy Director U Aung

Soe of AMD and Manager U Aye Than of No 1 Mechanical Workshop explained invention and test-use of import-substitute combine harvesters and replied to queries raised by those present.

Demonstration of Head Feed Type combine harvester invented by Agriculture Mechanization Department in progress at the farmlands of U San Myint and U Than Khe in Hmawby Township.—MNA

Afterwards, those present made observation on use of Head Feed Type combine harvester at the farmlands of U San Myint and U Than Khe in Hmawby Township. The harvester can harvest one acre in two hours.—MNA



Factories manufacturing value-added products

YANGON, 14 Jan—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected the wood-based product factory of New Brother Ltd in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone (1) here on 9 January morning.

Managing Director U Thein Aung of the company gave an account of the production line, and Managing Director U Win Tun and officials of Myanmar Timber Enterprise gave supplementary reports. The factory exports value-added sawn hardwood products. He also inspected the finished wooden product factory of Diamond Mercury Co, which exports groove planks, sawn timber and parquets.

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspects finished wooden product factory of Diamond Mercury Co.—FORESTRY



Health research paper reading session continues for third day

YANGON, 14 Jan—The health research paper reading session continued for the third day at the meeting hall of Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) in Dagon Township this morning.

Professor/Head of Department of University of Medicine-1 Dr Kyi Kyi Thin chaired the first session while Director of Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) Dr Daw Khin Myat Tun co-chaired the session. Resource persons

read out four research papers.

Deputy Director-General Dr Kyaw Min of Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) presided over the second session and resource persons submitted four research papers.

In the afternoon first paper reading session, Rector Dr Aye Maung Han of University of Medicine-1 presided over the session. Prof Daw Kyu Kyu Khin of University of Medicine-2 acted as co-chairperson of

the session. Five research papers were read out at the session. In the second session, Deputy Director-General Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein of Health Department presided over the session and Director Dr Khin Nwe Oo of Medical Research Department co-chaired it. Resource persons read out five research papers at the session.

At the same time, researchers of Myanmar and Japan gave talks on subject-wise matters.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts cash donated by wellwishers for long-term development of village libraries in Sagaing Division. — MNA

Cash donated for long-term development...

(from page 16)

Monywa Township; K 15.3 million by U Win Myint-Daw Kyway Kyway; K 12 million by U Khin Maung and family; K 12 million by U Saw Win-Daw Ksan and family; K 10 million by Kaung Myat Pyi Kyaw Co; K 8.5 million by people of Kyunhla Village; K 7.5 million by Katha District PDC; K 6.8 million by U Than Maung and family; K 6 million by people of Yeshin Village of Kyunhla Township; and K 5 million by

U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing and family. Certificates of honour were presented to them.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan also accepted K 1.5 million donated by the rector, faculty members and students of Monywa University; K 5 million by Shwebo District PDC; K 4 million by U Abhijatalankara of Tipitakadhara Thubaw-daryon Monastery; K 2.5 million by U Ye Naing and family; K 2 million by Head of Organizing Department Dr Daw

Nyunt Nyunt Oo of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation; K 1.5 million by people of Khawate Village of Kyunhla Township; K 1.5 million by people of Hnawgan Village of Pale Township; K 1.5 million by people of Nyaungbintha Village of Pale Township; K 1.2 million by U Myint Thein and family; and K 1 million by Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Soe Naing-Daw Aye Aye Khaing and family and presented certificates of honour to them.

Deputy Commander of North-West Command

Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn also accepted cash donations from wellwishers and gave away certificates of honour to them.

Director U Than Tun of IPRD accepted cash donations and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

The commander and the minister greeted the local people and viewed documentary photos.

Today's donations for self-reliant village libraries in Sagaing Division amounted to over K 165.2 million—library buildings worth K 92.8 million and K 72,469,070 in cash.

MNA

Muse District Court and Law Office open

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—The opening ceremony of Muse District court and new law office was held on 10 January there, attended by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Chief Justice U Aung Toe, and Attorney-General U Aye Maung.

Director-General

(Admin) of Supreme Court U Mya Thein, and Director-General of the Office of Attorney-General U Tin Myint officially opened the new court.

Next, the Commander, the Chief Justice and the Attorney-General spoke on the occasion and viewed District Court and new law office.

Chief Justice U Aung Toe met with judges, staff officers and staff of Shan

State (North), Lashio District and Lashio Township courts in Lashio on 11 January, and supreme court judges and directors of Mandalay Supreme Court, judges and staff of Mandalay Division Court, Kyaukse District Court, and township courts in the division in Mandalay on 12 January and gave instructions on judicial matters.—MNA

Health staff honoured

YANGON, 14 Jan—A ceremony to honour health staff who have rendered health care to storm victims was held at University of Nursing (Yangon) here yesterday, with an address by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe.

Next, Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe presented certificates of honour to 920 members of doctors, nurses and other skilled staff of hospitals, universities, Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) and Traditional Medicine Department of Yangon through respective medical superintendents, departmental heads, and rectors of universities.—MNA



Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe presents certificates of honour to a health staff who discharged duties in storm-hit regions.—MNA

Harmonious cooperation stressed for regional development

YANGON, 14 Jan—Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint inspected reconstruction of the Basic Education Primary School of Kyaungnauk Ward, and Mudongyi BEPS in Mudon on 9 January.

The minister held a meeting with townsenders, members of

local social organizations and authorities, calling for expanding the horizons of rural folks, improving economic enterprises, and harmonious cooperation for regional development.

In meeting with townsenders, social organizations and responsible persons at

Kyaikkhami, he called for cooperation for development of salt farming and the region, enhancing knowledge of local people and boosting business activities.

He also had a similar meeting at Panga Village in Thanbyuzayat Township in the evening.

MNA

Cultivation of summer paddy in Kyaiklat

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Member of Natural Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, on 9 January,

inspected cultivation of summer paddy and breeding of worms in 1000-acre model farm in Kyaiklat.

Next, the minister proceeded to Hleseik BEPS

of Kyaiklat Township where he looked into new school building and provided teaching aids.

The minister handed over packets of seeds to Hleseik village through responsible persons and met with departmental officials at Golden Jubilee Hall of the township.—MNA

Fund-raising DVD film on 18 Jan

YANGON, 14 Jan—A DVD film entitled "Ngar-ya Hna-se-shit Myinpyaing" will be on screen at Shwe Mann Cinema Hall in Myaynigon, here, at 7 am on 18 January (Sunday) to raise the funds of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association (Central).

The film starring Lu Min, Po Chit, Tun Eindra Bo and many other supporting actors and actresses was based on a comic "Myaing Yaza Tut Pi" by Cartoonist Swe Min (Danubyu), and was directed by Tun Aung Zaw.

Tickets for the private show can be booked at

MWJA (Central) (Ph: 385273) or Shwe Mann Cinema Hall (535248). Two heads are allowed for a 3000-kyat entry ticket. The two actors who played their roles as main characters Ko Tut Pi and Ma Thay Hmyin will watch the film.

MNA



Graduates attend a job fair facing students of normal universities in Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province 13 Jan, 2009. Over 100,000 students are going to graduate in the year of 2009 in Yunnan Province.

INTERNET

Drive safely

Regional development tasks in Katha District inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe accompanied by officials inspected tarmacking of roads in Htigyaing, Katha District being carried out by Htigyaing Township Development Affairs Committee on 7 January.

The commander and party looked into Htigyaing-Katha road section of No. 3 District-to-District Road and thriving teak plantations of Htigyaing Township Forest Department at 200-acre teak plantation near Nat-in village in the township.

Next, they went to

Mehin village at mile post No. (171/6) on the district-to-district road and met with local people.

Afterwards, the commander and party inspected conditions of district-to-district road in Katha District and road sections in Katha Township in a motorcade.

At the hall of Thanpaya village, the Commander met with local people and viewed learning of school children with the use of teaching aids at Katha No.1 Basic Education High School.

Next, he visited People's Hospital in Katha and inspected construction of Katha Station and construction of Katha-Bhamo railroad.

At Moetagyi vil-

lage BEHS (Branch) in Katha Township, the commander met with teachers, students and local people. He also met with local people at Hmet Taing village and visited post-primary school in the village.

Next, the commander and party inspected the bridge located at the border between Sagaing Division and Kachin State and construction works being carried out in Myohla Myothit. — MNA



Cotton being collected in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin inspected the cotton purchasing centre of the Ministry of Industry-1 at Nyaungbintha Village, Nay Pyi Taw

Tatkon Township, this morning.

The commander looked into the cotton purchasing centre at Nyaunglunt Village and viewed sales of personal goods at Win Thuzar

Shop, and cotton warehouses.

He also inspected sales and packing cotton at the cotton purchasing centres in Northern Myaik and Alegyun villages.

MNA

Bago Div to give OPV to over 570,000 under-fives

YANGON, 14 Jan—National Immunization Days (2009) of Bago Division were launched at City Hall of Bago on 10 January morning. Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min attended the

ceremony and made an opening speech on the occasion.

Head of Bago Division Health Office Dr Ngwe San and officials clarified the purpose of the ceremony to mark NID, and arrangements made for the programme. Commander Brig-Gen

Hla Min and party gave oral polio vaccine to some children under five. They then gave toys to those children.

In Bago Division, 2477 teams will take part in the giving of OPV to more than 570,000 under-fives at 6,323 gathering points.

MNA

Bokpyin enjoying development of infrastructures

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

(from page 1)

Most of people residing in Bokpyin Township of Kawthoung District have been doing well in fishing. In coming few years, Bokpyin will be included in the oil palm production special zone.

During the tour, we, members of the news team, witnessed thriving oil palm plantations between Kawthoung and Bokpyin townships. We were in Bokpyin to write articles on regional development in Taninthayi Division.

Under the arrangement of Township Peace and Development Council Chairman U Maung Maung Zin, we had an opportunity to visit Bokpyin. Indeed, Bokpyin Township is located in the coastal region of Taninthayi Division. The township is sharing borders with the Bay of Bengal in the east, Kawthoung Township in



In 2003, the government upgraded Bokpyin Hospital (25-bed) to 50-bed one.

Dr Maung Win, Medical Superintendent, Bokpyin Township People's Hospital.

the south and Kyunsu Township in the north. The township is set up with four wards in the urban area and 21 village-tracts and 102 villages in the rural areas.

While in Bokpyin, we visited the hospital, the reliable health care centre for the whole township,

under the arrangement of Head of Township Health Department U Mya Tun.

The building of the hospital had been renovated in recent years. On 2 April 2008, South Dagon Oil Palm Company spent K 53.8 million on renovation of Bokpyin Township Hospital.

In an interview, Medical Superintendent Dr. Maung Win explained, "Bokpyin Township People's Hospital was facilitated with 25 beds in the past. In 2003, the government upgraded the hospital to the 50-bed one. Actually, the hospital is a reliable health care centre for the people residing in the rural areas."

We studied the laboratory, the X-ray room, the ECG machine and solar powered refrigerator at the hospital.

We observed that doctors and nurses were providing health care services to the local people

day and night at Bokpyin General Hospital.

After visiting the hospital, we paid homage to Aungdawmu Pagoda built on a hill near the hospital. From the hill, we enjoyed the scenic beauty of Bokpyin.

We noticed that development of fisheries and edible bird's nest production industries enhance the living standard of local people especially the houses they lived in.

Moreover, we saw cultivation of mangroves along the coastal areas of the township for prevention against tidal waves of tsumani.

The foliage of Areca palms plantations, In (*Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*) and Kanyin (*Dipterocarpus alatus*) plantations added to beautiful scenes of Bokpyin.

Bokpyin has been facilitated with Basic Education Primary Schools,

Middle Schools and High Schools in addition to hospitals, clinics and communication station. Therefore, the local people have the opportunity to enjoy better living conditions through development of health, education and economic infrastructures day after day.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
11-1-2009



Photo shows Bokpyin Township People's Hospital.



Chairman of Chanaye Thazan Township PDC U Myint Kyi, Staff Officer of the Fire Services Department U Kyaw Naing Moe and those from FSD view fire preventaive measures in differnt wards of Mandalay recently.—NLM

Halt all carbon emissions by 2050, says Worldwatch

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—To avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change, world carbon emissions will have to drop to near zero by 2050 and “gone negative” after that, the Worldwatch Institute reported on Tuesday.

This is a deeper cut than called for by most climate experts and policymakers, including President-elect Barack Obama, who favors an 80

percent drop in US carbon emissions by mid-century.

Limiting carbon emissions aims to keep global mean temperature from rising more than 3.6 degrees F (2 degrees C) over what it was before the Industrial Revolution -- but one Worldwatch author said even this is too dangerous.

“Global warming needs to be reduced from peak levels to 1 degree (Celsius, or 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit) as fast as

possible,” co-author William Hare said at a briefing on the “State of the World 2009” report. “At this level you can see some of the risks fade into the background.”

Global mean temperature has already risen 1.4 degrees F (0.8 C) since 1850, so drastic cuts in emissions of climate-warming carbon dioxide are needed, according to Hare, now working at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in Germany.—Internet



Freida Pinto and Dev Patel after winning a Golden Globe on 11 January. Bollywood star Anupam Kher said on Wednesday the movie had boosted credibility for the Bollywood film industry.—INTERNET

Bomb plot foiled in S Philippines ahead of Arroyo’s visit

COTABATO, 14 Jan—Filipino security forces foiled a bomb plot in the restive southern Philippines ahead of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo’s visit, officials said on Tuesday.

Troops recovered and defused an improvised booby-trap bomb left by unidentified men in the town of Datu Odin Sinsuat, Shariff Kabunsuan Province on Monday, said town police Chief inspector Dante Mama.

President Arroyo is sched uled to arrive on Thursday at the headquarters of 6th Infantry Division of the Philippine Army in the same town, where she will hold a Press briefing with reporters.

MNA/Xinhua



Steam and other emissions are seen coming from the brown coal Yallourn Power Station in the Latrobe Valley near Melbourne on 15 December, 2008.—INTERNET

Google hopes to take on Microsoft using resellers

NEW YORK, 14 Jan—Web search leader Google Inc took another step on Wednesday toward direct competition with Microsoft Corp by recruiting IT resellers to market its Web-based applications to business clients.

From the end of March, authorized resellers will be able to sell, customize and support premium versions of Google Apps, which includes word processing, spreadsheets, calendars and email.

Google Apps is broadly similar to Microsoft's top-selling Office package except that Apps is completely Web-based and is part of Google's push into so called 'cloud computing' or software-as-a-service. Microsoft said in October it is also looking at adding Web-based features for its Office applications.—Internet

EU premiers plead with Ukraine and Russia for gas

MOSCOW/KIEV, 14 Jan —Russia and Ukraine wrangled over gas supplies again on Wednesday and two European Union states, cut off by the row for a freezing week, launched missions to plead for Russian gas flow to be restored. European Commission chief Jose Manuel Barroso called the crisis “unacceptable and incredible” and warned the EU executive would advise the bloc's firms to sue Russian and Ukrainian energy companies unless gas supplies were restored quickly.

Russia began pumping gas meant for Europe via Ukraine on Tuesday, but the EU said little or none was flowing yet to countries downstream suffering urgent energy shortages.

Russia accused

Ukraine of deliberately cutting gas to Europe, but Kiev said Russia had so far provided so little gas there was not enough pressure in the pipelines to pump it on.

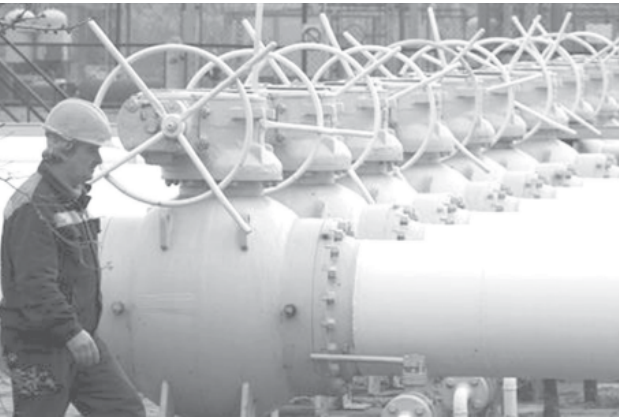
Each side tried to persuade their customers to the West that the other was to blame for the crisis.

“We are hearing from our Ukrainian friends they have problems with

transit,” Russian Prime Minister Putin told the prime ministers of Slovakia, Bulgaria and Moldova, all badly hit by the cut in gas supplies, at his residence outside Moscow.

“But it is not our problem. It is the problem of the transit country and they must solve it,” he added.

Internet



A worker walks at a gas compressor station in the Ukrainian settlement of Orlovka, about 280 km (174 miles) west of the Black Sea port of Odessa, 14 January, 2009.—INTERNET

DPRK releases suspected Japanese drug smuggler

PYONGYANG, 14 Jan — The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Tuesday released a suspected Japanese drug smuggler who had been in custody since October 2003, the official KCNA news agency said.

Yoshiaki Sawada, former department director of the Enterprise Co. Ltd of Japan, was arrested for “attempting to smuggle drugs” on the Mangyongbong-92, a passenger ferry that had been making trips between the DPRK and Japan, the KCNA said.

Sawada was used by “a Japanese-plot bre-eding organization” to seriously damage the prestige of the DPRK and the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan.” it said. The release was “a humanitarian measure” taken by the DPRK, it added.—Internet

British women are more worried about their weight and ageing than about developing cancer, according to an online poll released on Wednesday. INTERNET



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (141)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (141) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.1.2009 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 INTERASIALINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DUBAI TRADER VOY NO (901N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DUBAI TRADER VOY NO (901N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.1.2009 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 TONG JOO SHIPPING
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (267)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (267) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.1.2009 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BUNGA MAS-11 VOY NO (807N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BUNGA MAS-11 VOY NO (807N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.1.2009 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 MAXICON CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

ENGAGEMENT

U Phyu Win and Daw Kyin Win, Yangon announces the engagement of their daughter

Ma Swe Zin Phyu Win
B.Sc (Environmental Studies)
Diploma in Business Studies

To

Maung Kyaw Kyaw (Kyaw Kyaw-Sethmu Tekkatho)
B.E (Mechanical)
M.O.T First Class Part (A)
Second Engineer (Uniteam Marine Ltd.)
son of U Kock Yein and (Daw Tin Tin), Yangon on 3rd January 2009, in the presence of both parents and elders.

Both Parents and
Kyaw Kyaw (Sethmu Tekkatho)-Ma Swe Zin Phyu Win

China overtakes Germany in growth for 2007

BEIJING, 14 Jan—China on Wednesday revised up the country's gross domestic product growth for 2007 to 13.0 percent from 11.9 percent, leapfrogging Germany in the process to become the world's third-largest economy. The revised growth rate, announced by the National Bureau of Statistics, was the fastest since 1993, when the economy expanded 13.5 percent.

The statistics office had already updated its estimate of 2007 growth last April from an initial reading of 11.4 percent. In a statement on its website, it said this second revision would be the final one.

Sherman Chan, an economist at Moody's Economy.com, said the strong number was unlikely to shake sentiment in the market, which is penciling in a marked moderation in growth this year.

Internet

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER		
1	Sealed Tender is invited for supply of the following in Euro:	
Tender No	Description	Quantity
12(T)12/MR(MC)	For Passenger Coaches	
2008-2009	Wheel (Drwg.No 3100/025B)	1040 -Nos
	Axle (Drwg.No 3100/025)	390-Nos
	Axle (Drwg.No 3100/025A)	130-Nos
	Roller Bearing(TBU 197720 YZ)	1040-Nos
Closing Date/Time - 13.3.2009 (Friday)(12:00)Hours		
2	Tender documents are available at our office starting from 13.1.2009 during office hours and for further detail please call: Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon.Phone:95-1-291994,95-1-291985.	

Vietnam to see exports of agro-forestry-fishery products drop in 2009

HANOI, 14 Jan—Vietnam Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development forecast that the country's exports turnover of agro-forestry-fishery products will decrease by 4.5 billion US dollars to 12.5 billion dollars this year, the local newspaper Vietnam Economic Times reported Wednesday.

According to Vice Chairman of the Vietnam Association of Wood and Forestry (VIFORES) Nguyen Ton Quyen, the country's export turnover from wood products would drop by 50 percent right in the first quarter of this year due to sharp fall demand from foreign importers.

The gloomy situation fueled by the global economic crisis will not only strike the country's wood products export but also impact other kinds of produce, said the ministry.

Internet

Toyota to sell batteries to competitors to boost investment

BEIJING, 14 Jan—Toyota Motor Corp, the largest seller of gasoline-electric autos, says that it wants to sell batteries for plug-in cars to competitors to generate the biggest return possible from its investment.

Along with making packs for a plug-in version of the Prius hybrid, which sales fell almost 45 percent compared to a year earlier, Toyota wants additional revenue from supplying packs to rivals, Executive Vice-President Masatami Takimoto said in an interview on Monday at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. Toyota has dominated the hybrid market since it began selling the Prius model in Japan in 1997, and on Monday showed a revamped model due this year.

Still, US Prius sales fell 12 percent last year and General Motors Corp, Ford Motor Co and Nissan Motor Co are readying cars that can be recharged at electric outlets in hopes of reducing demand for Toyota hybrids.

Panasonic EV Energy Co, Toyota's 60 percent owned venture with Panasonic Corp, will open a plant in Japan this year that will be among the first to mass produce lithium-ion car batteries.—Internet



The Toyota display is seen during the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, Michigan on 13 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET



In an 24 April, 2007, file photo Sarah Viet, a fermentation research analyst for ethanol producer Poet, adds water to a beaker of ground corn stover at Poet's lab in Sioux Falls, SD. The company, which produces about a billion gallons of corn-based ethanol each year, plans to adapt its Emmetsburg, Iowa, plant to also produce cellulosic ethanol.—INTERNET

Smoking during pregnancy may impair thyroid function of mom and fetus

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan — Cigarette smoking during pregnancy is associated with potentially harmful changes in both maternal and fetal thyroid function, according to a new study published on Tuesday.

“We studied the influence of cigarette smoking on thyroid function of two groups of women at different stages of pregnancy — one in the first trimester and the other in the third trimester,” Dr Bijay Vaidya, coauthor of the study, said in the Journal of Clinical

Endocrinology & Metabolism. “In both groups we found that smoking during pregnancy is associated with changes in the mothers’ thyroid hormone levels.”

Optimal maternal thyroid function during pregnancy is vital for a successful outcome, Vaidya said. Adverse outcomes associated with thyroid dysfunction during pregnancy include increased risk of miscarriage, premature birth, low birth weight and impaired neuropsychological development of the

baby. Vaidya and his colleagues at the Peninsula Medical School at Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital in the United Kingdom also measured thyroid hormone levels in the umbilical cords of babies born to smoking mothers and found that smoking-related changes in thyroid function extended to the fetus. Vaidya believes that impaired thyroid function in the fetus could have potentially harmful biological consequences. Internet

Cholera death toll in Zimbabwe tops 2,000

GENEVA, 14 Jan — The death toll of a cholera outbreak in Zimbabwe has risen to 2,024 with a total of 39,806 accumulated cases, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday.

On Monday alone, 117 new deaths and 1,472 new cases were recorded, according to a latest update released by the agency.

Zimbabwe’s worst cholera outbreak in history started in August, and now all the provinces

of the south African country have been affected.

The main causes of the size of this outbreak are the long-term collapse of the country’s water and sanitation infrastructure, and more recently, the collapse of its health system, according to WHO spokesman Gregory Hartl.

WHO estimated that in the worst case, 6 million people in Zimbabwe, or half of the total population, could contract cholera. —Internet

Egypt discovers new archaeological site of Middle Kingdom

CAIRO, 14 Jan — The Egyptian antiquities authority said on Tuesday a new archaeological site of ancient Egypt dates back some 4,000 years was found northeast of Cairo.

The archaeological site of the Middle Kingdom, or Central State, was unearthed in the Ein el Sokhna resort, some 120 km northeast of Cairo, Secretary General of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities Zahi Hawass said in a press release.

The site was found by a joint Egyptian-French archaeological mission, Hawass said, adding nine storehouses and a rectangular building containing an ancient chamber were unearthed there.

Experts believe that the Middle Kingdom is an era of prosperity in ancient Egypt, leaving numerous heritages that spread across Egypt, including the southern city of Luxor and Fayoum. —Internet

Seas to rise at varying rates under global warming

BEIJING, 14 Jan — Sea levels will rise at varying rates around the world because of a quirk of the earth’s gravity linked to global warming, according to a latest study by David Vaughan of the British Antarctic Survey as quoted by media reports on Wednesday.

“Everyone thinks sea level rises the same around the world,” David Vaughan, a leading glaciologist, said at the Rothera Base on the

Antarctic Peninsula. “But it doesn’t”.

Rises could vary by tens of centimetres from region to region if seas gain by an average of one metre by 2100 as temperatures rise, he said.

Big ice sheets on Antarctica and on Greenland have a gravitational pull that lifts the seas around them — water levels around Antarctica, for instance, are higher than if the frozen continent were an open ocean, Vaughan said. —Internet

Several earthquakes jolt C America

SAN JOSE , 14 Jan — Several earthquakes of medium intensity rocked different countries of Central America on Tuesday, according to information reaching here.

In Costa Rica, two earthquakes took place early Tuesday morning, one was 4.1 magnitude at 8:23 pm (0223 GMT) and the other 4.3 magnitude at 1:09 am (0709 GMT) in Valle Central, where main cities of the country are located. No damages or casualties have been reported yet. Meanwhile, in Colombia, a 4.4-magnitude earthquake hit the northwestern city of Medellin, with no immediate report of victims and

damages, the Geology and Mining Institute (Ingeominas) said.

The earthquake in Medellin occurred at 2:49 pm (1949 GMT) with the epicenter in the municipality of Bolivar, southwest of Medellin. In El Salvador, an earthquake measuring 4.2 degrees on the Richter scale took place in the eastern municipality of Acajutla at 8:09 am (1409 GMT).

The Salvadorian National Institute of Territorial Studies (SNET) said it has registered six earthquakes in the coast regions of Ahuachapan, La Libertad, Usulután and San Miguel in 2009.

Internet

A view of the new luxury train Royal Rajasthan on Wheels (RROW) is seen on the railway station of Jaisalmer in the desert Indian state of Rajasthan on 13 Jan, 2009. — INTERNET

Niger president says UN envoy kidnapped by rebels

NIAMEY (Niger), 14 Jan — The president of Niger acknowledged on Tuesday that a Canadian diplomat who disappeared during a UN mission to the West African nation last month

was kidnapped by rebels.

“All of our investigations lead us to believe that he was taken hostage by this terrorist group and their accomplices,” President Mamadou Tandja

told diplomats at ceremony.

His statement marked the first time authorities in Niger have publicly commented on the disappearance of Robert Fowler, the UN special envoy to Niger who went missing along with his assistant on 14 Dec. Their car was found abandoned about 30 miles northeast of Niamey, Niger’s capital.

The Front For Forces of Redress, a Tuareg rebel group, claimed responsibility for Fowler’s kidnapping in a statement posted on their Web site. But the group retracted the claim a few days later, claiming their Web site had been sabotaged. —Internet



SPORTS

Reports say Man City throw cash at Milan in Kaka bid

LODNON, 14 Jan—Manchester City have offered AC Milan 100 million pounds (150 million dollars, 110 million euros) in



Manchester City have offered AC Milan 100 million pounds (150 million dollars, 110 million euros) in cash in a bid to land former Ballon d'Or winner Kaka, according to newspaper reports.

INTERNET

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A four-man delegation led by chief executive Garry Cook met top officials at Milan's headquarters Tuesday, where they offered to make the Brazilian player the highest paid in the world on 15 million pounds a year after tax, the *Daily Mail* and the *Sun* tabloids reported.

Silvio Berlusconi, Italy's prime minister and Milan's owner, has resisted previous attempts to lure Kaka away. But the player has said he is unhappy with his role in the AC Milan team and would love to play in the Premier League.

Internet

Maradona says 'Special One' is the best coach

ROME, 14 Jan—Jose Mourinho is the best coach in the world claimed Argentinian national handler Diego Maradona on Tuesday.

Maradona—who is in Milan to watch several of his compatriots play in the Italian Cup clash between Mourinho's Inter Milan and Genoa later on Tuesday—said the coach known as the 'Special One' had everything required of a coach.

"Mourinho is the coach I would have hired had I been president of no matter what club," said the former Argentinian playing legend, who almost single-handedly inspired

Argentina to the 1986 World Cup trophy.

Internet



Inter Milan's Portuguese coach Jose Mourinho, is the best coach in the world claimed Argentinian national handler Diego Maradona.—INTERNET

Inter battle to beat 10-man Genoa



Inter Milan's Swedish forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic celebrates after scoring a goal during the Italian Cup match between Inter Milan and Genoa at San Siro Stadium in Milan. Inter won 3-1.

INTERNET

ROME, 14 Jan—Inter Milan booked an Italian Cup quarter-final date with AS Roma on Tuesday but they made heavy weather of beating a Genoa side 3-1 after their opponents were reduced to 10 men in the 20th minute.

Inter—who have faced Roma in the last four Italian Cup finals with both sides winning it twice—progressed eventually thanks to extra-time goals by Argentinian midfielder Esteban Cambiasso—who was being watched by national coach Diego Maradona—and Swedish star Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

Unpredictable Brazilian striker Adriano had put Inter ahead with 15 minutes remaining but a mistake by Argentinian defender Walter Samuel let in Genoa's captain Marco Rossi to level four minutes later.

Adriano had a curate's egg of a match having originally won the penalty in the 20th minute that saw Genoa's Giuseppe Biava sent-off - Adriano, though, had his penalty saved by the outstanding Genoa goalkeeper Alessio Scarpì.—Internet

Federer, Wawrinka combine for Swiss sweep at Australian Open tune-up

MELBOURNE, 14 Jan—Davis Cup teammates Roger Federer and Stan Wawrinka turned quick one-hour wins at the Kooyong Classic Wednesday as the Australian Open tune-up began in straight-set style.

Opening day at the eight-man special event went the way of the world number one and his 16th-ranked Olympic gold medal doubles partner.

Wawrinka maintained the misery for 2006 Australian Open finalist Marcos Baghdatis, pounding the out-of-sorts Cypriot 6-2, 6-2.

Federer quickly adjusted to conditions at the former home of the Open until two decades ago, earning an eighth career victory over Carlos Moya 6-2, 6-3.

Internet



Roger Federer of Switzerland waves to the crowd after victory over Carlos Moya of Spain in the invitational Kooyong Classic tennis tournament in Melbourne, on 14 January. Federer won 6-2, 6-3.—INTERNET

Spalletti bouyant ahead of Sampdoria clash

ROME, 14 Jan—AS Roma coach Luciano Spalletti is feeling positive ahead of his team's clash at home to Sampdoria on Wednesday.

Roma will move up to eighth in the Serie A table if they win this match at Rome's Stadio Olimpico, which was postponed back in October due to a waterlogged pitch.

The capital based team have finished second in each of the last three seasons but their title aspirations were over just 10 matches into this campaign after they won just two of those, losing six including their first five away games.

That left them hovering just above the relegation



AS Roma coach Luciano Spalletti is feeling positive ahead of his team's clash at home to Sampdoria on Wednesday.—INTERNET

zone but they then embarked on a five-match winning run that propelled them back into Champions League contention.—Internet

Safina feels the heat in reaching first WTA Sydney semi

SYDNEY, 14 Jan—Russian world number three Dinara Safina had a blast of what might confront her in next week's Australian Open as she battled fierce heat to reach the semi-finals of the Sydney International.

Safina reached the semi-finals of the Sydney WTA tournament for the first time in wearing down tenacious French opponent Alize Cornet, 6-3, 6-4.

The score belied the on-court battle with Safina taking 1hr 48min to subdue 18-year-old Cornet in air temperatures hovering around 36 Celsius (97 Fahrenheit).

Safina will play Japan's world number 29 Ai Sugiyama in Thursday's semi-finals after Sugi-

yama had a walkover when quarter-final opponent Svetlana Kuznetsova cried off with an abdominal strain.

Internet



Second seed Dinara Safina of Russia eyes a return to Alize Cornet of France during the quarter finals of the Sydney International tennis tournament, on 14 January.—INTERNET



Novak Djokovic of Serbia plays a back-hand return against Paul-Henri Mathieu of France during the Sydney International tennis tournament.—INTERNET

Djokovic back on Open track after stylish ATP Sydney win

SYDNEY, 14 Jan—Novak Djokovic, more at ease with his new racquet, swept aside Frenchman Paul-Henri Mathieu at the Sydney International to get his Australian Open title defence back on track.

The Serbian world number three sought a wild card into the Sydney tournament after he crashed out underdone in the opening round of last week's Brisbane International to Latvian Ernests Gulbis.

Armed with a few more days' practice with his new racquet, the 21-year-old Serb breezed past the 29th-ranked Mathieu in 55 minutes and looked a contented man afterwards.—Internet

Holders Pompey avoid Cup upset

LONDON, 14 Jan—FA Cup holders Portsmouth ensured they avoided the embarrassment of a third round exit as goals from Peter Crouch and Niko Kranjcar secured a 2-0 replay win away to Bristol City on Tuesday. Pompey's fellow Premier League side West Brom also made it through with a 1-0 replay win away to Peterborough United.

But non-league Histon, who'd already knocked out third-tier Swindon and fallen giants Leeds on their way to the third round, saw their Cup campaign end with a 2-1 third round loss to second-tier Championship side Swansea. The Welsh side will travel to Portsmouth in the fourth round.—Internet



This April 3, 2001 file photo, shows guests at Busch Gardens Tampa Bay reaching out to feed a giraffe during a safari ride in Tampa, Fla.—INTERNET

S Korean Gov't to double research spending on service sector

SEOUL, 14 Jan—South Korea's Ministry of Strategy and Finance announced Wednesday its plan to double research and development investment in service sector over the next four years in an effort to enhance nation's overall competitiveness. Currently, service sector investment accounts for about only 1 percent of the nation's overall spending in research activities, according to the ministry. "Despite the service sector making up an increasing portion of gross domestic product, the ratio of R&D investment in the sector has remained stagnant compared with other competitive countries," the ministry said in a statement.—Internet

China's GDP growth to slow to 7% in 2009

BEIJING, 14 Jan—China's gross domestic product (GDP) growth might slow to 7 percent this year from 9 percent in 2008 on weakening external demand and decreasing domestic investment, a Deutsche Bank economist said. The economy will face tough times in the next 18 months and hit bottom in the first half of 2010, Ma Jun, chief economist for Greater China, told an economic forum here Tuesday. Ma forecast a further decline in external demand and deceleration in investment in the real estate, manufacturing and mining sectors in 2009. China will experience its sharpest deflation in 10 years in 2009, Ma said.—Internet

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (15.1.2009) (Thursday)

Transmission Times

Local Transmission	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Abroad Transmission (Europe)	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
Abroad Transmission (North America)	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

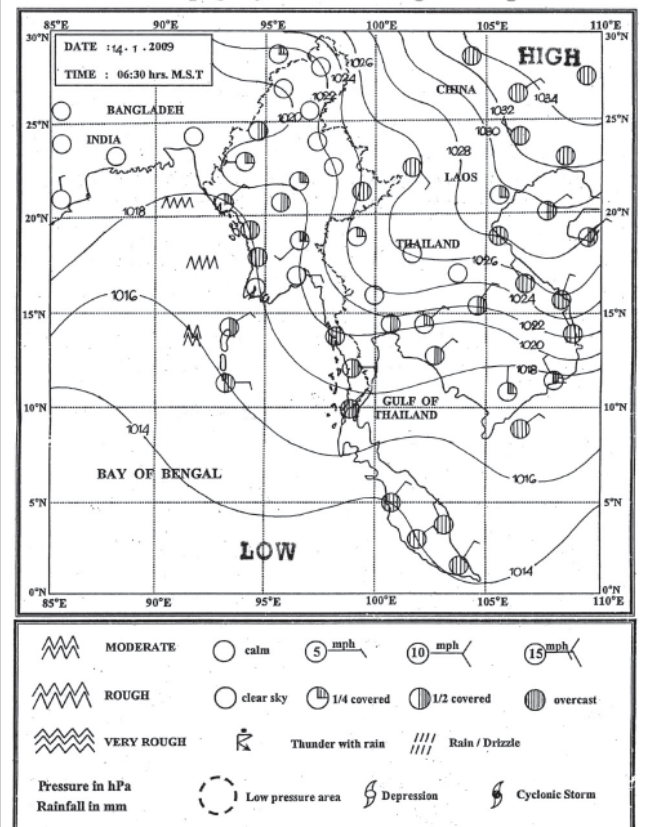
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * The Art of Making Pennant
- * Wa Traditions and An Engagement Ceremony
- * Myanmar Tapestry Artists
- * Lacquerware Museum
- * A World-class recreation Centre
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights

Abroad Transmissions

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Nan Pan Market Day
- * Hta Pwe (or) Mogok gems Market
- * Myanmar Bamboo Xylophone (or) Pattala
- * Quality pearls from Myanmar Oysters
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Beauty of Gall Wood displayed
- * Unforgettable Trip to Ahka Village
- * Magic of Cotton Blanket
- * Wa Traditions and An Engagement Ceremony
- * Lacquerware Museum
- * A World-class recreation Centre
- * Bottle gourd painting
- * Hand-made Bags
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Thin Straw Pulp Paper
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Wednesday, 14 January, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Shan States and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in Chin and Kayah States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below January average temperatures in Yangon Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperature in Shan State and Mandalay Divisions and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The Significant night temperatures were Hakah (0°C), Loilem (2°C), Namsam and Mogoke (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 13-1-2009 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 14-1-2009 was 53°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 14-1-2009 was 58%. Total sunshine hours on 13-1-2009 was (9.6) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 14-1-2009 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 (8) m.p.h from East at (12:30) hours MST on 13-1-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 15th January 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Shan States Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperature in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 15-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-1-2009: Generally fair weather.



Thursday, 15 January
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:30 am

2. Morning news

7:40 am

3. Dance variety

7:55 am

4. ယာကြီးရေထိန်းတံ

8:05 am

5. The mirror images of the musical oldies

8:20 am

6. Dance of national races

8:30 am

7. International news

8:45 am

8. အတီးမြိုင်ပွဲ

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. တီးကွက်ညွန့်

4:20 pm

3. Musical programme

4:35 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး

ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

ဒုတိယနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု)
(သတ္တဗေဒ)

4:50 pm

5. Song to uphold national spirit

5:00 pm

6. Cute little dancers

5:15 pm

7. အဆိုမြိုင်ပွဲ

5:30 pm

8. သက်တံရောင်သံစဉ်

5:45 pm

9. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:00 pm

10. Evening news

6:30 pm

11. Weather report

6:35 pm

12. ထူးဆန်းထွေလာများကိုသိပ္ပံဖြင့် ချဉ်းကပ်ခြင်း

7:00 pm

13. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်စာပေဗိမာန်စာမူ ဆုရှင်များ၏ပုံရိပ်များနှင့် ရင်တွင်းစကား (အပိုင်း-၁)

7:15 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ကုန်သွယ်မှုနံတိုင်း” (အပိုင်း-၄၃)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ပင်လယ်ပျော်မင်းသား” (အပိုင်း-၆၃)

Cash donated for long-term development of self-reliant village libraries in Sagaing Division

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—With a view to developing village libraries in Sagaing Division, a cash donation ceremony was held at the Town Hall in Monywa on 11 January.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe said that the government has built infrastructures for development of the State.

In line with the guidance of the Head of State, self-reliant village libraries have been established for enabling the people to broaden their horizons. In Sagaing Division, 4,967 out of 5,966 self-reliant village libraries have been set up under five pro-

grammes of long-term development. It is necessary to undertake the long-term development tasks for remaining 999 libraries. Wellwishers, social organization members, staff and entrepreneurs including members of the Sangha are joining hands with the local authorities for development of the libraries. The well-established libraries will emerge soon. All the people with high talent and knowledge will make correct thinking and decision. Therefore, the rural people are to study at self-reliant libraries and apply their knowledge in their respective fields.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan also delivered an address, saying that as today is the

knowledge age, self-reliant village libraries were established across the nation for enabling the rural people to gain the reading practice with wide scope of knowledge in the constant learning society. In accord with guidance of the Head of State to set up the self-reliant libraries with long-term development, the government, local people, wellwishers and staff of Information and Public Relations Department have opened libraries in 55,755 villages throughout the nation. Of them, 45,847 well-established libraries have been opened.

He said that to develop the libraries in the long run, it is necessary to carry out five tasks to organize the local people

for really reading at the libraries, systematically keep books and publications without losing for reading and borrowing and raise the funds of li-

tions and staff of IPRDs. As emergence of long term developed libraries is the national duty, all the people are to participate in undertaking the

tasks of setting up self-reliant village libraries for enabling the people to have wide range of knowledge, all the people are to join hands with the gov-



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Soe and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan view documentary photos on display at cash donation ceremony for long-term development of self-reliant village libraries in Sagaing Division.—MNA

In line with the guidance of the Head of State, self-reliant village libraries have been established for enabling the people to broaden their horizons. In Sagaing Division, 4,967 out of 5,966 self-reliant village libraries have been set up under five programmes of long-term development.

MWJA to open Journalism Course No. 1

YANGON, 14 Jan—The Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association will conduct Journalism Course No. 1 from 1 February to 10 April.

Editors from news journals with at least two years' experience may apply for the two and a

half months course. The course fee is K 30,000 per head. Candidates must be graduates aged between 20 and 35 with a good command of English and basic computer knowledge.

Those interested may apply with the rec-

ommendation of the chief editor or the CEO of the journal concerned along with a CV form and two licence-size photos to MWJA at No. 529 (Second Floor), Merchant Street, Sarpay Beikman Building here by 5 pm on 20 January.—MNA

Finger length may predict financial success

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan — The length of a man's ring finger may predict his success as a financial trader.

Researchers at the University of Cambridge in England report that men with longer ring fingers, compared to their index fingers, tended to be more successful in the frantic high-frequency trading in the London financial district.

The same ring-to-index finger ratio has previously been associated with success in competitive sports such as soccer and basketball, the researchers noted.

The length ratio be-

five tasks.

The minister added that in Sagaing Division, university students made field trips to the grassroots level to carry out the task of long-term development of self-reliant village libraries and success has been achieved in their task. While participating in the

ernment in realizing the State's seven-step Road Map.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Soe accepted K 30 million donated by U Than Lwin-Daw Khin Ok; K 10 million by Kyaukkar oil entrepreneurs of

(See page 9)

can lead to increased confidence, risk preferences, search persistence, heightened vigilance and quickened reaction times.

Looking only at experienced traders, the long-ring-finger folks earned 5 times more than those with short ring fingers.

Internet



Beware of Fire