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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

Indian Vice-President and wife to pay official visit to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb—At the invitation of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar and wife Daw Mya Mya San, His Excellency Shri M. Hamid Ansari, Vice-President of the Republic of India and wife Shrimati Saima Ansari will pay an official visit to the Union of Myanmar in the near future.—MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

UNSG's Special Advisor Mr Gambari meets Spokes Authoritative Team of SPDC, Ministers, social organizations, diplomats



Leader of Spokes Authoritative Team of the SPDC Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and party meet UNSG's Special Advisor Mr Ibrahim Agboola Gambari at five-storey guest house in Yangon.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Feb—The Spokes Authoritative Team of the State Peace and Development Council met with Special Advisor Mr Ibrahim Agboola Gambari to the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the five-storey guest house in Yangon at 8.45 a.m. today. Present on the occasion were Leader of the Spokes Authoritative Team of the SPDC Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, members Minister for

Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint. Mr Gambari also met on Minister for Relations U Aung Kyi at 10.20 a.m., Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint at 11 a.m., member of Commission for Holding Referendum U Thaung Nyunt and party at 1.30 p.m., Joint Secretary-General U Zaw Min and party of the Union Solidarity and Development Association at

2.05 p.m., and Ambassadors, Chargés d'Affaires of foreign missions to the Union of Myanmar and officials at 4.10 p.m. at Seinle Kantha State House separately. In the evening, Leader of the Spokes Authoritative Team of the SPDC Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan hosted a dinner to Mr Gambari at Mya Yeik Nyo Royal Hotel.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 2 February, 2009

Enhance health care services for local people in storm-hit regions

The government has been placing emphasis on the health sector of local people in storm-hit regions while implementing the rehabilitation and reconstruction tasks for storm victims. Arrangements have been made for upgrading offices and schools in those regions. Hospitals were also upgraded in order to provide better health care services to the people in urban and rural regions.

Under the arrangements of the Ministry of Health, health care services have been providing for storm victims with the assistance of specialists, medical teams and traditional medicine practitioners of the Traditional Medicine Department.

A 16-bed hospital is under constrution in Setsan Village, Bogale Township, and MSF and IOM, international non-governmental organizations, are also providing health care services to local people.

A ceremony to hand over documents related to prefabricated clinics was held at the rural health care unit in the village on 25 January.

The prefabricated clinics that include patient wards, toilets and medical equipment were donated by IOM. A similar ceremony was held in Daw Nyein Village and Kyonda Village in Pyapon Township. The donation includes generators, air-conditioners and water supply.

There was no spread of communicable and degenerative diseases in the storm-ravaged regions and the greater achievements were obtained in the fight against such diseases due to the government's proper arrangements, assistance of the wellwishers and constant cooperation of health staff.

It is the duty of local people to participate in the tasks to enhance the health care services for them in cooperation with the government.

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

Myanmar Maritime University gets convocation hall

YANGON, 1 Feb—The opening of the convocation hall of Myanmar Maritime University was held at the university in Thilawa region, here this morning.

Chairman of Myanmar Maritime University Council Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung and officials were present.

The minister formally unveiled the plaque of the

convocation hall and sprinkled scented water on it.

Next, the deputy minister and the rector also sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

The minister presented special gold medal, gold Rina Award of royal vessel architect association (England), HPH gold award of Hutchison Port Holding (Hong Kong) and outstanding awards to the winner students.—MNA

Chairman of Myanmar Maritime University Council Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe unveils bronze plaque of Convocation Hall of Myanmar Maritime University. — MNA



MyMyanmar Unicode System 2009 for computer users

YANGON, 1 Feb—MyMyanmar Unicode System 2009 can be applied with the use of Myanmar2 font in accord

with the 5.1 Unicode standardization for ensuring smooth and comfortable running of e-government process.

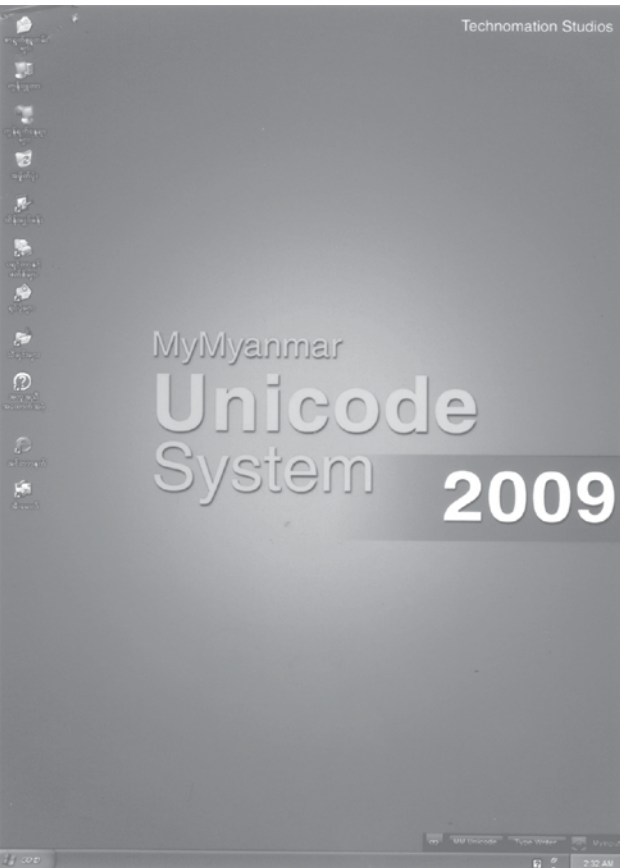
Any font of MyMyanmar Unicode System 2009 can be used at every computer keyboards. ZawGyi Unicode system is also inserted into the

MyMyanmar Unicode System 2009 for the user convenience.

In addition to 11 Unicode fonts such as MyMyanmar font, CE Classic font, M-Myanmar font and ZawGyi font, over 100 fonts in use of DTP and graphic world were converted as Unicode fonts.

MyMyanmar Unicode System 2009 is available at computer sales centres in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and other major cities, CD shops, City Mart, Orange, Ocean Super Markets. Moreover, customers may dial 387305 for more purchase.

MNA



Desktop view of computer installed with MyMyanmar Unicode System 2009. — MNA

Afghans threaten US troops over civilian deaths

MEHTERLAM (Afghanistan), 1 Feb — An angry Afghan man with a thick black beard ranted wildly at the US officials, shouting about how their overnight raid had killed 16 civilians in his village. An Afghan elder cried out in grief that his son and four grandsons were among the dead.

One after another, a long line of government officials, villagers and community leaders told American military officials at the Laghman governor's compound that Afghan soldiers must be allowed to take part in such raids. Several predicted increased violence against US

forces if more nighttime operations take place.

Three recent US Special Forces operations killed 50 people — the vast majority civilians, Afghan officials say — raising the ire of villagers and President Hamid Karzai, who set a one-month deadline for his demand that Afghan soldiers play a bigger role in military operations.

“If these operations are again conducted in our area, all of our people are ready to carry out jihad. We cannot tolerate seeing the dead bodies of our children and women anymore,” Malik Malekazratullah, the Afghan who ranted at the

Americans, told *The Associated Press*. “I’ve already told President Karzai we are out of patience.”

US officials said it was possible the conventional American troops stationed in Laghman Province — a separate group from the Special Forces units that carried out the nighttime raids — could face an increased risk of attack.

“Anytime there is that kind of public outcry, you can imagine that there are some people out there who may take that and put it into action,” said Lt Col Dan Fuhr, the top US commander in Laghman, one Province east of Kabul.—*Internet*



Afghan villagers are seen around a house which was damaged during the recent US raids in the Tagab Valley village of Inzeri, in Kapisa Province, Afghanistan, on 27 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET

Mortar, bomb attacks near polling stations in north of Baghdad

TIKRIT, 1 Feb — Four mortars and a roadside bomb explosion targeted polling stations in the city of Tikrit, the capital of Salahudin Province and home of toppled ex-president Saddam Hussein, a provincial police source said on Saturday. Four mortar rounds landed near a polling station in the city and a roadside bomb went off at a marketplace also close to a polling station in central Tikrit, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The attacks took place as local residents were heading to vote in the country's landmark provincial elections, the source said. There are no immediate reports about casualties by the blasts, the source added.

Early on Saturday, about 42,000 polling stations in 14 out of Iraq's 18 Provinces opened their doors for some 15 million Iraqis who have been called to cast their votes to elect members of provincial councils.—*Internet*

Suicide bomber attacks foreign troops in Kabul

KABUL, 1 Feb — A suicide bomber in a car attacked a convoy of foreign troops in the Afghan capital on Sunday, but there was no immediate word on casualties, a police officer said. Taliban militants claimed responsibility for the attack.

The bomber targeted the convoy in Kabul's western outskirts, said Gen Zulmay Khan Horiyakheil, a regional police commander. It was not clear if the bomber hit the convoy. Representatives for NATO and US troops said they were checking the report. A Taliban spokesman, Zabiullah Mujahed, claimed responsibility for the blast in a phone call to an *Associated Press* reporter in Kabul.

Militant regularly launch suicide attacks on foreign and Afghan troops throughout Afghanistan, but the number of such attacks in the capital has decreased over the past year.—*Internet*

An Afghan girl sits next to aid for her family in Kabul on 23 January . Many people in the war-torn country 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



US says two Iraqi police killed in shooting

BAGHDAD, 1 Feb—US soldiers killed two Iraqi policemen on Saturday after coming under fire during an operation against al-Qaida in northern Iraq, the US military said.

An Iraqi officer confirmed the incident, which occurred near the northern city of Mosul, but said the policemen were manning a checkpoint when they were gunned down.

A US statement said the incident began when US soldiers entered a neighbourhood looking for a suspected al-Qaida operative who was believed to be in a building.

The Americans called for the building's occupants to surrender when they came under fire from another building about 100 yards (meters) away, the statement added.

“Despite multiple attempts to identify themselves, the (US) force continued to receive hostile fire. Acting in self defence, coalition forces returned fire,” the statement said.

“Coalition force members immediately moved to the building and linked up with the Iraqi police forces. A search of the building revealed two Iraqi police, who were not in uniform, were killed during the exchange,” the statement added.

The US expressed regret for the policemen's deaths.

Internet

Afghan blast kills Canadian soldier

OTTAWA, 1 Feb — A Canadian soldier was killed on Saturday when his armoured vehicle hit an explosive device on a road west of Kandahar in southern Afghanistan, Canada's defence department said.

The soldier, Sapper Sean Greenfield, was the 108th member of the Canadian military killed since Canada sent forces to Afghanistan in 2002.

The other soldiers in the vehicle were not injured.

Canada has 2,700 soldiers in Kandahar, capital of a region that is a stronghold for Taliban militants. The Canadian combat mission is set to end in 2011.—*Internet*



Workers at a Dell assembly plant in 2008. Nearly 187,000 workers in the US technology sector lost their jobs last year, the highest number in five years, consulting firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas said on Thursday.

INTERNET

Russia’s missile deployment depends on US missile defence plans

MOSCOW, 1 Feb—Russia will halt plans to install its Iskander missile system in Kaliningrad on the Polish border, if the United States drops the deployment of a missile shield in eastern Europe, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on late Friday.

“If there is no the third phase of the missile defence system, there will be no Iskanders in the Kaliningrad region. If the third phase is set up, we will have to take measures in response,” the ministry said on its Web site.

Regarding to reports that Russia has decided to halt plans to station missiles in the country’s Baltic outpost of Kaliningrad, the ministry said “nobody is phasing out anything, because there is nothing to phase out so far.” The installation of missiles in Kaliningrad, proposed by Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in his first state-of-the-nation address on 5 Nov, 2008, might be a possible response to any deployment of the US missile shield in eastern Europe, it said.

The missile plans have been halted because the new US administration is not rushing through plans to install missile defence facilities in Poland and the Czech Republic, Russia’s *Interfax* news agency on Wednesday quoted a general staff official as saying.

The two east European countries have signed agreements with the United States to home parts of its global missile shield, with a radar station in the Czech Republic and interceptor missiles in Poland.—*Internet*



Photo shows the Kunlun Station under construction. China set up the country’s third Antarctic research station on recently. —XINHUA

Thousands in Prague rally against proposed US radar base

PRAGUE, 1 Feb—A crowd of nearly 1,000 gathered at Jan Palach Square in the Czech capital of Prague to protest against the planned US radar base in the country.

Protestors also marched through the capital, holding banners saying, “Stop the new arms race” and chanting slogans like “No radar base here.”

They also presented a letter intended for President Barack Obama to the US Embassy.

Vojtech Filip, chairman of the Czech

Communist Party, which organized the protest, said his party wants a referendum on stationing a radar base near Prague.

Other groups including the Mayors’ League Against Radar also took part in the rally.

According to the latest poll, two thirds of Czech citizens insist on a referendum on stationing the US radar base, which is part of a planned US missile shield in Eastern Europe.

Internet

Kenyan police free Obama’s half brother

NAIROBI, 1 Feb—The Kenyan authorities confirmed on Saturday they have released the half brother of US President Barack Obama, George Obama, who was

arrested on Friday on a charge of possession of marijuana.

Police sources told *Xinhua* that George Obama who lives in Huruma residential estate in Nairobi was briefly arrested for being in possession of two rolls of bhang (cannabis).

“He was released on Saturday evening with no charges preferred against him,” said a senior police official who declined to be named.

“He was picked up in Nairobi’s Huruma area with three other young men,” he said.

Internet



A worker climbs into a giant pit at a construction site on the Microsoft campus that is expected to be delayed or halted, in Redmond, Washington. The economy shrank at a 3.8 percent pace at the end of 2008, the worst showing in a quarter-century, as the deepening recession forced consumers and businesses to throttle back spending.—INTERNET

Iran produces smart anti-aircraft gun

TEHERAN, 1 Feb—Iran’s Defence Minister Mostafa Mohammad Najjar said that Iran has manufactured a smart anti-aircraft gun, Iran’s satellite Press TV website reported on Saturday.

“Iran successfully manufactured a smart 100mm anti-aircraft gun as part of a campaign to boost the country’s defence capabilities,” Najjar was quoted as saying.

He said the Defence Industries Organization has completed the wholly domestic task of manufacturing the 100mm anti-aircraft gun and its necessary ammunition “to counter aerial threats posed by enemy fighters, helicopters and cruise missiles.”

“One of the most important features of this weapon is its smart system which can track down the target and fire at it automatically,” he said, adding that the shells used in the system are equipped with a fuze which enables them to explode and terminate the target from a close distance even if they fail to hit it directly.

Internet

Seven dead and 16 missing in Russian care home fire

MOSCOW, 1 Feb —Seven people died and at least 16 were missing after fire gutted a remote, wooden care home in the northwestern Russian republic of Komi on Saturday, a spokeswoman for the local branch of the Emergencies Ministry said.

President Dmitry Medvedev dispatched the Kremlin’s envoy in north-west Russia to investigate the fire, which was close to being extinguished five hours after it started in the village

of Podyelsk, 120 km (75 miles) from the regional capital Syktyvkar.

“Seven bodies have been pulled out of the building. Firefighters have entered the building and are searching for the missing residents,” Lyubov Terenteva, head of the press service for the Emergencies Ministry in Komi, told *Reuters*.

Fire broke out at the care home, which houses 26 residents, mostly elderly, in the early evening.

Internet



Firefighters walk in the rubble of an old people’s home in the village of Podyelsk, 120 km (75 miles) from the regional capital Syktyvkar on 1 Feb, 2009. Twenty-three people were missing on Saturday after fire gutted the home in the northwestern Russian republic of Komi, the *Interfax* news agency reported on Saturday.

INTERNET

London debut for treasures from Shanghai

BEIJING, 1 Feb—The British Museum has celebrated the launch of Shanghai Week in London with the opening of “Treasures from Shanghai,” a spectacular collection of 60 ancient Chinese jade and bronze masterpieces on show in Europe for the first time.

“This exhibition brings to London pieces of superlative quality rarely seen outside China itself,” said the exhibition’s guest curator Jessica Rawson.

“The Neolithic jades on display are astonishing, particularly those that feature fine designs of strange human-like figures, birds and monsters with large teeth.”

She added: “The Shanghai Museum houses one of the world’s greatest collections of

Chinese art.”

Chen Kelun, deputy director general of the Shanghai Museum, said the exhibition would provide “insights into the time-honoured urban civilization and etiquette of China” and identify themselves with the theme of the World Expo to be held in Shanghai next year.

The month-long exhibition is another example of the British Museum’s collaboration with China after the exhibition “First Emperor: China’s Terracotta Army” in 2007.

Shanghai Week is designed to commemorate the increasingly close relationship between Britain and China, and showcase the heritage and culture of Shanghai as it prepares for the World Expo.—Xinhua



Visitors observe the operation of Foucault Pendulum, a celestial sphere pointing to earth rotation, at the Beijing Planetarium, where wide varieties of activities are presented during the Spring Festival to lure more astronomic amateurs to go through the gamut of astronomy in Beijing, on 30 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

Brunei to export IT products to Philippines

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 Feb—Brunei has signed deals with the Philippines to export information and communications technology products (ICT) to its Southeast Asian neighbour, according to reports reaching here on Saturday. The Brunei Economic Development Board (BEDB) and three Brunei firms on Friday inked separate deals with Philippine-based Crestar Communications to pave the way for Brunei to export its ICT products to the Philippines, the *Brunei Times* reported.

The signing of the deals coincided with Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah’s three-day state visit to the Philippines,

which was ending on Saturday, the Brunei newspaper said.

The three Brunei firms Expansys Technologies, Mimit e-Technology and Rafiqun WDSI have been identified as having ready-to-deploy innovative technologies with applications in both the commercial and public sectors in the Philippines, the daily said.

Expansys Technologies aims to launch its text or short messaging system gateway technology as the preferred platform in delivering the integrated systems of Mesh, IPTV and GPS technology in the Philippines, according to the newspaper.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

French scientist shot near Mexico City airport dies

MEXICO CITY, 1 Feb—A French scientist shot in the head by armed robbers near the Mexico City airport earlier this week has died, the French Embassy in Mexico said.

Christopher Augur was followed by robbers and shot on Tuesday after he changed 4,800 euros (about 6,500 US dollars) in a currency exchange office at the airport and headed back to the city.

Augur, who died at a city hospital on Saturday,

was not the first victim to be shot at the Mexican airport.

The 55-year-old scientist had been in the country for three months, collaborating with a Mexican university on a biotechnology project.

The French ambassador to Mexico, Daniel Parfait, has condemned the assault and asked the Mexican government to punish the killers.

Mexican police said on Friday they had detained

two suspects in the shooting, aged 19 and 29.

Assistant city prosecutor Luis Vasquez said a total of 17 such robberies of people leaving the Mexican capital’s airport have been reported since March 2008. The attacks appear to be the work of two or more gangs, or one organization with several cells.

The victims in four of the cases were foreigners, Vasquez said.

Xinhua



Kenyan Red Cross workers look for bodies in the Nakumatt supermarket in downtown Nairobi, Kenya, on 30 Jan, 2009. Kenyan police spokesman Erick Kiraithe on Friday confirmed that 26 people have been killed and dozens of others are still missing, two days after a massive fire swept through the supermarket.—XINHUA



A worker shows his operating skills during a job fair held in Wuhu, east China’s Anhui Province, on 31 Jan, 2009. XINHUA



A handout photo from the Alaska Volcano Observatory (AVO)/ Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (ADGGS) shows a gas plume rising from the Augustine Volcano in Alaska in January 2006. Alaska was on alert Friday as scientists warned that a volcano rumbling near the state’s largest city Anchorage was likely to erupt, officials said.—XINHUA

Alaska’s Mt Redoubt to erupt at any time

BEIJING, 1 Feb—Alaska’s Mount Redoubt is picking up volcanic activity. The Alaska Volcano Observatory on Sunday raised its threat level to orange, the stage just before an eruption.

The Alaska Volcano Observatory said in a statement Friday “volcanic tremor” has increased in “amplitude.” The observatory on Thursday began seeing even higher levels of seismic activity and long periods of tremors, said Geophysicist John Power. The activity on the 10,197-foot peak is “more energetic than that of the previous several days. However, it is still less vigorous than that observed last weekend,” the observatory said.

On 5 Nov, 2008, geologists noted changed emissions and minor melting near the Redoubt summit and raised the threat level from green to yellow.

The volcano is about 100 miles southwest of Anchorage.—Xinhua

136-kg car bomb found by N Ireland school

BELFAST, 1 Feb — A viable 300-pound (136-kilogramme) car bomb was discovered close to a school in Northern Ireland, police said on Saturday, in a grim reminder of the increasing threat posed by dissident paramilitaries.

The home-made device was in the back of a black Volkswagen car in the village of Castlewellan in the southeast of the British Province.

The device has now been made safe.

A telephone warning claimed the bomb was originally intended for a nearby British Army base but had been abandoned.

They callers claimed to be from a

dissident republican organisation — Catholic paramilitaries opposed to the peace process and wanting Northern Ireland to sever links with Britain and join the Republic of Ireland.

Bomb discoveries in Northern Ireland are now rare compared to the heights of The Troubles, the three decades of sectarian bloodshed in the province.

However, the last 18 months has seen an upsurge in violent activity from republican paramilitaries opposed to the peace process, including more than a dozen unsuccessful murder bids against police officers.

Internet

Gaza militants fire rockets into Israel

JERUSALEM, 1 Feb — Palestinian militants fired a rocket from Gaza on Saturday that exploded close to the southern Israeli city of Ashkelon without causing any damages or injuries, an Israeli military spokesman said.

Two more rockets were fired into southern Israel from Gaza on Sunday morning, neither causing damage or injuries, the military said. Israeli forces and Gaza militants are supposed to refrain from attacking each other under a fragile cease-fire. The truce has

been breached several times, making diplomatic efforts to build a lasting agreement difficult.

The rocket attacks were the first from Gaza since Thursday, said the Israeli military spokesman, who declined to be identified under army regulations. There was no claim of responsibility from any Palestinian militant group. Israel and Gaza’s Hamas rulers stopped fighting in late January after a fierce three-week Israeli offensive meant to halt eight years of near-daily rocket fire from Gaza at

southern Israel.

Nearly 1,300 Palestinians were killed in the fighting, about half of them civilians, according to the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights. Thirteen Israelis were also killed, three of them civilians, according to the government. Since then, Palestinian militants have fired rockets sporadically toward Israel and killed one soldier on Tuesday. Israel has conducted retaliatory strikes and pounded border tunnels it says Hamas uses to smuggle in weapons from Egypt.—Internet



Over 50 killed in Kenya oil blaze

NAIROBI, 1 Feb — More than 50 people were killed and dozens of others injured when an oil spill from a crashed truck burst into flames in Kenya on Saturday, local police and the Red Cross said.

The incident occurred near the central town of Molo, several hours’ drive from the Kenyan capital of Nairobi. Hundreds of people had crowded around the crashed truck in search of free fuel when the spill caught fire.—Internet

Passengers wait to enter a subway station after their arrival at Beijing Railway Station in Beijing, China, on 1 Feb, 2009. After the week-long Chinese New Year holiday, millions of Chinese people plan to travel by train to get back to work and schools from their hometowns.—INTERNET

Indonesia to subsidize public housing with 2.5 trillion rupiahs

JAKARTA, 1 Feb — The Indonesian government plans to subsidize the development of public housing across the country with 2.5 trillion rupiahs (about 222.9 million US dollars) in the 2009 fiscal year, said Indonesian Public Housing Minister Mohammad Yusuf Asy’ri on Saturday.

“The budget is for a subsidy for housing development for the people across Indonesia,” the minister said in western Indonesia’s Aceh Province, adding that the funds would be enough for building 170,000 units of land housing and around 40,000 units of apartment, according to national Antara news agency on Saturday.—Internet



A helicopter airlifted the summit cross of Germany’s highest mountain, the 2,962-metre (9,717-feet) Zugspitze, near of Garmisch-Partenkirchen, southern Germany. The 16-year-old cross was brought to the mountain’s base for restoration work that’s expected to last until Easter.

\$130,120 found in tire on side of highway

Police said \$130,120 cash discovered inside of an abandoned tire by Indiana Department of Transportation workers was likely drug money.

The Indiana State Police said the money was discovered by the highway workers on Friday while they were picking up litter along I-70 in Hancock County, the Indianapolis Star reported. The workers called the state police, who said the cash was rolled up in rubber bands, a common practice among drug couriers. A law enforcement dog detected the scent of drugs on the money.

US Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokesman Brett Sturgeon said officers will likely use notices in a newspaper to try to find the money’s rightful owner.

“In cases where there is no ownership, they will post a public notice in the local newspaper for three consecutive weeks before it is determined to be an administrative forfeiture,” Sturgeon said. “If no one petitions for the items or currency, it becomes the property of the government.”

NEWS ALBUM



The 3D-print of the head of a Chachapoya-Mummy from Peru is seen in the special exhibition “Darwin’s Legacy” at the Neanderthal Museum in Mettmann, western Germany. To mark the 200th birthday of British scientist Charles Darwin and the 150th anniversary of his theory of evolution, the museum is putting on several special exhibitions about the natural history of life on earth.

Scientists discover honey bees can count

Australian and German scientists say they have discovered honey bees can tell the difference between different numbers at a glance.

The researchers, led by Professor Shaowu Zhang of the Australian National University and Professors Hans Gross and Juergen Tautz of Wurzburg University in Germany, showed bees can discriminate between patterns containing two and three dots. With a bit of schooling, bees can learn to tell the difference between three and four dots.

Emperor penguins imperiled by melting ice

US researchers say Antarctica’s emperor penguins could be extinct in parts of the region by the end of the 21st century.

Biologists with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution say mathematical models suggest climate change and the resulting loss of sea ice could shrink the large penguin colony in Terre Adelie from 3,000 down to 400 breeding pairs before the end of this century.



The penguin bride and bridegroom dress up to attend their “wedding ceremony” at East Lake Ocean World Park in Wuhan, capital of central China’s Hubei Province. A couple of penguins in oestrus got married amid the blessing of raisers and tourists.



Savannah sparrow.—INTERNET

Afghan street protests after US raid kills two



A soldier of Afghan National Army takes picture of the wreckage of a vehicle used by a suicide bomber in the outskirts of Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, 1 Feb, 2009. The suicide bomber in a car attacked a convoy of foreign troops in the Afghan capital on Sunday, but there was no immediate word on casualties, a police officer said. Taliban militants claimed responsibility for the attack.—INTERNET

KABUL, 1 Feb—Hundreds of Afghans demonstrated on Sunday against an overnight US military raid that one villager said killed several civilians. The American military said its forces only killed two militants.

The angry protesters gathered on the main highway linking Kabul and Kandahar near the site of the raid, the latest to stir up Afghan ire against foreign

forces accused of killing civilians.

Also Sunday, a suicide bomber in a car attacked a convoy of foreign troops in Kabul, wounding two Afghans, police said. Taliban militants claimed responsibility for the attack.

The US military said that its overnight raid in southeastern Ghazni province targeted a militant who coordinates attacks using roadside bombs and other weapons. It said coalition forces conducting the operation called out for all inhabitants to leave the targeted home, but several people barricaded themselves inside one building.

Coalition troops forced their way in and killed two militants, the US military said in a statement.

Sayed Ismail Jahangir, a spokesman for Ghazni’s governor, said local officials also reported two people killed in the raid. “We are now investigating. Who are these two killed, civilians or insurgents?” Jahangir said.

The issue of civilian deaths is highly sensitive in Afghanistan. President Hamid Karzai has pleaded for years with US and NATO forces to prevent the deaths of innocent Afghans during military operations.

Internet

Government allies see gains in Iraqi elections

BAGHDAD, 1 Feb—Allies of Iraq’s US-backed prime minister appeared Sunday to have made gains in the provincial elections, rewarding groups credited with reining in insurgents and militias, according to unofficial projections.

Initial results from Saturday’s landmark voting are not expected for days. But reports by Iraqi media and interviews by *The Associated Press* suggest candidates backing Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki had strong showings in the crucial Shiite heartland in southern Iraq.

If the indications prove true, it would strengthen al-Maliki’s hand ahead of national elections later this year and reflect a shift away from the more

religious parties dominating the country.

Nationwide turnout was 51 percent, said Faraj al-Haidari, chairman of the election commission. It ranged from 40 percent in the Sunni-dominated Anbar province in western Iraq to 65 percent in the Salahuddin province, which includes the hometown of Saddam Hussein. Final figures were not yet ready for the Baghdad area, but al-Haidari said initial reports placed it at about 40 percent.

Al-Maliki’s supporters appeared to hold the lead in many areas of the south, including the key city of Basra and the Shiite spiritual center of Najaf, according to Iraq’s private Al-Sharqiya television. The trend was supported by voter comments in Basra and other areas.

Internet

More than 100 dead in Kenya gasoline blaze

MOLO (Kenya), 1 Feb —There were not nearly enough hospital beds—or body bags—after one of Kenya’s deadliest accidents in recent memory.

Burn victims lined the floors of overwhelmed hospitals on Sunday, hooked up to drips and moaning in pain after an overturned gasoline tanker exploded as hundreds of people tried to scoop up free fuel. More than 100 people were killed and 200 injured in the inferno, which was likely sparked by a cigarette.

“Everybody was screaming and most of them were running with fire on their bodies, they were just running into the bush,” said Charles Kamau, 22, who was driving through Molo on Saturday night when he saw the road blocked by

hundreds of people with gerry cans, plastic bottles and buckets—anything to siphon some free fuel.

As he waited for the crowd to disperse, the gasoline ignited with a blast that was felt miles

away. Prime Minister Raila Odinga said someone’s cigarette might have caused the explosion, but police said the cause remained under investigation.

Internet



A burn victim, injured in an explosion after a gasoline tanker overturned, is transported into Kenyatta National Hospital, after being transferred from Nakuru Provincial Hospital, in Nairobi, Kenya, Sunday, 1 Feb, 2009. Rescuers combed a scorched forest in Molo, Kenya, for corpses Sunday and burn victims overwhelmed hospitals after an overturned gasoline tanker exploded as hundreds of people were trying to scoop up free fuel. At least 113 were killed and nearly 200 hurt, officials said.—INTERNET



People look at the moon through a telescope during an event called “Stars night” at Mexico City’s main square on 31 Jan, 2009. The event is part of the International Year of Astronomy.

INTERNET

Bridge illuminated with white GaN LEDs. A new way of making LEDs could see household lighting bills reduced by up to 75% within five years. Gallium Nitride (GaN), a man-made semiconductor used to make LEDs (light emitting diodes), emits brilliant light but uses very little electricity. Until now high production costs have made GaN lighting too expensive for wide spread use in homes and offices.—INTERNET



**Member of
Commission for
Holding
Referendum
U Thaung Nyunt
meets UNSG's
Special Advisor
Mr Ibrahim
Agboola Gambari
at Seinle Kantha
State House.
(News on page 1)**
MNA



**31st ISD Golf Championship
commences**

YANGON, 1 Feb—The 31st Inter-State/Division Golf Championship 2009 kicked off at Ayethaya Golf Club in Taunggyi of Shan State this morning. It was attended by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Ya Pyae, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura

Aye Myint, officials, guests and golf enthusiasts. The commander, the minister, Patron of Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd) and officials launched the championship. After the opening ceremony, the first round of the championship commenced.—MNA



**UNSG's Special
Advisor Mr Ibrahim
Agboola Gambari
meets Ambassadors,
Chargés
d'Affaires of
foreign missions and
officials at Seinle
Kantha State House.
(News on page 1)**
MNA

**Yoma Technologies to conduct Java
professional courses**

YANGON, 1 Feb— Under the arrangements of a British Software Engineer, Yoma Technologies will open the Step by Step Computer Programming Course (Java) on 16 February, the Advanced Java Course on 23 February, the OJT Java Developer Course (JSE/J2SE) on 22 April and the Enterprise Java (JEE/J2EE) Course on 16 February. Step by Step Computer Programming Course (Java) will include subjects on Computer Programming Concepts, Introduction to Programming Using Java, Programming Logic & Control Structures, Recursion and Algorithms and Introduction to Object Oriented Programming (OOP). Advanced Java Course will comprise subjects on Object

Oriented Design and UML, Core Java/J2SE (Collections, I/O, Inner Classes, Generics, etc.) Java Swing API for GUI, Introduction to Relational Databases and SQL and Java Databases Connectivity (JDBC). Moreover, Software Development Lifecycle, Object Oriented System Analysis and Design, Software Architectures, Component Based Development, Software Engineering Best Practices and A practical software development project to apply all of the above will be conducted at the OJT Java Developer Course. Enterprise Java Course will comprise subjects on EJB 2, JPA for Object-Relational Mapping, JTA with EJB, JMA with EJB, Servlets, JSP to extend Servlets and JSF the latest Java Web

Application Framework. Those wishing to attend the courses may contact Yoma Technologies in Hline Township, at room No. 3, Building-2, Myanmar Info-Tech, Tel: 652264, extension: 15, 703230 and 503599. MNA

**Mdy Mayor inspects development
undertakings in Mandalay**

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Feb— Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han on 26 February inspected dredging of drains for proper flow of water in the area of Mandalay Zaygyo Market in Chanayethazan Township

and gave instructions to officials. The mayor looked into construction of the road and earth work in Amarapura Township, progress in building No. 6 Bridge across the sewerage drain in Pyigyidagun Township Industrial Zone, dredging

of drains, extension of Mandalay-Pyin Oo Lwin Road and construction of Mandalay ring road. At No. 1 Integrated Farm in Patheingyi Township, the mayor viewed the bio-gas digester and milch cow farming and attended to the needs.—MNA

**Prizes awarded to outstanding
students in Myanmar subject**

YANGON, 1 Feb—The 30th prize presentation ceremony of Gondu Myanmar Sar and Gondu Yadana Advanced Education Boarding School was held at Royal Garden Hotel at Kandawgyi Gardens, here, on 25 January. Gondu U Thein Naing, Sayama Daw Kyi Kyi Tin and Sayama Daw Khin San Myint awarded prizes and books to 144

outstanding students and gold medals to Maung Kyaw Swa Lin and Ma Hsu Myat Sandi Aung who stood first in the Myanmar subject in the matriculation examination throughout the nation, Ma Ei Ei Hlaing and Ma Phyu Phyu Khin who stood first and second in the all subjects in the entire nation and other outstanding students. MNA

**Taungson BEHS will pay
respects to teachers**

YANGON, 1 Feb—The 10th ceremony to pay respects to the teachers of Taungson Basic Education High School in Bilin Township, Mon State will be held at the school at 3 p.m. on 14 February. The organizing committee has sent the invitation cards to the

teachers who have turned 60 and the old students. The teachers and students are requested to attend the ceremony. The wellwishers may donate cash and kind to the headmaster and Chairman of Organizing Committee U Maung Htein and Secretary U Tu. MNA

Drive safely

YCDC upgrading roads, sanitation for proper flow of water

YANGON, 1 Feb—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected tarmacking of 1,500 feet long and 12 feet wide Taungthugon Baho Road with the use of heavy machinery in Taungthugon Ward in Insein Township, upgrading of Myaingthaya Road to a concrete one that measures 1,325 feet by 10 feet, and preparations for carrying out sanitation at Kathwe Creek for proper flow of water in the ward.

Head of Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) U Bo Htay and townselders conducted the mayor round the worksites.

Afterwards, the mayor gave instructions on upgrading of roads, proper flow of water at drains and fulfilled the requirements.

The Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) of YCDC is carrying out the tasks of upgrading Taungthugon Baho Road, Myaingthaya Road, U San Lon Road and Okyedwin Road in Taungthugon Ward of Insein Township and proper flow of water at Kathwe Creek.—MNA



Hlinethaya Township Music Asiayon formed

YANGON, 1 Feb—Hlinethaya Township Music Asiayon Organizing Committee was formed at Ahmata Thukha Hall in Hlinethaya Township, here, yesterday.

It was attended by the chairman of Hlinethaya Township Peace and Development Council and members, departmental officials, chairmen and secretaries of social organizations, the executives and musicians of Myanmar Music Asiayon (Central).

The Chairman of

Hlinethaya Township PDC delivered an address at the ceremony.

Pyinmana U Myint Hlaing explained the matters of the formation of the Asiayon. The Asiayon was formed with Taungdwin Maung Lwan Wai as chairman, Composer Win Soe as Vice-Chairman, Maung Sein Aung (ShweKanMyay) as Secretary, Myat Wai Toe as Joint Secretary, Kawt Mai as Treasurer and Taungdwin Lin Kyi as information leader, Min Htet Tha as organizer and four members.—MNA

Hlinethaya-Athok 230 KV power grid project under way

YANGON, 1 Feb—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint visited No. 147 tower of Hlinethaya-Athok 230 KV power grid near Kazindaw Village in Pantanaw Township this morning.

The minister inspected stockpiling of construction materials and bored pile foundation to change tension tower to suspension tower.

Officials concerned reported on construction of Hlinethaya-Athok 230 KV power grid and power lines across Ayeyawady River and bored pile foundation.

The minister gave



instructions on completion of the project in time and worksite safety.

MNA

Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects reconstruction of towers at Hlinethaya-Athok power grid in Pantanaw Township. —EP NO. 2

Prize-presentation for outstanding students of Rakhine Association (Yangon) on 28 Feb

YANGON, 1 Feb—The prize-presentation for outstanding students of Rakhine Women's Association (Yangon) and Rakhine Association (Yangon) will be held at Rakhine State Dhammayon on Arzarni Beikman Road in Bahan Township on 28 February.

Those who stood first, second and third in

Rakhine State in the 2008 matriculation examination, those who won two distinctions and above, winners in the international level competitions and well-wishers may contact U Khin Maung Soe (phone 552126), U Kyaw Yin (phone 095126489), U Myo Swe (phone 095001180), U Zaw Aye

Maung (phone 095140407), Daw Mya Win (phone 573143), Daw Win May (phone 387451), Daw Khine Nu (phone 510922), Daw Mya Nyunt (phone 226425), U Tun Naing (phone 095013887), U Hla Maung Thein (phone 095139790), U Oo Myint Kyaw (phone 095064653) and U Kyaw Naing (095001964).—MNA

Journalism Course of MWJA commences

YANGON, 1 Feb—The Journalism Course No. 1/2009, conducted by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, was opened at the hall of MWJA on Merchant Street, here, this morning.

Leader of the Supervisory Committee for the course U Tin Kha

(Tekkatho Tin Kha) delivered an address.

Secretary of MWJA Dr Tin Tun Oo (Dr Tin Tun Oo) explained the purpose of opening the course, and Secretary of the Supervisory Committee U Ko Ko (Ko Ko-Sethmu Tekkatho), providing of lectures at the course. It

was also attended by Managing Director U Aung Nyein of Printing and Publishing Enterprise, Chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), CEC members, officials and course instructors. The course is being attended by 47 trainees and the course will last 10 weeks.—MNA



Leader of Supervisory Committee U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) speaking at opening of Journalism Course conducted by MWJA.—MNA

Buthidaung Township gaining development momentum in all aspects

Article: Reporter Singu Soe Win; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

(from page 16)
On our way to Buthidaung Township, we witnessed timber extraction work with the use of elephants and machinery. From high Mayyu mountain range, timber logs and elephants in the extraction site seemed very small.



Ironwood plantation thriving on Mayyu mountain range.

Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Lwin Maung Maung, Head of Information and Public Relations Department Daw Amar Yi and For-ester U Kyaw Sein Mra, cameramen U Tin Soe took documentary photos on thriving teak and ironwood plantations by the road to Maungtaw, six miles from Buthidaung.

At the guest house, we learned matters related to monsoon and summer paddy, cold sea-son crops and edible oil crops from Township Agriculture Service U Sein Tun Mra and Deputy Head of Town-ship Settlement and Land Records Department U Mra Aung Tha.

Up to 2 December 2008, Buthidaung Town-ship has harvested 67,245 acres of monsoon

paddy and produced 5,013,940 acres of paddy. The average yield of the region was 74.56 baskets per acre. In the previous year, the township yielded 71.5 baskets per acre achieving 138 per cent of rice sufficiency. The township has put 20,753 acres of land under sum-mer paddy and cold sea-

million for 1,953 build-ings. So far, the commit-tee has levied over K 182.6 million as taxes.”

The committee is car-rying out development tasks including construc-tion of a clock tower and landscapes near the port, the landscape works at the junction of Danyawady and Mayyu roads, plac-ing of curbstones and growing of landscapes and shady trees along Bogyoke, Mayyu and Danyawady roads and painting of signboards, clock tower and curbstones.

Moreover, a total of 31 streets, bridges and 33 conduits are under con-struction in the urban area. The committee has spent K 97.20 million on con-struction of four miles and three furlongs long tarred road and four miles and two furlongs long gravel



The 16-acre Kandawgyi Lake, water source for potable water of local people in Buthidaung Township.

A total of 33 million gallons of water is being supplied to six wards from 16-acre Kandawgyi Lake daily through 14 water tanks and 164 water taps. Moreover, water can be available at four earthen lakes for the public use.

Out of eight rural roads stretching 61 miles and four furlongs, the committee spent K 62.50 million on construction of

23 miles and four furlongs long gravel roads and 38 miles long earth roads. Furthermore, a total of 26 bridges and conduits were built on the rural roads by spending K 18.23 million.

As part of efforts to supply water to rural ar-eas, a total of 27 earthen lakes were dug and fenced by spending K 12.15 mil-lion. In 2008-09 financial year, the committee is con-

structing eight tarred and gravel roads stretching 8,640 feet in urban area. A total of 10 more earthen rural lakes are being dug at two model villages and four other villages where water is scarce.

In the township, al-together 704 private en-trepreneurs grew 2,192 acres of rubber plants. Of them, a total of 1,544 acres of rubber planta-tions are thriving in the township and rubber la-tex can be extracted from most of plantations.

Out of 339 villages in the township, self-re-li-ant libraries have been opened in 290 villages. Actually, remarkable progress can be witnessed in Buthidaung Township in Rakhine State and it is on a par with develop-ment of other townships.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
23-1-2009



A gravel road under construction in urban area of Buthidaung.

son crops against the tar-get of 58,782 acres.

In interviews, Execu-tive Officer U Saw Wai of Township Development Affairs Committee and engineer in-charge U Min Min Tun said, “The Town-ship DAC set the plan to earn K 209 million income in 2008-2009 fi-nancial year. In levying the taxes, the committee has collected over K 2.7

road out of 11 miles long urban roads. Furthermore, the remaining earth and gravel roads are under construction in accord with the plans yearly. The committee is making ef-forts for building 21 rein-forced concrete bridges and two concrete conduits and upgrading 10 wooden bridges to the concrete ones by spending its funds yearly.



Local people reading at the library of Township IPRD.

Inadequate hygiene raises teen MRSA risk

ATLANTA, 1 Feb—Inadequate hygiene among high school athletes increases their risk of contracting methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, US health officials said.

The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention’s Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Report said effective MRSA skin and soft tissue infection outbreak prevention among high school football programs could be achieved by designing processes and facilities to enable and promote optimal player hygiene and better educating coaching staff. The investigation of a high school football team MRSA outbreak in New York in 2007 suggests that football training camps are a setting where multiple risk factors converge to increase the likelihood of MRSA outbreaks. These risk factors include inadequate hygiene among players like sharing personal items, inadequate skin injury care and possibly crowded living conditions.

Outbreaks of soft tissue infection like MRSA continue to be a problem among football teams, especially at the high school level, the report said.—Internet

A helicopter with supplies flies towards the Chinese supply ship Weishanhu in the Gulf of Aden, on 32 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET



Protesters rally against world economic forum

GENEVA (Switzerland), 1 Feb—Hundreds of people rallied in Geneva and Davos on Saturday to protest against the World Economic Forum, saying the elite gathered for its annual meeting are not qualified to fix the world’s problems.

Carrying banners reading ‘You are the Crisis’ and throwing snowballs, several hundred protesters marched to fences surrounding the heavily guarded Hotel Seehof in the Davos ski resort, where many world leaders and business people stay during the forum.

Protester Alex Heideger, a member of the

Davos Green Party, said these were the people to blame for the economic mess. “It’s the same people who came last year and said the world economic situation is fine, and now we’re in a financial crisis. Now it’s the taxpayer who has to solve the whole problem. “It’s people like you and me who have to pay for it with their tax money,” he said.

In Geneva, where the WEF has its headquarters,

police in riot gear fired tear gas and water canon to disperse a crowd that had gathered in a square near the train station, sending people running in all directions. Witnesses said there did not appear to be any violence by the protesters besides some thrown bottles. One of the groups organizing the rally later accused Geneva authorities of responding with disproportionate force to the demonstration.

Internet

Six sarcophaguses made of clay from the Chachapoyas culture, where people buried their leaders, are seen in a cliff at the valley of Luya in Chachapoyas on 31 Jan, 2009. The sarcophaguses, which date around 1,000 years, are set around 30 meters (98 feet) above a pathway in a bare cliff.—INTERNET



Paramedics at the Wilson airport in Nairobi attend to a man burnt after an oil truck crashed and burst into fire near the Rift Valley town of Molo on 1 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Exercise no danger for healthy joints

BOSTON, 1 Feb—In the absence of existing joint injury there is no increased risk of

osteoarthritis from exercise, US and German researchers said.

Although exercise is widely promoted as being beneficial for weight control, disease management in cardiovascular disease and diabetes, as well as psychological well-being, there is a perception that exercise is potentially deleterious to one’s joints, lead researcher Dr David Hunter of New England Baptist Hospital said.

Researchers from Boston and Ainring, Ger-

many, reviewed existing studies on the relationship between regular exercise and osteoarthritis.

“We found that in elite athletes where there was more likelihood of obtaining sports injuries, there was an increased risk of osteoarthritis in the damaged joints, but in most people vigorous, low-impact exercise is beneficial for both its physical and mental benefits,” Hunter said in a statement.

Internet

Report says Taliban warns Obama more troops in Afghanistan will lead to more bloodshed

KABUL, 1 Feb — A Taliban leader warned President Obama Saturday that his plans to increase troops in Afghanistan will lead to more violence, Al Jazeera reported.

The comments were made by Taliban leader Mullah Mohamad Rasul and broadcast on Al Jazeera TV on Saturday. “Just as they are bringing more troops, so too the Taliban will have more troops,” Rasul, a former governor of the Afghan Province Nimruz, told Al Jazeera.

Rasul said bands of bombers were organizing and ready to fight the US military, according to the station. Obama promised during the presidential campaign to increase troop levels and resources for the war the United States is fighting in Afghanistan. There are currently 36,000 US troops in Afghanistan.

Internet

BPA remains in body after 24 hours

ROCHESTER, 1 Feb—Surprisingly high levels of the chemical bisphenol A remain in the bodies of some people even after they fast for as long as 24 hours, US researchers said. The finding, published online in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives, suggests BPA exposure may come from non-food sources, or that BPA is not rapidly metabolized, or both.

Researchers at the University of Rochester Medical Centre said the research is important because, until now, scientists believed BPA was excreted quickly and that people were exposed to BPA primarily through food.

Manufacturers use BPA to harden plastics in many types of products, but it is also used in PVC water pipes, food storage containers, the inside of metal food cans and dental sealants.

Lead author Dr Richard W Stahlhut of the University of Rochester’s Environmental Health Sciences Centre and colleagues obtained data for a sample of 1,469 US adults through the Centre for Disease Control’s National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.—Internet



Invitation To Tender

Save the Children is an international aid agency responding to Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar. Save the Children wish to invite competent, reliable and legally registered construction companies for the construction of sub rural health centres as follows;

- 2 centres in Ngapudaw Township (Ayeyarwaddy division) Ref#CONS/HEA/NPW/001
- 4 centres in Kyauktan Township (Yangon division) Ref # CONS/HEA/KYT/002
- 4 centres in Kungyangone Township (Yangon division) Ref # CONS/HEA/KCG/003

The interested bidders can obtain the complete set of bidding documents at SC offices in

- Kyauktan, No. 25 Saybowa Block, Yangon-Kyauktan road
- Yangon, No. 224 A, Solomon Tower, 2nd Floor, U Wisara Road, Bahan Township
- Kunchangone, No. 102 Myoma street, Myoma Block
- Thingangon, Ywarma Street, Ywarma quarter, Ngapudaw Township
- The bidding documents can be collected not later than 6th February 2009 at 17.00 h
- The bidding SEALED documents should be received by Save the Children not later than 13th February 2009 at 17.00 h; clearly specifying Ref # on the envelope.



Young customers choose their favourite comic book as Rikimaru Toho (back), a comic book storyteller, entertains on the street in Tokyo.—INTERNET

Iran’s police seizes 1,000 kg drugs and detains 14 smugglers

TEHERAN, 1 Feb—Iran’s Police seized about 1,000 kg of drugs and detained 14 smugglers in the last three days, the official IRNA news agency reported on Saturday.

In an announcement released by the Information and Media Communication Centre of Iran’s Police on Saturday, the police forces, in a number of operations in different parts of the country, “seized 918 kg of drugs...and detained 14 smugglers.”

In November, Iran’s Drug Control Headquarters (DCH) announced that Iran would seal all the borders of the country within two years to control drugs

smuggling.

Secretary General of the DCH Ismail Ahmadi-Moqaddam said that Iran intended to end the flow of narcotics through the country in the near future, the report said.

“Teheran is prepared to train Afghan police in a bid to reduce drug cultivation in the country,” he said.

Iran is located at the crossroad of international drug smuggling from Afghanistan, the world’s top opium producer, to Europe.

The country has seized some 375 tons of narcotics in the past eight months and “it has also spent over 600 million US dollars in the last two years to dig canals, build barriers and install barbed wire to seal off the country’s borders.”

Internet



A coal-fired power station on the outskirts of Beijing. Every 30 seconds a baby is born with physical defects in China, partly due to the country’s deteriorating environment, state media said, citing a senior family planning official.—INTERNET

Mafia still big business in Italy

ROME, 1 Feb—The four major Italian mob organizations had revenues last year equal to 9 percent of the country’s gross domestic product in 2008, a think tank reports.

Eurispes estimated the mob’s total income at 130 billion euros (\$167 billion). Drugs continued to be the biggest share of the business, generating an estimated 59 billion euros (\$76 billion).The major crime organizations are regionally based. They are the Cosa Nostra in Sicily, the Camorra in Naples, Ndrangheta in Calabria and Sacra Corona Unita in Puglia.

Environmental crimes have become more important and are now the second-biggest money-maker, the report said. It put the revenue brought in by trafficking in illegal waste and similar activities at 16 billion euros (\$21 billion).More traditional mob crimes are still important, including loansharking, protection and arms trafficking.

Last year, police seized a total of 5.2 billion euros (\$6.7 billion) in Mafia assets, getting the most from Cosa Nostra, followed by Camorra and Ndrangheta.

Internet

Thousands without power in Kentucky

LEXINGTON, 1 Feb—Kentucky still struggled on Saturday with the effects of a deadly ice storm that brought the worst power outage in the state’s history. About 4,600 Guard members will be dispatched to the hardest-hit area, WKYT.com reported.

Gov Steve Beshear called the storm “the biggest natural disaster in the state’s modern history,” WKYT said. The governor said 450,000 people still had no electricity in their homes late Saturday, down from 700,000 on Thursday.

Thousands of people also had no water service. “It’s going to take some time to dig our way out of this,” the governor said.The western part of the state was hit the hardest, he said.

Jamie Gunnels said she had been told her power might not be restored for several days. “We were sitting there being thankful that we still had power,” she said. “A few minutes after we said we were thankful we had power, it went out.”

Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson said there had been at least four deaths from the storm, three people in one family killed by an improperly vented generator and another person who was using a charcoal grill for heat. —Internet

Med school official gets prison

LOS ANGELES, 1 Feb —A former official at a Los Angeles medical school was sentenced to more than four years in prison this week for stealing cadavers for commercial sale.

In addition to serving four years and four months behind bars, Henry Reid must repay the UCLA Medical School \$500,000, Injuryboard.com reported on Saturday. Superior Court Judge Curtis Rappe refused to delay Reid’s prison sentence to allow him to get medical treatment, saying he should have taken care of his problems after he pleaded guilty in October.

“He needs to get this behind him,” Rappe told Reid’s lawyer.

Internet

Egypt ‘to monitor Gaza tunnels’

CAIRO,1 Feb—Egypt says it has begun to install cameras and motion sensors along the border with Gaza to try to stop weapons smuggling by Palestinian militants.

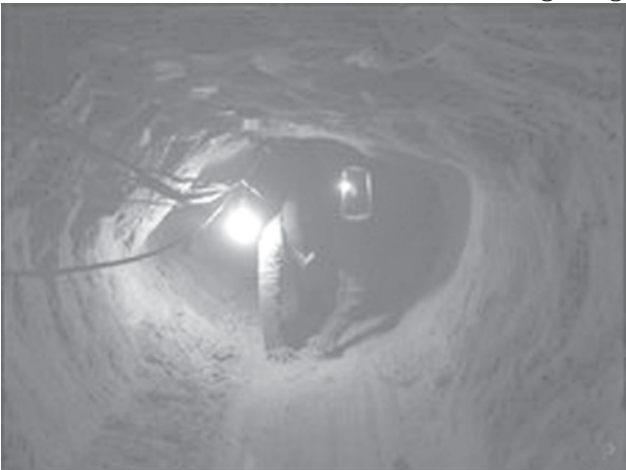
Tighter surveillance of the tunnels is one of Israel’s key conditions for maintaining the ceasefire that ended its three-week offensive against Hamas.The tunnels were used to smuggle food and medicine, as well as arms.Israel bombed them, but when the fighting stopped some were still usable and others have been repaired.

Egyptian security sources said the authorities had begun installing the equipment in the last few days along the 14km (8-mile) border with the help of American, French and German expertise. Reuters news agency quoted the sources as saying they hoped the equipment would detect any new tunnel-building activity in the area.

Internet

Some tunnels are operating again despite the bombardment.

INTERNET



Malaysia's second astronaut's mission extended

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 Feb— The Malaysian Science, Technology and Innovations Ministry has extended its contract with the country's second astronaut Faiz Khaleed for two years, local media reported on Saturday.

Faiz had accepted the offer, which means he would stand by as the country's candidate astronaut until 2011 to see if there is any opportunity to enter space.

Faiz said that he was ready to undergo the rigorous astronaut training if the government decided to restart its space programme that it had momentarily stopped.

The injuries to his arm were fully healed and doctors had given the all-clear for him to pursue all types of activities, he told reporters on Saturday.

Faiz was reportedly injured when robbers armed with machetes at-

tacked him and a friend in front of his house near here in November 2007.

He reportedly suffered a 5cm long gash on his left arm that almost reached his bone and needed more than 100 stitches for the eight injured tendons controlling his fingers. Malaysia's first astronaut Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor went into space aboard a Russian spaceship in October 2007.—Internet



A cow lies dead in Carhue, Argentina, on 31 Jan, 2009. Argentina's farming provinces have been hit by the worst drought in decades that has killed nearly one million animals and destroyed crops.—INTERNET

Five newborns killed, one injured in India hospital fire

CHANDIGARH, 1 Feb— Five newborns, all less than a week old, were killed and another was injured on Saturday in northern India after a short circuit sparked a fire in the hospital maternity ward where they were being treated for jaundice.

The blaze began before dawn at the state-run Rajendra hospital in the city of Patiala, apparently after a machine that

helps treat jaundiced babies by exposing them to a special light malfunctioned, said police officer Pritpal Singh. Five other newborns were rescued, including one that suffered burns. All the babies were under a week old and receiving treatment under the phototherapy machine.

"There was a short circuit in the tubes of the

machines," hospital superintendent Surinder Singh told a local television station. "The staff reacted immediately, but unfortunately five babies could not be saved." Television footage showed several weeping relatives outside the hospital, including some of the mothers who had been in nearby rooms at the time of the fire.

Internet

Study shows illness impairs driving ability

LONDON, 1 Feb —A study done for a British insurance company finds that colds, flu, headaches and other illnesses can impair driving ability.

A research agency, PCP, compared the performance of 100 drivers suffering from different conditions and 50 drivers in good health on a

hazard simulator, the BBC reported.

Sixty of the drivers had colds or flu and 40 other problems, including premenstrual syndrome. On average, reaction times and other measures of driving performance were 11 percent worse for the sick drivers.

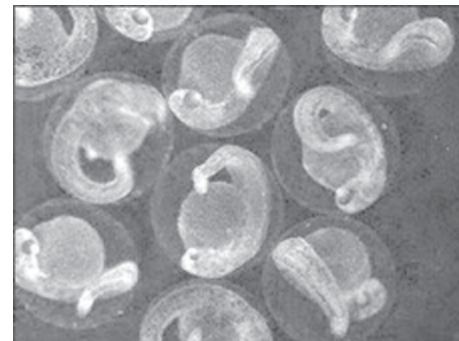
Internet



Children run outside the Kuelap Fortress, 3000 metres (9840 feet) above sea level, in the Andean region of Chachapollas on 30 Jan, 2009. The archaeological site of Kuelap, constructed by the Chachapollas pre-Inca culture in about 800 AD, is a massive exterior of stone walls that rise up to 19 metres (62 feet) and contains more than four hundred buildings.

INTERNET

Cancer protection secret revealed



Zebrafish share the p53 gene with humans.—INTERNET

LONDON, 1 Feb —Scientists say they have discovered a missing link in the way cells protect themselves against cancer. They have uncovered how cells switch a gene called p53, which can block the development of tumours, on and off.

The researchers say the finding has important implications for cancer treatment and diagnosis. The study, published in *Genes And Development*, was carried out by teams of scientists in Singapore and the University of Dundee. The p53 gene, first discovered 30 years ago, plays a vital role in keeping the body healthy by ordering damaged cells to commit suicide, or by stopping them dividing while key repair work is carried out.

In half of all cancers the gene is either damaged or inactive, giving damaged cells a free rein to keep dividing and form cancer. In the latest study, the scientists used a genetic trick to make zebrafish turn green when the p53 gene was switched on to explore the way it was regulated.—Internet

Police investigate missing art dealer

SYDNEY, 1 Feb—An Australian art dealer has disappeared, leaving clients wondering where their money and artworks are. Police are trying to determine if Ron Coles was involved in art forgery, the Melbourne Sun-Herald reported. The newspaper

cited sources in the art world who said that dubious paintings ostensibly by well-known Australian painters may be flooding the market.

"It's been common knowledge for a while — we knew this was going to blow," one source told

the newspaper. "Nobody wanted to undermine confidence in the industry. Like it or not, the truth is now going to emerge."

The source said one painter, d'Arcy Doyle, "was not a prolific painter and yet in recent times, there has been a never-ending stream of fresh works."

Coles, who operated a gallery in Sydney, offered art as an investment, with many of his clients putting money from their retirement accounts into portfolios of artworks. Police say they have received 150 complaints from people who say Coles owes them money, including some who say they saw art they thought they owned on the Internet attributed to other owners.

Internet



A worker dispenses insecticide near Kuala Lumpur. Malaysia said on Friday it was battling its worst ever outbreak of dengue fever, with 14 deaths and some 5,062 cases of the mosquito-borne disease so far this year.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Raul matches di Stefano as Real cut Barca lead



Real Madrid's captain marvel Raul, joined Alfredo di Stefano as the club's all-time leading scorer with 307 goals on Saturday as he helped his team cut Barcelona's lead to nine points.—INTERNET

MADRID, 1 Feb—Real Madrid's captain marvel Raul joined Alfredo di Stefano as the club's all-time leading scorer with 307 goals on Saturday as he helped his team cut Barcelona's lead to nine points. Raul, 31, scored his historic goal in the 48th minute of the 2-0 win at Numancia following in after Gonzalo Higuain's shot had been parried. Dutch winger Arjen Robben scored a great individual goal on 56 minutes to clinch Real's sixth successive league win. Barcelona are at Racing Santander on Sunday aiming to stretch their 19-game unbeaten league run. Raul has spent 14 years in the Real first team and after becoming the youngest player to reach 500 league games for the club in January, the number seven reached another personal landmark on Saturday.—Internet

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Manchester United's midfielder Cristiano Ronaldo scores from a penalty during their English Premiership football match against Everton at Old Trafford in Manchester. Manchester United went five points clear at the top of the English Premier League with a 1-0 win over Everton.—INTERNET

Manchester United manager ready for title twists

MANCHESTER, 1 Feb—Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson said he expected there to be tricky moments between now and the end of the season after seeing his side extend their Premier League lead. United's 1-0 win over Everton at Old Trafford here Saturday left then five points clear

at the top of the table with 15 league games remaining and ideally placed to claim a third successive Premier League title.

But Ferguson refused to get carried away after Cristiano Ronaldo's first-half penalty earned his side a seventh straight league win. "The important thing is we keep the form going," said Ferguson. "We have a difficult game away to West Ham next week. All teams drop points in the run-in. We just hope we don't drop as many as the rest," the Scot added.—Internet



Paris' forward Stephane Sessegnon (R) clashes with Caen's defender Benjamin Nivet (L) during their French L1 football match at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris. Paris Saint Germain's 2-0 home victory over Caen at the Parc des Princes on Saturday shot them up to provisional third spot in the French league, days before their club president departs.—INTERNET

PSG victory boosts morale before president switch

PARIS, 1 Feb—Paris Saint Germain's 2-0 home victory over Caen at the Parc des Princes on Saturday shot them up to third spot in the French league, days before their club president departs.

Guillaume Hoarau and Peguy Luyindula scored in the second half for a symbolic victory for PSG in the interim period between the announcement of the resignation of Charles Villeneuve and the General Assembly on February 3 when his successor, expected to be Sebastien Bazin, will be officially nominated.

PSG coach Puel Le Guen said on the off-pitch matters: "Things need to be cleared up and they will be. We have tried hard to protect the squad and a real group effort has managed to do that. We have just tried to focus on our footballing goals." Luyindula is anxious to extend his contract, which runs for the next 18 months, and his goal against Caen will not have done him any harm on that score.—Internet

Huge boost for tennis in cricket-obsessed India

MELBOURNE, 1 Feb—Mahesh Bhupathi and Sania Mirza say their historic Australian Open mixed doubles success on Sunday will give the sport a huge boost back home in cricket-obsessed India.

Bhupathi and Mirza became the first Indian pair to win a Grand Slam mixed doubles title when they crushed Andy Ram of Israel and Frenchwoman Nathalie Dechy 6-3, 6-1. It rounded off a successful tournament for India after 16-year-old Yuki Bhambri won the boys' junior championship on Saturday, while Bhupathi also made the final of the men's doubles alongside Mark Knowles of the Bahamas.

"You know, it's great, I don't remember the last time when we had so many — I mean, he (Bhupathi) played the finals, we won today, Yuki won. It's been a great two weeks," Mirza said. "Let's hope a lot more people play, and tennis grows. It's been growing — it might take it to another level."

Internet



Mahesh Bhupathi (right) and Sania Mirza became the first Indian pair to win a Grand Slam mixed doubles title on Sunday when they crushed Andy Ram of Israel and Frenchwoman Nathalie Dechy 6-3, 6-1.—INTERNET

Serena wins fourth Australian Open title



Serena Williams thrashed Russia's Dinara Safina 6-0, 6-3 to win her fourth Australian Open title, bringing up her 10th Grand Slam and reclaiming the world number one ranking on the way.—INTERNET

MELBOURNE, 1 Feb—Serena Williams thrashed Russia's Dinara Safina 6-0, 6-3 to win her fourth Australian Open title Saturday, bringing up her 10th Grand Slam and reclaiming the world number one ranking on the way. In one of the most lop-sided deciders ever, the American utterly dominated third seed Safina, allowing her opponent to win only eight points in the first set and claiming the championship in less than an hour.

"I'm so excited ... I clearly love playing here and I get great support here. I don't get that every place I go," Williams said, after winning the first women's night final played in the Rod Laver Arena. Williams, the second seed, emphatically backed up her pre-tournament comments that she was the best women's tennis player in the world and will now officially reclaim the top ranking from Serbia's Jelena Jankovic.—Internet

Safina vows to bounce back from crushing tennis loss

MELBOURNE, 1 Feb—An exhausted Dinara Safina has vowed to pick herself up and bounce back after being thrashed by Serena Williams in one of the most lop-sided women's Grand Slam finals in history.

The Russian third seed was humiliated 6-0, 6-3 by the American at the Australian Open on Saturday, not only losing the title but missing out on becoming world number one. She confessed to being completely wiped out.—Internet

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

1	C	2	L	3	E	A	N		4	B	5	R	E	S	T			
7	G		A		L		D		8			O		U		9	R	
10	R	E	S	T	I	V	E			11	G	O	R	S	E			
	A		S		M				N		U		P		V			
12	P	H	O	T	O				13	I	14	T	E	R	A	T	E	
	H					15	N	16	A	M	E				S		L	
		17	C	18	A	L	Y	X		19	N	20	O	I	S	E		
21	S			S					22	E	23	D	D	Y			24	S
25	C	A	S	C	26	A	D	E			27	S	A	28	B	O	T	
	A			U		D				B		T		R			R	
29	L	E	A	V	E				30	A	N	E	M	O	N	E		
	E		G		P					R		R		O			W	
		31	P	E	T	T	Y			32	A	S	I	D	E			

Rafa, Roger move Grand Slam road show to Melbourne



Spain's Rafael Nadal

MELBOURNE, 1 Feb—Roger Federer can grab a share of tennis history with a win over Rafael Nadal in the Australian Open final on Sunday, when the two best players in men's tennis will reach a milestone just by walking onto the court at Rod Laver Arena.

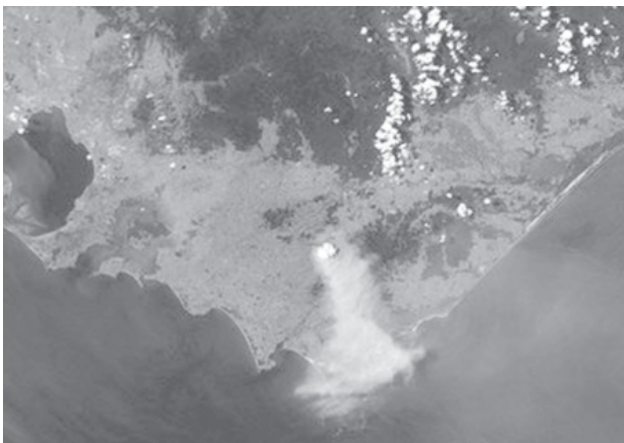
It will mark the first time that Federer and Nadal have met each other in a Grand Slam final outside of London or Paris. They've played each other six times in major finals — three on grass at Wimbledon and three on clay at Roland Garros.

Internet

**Captain Kyaw Zaw (91 years old)
Master Mariner (F.G)
Cdr (Retd.) Myanmar Navy**

Beloved son of the late U Ba Sein (KSM, TPS, ATM) Daw Saw Yee, son-in-law of U Kha (Architect) and Daw Daw Thaik, husband of Daw Chit Swe, and beloved father of U Kyaw Aung Soe (C/E, Gewin)-Dr. Toe Toe Tin, Captain Aung Kyi-Daw Nwe Nwe Win, Daw Kyi Kyi May, Prof.Lt.Col. Yin Yin Zaw-Colonel Zaw Win Myint (ret'd), DG (R.T.A.D), Daw Htwe Htwe Zaw-Maung Maung Nyunt, of 802, Bldg. (B), Shwe Gon Dine Tower, 212, Shwe Gon Dine Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, passed away peacefully at DSGH, Mingalardon, on 1-2-2009. Funeral will take place on 3-2-2009 (Tuesday) at Ye Way Crematorium at 2:00 PM.

Bereaved family



A NASA Earth Observatory photo shows a large plume of smoke spreading southward from a fire (outlined) in Victoria's Gippsland region, Australia, on 30 January. Wildfires that destroyed at least 28 homes in Australia were coming under control Sunday as a blistering heatwave that claimed dozens of lives eased, officials said.—INTERNET

Moderate quake jolts S Philippines

MANILA, 1 Feb—A 4.5-magnitude earthquake struck the southeastern part of the Mindanao region of south Philippines on Sunday, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said.

The quake's center was located near Digos city of Davao del Sur province. There was no report of casualties.

Internet

**MRTV-3
Programme Schedule
(2.2.2009) (Monday)**

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

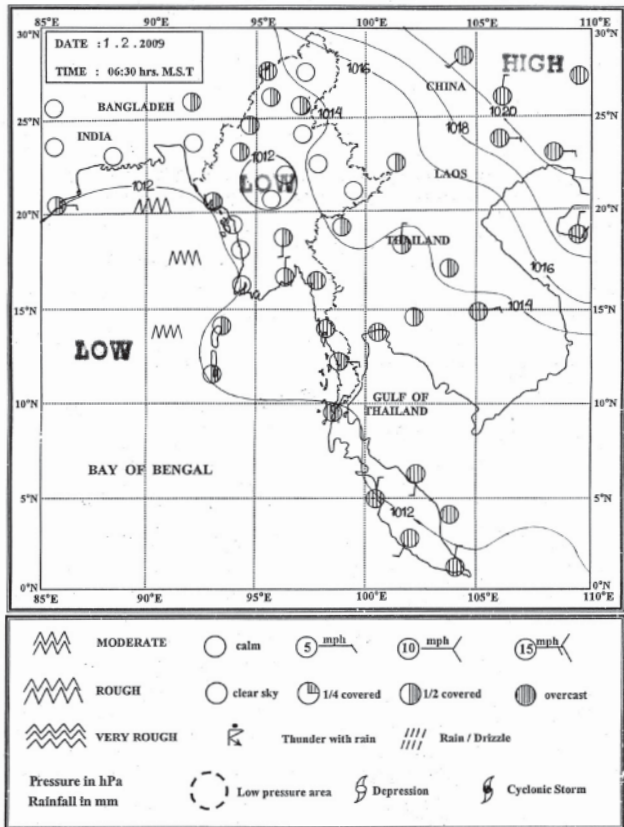
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Hill Resort Town (Thandaung)
- * National Landmarks Garden
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Myanmar Traditional Marionette Theatre (Part-II)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Abroad Transmissions

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Aungpan Oranges
- * Kiss of Death
- * With the Gentle Breeze...
- * Myanmar Traditional Marionette Theatre (Part-I)
- * Women with Remarkable Necks
- * Village Use Area Zoning Process (Hukaung Tiger Reserve)
- * Glazed Earthen Pot
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Hill Resort Town (Thandaung)
- * Modern Embroidery
- * Simple and Beautiful Rural Life
- * National Landmarks Garden
- * Myanmar Traditional Marionette Theatre (Part-II)
- * The Art of Glass Mosaic
- * A Day in Yangon (Bogyoke Aung San Market)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 1 February, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Kachin State, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) below February average temperatures in Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Namhsam (3°C) and Haka (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 31-1-2009 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 1-2-2009 was 61°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 1-2-2009 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 31-1-2009 was (6.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 1-2-2009 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 (5) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 31-1-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 2nd February 2009: Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy in Mon State, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. 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 isolated light rain in the extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 2-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-2-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-2-2009: Generally fair weather.



**Monday, 2 February
View on today**

7:00 am

1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Cute little dancers

7:50 am

5. Nice and sweet song

8:00 am

6. အတီးမြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

7. “ချစ်လွန်းလို့”
(ဇိုးဖြူ၊ ခင်စိုးဝင်း၊ မျိုးမျိုးခိုင်)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)

8:20 am

8. (၆၂)နှစ်မြောက်ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့၊
ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Musical programme

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. Song of national races

4:20 pm

3. Dance variety

4:30 pm

4. မြန်မာစာမြန်မာစကား

4:45 pm

5. Musical programme

(The radio Myanmar modern music troupe)

4:55 pm

6. ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ
ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ
(ရူပဗေဒဘာသာရပ်)(အပိုင်း-၁)

5:20 pm

7. Songs to uphold
national spirit

5:30 pm

8. “အဲဒီမှာစတွေ့တာပဲ”
(မင်းအုပ်စိုး၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊
မြတ်ကေသီအောင်)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)

5:35 pm

9. Musical programme

5:40 pm

10. (၆၂)နှစ်မြောက်ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့၊
ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

5:50 pm

11. “ပြည်ထောင်စုစိတ်ဓာတ်မပြတ်

ရင့်သန်နိုင်မာရန်မှာဒို.ဝန်တာ”
(စစ်မှန်သောမျိုးချစ်စိတ်ဓာတ်)

6:00 pm

12. Evening news

6:30 pm

13. Weather report

6:35 pm

14. Sing and enjoy

7:10 pm

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
“နွဲ့ဆိုးဆိုးသူကိုယ့်ချစ်သူ”
(အပိုင်း-၈)

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- “မြင့်မြတ်နုလုံးသားပိုင်ရှင်”
(အပိုင်း-၂၃)

20. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏
အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာဘာဝနာ
ပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်

Buthidaung Township gaining development momentum in all aspects

Article: Reporter Singu Soe Win; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

In the morning of 2 December 2008, Staff Officer U Kyaw Dewa of Maungtaw District Peace and Development Council Office took the news crew of the Myanma Alin Daily to Buthidaung by car.

We, the news team, saw children and adults in various dresses of Maungtaw walking near the 4th mile checkpoint. Obviously, peace and stability is prevailing in the border town.

The Myanma Radio and Television retransmission station was built with tower on a high hill. In my mind, I praised the staff members on MRTV who are discharging departmental duty on the hill without fear of dangers of wild elephants and beasts.

At Buthidaung Jetty, we met Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Nyan Myo before his departure for Sittway. Next, we had a chance to interview departmental personnel of the township.

First, Secretary of Township PDC U Aung Shwe Zan explained, "On 780 square miles of land Buthidaung Township is formed with seven wards and 339 villages of 78 village-tracts which are home to over 280,000 people. The township is facilitated with three Basic Education High Schools, one BEHS (Branch), one Affiliated BEHS, six BEMSs, two Affiliated BEMS, 145 PEPs, 15 Post-Primary Schools and one Pre-Primary School. Over 900 teachers are teaching over 57,000 school-children. Moreover, there are one township hospital, one station hospital and seven rural health centres. In 2007-2008, two hospitals provided over

27,000 patients with health care services and seven rural health centres helped give birth to 124 expectant mothers."

Forester U Kyaw Sein Mra of Buthidaung Township Forest Department said that village fuel-wood substitute plantations and Thitseint (Belleric myrobalan) plantations were set up in the area of

5,010 acres of ironwood and teak plantations in the township. Elephants, tigers, wild beasts, other animals and birds can be seen in their natural habitat of 16.67 square miles of Mayyu Forest Reserve. Saitin Protected Public Forest is on 196,142 acres of land, he said.

(See page 10)



Photo shows clock tower, a symbol of Buthidaung in Rakhine State.

Drill here! locating drinking water under challenging conditions



Local residents watch as Jill Bruning (seated) tests a pumping location in central Nicaragua.

MANAGUA, 1 Feb — Volcanic ground is a challenging place to drill water wells. In central Nicaragua, situated on volcanic bedrock, only 3 of every 10 wells drilled produce sufficient water for even one household.

That's because, in volcanic rock, groundwater flows primarily through fracture zones that can't be seen on the earth's surface. Locating those underground fractures can improve the well-drilling success rate dramatically.

Internet

'Hot Spot' for toxic harmful algal blooms discovered off Washington Coast

VICTORIA, 1 Feb — A part of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, which separates Washington state from Canada's British Columbia, is a potential "hot spot" for toxic harmful algal blooms affecting the Washington and British Columbia coasts.

Marine scientists found that under certain conditions, toxic algal cells from an offshore "initiation site" break off and are transported to



Scientists are discovering why blooms of harmful algae are often seen along the US Northwest Coast.

How a brain chemical changes locusts from harmless grasshoppers to swarming pests

SYDNEY, 1 Feb — Scientists have uncovered the underlying biological reason why locusts form migrating swarms. Their findings, reported in today's edition of Science, could be used in the future to prevent the plagues which

devastate crops (notably in developing countries), affecting the livelihood of one in ten people across the globe.

A collaboration between a team of scientists in Cambridge and Oxford, UK and Sydney, Australia has identified an increase

in the chemical serotonin in specific parts of the insects' nervous system as initiating the key changes in behaviour that cause them to swarm.—Internet

This is a portrait shot of an adult solitarious phase locust.



nearshore areas, where they may trigger harmful algal blooms that ultimately force the closure of Washington state shellfish beds along beaches.

"Knowing more about these blooms is critical for protecting human and ecosystem health," said David Gar-

risson, director of the National Science Foundation (NSF)'s Biological Oceanography Program, which co-funded the research.

"This research is a very successful step toward addressing harmful algal blooms in the US."

Internet