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Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein on latter's departure for Thailand



Senior General Than Shwe shakes hands with Prime Minister General Thein Sein before departure for Thailand at Nay Pyi Taw Airport. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe saw off Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 10 a.m. today.

The Prime Minister left here by special aircraft today to

attend the 14th ASEAN Summit to be held in Hua Hin of Thailand at the invitation of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva of Thailand.

Also present at the airport were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

**Chairman of the
State Peace and
Development
Council
Commander-in-
Chief of Defence
Services
Senior General Than
Shwe sees off Prime
Minister
General Thein Sein
at Nay Pyi Taw
Airport.**

MNA

(Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Lt-Gen Tha Aye, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Maj-Gen Maung Shein

of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the SPDC Office, departmental heads, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag and officials.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein was accompanied by Director-General Col Thant Shin of the Government Office,

Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, departmental heads and officials.

Members of the delegation Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha left here for Hua Hin of Thailand in advance yesterday to attend the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting before the ASEAN Summit.

MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 28 February, 2009

Exert concerted efforts for industrial development

Myanmar is trying its utmost for development of the industrial sector based on agriculture. Development of the industrial sector plays a pivotal role in building a peaceful modern and developed nation.

Efforts are being made for transforming the nation into an industrialized one in terms of ensuring the development of agro-based industries, of boosting the quality and quantity of industrial products, of producing more new items and of producing industrial items.

A ceremony to open and hand over the Technical Training School (Thagara) established in Thagara Industrial Region in Yedashe Township, Bago Division, was held at the industrial region on 25 February.

The technical training school was jointly established by the Ministry of Industry-2 and Korean International Cooperation Agency.

The main hall of the training school is complete with the lecture room, the student affairs department and the electronic department that are facilitated with teaching and learning aids, industrial equipment and computers. The training school conducts one-year courses at which four subjects are taught.

For industrial development the government is taking steps for the development of State-run industrial sector, private industrial sector and industrial sector run with foreign investment.

The emergence of the training school will surely contribute much to the development of the industrial sector of the State.

This being so, the entire national people are to strive together with the government for the development of industries in line with one of the four economic objectives—the initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples.

Country Manager Ms. Kathy Li of Electronic Imaging Department of Toshiba Singapore Pte Ltd presents a certificate of sole agent to MD U Htin Aung Khaing of Lucky Bird Trading Co., Ltd on 26 February.
(News reported). —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

Central Committee for Administration of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities meets

YANGON, 27 Feb—The Central Committee for Administration of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held the meeting 1/2009 at the convocation Dhammayon of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, this afternoon.

Vice-Chairman of the SSMNC Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kundalajoti delivered an Ovadakatha.

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicated on the religious affairs.

Secretary of the Central Committee



The meeting of Central Committee for Administration of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities in progress. —MNA

Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana sought the approval for the decisions of the meeting 2/

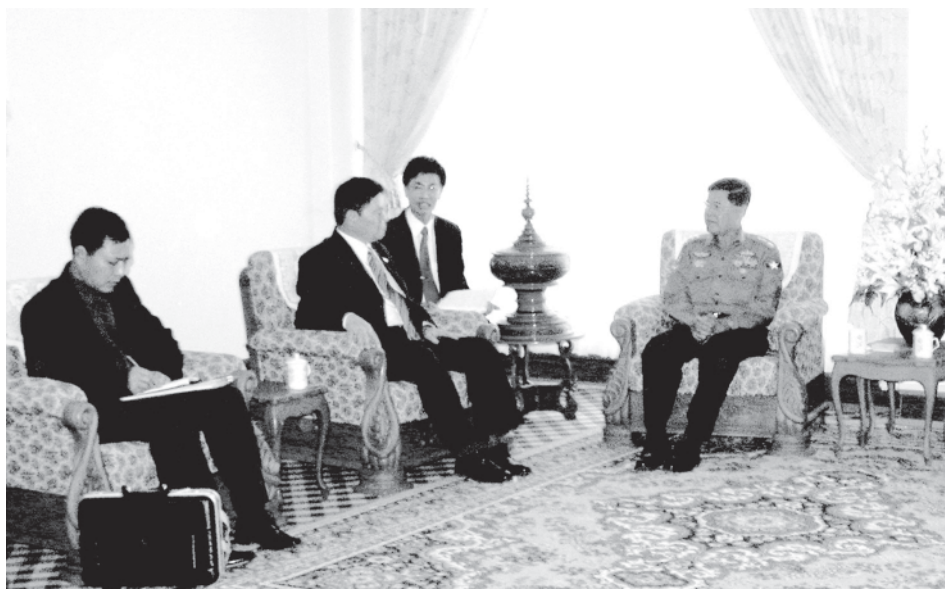
2008 of the central committee.

The meeting approved the reports of the meeting 1/2009 of the central education

committee and discussed general matters. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the vice-chairman Sayadaw.

MNA

Industry-2 Minister meets Vietnamese Ambassador



Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein meets Vietnamese Ambassador Mr. Chu Cong Phung. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein met Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Chu Cong Phung at the minister's office here on 24 February.

Their meeting focused on promoting bilateral cooperation and industrial development between the two countries.

MNA

Gusto to conduct Professional Software Engineer Course

YANGON, 27 Feb — Gusto Professional Training Centre will conduct the "Professional Software Engineer with C#.Net 3.0 (Pro SE)" Course for the first time in Myanmar.

During the course, trainees will receive skills and knowledge needed to become a system analyst, software architect and project manager.

The curriculum of the course comprises C#.Net

3.0 Programming Module, Database Design and Development Module, Object Oriented Analysis and Design with UML Module, Design Pattern Module and Soft Skills Module, the training center said.

More information is available at Gusto Professional Training Centre at No 11, First Floor, Shwetaungdan Street, Lanmadaw Township, Ph 222052, 0951-44885.— MNA



A file photo shows Iraqi security officers inspect the damage following a roadside bomb close to the Agricultural Ministry in central Baghdad.

INTERNET

US-born al-Qaida member gets 20 years in prison

WASHINGTON, 27 Feb—A US-born al-Qaida member was sentenced to 20 years in prison on Thursday in Ohio for a terrorism conspiracy of plotting bombing attacks in the United States and Europe.

Christopher Paul, 44, who also named himself Abdul Malek and Paul Kenyatta Laws, was sentenced in a federal court in Columbus, Ohio, the Justice Department said in a news release.

He also was charged with providing material support and resources to terrorists. The Justice Department accused Paul and two other men of discussing terrorist attacks in August 2002 and also found explosive devices in his possession. Paul pleaded guilty last June to one count of conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction in terrorist attacks. His accomplices in the scheme also pleaded guilty. He grew up in the Columbus suburb of Worthington and studied for a year at Ohio State University as an engineering major before joining al-Qaida in early 1990s.—*Internet*

McCain, Obama on same page on Iraq

WASHINGTON, 27 Feb—US Sen John McCain, R-Ariz, says he agrees with President Barack Obama's reported plan for troop withdrawals from Iraq.

The Huffington Post reported on Thursday that McCain said if he had been elected president he would have made the same decision on a timetable for troop withdrawals, since that is what the nation's military leaders recommended. The plan is backed by such officials as US Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker and Gens. Raymond Odierno and David Petraeus.

"I like it best because it's what Ambassador Crocker and General Odierno and General Petraeus also felt was a suitable strategy," McCain said of the president's plan, which Obama has suggested might leave 50,000 combat troops in Iraq. Critics of the reported plan have suggested any troops remaining in Iraq after a withdrawal would be, by definition, combat troops. McCain the plan seems to be "a viable strategy."

Internet

UK faces rendition allegation over Iraq transfers

LONDON, 27 Feb—The British government has admitted for the first time that its troops in Iraq handed over to the US two terror suspects who were then transferred to Afghanistan for interrogation, sparking fresh claims that it colluded over extraordinary rendition.

John Hutton, the Defence Secretary, told MPs in the Commons that officials had been aware about the incident in 2004 and that "it should have been questioned at the time".

The case was featured in lengthy papers that went in front of two cabinet ministers, Jack Straw, the then-foreign secretary, and Charles Clarke, previously the home secretary, he added.

Both deny having seen the references, and Mr Hutton claimed that they were buried in the papers and their significance was not flagged.

Internet

Russia sends US telecom satellite into space

MOSCOW, 27 Feb—Russia launched a carrier rocket on Thursday to deliver a US telecom satellite into orbit, a spokesman for the Russian Space Agency (Roscosmos) said.

The Zenit-3SLB rocket, with a Telstar-11N satellite atop, blasted off at 9:30 pm Moscow time (1830 GMT) from the Baikonur space center in Kazakhstan, the Roscosmos official was quoted as saying by the *Itar-Tass* news agency.

The Telstar-11N, a geostationary satellite built by a US company, will provide services for customers in North America, Europe, Africa and the Atlantic Ocean region. The Zenit-3SLB is a modernized three-stage version of the Zenit-3SL, which was previously used at Sea Launch's floating platform in the Pacific Ocean.

Russia has already carried out three successful space launches this year and is planning to set a world record by conducting a total of 39 launches in 2009 despite the global financial crisis.—*Internet*

Iran slams US statement on its nuclear programme, terrorism

UNITED NATIONS, 27 Feb—Iran Thursday lashed out at the US statement on its nuclear programme and alleged engagement in terrorism, calling such allegations "baseless and absurd."

In a letter circulated to the UN Security Council president, the Iranian permanent representative to the United Nations, Mohammad Khazaei, said, "It is unfortunate that

the Security Council yet again heard some baseless allegations against the Islamic Republic of Iran by the representative of the United States in today's meeting of the council on Iraq."

The US ambassador to the United Nations, Susan Rice, said the new US administration will seek to end Iran's nuclear ambitions and its support for terrorism. This comments at the end of an open meeting of the UN Security Council on Iraq drew an immediate rebuke on Thursday from Iranian UN

ambassador.

"Despite the allegations made by the US representative, Iran's nuclear programme has been, is and will remain absolutely peaceful and Iran has never tried nor will ever try to acquire nuclear weapons," the letter said.

"It is unfortunate that, yet again, we are hearing the same tired, unwarranted and groundless allegations that used to be unjustifiably and futilely repeated by the previous US administration," the letter said.

Internet

Israeli warplanes strike on Gaza underground tunnels

GAZA, 27 Feb—Israeli *F16* war jets destroyed on Thursday five tunnels dug under the border route between southern Gaza Strip and Egypt, said Hamas security sources.

Hamas security sources said that Israeli warplanes have attacked tunnels used for smuggling under the borderline between the southern Gaza Strip town of Rafah and Egypt, slightly wounding a Palestinian.

The tunnels business in the enclave flourished after Israel tightened its blockade on the Gaza Strip almost two years ago, after Hamas movement took control of the Gaza Strip violently and routed President Mahmoud Abbas' security forces.

Residents of Rafah has estimated that the number of underground tunnels, most of them are used to smuggle goods and fuels from Egypt into Gaza, was more than 1000 before Israel waged a 22-day offensive on 27 Dec last year.

An Israeli army spokesman told Israel Radio's Arabic service that Israeli war jets destroyed five underground tunnels under the borderline between the Gaza Strip and Egypt in response to earlier rockets attacks.

A pro-Iran group called the Brigades of Hezbollah in Palestine claimed responsibility earlier on Thursday for firing two homemade rockets from the Gaza Strip at southern Israel. One Israeli woman was treated for a shock.

Internet

Sa'ad Esmail, centre, react as he is met by his family after being released from US military custody in the Dora area of southern Baghdad, Iraq on 26 Feb, 2009.

INTERNET



Canton Fair provides platform for promotion of Sino-South Africa trade

JOHANNESBURG, 27 Feb —The 105th Canton Fair, to be held between April and May 2009, has been formally introduced to South Africans in Johannesburg on Thursday by Zhang Zhigang, deputy director of the Committee for Economic Affairs of National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

Zhang, also Vice President of China Import and Export Fair and chairman of the Council of China Foreign Trade Centre, told the meeting that China Import and Export Fair, also renowned as the Canton Fair, is held biannually in Guangzhou every spring and autumn.

The Canton Fair has been held uninterrupted for over 100 sessions since

1957.

The fair, comprehensive in nature, has won its renown of "China's NO 1 Fair" for its long history, the largest scale, the most complete exhibit variety, the biggest buyer attendance and the greatest business turnover in China.

Zhang said in an interview with *Xinhua* on Thursday that China and South Africa have witnessed fast expanding economic and trade cooperation in the past 10 years since the two countries forged diplomatic ties.

In 2008, China and South Africa reaped a bilateral trade turnover of 17.8 billion US dollars, up 27 percent over the previous year.

And a total of 3,091 South African businesses

and enterprises attended the Canton Fair in 2008, signing contracts totaling 1.16 billion US dollars.

Zhang Zhigang said that China and South Africa, both as important development countries, are strongly complementary in economic and trade cooperation. Both have huge potential to tap in each other's markets.

Internet



A Filipino fisherman sorts tuna, which is exported to Japan, US and Europe, at the General Santos city port, southern Philippines recently. —INTERNET

Crude prices jump as OPEC to cut supply

NEW YORK, 27 Feb—Crude prices jumped Thursday as OPEC will cut output again.

OPEC member the United Arab Emirates announced it was cutting back supplies to Asia for April after the cartel warned to cut more production when it meets in March.

Since September, OPEC has cut output by 4.2 million barrels per day as part of efforts to stem the steep drop in prices as demand shrinks.

US government data released on Wednesday showed US gasoline demand is rising over the last week while imports over the last two weeks are more than 10 percent below the prior month's average.

Light, sweet crude for April delivery jumped 6.4 percent, or 2.72 US dollars to settle at 45.22 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Internet

One third of companies expect to cut jobs

WELLINGTON, 27 Feb—Business confidence in New Zealand has continued in the doldrums at the start of 2009 with one in three firms now expecting to shed staff.

The National Bank's first monthly survey of the year, released on Friday, showed pessimists outnumber optimists, with a net 41 percent of businesses expecting the economy to

worsen over the coming year, a drop of six percentage points.

Firms' expectations of their own activity improved slightly, but only from its worst-ever reading to its second-worst reading of a net 20 percent.

With employment and investment intentions at all-time lows, National Bank chief economist Cameron Bagrie said it suggests the downturn is heading into a new phase.

He added that the first stage was about demand, the second is about the business sector's response to the difficult economic climate which is to cut back on staff and investment.

Internet

Obama may attend US-EU April meeting in Czech Republic

PRAGUE, 27 Feb—US President Barack Obama is expected to attend a US-EU meeting scheduled for April in the Czech capital, the *CTK* news agency reported on Thursday.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Defence Secretary Robert Gates are also likely to go along with Obama, *CTK* quoted diplomatic sources as saying.

Other local media said Obama is expected to arrive here on 4 April or 5 April. The US embassy here has yet to confirm the news.

The Czech Republic now holds the rotating EU presidency.

Internet

Japan's jobless rate at 4.1% in January

TOKYO, 27 Feb — Japan's jobless rate stood at 4.1 percent in January, down 0.2 percentage point from December, the government said on Friday.

The number of unemployed people

totalled 2.77 million, up 210,000 from a year earlier, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications said in a preliminary report.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare separately said

the ratio of job offers to job seekers in the reporting month dipped 0.06 point to a seasonally adjusted 0.67, which means there were 67 jobs available for every 100 job seekers.

Internet

US new home sales drop to lowest level on record

WASHINGTON, 27 Feb—New home sales in the United States plunged 10.2 percent in January to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 309,000 units, the lowest level on record, the Commerce Department reported on Thursday. The January sales were 48.2 percent below the year-earlier level.

Regionally, new home sales fell by 12.5 percent in the Northeast last month and were down 28.0 percent in the West. In the

Midwest, meanwhile, sales dropped by 5.6 percent. Sales in the South also declined by 6.5 percent.

The median price of a new home, a typical market price where half of new homes are sold for more and half sold for less, dropped by 13.5 percent in January from the year-ago level to 201,100 dollars, the lowest level since December 2003.

A good news was that inventories of unsold new

homes in January fell by 3.1 percent to 342,000 units, the 13th consecutive decline. In light of weak demand, that still represented a supply of 13.3 months at the current sales rate.

The weak showing for new home sales indicated that the country is still in the grips of the severe housing slump, which many analysts believe will last for some time, given the difficult sales environment—*Internet*



An escort vehicle warns on-coming traffic of an approaching truck carrying a house through the Yarra Valley area devastated by the Black wildfires, northeast of Melbourne, on 26 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



Switzerland eyes free trade deal with China

ZURICH, 27 Feb—Switzerland wishes to be the first European nation to sign a free trade deal with China to unlock more business opportunities, Swiss Economy Minister Doris Leuthard said on Thursday. “We hope that Switzerland may be the first European country to have a free trade agreement with China,” Leuthard said in an interview with *Xinhua* on the sidelines of an economic forum organized for a Chi-

nese business delegation.

The delegation, led by China’s Commerce Minister Chen Deming, is on a four-country European tour to buy products and technology. Switzerland is their second stop, where the Chinese companies inked trade deals worth more than 300 million US dollars with Swiss counterparts.

Chen said after talks with Leuthard that China and Switzerland will

launch a joint feasibility study on the free trade agreement in the latter half of this year. It “marks a new step in our closer trade and economic cooperation,” he said. In his recent visit to Switzerland, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao decided with Swiss leaders that it was time for the two countries to start negotiations for a free trade agreement to expand bilateral trade and investment.

Xinhua



This undated photo shows members of the Chinese 25th Antarctic expedition team posing for photos at China’s Zhongshan Station in Antarctica. The Zhongshan Station was finished on 26 Feb, 1989, and sees its 20th anniversary on 26 Feb, 2009. —XINHUA



Blast experts carefully move a big bomb dug out in the Weicheng District of Weifang, a city of east China’s Shandong Province, on 26 Feb, 2009. A total of 107 pieces of explosive articles were destroyed by police in Weifang on Thursday.

XINHUA

Road accidents up 20% during Brazil carnival

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 Feb—Road accidents during the just-concluded carnival holiday in Brazil increased 20 percent compared with 2008 despite the new tougher regulations against drunk drivers, police said on Thursday.

A total of 2,865 accidents occurred on the country’s roads during the period from Carnival Friday to Ash Wednesday, which claimed 127 lives, down from 128 last year, and injured 1,784 others, up 21 percent from 2008, Federal Highway Police said.

The average rate of drunk drivers on the roads dropped during the holiday, one per every 16 drivers compared one in every 10 drivers in 2008.—*Xinhua*

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China confident of 8% growth target this year

BEIJING, 27 Feb—China was confident of achieving its 8-percent gross domestic product (GDP) growth target for 2009, Liu Tienan, vice minister of the National Development and Reform Commission, told a press conference Friday.

Liu said China’s fast development facilitated industrialization and urbanization, trends that in turn provided huge consumption potential.

The country’s financial system was in “good shape” overall, he said.

China had faced downward pressure from the global economic downturn, especially since the fourth quarter, he added. China had developed stimulus plans for 10 industries, which would continue to buoy confidence and support economic de-

velopment, he said. Starting last month, China unveiled stimulus packages for 10 sectors: automobile, steel, ship-building, textiles, machinery, electronics and information technology, light industry, petrochemicals, nonferrous metals and logistics.

Xinhua

Cuban leader, French envoy agree to boost relationship

HAVANA, 27 Feb—Cuban leader Raul Castro met with a special envoy of French President Nicolas Sarkozy on Wednesday and they discussed boosting bilateral ties, a local newspaper reported on Thursday.

Castro appreciated the friendly initiative from the French side and said Cuba is interested in re-boosting “the traditional political, economic and bilateral cooperative ties for the benefit of both countries,” the official daily “Granma” said.

Jack Lang, the French envoy, also expressed interest in working to promote the relationship between Cuba and the European Union (EU) in the framework of “reciprocal respect.” —*Xinhua*

Vietnam confirms 2nd human case died of bird flu in 2009

HANOI, 27 Feb—A 32-year-old man from Vietnamese northern Ninh Binh Province, who had been tested positive to H5N1 virus, died of the virus.

The patient died on Wednesday after 13 days of being treated at the National Institute of Infectious and Tropical Disease, the local newspaper *Pioneer* reported Friday.

The patient, named Cu Van Chieu, was taken to hospital on 13 Feb with severe breathing difficulty. He had contact with fowls before developing bird flu symptoms. He is the third bird flu patient in Vietnam this year and the 2nd human case died of the H5N1 virus this year. —*Xinhua*



Cooked chickens are sold in a market in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 27 Feb, 2009. A 32-year-old man from northern Vietnam has died of bird flu, in the country’s second death from the disease this year, a health official said on Friday.

INTERNET



A man walks past a vehicle damaged in a roadside bomb blast in central Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 Feb, 2009. —INTERNET

1st H7 bird flu case detected in Japan's Aichi Prefecture

TOKYO, 27 Feb—The H7 bird flu has been detected at a quail farm in Toyohashi, Aichi Prefecture, said the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry on Friday.

It is the first time that bird flu has been detected in Japan since February 2007. And it is the first ever case of the H7 virus discovered in the country.

The ministry said that the virus “may be of attenuated virulence” as the infected birds are still alive.

And the farm has been quarantined on Wednesday. — Internet

Nonregular workers to lose job in Oct-March in Japan

TOKYO, 27 Feb—About 157,806 nonregular employees in Japan are expected to lose their jobs between October 2008 and March 2009 amid the global economic downturn, a Labour Ministry survey showed on Friday.

The job cuts are mainly temporary workers in the manufacturing sector, while about 10,000 regular employees are also feared to lose their jobs during the period. The estimated number of job cuts during the six-month period represents a 26.4 per cent rise from the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry's projection in its January survey.—MNA/Xinhua

One dead, 540 injured during Carnival in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 27 Feb—At least 259 people were reported injured in the concluding hours of Haiti's Carnival 2009, bringing the total casualties in the festivity to one death and 540 injuries, local police said on Thursday.

The sole fatality was identified as 15-year-old Sandra Pierre, who suffered several fractures in the skull after a gigantic carriage rolled over upon

her during a street concert in Port-au-Prince, a police spokesman said on Thursday.

According to official statistics, around one million local residents participated in this year's Carnival, which began on Sunday. In order to guarantee social order and security, Haitian police had sought the cooperation of the Red Cross and UN peacekeeping forces,

Gary Desrosiers, Haitian police spokesman, told Xinhua.

Olsen Jan Julien, Haitian minister of culture and communication, said that Carnival celebrations help create employment and consumption in sectors like tourism and transportation, which implies considerable economic profitability to the Caribbean country.

Internet

Antarctic glaciers' fast melting risks sea-level rise

BEIJING, 27 Feb—Antarctica glaciers are melting faster than before and across a much wider area, thereby threatening to raise sea levels worldwide and forcing migration of people to low-lying areas, according to scientists.

Earlier, scientists believed the melting was confined to the Antarctic Peninsula, a narrow tongue of land pointing toward South America. But satellite data and automated weather stations

now indicate it is more widespread.

Scientists from British Antarctic Survey (BAS), Durham University and Germany's Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) collected boulders deposited by three glaciers in the Amundsen Sea Embayment — a region currently the focus of intense international scientific attention as it is changing faster than anywhere else on the West Antarctic Ice Sheet's

(WAIS) and it has the potential to raise sea-level by around 1.5 meters.

Analysis of the boulders has enabled the scientists to start constructing a long-term picture of glacier behaviour in the region. By the end of the century, the accelerated melting could cause sea levels to climb by 3 to 5 feet (about 0.91 to 1.52 meters)—levels substantially higher than predicted by a major scientific group two years ago.

Internet

NEWS ALBUM

Vulture suddenly falls in front of ranger

A female forest ranger in Yanqing, Beijing, was startled when a giant vulture fell down in front of her.

She called in experts who concluded that the 1-m-tall bird is a vulture, a protected species, and they sent it to the Beijing Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center for recovery. After it was fed, the bird was doing well. It will be released back into the wild once it's fully recovered.



Bulgarian chess grandmaster Kiril Georgiev(C) plays a move while trying to break the world record for the largest number of simultaneous chess games vs 360 players in Sofia. Georgiev managed to beat the record by winning 80 percent of his games in 14 hours and 8 minutes.

Police say man reports own drunken driving

A Pennsylvania man called 911 to inform authorities he was too drunk to drive and was pulling his car over as a precaution, state police allege.

An unidentified state police trooper said in a report that John Wilson, 26, of Knox, was arrested in the parking lot of a gas station in Sligo at 12:45 am on Saturday, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported.

“(MrWilson) related that he had left the bar and was on his way home when he realized he was too drunk to make it home,” the state trooper alleged.

Parrot offered to settle lawsuit

A woman in Florida says she's offering her parrot to end a dispute between two other women fighting over the ownership of another parrot.

Leah Dellapelle, 28, said she loves Travis, her African gray parrot, but she can't afford his \$100-a-month diet, The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported.

Dellapelle says Travis may be the answer to a lawsuit filed by Angela Colichieski, 52, against Sarita Lytell, 47, both of Boca Raton.

“I'm looking for someone who can afford birds,” Dellapelle said.

Colichieski contends Lytell has her parrot, Tequila, who flew away about three years ago. Lytell said she has cared for a parrot she named Lucky since it was found dehydrated and scared in May 2006 and she is not about to give it up.

“He's my little baby and he could be taken away from me,” Lytell said. “He looked at me today and said, ‘Ma, it's all right. Don't cry.’”



An employee for Japanese mobile communication giant NTT docomo displays a “health-care mobile phone” handset, equipped with various sensors, while enabling a user to connect a tonometer to display blood pressure. The idea of a phone serving as a “doctor in your pocket” has gained traction at the industry's biggest trade show, the Mobile World Congress, in Barcelona.

German forgets thousands of euros in toilet

A German businessman lost more than 10,000 euros (9,000 pounds) in a plastic bag after forgetting the cash in a public toilet, authorities said on Thursday.

Hesse state police said the man took the “five-figure” sum with him as he stopped to relieve himself in a motorway service station near Haiger in western Germany. He then drove off.

A police spokesman said it was not clear why the man took half an hour to notice his loss — by which time the money had gone.



Canopic jars found by Japanese archaeologists working in Egypt in the Sakkara necropolis, about 25 km (15 miles) south of Cairo, are seen in this undated handout photo released. The team from Waseda University in Tokyo have found four wooden sarcophagi and associated grave goods which could date back up to 3,300 years, the Egyptian government said.



Indawgyi Wildlife Park consists of bio-diversity and trees

Article & Photos: Kyaw Kyaw (Bhamo)

(from page 16)

With a view to conserving the environment and wildlife, Indawgyi Wildlife Park was established with the wetland area and five forest reserves by the Ministry of Forestry on 14 March 1993. Educative talks on disadvantages of illegally extracting natural resources such as hunting, fishing with the use of toxin and setting traps for birds were given to the

local people. Rules and regulations concerned were prescribed for environmental conservation for existence of the wildlife park.

In the Indawgyi Wildlife Park, the authorities concerned are broadening the horizons of the people with the general knowledge about conservation of flora and fauna and taking action against those who illegally extracted the natural resources, designation

of the prohibited area, conservation of bio-diversity and prevention against avian influenza. The conservation of natural resources in Myanmar plays a significant role in the development of eco-tourism industry.

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 20-2-2009

**Travellers visiting
Indawgyi Wildlife
Park.**



Stalagmites confirm 9,000-year lower Brazil rainfall

SAO PAULO, 27 Feb — Climate researchers expected to see wet/dry periods in Brazil's Nordeste region similar to the rest of South America in the past 9,000 years. But the area experienced the opposite, drought when rain was expected. Using stalagmite data, researchers identify unexpected air circulation as the cause.

Until recently, researchers studying climate history in Brazil's dry Nordeste region expected it to have wet and dry periods similar to the rest of South America. But over the past 9,000 years, the region has shown just the opposite, drought when rain was expected, and vice versa. Geoscientists from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, with others, report this week that they've identified the cause as a surprising air circulation pattern.

As Stephen Burns, a UMass Amherst geoscientist explains, "In general, the Northern Hemisphere tropics have been getting drier and the Southern Hemisphere tropics have been getting wetter as maximum summer solar heating shifts southward. But Northeast Brazil has been acting like a Northern Hemisphere site and it's been getting steadily drier from about 9,000 years ago to today." Millions of people there must cope with severely disruptive, recurring droughts, Burns and colleagues point out. A more accurate model of past conditions could help predict what to expect in the future.—Internet



Geoscientist Francisco Cruz of the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, on the floor of a cave where the team collected stalagmites for radiometric dating and chemical analysis. The red clay floor is residue left after thousands of years of water seeping through and dissolving bedrock limestone.

Critically endangered cheetahs in Algeria snapped with camera trap

ALGIERS, 27 Feb — A Wildlife Conservation Society-supported survey of the Sahara has captured the first camera-trap photographs of the critically endangered Saharan cheetah in Algeria. The survey was conducted by researchers from the Zoological

Society of London (ZSL), the Office du Parc National de l'Ahaggar (OPNA), and the Université de Béjaïa, with support from WCS and Panthera.

The photographs were taken as part of the first systematic camera trap survey across the central Sahara, covering an area of 2,800 square kilometres (1,081 square miles).

Overall, the survey identified four different Saharan cheetahs—a subspecies of cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus hecki*)—using spot patterns unique to each individual.

"The Saharan cheetah is critically endangered, yet virtually nothing is known about the population, so this new evidence, and the ongoing research work, is hugely significant," said Dr Sarah Durant, Zoological Society of London Senior Research Fellow.

"This first camera-trap confirmation of cheetahs in Algeria is a landmark success toward our efforts to save these big cats," said Dr. James Deutsch, Director of WCS-Africa. "Findings like these help us refine our conservation strategies for the cheetah across its entire range."—Internet



This photographic confirmation of fleet-footed big cats is a first for Algeria.

Potato chips should be eaten only in moderation

SCIENCE DAILY, 27 Feb — A new study published in the March 2009 American Journal of Clinical Nutrition by Marek Naruszewicz and colleagues from Poland suggests that acrylamide from foods may increase the risk of heart disease. Acrylamide has been linked previously to nervous system disorders and possibly to cancer.

After ingesting large amounts of potato chips providing about 157 micrograms of acrylamide daily for four weeks, the participants had adverse changes in oxidized LDL, inflammatory markers and antioxidants that help the body eliminate acrylamide—all of which may increase the risk of heart disease.

Additional research is needed in long-term studies of people consuming typical amounts of acrylamide (averaging about 20 to 30 micrograms). It is recommended that FDA and the food industry continue to decrease acrylamide in foods by improving food processing technologies. FDA reports that acrylamide is particularly high in potato chips and French fries.

According to American Society for Nutrition Spokesperson Mary Ann Johnson, PhD: "Consumers can reduce their exposure to acrylamide by limiting their intake of potato chips and French fries, choosing a variety of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low fat meat and dairy products, and quitting smoking, which is a major source of acrylamide."—Internet



Acrylamide, found in foods such as potato chips and french fries, may increase the risk of heart disease. Acrylamide has been linked previously to nervous system disorders and possibly to cancer.



National people to uphold Union Spirit for prevailing peace and tranquillity

Union Spirit can develop Union as well as prevent Union from breaking up

Stakes driven for building self-reliant village libraries in Kyaukpyu District

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers an address in meeting with local people of eight villages in Kyaukpyu Township. —MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of the library in Ngalapwe Village of Kyaukpyu Township, Rakhine State, was held at the village on 24 February morning.

Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Acting Director-General U Ye Htut of the Information and Public Relations Department drove the stakes at the designated places.

In meeting with over 1,600 local people from eight villages, the commander and the ministers heard reports on regional development and attended to their needs.

In his speech, the commander said that he welcomed the reports on progress of education, health and regional development by the local people. The wish and desire of the local people are similar to the programmes being implemented by the government, he said. The concerted efforts of the government and the people are the drive for gaining success to ensure stability and development of the nation. The spirit to develop the respective regions and the nation is the patriotic spirit, he added. In conclusion, the commander urged the national people to uphold the true patriotic spirit forever.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address.

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung made a speech. He said that they made field trips to the grassroots level and provided assistance for undertaking education, health, rural transportation and regional development in Kyaukpyu region. He urged the local people to carry out the tasks with the use of assistance and local authorities to systematically supervise the development tasks.

The commander presented K 500,000 for purchase of furniture at Ngalapwe Village self-reliant library. Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung gave K 500,000 for renovation of Ngalapwe Village Basic Education Primary School. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan handed over K 3 million donated by Union Solidarity and Development Association for construction of Ngalapwe



Village self-reliant library and K 500,000 each for four village-tracts for regional development, books to village libraries and clothes to the local people through officials.

The commander and the ministers cordially greeted the local people.

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Acting Director-General U Ye Htut of IPRD, Cdr Min Zaw of Danyawady Naval Region Command and Chairman of Yanbye Township PDC U Aung Kyaw Soe drove stakes for construction of Letpanwa Village Library in Letpanwa Village, Yanbye Township.

In meeting with 1,200 local people from 11 villages, the minister fulfilled the requirements of regional development task.

The minister handed over K 3 million donated by USDA for building self-reliant village library, K 500,000 each for rural development tasks to five village-tracts, books for village libraries and clothes to local people through officials. Chairman of Township PDC U Aung Kyaw Soe also gave K 500,000 donated by Rakhine State PDC for buying furniture of Letpanwa Village Library through officials.

In meetings with local people, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that the government is accelerating the regional development in Rakhine State. Likewise, the Ministry of Information is carrying out information tasks for the people with added momentum. Measures are being taken to complete construction of new TV retransmission station and installation of high frequency transmission machines in February 2009 for enabling the local people to enjoy various kinds of TV channels of their choice. Efforts are being made to implement the FM radio system to present news and entertainment to the people in the state as quickly as possible, he said.

He said that all the people have high talent and efficiency and they can stand shoulder to shoulder with people of other countries. To uplift the efficiency, all the people have to read, he noted. Therefore, the ministry establishes self-reliant libraries in the villages. He urged local people to strive for development of their libraries seeking knowledge through books.

He added that all the national brethren have been living in the Union since yore through thick and



Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye drives stake for construction of Ngalapwe Village self-reliant library in Kyaukpyu Township. —MNA

thin. Nowadays, national people have become families living in amity. All the villages, towns, States and Divisions become mini-unions through relationship, understanding and unity. Therefore, the national people are to uphold the Union Spirit for prevailing peace and tranquillity. The Union Spirit can develop the Union as well as to prevent the Union from breaking up. The lives of people in miseries can be seen across the world due to breaking up of the countries. By taking lessons from such miseries, such minister pointed out that the national people are to make collective efforts for prevailing peace and stability of the State with Union Spirit, for undertaking development tasks, for ensuring perpetual existence of the nation and for achieving success in implementing democratic process.

In conclusion, the minister urged local people to actively take part in the respective sectors for realization of the State's seven-step Road Map and national development drives while serving the national interest. —MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung presents K 500,000 for repair of Ngalapwe Village Basic Education Primary School in Kyaukpyu Township. —MNA



Implementing of Chipwenge Hydro Power Project in progress

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence on 20 February went to Chipwenge Hydro Power Project near Lankyaw Village in Chipwe Township and inspected construction of the embankment and intake channel of the project being implemented by Hydro Electric Power Department of Ministry of Electric Power No 1.

Before the tour of inspection, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, accompanied by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development

Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win and departmental officials, met with departmental officials and members of social organizations in Chipwe at Chipwe Township General Administration Department on 20 February.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint also met with teachers and students at the basic education primary

school in Okkat Ward and presented uniforms to teachers and students.

During the tour, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint also inspected the progress of construction of Labyugyaing Hotel, condition of Dunban Chaung Bridge and condition of Maliyan Bridge in Waimaw.

On way to Sadon Township, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint inspected the

upgrading of Chipwe-Waimaw Road Section and plantations on both sides of the road.

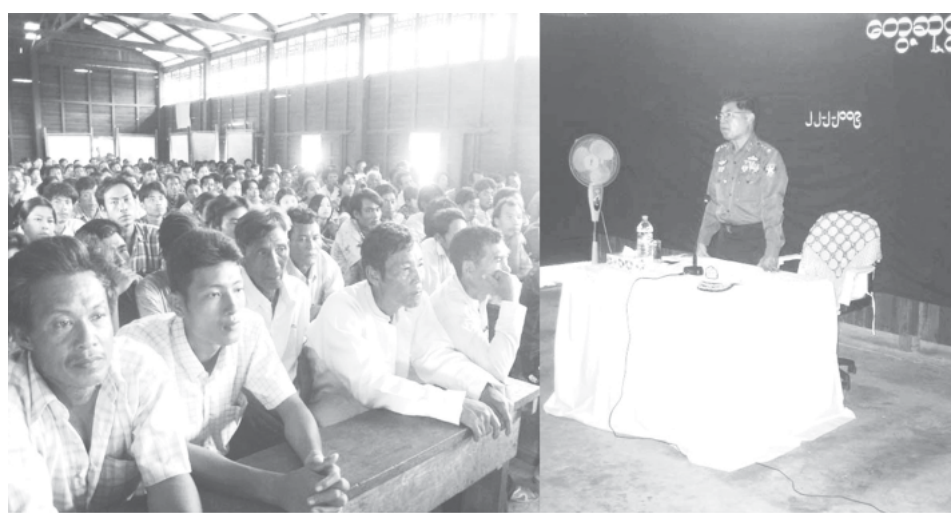
He met with departmental officials and members of social organizations at Hninpwint Hotel in Sadon Township. Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and party inspected the basic education high school in Sadon Township and the people's hospital in Sadon Township.— MNA



Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects construction of embankment and intake canal of Chipwenge Hydro Power Project.—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



Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein meets with officials, teachers, health staff, townselders and members of NGOs.

MNA

Villages in Kyunsu Township get aids for regional development

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein fulfilled the requirements for regional development tasks on his tour of village-tracts in Kyunsu Township, Taninthayi Division, from 21 to 23 February.

The minister met with members of township administration department, staff, local people and personnel of NGOs at Kyun Yadana hall of the township and attended to

the needs.

The minister went to Mayanchaung, Kapa, Kade Katud, Katan, Tayapine, Wachau, Migyaung-a, Lewahbyin, Done-paleaw and Kangyi villages and fulfilled the requirements on carrying out five rural development tasks with momentum, ensuring supply of electricity with the use of hydropower, solar energy and bio fuel in the village and building village-to-

village road in meeting with responsible persons, teachers, health staff, local people and members of NGOs.

Next, the minister presented 20 sets of solar generators and 20 sets of hydro power turbines for village dispensaries, monasteries and computer rooms, teaching aid books and journals for matriculation students and rice, clothes and cash for the villages through responsible persons.— MNA



Aung Win (Forestry) who leads the third day men's amateur event.—MGF

IBTC Open Golf Championships go on

YANGON, 27 Feb — The Yangon last leg of IBTC Open Golf Championships tournament of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PFA and mainly sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd continued at Yangon Golf Course (Danyingon) in Insein Township here yesterday morning.

After the third day 18-hole professional golfers event, Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) is leading with 214 strokes, Zaw Zin Win (Srixon) and Naing Naing Lin (Point Golf Shop) second with 217 strokes each and Myint Shwe (Srixon), Min Naing (Srixon) and Aung Win (Srixon) third with 218 strokes each.

In the men's amateur event, Aung Win

(Forestry) is leading with 208 strokes, Nay Bala Win Myint second with 214 strokes and Than Zaw third with 224 strokes.

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

Regional development tasks in Kawthoung, Bokepyin inspected

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence inspects reconstruction of Pulonetonton Bridge in Kawthoung.

MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and officials, inspected summer paddy patches of Kawthoung Correctional Department and 7-mile

sluice gate of the Irrigation Department on 24 February morning. They also looked into construction of GSM radio station (2) and tower foundation. Next, Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected reconstruction of Pulonetonton Bridge and met with local entrepreneurs at Kawthoung District PDC office.

After meeting with departmental officials, members of social organizations, townsenders and local people at the assembly hall in Kawthoung, Lt-Gen Tha Aye and party inspected the village grocery and Wakyun post-primary school in Wakyun village in Bokepyin Township.

MNA

Trading of crops inspected at Muse Border Trade Zone

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut on 17 February visited trading of various crops and systematic storage of crops at the checkpoint of Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone.

The commander inspected the export crab trade station of National Development Co Ltd and cultivation of summer

paddy in the farmlands of farmer Daw Shwe Yin with the use of modern paddy transplanting machine near Seilant Village of Namhkam Township.

At Pansay Station Hospital, the commander presented cash assistance and food to the patients.

At Pansay Village Basic Education High School (Branch), the commander met with departmental officials and attended to the needs. On 18 February, the

commander visited the Post-Primary School in Phanughsai Village and provided cash assistance and stationery to the school. In Monekoe, the commander viewed cultivation of summer paddy in the field of farmer U Win Maung and maintenance of Kyukok-Wamting Bridge in Muse Township. At Shweli Yadana Hall in Muse, the commander met staff officers of the command headquarters and departmental officials. — MNA

Military Band Competition continues

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — To mark the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2009, the 17th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition continued here this morning. It was attended by Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the Competitions Vice

Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and members of the committee, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, members of the panel of judges and servicemen.

The military band company-2 representing North-East Command, the band company-2

representing Coastal Region Command, the band representing South-West Command, the band representing Central Command, the band representing North-East Command and the band representing Triangle Region Command participated in the competition. — MNA

Advanced Domestic Science Course No. 20, Clerical Work Course No. 58/59 conclude

YANGON, 27 Feb — Director-General U Than Win of Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs addressed conclusion ceremony of Advanced Domestic Science Course

No.20 and Clerical Work Course No. 58/59 at central training school of the department this afternoon.

The director-general presented awards to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to the trainees.

A total of 183

trainees attended the three-month courses.

After the ceremony, the director-general viewed works of the trainees and inspected learning theaters, hostels and mess of the school and thriving perennial and seasonal crop plantations.

MNA



D-G U Than Win addresses conclusion ceremony of Advanced Domestic Science Course No. 20 and Clerical Work Course No. 58/59. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung meets Vice-Chairman Mr. Ahn Dong Won of KOICA and party. — FORESTRY

Forestry Minister meets Korean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung received Vice-Chairman Mr. Ahn Dong Won of Korea International

Cooperation Agency-KOICA and party at the minister's office here this morning.

Also present were Director-General U San

Lwin of Planning and Statistics Department, Director-General U Khin Win of Dry Zones Greening Department and the deputy directors-general. — MNA



The bride dances to the music of Lusheng, a musical instrument of southwest China's Miao people, on her wedding ceremony held in a village of Sansui County of southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 26 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Chinese banks profit up 30.6% in 2008

BEIJING, 27 Feb—China's banking industry reported 583.4 billion yuan (85.79 billion US dollars) of after-tax profit in 2008, up 30.6 per cent, said China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC) Thursday.

CBRC chairman Liu Mingkang released the figure at a Press conference on Chinese banks' measures against the financial crisis.

According to a report on CBRC website, the after-tax profit for 2007 stood at 446.7 billion yuan, while the pre-tax profit for 2006 was 337.9 billion yuan. "The impact on China's banking system is limited and the risks are under control," said Liu.

MNA/Xinhua

Work starts on Japanese, Dutch halls at Shanghai World Expo

SHANGHAI, 27 Feb—Japan and the Netherlands started construction of their exhibition halls at the Shanghai World Expo 2010 on Friday.

The 24-meter-high Japanese Exhibition Hall, which covers 6,000 square meters, is expected to be completed in mid-December at a cost of 133 million US dollars, said spokesman Hiroshi Tsukamoto.

The hall will use environment-friendly materials, such as a transparent roofing film that absorbs sunlight and glows at night, he said.

The Netherlands Exhibition Hall, comprising of 17 small halls, will cost 20 million euros and cover 4,800 square meters. It was expected to be completed on Oct. 31, said Walter Van Weelden, the Netherlands' Expo

commissioner general.

The Shanghai World Expo 2010, due to be held from 1 May to 31 Oct next year, is expected to attract 70 million visitors, almost triple the number at the Hanover, Germany, expo in 2000.

Internet



War-orphaned children sit in cardboard boxes at the Kizito orphanage in Bunia in northeastern Congo on 24 Feb, 2009. Ethnic violence has simmered for years in northeastern Congo, part of broader civil and regional conflict currently uprooting hundreds of thousands of Congolese fleeing massacres and reprisal killings by various armed groups roaming the country's vast and lawless wilds.—INTERNET

US economy shrinks at 6.2% pace in fourth quarter of 2008

WASHINGTON, 27 Feb—The US economy shrank at an annual rate of 6.2 percent in the final quarter of last year, much steeper than the 3.8 percent drop originally estimated and the 0.5 percent decline in the third quarter, the Commerce Department reported Friday.—Internet

"Slumdog Millionaire" original Indian author unhappy with title change

NEW DELHI, 27 Feb—As the euphoria over Oscar-winning movie "Slumdog Millionaire" began to settle down, Vikas Swarup, author of the novel "Q and A" on whose story the movie is based, said he was not very happy over the title of the book being changed, said the Press Trust of India Friday.

"I was not very happy that the title of the book was changed to Slumdog Millionaire," Swarup, Indian Deputy High Commissioner (ambassador) to South Africa, was quoted by PTI as saying in an email interview.

He was replying to a query about his novel "Q and A", which had won acclaim even before British director Danny Boyle chose it as the theme for his celluloid venture, now being sold in the market under the title "Slumdog Millionaire" with the movie's photographs splashed on the covers to draw attention.

Swarup said when he enquired about the change in the book's title, he was told "this is the norm in a book-film tie, which is targeted mainly at people who have not heard of the book and come to the book only after seeing the film". "Slumdog Millionaire", which is based on Mumbai's slum life, won eight top Oscar prizes on Monday in Los Angeles, triggering widespread euphoria in India and congratulations from the country's top political leaders and artistic celebrities.—Internet

Asian countries to enhance information sharing in combating piracy

SINGAPORE, 27 Feb—Asian countries will enhance information sharing with international organizations and countries outside Asia in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships, a regional organization said on Friday.

According to the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC), the number of piracy and armed robbery against ships has a possibility to rise in the backdrop of the current economic crisis.

The ReCAAP ISC governing council will be prepared and continue to make further progress in information

collecting, analyzing and exchanging in bid to reduce piracies, said Tay Lim Heng, chairman of the ReCAAP ISC governing council.

The governing council said in a press conference that it will continue to cooperate with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and maritime countries outside Asia on anti-piracy and armed robbery efforts in Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden.

The ReCAAP ISC said in an early report that the piracy and armed robbery situation in Asia had improved in 2008, with the number of attacks falling from 100 in 2007 to 96 in 2008.—Internet

China signs \$2 bln purchase deals with Britain

LONDON, 27 Feb—A visiting Chinese business delegation sealed deals amounting to 2 billion US dollars with British firms in London on Friday afternoon in a significant move to stave off protectionism in the wake of the global financial crisis. The 11 procurement deals and agreements covered areas ranging from textile, metal services, airplane and automobile parts, eco-town building, and motion pictures.

Internet



Neighbours carry Rubina Ali, who acted as the young Latika in the film "Slumdog Millionaire", back to her home in a slum in Mumbai on 26 Feb, 2009. Ali came back on Thursday after attending the 81st Academy Awards. —XINHUA

ENGAGEMENT

Mg Thike Soe

youngest son of

U Maung Thein & Daw Khin Thaung, Myo Ma Yatt, Taung Soon, Belin Tsp, Mon State to

Ma Phyu Kyi

daughter of U Khin Maung Htwe & Daw Thida Than 27/97 Yaw Min Gyi Str, Dagon Tsp, Yangon on 26th February 2009 at the Hotel of Park Royal in Yangon in the presence of relatives and elders.

Both parents& Mg Thike Soe- Ma Phyu Kyi

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIANG DA VOY NO (9007)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOY NO (9007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.2.2009 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 CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (79)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (79) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.2.2009 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 WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO., LTD

Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

INVITATION TO TENDER

TENDER NO. 1 (T) AMD-FR (2009-2010)

1. Sealed Tender are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation for the supply of following Machines which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats

Sr. No Description Quantity

1. Machinery & Equipment for Foundry 1 Lot

2. Machinery & Equipment for S 1110G Engine Production 1 Lot

2. Tender closing date (31.3.2009)(Tuesday) (16:00 HR)

3. Tender documents are available at the Factory & Research Section of Agricultural Mechanization Department, Bayintnaung Road, Insein Township, Yangon during the office hours.

4. For further details please call 680959, 682046 Ext. 323.

Director General Agricultural Mechanization Department

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV YONG JIANG VOY NO (227)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YONG JIANG VOY NO (227) are hereby notified that the vessel arrived on 2.3.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO SHIPPING CO., LTD Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

Cyclone brews off Australian oil, mining region

PERTH, 27 Feb—A tropical low has formed off the remote west Australian coast and may develop into a cyclone this weekend, the country's weather bureau said on Thursday, threatening iron ore mines and offshore oil and gas production.

The tropical low formed about 210 kilome-

tres northwest of Kalumburu, in the northwest of the Western Australia state, and may develop into a cyclone by Saturday as it moves towards the Pilbara coast, the bureau said. "Widespread heavy rain is likely in the Pilbara from Saturday evening as the system approaches the Pilbara coast, and significant flooding may result," the bureau said.

The Pilbara region is home to key iron ore mines owned by BHP Billiton Ltd and Rio Tinto Ltd, while the nearby town of Karratha is home to some of Australia's largest oil and gas projects, including the onshore North West Shelf liquefied natural gas processing plant.

A cyclone would be the season's fourth, following tropical cyclones Dominic, Billy and Anika. Dominic, the third cyclone of the season, forced the shut-in of several oil and gas operations for nearly a week.—MNA/Reuters

UK teenage pregnancies rise for first time in five years

LONDON, 27 Feb—Teenage pregnancy rates in England and Wales have risen for the first time in five years, threatening a government target to halve levels by 2010, according to official figures released on Thursday.

Britain has one of the highest rates of teenage pregnancy in Europe and while underage birth rates have fallen over the last decade, this is partly due to an increased use of abortion.

The issue was highlighted earlier this month by the case of Alfie Patten from Eastbourne who became a father at the age of just 13. His girlfriend was 15.

Provisional figures for 2007 showed there were 41.9 conceptions for every 1,000 under-18 girls, up from 40.9 the year previously and the first rise since 2002.

Half of those pregnancies were terminated, a higher proportion than in 2006, meaning there was no rise in the number of live births.

The government said the figures showed young people were not getting effective contraception and were indulging in more risky sexual behaviour.

In response, it an-

nounced it would spend an extra 20.5 million pounds to improve young people's access to contraception and raise their awareness of unprotected sex. Children's Minister Beverley Hughes said the figures were disappointing but that the long-term trend in underage pregnancies was still downward.

MNA/Reuters

Spain detains 11 people for drug trafficking

MADRID, 27 Feb—Spain detained 11 people in a recent operation against international drug trafficking, the police said on Thursday.

Among the detainees were Carlos Vargas, a soccer player from Rayo Vallecano club, two former players from Hercules de Alicante club and two former soccer managers, the police said.

They were accused of smuggling 600 kilos of cocaine to Spain. Zoran Matijevic, a former soccer manager from Serbia, was the alleged leader of the drug trafficking ring.

The drugs were hidden in windmill machines, which called the attention of the police as the alleged receivers of the machines were actually in the citric business.

MNA/Xinhua

HK ranked most expensive place to rent offices in 2008

HONG KONG, 27 Feb—Hong Kong replaced London as the most expensive place to rent offices last year, local media reported on Thursday.

It is the first time for Hong Kong in almost a decade to lead in office rental costs, the newspaper South China Morning Post quoted a survey by property consultant Cushman and Wakefield as reporting.

Cushman and Wakefield compared office rents in 202 key locations in 57 countries and regions around the world. On average, global rents rose 3 per cent last year, down from 14 per cent in 2007, representing the lowest growth rate since 2004.

A faster pace of decline in rents in London helped Hong Kong to be ranked top in the survey, the daily said.

Rents in London's West End fell 23 per cent to 1,782 US dollars per square metre last year, according to Cushman and Wakefield. In contrast, average rents in Hong Kong's Central district fell 4 per cent to 2,214 US dollars per square metre.

However, rising unemployment and deteriorating hiring expectations will become the key factors dragging down office rents in Hong Kong, according to CLSA head of Asia property research Aaron Fischer. — MNA/Xinhua

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Britain rules out charges against Pentagon hacker

LONDON, 27 Feb — British prosecutors said on Thursday they would not bring charges against a computer expert accused by a US attorney of the “biggest military hack of all time”, dealing a blow to his bid to avoid extradition.

Gary McKinnon was arrested by British police in 2002 after US prosecutors charged him with illegally accessing computers, including the Pentagon, US Army, Navy and NASA systems, and causing 700,000 US dollars worth of damage.

A British court ruled in 2006 that he should be extradited to the United States to face trial. If convicted by a US court, he could face up to 70 years in prison. McKinnon has been battling the British court decision ever since.

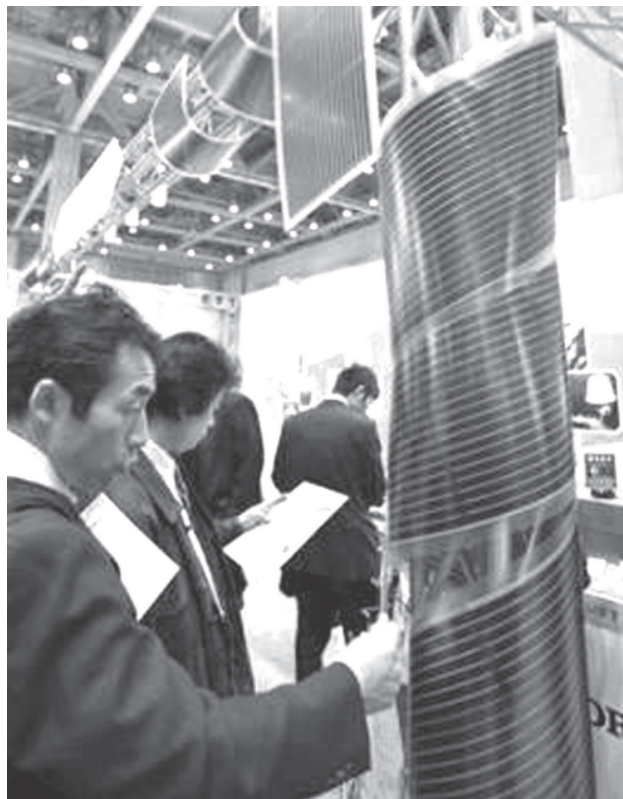
His lawyers asked Britain's Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) to consider a request to prosecute him in Britain where they believe he would receive a much shorter sentence. But the

Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) said a review had concluded it would be wrong for him to face trial at home.

“These were not random experiments in computer hacking, but a deliberate effort to breach US defence systems at a critical time which caused well documented damage,” said Alison Saunders, head of the CPS Organized Crime Division.

“They may have been conducted from Mr McKinnon's home computer — and in that sense there is a UK link — but the target and the damage were transatlantic.”

MNA/Reuters



A visitor examines flexible solar panel sheets displayed at the international photovoltaic power generation expo in Tokyo on Wednesday, 25 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

China urges US to abolish poultry trade protectionist measure

BEIJING, 27 Feb — China on Friday urged the United States to rescind a section of the Omnibus Appropriations Act 2009 that does not allow for the lifting of the import ban on Chinese poultry products. On 25 Feb, the US House of Representatives passed the 410-billion-US-dollar spending bill that would fund the federal government through September, the end of fiscal year 2009.

Section 727 said, “None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to establish or implement a rule allowing poultry products to be imported into the United States from the People's Republic of China”.

“This is a typical discriminatory and protectionist action and it is in serious violation of the World Trade Organization's most-favored-nation treatment and general elimination of quantitative restrictions,” Yao Jian, spokesman of the Ministry of Commerce, said in a statement on the ministry's website.

The clause seriously disturbed the normal poultry trade between the two nations and harmed the legitimate rights and interests of China's poultry industry, Yao said. China was strongly opposed to the section and urged the United States to abolish it, he said, adding China reserved the right to appeal to the WTO.—Internet

Brazilian cruise ship adrift off Uruguay's coast

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 Feb — A transatlantic cruise ship which left Rio on Monday carrying 1,479 passengers is purportedly adrift off the coast of Uruguay, local daily *O Dia* reported on Thursday.

The ship *Costa*

Romantica, bound for Argentina's capital Buenos Aires, is about 13 kilometres off the coast of Punta del Este, Uruguay, where it was supposed to make a quick stop. The Uruguayan Navy said that the ship underwent a “small fire” in one of its generators on Wednesday night. The fire was quickly put off, but caused some damage to the ship, which has yet to be fixed.

Costa Cruzeiros, the company which owns the

cruise ship, released a statement saying that no passengers or crew members were injured in the incident, but the passengers, 338 of whom are Brazilians, were scared by the smoke and the blackout which followed the fire. The company denied that the ship is adrift, saying that it is only anchored off the Uruguayan coast until an evaluation of necessary repairs is done. It did not say when the cruise will continue its trip.

MNA/Xinhua

More budget funds given to NASA for space exploration

WASHINGTON, 27 Feb — US President Barack Obama on Thursday announced his overall budget request for the fiscal year 2010 that starts on 1 October, which gives more money to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for space exploration and climate change research.

It gives the US space agency 18.7 billion US dollars, a rise of 2.4 billion dollars over 2008 when one billion dollars from the economic stimulus package is included. It will also fund NASA's robust programme of space exploration involving humans and robots.

“NASA will return

humans to the Moon while also supporting a vigorous programme of robotic exploration of the solar system and universe,” the budget reads.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Navy halts pirate attack off Somalia

BEIJING, 27 Feb — A Chinese naval patrol rescued an Italian merchant ship from a pirate attack in the waters off Somalia, China's state media reported on Thursday.

A Chinese destroyer, *Haikou*, was escorting a fleet of ships in the Gulf of Aden on 24 February when an Italian boat suffered an engine failure and two high-speed pirate boats zoomed towards it, China's official *Xinhua* news agency said.

Haikou despatched three special operations troops in a helicopter, which flew directly above the Italian boat and fired two warning shots to scare

the pirates away, the report said.

It added that it was the second successful rescue staged by Chinese destroyers after beginning a naval mission last month to tackle rampant piracy off the coast of Somalia. *Xinhua* said that the *Wuhan*, another destroyer in China's three-vessel fleet, had rescued a Greek ship on 29 January.

A surge in attacks at sea this year in the busy Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean off Somalia has pushed up insurance costs, brought the Somali gangs tens of millions of dollars in ransom and prompted foreign warships to go to the area.

MNA/Reuters

Prisoners get off from a US military truck ahead of their release in Baghdad's Doura district on 26 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



Singapore manufacturing output falls 29.1% in January

SINGAPORE, 27 Feb — Singapore's manufacturing output fell 29.1 per cent in January over a year ago, government statistics showed on Thursday.

On a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis, output dipped 4.4 per cent in January due to the global economic downturn and Chinese New Year festivities, the Economic Development Board (EDB) said in a statement.

The electronics cluster and the precision engineering cluster contracted the most in January.

The electronics cluster contracted 43.1 per cent in January on year. All segments of the cluster saw lower production due to the lackluster demand for electronic products worldwide.

The precision eng-

ineering cluster shrank 37.4 per cent in January. Output in the precision modules and components decreased 39.8 per cent as orders dwindled due to the global economic downturn. The machinery and systems segment also declined 34.4 per cent.

Output of the bio-medical manufacturing cluster, the chemicals cluster and the general manufacturing industries contracted 27.3 per cent, 24.0 per cent and 19.1 per cent respectively in January on year.

While output of the transport engineering cluster grew a modest 3.3 per cent in January on year.

The current global financial crisis and economic slowdown has affected Singapore's trade-dependent economy.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Liverpool chief exec Parry to leave club

LONDON, 27 Feb — Liverpool chief executive Rick Parry is to leave his post at the end of the season, clearing the way for manager Rafael Benitez to sign a new contract, reports said on Friday.

Parry's departure, the latest twist in the boardroom unrest at Liverpool, is expected to be announced officially later in the day, the BBC and other media said.

Benitez has been refusing to sign a new contract because he wants more control over the club's transfer policy.

Parry has had a strained relationship with Benitez and the club's American co-owner Tom Hicks, but



Liverpool manager Rafael Benítez (right) with club chief executive Rick Parry watch a Premier League match at Anfield in Liverpool, 2008. Parry is to leave his post at the end of the season, clearing the way for Benitez to sign a new contract.—INTERNET

in November he pledged to stay at Anfield after he was linked with a senior job in the English Football Association's 2018 World Cup bid.

Internet

Second-string Villa frozen out of UEFA Cup

PARIS, 27 Feb — Aston Villa, with one eye on Champions League riches, suffered the brutal cost of downgrading the UEFA Cup on Thursday when their second-string team slumped to a last 32 exit in freezing Moscow.



Nicky Shorey (L) of Aston Villa vies with Aleksei Berezutskiy of CSKA Moscow during their UEFA Cup second leg football match in Moscow. CSKA won 2-0.—INTERNET

Villa boss Martin O'Neill left the likes of Gareth Barry, Brad Friedel, Emile Heskey, James Milner, Gabriel Agbonlahor and Ashley Young back in England for the second leg tie against CSKA. The Russian side took full advantage to carve out a 2-0 win on the night and a 3-1 aggregate victory to reach the last 16.

Russian international winger Yuri Zhirkov netted the opening goal, while Brazilian striker Vagner Love added an injury-time strike. Sampdoria, struggling to avoid relegation from Serie A, were also big-name casualties when they lost 2-0 to Metalist Kharkiv in Ukraine having also lost the first leg 1-0.

Internet



Werder Bremen's Peruvian striker Claudio Pizarro (centre) is congratulated by teammates midfielder Mesut Oezil (left) and Swedish striker Markus Rosenberg after he scored his second goal during their UEFA Cup round of 32 second leg football match against AC Milan in Milan.—INTERNET

Pizarro double sends Milan crashing out

MILAN, 27 Feb — Werder Bremen stunned mighty AC Milan by coming back from a two-goal deficit to draw 2-2 and send the Italian giants crashing out of the UEFA Cup at the San Siro.

Milan were cruising at half-time as they led 2-0 in their round of 32, second leg tie through goals from Andrea Pirlo and Pato but a stirring second-half fightback from Werder saw them through on away goals after a 3-3 draw on aggregate. Milan president and Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi was already fuming after the Italians conceded a late

equaliser last week in Germany but this latest collapse at home could bring coach Carlo Ancelotti's job into question.

The final whistle was met with a chorus of jeers from the pitiful home crowd that numbered less than 24,000 but Ancelotti remained defiant about his position. "I don't feel under threat even if I take all the responsibility," he said. "I'm not trying to mask it, the season has been a bad one but now we have to try to achieve our last objective (finishing in the top three in Serie A).

Internet

Djokovic advances, sick Murray out of Dubai tennis

DUBAI, 27 Feb — Novak Djokovic's bid to close the gap on Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal at the top of the world rankings carried



Top-seeded Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a backhand to Marin Cilic of Croatia during their ATP Dubai tennis championships quarter-final tennis match in the Gulf emirate. Djokovic won 6-3, 6-4.—INTERNET

him to the semi-finals of the Dubai Open after a 6-3, 6-4 win over Marin Cilic on Thursday. But third seed Andy Murray, who began 2009 as favourite to win the first Grand Slam of the year, was forced to withdraw from the tournament with a virus.

Former Australian Open champion Djokovic had struggled in his previous match against the Czech Jan Hrnky, but the Serbian played more solidly during his victory against Croatia's Cilic, who has broken into the top 20 for the first time this year.

Internet

Tiger makes celebrated return and early departure

MARANA, 27 Feb — Golf waited eight months. Tiger Woods lasted only two days. Woods had hardly any complaints about his first tournament since knee surgery in June, right after a momentous U.S. Open victory that made fans anticipate his return even more.

His swing looked as good as ever. He felt no soreness or pain in his knee after walking 50 holes over three days, including a practice round. What few people anticipated — especially after Woods opened the

Accenture Match Play Championship with a resounding victory — was that he would be headed home after the second round Thursday.

Tim Clark made sure of that with a round that was close to flawless. The pesky South African made six birdies and no bogeys, ran off three straight birdies early on the back nine and closed out the world's No. 1 player with a 4-and-2 victory. Woods tied for 17th, his first time out of the top five at any tournament since the British Open at Carnoustie in 2007.—INTERNET



Tiger Woods watches his drive on the second hole during the second round of the World Golf Championships Accenture Match Play Championship on 26 Feb, 2009, in Marana, Ariz.—INTERNET

later when a Marufu header off a corner beat the experienced Muteba Kidiaba.

It was a deserved goal as Zimbabwe had started the match at the 25,000-seat Peace Stadium impressively with Edmore Chitato and Marufu close to scoring within five minutes. But as the opening half closed DR Congo were gaining control and Mbenza was foiled by the woodwork as his team sought to preserve the only 100 percent record among the eight Championship contenders.

Internet

Zimbabwe hold DRC in African Nations surprise

JOHANNESBURG, 27 Feb — Zimbabwe sprang another African Nations Championship surprise in Ivory Coast Thursday by forcing a 1-1 draw with the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Group B result in the central city of Bouake left both countries in contention for semi-final places ahead of the final mini-league fixtures Sunday.

DR Congo outclassed Libya 2-0 in the opening round three days ago after Zimbabwe had settled for a 2-2 draw against top seeds and title favourites Ghana having led by two

goals. Star striker Mabi Mputu gave the Congolese a 19th-minute lead that was cancelled soon after when Phillip Marufu scored his second goal of a new competition for footballers playing in their national league.

Mputu, one of 12 Tout Puissant Mazembe stars in the 'Leopards' squad, broke the deadlock when his header from a Bedi Mbenza cross flew past goalkeeper Willard Manyatera. Behind for the first time in the tournament, the Zimbabwe 'Warriors' hit back to equalise eight minutes

Bellamy grief provides City inspiration

MANCHESTER, 27 Feb — Craig Bellamy has dedicated the goals that sent Manchester City into the last 16 of the UEFA Cup to the memory of a much-loved cousin who died on the eve of the club's second round, second leg clash with FC Copenhagen.

The Wales striker struck twice in the space of seven second-half minutes to secure a 2-1 win over the Danish champions and send City into a clash with another Danish side, Aalborg, for a place in the quarter-finals. With AC Milan and English rivals Aston Villa and Tottenham all out of the competition, City now look to be serious contenders for their first silverware since the club was bought by the cash-rich Abu Dhabi United Group.

Bellamy revealed after the match that his cousin, whom he described as one

of his closest friends, had died on Wednesday morning. "It was a hard day for me, for my family and his family. I'll miss him dearly and I'd like to dedicate this game to him and the goals as well," Bellamy said.

Internet



Manchester City's Craig Bellamy Welsh (right) celebrates scoring team's second goal with Stephen Ireland during their UEFA Cup game against FC Copenhagen in Manchester, north-west England, on 26 February. City are the only British side left in the tournament after their 2-1 win (aggregate score: 4-3).—INTERNET

Susilo says Indonesia must strengthen diplomacy, military

JAKARTA, 27 Feb—Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said Thursday Indonesia must strengthen itself in the diplomatic and military fields in the face of geopolitical developments at regional and global levels.

“In the future, we must carry out our diplomacy properly for the sake of the national interest. War is a last option,” Susilo said at the Indonesian Defence Military (TNI) headquarters in Cilangkap, quoted by the national Antara news agency. At the same time, Indonesia must also strengthen itself in defence or military terms, he said.

“Although Indonesia will prioritize diplomacy and soft power approaches, we must continue to develop our defence system. If we want peace, we must also be ready to wage war when there is another power threatening the integrity and sovereignty of the Unitary State of the Republic Indonesia (NKRI),” the President said. The President added that the world situation including the Asian region would keep on changing and developing in the future, thus the country must closely monitor and continuously prepare strategic outlooks.—MNA/Xinhua



Spain's David Ferrer returns the ball to France's Richard Gasquet during the semi finals of the Emirates Dubai ATP Tennis Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on Friday, 27 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (28.2.2009) (Saturday)

Transmissions

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

Times

Local Transmission

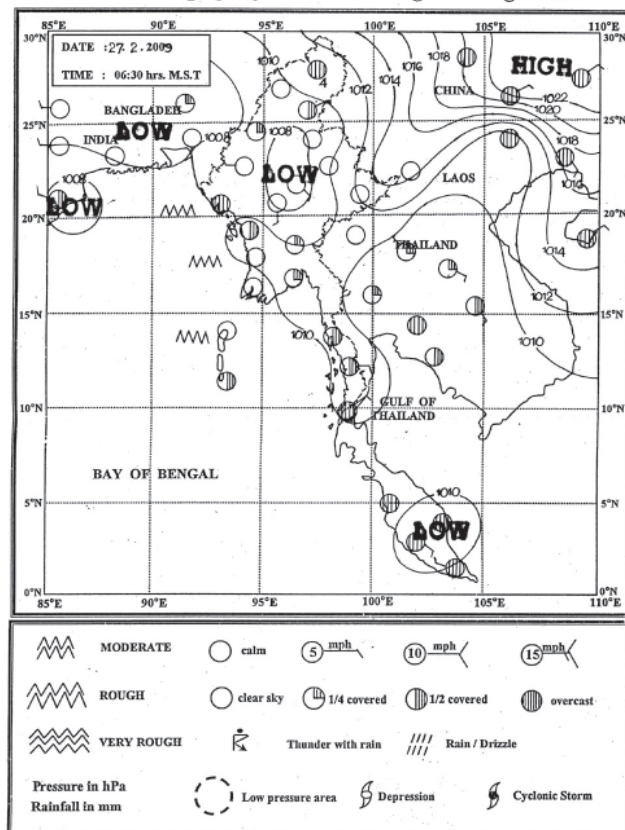
- ☐ Signature Tune
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- ☐ Memory of good time Imprinted on my mind
- ☐ The Art of Playing Cane Ball
- ☐ The Splendour of Mt. Victoria (Natmataung)
- ☐ Rattan Handicrafts
- ☐ Hta Pwe (or) Mogok Gems Market
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- ☐ Signature Tune
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- ☐ A Visit to Inlay Region
- ☐ The Art of Making Paper Toys
- ☐ Typical Traditional Customs of Mor Shan
- ☐ Myanmar Handicrafts Instruments made in Leather
- ☐ Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay) (Part-2)
- ☐ Magic of Cotton Blanket
- ☐ Village Use Area Zoning Process (Hukaung Tiger Reserve)
- ☐ The Wooden Walking Stick
- ☐ Pickled Herbal Tea Leaves of Myanmar
- ☐ Myanmar Modern song
- ☐ Memory of good time Imprinted on my mind
- ☐ The Art of Playing Cane Ball
- ☐ The Splendour of Mt Victoria (Natmataung)
- ☐ Rattan Handicrafts
- ☐ Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay) (Part-3)
- ☐ Shwezawah Lacquerware
- ☐ Hta Pwe (or) Mogok Gems Market
- ☐ Ornamental Jewellery of Outstanding Designs
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 27 February, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan State and upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above February average temperatures in Rakhine and Mon States, Taninthayi Division and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures in Namhsan (7°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Machanbaw (0.24) inch and Putao (0.15) inch.

Maximum temperature on 26-2-2009 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 27-2-2009 was 64°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 27-2-2009 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 26-2-2009 was (8.0) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 27-2-2009 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 Northeast at (15:30) hours MST on 26-2-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 28th February 2009: Isolated rain are possible in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Chin, Shan and Mon States, Yangon Division 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 continuation of isolated light rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 28-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-2-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

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



Saturday, 28 February
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြုဆရာတော်
2. ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

7:50 am

5. Nice and sweet song

8:05 am

6. အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am

7. “မမြင်ကွယ်ရာ”
(မောင်မောင်မြင့်၊ မောင်မောင်)

မျိုးသန့်၊ မတူး)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မောင်မြင့်)

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Musical Programme

11:00 am

1. Martial Song

11:10 am

2. Musical programme

11:25 am

3. Game for children

11:45 am

4. Round up of the week's

TV local news

12:45 pm

5. Yan Can Cook

12:45 pm

6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ”

(အပိုင်း-၂၆)

1:50 pm

7. ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားဖြိုင်ပွဲများ

(Telematch)

2:30 pm

8. Musical programme

2:40 pm

9. Dance of national races

2:45 pm

10. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. အဆိုဖြိုင်ပွဲ

4:20 pm

3. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

4:30 pm

4. Musical programme

4:40 pm

5. ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်ကတ္တသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ

ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ

(ရှုပေးဘာသာရပ်) (အပိုင်း-၁)

5:05 pm

6. Song to uphold

National Spirit

5:10 pm

7. “ဆေးလိပ်ကင်းကွာအနုပညာ

ကမ္ဘာ” (မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ လွင်မိုး၊

ဇော်နုညို၊ ကင်းကောင်း၊

စိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ၊ ကြည်လှလှဦး၊

လှအညွန့်၊ ဝမ်းပုံ၊ ဇရာ)

5:15 pm

8. မြန်မာဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ

5:30 pm

9. ချစ်စရာအရွယ်ကစားကြမယ်

5:50 pm

10. ဖြူသီ၏တေးသီချင်းများ

6:00 pm

11. Evening news

6:30 pm

12. Weather report

6:35 pm

13. အလှူရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:50 pm

14. ပဉ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်

7:10 pm

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“သစ္စာနှင့်ယဉ်သောမေတ္တာ”

(အပိုင်း-၂၂)

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. လပတ်စိုးလေဝသနှင့်လေဗေဒ

ခန့်မှန်းချက်

20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

“ကြမ္မာမုန်တိုင်း”

(အပိုင်း-၁၄)



Indawgyi Wildlife Park consists of bio-diversity and trees

Article & Photos: Kyaw Kyaw (Bhamo)

Indawgyi Lake, dubbed the largest inland sea in Myanmar, indicates the natural beauty of Kachin State. Moreover, the lake is included in the list of largest inland lakes in Southeast Asian region and it is one of the ASEAN natural heritage conservation parks.

Indawgyi Lake is located at an altitude of 546 feet in Mohnyin Township of Mohnyin District in Kachin State. The lake is 14 miles long from the south to the north and seven miles wide from the east to the west. The lake has about 100 square miles of wetland area. The volume of the water at the lake is 65 feet at the deepest point and about 20 feet on average depth. It is a natural inland lake

circled by 1,000 feet to 4,000 feet high steep mountain ranges.

Hsingaung water-fall, Moksoe Creek, Khakyin Creek, Namdaukkan Creek, Nantayin Creek, Lepon Creek, Nantmon Creek, Khaungton Creek, Nantpade Creek, Nantmeelaung Creek, Nanttaungse Creek and Nantsantar Creek continuously flow into Indawgyi Lake through five forest reserves. As Indawgyi Creek only flows into Ayeyawady River, it can be said that Indawgyi Lake has good water storage capacity.

Indawgyi region gets about 70 inches of rainfall annually. The temperature of the region was 28 degree centigrade at the



Water birds seen at Indawgyi Lake.

highest and 17 degree centigrade at the lowest. The forests in the region include various types of trees. Thriving teak, vari-

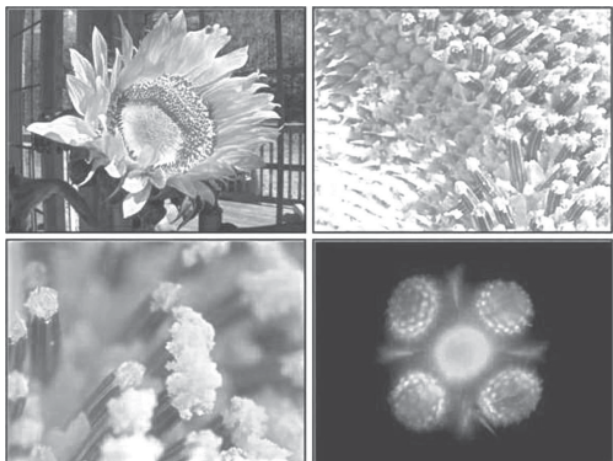
ous hardwood trees, various kinds of rattan and rare herbal plants can be seen in the forests. The forests are natural habitat

of various species of wild beasts, monkeys, reptiles, butterflies, rare orchids, over 97 species of water birds and 327 species of

other birds, 69 species of fish including fresh water jelly fish, otters and fresh water turtles.

(See page 7)

World's smallest periscopes peer at cells from several sides at once



The mirrored pyramidal wells device captures the images of four sides of a single grain of pollen from the sunflower in the lower right.

New oil deposits can be identified through satellite images

COPENHAGEN, 27 Feb — A new map of the Earth's gravitational force based on satellite measurements makes it much less resource intensive to find new oil deposits. The map will be particularly useful as the ice melts in the oil-rich Arctic regions. Ole Baltazar, senior scientist at the National Space Institute, Technical University of Denmark (DTU Space), headed the development of the map.

The US company Fugro, one of the world's leading oil exploration companies, is one of the companies that have already made use of the gravitational map. The company has now initiated a research partnership with DTU Space.

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY, 27 Feb — A team of Vanderbilt scientists have invented the world's smallest version of the periscope and are using it to look at cells and other micro-organisms from several sides at once.

"With an off-the-shelf laboratory microscope you only see cells from one side, the top," says team member Chris Janetopoulos, assistant professor of biological sciences. "Not only can we see the tops of cells, we can view their sides as well — something biologists almost never see."

The researchers have dubbed their devices "mirrored pyramidal wells." As the name implies, they consist of pyramidal-shaped cavities molded into silicon whose interior surfaces are coated with a reflective layer of gold or platinum. They are microscopic in dimension — about the width of a human hair — and can be made in a range of sizes to view different-sized objects. When a cell is placed in such a well and viewed with a regular optical microscope, the researcher can see several sides simultaneously. —Internet

"Ole Baltazar's gravitational map is the most precise and has the widest coverage to date," says Li Xiong, Vice President and Head Geophysicist with Fugro. "On account of its high resolution and accuracy, the map is particularly useful in coastal areas, where the majority of the oil is located." —Internet



Hlawga Park up to 5 p.m. on Peasants Day

YANGON, 27 Feb—Hlawga Park of the Forest Department is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. The park will be kept open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on 2 March (Peasants Day) for public rest and recreation. —MNA

Course on Common Clinical Problems 2009 opens

YANGON, 27 Feb—Continuous Medical Education (CME) of Myanmar Medical Association will conduct the Course on Common Clinical Problems 2009 for general practitioners from 12 noon to 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays from 4 April to 21 June. Sponsor medical companies are invited to MMA hall (B) at 1 p.m. on 4 March. The doctors wishing to attend the course are to enlist between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 24 and 25 March at MMA with four licence sized photos. —MNA

Want to enjoy healthy and stress free life

YANGON, 27 Feb—Talks (March 2009) organized by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will be held on 7 March at 2 p.m. at the UMFCI Office Tower on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street in Lanmadaw Township here under the sponsorship of Medi Myanmar Group Ltd. The title of the talk is healthy and stress free life style by Professor Dr Kin Maung Win.

The talk may be attended by members of UMFCI and affiliated associations and those interested. —MNA