Established 1914

# The New Light of Myanmar

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**Four political objectives**

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

**Four economic objectives**

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

**Four social objectives**

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

# Lt-Gen Myint Swe discusses establishment of special zone for modern farming

YANGON, 30 Jan—A coordination meeting on establishment of special zone for modern farming (model farming system) was held at the briefing hall in Modern Farming Special Zone (1) in Dagon Myothit (East) Township this morning, with an address by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint took part in the discussions.

The Deputy Director-General of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development, the Chairman of Dagon International Co Ltd, agricultural entrepreneurs and departmental officials reported on progress of establishing the special zone and requirements.

After attending to the needs, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and the commander viewed construction of canals, cultivation of summer paddy with the use of irrigation facility, ploughing for cultivation, dredging of tributary canals and main canal at the Special Zone (1) of Dagon Myothit (East) Township, thriving summer paddy plantation and sample rice. Next, they inspected progress in erecting lamp posts, installation of power lines, construction of pump houses, dredging of canals and cultivation of summer paddy at the Special Zone (2) in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, thriving nursery of summer paddy and construction of road along with canals in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. After hearing the reports of officials, Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave necessary instructions. Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and the commander heard reports on supply of water for agricultural purpose presented by officials and entrepreneurs and fulfilled their requirements.—*MNA*

*Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects summer paddy model plantation at special zone (1) in Dagon Myothit (East) Township.* —MNA

# Chaungmange Dam contributing to local food sufficiency

*Article: Nu Nu Yi & Aye Thanda Thein; Photo: Myanma Alin*

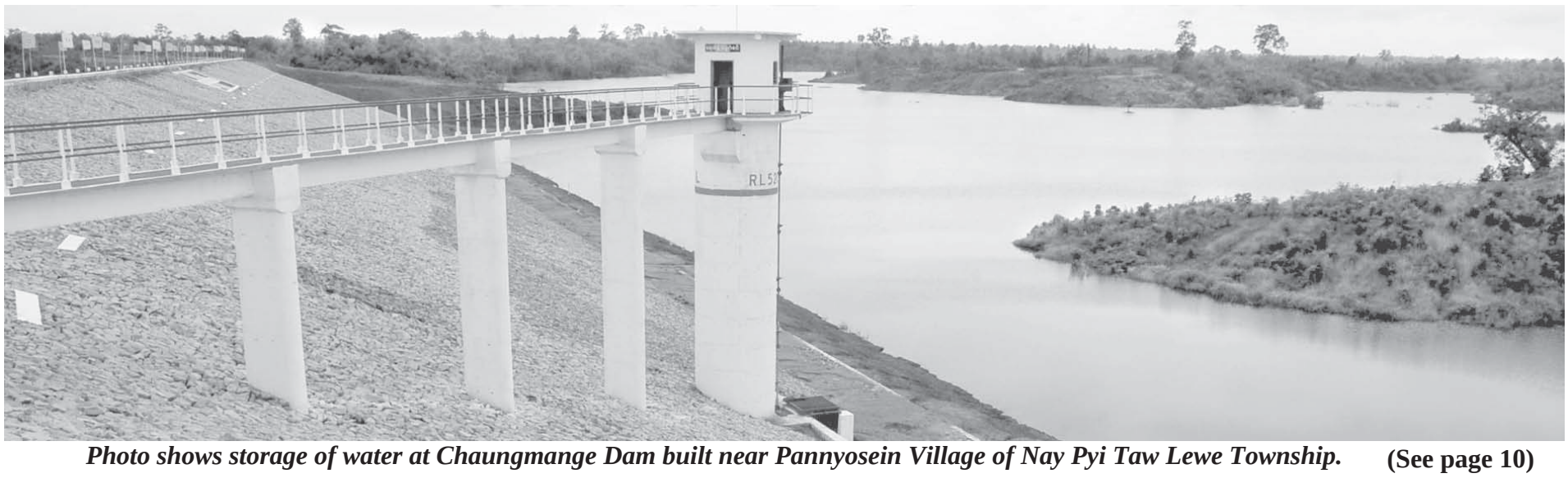


*Photo shows storage of water at Chaungmange Dam built near Pannyosein Village of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township.*

(See page 10)

# PERSPECTIVES

**Saturday, 31 January, 2009**

## Open more rural libraries to broaden the horizons of rural people

**Human resources play a pivotal role in building a modern and developed nation. Therefore, necessary steps are being taken for the emergence of qualified human resources in various sectors.**

**During the independence struggles, the national literati organized the people through the might of literature. With this, the entire national people were able to drive the colonialists out of the Myanmar soil and the nation regained independent and sovereignty.**

**The 70 per cent of the nation's population reside in rural regions. Hence, efforts are being made to narrow the development gap between rural and urban areas after laying down the five rural development tasks.**

**In doing so, self-reliant libraries were opened in villages of different regions to broaden the horizons of rural people.**

**Meantime, continued efforts are being made for the rural people to develop the reading habits so that they can widen their scope of knowledge making better use of the libraries.**

**Rural libraries not only contribute to the drive for successful realization of the 12 political, economic and social objectives but also to the improvement of the socio-economic status of rural people.**

**With high education and knowledge gained from the libraries, the entire national people are to strive together with the government for successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map.**

**Today, the powerful nations are attempting to dominate politically, economically and culturally the weak nations through media. At such a time, the entire national people are to stamp out the perpetration of those big nations with nationalism and national awareness.**

## 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**

## Banking services discussed at 107th meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—The Banks Supervisory Committee under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue held the 107th Meeting with executives of Myanmar Banks Association at the hall of the ministry, here, this morning.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe delivered an address. Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein discussed money circulation of banks and banking operations in accord with the law, rules and regulations. Executives of the association, responsible persons of banks, managing directors and directors of CBM and State-owned banks took part in the discussions.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the deputy minister.

*MNA*

*The 107th Meeting of Banks Supervisory Committee with executives of Myanmar Banks Association in progress.*— F&R

## Doh Kyeywa journal to appear on 1 Feb

YANGON, 30 Jan—Doh Kyeywa journal, No. 3, Volume 6, will come out on 1 February.

The journal carries general knowledge on agriculture, livestock breeding, business, health, agricultural mechanization, international news, pop news of Myanmar for 2007 Myanma Motion Picture Outstanding Award, short story, poems, jokes, cartoons and others.

The copies of journal are available at IPRD Offices in various townships and book shops in Yangon. The value of journal is one copy per K 200.

For manuscripts and advertisements, may contact No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Tel: 201936 and 371342.

*MNA*

## Myanmar Floriculturists Association marks 15th Founding Anniversary

YANGON, 30 Jan — The opening of festival to mark the 15th Founding Anniversary of Myanmar Floriculturists Association was held at People's Square and People's Park here this morning. Chairman of the association gave accounts on purpose of organizing the festival.

Patrons of the association Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe, wife of the chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon mayor and Daw Khin Nyunt Myaing, wife of the vice-mayor and Vice-Chairman of the association Daw Nu Nu Yi opened the festival and viewed booths displayed at the festival.

The festival will be held up to 3 February. Horticultural contest, Flower Arrangement contest, Landscaping contest, Painting contest for kids and paper reading session were held this morning.

The contests including demonstration of fruit arrangement show will continue tomorrow. Horticultural contest will be held on 1 February, beauty pageant competition sponsored by Premier coffee mix on 2 February and prize-giving ceremony on 3 February.

The agenda of the festival includes magic show, music concert and fashion show, snapshot photographing contest and lucky draw programme together with market festival.

*MNA*

***Patrons of Myanmar Floriculturists Association and guests view flowering plants booth at 15th Founding Anniversary of MFA.***

**MNA**

## All this needs to be known

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

*An Iraqi woman walks past the remains of a car that was destroyed by Blackwater security guards in September 2007. Iraq said on Thursday it was banning controversial US security outfit Blackwater from operating in the country over a 2007 Baghdad shooting involving its guards in which 17 civilians were killed.*—INTERNET

# Three Iraqi candidates killed ahead of provincial election

BAGHDAD, 30 Jan— Three Iraqi candidates were killed Thursday in different cities ahead of the upcoming provincial election, local police sources said.

Omar Farouk al-Ani, a Sunni candidate of the Iraqi Islamic party which belongs to the Iraqi Accordance Front, was killed by unknown gunmen on Thursday night in western Baghdad, a local police source told *Xinhua*.

Unknown gunmen Thursday evening shot dead al-Ani in front of his home in Amiriya, west of Baghdad, and run away, the source said.

Separately, Hazim Salim Ahmed, another Sunni candidate belonging to the Iraqi national unity list was also killed Thursday night in Mosul, northern Iraq, a local police source confirmed to *Xinhua*.

In a third incident Thursday, another candidate whose name is confirmed as Abbas Frhan al-Azawi, was killed in Diyala Province north of Baghdad, a local police source told *Xinhua*.

The candidate was kidnapped with two other persons this morning, and their bodies were found this evening, police said.

Such violent incidents happened just two days before the provincial elections in Iraq, which is generally regarded as a high profile political event when local sects struggle for regional power.

*Internet*

# Obama signs first law as president

WASHINGTON, 30 Jan — US President Barack Obama signed an equal-pay law in the White House on Thursday, the first piece of legislation he autographed as president, the White House said.

The bill is named after Lilly Ledbetter, an Alabama woman who found out her employer, Goodyear, had been paying her less than her male counterparts for years, but she was prevented from suing because of legal limitations in effect at the time, according to a press release from the White House.

The new law effectively nullifies the legal limitations and makes it easier for employees to sue their employers for discrimination in paying them. "It is fitting that the very first bill that I sign — the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act — that it is upholding one of this nation's founding principles: that we are all created equal, and each deserve a chance to pursue our own version of happiness," Obama said upon signing.

Ledbetter joined Obama in the ceremony with Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and a group of lawmakers.

The president spoke often of the equal pay issue during his presidential campaign, as did then-rival Hillary Clinton.

*Internet*

***Heavy smoke billows from the chimney at a paper plant in Europe. The European Commission took legal action on Thursday against 10 member states for allowing more than 4,000 industrial plants to operate with proper permits.*—INTERNET**

***Afghan district policemen inspect a school torched by rebels in southern Helmand Province. Many people in Afghanistan were hopeful at the end of 2001 but seven years since the US-led invasion that ousted Taleban forces the hardline group has returned, swept along by a catalogue of post-invasion failures committed by the USA.***
**INTERNET**

# British Airways denies maltreating Nigerian passengers

LAGOS, 30 Jan—The authorities of the British Airways have debunked maltreatment claims of passengers on its London-Abuja flight, which was diverted to Kano on Saturday due to technical hitches.

The airline in a statement released Wednesday by Quadrant, its communications consultants, said the passengers aboard were kept in the aircraft in Kano in line with security and aviation regulatory guidelines.

"Passengers were kept onboard the plane while delayed at Kano for reasons of security," the statement quoted the airline's Country Manager Adrian Mccloy as saying.

The airline said the crew members worked hard to ensure that the passengers were kept comfortable and supplied with food and drinks.

It added that a charter flight was later arranged from Kano to Abuja, where hotel accommodation was reserved for all passengers at the Abuja Hilton Hotel.

"British Airways has also taken details from each passenger to ensure everyone receives the compensation they are entitled to," Mccloy said.

The *BA-83*, Heathrow-Abuja flight, had requested a priority landing after the flight crew reported seeing smoke in the cockpit.

The *Boeing 777* landed safely and was met by the emergency services as a precaution and all passengers disembarked the aircraft as normal.

The smoke was believed to have come from an air conditioning unit.

*Internet*

# EU warns 10 members of air pollution

BRUSSELS, 30 Jan—The European Commission has warned 10 European Union (EU) member states of failing to comply with the bloc's air quality standard for dangerous airborne particles known as PM10, the commission said on Thursday.

The 10 member states are Britain, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. The extra amount exceeding PM10 limits in these member states affect 83 million people in 132 air quality zones, the commission said.

The warning followed the implementation of a new EU air quality directive last June, which allowed member states to request, under certain conditions, limited extra time to meet the PM10 standards, coming into force since 2005.—*Internet*

# Authorities investigate deadly small plane crash near Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 30 Jan— US authorities began on Thursday an investigation into what caused a two-seater airplane to crash on an airport runway near Los Angeles shortly after takeoff and burst into flames, killing two people aboard.

The crash occurred about 5:05 pm Wednesday when the single-engine plane crashed on the west end of the runway at the Santa Monica Airport and caught fire, according to Ian Gregor, spokesman of the Federal Aviation Administration.

Local police said that flames fully engulfed the aircraft, and the airport was closed for takeoffs and landings to accommodate the ongoing investigation.

*Internet*

# China, Germany agree on maglev technology transfer

BERLIN, 30 Jan — China and Germany on Thursday signed a memorandum of understanding on the transfer of parts of the core technologies from Germany for the maglev railway projects in China.

The deal was signed by Wu Xiangming, President of the Shanghai Magnetic Transportation Development Co and Hans Christoph Atzpodien, chairman of Germany's Thyssen Krupp Technology.

The agreement was among six deals signed by the two sides during Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao's official visit to Germany.

Zhang Ping, minister in charge of the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission, signed an agreement on cooperation in climate protection with Sigmar Gabriel, Germany's environment minister.

The two countries also clinched deals covering cooperation in the car industry, construction of Chinese ecological city Xuzhou, and exchanges between museums of the two countries.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Merkel and Wen, who arrived in Berlin late on Wednesday.

*Xinhua*

***This undated file photo shows a maglev. China and Germany on Thursday signed a memorandum of understanding on the transfer of parts of the core technologies from Germany for the maglev railway projects in China.—XINHUA***

***Tourists take photos in front of red lanterns that pile up as the head of an ox at the National Stadium, or Bird's Nest, on 29 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA***

## China's Spring Festival tourism remains hot

BEIJING, 30 Jan — Despite the economic downturn, more Chinese choose to spend on traveliing during the seven-day Chinese Lunar New Year holiday.

According to the office in charge of ministry-level coordination on tourism during national holidays, five days into the Spring Festival holiday, the number of tourists are still rising in many cities and travel spots across the country.

Statistics show that, as of on Thursday, travel agencies in the Guangzhou city of south China's economic powerhouse in Guangdong province had organized 123,900 city residents for travel, up 39.45 percent year on year.

Sanya of south China's Hainan Province remains a hot spot for travelers as an average of 96.18 percent of hotel rooms in the city were booked. The hotel reservation in Haikou, capital of Hainan, also reached 81.83 percent.—*Xinhua*

## French Navy hands over nine suspected pirates to Somali authorities

BOSSASO (Somalia), 30 Jan— The French navy taking part in the international naval force patrolling the Somali waters on Thursday handed over nine suspected Somali pirates to the authorities in the northeastern semiautonomous Somali region of Puntland.

The French Navy captured the pirates as they were trying to hijack a ship in the Gulf of Aden, where international naval forces have been patrolling to curb rampant piracy in the area, a senior regional official said.

"The suspects will be held until they are brought before a court and convicted of any crimes they may have committed," Abdulahi Saeed Samatar, regional Minister for Security, said.

The suspects were taken from the French ships at the port of Bossaso, the commercial capital of Puntland, and will be remained in the central prison in the city where dozens of other pirates are held.

The French navy has previously handed over several batches of pirates to local authorities who tried them in especial courts in the region which has been a hotbed for piracy and hostage taking.

*Xinhua*

***Commandos from the "Floreal", a French frigate, arrest Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden.—XINHUA***

## Singapore's overall unemployment rate reaches 2.3% in 2008

SINGAPORE, 30 Jan — Singapore's overall unemployment rate averaged 2.3 percent in 2008, up from 2.1 percent in 2007, the country's Ministry of Manpower said on Friday.

Resident unemployment rate stood at 3.2 percent in 2008, up from 3.0 percent in 2007, the ministry said, adding that this is the first time that the annual average unemployment rate has increased since 2003, when it peaked at 4.0 percent for overall unemployment and 5.2 percent for resident unemployment.

For the whole of 2008, some 13,400 workers were retrenched, substantially higher than 7,675 in 2007. Manufacturing and services formed the bulk of retrenchments, with 8,300 and 4,900 workers retrenched respectively.—*Xinhua*

## British Museum opens Shanghai Week

LONDON, 30 Jan — The British Museum celebrated the launch of the Shanghai Week here on Thursday with the opening of "Treasures from Shanghai," a spectacular collection of 60 ancient Chinese jade and bronze masterpieces on show for the first time in Europe.

"The Shanghai Museum houses one of the world's greatest collections of Chinese art," said Jessica Rawson, guest curator of the exhibition.

"This exhibition brings to London pieces of superlative quality rarely seen outside China itself. The Neolithic jades on display are astonishing, particularly those that feature fine designs of strange human-like figures, birds and monsters with large teeth," said Rawson.

Chen Kelun, deputy director general of the Shanghai Museum, said this exhibition "will gain insights into the time-honored urban civilization and etiquette of China, and identify themselves with the theme of the World Expo 2010."—*Xinhua*

## Japan's industrial output nosedive 9.6% in December

TOKYO, 30 Jan— Japan's industrial output plummeted at the fastest pace on record in December as global recession deepens and the country's export suffered serious losses.

The 9.6-percent fall was the second decline for two straight months, following a revised 8.5 percent fall in November.

It is the steepest monthly fall since February 1953, when comparable figures first became available.

Japanese Economic and Fiscal Policy Minister Kaoru Yosano said it was "impossible to predict" when the Japanese economy would bottom out.

In the October-December period, output dropped 11.9 percent from the previous quarter, experiencing a fourth straight quarterly shrinkage for the first time since 2001.

*Xinhua*

**All items from Xinhua News Agency**

# Toshiba, NEC in talks to integrate semiconductor business

TOKYO, 30 Jan—Toshiba Corp and NEC Corp have begun talks to integrate their troubling semiconductor operations to combat plummeting chip prices and dwindling global demand, local media reported Friday.

Fujitsu Ltd may also participate in the deal in the future since it is also looking for a tie-up partner for its semiconductor unit, which was spun off in March last year, Kyodo News said, citing sources familiar with the matter.

Industry insiders believe if the three-way integration realized, it is likely to trigger a major realignment in the semiconductor industry. The talks between Toshiba and NEC are also likely to involve integrating Toshiba's system LSI operations with NEC Electronics Corp, a major chip-making subsidiary of NEC, the sources said.

Toshiba and NEC have already formed an alliance to jointly develop a cutting-edge system LSI.

Toshiba, the world's No 2 maker of NAND flash memory, and other major chip-making companies throughout the industry have been reeling under a global industry-wide slump caused mainly by the spreading global recession.

On Thursday, Toshiba said it expects a group largest-ever net and operating loss of 280 billion yen (about 3.09764 billion US dollars) for fiscal 2008, its first red-ink in seven years.—*Internet*

***Girls stand next to a sculpture of a shoe that serves as a monument to the shoes thrown at then-US president George W Bush in Tikrit, 130 kilometres (80 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 29 Jan, 2009. The shoe-hurling last month at Bush spawned a flood of Web quips, political satire and street rallies across the Arab world. Now, it's inspired a work of art.—INTERNET***

# Two major oilfields in NW China aims output growth

URUMQI, 30 Jan—Developers of two key oilfields in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region have pledged to further tap oil and gas reserves and boost their production capacity in the coming years.

Karamay Oilfield is expected to realize an annual crude oil output of 16 million tonnes and 10 billion cubic metres of natural gas by 2015, according to Chen Xinfa, general manager of Xinjiang Oilfield Company, a subsidiary of China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC).

The oilfield, reporting 28 consecutive years of increase in crude oil output, produced 12.2 million tonnes of oil in 2008. Natural gas output hit 3.42 billion cubic metres last year, 520 million cubic meters more than that of 2007.

Chen said its company will further explore oil and gas reserves in the area and adjust and improve production methods to realize the goal.

Another key oilfield of Tahe, being developed by Sinopec, is expected to produce more than 10 million tonnes of crude oil annually by next year, a huge jump from last year's output of 6 million tonnes.

Sinopec plans to invest 9.8 billion yuan (1.43 billion US dollars) in the oilfield this year to produce 6.59 million tonnes of crude oil and 1.21 billion cubic metres of natural gas.

*Internet*

# NATO chief puts Arctic region on radar screen

BRUSSELS, 30 Jan—NATO Secretary-general Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said on Thursday that NATO may have to play a bigger role in the Arctic as the melting of the ice cap would create security and environment challenges.

He told a seminar in Reykjavik, Iceland that the increased shipping activity in the Arctic as a result of the melting of the ice cap may lead to more accidents requiring search and rescue missions.

At the same time, with potentially more energy supplies being shipped through the ocean, there could be an increased risk of ecological disasters requiring relief operations.

"In both of these cases, I believe NATO has a clear role to play," he told the seminar.

His speech was made available on NATO's official website.

De Hoop Scheffer noted that sea routes through the Arctic will be significantly shorter than many of those that currently require passage through the Suez or Panama canals.

He said the melting of the Arctic will open up opportunities for the extraction of the mineral wealth and energy deposits in this area. In this context, NATO will have a role to play as the alliance's heads of state and government have identified energy security as a new task for NATO.

*Internet*

# Sweden to deploy three vessels against piracy off Somalia coast

STOCKHOLM, 30 Jan—Sweden's government decided Thursday to send naval vessels to join European Union's anti-piracy mission off Somali.

The Swedish contribution to the EU's mission, code-named Operation Atalanta, would consist of two corvettes, one support ship and a security force, the government said in a statement.

Sweden's participation in the mission is intended to begin in the first half of 2009 and last for a maximum of four months.

"Sweden's participation is a response to the UN request for protection and security for the deliveries of food aid to Somalia from the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). In addition, the operation will help combat the increasing number of acts of piracy off the coast of the country," the Swedish foreign minister Carl Bildt said in the statement.

At present more than 90 percent of WFP aid deliveries are transported to Somalia by sea and an interruption in WFP food aid deliveries would have devastating consequences for the people of Somalia, the Swedish government added.

The EU formally launched its anti-piracy mission off Somalia coast on 8 Dec last year, the first expeditionary naval operation of the 27-nation bloc. —*Internet*

# Blue light destroys antibiotic-resistant staph infection

WASHINGTON, 30 Jan—Two common strains of methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, commonly known as MRSA, were virtually eradicated in the laboratory after being exposed to a wavelength of blue light, according to a paper published online on Thursday ahead of print in Photomedicine and Laser Surgery.

Antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections represent an important and increasing public health threat. At present, fewer than 5 percent of staphylococcal strains are susceptible to penicillin, while approximately 40 percent to 50 percent of Staph aureus isolated have developed resistance to newer semisynthetic antibiotics such as methicillin as well.

Researchers from the New York Institute of Technology had previously demonstrated that a process called photo-irradiation using 405-nm light destroys MRSA strains grown in culture. In the current study, the authors exposed bacterial colonies of MRSA to various doses of 470-nm light, which emits no UV radiation.—*Internet*

***People transport a globe in a parade held during the World Social Forum in Belem, in Para, in the heart of the Brazilian Amazon. Leftist groups attending the World Social Forum (WSF) in Brazil kicked off their week of activities Wednesday with a call for greater protection of the Amazon basin.—INTERNET***

# Fidel Castro demands Obama return Guantanamo base

HAVANA, 30 Jan—Ailing Cuban leader Fidel Castro demanded on Thursday that President Barack Obama return the US naval base at Guantanamo to Cuba without conditions, and he accused the new US leader of supporting "Israeli genocide" against Palestinians.

Castro, who had recently praised Obama as "honest" and "noble", lashed out at his administration for stating that Washington will not return Guantanamo if it has any military use for the United States and without concessions in return.

"Maintaining a military base in Cuba against the will of the people violates the most elemental principles of international law," Castro wrote in a column posted on the government-run website www.cubadebate.cu.

"Not respecting Cuba's will is an arrogant act and an abuse of immense power against a little country," Castro said, resorting to a charge he has levelled against the 10 previous US presidents since he came to power in a 1959 revolution. Cuba indefinitely leased Guantanamo to the United States in 1903 after the United States occupied the country during the 1898 Spanish-American War. Castro charges that the base at the south-eastern tip of Cuba was taken over illegally.

Earlier on Thursday, Washington's loudest critic in Latin America, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, also urged Obama to return the Guantanamo base, after applauding his decision to close the prison camp for terrorism suspects there.

*Internet*

# US men charged in Russia spy case

OREGON, 30 Jan — A jailed ex-CIA agent and his son have been charged in the US with receiving money from and channeling information to his former Russian handlers.

Harold Nicholson, 58, is serving a 23-year term in Oregon for previous spying activities after pleading guilty in 1997 to selling secrets to Russia.

He is now accused of using his son Nathaniel to pass on new data between 2006 and 2008 in return for money. Nathaniel was arrested on Thursday and the pair are to appear in court later.

Both father and son are charged with conspiracy, money laundering and conspiring to act as an agent of a foreign government.

Justice officials allege Nathaniel Nicholson, 24, visited his father in prison several times in order to obtain information to pass on to the Russians.

He then travelled to places including San Francisco, Mexico City, Lima and Cyprus to meet Russian representatives and receive payments of $35,593 (£24,900), the officials say.—*Internet*

# Aid trucks stranded at Egypt's Gaza border

RAFAH, 30 Jan — More than two dozen trucks loaded with food, aid and goods intended for the Gaza Strip were stranded on the Egyptian side of the border Thursday, leaving truckers with little to do but sip tea and exude frustration.

***Palestinians gather behind a fence in front a make shift camp to wait for humanitarian organizations to hand out sheets and mattress and to get a place in a tent camp in the destroyed part of eastern Jebaliya, northern Gaza strip, on 29 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET***

The backlog raises questions about a UN appeal announced on Thursday which calls for $613 million to help Palestinians recover from Israel's three-week offensive in Gaza and whether new aid will have much effect until there is a deal to open the devastated territory's borders.

"The ordinary people here in Gaza are not getting enough help and are not getting it quickly enough," said John Ging, the top UN official in Gaza.

He blamed the aid shortage on the lack of access to Gaza and demanded that the border crossings be opened.—*Internet*

# US says all options on table to deal with Iran

WASHINGTON, 30 Jan — President Barack Obama's administration signalled on Thursday that the United States reserved all its options, ranging from diplomacy to military action, to pressure Iran over its nuclear programme.

The 10-day-old administration is reviewing US policy towards Teheran, but in a break with the hard-line stance of former President George W Bush, who branded Iran part of an "axis of evil," Obama has said he is prepared to pursue direct diplomacy with Iran without preconditions.

"We must use all elements of our national power to protect our interests as it relates to Iran. That includes, as the president talked about in the campaign, diplomacy where possible," Obama's spokesman, Robert Gibbs, said.

"We have many issues to work through — an illicit nuclear programme, the sponsorship of terrorism and the threatening of peace in Israel are just a few of the issues that this president believes the Iranian leadership must address," Gibbs told a White House news conference.

*Internet*

## NEWS ALBUM

***2.36-metres-high Chinese herdsman Bao Xishun, the world's tallest man, decorates his house ahead of the Chinese Lunar New Year in Chifeng City, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.***

## Bullfighter, 11, 'breaks record'

An 11-year-old Mexican boy has killed six young bulls in a single fight, apparently becoming the world's youngest matador to achieve the feat. A video of the contest is to be verified by Guinness World Records.

"I'm happy to have achieved this great victory," said Michelito Lagravere Peniche as he left the ring in Merida.

The controversial spectacle was given a last minute go-ahead by the authorities despite pressure from child protection and anti-bullfighting campaign groups. Merida's mayor had suspended the record attempt, saying it was illegal for youths under the age of 18 to take part in high-risk public performances.

***Michelito first entered a bullfighting ring when he was four.***

## Mexican chefs make world's biggest cheesecake

Mexico has long been known for tacos and tequila — but cheesecake?

Chef Miguel Angel Quezada says 55 cooks spent 60 hours making the world's biggest cheesecake — a 2-ton calorie bomb topped with strawberries.

The monster cake used nearly a ton of cream cheese, the same amount of yogurt, 350 kilograms (772 pounds) of pastry, 250 kilograms (551 pounds) of sugar and 150 kilograms (331 pounds) of butter.

Carlos Martinez of Guinness World Records declared the cheesecake the world's largest on Sunday at an event sponsored by Kraft Foods, maker of Philadelphia cream cheese.

***Chefs serve what they claim to be the world's largest cheesecake in Mexico City. The chefs hope to win a Guinness World Record.***

## Boy, 14, dupes police, patrols Chicago for five hours

A 14-year-old aspiring police officer donned a uniform, walked into a Chicago police station and managed to get an assignment — patroling in a squad car for five hours before he was detected, police said Sunday. The boy did not have a gun, never issued any tickets and didn't drive the squad car, Deputy Superintendent Daniel Dugan said.

Assistant Superintendent James Jackson said the ruse was discovered only after the boy's patrol with an actual officer ended on Saturday. Officers noticed his uniform lacked a star that is part of the regulation uniform.

Police said they were investigating how the deception went undetected for so long in what they described as a serious security breach. Police said disciplinary steps are possible pending the outcome of the investigation.

***Guests have dinner at an event known as "Dinner in the Sky" as they are seated around a table that is lifted by a crane in Vina del Mar city, about 75 miles (120 km) northwest of Santiago. Dinner in the Sky is hosted at a table that accommodates 22 people around a table suspended at a height of 50 metres by a crane.***

# Results of 61st Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Selection Examination announced

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan— The Tipitakadhara Selection Committee of the Religious Affairs Department today announced the results of the written and oral tests for the 61st Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Selection Examination held from 14 December 2008 to 13 January 2009.

**Mula Abhidhamma Kovida**

1. Seat No. 171, Ashin Çakkinda (Myaing), aged 30 years, 11 vasa, Tipitaka Monastery, Dagon Township, Yangon Division

**Dighanikaya Kovida**

1. Seat No. 175, Ashin Khemavamsa, aged 43 years, 23 vasa, Mongthauk Tawya Monastery, Inlay Region, Nyaungshwe, Shan State (South)
2. Seat No. 176, Ashin Vilasa, aged 44 years, 23 vasa, Tipitakanikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
3. Seat No. 182, Ashin Gambhirañana, aged 36 years, 16 vasa, Tipitakanikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
4. Seat No. 184, Ashin Osadhalankara, aged 33 years, 13 vasa, Thein Than Yadana Monastery, Mogaung Taik, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Division

**Vinaya Kovida**

1. Seat No. 212, Ashin Settha Ñanalankara, aged 30 years, 10 vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division

**Ubhatovibhanga Kovida**

1. Seat No. 228, Ashin Vilasagga, aged 36 years, 16 vasa, Tipitakanikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
2. Seat No. 242, Ashin Kheminda, aged 32 years, 12 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
3. Seat No. 252, Ashin Tejobasa, aged 30 years, 10 vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division
4. Seat No. 257, Ashin Javanalankara, aged 30 years, nine vasa, Tipitakanikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division (Credit)
5. Seat No. 262, Ashin Ovasalankara, aged 29 years, nine vasa, Tipitakanikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
6. Seat No. 269, Ashin Indakalankara, aged 28 years, eight vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division.
7. Seat No. 285, Ashin Vayamindalankara, aged 25 years, six vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandayon Monastery, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division

**Tipitakadhara**

1. Seat No. 1, Ashin Viriyananda, aged 39 years, 20 vasa, Tipitaka Monastery, Dagon Township, Yangon Division

**Mula Abhidhammika**

1. Seat No. 3, Ashin Vicittalankara, aged 30 years, 10 vasa, Tipitaka Monastery, Dagon Township, Yangon Division (Credit)

**Dighabhanaka**

1. Seat No. 4, Ashin Paññavamsalankara,aged 34 years, 14 vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division

**Vinayadhara**

1. Seat No. 8, Ashin Vimala, aged 36 years, 16 vasa, Tipitakanikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
2. Seat No. 9, Ashin Candanalankara, aged 33 years, 13 vasa, Tipitakanikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
3. Seat No. 11, Ashin Uttama, aged 31 years, 11 vasa, Tipitakanikaya Monastery, PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division
4. Seat No. 12, Ashin Atula, aged 29 years, nine vasa, Suddhama Mandaing Monastery, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Division
5. Seat No. 14, Ashin Vedita, aged 28 years, 8 vasa, Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division
6. Seat No. 15, Ashin Vasavalankara, aged 28 years, 8 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
7. Seat No. 16, Ashin Paññissara, aged 28 years, 8 vasa, Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division
8. Seat No. 18, Ashin Paññasirilankara, aged 29 years, 7 vasa, Mogok Yeiktha Monastery, Maha Minhtin Taik, Mahaaungmye Township, Mandalay Division
9. Seat No. 19, Ashin Sirinda, aged 26 years, 7 vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division
10. Seat No. 22, Ashin Kosalla, (KhinU), aged 25 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
11. Seat No. 24, Ashin Vinaya, aged 24 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division
12. Seat No. 25 Ashin Vissuta, aged 24 years, 4 vasa, Shwepyitha Pariyatti Monastery, Shwepyitha Township, Yangon Division
13. Seat No. 27 Ashin Jotipala, aged 23 years, 4 vasa, Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division
14. Seat No. 31, Ashin Osadha, aged 34 years, 14 vasa, Maha Withudayon Shwegyin Taikthit, Bahan Township, Yangon Division
15. Seat No. 32, Ashin Somananda, aged 33 years, 13 vasa, Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division
16. Seat No. 34, Ashin Bhaddiyalankara, aged 31 years, 11 vasa, Saddhammapitzawtayon Monastery, Monywa, Sagaing Division
17. Seat No. 35, Ashin Vajirapanibhivamsa, aged 30 years, 10 vasa, Maha Withudayon Shwegyin Taikthit, Bahan Township, Yangon Division
18. Seat No. 37, Ashin Ñeyadhamma, aged 29 years, 9 vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division
19. Seat No. 38, Ashin Aggavamsa, aged 28 years, 8 vasa, Tipitaka Niyaka Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
20. Seat No. 39, Ashin Karuññasiri (Tatkon), aged 28 years, 8 vasa, Maha Withuddhayon Shwegyin Taikthit, Bahan Township, Yangon Division
21. Seat No. 40, Ashin Visuddhalankara, aged 27 years, 8 vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandayon Monastery, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division
22. Seat No. 44, Ashin Paññaçakka, aged 26 years, 6 vasa, Pizzawtayon Monastery, Monywa, Sagaing Division
23. Seat No. 45, Ashin Aççariya, aged 25 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Maha Gandawin Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon Division
24. Seat No. 47, Ashin Tejinda, aged 25 years, 4 vasa, Maha Withuddayon Shwegyin Taikthit, Bahan Township, Yangon Division
25. Seat No. 49, Ashin Jadila, aged 24 years, 4 vasa, Tipitaka Dhammapala Maha Wihara Monastery, Monywa, Sagaing

**Ubhatovibhangadhara**

1. Seat No. 56, Ashin Viçitta (Yezagyo), aged 29 years, 10 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
2. Seat No. 57, Ashin Sopaka, aged 29 years, 9 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
3. Seat No. 61, Ashin Kelasa, aged 27 years, 7 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
4. Seat No. 62, Ashin Paññinda (KhinU), aged 27 years, 7 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
5. Seat No. 63, Ashin Kalyana, aged 27 years, 7 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
6. Seat No. 66, Ashin Ñanasami, aged 26 years, 6 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
7. Seat No. 68, Ashin Revata, aged 25 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
8. Seat No. 69, Ashin Çadobhasa, aged 25 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
9. Seat No. 72, Ashin Somaçara, aged 24 years, 5 vasa, Maha Thukhayama Monastery, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division
10. Seat No. 73, Ashin Paññabala, aged 24 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Dhammapala Maha Wihara Monastery, Monywa, Sagaing Division
11. Seat No. 74, Ashin Aççariya, aged 25 years, 4 vasa, Maha Withuddhayon Shwegyin Taikthit, Bahan Township, Yangon Division
12. Seat No. 76, Ashin Tejavamsa, aged 25 years, 4 vasa, ShwetaungU Tipitaka Dhammapala Monastery, Yinmabin Township, Sagaing Division
13. Seat No. 77, Ashin Paññaçaralankara, aged 25 years, 4 vasa, ShwetaungU Tipitaka Dhammapala Monastery, Yinmabin Township, Sagaing Division
14. Seat No. 78, Ashin Tikkhasaralankara, aged 24 years, 3 vasa, Tipitaka Dhammapala Maha Wihara Monastery, Monywa, Sagaing Division
15. Seat No. 79, Ashin Anandapanditalankara, aged 23 years, 3 vasa, Thamanegyaw Pariyatti Monastery, Bago, Bago Division
16. Seat No. 81, Ashin Paññasiri, aged 22 years, 2 vasa, Shwepyitha Pariyatti Monastery, Shwepyitha Township, Yangon Division
17. Seat No. 82, Ashin Vannita, aged 21 years, one vasa, Myanaung Monastery, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
18. Seat No. 83, Ashin Aggañanalankara, aged 22 years, one vasa, Hsinbyu Monastery, Mawlamyine, Mon State
19. Seat No. 84, Ashin Sihabala, aged 21 years, one vasa, Maha Thukhayama Monastery, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division
20. Seat No. 85, Ashin Kavinda, aged 21 years, one vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
21. Seat No. 86, Ashin Ñanissara, aged 19 years, Myinchin Village West Monastery, Shwebo Township, Sagaing Division
22. Seat No. 88, Ashin Çandadhikabhivamsa, aged 40 years, 20 vasa, Tipitaka Dhammapala Maha Wihara Monastery, Monywa, Sagaing Division
23. Seat No. 89, Ashin Çandasiri, aged 34 years, 14 vasa, Tipitaka Dhammapala Maha Wihara Monastery, Monywa, Sagaing Division
24. Seat No. 90, Ashin Lakkhanasiri, aged 32 years, 12 vasa, Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division
25. Seat No. 91, Ashin Khemikalankara, aged 32 years, 11 vasa, Uyin Pariyatti Monastery, Patheingyi, Mandalay Division
26. Seat No. 92, Ashin Kovida, aged 31 years, 11 vasa, Yadanabon Monastery, Maha Vithuddhayon Taikthit, Mahaaungmye Township, Mandalay Division
27. Seat No. 99, Ashin Issariya, aged 27 years, 6 vasa, Thein Than Yadana Monastery, Mogaung Taik, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Division
28. Seat No. 101, Ashin Viçitta (Ayadaw), aged 26 years, 6 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
29. Seat No. 106, Ashin Açaralankara, aged 25 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division (Credit)
30. Seat No. 107, Ashin Narinda, aged 25 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division (Credit)
31. Seat No. 109, Ashin Vijayalankara, aged 24 years, 5 vasa, Tipitaka Mahagandayon Monastery, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division
32. Seat No. 111, Ashin Uttaralankara, aged 25 years, 4 vasa, Ywama Pariyatti Monastery, Insein Township, Yangon Division
33. Seat No. 112, Ashin Nandimalankara, aged 24 years, 4 vasa, Tipitaka Mahagandayon Monastery, Mingaladon Township, Yangon Division
34. Seat No. 113, Ashin Ñanissaralankara, aged 24 years, 4 vasa, Maha Withuddhayon Shwegyin Taikthit, Bahan Township, Yangon Division
35. Seat No. 115, Ashin Paññasirilankara, aged 24 years, 4 vasa, Nay Min Monastery, Mahaaungmye Township, Mandalay Division
36. Seat No. 116, Ashin Visuddha, aged 24 years, 4 vasa, Thein Than Yadana Monastery, Mogaung Taik, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Division (Credit)
37. Seat No. 117, Ashin Vimala, aged 23 years, 3 vasa, Nikaya Monastery, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division
38. Seat No. 118, Ashin Paññaçakkalankara, aged 23 years, 3 vasa, Tipitaka Mahagandayon Monastery, Mayangon Township, Yangon Division
39. Seat No. 119, Ashin Dhammapala, aged 23 years, 3 vasa, Htihanswe Ariya Maggin Vipassana Yeiktha, Taunggyi, Shan State
40. Seat No. 121, Ashin Paññaçara, aged 22 years, 2 vasa, Byamaminkyaung, West Khinmagan Taik, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Division (Credit)
41. Seat No. 122, Ashin Kelasa, aged 22 years, 2 vasa, Shwe Yadana Monastery, Mogaung Taik, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Division
42. Seat No. 130, Ashin Suvanna, aged 30 years, 10 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division (Credit)
43. Seat No. 139, Ashin Janeyalankara, aged 27 years, 6 vasa, Maha Withuddhayon Taikthit, Bahan Township, Yangon Division
44. Seat No. 140, Ashin Viçara, aged 26 years, 6 vasa, Kyaikzahmyar Pariyatti Monastery, Phayagale Village, Bago Township, Bago Division
45. Seat No. 145, Ashin Açinna, aged 24 years, 5 vasa, Byugon Tawya Monastery, Insein Township, Yangon Division
46. Seat No. 146, Ashin Suriya, aged 24 years, 5 vasa, Five Nikaya Sasana Beikman Monastery, Yankin Township, Yangon Division
47. Seat No. 149, Ashin Alokalankara, aged 25 years, 4 vasa, Maha Withuddhayon Shwegyin Taikthit, Bahan Township, Yangon Division (Credit)
48. Seat No. 150, Ashin Nandisaralankara, aged 24 years, 4 vasa, Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery, Momeik Hill, Mingun, Sagaing, Sagaing Division
49. Seat No. 154, Ashin Kheminda, aged 23 years, 3 vasa, Maha Withutayama Zatngayar Taikthit, Pyay Township, Bago Division.—*MNA*

# Sports Minister takes part in regional development tasks in Shwebo and Wetlet Township

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, on 27 January, attended the ceremony to donate bags of rice to Youth Development Training Centre in Shwebo, Sagaing Division, held at the Training Centre. The minister donated 10 bags of rice, books and sports gear.

Afterwards, the minister attended the opening ceremony of K 1.8 million worth 2-inch PVC tube well donated by U Kyin Ti and Daw Myint Myint Kyi (Chanthar Construction), held in Aung Chan Tha village, Wetlet Township. The minister inspected availability of water and distribution of drinking water.

The minister presented K 1.8 million which cost in sinking tube well to chairman of Aungchantha village on behalf of donor, and books and sports gear to responsible persons.

Afterwards, the minister attended the ceremonies to open new school building of Tharline village primary school in Wetlet village, archway, brick wall and new school building of primary school in Ywathit village. The minister also attended football final match between Inbedaw village and Sinnin village-tract held in Powintut village and presented awards.—*MNA*

***Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint views supply of water at 2-inch-wide tube-well donated by wellwisher U Kyin Ti-Daw Myint Myint Kyi at Aungchantha Village in Wetlet Township.*—MNA**

# FSD D-G visits fire stations in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 30 Jan — Director-General U Myint Tun of Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement met with permanent and auxiliary firemen at Mawlamyinegyun Township in Ayeyawady Division yesterday.

Next, the director-general looked into construction of fire station in Bogale and gave necessary instructions.

*MNA*

***Director-General U Myint Tun of Fire Services Department inspects fire brigade members at Mawlamyinegyun Fire Station.*—FSD**

# Urns, beads, bones, oil lamps of Pyu era unearthed

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Archaeologists discovered ancient urns, earthen beads, bones, bronze and iron pieces and other archaeological evidences of Pyu era during the excavation at three Mounds in Beikthano archaeological region from 1 October to 14 November, 2008.

The urn with floral design and human figures was discovered in the excavation at Mound-27. It is 18 inches high and about 10.5 inches in diametre . The urn is different from other urns unearthed in the previous excavations. Earthen beads, bones, bronze and iron pieces, teeth of animals, fossil of a hard-wood tree, a part of a concrete statue were also discovered along with the urn during the excavation at Mound-27.

Foundation of a building, 38 bronze oil lamps and eight earthen oil lamps and a pile of a skeleton were unearthed in the excavation at Hill-28.

An infrastructure and a foundation excavated at Mound-29 are smaller than the previous excavated ones. The historical evidences have reveiled the imagination and architects of Pyu.

Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department of the Ministry of Culture has excavated in Beikthano region to get historical evidences of the culture of Pyu period in the 2007-2008 fiscal year.— *MNA*

# Getting diabetes before 65 more than doubles risk for Alzheimer's disease

STOCKHOLM, 30 Jan — Diabetics have a significantly greater risk of dementia, both Alzheime's disease—the most common form of dementia — and other dementia, reveals important new data from an ongoing study of twins. The risk of dementia is especially strong if the onset of diabetes occurs in middle age, according to the study.

"Our results . . . highlighted the need to maintain a healthy lifestyle during adulthood in order to reduce the risk of dementia late in life," explained Dr. Margaret Gatz, who directs the Study of Dementia in Swedish Twins.

In a study published in the journal Diabetes, Gatz and researchers from Sweden show that getting diabetes before the age of 65 corresponds to a 125 percent increased risk for Alzheimer's disease. Nearly 21 million people in the United States have diabetes, according to the American Diabetes Association, which publishes the journal.

*Internet*

# Manuscripts for World Health Day invited

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—World Health Organization (WHO), on every 7 April, urges the world nations to perform essential tasks for ensuring healthy lives, with a slogan reminding the importance of health to commemorate World Health Day.

The slogan chosen for 2009 is "Protect Health facilite from Emergencies; Prepare, Respond. Save Lives." and those interested are invited to send stories, poems, articles, and cartoons to Director (Health education) Ministry of Health, Office No.4, Nay Pyi Taw, not later than 2 March focusing on the slogan.

*MNA*

# Tun Foundation to present prizes to literary award winners

YANGON, 30 Jan— As the list of books and manuscripts that won Tun Foundation Literary Award for 2008 have been announced, literary award winners and guests are to attend the prize presenting ceremony which will be held at the building of Myanmar Banks' Association No.2 Sibin Street in Yankin Township here on 2 February.—*MNA*

Donate Blood

# Monghkat Township BEHS and Hospital inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo looked into BEHS and township hospital in Monghkat Township on 23 January and attended to the needs.

The Commander then looked into road works being carried out along Kengtung-Monghkat highway.

*MNA*

# New school buildings for BEPSs in Pyapon Township

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Member of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing attended the opening of new school buildings for Basic Education Primary Schools in Kyonku village-tract Ahchan village, Ahkyi Kayinsu village and Ahkyiwa village in Pyapon Township on 26 January.

Next, the minister delivered an address at the ceremony to hand over document related to newly-built school building for Kyonku village BEPS.

Afterwards, the minister went to preprimary school opened by Kyonku village Maternal and Child Welfare Association where he made cash donation and viewed providing refreshment to school children.—*MNA*

***Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing poses for a documentary photo together with wellwishers at opening of new school building for BEPS-5 in Pyapon on 29 January.*** H&T

# Townships in Magway Division see regional development

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe inspected catchment area of Umin Koepauk river water pumping project in Chauk Township on 22 January.

On 23 January, the chairman delivered an address at the ceremony to provide free eye surgeries to patients with eye complaints at Saw Township People's Hospital.

Next, the chairman looked into progress of upgrading of road at Kanzunma-Chatkan road section.

Then the chairman inspected trunk call services at Pauk Township Digital Auto Exchange, progress of works at microwave station, storage of paddy stains and ploughing of farmlands at Lelan village-tract, cultivation of summer paddy at Yaypya village, purchase of Ngwechi (6) long staple cotton at buying center of Myanmaa Textile Industry under the Ministry of Industry-1 and communication services of Kamma model village Digital Auto Exchange.

*MNA*

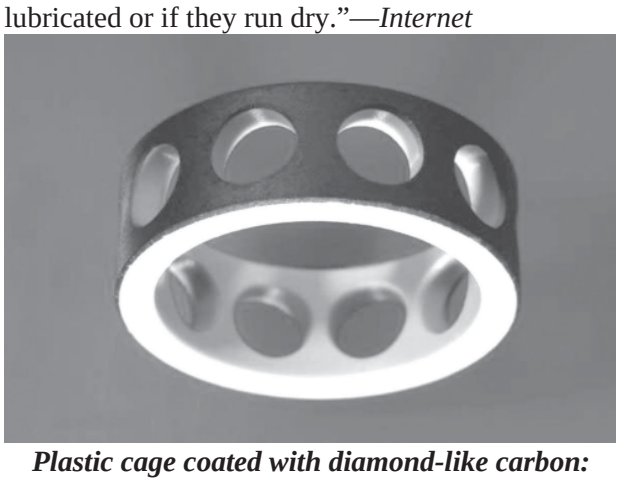
## Precious coatings for plastic parts

FREIBURG, 30 Jan—Bearings are universal components. Few devices can do without them. A diamond-like coating reduces friction in ball and slide bearings: The carbon layer can be applied to the plastic cage using a special process, and increases the components' resilience and life span.

Be they ball bearings in bicycles, slide bearings in the crankshafts of ships, or high-performance bearings in motor sports – bearings fulfill a wide range of functions. In many cases, they have to withstand enormous engine speeds and thermal loads, which places extremely high demands on the material from which the bearings and the associated bearing cages are made.

Research scientists at the Fraunhofer Institute for Mechanics of Materials IWM in Freiburg are working on the bearings of the future. They are equipping them with a very special coating that makes high-performance roller bearings, for example, even more durable and reliable than they already are. The coating consists of diamond-like carbon (DLC).

"Thanks to this coating, we can produce components that are much more robust than conventional elements, such as those made of uncoated plastic," says IWM division director Dr. Sven Meier. "The coated bearings remain sturdy even if they are not sufficiently lubricated or if they run dry."—*Internet*



***Plastic cage coated with diamond-like carbon: Bearings achieve much higher engine speeds with parts coated in this way.***

# Namsang: development in progress

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Yar Pyae, on 21 Jan, looked into Wanpon Dam Project in Namsang Township.

The Commander also inspected the lab, operation theatre, drug store, and X-ray room of the township hospital. The Commander then went to Namsang-Kengteng railway construction project and heard reports on conditions of chosen railway lines on which he fulfilled the needs.—*MNA*

# Sports Minister enjoys Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Women's Volleyball Competition

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint this morning viewed the first round group matches of 2nd Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Women's Volleyball Competition being held at the volleyball grounds here.

In the early matches, Ministry of Finance and Revenue beat Ministry of Industry-2 with 3-0, Ministry of Sports won over Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation with 3-2. Evening matches were Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraph against Ministry of Electric Power No.2 and Ministry of Co-operatives versus Ministry of Immigration and Population.

*MNA*

# Development of Loikaw Township inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Win Myint on 17 January inspected thriving oil radish and sunflower plantations of farmer U Ba Soe and thriving niger plantation and harvesting of niger of farmer U Khin Win near 4th mile Model Village in Loikaw Township.

On 20 January, he delivered a speech at the coordination meeting of the Kayah State Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport at the hall of Kayah State PDC Office.—*MNA*

# SPED DG meets basketball athletes

YANGON, 30 Jan—On behalf of the Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports, General-Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General U Thaung Hteik of Sports and Physical Education Department met with members of Myanmar Basketball Federation who participate in Friendly Basketball Tournament in Istanbul, Kocaeli, Bursa and Lzmir in the Republic of Turkey from 2 to 12 February, at the No. 1 meeting hall of Aung San Stadium, here, this morning.—*MNA*

# Storm-hit Labutta Township's future looks rosy

***Article: Maung Tin Hlaing (H&T)***

*(from page 16)*

Recently, I made a boat trip to Labutta, 171 miles from Yangon, for my first-hand knowledge of regional development. The Ywe River and Labutta were found blending together. Labutta is surrounded by five rivers namely Ywe, Ayeyawady, Pyinsalu, Pyanmalawt and Thetkei-thaung. The town is enjoying rapid development with Livestock and Fishery Bank, Myanmar Economic Bank (Branch), markets, schools, hospitals and housings.

I noticed that Labutta Township had risen a lot from the storm wind. Now, Laubin-Yaylegale-Shwedaunghmaw-Kyaikpi-Mawlamyinegyun Road, Mawlamyinegyun-Hlinephon-Thitpok-Kwinpauk-Pyinsalu Road, Bogale-Kyeinchaung-Kadonkani Road, Labutta-Thongwa-Ottwin-Hteiksun Road are under construction to form a network of roads in the delta. The government is providing relief supplies and assistance for Ayeyawady Division to restore its salt farming, fishing and agriculture for its economic development.

The latrines in the villages of Labutta Township are fly-proof ones. Along the roads in the town are shade and wind-breaking trees and in the compounds of the houses are small-scale rows of vegetables. The town has been graced with fine roads and patches of landscaping and flowering plants.

Labutta Township is constituted with 10 wards and 120 village-tracts. In the township, the houses are arranged in a well-organized way, old roads are being upgraded, purified drinking water is being supplied, and cyclone shelters are being built. It has 24 lakes to store rainwater. Its main business is sea trade. It is accessible by car and by sea. With smooth transport, the township is developing significantly.

Rehabilitation and reconstruction tasks are being carried out, tarred roads and bridges are being constructed in the township under close supervision of Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.

Service personnel of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs well deserve praise for their efforts to develop the whole township by upgrading old roads to tarred ones and building new bridges in a bid to help the township possess all characters of a township.

***A two-inch-diameter tube-well is under test run in Labutta Township.***

Labutta Township was devastated by the storm, but is now making a quick recovery from the catastrophe due to the tasks being carried out under the supervision of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, and hard work related ministries, departments and district, township and village level officials are exerting with good volition day in, day out.

**Translation: MS**

*Kyemon: 29-1-2009*

# Chaungmange Dam contributing to local food sufficiency

***Article: Nu Nu Yi & Aye Thanda Thein; Photo: Myanma Alin***

*(from page 1)*

With the aim of ensuring equitable development of all regions of the country, the government is fulfilling the requirements of the national people in all aspects. When the peace and stability had been restored, the social and economic infrastructures were built in the nation.

As Myanmar mainly relies on the agriculture sector, various sizes and types of dykes and dams have been built for supplying water to the farmlands. In this regard, Chaungmange Dam inaugurated on 12 July 2006 near Pannyosein Village of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw District, was one of the irrigation facilities.

Chaungmange Dam is of earth type and it has 103 square miles of watershed area, an embankment that measures 96 feet by 2,150 feet and two more 450-foot-long embankments. The dam can store 91,770 acre feet of water at the full brim and 15,300 acre feet of water at the lowest level. The full area of water at the dam is 3,148 acres. The dam was installed with one 50 kilowatts generator to produce 0.16 million kilowatt hours yearly. The dam will irrigate 8,000 acres of farmlands.

Thanks to construction of the dam, the local farmers of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana are enjoying the fruits of double and triple cropping. Moreover, the dam will contribute to not only the economic development of the local farmers and the State but also the local food sufficiency.

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**Translation: TTA**

*Myanma Alin: 24-1-2009*

## Natural selection not the only process that drives evolution?

UPPSALA, 30 Jan — Why have some of our genes evolved rapidly? It is widely believed that Darwinian natural selection is responsible, but research led by a group at Uppsala University, suggests that a separate neutral (nonadaptive) process has made a significant contribution to human evolution.

***Orangutan mother and baby. Researchers identified fast evolving human genes by comparing our genome with those of other primates.***

Their results have been published January 27 in the journal PLoS Biology.

The researchers identified fast evolving human genes by comparing our genome with those of other primates. However, surprisingly, the patterns of molecular evolution in many of the genes they found did not contain signals of natural selection. —*Internet*

## Reptile fossil reignites debate over New Zealand submergence

ADELAIDE, 30 Jan — The fossil of a lizard-like New Zealand reptile has been identified by a team of scientists from UCL (University College London), University of Adelaide, and the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa. The fossil, dating back 18 million years, has triggered fresh arguments over whether the continent was fully submerged some 25 million years ago.

Today, the endangered New Zealand tuatara (Sphenodon) is a lizard-like reptile that is the only survivor of a group that was globally widespread at the time of the dinosaurs. The tuatara lives on 35 islands scattered around the coast of New Zealand, mainland populations having become extinct with the arrival of humans and associated animals some 750 years ago.—*Internet*

***Photo taken on 4 Jan shows Toru Kono, a Japanese journalist of Kyodo News Agency, displays his collections of rare Chinese cameras in his home in Tokyo, capital of Japan. Toru Kono became an enthusiastic fan of Chinese cameras when he studied and worked in China's Shanghai Municipality and collected more than 100 rare Chinese cameras such as Shanghai-58, Seagull-205, Phenix-205 and so on.—INTERNET***

## US economy shrinks at 3.8% pace in fourth quarter 2008

WASHINGTON, 30 Jan—The US economy shrank 3.8 percent at an annual rate in the fourth quarter of last year, much worse than the 0.5 percent decline in the third quarter, the Commerce Department reported Friday.

*Internet*

## Philippine factory blast death amounts to eight

MANILA, 30 Jan—The death toll in the explosion of a fireworks factory in a town south of the Philippine capital Metro Manila Thursday has risen to eight. Regional police Chief Superintendent Perfecto Palad said the police investigators were considering the blast at Star Maker Fireworks factory in Cavite province Thursday morning an accident. More than three dozens of people were injured in the powerful explosion that brought down a row of houses and factory facilities.

Palad said the collateral damage was likely to reach 3 million pesos (63,829 US dollars).

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita on Friday said President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has ordered police to conduct a thorough investigation and not to spare those who are responsible.

*Internet*

## Small earthquake rocks Seattle area

WASHINGTON, 30 Jan—A 4.6 magnitude quake on the Richter scale rattled the Seattle area in northwestern United States early Friday morning, the US Geological Survey said.

It took place at 05:25:03 am local time (13:25:03 GMT), centered 23 km northwest of Seattle, Washington state, and having a depth of 58.3 km.

The shaking woke up some local residents.

A local resident told reporters that it fell like something had hit the roof.

There has been no report of casualties and property damages so far.—*Internet*

***Women from the Mony tribe walk to attend a traditional ceremony for a handover of land from the tribe to the government in Waghete Paniyai village in Indonesia's Papua province on 29 Jan, 2009. Picture taken on 29 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET***

## China's largest crop producing province warns against severe droughts

BEIJING, 30 Jan—China's largest crop producing province Henan Thursday issued the highest-level warning against continuing droughts in the coming week, the province's first such warning since June of 2007 when the warning system was established.

The provincial meteorological bureau of Henan said the province had received an average rainfall of 10.5 millimeters since November 2008, almost 80 percent less than in the same period of previous years.

The central Henan Province has a population of nearly 100 million, the largest in China. It has been the largest crop producing province for eight years. The draught has affected about 63 percent of the province's growing wheat and is likely to expand for the next week, the provincial meteorological bureau said.—*Internet*

## Three young women 'dump teen in -13C' in New Jersey

NEW JERSEY, 30 Jan—Three young women allegedly dumped a former friend alone in the woods in -13C temperatures after pretending they were all going to a party together. Maria Contreras-Luciano, 22, Amber Crespo, 20, and Dyanne Velasquez, 21, are accused of an elaborate plot against the 19-year-old victim from Bergen in New Jersey. The teenager was abandoned wearing just a light dress light jacket and one shoe after a scuffle as she was pulled from the women's car and pushed into snow, police said.

And even when she was later found by another motorist that driver refused to take her anywhere because she didn't want to get involved, NorthJersey.com reports.Police say the teenager suffered serious frostbite on both feet and may need surgery. If she had been in the woods much longer both of her feet may have had to be amputated.North Bergen Lt Frank Cannella said: "The three females had planned and plotted … to dress up and go to an imaginary party."They allegedly then drove to the woods — either in New Jersey or possibly across the border in New York — and forced her out into the snow. The Associated Press reports they were angry that the 19-year-old woman was suing a company owned by one of the women.The first motorist to find her let her use a mobile phone, but would not allow her into her car.She was eventually found by a second driver who took her to hospital. –*Internet*

## At least 16 confirmed dead in Kenya's supermarket inferno

NAIROBI, 30 Jan—At least 16 people have been confirmed dead at a Nairobi branch of Nakumatt Supermarket which caught fire on Wednesday.

The company's officials told journalists in Nairobi on Friday that the operation to retrieve the remains of people trapped in the burnt down retail store is progressing well with a marked level of success.

Nakumatt's Operations Director Thiagarajan Ramamurthy said about 47 people have been reported missing early Friday and expressed fears that the number of dead bodies is likely to go up as the recovery process goes on.

"Our priority is to confirm and recover missing persons feared to have been trapped in the building. We are working closely with the relevant security agents, forensic experts and the Kenya Red Cross Society to ensure proper recovery, retrieval and preservation of evidence at the site," he said.

*Internet*

***Nairobi fire brigade attempt to extinguish a fire which engulfed a supermarket in Nairobi, Kenya, on 28 Jan, 2009. Thousands of people have streamed out of their offices in downtown Nairobi as a massive fire engulfs a supermarket, sending plumes of black smoke into the sky. Police Commissioner Mohamed Hussein Ali said Wednesday that authorities were investigating the cause of the fire and whether there were any casualties.—INTERNET***

***The Hands Percussion Team from Malaysia performs their drum number "Fruition" at the Esplanade in Singapore on 30 Jan, 2009. The performance was part of the 10-day "Huayi" Chinese arts festival which showcases contemporary works from local and abroad.—INTERNET***

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

### MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (125N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (125N) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 30.1.2009 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

### MV XIANG DA VOY NO (9004)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOY NO (9004) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31.1.2009 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 CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

### MV AN WU JIANG VOY NO (0523)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN WU JIANG VOY NO (0523) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 30.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W 7 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 COSCO SHIPPING CO., LTD**

Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

### MV HELMUTH RAMBOW VOY NO (032)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HELMUTH RAMBOW VOY NO (032) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31.1.2009 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

# Passengers rescued from stranded ferry

STRANRAER, 30 Jan— The last of 189 passengers and crew were evacuated late Thursday after 24 hours on a ferry stuck in a Scottish port when a truck rolled off the car deck.

Because the Stena line ferry was unable to reach the dock in Stanraer after the accident, rescue workers used a police cherry picker to lift passengers off the vessel one by one, The Sun reported. Bad weather, including high wind and rough sea, made the operation difficult.

The truck, carrying ferrous sulphur powder, rolled off the deck shortly after the Stena Voyager left Stranraer for Belfast Wednesday, The Scotsman reported. The high-speed catamaran's bows lifted as it accelerated from the 12 mph limit in Loch Ryan to its cruising speed of 30 mph to 35 mph.—*Internet*

# Russia's S7 cancels Boeing order

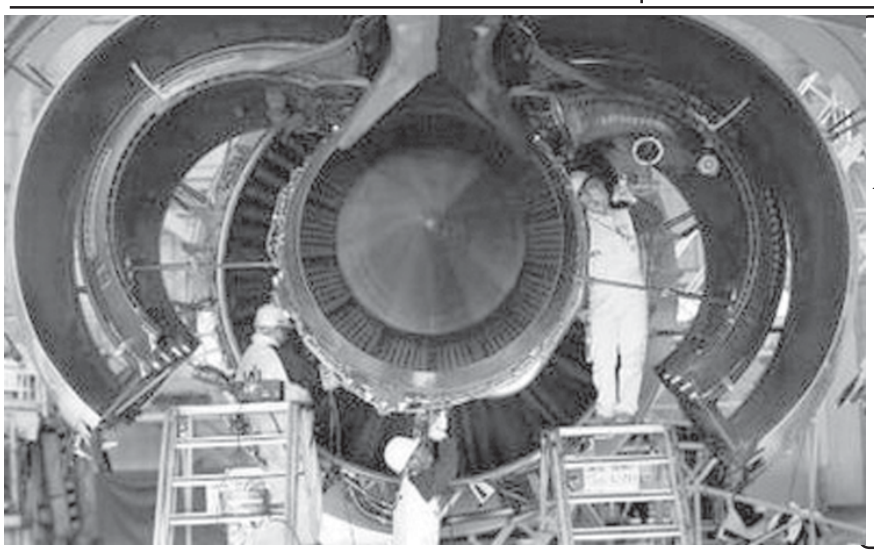
MOSCOW, 30 Jan — Russian airline S7 has cancelled an order worth $2.4bn (£1.7bn) for 15 Boeing-787 Dreamliner aircraft. It is the first airline to cancel a major contract for the 787.

The news will come as a blow to Boeing. The launch of its new jetliner has been delayed by a strike by machinists and production problems.

S7 did not give a reason for the cancellation but said it "retains interest in using the Dreamliner" and will look to lease the planes instead.

A Boeing spokesman said the company did not comment on customer discussions.

Production of the aircraft was delayed after a two-month strike by machinists in a row over pay and job cuts last year. It has also struggled with design problems and parts shortages.—*Internet*



***Technicians check engine mounted on a Boeing 777 aircraft at Tokyo's Haneda Airport on 30 Jan, 2009. Boeing Co reported an unexpected fourth-quarter loss on Wednesday and forecast 2009 earnings well below Wall Street estimates as it grapples with a dip in demand for its planes while airlines feel the pain of recession.—INTERNET***

# California octuplets' mom says she's "ecstatic"

LOS ANGELES, 30 Jan—The California woman who astonished doctors this week by giving birth to octuplets said on Thursday she was "ecstatic about all of their arrivals" but declined to address media reports that she already has six other children.

The prepared statement read by doctors at a news conference marked the first public comment from the unidentified woman since her premature infants, six boys and two girls, were delivered by Caesarean section on Monday. Their arrival, ranking as only the second set of octuplets known to have survived birth in the United States, surprised doctors who had seen only seven babies in ultrasound images.—*Internet*

# Frozen body left lying in warehouse

DETROIT, 30 Jan — A man's body, encased in ice, lay in an elevator shaft in a derelict warehouse in Detroit until a newspaper reporter got the Fire Department to take action.

The reporter, with The Detroit News, learned of the body from a caller who said his friend had seen it. The caller said the friend did not want to call police because he had been trespassing in the warehouse, playing hockey on the ice in the basement — a game that continued after the player spotted the corpse, the caller said. Checking to make sure the call was not a hoax, the reporter found the body, its feet sticking out of the elevator shaft. He talked to homeless men living in the basement who said it had been there for at least a month.—*Internet*

# Britain warned over air quality

LONDON, 30 Jan—Britain has been warned by the European Commission for failing to comply with EU standards on air quality.

The body says the UK could face court action if it fails to meet a directive limiting harmful airborne particles. The particles are emitted mainly by industry, traffic and domestic heating and can cause asthma, heart problems, lung cancer and premature death.

Stavros Dimas, European Environment Commissioner said strict action would follow if standards are not met soon. A Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) spokesman said the UK would apply for more time to meet targets.

In June last year, a new European air quality directive came into force. Member states were allowed "limited" extra time to meet the standards which have been in force since 2005. —*Internet*

## ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်တောင်ပိုင်း ရပ်စောက်မြို့နယ် အင်တောမြို့နယ်ခွဲရှိ ကျောက်ဆုံစိုက်ခင်းတွင် အသုံးပြုနေသော စီးပွားရေးနှင့်ကူးသန်းရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန မြန်မာ့လယ်ယာထွက်ကုန်ပစ္စည်းရောင်းဝယ်ရေးပိုင် ပျက်စီးချို့ယွင်းနေသည့် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များအား ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါစနစ်ဖြင့် ထုခွဲရောင်းချမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

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၂။ အဆိုပါမော်တော်ယာဉ်များ၏ မျက်မြင်အခြေအနေအား သက်ဆိုင်ရာ မြို့နယ်သို့သွားရောက်ကြည့်ရှုနိုင်ပြီး အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို သိရှိလိုပါက တယ်လီဖုန်း အမှတ် ၀၈၁-၂၁၆၂၇၊ ၂၁၀၉၃ တောင်ကြီးမြို့ပြည်နယ်မန်နေဂျာရုံးသို့ ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

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# Teen smoking could lead to adult depression

WASHINGTON, 30 Jan — Teenagers who smoke could be setting themselves up for depression later in life, according to a groundbreaking new Florida State University study.

Psychology Professor Carlos Bolanos and a team of researchers found that nicotine given to adolescent rats induced a depression-like state characterized by a lack of pleasure and heightened sensitivity to stress in their adult lives. The findings, published online on Thursday in the journal Neuropsy chopharmacology, suggest that the same may be true for humans.

"This study is unique because it is the first one to show that nicotine exposure early in life can have long-term neurobiological consequences evidenced in mood disorders," Bolanos said. "In addition, the study indicates that even brief exposure to nicotine increases risk for mood disorders later in life."

The Florida State University researchers injected adolescent rats twice daily with either nicotine or saline for 15 days. After the treatment period ended, they subjected the rats to several experiments designed to find out how they would react to stressful situations as well as how they would respond to the offering of rewards.They found that behavioral changes symptomatic of depression can emerge after one week of nicotine cessation and — most surprising — that even a single day of nicotine exposure during adolescence can have long-lasting effects.—*Internet*

***A red Robin lands on a tree branch along Wentworth Avenue in Clifton, Ohio on 28 Jan, 2009. A winter storm spread a glaze of ice and snow from the southern Plains to the East Coast, leaving blackouts, hundreds of school closings and treacherous travel conditions in its wake. At least 19 deaths are blamed on the storm.—INTERNET***

# Philippines reports four more workers infected with Ebola strain

MANILA, 30 Jan — The Philippine health authority on Friday reported that three pig farm workers and a slaughter house worker were found carrying antibodies of a strain of Ebola virus which might have jumped from sick hogs to human but has yet posed immediate threat to the public health.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque told a news conference that the four individuals who were tested positive of antibodies of Ebola-Reston virus might have been infected through direct contact with sick pigs.But Duque said all the four males, aged 22 to 52, "are all healthy and have not been seriously ill in the past 12 months."

Ebola-Reston, unlike its African counterparts which are proven deadly to humans, was first found on monkeys shipped from the Philippines to Reston, Virginia, the United States in 1989.The Philippine authority said tests done late last year found hogs from a selective few swine farms in the north were carrying Ebola-Reston virus.—*Internet*

***This 1990 photo release by the Alaska Volcano Observatory shows an ascending eruption cloud from Redoubt Volcano about 100 southwest of Anchorage Alaska as viewed to the west from the Kenai Peninsula on 21 April, 1990. Redoubt volcano is rumbling and simmering, prompting geologists to warn that an eruption may be imminent.—INTERNET***

# Floods kill 6 people in southern Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 30 Jan — Flooding in Brazil's southern Rio Grande do Sul state has left at least six people dead, several others missing and about 3,700 people affected since late Wednesday, local Civil Defense said on Thursday.

The flood carried away a bridge over the Fragata River in the town of Capao do Leao, swallowing two cars, a motorbike and a truck on the bridge at the time.

One person was found alive and two bodies were recovered, but the total number of casualties was still unknown.

Meanwhile, a 16-month-old boy died after he accidentally fell into water from a rescue boat.

Another man was drown as he fell into water while trying to climb onto a house roof.

Flooding is very common in Brazil's summer season. In late November, 135 people died and over 78,000 were left homeless as huge floods hit Brazil's southern state of Santa Catarina.

*Internet*

***A Sumatran elephant in Surabaya. A spate of recent deadly animal attacks in Indonesia has thrown the spotlight on growing conflicts between humans and animals triggered by the rapid dwindling of the country's forests.***
**INTERNET**

# NASA mission to help unravel key carbon, climate mysteries

WASHINGTON, 30 Jan— NASA's first spacecraft dedicated to studying atmospheric carbon dioxide is in final preparations for a Feburary 23 launch from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Carbon dioxide is the leading human-produced greenhouse gas driving changes in Earth's climate.

The Orbiting Carbon Observatory (OCO) will provide the first complete picture of human and natural carbon dioxide sources as well as their "sinks," the places where carbon dioxide is pulled out of the atmosphere and stored.

It will map the global geographic distribution of these sources and sinks and study their changes over time.

The measurements will be combined with data from ground stations, aircraft and other satellites to help answer questions about the processes that regulate atmospheric carbon dioxide and its role in Earth's climate and carbon cycle.

Mission data will help scientists reduce uncertainties in predicting future carbon dioxide increases and make more accurate climate change predictions. Policymakers and business leaders can use the data to make more informed decisions that improve the quality of life on Earth.

"It's critical that we understand the processes controlling carbon dioxide in our atmosphere today so we can predict how fast it will build up in the future and how quickly we'll have to adapt to climate change caused by carbon dioxide buildup," said David Crisp, principal investigator for the Orbiting Carbon Observatory at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

*Internet*

# Moderate earthquake jolts New Zealand's Bay of Plenty

WELLINGTON, 30 Jan — An earthquake measuring 4.5 on the Richter scale struck New Zealand North Island's Bay of Plenty region on Friday morning, causing no casualties or damages, GNS Science said.

The quake struck 40 km northeast of Optiki, in the eastern Bay of Plenty, at a depth of 40 km at 8:14 am local time (19:14 GMT Thursday, the New Zealand's Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS) said. It was likely to have been felt in the eastern Bay of Plenty.

*Internet*

# SPORTS

## Barcelona and Sevilla squeeze into Spanish Cup semi-finals

MADRID,30 Jan — Runaway La Liga leaders Barcelona edged into the semi-finals of the Spanish Cup thanks to a narrow 3-2 home win over city rivals Espanyol on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Sevilla dumped out holders Valencia on the away goals rule thanks to a dramatic last-minute strike from French defender Sebastien Squillaci.

Barcelona will face Real Mallorca in the last four, while Sevilla will take on Athletic Bilbao.

Barcelona had been held 0-0 in the first leg of their tie against their neighbours, but coach Pep Guardiola displayed his confidence ahead of the return leg by leaving in-form strikers Thierry Henry and Samuel Eto'o on the bench at the Nou Camp.—*Internet*

***Barcelona's midfielder Aleksandr Hleb (R) fights for the ball with Espanyol's Sergio Sanchez (L) during the King's Cup football match at the New Camp Stadium in Barcelona. Runaway La Liga leaders Barcelona edged into the semi-finals of the Spanish Cup thanks to a narrow 3-2 home win over city rivals Espanyol on Thursday.***
**INTERNET**

## Capello undecided on Beckham England call

MILAN, 30 Jan — England coach Fabio Capello admitted on Thursday that he was undecided about whether or not to select David Beckham for next month's friendly against Spain after watching him play for AC Milan.

Beckham scored from a trademark free-kick in Milan's 1-1 draw with Genoa at the San Siro and was given a rousing reception from the club's fans when he limped off 20 minutes from time with a groin problem.

Capello was in the crowd but said he was not sure he would call up the 33-year-old former national team skipper for the friendly on February 7 in Seville.

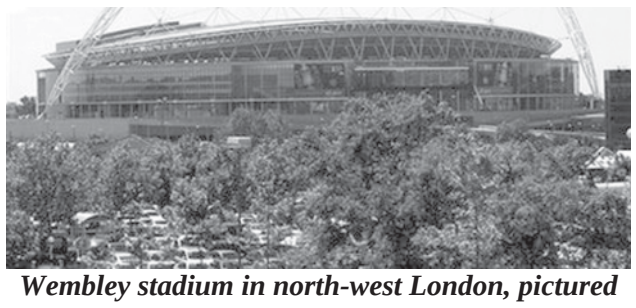
"I still have to decide although I was pleased with the way Beckham played, which I though was better than in his previous games," said Capello at a business awards ceremony here.

"I was at the San Siro to check on his form and before that I sent my assistants. It seems to me that he has fitted in very well at Milan."

***England coach Fabio Capello.***

Beckham is on loan from his club LA Galaxy because the Major League Soccer off season is so long that the former Manchester United and Real Madrid player needed to find a loan club to keep on playing or lose his place in Capello's England plans.

As for whether or not Beckham would be in Capello's plans for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, by which time the midfielder would be 35, the coach said: "We have to qualify first and only then will I think about who to select."—Internet



***Wembley stadium in north-west London, pictured in May 2007. Wembley was on Thursday chosen by UEFA to host the 2011 Champions League final with the same season's UEFA Cup final going to Dublin's new Lansdowne Road ground.—***INTERNET

## Wembley to host 2011 Champions League final

NYON, 30 Jan — Wembley stadium was on Thursday chosen by UEFA to host the 2011 Champions League final with the same season's UEFA Cup final going to Dublin's new Lansdowne Road ground.

London and Dublin were named as venues for the two European showcase matches by UEFA's Executive Committee meeting in Nyon.

European football's governing body also named Munich's Allianz Arena as the venue for the 2012 Champions League final with Bucharest's National stadium hosting the 2012 UEFA Cup final.—*Internet*

## Williams sisters hungry for more after Open doubles win

MELBOURNE, 30 Jan — Serena and Venus Williams won their eighth Grand Slam doubles title when they beat Ai Sugiyama and Daniela Hantuchova at the Australian Open on Friday, and said they were hungry for more.

The sisters claimed their third Australian Open doubles trophy after overpowering their opponents 6-3, 6-3 in just 75 minutes.

*Internet*

***Serena (left) and Venus Williams of the US pose with their trophy after victory in their match against Ai Sugiyama of Japan and Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia at the Australian Open.***
**INTERNET**

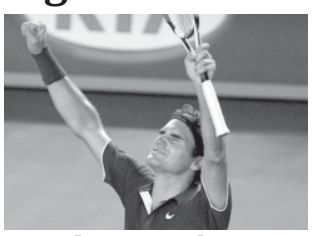
## Federer's back - but don't call him the greatest

MELBOURNE,30 Jan — Roger Federer says he can never be called tennis's all-time best despite underlining a glorious return to form by moving within one match of equalling the Grand Slam record.

Federer said he can't be compared to players such as multiple Major-winners Rod Laver and Ken Rosewall, who missed several years when professionals were still barred from Grand Slams.

The 27-year-old Swiss has reached his fourth Australian Open final and is bidding for his 14th Grand Slam win, which would match the record held by Pete Sampras.

"Probably we'll never quite know who was the greatest of all time in tennis, and I think that's quite intriguing as well," Federer said."—*Internet*



***Federer says he can never be called tennis's all-time best despite underlining a glorious return to form by moving within one match of equalling the Grand Slam record.***
**INTERNET**

## Owen injury jinx strikes again as Barton ruled out

MANCHESTER,30 Jan — Michael Owen is facing a two-month lay-off after the Newcastle striker's injury jinx struck again during a 2-1 Premier League defeat at Manchester City.

The 29-year-old former England star, playing only his 62nd game for Newcastle since arriving from Real Madrid in a 16-million-pound transfer in August 2005, limped out of Wednesday evening's clash after nineteen minutes after landing awkwardly following a challenge by City debutant Nigel de Jong.—*Internet*

***Newcastle's Michael Owen (foreground) is facing a two-month lay-off after the Newcastle striker's injury jinx struck again during a 2-1 defeat at Manchester City.***
**INTERNET**

## Villa's Laursen announces international retirement

COPENHAGEN, 30 Jan — Aston Villa's Danish captain Martin Laursen announced Thursday he was retiring from international football due to his injured knee.

The 31-year-old Denmark defender has recently undergone surgery on the problem knee and will not be back in action at least until the end of March.

"It's my decision, and it's the hardest I've ever had to take in my career," he said in comments carried on the Danish Football Federation's website.

*Internet*

***Aston Villa's Danish captain Martin Laursen (right) announced on Thursday he was retiring from international football due to his injured knee.—***INTERNET

## Nitties, Glover lead FBR Open

SCOTTSDALE, 30 Jan — In his PGA Tour bio, James Nitties lists his special interests as "clubbing, girls, movies."He's come to the right place.Nitties shot a 6-under 65 on Thursday for a share of the first-round lead with Lucas Glover in the FBR Open at TPC Scottsdale, renowned as the most partying stop on the PGA Tour.

The opening round was no party for local favorite Phil Mickelson, tied for 121st after shooting a 5-over 76 in his first round of the year.Play was called due to darkness with nine players still on the course.While Mickelson searched for answers, Nitties was reveling in the FBR Open's anything-goes atmosphere.

***Phil Mickelson yells fore after hitting from the fifth tee during the first round of the FBR Open golf tournament on 29 Jan, 2009 in Scottsdale, Ariz.***
**INTERNET**

"This is one of the events I was looking forward to the most," said Nitties, a 26-year-old Australian. "If you knew me, it's tough for me to concentrate out here.

*Internet*

*A frame grab taken from TV footage shows emergency services attending the scene of a car lodged in the roof of a church following an accident in Limbach-Oberfrohna in Saxony on 26 Jan, 2009.*—INTERNET

# Hormone may regulate sleep

MONTREAL, 30 Jan—Falling asleep involuntarily during the day poses a very real and dangerous problem, Canadian researchers said.

Researchers at the Montreal Neurological Institute at McGill University demonstrates sleep-wake states are regulated by two types of nerve cells, melanin-concentrating hormone neurons and orexin neurons, which occupy the same region of the brain, but perform opposite functions.

The study is the first to discover that melanin-concentrating hormone neurons are activated during sleep and could thus be important in regulating the sleep state.

The study, published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, provides deeper understanding of the sleep-wake cycle and vital insight into the basis of sleep disorders such as narcolepsy and possibly also other diseases such as depression and Parkinson'.

*Internet*

## MRTV-3
**Programme Schedule**
**(31.1.2009) (Saturday)**

**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 Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* Palm Leaf Inscription
* Rattan Wares and Bamboo Strip Hat
* Travelogue "Sagaing"
* Let's strive for Environmental Conservation: Clearance of Discarded Plastic
* Floral Lovers' Paradise (National Kandawgyi Gardens)
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

**Abroad Transmissions**

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* Rattan Handicrafts
* Goodbye! And have a safe journey back home
* A Day in the Life of a Mahout
* Benefits of Electric River Water Pumping Projects for Socio-economic Progress
* Welcome to Ngwe Hsaung Beach Resort
* Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-VI)
* Art in Glass Bottles
* Palm Leaf Inscription
* Travelogue "Sagaing"
* Let's strive for Environmental Conservation: Clearance of Discarded Plastic
* The Famous Floating Market
* New, Modernized Myanmar Food
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

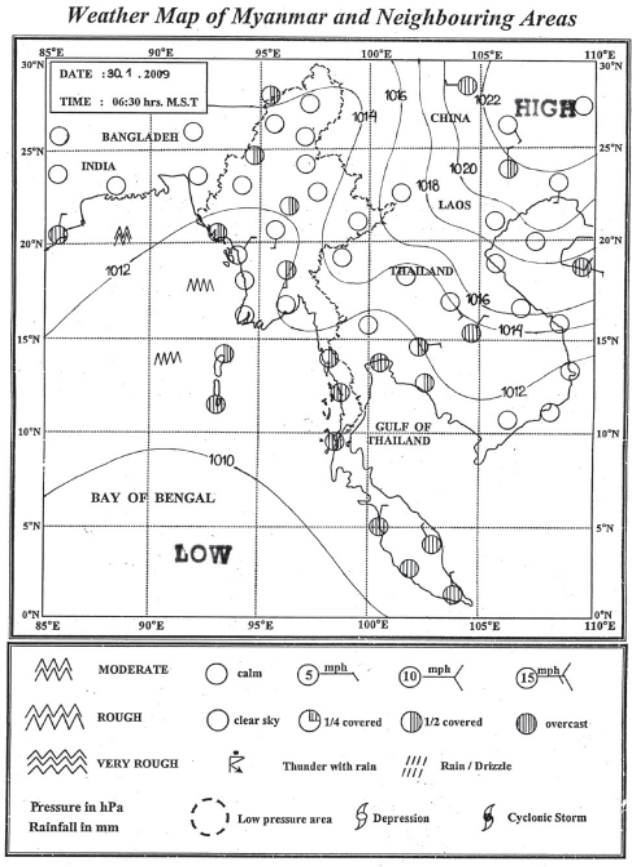
**Website:** www.mrtv3.net.mm

TV Myanmar

**Saturday, 31 January**
**View on today**

**7:00 am**
1. ကောင်တန်းသာသနာပြုဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
**7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
**7:30 am**
3. Morning news
**7:40 am**
4. Nice and sweet song
**7:50 am**
5. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်
**8:05 am**
6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
**8:15 am**
7. "မြူတိမ်ကင်းသောနေ့" (ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ မင်းထက်ကျော်၊ စိုးမိုးကြည်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း) [ဒါရိုက်တာ–သိန်းဟန်(ဖီးနစ်)]
**8:30 am**
8. International news
**8:45 am**
9. Musical programme
**11:00 am**
1. Martial song
**11:10 am**
2. Musical programme
**11:20 am**
3. Yan can cook
**11:40 am**
4. Round up of the week's TV local news
**12:25 pm**
5. Game for children
**12:50 pm**
6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ" (အပိုင်း–၁၈)
**1:40 pm**
7. ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ (Telematch)
**2:20 pm**
8. Musical programme
**2:30 pm**
9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
**2:45 pm**
10. International news
**2:55 pm**
11. "အွန်ရာယ်ဆိုတာလက်တစ်ကမ်းမှာ" (စိုးသူ၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်၊ ကျော်မင်းနောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)
**4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
**4:10 pm**
2. Dance of national races
**4:20 pm**
3. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
**4:30 pm**
4. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
**4:40 pm**
5. Musical programme
**4:50 pm**
6. ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်၊တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ (ဓာတုဗေဒဘာသာရပ်)
**5:05 pm**
7. Songs to uphold national spirit
**5:15 pm**
8. မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ဝှေ့
**5:30 pm**
9. Game for children
**5:50 pm**
10. Musical programme
**6:00 pm**
11. Evening news
**6:30 pm**
12. Weather report
**6:35 pm**
13. အလှရာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်
**6:50 pm**
14. ပဉ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်
**7:10 pm**
15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သစ္စာနှင့်ယှဉ်သောမေတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း–၁၅)
**8:00 pm**
16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
19. လပတ်မိုးလေဝသနှင့်လေဗေဒ ခန့်မှန်းချက်
20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကြမ္မာမုန်တိုင်း" (အပိုင်း–၇)

*Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas*




# WEATHER

## Friday, 30 January, 2009

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (7˚C) below January average temperatures in Chin State, (3˚C) to (4˚C) below January average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, (3˚C) above January average temperatures in Kachin and Rakhine States, Bago Division about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (-2˚C) Loilem (1˚C), Namhsam, Haho, Pinlaung and Mogok (4˚C) each.

Maximum temperature on 29-1-2009 was 92˚F. Minimum temperature on 30-1-2009 was 66˚F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 30-1-2009 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 29-1-2009 was (7.3) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 30-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northeast at (08:30) hours MST on 29-1-2009.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 31st January 2009:** Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy in Shan and Rakhine States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of light rain in the extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 31-1-2009:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 31-1-2009:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 31-1-2009:** Generally fair weather.

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

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# Myanmar departments concerned making contact with departments of Thailand to take measures for Rohinja trying to illegally enter Thailand from sea

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—The newspapers published today mentioned that some foreign media recently reported and broadcast that some Rohinjas were attempting to illegally enter Thailand in motorized boats from the sea; that some of them were from Myanmar; that the Rohinja is not included in national races of the Union of Myanmar; and that the departments concerned of the Government of the Union of Myanmar will take necessary measures in connection with the above matter.

Despite contacts with the departments concerned of Thailand to take necessary measures of the above matters, the departments concerned of Myanmar have not yet received any reply from them till today.

*MNA*

# 48th Tatmadaw shooting contest over

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—The prize presenting ceremony of the 48th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's shield Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) shooting contest was held at Defence Services Technological Academy in PyinOoLwin. Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe attended the ceremony and presented prizes to winning teams.—*MNA*

## Take Fire Preventive Measures

# Bengalis from neighbouring country illegally immigrated Rakhine region of Myanmar

## The government had to scrutinize illegal immigrants under national necessity

## The government keeps on preventing illegal immigrations

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—Bengalis from the neighbouring country illegally immigrated to Rakhine region of Myanmar. Around 1948, the illegal immigrants demanded that Myanmar designate Buthidaung and Maungtaw as their province. In the meantime, they launched armed insurgency against Myanmar through Mujahid movement. So, the government had to suppress the armed insurgency.

With the aim of preventing illegal immigrants from entering the nation, the government launched Operations "Kyeegan" and "Shwe Kyee" in Buthidaung and Maungtaw regions in 1966, and Operation "Myat Mon" in Sittway and Kyaukpyu districts from 1969 to 1971 and took the census of Bengalis.

Many Bengalis on the border of the neighbouring country and illegal immigrants of Bengalis in Rakhine State merged together into Rohinja National Liberation Organization and rose against the nation. So, the government again had to suppress the movement.

Under the Operation "Nagar Min" in 1978, Bengalis illegally living in Maungtaw, Buthidaung, Rathedaung, Pauktaw, Kyauktaw, Sittway, MraukU and Minbya townships in Rakhine State were scrutinized to find out whether they were nationals or not. The majority of them dared not face the scrutinization, and fled to their native neighbouring countries.

According to the agreement reached between the two countries, they were received under Hintha Plan. In the process, 186,968 of them re-entered the nation from 31 August 1978 to 19 December 1979.

In the late 1991 and early 1992, the government, under the national necessity, had to scrutinize Bengalis illegally living in Maungtaw, Buthidaung, Rathedaung, Pauktaw and Sittway townships in Rakhine State to expose whether they were nationals or not. The majority of them left the nation in fear of the scrutinization.

Under the talks held with the People's Republic of Bangladesh, and with international organizations, the Union of Myanmar agreed to receive those Bengalis who met the four requirements.

In 13 years, from 1992 to 2005, Myanmar received 46,933 households or 236,495 persons. According to the lists, 1192 households or 6365 persons have yet to re-enter Myanmar, but they have not come yet.

Now, the government is taking necessary measures under the national duty to prevent such illegal immigration.

*MNA*

# Storm-hit Labutta Township's future looks rosy

***Awbar Street in Labutta Township has been upgraded to a tarred facility.***

## *Article: Maung Tin Hlaing (H&T)*

On his tour of the storm-hit areas of Ayeyawady Division, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, stressing the importance of upgrading roads, and supply of electric power and safe water in rehabilitating and reconstructing Hteiksun, Kyaukkalat and Konthaya villages. He also called for earlier completion of Labutta-Thongwa-Ottwin-Hteiksun Road, which is crucial for regional development. Responsible persons had to seek ways to generate electricity with the use of biogas and solar power for electric power supply to the regions, he said.

The government is making a good headway with the tasks for rehabilitation and reconstruction of the natural disaster-ravaged areas in Ayeyawady Division.

In meeting with local authorities and people, the Senior General also called for economic growth of Ayeyawady Division through rich natural resources of the region, progress of the towns and villages, and smooth transport.

*(See page 10)*