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Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to State of Kuwait

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait, on the occasion of the National Day of the State of Kuwait which falls on 25 February 2009.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein felicitates Kuwaiti counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait, on the occasion of the National Day of State of Kuwait which falls on 25 February 2009.—MNA

Enshrining religious objects in Uppatasanti Pagoda, hoisting Htidaw coordinated

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



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects decoration at Sasana Beikman where a ceremony to present religious titles to members of the Sangha will be held.—MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—A work coordination meeting on enshrining religious objects in Uppatasanti Pagoda, hoisting the Htidaw, offering Myathabeik and Shwekyathingan, consecration of the pagoda and presenting religious titles to members of the Sangha was held at the Dhammayon of Uppatasanti Pagoda here this evening, with an address by Chairman of Uppatasanti Pagoda Construction Leading Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Also present were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, members of Pagoda Construction Leading Committee, work committee

and sub-committees, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, departmental heads and guests.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said the respective committees are to carry out the tasks systematically and he called on the ministries and the respective committees to provide assistance for success as it is the first religious ceremony to be held in Nay Pyi Taw.

He also spoke on accommodation of the Sayadaws, transport and health matters.

Chairman of the Pagoda Construction Work Committee Maj-Gen Than Htay of the Ministry of Defence reported on arrangements for the ceremonies.

(See page 8)

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 25 February, 2009

Collaborative work crucial for promoting education standard

The government is working diligently to improve the economic, education, health and social infrastructures and to complete a road network project for reconstruction of the storm-hit areas. Well-wishers are contributing voluntary service and donating cash and kind with great generosity to expedite the process. Now, the storm victims have their basic needs fulfilled to a certain degree.

The roads and bridges covered by the road network project ongoing in Ayeyawady Division are designed to improve regional transport, to serve as cyclone shelters in times of natural disasters, and to fulfil social requirements. Now, completion of work by the forthcoming rainy season is on target in laying groundwork to raise the roads, and constructing bridges and hillocks in some road sections.

In the meantime, the government is building more and more schools to generate opportunities for youngsters to pursue education. As a result, the youth of rural areas have easy access to education. The two-storey affiliated Basic Education High School in Chaungwa Village and the Basic Education Middle School in Konthaya Village, Labutta Township, were inaugurated and handed over on 22 February.

Now, there is a plan of action to open a technical high school to enable local youths to pursue vocational education on carpentry, masonry, lathe skills, mechanics and electronics along with basic, middle and high school education in their township.

Parents of students, teachers and students are therefore to make combined endeavours in harmony so as to add to the plans the government is implementing for educational infrastructure and atmosphere for development of human resources.

The educated population with good moral conduct and behavior will be on the greater increase if the people keep on donating aid, teachers demonstrate enthusiasm and diligence in the classes, and students learn hard in their studies.

Talks on Insurance, the Essential for Businesses, in progress at the Parkroyal Yangon Hotel.—MNA



People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Mandalay General Hospital gets new five-storey building

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb — The opening of the newly-built five-storey building for Mandalay General Hospital was held in front of the building on 21 February with addresses by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

On behalf of the wellwishers, Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Win explained the purpose of construction of the new building.

The four well-wishers handed over documents related to the building to the minister.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and well-wisher U Kyaw Htay (Hsu Htoo Pan Gems Co) opened the new five-storey building.

Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe pressed the button to open the stone plaque of the building and



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and U Kyaw Htay of Hsu Htoo Pan Gems Co formally open the five-storey building for Mandalay General Hospital.—MNA

the commander and officials sprinkled scented water on it.

After the opening ceremony, the commander, the minister, officials and well-wishers viewed free medical treatment given to patients by Myanmar specialists and orthopaedic surgeons from Singapore, performing health care services to heart patients with the use of ECG,

providing needed medicines to specialists by pharmaceutical companies, carrying out diagnostic tests with the use of ultrasound, organizing educative booth and talks on diabetes and providing health care services to diabetic patients at the new building.

The construction of the new building started on 28 February, 2008 and completed on 22 October, 2008. It costs K 700 million.

Patient wards and learning theater are being kept open at the new five-storey building.

A total of 1139 general patients, 727 patients who received surgeries, 1339 diabetic patients, 523 heart

patients and 510 orthopaedic patients totaling 4238 patients were given free medical treatment at the new building from 20 to 22 Feb, 2009. The free medical treatment programme is ongoing.

The building was built with the contributions of wellwishers U Kyaw Htay and Daw Khin Htwe and family (Hsu Htoo Pan Gems Co), (U Aye) and Daw Khin Su and family, Daw San San, U Maung Maung Swe, Daw Khin Yi and Daw Khin Si Nyunt from Mandalay and Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Nyo Nyo and family (Daw Htwe Gawmotta Medical House).—MNA

Insurance, essential for businesses

YANGON, 24 Feb—Talks on Insurance, the Essential for Businesses, organized by CEO Economic and Management Magazine published by Today

Publishing House, took place at Parkroyal Yangon Hotel here on 21 February.

General Manager Dr Maung Maung Thein of Myanma Insurance gave talks, and managers and readers of the CEO Magazine attended the talks.

With the aim of enabling those working in Myanmar economic fields to gain some knowledge about the insurance, the CEO Magazine held the talk in 2009 for the first time. The programme was sponsored by Enervon-C, PAN and Smart Technical Services.—MNA

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Kuwaiti counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—On the occasion of the National Day of the State of Kuwait, which falls on 25 February 2009, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Al-Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the State of Kuwait.—MNA



Ghulam Sakhi, 32, a soldier from the Afghan National Army, is taken around on a wheelchair after he received treatment at Kabul Orthopedic Organization in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 23 Feb, 2009. INTERNET

Double suicide bombing kills Afghan police officer

KANDAHAR, 24 Feb—Two suicide bombers blew themselves up within minutes of each other Monday at an anti-drug police station in southwest Afghanistan, killing one officer and wounding two more, an official said.

The first suicide attacker, wearing civilian clothes, approached the station in the southern city of Zarang at about 11 am, said Gov Ghulam Dastagir Azad. When police shouted for the man to

stop, he blew himself up, causing no casualties, the governor said.

Minutes later, a second attacker wearing a police uniform approached the building and blew himself up, Azad said. That blast killed one officer and wounded two.

Azad said the double suicide attack mirrored tactics used by eight militants in an assault against three government buildings in Kabul earlier this month that killed 20

people.

Taleban militants, whose hard-line Islamist regime was ousted from power by the 2001 US-led invasion, have greatly increased attacks the last three years and now control wide swaths of territory. President Barack Obama this month announced the deployment of 17,000 additional US forces to bolster the 38,000 American troops already in the country.

Internet

N Korea says it is preparing satellite launch

SEOUL, 24 Feb—North Korea said on Tuesday it is preparing to shoot a satellite into orbit, its clearest reference yet to an impending launch that neighbors and the US suspect will be a provocative test of a long-range missile.

The statement from the North's space technology agency comes amid growing international concern that the communist nation is gearing up to fire a version of its most advanced missile — one capable of reaching the US — within a week, in violation of a UN Security Council resolution.

North Korea asserted last week that it bears the right to "space development"—words the regime has used in the past

to disguise a missile test. In 1998, North Korea test-fired a Taepodong-1 ballistic missile over Japan and then claimed to have put a satellite into orbit.

"Full-fledged preparations are under way to launch the pilot communications satellite

Kwangmyongsong No 2" at a launch site in Hwadae in the northeast, the North's agency said in a statement carried by Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency. The report did not say when the launch would take place.

Internet

Three US soldiers, interpreter killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 Feb—Three US soldiers and an interpreter were killed Monday during fighting north of Baghdad, the military announced.

The combat took place in Diyala province, an area northeast of Baghdad that remains volatile despite an overall drop in violence nationwide.

The statement did not provide more details.

The attack came two weeks after a suicide car bomber struck a US patrol in the northern city of Mosul, killing four American soldiers and an Iraqi interpreter in the deadliest single attack against US forces in nine months.

Internet



A Shiite Iraqi is treated in a hospital after he was injured in road side bomb in Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, on 16 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Iraq arrests Shiite gang accused of killing Sunnis

BAGHDAD, 24 Feb—Iraq's Interior Ministry says it has arrested a Shiite police gang accused of killing the Sunni vice president's sister.

Spokesman Maj Gen Abdul-Karim Khalaf says the 12 people arrested were former employees of the ministry. The Interior Ministry has been accused of past infiltration by Shiite militias who perpetrated some of the worst sectarian violence. Khalaf said on Monday at a press conference that the suspects are accused of killing the sister of Vice President Tariq al-Hashemi. Maysoun al-Hashemi died in a hail of gunfire on 27 April, 2006, as she left her home in Baghdad.—Internet

Roadside bomb kills two civilians, wounds six

BAGHDAD, 24 Feb—Iraqi officials say a roadside bombing in central Baghdad has killed at least two civilians and wounded six.

Police and hospital officials say Monday's blast was aimed at a police patrol but missed its target on the busy Nidhal Street.

Violence continues to kill and injure Iraqi civilians in Baghdad despite security improvements over the past year.

The officials spoke on

condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to release the information.—Internet

Policemen transport their colleague who was wounded in a roadside bomb attack to an ambulance outside a hospital in Baghdad on 23 Feb, 2009. The attack killed two civilians and wounded six others including two policemen, police said.

INTERNET



US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,250

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb—As of Monday, 23 Feb, 2009, at least 4,250 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,411 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.—Internet



File photo shows a Chinese container ship docking at Le Havre port in France. Chinese Commerce Minister Chen Deming was set to fly to Europe Tuesday at the head of a 300-strong team charged with spending billions of dollars on European products, state media said.—INTERNET

Guantanamo detainee freed after four years in prison

LONDON, 24 Feb—The first Guantanamo detainee released since President Barack Obama took office returned to Britain on Monday, saying his seven years of captivity and torture at an alleged CIA covert site in Morocco went beyond his “darkest nightmares.”

Binyam Mohamed’s allegations — including repeated beatings and having his genitals sliced by a scalpel — have sparked lawsuits that could ensnare the American and British governments in protracted court battles.

Looking frail from a hunger strike, Mohamed, who once was accused by US. authorities of being part of a conspiracy to detonate a bomb on American soil, stepped off a charter plane and was whisked away by police, border control agents and immigration officials.

The 30-year-old Ethiopian refugee, who moved to Britain as a teenager, was freed after four hours of questioning.—Internet



Binyam Mohamed, 30, foreground, a British resident who has been held at Guantanamo Bay for more than four years, covers his face as he leaves RAF Northolt in west London on 23 Feb, 2009, after nearly seven years in US captivity — the first inmate from the US prison camp freed since President Barack Obama took office.

INTERNET

Battered British auto industry sends out SOS

LONDON, 24 Feb—Car production in Britain fell dramatically in January as shrinking demand dealt a heavy blow to manufacturers amid the global economic crunch. The British government is now facing calls to bail out the industry, boost output and further green production.

In the face of the worst economic crisis in decades, demand for made-in-Britain is at its weakest in 17 years, and a sharp decline in output is expected over the next three months, the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) said recently.

Only 12 percent of companies expected output to increase over the next three months, while 56 percent said it would fall, according to CBI’s latest monthly industrial trends survey.

“The weak pound has made UK exports more competitive, but this advantage has been outweighed by falling global demand,” said John Cridland, CBI deputy director-general.

Car production in particular has suffered a sharp decline, plunging

58.7 percent in January to 61,404 units, with commercial vehicle output posting a substantial fall of 59.9 percent to 8,351, according to the latest figures released by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Limited (SMMT).

Internet

Egypt arrests suspects over deadly bazaar bombing

CAIRO, 24 Feb—Egyptian police said on Monday they have arrested three suspects over a bomb attack at a famed Cairo bazaar that killed a French teenager and wounded 25 people, most of them tourists.

Sunday’s attack was the first deadly violence since 2006 against Westerners in Egypt, where the tourism industry is a vital foreign currency earner.

The bomb blast ripped through a square lined with cafes and restaurants in Khan al-Khalili, a market dating from the 14th century that is one of the Egyptian capital’s main tourist attractions.

“Three people there were arrested on the scene as suspects after the attack,” a police official said. “Around 15 others are being questioned as witnesses.”

Internet

Vodafone will cut 500 jobs in Britain

LONDON, 24 Feb — British mobile phone giant Vodafone said Tuesday the group would axe 500 jobs in its home market as part of a cost-cutting programme that was unveiled last year.

“Vodafone UK has today announced reductions to its operating costs in order for it to compete more effectively in the UK market,” the company said in a brief statement.

“The majority of

savings will be achieved by taking operating costs out of the business, however, there will also be a reduction of approximately 500 jobs across the business. Staff affected by the decision have been informed today.”

The group, which employs about 10,000 people in Britain, had launched a major cost-cutting programme in November to reduce costs by 1.0 billion pounds by

March 2011.

Earlier this month, Vodafone defied the global economic storm by reporting better-than-expected third quarter sales, up 14 percent due to the strong euro and strength in key markets.

Internet

Israeli leader fires lead negotiator on Gaza truce

JERUSALEM, 24 Feb—Prime Minister Ehud Olmert dismissed Israel’s top negotiator in Gaza truce talks for publicly criticizing his demand that Palestinian militants hand over a captured Israeli soldier before any deal is clinched, officials said on Monday.

The move threatens to roil the talks just weeks before Olmert is succeeded by the hawkish Benjamin Netanyahu, who wants Gaza’s Hamas rulers toppled and likely would take a tougher line in the Egyptian-brokered truce negotiations.

A truce deal has implications beyond cementing the informal 18 Jan ceasefire that ended Israel’s war on Hamas. Without it, there is little chance of advancing already troubled talks to reconcile feuding Palestinian factions.

Olmert abruptly announced last week that Israel would not reopen Gaza’s long-blockaded borders—the main Israeli concession sought by Hamas—unless Hamas-affiliated militants first freed Sgt Gilad Shalit, who was seized in a June 2006 cross-border raid.—Internet

Southern wildfires continue to rage in Australia

MELBOURNE, 24 Feb—Officials warned on Tuesday the wildfires that devastated southern Australia this month could flare anew when high winds and hot temperatures sweep the region later this week, and raised the death toll from the blazes to 210.

Australia’s insurance council, meanwhile, reported thousands of claims totaling more than a half-billion dollars in damage from the 7 Feb fires that tore through Victoria state.

Four major fires are still burning in the region, and officials warned that temperatures are expected to rise on Friday to the high 90s Fahrenheit (high 30s Celsius) and be accompanied by strong winds.

Internet

“French Spider-Man” Alain Robert (L) scales one of Hong Kong’s tallest skyscrapers in what he said was an effort to highlight global warming. Robert, famous for climbing the world’s tallest buildings without safety equipment, was arrested by police after a 40-minute ascent of the 62-storey Cheung Kong Centre.

INTERNET





China, Vietnam settle land border issue

BEIJING, 24 Feb—China and Vietnam Monday marked the final demarcation of their land border at the Youyiguan border gate in Pingxiang City in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Auto-nomous Region.

The completion of the demarcation would be conducive to peace and stability of the border area, promote trade and exchanges, and push for-

ward their comprehensive and strategic partnership of the two countries, said a statement from China's Foreign Ministry.

The 1,300-kilometre border starts at the junction of China, Vietnam and Laos and continues along the Beilun River to the coast. Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region are on Chinese side, and Cao

Bang, Lang Son, Dien Bien, Lai Chau, Lao Cai, Ha Giang, Quang Ninh are in Vietnam.

In the late 19th Century, China's Qing Dynasty and the French colonial administration in Vietnam concluded a treaty delineating the border. The border negotiations started in the 1970s and were suspended later that decade.

Xinhua



Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo (R, C) shakes hands with Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Pham Gia Khiem after unveiling the No 1117 boundary marker in Pingxiang City in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, opposite to Lang Son City of Vietnam, on 23 Feb, 2009.

XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency



Passengers check in at the airport in Algiers, Algeria, on 22 Feb, 2009. The Air Algerie's first non-stop flight to Beijing started on Sunday, while the price of the ticket is about 958 US dollars.—XINHUA

Food, climate, financial crises threaten sustainable development goals

UNITED NATIONS, 24 Feb—A range of challenges from food and financial crises to climate change are threatening global efforts to achieve development that is sustainable, or that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, a top United Nations official said here Monday. UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Sha Zukang, addressing a UN meeting on sustainable development that began here Monday at the UN Headquarters in New York, said: "These multi-dimensional challenges do not have purely economic solutions, nor purely social or environmental ones. They require integrated solutions that combine economic, social and environmental elements."

He noted that food prices remain high, following on from last year's crisis, and the global financial and economic slowdown has exacerbated the situation.

Xinhua

Families suspect Wyeth baby milk of causing new kidney ailments

BEIJING, 24 Feb—Nineteen Chinese families accused milk powder made by Wyeth of causing kidney problems to their children, Tuesday's *China Daily* reported.

This is the second foreign company - after Dumex, a unit of France's Danone - to face such accusations. More than 100 children reportedly fell ill after drinking Dumex milk food, although the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) said last week the company's baby food was free of melamine.

Li Xuefeng, a father from Chongqing and head of a local family group, said his 2-year-old son had been fed on baby milk formula of Wyeth since birth. In September, he was diagnosed with a stone in his left kidney.

Xinhua

Wall Street plunges on dim economic outlook

NEW YORK, 24 Feb—Wall Street plunged Monday with the Dow Jones average and the S&P 500 index dropping to a 12-year-low on concerns about dim economic outlook.

Big technology companies like IBM, Hewlett-Packard and Apple declined sharply Monday on worries about a fall-off in business and consumer spending on technology hurt the tech sector.

Bank stocks rallied Monday as reports said that Citigroup Inc. is in

talks with federal officials that may increase the government's ownership of the bank. While the discussions could fall apart, the government could wind up holding as much as 40 percent of Citigroup's common stock. Bank executives hope the stake will be closer to 25 percent.

The Treasury Depart-

ment, Federal Deposit Insurance Corp, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Office of Thrift Supervision and the Federal Reserve jointly issued the statement Monday saying they will launch a revamped program to inject fresh capital into financial institutions this week.

Xinhua

About 650 Vietnamese residents hit by measles so far this year

HANOI, 24 Feb—Measles is spreading to 12 cities and provinces of Vietnam nationwide, raising the number of Vietnamese residents diagnosed with the disease to about 650 so far this year, the local newspaper *Young People* reported on Tuesday. Measles is breaking out in 29 districts in Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam. Meanwhile, the disease is hitting 14 districts out of 24 in Ho Chi Minh City, according to Nguyen Huy Nga, head of Department of Preventive Health and Environment under Vietnam's Ministry of Health.—Xinhua



A woman worker takes a glass of water for tests from the filter pool after the contaminated water plant resumed operations in west Yancheng City, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 23 Feb, 2009.—XINHUA

Stockholm, Hamburg win first European Green Capital awards

BRUSSELS, 24 Feb—Stockholm and Hamburg were named as the first winners of the new European Green Capital award on Monday.

The Swedish capital will be European Green Capital in 2010 followed by Hamburg of Germany in 2011.

"Four out of five Europeans now live in urban areas, and that is where the environmental challenges facing our society are most apparent. With their measures to tackle air pollution, traffic and congestion levels, greenhouse gas emissions, and waste and waste water management, Stockholm and Hamburg can act as role models for the rest of Europe," said European Union (EU) Energy Commissioner Stavros Dimas in a statement.—Xinhua



A contestant displays her wild west themed nails before a nail art competition the Beauty Asia expo in Singapore on 23 Feb, 2009.
XINHUA

One injured after bus shooting in Canada's Toronto

OTTAWA, 24 Feb—An 18-year-old man was injured after a shooting on a public transit bus Monday in Canada's biggest city Toronto, reports reaching here said.

At least three shots were fired Monday inside a bus carrying more than a dozen passengers.

The 18-year-old was apparently headed to the back of the bus when he encountered three people with whom he had a prior dispute.

After an exchange of words, shots were fired

and the victim ran from the bus into a nearby alley, where his pursuers fired another shot. He was also reportedly pistol-whipped.

The victim is said to be in serious but stable condition. Police are still searching for the suspects.

This has been the latest incident on the city's public transport system, after a series of shootings and other criminal offenses in recent months.

On 22 Jan, a man was shot in the abdomen and the thigh after a dispute

erupted on a Toronto subway car.

On 13 Feb, a man was charged with attempted murder after allegedly pushing three teens at a west-end subway station. Two of the teens tumbled onto the tracks as a train was approaching, but managed to scramble to safety. In one of the most brazen shootings in years, a group of young men opened fire inside a crowded subway car between the St. George and Spadina stations on 28 March, 2008. —Internet

Gunmen attack governor's convoy, kill guard

CIUDAD JUAREZ, 24 Feb—Gunmen shot at a convoy carrying the governor of a violence-wracked border state, killing one of his bodyguards and wounding two other agents.

The federal Attorney General's Office said on Monday it did not appear that Chihuahua Gov Jose Reyes Baeza was the target of an assassination attempt. State investigators believe the shooting

erupted over a traffic altercation between the bodyguards at the back of the convoy and armed men in two other cars, the office said in a statement. It did not provide further details.

Reyes Baeza said gunmen in the two cars fired high-powered weapons Sunday night at a vehicle two cars behind his in a convoy in the state capital, Chihuahua city. The two wounded agents were in stable condition on

Monday and one of the attackers was hospitalized with a gunshot to the head. The other attackers fled.

Chihuahua state Attorney General Patricia Gonzalez said fingerprints showed the detained attacker was a former soldier. She said police found one of the gunmen's cars abandoned and burned on the side of a highway Monday morning.—Internet



Firemen attempt to extinguish fire at the wreckage of an oil truck that self-ignited on the Dongguan-Shenzhen Expressway in south China's Guangdong Province, on 23 Feb, 2009.—XINHUA

NEWS ALBUM



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 recently. The sarcophaguses, which date around 1,000 years, are set around 30 meters (98 feet) above a pathway in a bare cliff.

Spearers catch rare white sturgeon on the same day

Two lucky spearers have defied the odds and caught rare white sturgeon on the same day. Department of Natural Resources biologist Ron Bruch said about one in 10,000 lake sturgeon are white and until on Tuesday none had been caught in more than 10 years.

Bruch said he can't recall two being harvested on the same day before. Only 13 percent of spearers catch any sturgeon at all. On Tuesday's catches came on Lake Winnebago's eastern shore.

Joseph Gerbyshak, 24, caught one white sturgeon, and 54-year-old Sue Muetzelburg of Fond du Lac nabbed the other. Muetzelburg said her first thought was that the pale fish was sick. She plans to mount the head and fillet and smoke the rest.

Bull escapes ring, tramples woman in parking lot

A woman is recovering from injuries she suffered when a bull escaped from a bullfight and trampled her in the parking lot of an arena in western Mexico.

Television footage shows the bull, named "The Indian," bumping open the gate of the ring with his snout and taking off into the parking lot. Matadors on foot and horses caught up with the bull and herded it back into the ring using their capes and colorful barbed sticks known as banderillas.

The animal was later killed during on Tuesday's bullfight, which took place in the western Mexican city of Colima.

Local newspapers reported on Wednesday that the woman is a veterinarian for one of the bullfighters and that she is recovering.



Several chimps eat scallion at Tama Zoo in Tokyo, Japan. The chimps were trained to eat scallion four years ago in order to keep fit and avoid catching cold.

Overdue library tome books Iowa woman jail time

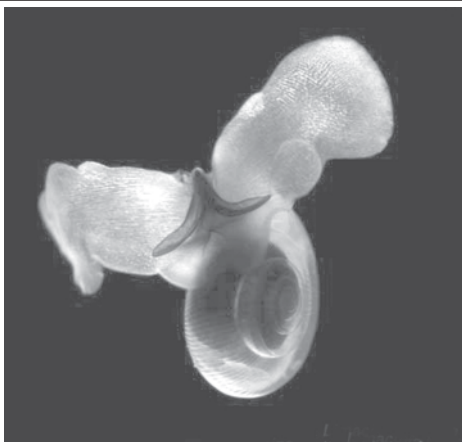
A theft charge over a missing library book has been dismissed against an Iowa woman who was jailed when she failed to return the overdue tome.

Her attorney says the fifth-degree charge against Shelly Koontz of Independence was dropped on Thursday.

James Peters says Koontz agreed to pay \$13.95 — the cost of "The Freedom Writers Diary"— and about \$50 in court costs, and to return the book.

Koontz was charged 22 Jan and jailed for not returning the book that she borrowed last April in nearby Jesup. She was released after posting \$250 bond.

Buchanan County Attorney Allan Vander Hart says a library complaint led to the arrest. A woman who answered the telephone at the library hung up when asked for comment. A number listed for Koontz was disconnected.



A swimming snail (Limacina helicina) that lives in both Arctic and Antarctic waters is seen in an undated handout picture. The snail is one of 235 cold-loving species found in both polar regions in a puzzle for scientists about how they reached both ends of the world.



Nancho Hydropower Project implementation commences in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana

Article & Photos: *Photographer Maung Maung*

(from page 16)

At present, the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 is implementing medium and large scale

construction-1 of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 on Nancho Creek, 16 miles east of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana and 12 miles

cubic-foot-second of water flow in the environs of Nancho Creek. The creek has 317 square miles of watershed areas, and a total of 767,110 acre-foot of water flows into the creek.

The water will be stored with the 443 feet long and 167 feet high CVC (Overflow Type) concrete embankment. Moreover, the surplus water will be released from the 349 feet wide overflow type spillway.

be supplied to the 269 feet long and 79 feet wide water control lake from the concrete type intake structure installed with 49 feet wide and 73 feet high sluice gate through the intake channel that measures 7330 feet by 15.5 feet.

Two turbines will be run with the use of water from the water control lake through the 13 feet diameter and 876 feet long pre-stressed steel pipeline.

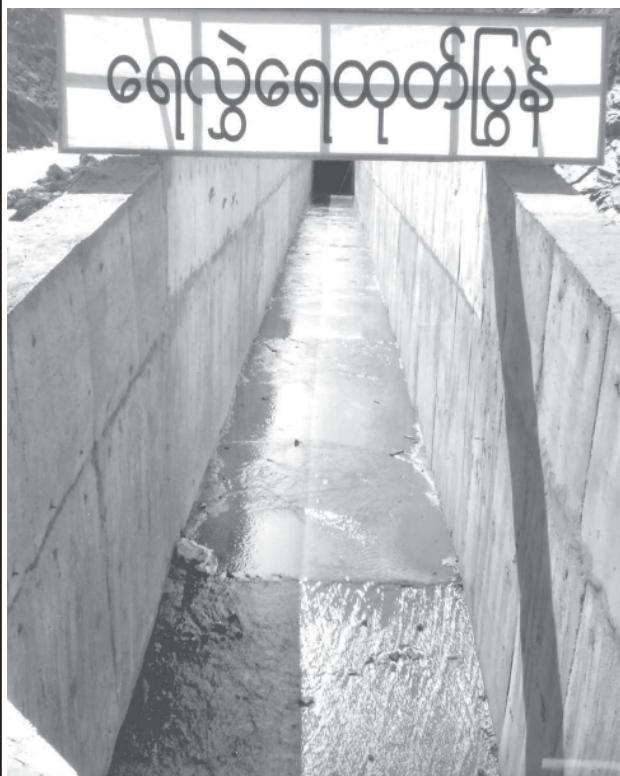
Nancho Hydropower

To conserve the environmental beauties, the dam of Nancho Hydropower Plant will be of the CVC (Overflow Type) concrete embankment, but not the Rock-filled Dam with Earthcore or RCC Dam (Roller Compacted Concrete Dam). Salu Creek is located between the intake structure and the water control lake. As part of environmental conservation, two intake tunnels

passed over the creek, and the bridge will be constructed with two concrete posts in the creek.

At present, the temporary embankment and diversion conduit are under construction. Soon, the water of Nancho Creek will be diverted for the project.

The hydropower project will be completed in the year of 2010. Upon completion, the power plant can supply 152 million kilo-



A closed-up view of diversion conduit.

hydropower projects as the renewable energy throughout the nation.

In accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe to generate electricity through hydropower in the country, the Special Projects Implementation Committee of the State Peace and Development Council approved the implementation of the Nancho Hydropower Project at its meeting 1/2006 on 22-9-2006.

The project is being implemented by the Con-

struction-1 of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 on Nancho Creek, 16 miles east of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana and 12 miles

upstream of Paunglaung Hydropower Station that is generating 280 megawatts. Nancho Creek flows into Paunglaung River. Construction of the hydropower plant at seven miles upstream of the confluence of Paunglaung River and Nancho Creek will not slow down the flow of water in Nancho Creek and can contribute to the storage of water that flows into Nancho Creek in the rainy season for generating hydroelectricity.

There are 65 inches of rainfall annually and 1024



An aerial view of Nancho Creek and construction site of Nancho Hydropower Plant.

To use electricity at the project site, a small-scale hydropower plant was constructed at Hsaungtaung Creek by generating 60 kilowatts.

On completion, the water from the dam will

Plant installed with two 20-megawatt vertical Francis type turbines will generate 40 megawatts to be connected with the national power grid through a switch yard.

that measure 7,330 feet by 15.5 feet each will be connected with a 15.5 feet diameter and 384 feet long aqueduct to avoid blocking the creek. The aqueduct on a bridge will be

watt hours on average yearly to serve the interest of the national people.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
17-2-2009



Photo shows entrance to intake tunnel of Nancho Hydropower Plant.



Ground preparations being made for construction of concrete posts at Salu Creek.





Photo shows Sasana Beikman Building where a ceremony to confer religious titles on Members of the Sangha will be held.—MNA

Enshrining religious objects in...

(from page 1)

Chairman of Security and Discipline Sub-committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin reported on the work done; Chairman of Religious Affairs Work Committee Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung on the measures taken; Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt on accommodation of the members of the Sangha and offering alms to them; Chairman of Transport Sub-committee Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe; on behalf of Chairman of Information and Record Sub-committee Minister

for Information, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Soe Win; Chairman of Entertainment Sub-committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint; and Chairman of Health Sub-committee Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint on work done; and Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun on offering alms to the Sayadaws by members of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Force) and their families.

Next those present took part in the discussions. The meeting ended with the concluding remark by the Secretary-1.

After the meeting, the Secretary-1 inspected ar-

rangements for the ceremony to confer religious titles at Sasana Beikman in the pagoda compound.

Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun and Maj-Gen Than Htay of the Ministry of Defence conducted round the Secretary-1, who then gave instructions.

The ceremony to offer alms food by families of servicemen (Army, Navy and Air Force) to the venerable monks at the religious title offering ceremony will take place on a grand scale on 6 March; the ceremony to enshrine religious objects into the upper reliquary and hoist Shwehtidaw (tired, ornamented finial) atop the pagoda, on 7 March; the ceremony to hoist the diamond orb and the vane atop the pagoda, on 8 March; the ceremony to consecrate the pagoda, on 9 March; and the ceremony to confer religious titles on title-recipient monks and offer provisions to members of the Sangha, on 10 March.

State Ovadacariya Sayadaws, member Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, member Sayadaws of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, Tipitaka Sayadaws, and title-recipient Sayadaws have been invited to the religious rites.

A donation centre is open at the pagoda for those who wish to donate jewellery to be attached to the diamond orb and the vane. Well-wishers may also donate jewellery in the post-ceremony period and the donated jewellery will be attached to the religious objects.

Entertainment programmes to be staged from 28 February till 9 March include circus show, non-dramatic shows, movies and documentary films.

MNA



Photo shows decoration at Sasana Beikman Building where a ceremony to confer religious titles on Members of the Sangha will be held.—MNA



Gold foil donation ceremony of Uppatasanti Pagoda held

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb – The ceremony to donate gold foils to Uppatasanti Pagoda was held at the Dhammayon of the pagoda this afternoon.

It was attended by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Construction of Uppatasanti Pagoda Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, the ministers, the deputy ministers, members of funds committee, officials, guests and wellwishers.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivered an address after the ceremony was opened with three times recitation of *Namo Tassa*.

Next, gold foil donation ceremony followed. Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and the ministers accepted gold foils presented by Lt-Gen Tin Aye and Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun on behalf of Tatmadawmen, 1512 gallons of One K Gold paint donated by Chairman U Sein Thaug Oo of Rising Sun Co Ltd,

gold foils donated by wellwishers including Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and wife Daw Swe Swe Oo and officers and other ranks and their families, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and wife Daw Ni Ni Win and family and staff families, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaug and wife Daw Khin Khin Yi and family and staff families, the Minister for Industry-2 and staff families, Minister of National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Win and staff families, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing and wife Daw Tin Tin Latt and family and staff families, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife Daw Win Win Nu and families and staff families, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaug and wife Daw May Kyi Sein and family and staff families, staff families of Immigration and Population Ministry, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and wife Daw San San and family and staff families, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and wife Daw Aye Aye and

family and staff families, staff families of Myanmar Police Force (Headquarters) and departments under the aegis of Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo and wife Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, Minister for Electric Power No.1 Col Zaw Min and wife Daw Khin Mi Mi and family and staff families, Minister for Electric Power No.2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife Daw Win Win Nu and family and staff families, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and wife Daw Tin Tin Nwe and family and staff families, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt and wife Daw Kyin Khaing and family and staff families, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and wife Daw Mya Theingi and family and staff families, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and wife Daw Mu Mu Win and family and staff families, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein and wife Daw Myint Myint Aye and family and staff families, staff families of



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo accepts gold plates donated by Tatmadawmen presented by Lt-Gen Tin Aye of Ministry of Defence. — MNA

the Ministry of Energy, the family of the Minister for Health and staff families, staff families of the Ministry of Education, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and wife Daw Wai Wai Tha and family and staff families, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and wife Daw Aye Aye Tun family and staff families, staff families under the aegis of Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut and wife Daw Tin Tin Nyunt, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and wife Daw Khin Pyone and family and staff families, Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi and wife Daw

Thet Thet Swe and family and staff families, Chief Justice U Aung Toe and wife Daw Aye Kyi and family and staff families, Attorney-General U Aye Maung and wife Daw Khin Mya Mya and family and staff families, staff families of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, family of the mayor chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee and staff families, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and wife Daw Moe Thida and family and staff families and wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

Next, Chairman of the funds committee of the Pagoda Minister Col Thein Nyunt reported on

accepting of jewellery, cash donations, religious objects and gold foils for the Pagoda.

The ceremony came to an end with three times recitation of Buddha Sasanam Siram Tittahtu. A total of 131 wellwishers donated gold and 432 three-tical gold foils, 90 one-tical gold foils, 1512 gallons of gold paint and a pivot at the ceremony.

A donation center is open at the pagoda for those who wish to donate jewellery to be attached to Htidaw, Seinbudaw and H n g e t m y a t n a d a w . Wellwishers may also donate jewellery in the post-ceremony period and the donated jewellery will be attached to the religious objects. — MNA

F&R Minister attends Special ASEAN+ 3 Finance Ministers' Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun attended Special ASEAN+ 3 Finance Ministers' meeting held in the resort island of Phuket, Thailand on 22 February.

At the meeting, the ASEAN+ 3 finance ministers agreed to inject 120 billion U.S. dollars, instead of 80 billion U.S. dollars as initially proposed into the reserve pool in the process of operationalising the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM). The ministers also agreed to establish an independent regional surveillance mechanism to promote economic monitoring in the region.

Myanmar delegation arrived back here today and delegation members were welcomed back by Minister for Electric Power No.1 Col Zaw Min, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Kyaw Thu, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and responsible

persons at the airport. Advisor (Director) Daw Ohnmar Sein to Central Bank of Myanmar and Deputy Director U Min Htut of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun attends Special ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' Meeting.

F & R

Rare books sales from 27 Feb to 8 March

YANGON, 24 Feb — To mark its 2nd anniversary, Zizawah Book Store will sell rare books from 27 February to 8 March at the book store in Ahlon Township.

During the exhibition, rare books will be sold at 10 % discount; at 20 % discount to libraries and those who buy the books worth over K 100,000.

The book store will display Myanmar classic books and books on religion, health, education, history, politics, philosophy, economics, arts and culture, Myanmar culture and literature, agriculture, farming, forestry, law, medicine, engineering and computer science during the exhibition. Besides, dictionaries, encyclopaedia, research books and books on Myanmar will be available at the exhibition.

The book store is located at No 25, Nantha Road near the town hall in Ahlon Township and was established in 2007. More information is available at Ph 01-216279. — MNA

Objectives of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

1. To work hard together with the people to accomplish the State's seven-step Road Map in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation
2. To uphold Our Three Main National Causes as the national policy at risk to life
3. To crush, in cooperation with the people, internal and external subversive elements that are disrupting stability, peace and development of the nation
4. To build a strong and patriotic modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation



Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win presents cash award to State Military Band at opening ceremony of 17th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition to mark 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.—MNA



U Tint Oo of IBTC tees off to start last leg of IBTC Open Golf Championships.—MGF

Maintenance of Aung Zeya Bridge approach road inspected



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects roadwork on approach road to Aung Zeya Bridge in Hlinethaya.—MNA

YANGON, 24 Feb—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected approach road of Aung Zeya Bridge on the Hlinethaya bank in Yangon North District this morning.

The deputy chief engineer of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction reported on arrangements for construction of reinforced concrete retaining walls near the approach road of the bridge. Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint

and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein gave supplementary reports.

The superintending engineer of Yangon Division Public Works reported on road work of the approach road.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected repair of road undertaken by Yangon Division Public Works and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Military band competition opened

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb — The 17th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition to mark 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day was held at No 7 Transit Camp (Ywadow) parade ground this morning, with an address by Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, chairman of leading committee for holding 64th Armed Forces Day-2009.

Also present were senior military officers of Ministry of Defence, departmental officials, parade commanders, column commanders, members of the leading committee and sub-committees, members of the panel of judges, contesting military bands and guests.

First, military bands led by the parade adjutant took

designated positions.

Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win from the dais took the salute of the military bands and saluted the State Flag together with the bands. Members of the music bands paid tribute to fallen Tatmadawmen and recited four oaths.

The Military Training Chief, after taking salute from members of the music bands, left the dais.

The ceremony ended with the Chief's presentation of cash rewards to the State military music band which demonstrated the skills.

The competition will be held until 4 March starting from today. A total of 43 bands took part in the competition.—MNA

IBTC Open Golf Championships opens

YANGON, 24 Feb—The opening ceremony of the Yangon last leg of IBTC Open Golf Championships tournament of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar P.G.A, main sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd was held at Yangon Golf Course (Danyingon) in Insein Township here, this morning.

Patron of Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar P.G.A Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik, Vice-President of MGF U Min Thein and Executive-Director U Tint Oo of IBTC teed off the tracer balls to open the tournament.

After the first day 18-hole events, Kyaw Thiha (KM Golf Center) is leading two-under-par with 70 strokes, Min Naing (Srixon) and Aung Win (Srixon)

second one-under-par with 71 and Thein Zaw Myint (KM Golf Center), Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) and Naing Naing Lin (Point Golf Shop) third with 74.

In the amateur events, Aung Win (Forest) stood first with 70 strokes, Yan Myo Aye second with 73 and Nay Bala Win Myint third with 73.

With the aim of ensuring the emergence of outstanding golfers, the tournament was mainly sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd together with co-sponsors KBZ Bank, Air Bagan Ltd, Hotel Yangon, Ruby Dragon Jade and Gems Co Ltd, Srixon, MGW Construction Ltd, Myanmar Red Star International Co Ltd, KM Golf Center, Accel International Co Ltd (Canon), Alpine Purified Drinking Water, MY Associates Co Ltd, Tiger Head Cement Factory and Life Line Co Ltd (DHEA Plus).

MNA

SAY NO TO DRUGS



FM says Iran has no talks with any US officials

TEHRAN, 24 Feb—Iran's Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said here on Monday that Iran had not talked with any US officials, the official IRNA news agency reported.

"No official or non-official talks were held between (Iran's senior presidential adviser) Mojtaba Samareh Hashemi and any US official," Mottaki was quoted as saying. Mottaki rejected some reports that there had been "talks between Samareh Hashemi and former US defence secretary William Perry."

Iranian officials have reiterated several times that they were waiting for the "real" and "essential" changes in the

US policies toward Iran. In an earlier interview with Dubai-based Al-Arabiya television, new US President Barack Obama said "if countries like Iran are willing to unclench their fist, they will find an extended hand from us".

The United States severed its ties with Iran in 1980. Since then, Washington has been trying to beef up its sanctions against Teheran for being involved in anti-US activities and for allegedly developing nuclear weapons secretly. Iran denied the charges and insisted that its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes only.

MNA/Xinhua



Revellers scatter chocolates to the crowds in the carnival parade in Cologne, Germany, on 23 Feb, 2009. The carnival reached its climax on the Rose Monday.—INTERNET



An agricultural technician from Doilungdeqen County of Lhasa, teaches rural people how to plant vegetables. During the slack time in winter, the Lhasa Technology Bureau and the Lhasa Labor Bureau organized training courses, such as cooking and vegetable-planting ones for rural people in a bid to increase their income.—INTERNET

Australian govt rejects new climate change policy

CANBERRA, 24 Feb—The Australian Government has dismissed the opposition leader Malcolm Turnbull's climate change stance on Monday.

"Malcolm Turnbull's new focus on greenhouse gas reduction policy is simply a diversion from internal problems in the opposition," Climate Change Minister Penny

Wong said on Monday.

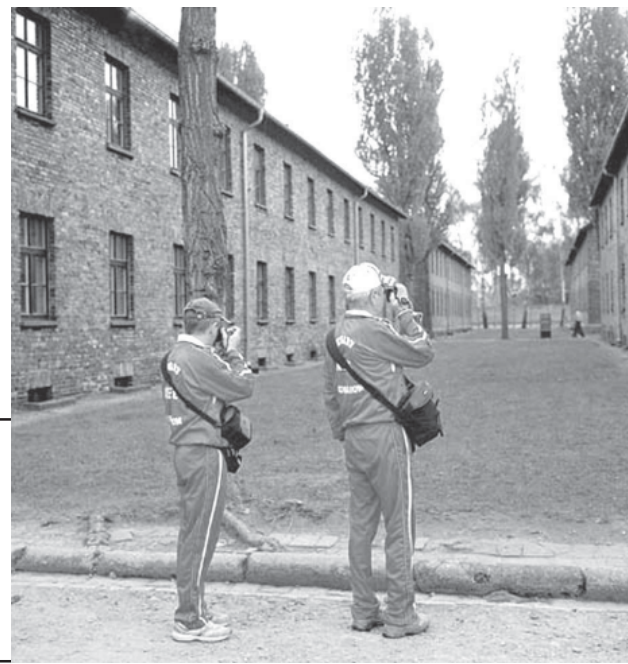
The Australian Government has rejected the new stance providing the reason that Turnbull's policy is a mirage.

Senator Wong told the ABC radio that one of

Turnbull's reduction ideas would require planting an area half the size of Tasmania every year for a decade to implement, which is impossible to achieve.

MNA/Xinhua

Photo taken by Roger Cremers, a photographer based in the Netherlands, shows "Preserving Memory: Visitors at the Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, April 30-May 4". The results of the 52nd annual World Press Photo Contest (WPP) were announced in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on 13 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



Collapsed roof kills 2 in Russian coal mine

MOSCOW, 24 Feb—Two coal miners were killed and a third injured on Monday in Russia's Kemerovo region in western Siberia when the roof above them collapsed, Russian news agencies reported.

"A rock slid onto the roof and shattered it," Interfax reported, quoting local law enforcement officers. The Dzerzhinsky mine, named after the founder of the Soviet secret police, is in the town of Prokopyevsk, some 3,000 kilometres (1,875 miles) east of Moscow.

The accident comes after the same mine's previous roof collapsed with 220 people inside in February 2007, killing one person.—MNA/Reuters

Ethiopian Airlines cuts int'l flights as crisis bites

ADDIS ABABA, 24 Feb—Ethiopian Airlines said on Monday it was cutting flights to the United States and China as the global financial crisis hit passenger numbers.

Girma Wake, chief executive officer of the airline — one of Africa's leading carriers — said they had seen a fall in the number of incoming passengers coming from the two countries.

"Ethiopian Airlines began to feel passenger and cargo contraction in November 2008, but December 2008 was when the changes became noticeable," he said in a statement.

Girma said the six weekly flights to the United States would be cut to four, while the number of weekly flights to China had been cut to 12 from 14. The airline hopes to boost operating revenue by more than 6 per cent to one billion US dollars this year.

Tourism represents just 2.5 per cent of Ethiopia's gross national product. But the government has set an ambitious goal of attracting a million foreign visitors a year by 2010, quadrupling current figures.

MNA/Reuters

Members of the Chinese expedition team work on China's Antarctic ice breaker Snow Dragon on the Antarctica, on 15 Feb, 2009. INTERNET



Jordan's nat'l airline installs inflight mobile service

AMMAN, 24 Feb—Jordan's national carrier Royal Jordanian (RJ) has installed inflight mobile services, the official Petra news agency reported on Monday.

This will enable passengers to use their own mobile phones or BlackBerry-type devices to send and receive text messages and emails, make and receive phone calls and access the Internet, said the report.

Passengers will also be able to access the Internet using laptops fitted with GSM data cards. The new service will be available in the first phase on RJ's recently received Shobak A319 aircraft flying to Europe, the Middle East, North

Africa and India, according to the report.

"Royal Jordanian has always been a leader in e-travel from providing passengers with the ability to book online to issuing e-tickets, and making online seat reservations," said Samer Majali, President and CEO of the RJ.

"We are very pleased to partner with industry leader, OnAir, to offer the latest passenger communications technology onboard our aircraft, and we expect these new capabilities to further enhance the high-quality customer service that our passengers have come to expect from Royal Jordanian," he said.—MNA/Xinhua

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 P.O.Box. 109, Ph: 723043
 (For. Domnarn Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
 Dated. 25 February, 2009.

Calcium tied to lower cancer risk in older people

CHICAGO, 24 Feb—A study in nearly half a million older men and women bolsters evidence that diets rich in calcium may help protect against some cancers. The benefits were mostly associated with foods high in calcium, rather than calcium tablets.

Previous studies have produced conflicting results. The new research involved food questionnaires from participants and a follow-up check of records for cancer cases during the subsequent seven years. This research method is less rigorous than some previous but smaller studies.

Internet

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 Ph: 371 990 25.Feb.2009

Swiss to vote on tighter gun controls

GENEVA, 24 Feb—Switzerland's part-time soldiers traditionally store their guns in the attic, in a cupboard or under the bed. They see it as their honor and duty to keep their weapons close at hand. But campaigners said Monday they have collected around 120,000 signatures to force a nationwide referendum on whether to confine army weapons to military compounds. They say the proliferation of firearms has led to suicides and homicides throughout the nation, and they want tighter firearms controls.

"Almost every day a person commits suicide with a firearm in Switzerland," said Josef Lang, a lawmaker for the Green Party who is campaigning for the proposal alongside the Social Democrats, rights groups and others.

Service in Switzerland's militia army is compulsory for men, and conscripts have to take their guns home between call-ups.

Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (118)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (118) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.2.2009 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 WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO., LTD

Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

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Reg. No. 4/137/2009
 (7 January 2009)

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U Than Maung, Advocate
For GPM GROUP (1997) CO., LTD.,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd
 Unit 701-702, Traders Hotel,
 Yangon, Union of Myanmar
 kelvin.chia.ygn@mptmail.net.mm
 Dated 25 February 2009

Ridership of New York subway drops due to rising unemployment rate

NEW YORK, 24 Feb—The ridership of New York subway has declined as a result of rising unemployment rate, New York urban transportation officials said Monday.

The city's Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) officials said that average weekday subway ridership dropped by 2 percent last month, compared with January 2008. The weekday average was about 4.9 million trips last month.

Urban transportation officials noted that it was the first such decline in five years that was not attributed to bad weather or an unusual number of weekday holidays.

Falling ridership and fare collections could add to the financial burdens of the transit body, officials said.

With the worsening of the economic situation in the United States, an increasing number of New Yorkers, even including doctors and teachers, have or will join the huge ranks of the unemployed.

On 30 Jan, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg proposed a new budget for the fiscal year starting on 1 July that includes heavy cuts in city jobs. The plan calls for a reduction of almost 23,000 jobs through layoffs and attrition. About 15,000 employees would be laid off, including 14,000 Education Department employees. Media reports quoted Bloomberg as saying recently that the city was projected to lose nearly 300,000 jobs through 2010.—Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV HELMUTH RAMBOW VOY NO (034)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HELMUTH RAMBOW VOY NO (034) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.2.2009 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 SAMUDERR SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Priceless treasures now fair game for divers

BEIJING, 24 Feb—New legislation in Greece gives scuba divers access to sunken wrecks containing archeological treasures from a bygone age. Lefteris Papadimas and Daniel Flynn go deep into the problems. A rusted mechanism recovered by sponge divers from a sunken wreck near the Greek island of Antikythera in 1902 changed the study of the ancient world forever.

The Antikythera

Mechanism, a system of bronze gears from the 2nd century BC, was used to calculate the date of the Olympic Games based on the summer solstice. Its mechanical complexity was unequalled for 1,000 years, until the cathedral clocks of the Middle Ages.

Archeologists believe hundreds more wrecks beneath the eastern Mediterranean may contain treasures, but a new law open-

ing Greece's coastline to scuba diving has experts worried that priceless artifacts could disappear into the hands of treasure hunters. "The future of archeology in this part of the world is in the sea," says marine archeologist Harry Tzalas. "This law is very dangerous, it opens the way to the looting of antiquities from the seabed which we don't even know exist."—Internet



A salvaged statue known as "The Artemision Jockey" in Greece's National Archeological Museum in Athens.—INTERNET

Taking B vitamins can prevent vision loss

CHICAGO, 24 Feb— Taking B vitamins can prevent a common type of vision loss in older women, according to the first rigorous study of its kind. It's a slight redemption for vitamin supplements, which have suffered recent blows from research finding them powerless at preventing disease.

Age-related macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in people 65 and older, with nearly 2 million Americans in the advanced stage of the condition. It causes a layer of the eye to deteriorate, blurring the center of the field of vision and making it difficult to recognize faces, read and drive. There's no cure, but treatment, including laser therapy in some cases, can slow it down.

Preventing it has been more elusive.

Internet



Musicians wait for the parade in the first day of carnival celebration in Binche, about 50 km south of Brussels, capital of Belgium on 22 Feb, 2009. Binche's three-day carnival is one of most famous carnival in Europe.

INTERNET

NASA study shows 2008 was Earth's ninth warmest year since 1880

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb—Climatologists at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) in New York City have found that 2008 was the coolest year since 2000, but also was the ninth warmest year since continuous instrumental records were started in 1880. The ten warmest years on record have all occurred between 1997 and 2008, according to the study available here on Monday. The GISS analysis found that the

global average surface air temperature was 0.44C (0.79F) above the global mean for 1951 to 1980, the baseline period for the study. Most of the world was either near normal or warmer in 2008 than the norm. Eurasia, the Arctic, and the Antarctic Peninsula were exceptionally warm, while much of the Pacific Ocean was cooler than the long-term average.

The relatively low temperature in the tropical Pacific was due to a strong La Nina that existed in the

first half of the year, the research team noted. La Nina and El Nino are opposite phases of a natural oscillation of equatorial Pacific Ocean temperatures over several years. La Nina is the cool phase. The warmer El Nino phase typically follows within a year or two of La Nina.

The temperature in the United States in 2008 was not much different than the 1951-1980 mean, which makes it cooler than all the previous years this decade.—Internet

Vitamin D deficiency may increase risk of colds, flu

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb—Vitamin D may be an important way to arm the immune system against disorders like the common cold, according to a report published on Monday in the Archives of Internal Medicine.

In the biggest and most nationally representative study of the association between vitamin D and respiratory infections, conducted by investigators from the University of Colorado

Denver (UC Denver) School of Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Children's Hospital Boston, people with the lowest blood vitamin D levels reported having significantly more recent colds or cases of the flu. The risks were even higher for those with chronic respiratory disorders, such as asthma and emphysema.

"The findings of our study support an im-

portant role for vitamin D in prevention of common respiratory infections, such as colds and the flu," Adit Ginde, UC Denver Division of Emergency Medicine and lead author of the study, said. "Individuals with common lung diseases, such as asthma or emphysema, may be particularly susceptible to respiratory infections from vitamin D deficiency."

Internet

Green, two tailed comet, comes closest to earth Tuesday

BEIJING, 24 Feb — Comet Lulin, a two-tailed green-colored comet, will make its closest approach to Earth on Tuesday.

It'll still be 61 million kilometres away—about 160 times the distance between the Earth and the moon. But for most locations in the Northern Hemisphere, it should be visible to the naked eye in dark locations over the next few days, according to NASA.

The comet is expected to appear about a third of

the way up the southern sky, a few degrees from Saturn in the constellation Leo. Lulin appears green in photographs taken through a telescope because the gases gushing from its surface include two that appear that color—cyanogen and diatomic carbon. The comet looks like it has two tails because of its orientation relative to the Earth, which creates the optical illusion of a second tail called an "anti-tail."

Scientists are using



Comet Lulin

NASA's Swift Satellite to track and study the comet as it approaches. So far, the satellite's data show that Lulin is shedding enough water to fill an Olympic-size swimming pool every 15 minutes, as the sun boils its surface material away.—Internet

More birds killed in bird flu affected area in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 24 Feb—The Rapid Response Teams deployed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative to take the bird flu outbreak in control have killed 1,035 chickens, 10 ducks, 53 pigeons and destroyed 205 eggs in Ruibari and surrounding areas of Sharanamati

village in Jhapa district in eastern Nepal by Monday.

According to Tuesday's nepalnews.com, culling and killing of birds started on Sunday after declaring the area surrounding Ruimari a "bird-flu affected area". The operation is expected to complete soon as there are no large

poultry farms in the area. It is expected that there are about 9,000 chickens in the village.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative has deployed 50 technicians to the bird flu affected area to control the deadly H5N1 virus from spreading.—Internet

Male infertility associated with testicular cancer

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb—Men who are infertile appear to have an increased risk of developing testicular cancer, according to a report published Monday in the Archives of Internal Medicine.

Testicular germ cell cancer, the most common cancer among youngmen

in industrialized countries, has become even more prevalent during the last 30 to 50 years, according to background information in the article. There is evidence that semen quality and male fertility have also declined during this time in industrialized nations; however, it is unclear

whether these two trends are related.

Thomas Walsh, of the University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, and colleagues analyzed data from 22,562 male partners of couples seeking fertility treatment between 1967 and 1998 (4,549 of whom had male factor infertility, based on a clinical presentation with abnormal semen analysis criteria). Their records were linked to the state cancer registry, which includes information about cancer cases confirmed between 1988 and 2004.

Internet

Giant crocodile captured in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 24 Feb—A huge 16.5-foot (about 5.03 meters) crocodile weighing up to 1,000 kg was captured in Sri Lanka on Sunday, a local newspaper said on Monday. *The Daily Mirror* said the giant crocodile was captured by residents in Hendala, around 20 km north of the capital Colombo, around 3:00 a.m. local time (2130 GMT). The residents caught the crocodile with the help of a noose while it was swimming in the Kallualla canal, the newspaper said.

The newspaper quoted Wildlife Department range officer Amil Jayawardene as saying the crocodile was 16.5 feet long and weighed between 800 kg and 1,000 kg.—Internet



Miners injured in the accident receive treatment in a hospital in north China's Shanxi Province on 23 Feb, 2009.—Internet

SPORTS

Woodgate dents Hull's survival hopes

HULL, 24 Feb—A late goal from England defender Jonathan Woodgate gave Spurs what could be a crucial three points in the fight against relegation as they beat fellow Premiership strugglers Hull 2-1 here on Monday.

Woodgate's header - in what was his 50th appearance for the London club - four minutes from time gave Spurs only their second win in their last 10 Premier League matches and first away win since beating West Ham on December 8 last year.

For Hull relegation appears to be a real possibility as they have registered just one victory in their last 17 Premier League Games and are now just six points above the drop and one above Spurs.

Spurs manager Harry Redknapp said he believed that his side had deserved the victory but bemoaned the fact that ahead of him and the club this week lies a UEFA Cup second leg clash with Shakhtar Donetsk, who beat them 2-0 in last week's first leg, on Thursday and then their defence of the League Cup against Manchester United on Sunday.—INTERNET



Tottenham Hotspurs Jonathan Woodgate (L) scores a goal against Hull City during their Premier League football match at KC Stadium in Hull. Tottenham won 2-1. INTERNET

Zimbabwe foiled by son of Ghana legend 'Pele'

JOHANNESBURG, 24 Feb—The eldest son of legend Abedi 'Pele' Ayew rescued Ghana in a 2-2 draw with Zimbabwe on



Ghanian National football team player Ibrahim Ayew celebrates after scoring a goal against Zimbabwe during the first African Nations football Championship (CHAN 2009) tournament at the Bouake stadium in Bouake. The match ended in a 2-2 draw.—INTERNET

Monday as surprise results continued at the African Nations Championship.

Zambia stunned hosts Ivory Coast 3-0 in the opening match on Sunday and another shock seemed on the cards in Bouake as Group B no-hopers Zimbabwe scored twice against top seeds Ghana.

But midfielder Ibrahim Ayew, whose father was voted African Footballer of the Year and helped French club Marseille win the European Cup, salvaged a point with goals either side of half-time in the central Ivorian city.

So a match expected to be among the most one-sided with Zimbabwe missing six unavailable stars turned into a thriller as the first edition of a tournament restricted to home-based footballers provides endless drama.—INTERNET

Maradona to face up to high altitude in World Cup qualifier



File photo shows Argentina's head coach Diego Maradona (R) reacts after Argentina's Lionel Messi scored against France during their international friendly soccer match at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille.—INTERNET

a news conference on Monday in Buenos Aires.

"You have to face up to the altitude and not be afraid of it. If you fear it, then the doubts start."

Argentina host Venezuela in a World Cup qualifier on 28 March, Maradona's first competitive match in charge, and visit Bolivia four days later.

Argentina have played and won two friendlies, away to Scotland and France, since Maradona's appointment in October.—INTERNET

BUENOS AIRES, 24 Feb—Argentina coach Diego Maradona said his team would be daunted by the high altitude when they face Bolivia at 3,600 meters above sea level in their World Cup qualifier in April.

"We're working on the altitude matter," said Maradona during

Murray limps on in Dubai Open tennis

DUBAI, 24 Feb—Andy Murray, who injured an ankle while winning the Rotterdam tournament the week before last, appeared to have injured it again while reaching the second round of the Dubai Open in an oddly ironic finish.

It was an ankle injury which brought the match to end just two points from a conventional finish - though it was not Murray who quit with the problem, but his opponent Sergiy Stakhovsky.

The Ukrainian had treatment on his left ankle at 5-4 in the first set, was late back on to court after more treatment before the penultimate game, and although he appeared still to be moving satisfactorily to the backhand side, walked to the net and shook hands at love-30 in the last game.—INTERNET



Britain's Andy Murray reacts after winning a point against Sergiy Stakhovsky of the Ukraine on the first day of the ATP Dubai tennis championships in the Gulf emirate. Murray won 6-7 (3/7), 6-3, 5-3.—INTERNET



Ukraine's Alla Beknazarova (L) performs with her partner Vladimir Zuev during the free dance event for Ice Dancing at the 24th World Winter Universiade in Harbin, capital city of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 23 Feb, 2009. —XINHUA

No double-Dutch as Verbeek slams A-League

SYDNEY, 24 Feb—Australia may be a few points off becoming one of the early qualified teams for next year's World Cup un-



Australia may be a few points off becoming one of the early qualified teams for next year's World Cup under Pim Verbeek (seen here on 7 February), but the blunt-talking Dutch coach is ruffling a few feathers along the way.—INTERNET

der Pim Verbeek, but the blunt-talking Dutch coach is ruffling a few feathers along the way. The Socceroos are sailing along unbeaten in their Asian group, two points clear of Japan and with a six-point buffer over third-placed Qatar and Bahrain with the top two teams of the group qualifying automatically for South Africa 2010.

Verbeek, 52, is clearly performing the task that Football Federation Australia employed him for in the wake of the country's 2007 Asian Cup debacle, where the team was knocked out in the quarter-finals. But the forthright Dutchman is upsetting local sensitivities over the domestic A-League competition.—INTERNET

Tiger's opponent sees a big opportunity

MARANA, 24 Feb—Tiger Woods announced his return to golf, and phones began ringing from Arizona to Australia.

The Accenture Match Play Championship usually attracts journalists from various parts of the world, and 473 media had requested credentials to come to high desert of Tucson. Then came Woods' statement that "I'm now ready to play again," and 105 more requests poured in. Three television satellite trucks were expected. Now the number is 11.

And in Australia?

Brendan Jones, the last

man to qualify for the 64-man field, was home with his family when he heard the news. Jones is no math major, but he knew the No. 64 seed plays the No. 1 seed in the opening round, and he knew who was No. 1. "I got a few chills up the back of my neck," Jones said.—INTERNET



Tiger Woods

Keothavong takes swipe at LTA, eyes tour win

LONDON, 24 Feb—Anne Keothavong celebrated becoming the first British woman in 16 years to break into the world's top 50 by setting her sights on winning a title on the WTA tour before the end of the year.

Keothavong, born in London to parents from Laos, has risen more than 80 places in the last year to reach 48th in the latest WTA rankings, making her the first British woman to crack the top 50 since Jo Durie in 1993.—INTERNET

Britain's Anne Keothavong plays a shot against Russia's Anna Chakvetadze during the opening day of the Australian Open in Melbourne, January 2009.—INTERNET





Sumatran tigers kill six people in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 24 Feb—Endangered Sumatran tigers have killed six people in Indonesia's Jambi Province since early February, including three illegal loggers in the most recent attacks, a conservation official said on Monday.

Authorities had trapped a female tiger believed to be behind three killings earlier this month in the area in eastern Sumatra, but the capture had not stopped the latest killings, said Didy Wurjanto, head of the Jambi nature conservation agency.

On Sunday, a tiger attacked and killed a man carrying logs near an illegal logging camp, Wurjanto said. Two other loggers in the same area were mauled and killed on Saturday.

Preliminary findings suggested the attacks were taking place because people were disturbing the habitat of the tigers, Wurjanto said.

"It is not common for tigers to attack humans, especially in Jambi," Wurjanto said, noting that forest rangers had been deployed to try and find the tiger or tigers.

The Sumatran tiger is the most critically endangered of the world's tiger subspecies.—MNA/Reuters



A pair of giant pandas take food in the Taipei zoo in Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan Province, on 23 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (25.2.2009) (Wednesday)

Transmissions

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

Times

Local Transmission

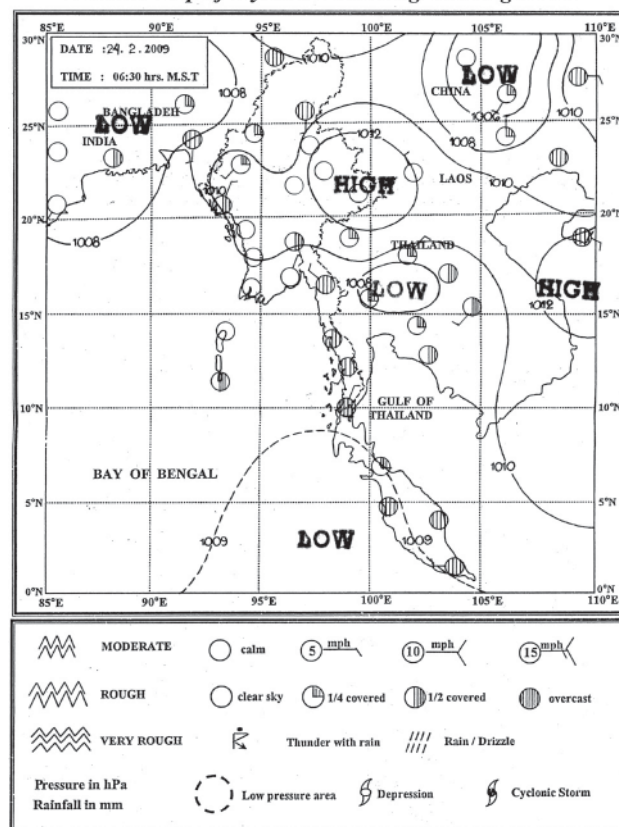
- ☐ Signature Tune
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- ☐ Ah Laung Taw Kathapa Natural Cave and National Park
- ☐ The Fruits of Myanmar
- ☐ Myanmar Earthen Pots
- ☐ Grassland Survey in Hukaung Tiger Reserve
- ☐ Fried and Crispy, delicious Lablab beans
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- ☐ Signature Tune
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- ☐ Myanma Traditional Bronze Casting
- ☐ Inlay Traditional Cuisine
- ☐ Actively participate in the Fight against Narcotic Drugs
- ☐ Second Annual Glory of Emotion
- ☐ Honourable Composer Myoma Nyein (Sagaing Hill)
- ☐ Thanakha, a Myanmar Cosmetic
- ☐ Thin Straw Pulp Paper
- ☐ Taunggyi: An Environmentally Sustainable City
- ☐ Myanmar Modern Song
- ☐ A Laung Taw Kathapa Natural Cave and National Park
- ☐ The Fruits of Myanmar
- ☐ Myanmar Earthen Pots
- ☐ Grassland Survey in Hukaung Tiger Reserve
- ☐ Fried and Crispy, delicious Lablab beans
- ☐ Inlay Wild Bird Sanctuary
- ☐ Tasty fried Nga - Poe from Padu Village
- ☐ Green Energy for Energy Hungry World
- ☐ Padaung Village and Elephant Camp
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 24 February, 2009

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

Maximum temperature on 23-2-2009 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 24-2-2009 was 61°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 24-2-2009 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 23-2-2009 was (6.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 24-2-2009 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 Southeast at (12:30) hours MST on 23-2-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 25th February 2009: Isolated light rain are possible in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady 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 25-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-2-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-2-2009: Generally fair weather.



Wednesday, 25 February
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာ့ပြုဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

6. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:10 am

7. “မြို့ကြီးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှု”

(လျှမ်းထက်၊ ဖိုးချစ်၊ ဗုလဲဝင်း၊

နန်းဆုရတီစိုး၊ စုချစ်စော်)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ—စော်လူထက်)

8:25 am

8. Song of National Races

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Musical Programme

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:20 pm

3. Classical song

4:30 pm

4. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းစေ ဂီတအမွေ

4:50 pm

5. ဂဝဏ္ဏခန္ဓာတက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ

ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ

(သင်္ချာဘာသာရပ်) (အပိုင်း-ခ)

5:05 pm

6. Song to uphold

National Spirit

5:15 pm

7. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက်

ထုတ်ကုန်များ

5:20 pm

8. “မပြောမပြီးမတီးမမြည်”

(နေရဲလင်း၊ မောင်မောင်မြင့်၊

ခင်မောင်စိုးတင့်၊ ရှင်ဖုန်းအိန်ချယ်၊

မိုးစော်၊ နိုင်ဆုသွယ်၊

စိုင်းခန့်စိုးလင်း)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ—မောင်မောင်မြင့်)

5:40 pm

9. Musical programme

5:50 pm

10. ရွှေယံစုံလင်အာဆီယံအစဉ်

6:00 pm

11. Evening news

6:30 pm

12. Weather report

6:35 pm

13. မြန်မာ့လေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ

6:50 pm

14. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

7:00 pm

15. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

7:25 pm

16. ရာသီလွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

8:00 pm

17. News

18. International news

19. Weather report

20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“မြို့မိုးဝေချစ်သက်တည်”

(အပိုင်း-၁)

21. “သာယာရွှေပြည်တို့နေပြည်”

(မြိုးဌေးစိုး၊ အောင်ရဲလင်း၊

ဇင်ဇော်စော်မြင့်၊ မော့စ်၊ ဗေလု၊

ရှက်တယ်)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ—စင်စော်မောင်မောင်)



Nancho Hydropower Project implementation commences in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana

Article & Photos: *Photographer Maung Maung*

Recently, the international experts have estimated that as the fuel production is declining gradually, all the global countries might face the problem arising from shortage of fuel in coming 50 years.

To overcome the shortage of fuel, the solar energy, various fuel gases and vegetable oils are being used by conducting research works.

In Myanmar, the supply of electricity depended on

the power plants with the use of diesel, FO and natural gas together with small-scale hydropower stations except the Biluchaung Hydropower Plant.

(See page 7)



Diversion conduit seen near Nancho Creek.



Photo shows land preparations at Salu Creek for building concrete posts of the bridge for intake tunnel and aqueduct.

Glaciers in China, Tibet fading fast

BEIJING, 24 Feb — Glaciers that serve as water sources to one of the most ecologically diverse alpine communities on earth are melting at an alarming rate, according to a recent report.

A three-year study, to be used by the China Geological Survey Institute, shows that glaciers in the Yangtze source area, central to the Qinghai-Tibet plateau in south-western China, have receded 196 square kilometres over the past 40 years.

Glaciers at the headwaters of the Yangtze, China's longest river, now cover 1,051 square kilometres compared to 1,247 square kilometres in 1971, a loss of nearly a billion cubic metres of water, while the tongue of the Yuzhu glacier, the highest in the Kunlun Mountains fell by 1,500 metres over the same period.

Xinhua



Open boats on Shennong Stream, in the Three Gorges off the Yangtze River in China. Glaciers in the Yangtze source area, central to the Qinghai-Tibet plateau in south-western China, have receded 196 square kilometres over the past 40 years.



Wood pigeon. For three of the four species in question, the house sparrow, starling and wood pigeon, the accuracy with which villagers were able to judge whether numbers of these birds had gone up or down increased with age, showing that younger people were less able to accurately recognise how populations had changed over time.

Village bird study highlights loss of wildlife knowledge

LONDON, 24 Feb—Our ability to conserve and protect wildlife is at risk because we are unable to accurately gauge how our environment is changing over time, says new research in Conservation Letters.

The study shows that people may not realise species are declining all around them, or that their local environment may have changed dramatically since their parents' and grandparents' days, and even in their own lifetime.

Internet

UMFCCI AGM on 20 March

YANGON, 24 Feb—The 18th annual general meeting of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will be held at Nay Pyi Taw City Hall at 1.30 p.m. on 20 March (Friday).

Advisors to UMFCCI, CEC members, executives and members of the federation, executives and members of the affiliated associations are invited to attend the meeting. Any postponement of the meeting will be announced.—MNA

Special sales in Yamethin, Thayet

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—The opening of the special sales of the Ministry of Industry-1 was held in Yamethin of Mandalay Division and Thayet of Magway Division this morning.

Over 300 kinds of products are available at the special sales.—MNA

ICCA 2009 on 26-27 Feb

YANGON, 24 Feb—The seventh International Conference on Computer Applications (ICCA 2009) will be held at Sedona Hotel here at 8 am on 26 February and 27 February.

Sponsored by Yangon University of Computer Studies under the Ministry of Science and Technology, the conference will be opened with an address delivered by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe.—MNA

