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Sunday, 1 March, 2009

Sixth State Central Working Committee of Sangha holds third meeting

YANGON, 28 Feb—The third meeting of the Sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha took place at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township, here, this morning.

Present on the occasion were State Ovadacariya Sayadaws, the chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and members, member Sayadaws of SCWCS, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Adviser U Arnt Maung, the directors-general of the Religious Affairs Department and the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana and officials.

Five Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the third meeting were selected. SSMNC Chairman Magway Maha Withuddayama Monastery in Magway Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara chaired the meeting. Joint-Secretary Sayadaw of Kalewa-Tawya Monastery in Yangon Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Kammathanacariya Dvipitaka Kovida Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa acted as MC.

(See page 2)

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Secretary-1 attends Meeting 1/2009 of Work Committee for Construction of Yangon-Mandalay Express Highway

Two way-two lane Yangon-Mandalay Express Highway to be inaugurated soon

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo addresses the Meeting 1/2009 of the Work Committee for Construction of Yangon-Mandalay Express Highway.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman of Work Committee for Construction of Yangon-Mandalay Express Highway Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivered an address at the Meeting 1/2009 of the Work Committee at the hall of Quartermaster-General's Office of the Ministry of Defence, here, yesterday afternoon.

Also present at the meeting were Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint,



Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Brig-Gen Than Htay, Col Hla Thein Swe

and U Pe Than, Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun, Director Brig-Gen Maung Maung Ohn of the

Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare of the Ministry of Defence, Director Brig-Gen Nyan

Tun of the Directorate of Military Engineering, Deputy Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Col Min Zaw, Deputy

Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun, Deputy Commander of (See page 8)



Before and after completion of Myochaung-Thagara road section. —MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 1 March, 2009

Avert fires through prevention

Now, it is in early summer in Myanmar, and more fires break out in the hot season than any other season. So, fire prevention merits immense consideration.

In accordance with the public caution that goes 'Avert fire through prevention', the people have to take constant care in using fire as irresponsible use of fire may be costly.

Fire is the best friend, as well as the worst enemy. Fire gives us light and heat. Man uses fire in cooking.

The majority of fires are due to negligence. Some other causes of fire are unsystematic use of stoves, natural fire, and electric circuit shock. In many cases, fires break out when nearby inflammable objects catch fire from live embers inside a stove. So, it is to make sure that remnant embers are put out after the cooking.

Moreover, it is careless to set and leave burning candles and mosquito coils near flammable materials while the user is away from the site.

In 2008, Myanmar saw 719 fires that burnt down 6234 houses and buildings, 15 factories and workshops, and 33 godowns, and claimed lives, possessions, and works of cultural heritage.

Members of the Fire Services Department are occasionally issuing public notices, making inspection tours, and practising fire drills to improve their skills of extinguishing fires. The people on their part have to take care in using fire.

The people are therefore urged to take preventive measures against fire, and bear in mind mottos and public reminders to be able to avert fires and avoid adverse effects that hurt community peace and regional stability.

Executive Director U Tint Oo of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd presents cheque for cash award to Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon). —MGF



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

Sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha holds third meeting...

(from page 1)

State Ovadacariya Sayadaws gave counsels.

The meeting chairman delivered Saraniya Ovadakatha.

The minister supplicated on matters about religious affairs.

Secretary Sayadaw of Ponnamayama Monastery in Nyaungdon Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa presented a brief account of last year's work progress of SSMNC.

In the afternoon session, a detailed account

The third meeting of sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha in progress.

MNA



of work progress was read out.

U Thein Maung-Daw Pah Pah (Sandi Medical House) of Yangon offered alms food, and Tun

Shwe Wah, Great Wall, Kathy Pan, Hmancho, Thukha Thida, Mahawun, Galonyaza, Mingala Shweoak, Weikza Myetlone, Nyunt Nyunt,

Sandahmon and Top Yunnan and Triple Otters medical houses, traditional medicines to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Transport Dy Minister meets service personnel

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung on his tour of Mon State held a meeting with service personnel of the Myanma Port Authority on 23 and 24 February.

He delivered a speech. Officials of departments under the ministry reported work progress and

requirements.

The deputy minister gave concluding remarks and fulfilled the requirements.

He inspected the port and jetty in Mawlamyine, and Mawlamyine Airport and runway.

MNA

Professional Zaw Zaw Latt, amateur Aung Win awarded in Golf C'ship

YANGON, 28 Feb—The fourth and final round of the IBTC Open Golf Championship, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA, took place at Yangon Golf Club in Danyingon in Insein Township yesterday.

After the competition, Executive Director U Tint Oo of IBTC gave gifts to the special guests and awarded hole-in-one winner Aung Win (Forestry).

U Ye Tint of IBTC CNC Department awarded most par winner Dr Maung Hla, most birdie winner U Than Zaw Hlaing and best loser Aung Htet Doe. Production Director U Zaw Htaik of IBTC presented first, second and third prizes to Kyaw Soe Win, U Min Thein and Ko Ko Aung respectively in the handicap division.

Executive of MGF U Ko Ko Lay handed daily best awards to the respective winners.

General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department presented first, second and third prizes to Aung Win (Forestry), Nay Bala Win Myint and Than Zaw in the men's amateur golfers division. Patron of MGF and MPGA Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd) awarded first, second and third

prizes to Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon), Naing Naing Lin (Point Golf Shop) and Zaw Zin Win (Srixon) in the professional golfers division. IBTC Executive Director U Tint Oo presented cheque for cash award to first prize winner Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon).

On behalf of MGF and MPGA President U Teza, Vice-President U Min Thein gave away prize and cheque for cash award to Aung Win (Forestry) in the amateur division and Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) in the professional division.

Executive Director U Tint Oo handed over gifts presented by IBTC to Executive U Shwe Tun Hlaing of Yangon Golf Club. General Secretary U Aung Kyi of MGF gave K 2 million for the golf club to executive of the club U Khaing Soe Tha.

The championship was 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 Plant, Life Line Co Ltd and DHEA Plus.—MNA



‘Friendly fire fears grow’ in Afghanistan

LONDON, 28 Feb — Allied troops will use separate battlefield identification technology in Afghanistan, sparking fears of friendly fire incidents, Sky News has learnt. The 17,000-strong US surge will outnumber UK forces in the region two to one, increasing the risk of what the military calls “blue-on-blue” incidents.

After having to borrow American GPS-based tracking in Iraq, the Ministry of Defence has developed its own independent system, to be mounted in vehicles and carried by every infantry platoon. But despite costing tens of millions of pounds, GrATS, as it is called, will not network directly with the older US technology.

Brigadier Neil Couch, director of In-

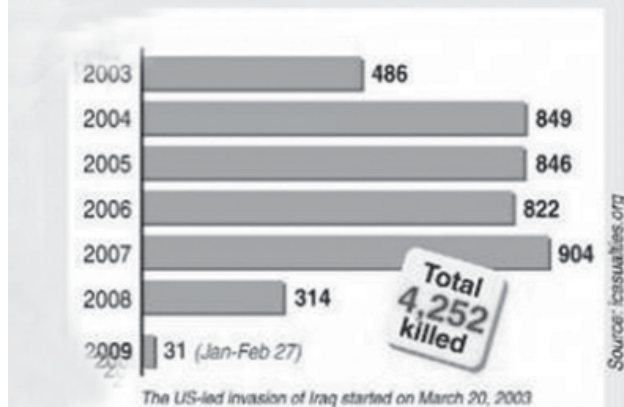
formation and Communication Systems, explained why. He said: “Had we bought into the US system, we wouldn’t have had control of the system that allows us the operational flexibility to suit it and to prioritise it through our own British forces’ operation.” Also, we wouldn’t have had a system that we could use on other operations in the future.”

Small transponders each beam forces’ locations to NATO HQ, but it will be up to commanders then to let units know of the near presence of friendly forces. Another worry is that neither the American or British system can communicate directly to aircrew. The most serious friendly fire attacks have involved aircraft attacking the wrong targets. —Internet



File photo show, US soldiers secure the area next to a damaged U.S. mine resistant, ambush protected vehicle (MRAP), after a roadside bomb explosion during an operation in the area of Al-leg, some 40 miles south of Baghdad, Iraq. —INTERNET

US soldiers killed in Iraq



US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 588

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb — As of Friday, 27 Feb, 2009, at least 588 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures Friday at 10 am EST.

Of those, the military reports 433 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 67 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.

Internet

Chart showing number of US soldiers killed in Iraq per year since 2003. President Barack Obama Friday ordered an end to US combat in Iraq within 18 months, after a war which poisoned domestic politics and claimed a heavy toll in blood, dollars and lost US prestige. —INTERNET

US troops say Iraqis ready for Obama timetable

CAMP SPEICHER, 28 Feb — At a sand-storm-battered base near Saddam Hussein’s hometown, US Army Chief Warrant Officer Siwatu Spikes agrees it’s nearly about time for combat troops to leave Iraq.

He hopes the Iraqis are ready for it.

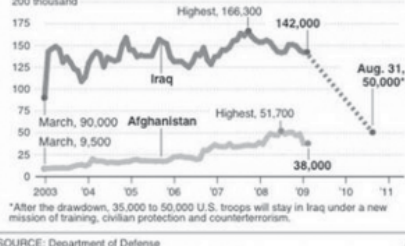
It was dinnertime at the sprawling Camp Speicher in north-central Iraq, and Spikes was in the chow hall, glued to one of several wide-screens TVs showing President Barack Obama outlining his plan for withdrawing combat troops by 31 Aug, 2010.

“I like his approach to it because I think we need to start turning over the country to the Iraqis,” said Spikes, a 33-year-old Hawaiian serving his third tour here in nearly six years. “I would like to think they are ready. I think we have done a good job training them. Now they

Drawing down troops in Iraq

President Barack Obama announced that roughly 100,000 U.S. troops will be pulled out of Iraq during the next 18 months.

Troops, last day of the month, as of Feb. 27



Graphic shows US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan since March —INTERNET

need to apply it and sustain it.”

“I think they will be OK,” he said. Many US soldiers at the base appeared to echo Obama’s message: America’s time in Iraq is drawing to a close and Iraqi troops and leaders need to prepare themselves to take charge of their own destiny.

Internet

Schwarzenegger declares Calif drought emergency

SACRAMENTO, 28 Feb — Gov Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency Friday because of three years of below-average rain and snowfall in California, a step that urges urban water agencies to reduce water use by 20 percent.

“This drought is having a devastating impact on our people, our communities, our economy and our environment, making today’s action absolutely necessary,” the Republican governor said in his statement.

Internet

Soldier guilty of murder in Iraqi detainee killing

FORT CAMPBELL, 28 Feb — An Army officer who shot and killed an Iraqi detainee during an interrogation was convicted of murder Friday night by a military jury.

First Lt Michael Behenna of Edmond, Okla, avoided conviction on the more serious charge of premeditated murder in the death of the detainee he took aside for questioning last May. A military panel of seven officers at Fort Campbell also found him guilty of assault but acquitted him of making a false statement after three hours of deliberation.

A sentencing hearing was scheduled for Saturday, and Behenna faces up to life in prison on the murder conviction. The more serious premeditated offense would have resulted in an automatic life without parole sentence.

Behenna has testified that he was trying to defend himself when he shot Ali Mansour Mohammed and that the detainee reached for his gun in a secluded railroad culvert near Beiji, Iraq. Behenna said he hadn’t intended to kill him. —Internet



A wounded Iraqi soldier is rushed to a hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 Feb, 2009. A roadside bomb went off targeting an army patrol, killing two soldiers and wounding 12 others, police said. —INTERNET



Investigators work on one of the engines of a Turkish Airways jet that crashed near Amsterdam's Schiphol airport. The Dutch authorities confirmed on Friday the identities of five Turks and four Americans who perished in a jetliner crash at Amsterdam's Schiphol airport.—INTERNET

Chinese e-cigs gain ground amid safety concerns

BEIJING, 28 Feb—With its slim white body and glowing amber tip, it can easily pass as a regular cigarette. It even emits what look like curlicues of white smoke.

The Ruyan V8, which produces a nicotine-infused mist absorbed directly into the lungs, is just one of a rapidly growing array of electronic cigarettes attracting attention in China, the US and elsewhere — and the scrutiny of world health officials.

Marketed as a healthier alternative to smoking and a potential way to kick the habit, the smokeless smokes have been distributed in swag bags at the British film awards and hawked at an international trade show.

Because no burning is involved, makers say there's no hazardous cocktail of cancer-causing chemicals and gases like those produced by a regular cigarette. There's no secondhand smoke, so they can be used in places where cigarettes are banned, the makers say.

Health authorities are questioning those claims. The World Health Organization issued a statement in September warning there was no evidence to back up contentions that e-cigarettes are a safe substitute for smoking or a way to help smokers quit.—Internet



Miao Nan, executive director of Ruyan Group Ltd, puffs an electronic smoke while he shows other design during an interview at his office in Beijing, China, on 17 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

US citizen stabbed in Cairo tourist area

CAIRO, 28 Feb—An attacker stabbed a US citizen in front of his wife in a popular Cairo tourist area on Friday in the second attack on foreigners in the Egyptian capital in less than a week, security sources said.

They said the American, a teacher in his fifties in an American school in the coastal city of Alexandria, was with his wife and a friend when he was lightly wounded in an unprovoked attack in a tourist area that is home to the 14th century Khan el-Khalili market.

The assailant, who was arrested at the scene, told police he attacked the American out of hatred for foreigners, particularly after Israel's recent offensive on the Gaza Strip, one security source and state media said.

MNA/Reuters

Man arrested over HIV blood sent to Obama

CHICAGO, 28 Feb—A man has been arrested for allegedly sending Barack Obama and his staff envelopes containing HIV-infected blood. Saad Hussein, an Ethiopian refugee in his late 20s, sent a number of items to the offices of the Illinois government in the weeks before the US President's inauguration, according to court documents.

One envelope contained a letter with reddish stains and an admission

ticket for Mr Obama's election night celebration in Grant Park, Chicago. Court documents claim Hussein told FBI agents he is "very sick with HIV" and cut his fingers with a razor so he could bleed on the letter. Hazardous materials teams were called in after the envelope addressed to "Barack Obama" was opened.

Days after the first letter was sent, Hussein allegedly placed two more letters in the mail, one ad-

ressed to "Emanuel", an apparent reference to the President's chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel. The two letters contained what appeared to be dried blood, the court documents said.

Hussein, who is being treated for a mental illness, was arrested last month. An affidavit filed at the time accused him of "knowingly" posting letters "containing HIV-infected blood, with the intent to kill or injure another".—Internet

Cooler weather a relief for Australian firemen

SYDNEY, 28 Feb—Australian fire crews took advantage of cooler conditions Saturday to prepare for dangerous weather forecast for early next week.

Four major blazes continued to rage in the scorched southeastern state of Victoria, where 210 people lost their lives in a devastating firestorm three weeks ago.

More than 100 extra

firefighters have been flown to Victoria amid fears that forecast higher temperatures and winds could boost the fire threat.

But authorities said cooler weather late Friday had given the crews a much-needed reprieve.

"It provided us a good opportunity to keep building and strengthening containment lines in those

existing fires," an environment department spokesman said.

"With the cool temperatures we have seen fire activity slow down, which allows us to get in and do a lot of work and containment before Tuesday... (which) is predicted to be very warm, with strong to gale-force winds."—Internet



Firefighters from the Government Department of Sustainability and Environment conduct blacking out operations to extinguish smouldering embers left after wildfire burnt through the Lysterfield State Park, east of Melbourne, on 26 February.—INTERNET

World-famous British restaurant shuts in poisoning scare

LONDON, 28 Feb—The Fat Duck, considered one of the very best in the world, has been temporarily closed due to a food poisoning scare, owner Heston Blumenthal said on Saturday. The restaurant in Bray, Berkshire, which has three Michelin stars, was closed as a precaution after customers reported feeling unwell.

Between 30 and 40 people are understood to have complained of illness over the last two to three weeks. The Fat Duck was named the best restaurant in the world in 2005 by Restaurant magazine and has been in second place since then in their annual poll of international chefs and critics.

Tests by celebrity chef

Blumenthal's own food safety consultants and environmental health officers from the local authorities have so far proved inconclusive.

"It's so weird — we haven't found anything. But I can't take the risk of keeping open until we have exhausted every single avenue," Blumenthal told *The Times*.—Internet



The Fat Duck restaurant in Berkshire, near London. The world-famous British restaurant has been temporarily closed due to a food poisoning scare, owner Heston Blumenthal has said.—INTERNET



Malaria control measures making advances in fight against deadly disease

UNITED NATIONS, 28 Feb—Although progress has been made toward reducing malaria deaths, currently around 1 million a year, to near zero by the end of 2015, the international community needs to intensify its efforts to reach the goal, said a United Nations report published here on Friday. The report noted that more than 40 percent

of the population in sub-Saharan Africa now have access to long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets (LLINs), compared with 10 percent in 2005.

The figures indicate a considerable leap in the number of people benefiting from the protective cover of the nets in the continent, which accounts for more than 90 percent of all

malaria deaths. UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon's target of providing universal malaria control coverage by the end of 2010 to all endemic African countries is within sight, according to the report, with the distribution to date of more than 140 million mosquito nets, protecting nearly 300 million people in the region.—Xinhua

A bulldozer clears the snow on a road straddling Tibet's Baxoi and Bomi counties, a section of China's Sichuan-Tibet Highway, on 27 Feb, 2009. Traffic was halted after a number of avalanches hit the highway in the last two days.

XINHUA



All items from Xinhua News Agency



People wait outside the Narayanhity royal palace, in Katmandu, capital of Nepal, on 26 Feb, 2009. The Narayanhity royal palace, one of the best-known sights of Kathmandu, would be a new tourist attraction of the city, announced by Nepalese government in a ceremony as it was made into a museum and opened to the public on 27 Feb, 2009.—XINHUA

Crude prices retreat on worse-than-expected US GDP data

NEW YORK, 28 Feb—Crude prices retreated Friday as worse-than-expected US GDP data stirred concerns over energy demand.

The Commerce De-

partment said Friday that the US economy contracted at a staggering 6.2 percent pace at the end of 2008, the worst showing in a quarter-century.

The report showed the

economy sinking much faster the 5.4 percent decline economists expected. The Energy Department said on Friday that it hopes OPEC, which cartel warned to cut more output, will consider the "global economic situation" when it reviews its policy on 15 March.

Light, sweet crude for April delivery fell 46 cents to settle at 44.76 US dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Xinhua

Armed men rob state-owned radio station in Venezuela

CARACAS, 28 Feb—Four armed men entered early on Friday morning the offices of a state-owned radio station east of Caracas and looted its equipment and food tickets.

The raiders also damaged some equipment of Radio Nacional de Venezuela (RNV), but no one was hurt in the incident, the Venezuelan Communication and Information Ministry said in a statement. The incident occurred at 1:30 am local time when the RNV was re-broadcasting a programme from the state-owned Venezolana de Televisión, the statement said. The armed men stayed 20 minutes inside

the facilities and communicated with other people through cell phones before escaping aboard the same motorbike they arrived with, a witness said.—Xinhua



Moderate quake jolts northern Japan

TOKYO, 28 Feb—A moderate earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale hit Japan's northernmost Hokkaido region Saturday, said the Japan Meteorological Agency Saturday.

The focus of the quake, which occurred at 9:36 local time (0036GMT), was some 100 km underground at Hidaka-shicho Seibu region, said the agency.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage to property.—Xinhua

A teacher of Uygur ethnic group teaches Chinese characters to children at a kindergarten in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 26 Feb, 2009. This kindergarten offers bilingual education to pre-primary school children of local Uygur people.—XINHUA

China ratifies treaty on extradition with Mexico

BEIJING, 28 Feb—China's top legislature ratified a treaty on extradition with Mexico here Saturday.

The pact was submitted by the State Council, China's cabinet, to the seventh session of the Standing Committee of the 11th National People's Congress (NPC), the country's top legislature, for deliberation on Wednesday.

The treaty was signed here by Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations Patricia Espinosa Cantellano on 11 July, 2008, during the visit of Mexican President Felipe Calderon Hinojosa. The pact is in accordance with Chinese legal principles, judicial practices, interests and needs, according to a report submitted by the State Council to the NPC Standing Committee.—Xinhua

China ratifies civil, commercial judicial assistance treaty with Peru

BEIJING, 28 Feb—China's top legislature ratified a bilateral treaty on civil and commercial judicial assistance with Peru here Saturday. The pact was submitted by the State Council, or cabinet, to the seventh session of the Standing Committee of the 11th National People's Congress (NPC) for deliberation on Wednesday.

The treaty was signed in Beijing by China's Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose Garcia Belaunde on 19 March, 2008.

The pact accords with Chinese legal principles, judicial practices, interests and needs, according to the statement submitted to the NPC Standing Committee.—Xinhua

China ratifies consular agreement with Japan

BEIJING, 28 Feb—China ratified a consular agreement with Japan here Saturday.

The pact was submitted by the State Council, or Cabinet, to the seventh session of the Standing Committee of the 11th National People's Congress (NPC), the country's top legislature, for deliberation on Wednesday.

The agreement was signed here by China's Assistant Foreign Minister Hu Zhengyue and Japanese Ambassador to China Yuji Miyamoto on 24 Oct, 2008.

The 15-item agreement covers the definitions of consular terms, consular duties and the conveniences for consulates and consular members.

The pact is in accordance with China's legal principles and international convention. The approval of the treaty will help protect China's national benefits and Chinese citizens' rights, according to the statement submitted to the NPC Standing Committee.—Xinhua

Netanyahu and Livni fail to agree on coalition

JERUSALEM, 28 Feb — Israel edged closer to a government of hawks and right-wing religious parties Friday after Prime Minister-designate Benjamin Netanyahu failed to persuade his chief moderate rival to join a coalition that could help avert a showdown with the Obama administration.

Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni refuses to sign up unless Netanyahu openly endorses the vision of dividing the land into separate Jewish and Palestinian states.

“Two states for two

peoples is not an empty slogan — it is the only way Israel can keep its existence as a Jewish, democratic state,” Livni said after their meeting. “Just as I cannot accept vague statements, neither can the world. This is a matter of principle, not semantics.”

Netanyahu said he had made Livni a generous offer of partnership, adding that he intended to promote the diplomatic process with the Palestinians. Nevertheless, he said he encountered a “complete rejection of unity from Ms Livni.”—*Internet*



Israel's Prime Minister designate Benjamin Netanyahu, right, and Israel's Foreign Minister and Kadima Party leader Tzipi Livni, left, shake hands prior to their meeting in Tel Aviv, Israel, on 27 Feb, 2009.

INTERNET

Unmanned space module to be launched in 2010

BEIJING, 28 Feb — China plans to launch an unmanned space module into orbit as early as the end of 2010.

It is expected to meet with another unmanned spacecraft, Shenzhou-8, which is scheduled to be launched in early 2011. It would be the country's first space docking.

A spokesman with China's space programme said Saturday that scientists on the ground would control the space docking between the orbiter and the unmanned spaceship.

Internet

Japan ordered to pay \$58m for US warplane noise

TOKYO, 28 Feb — A court ordered the Japanese government to pay 5.6 billion yen (\$57.7 million) to compensate people whose lives are disrupted by the noise of warplanes at a US air base on the southern island of Okinawa, the Defence Ministry said.

The Fukuoka High Court ruling doubled the 2.8 million yen compensation awarded in 2005 to the people living around Kadena Air Base, and upheld the appeals of 5,540 residents, Defence Ministry spokesman Katashi Toyota said.

The plaintiffs said the noise from aircraft at the Kadena base exceeded bearable levels and caused insomnia and other psychological pain. Tokyo has long insisted the noise levels are bearable and do not cause health problems among nearby residents.

“The court did not fully understand the government position,” Toyota said, adding that the ministry would “examine the ruling carefully” and decide whether to appeal the ruling.

Internet

US military weaning Iraq's army from support

TAJI, 28 Feb — There was the time the Iraqis spent millions of dollars on ammunition from Romania, only to discover that it was defective or didn't fit their US- or Russian-made weapons. Or when the Iraqis bought portable kitchens which didn't work in the field.

The US military has put in countless hours training Iraqi security forces in battlefield and police tactics.

But the Obama administration's apparent plans to withdraw combat troops by

August 2010 — and the remaining servicemen by the end of the following year — has some commanders concerned about something else: Iraq's ability to equip and maintain its own forces.

“They are at the basic level. They can feed themselves. They can fuel themselves. They can arm themselves,” said Australian Brig Gen David McGahey, who heads the US-led task force aimed at helping the Iraqi armed forces fend for themselves after the eventual pull out.—*Internet*



A house is buried in ashes after the eruption of Chaiten volcano near Chaiten town, located some 1,200 km south of Santiago, Chile, on 26 Feb, 2009. The Chaiten volcano, which started erupting on 19 Feb, has buried the neighbouring towns under a blanket of ashes.—INTERNET

At 102, housework and rice fields still her routine

A 102-year-old woman still lives an active lifestyle and is winning admiration from many villagers in Hukou township of Nanxiong county, Guangdong province.

Despite her age, Liu Ximei, who is part of a 40-member family of five generations, is still healthy. The youngest in her family is one.

In addition to washing clothes by herself and doing housework, Liu can still work on the rice fields and on other farmland in Xinhui village.

Liu said her secret to living so long is her easygoing nature, no alcohol and cleanliness.

A penny for your thoughts

Collecting ancient coins is a serious hobby that requires considerable knowledge as they boast a long and colourful history within China.

In China, there's perhaps nothing smaller than an ancient coin that can fuse history and culture so perfectly.

China was one of the first countries to use metal coinage that can be traced back more than 2,000 years. Despite the country's often turbulent history, there remain several well-known ancient coins.



A one-meter-long crocodile, its jaws sealed, escaped from a local restaurant and climbed up to the 4th floor in the same building in Quanzhou, East China's Fujian province.

Fossil of 10 million-year-old bird found in Peru

Paleontologists have found the fossil of the head of a bird that lived 10 million years ago in what is now Peru, scientists said on Friday after returning from the dig site on the country's desert coast.

The species of bird had a wing span of 19.7 feet (6 meters) and fed mostly on fish from the Pacific Ocean. It first appeared 50 million years ago and went extinct about 2.5 million years ago because of climate change, said paleontologist Mario Urbina of Peru's Natural History Museum.

“The cranium of the bird, from the Pelagornithidae family, is the most complete find of its kind in the world. Its fossil remains are hard to find,” he said.

Masked teens spark major police alert

Two masked children pretending to be members of Germany's elite military force triggered a major police operation in the German city of Aachen, police said on Monday.

Neighbours alerted the police after they spotted two “dodgy-looking figures” clad in black balaclavas on a factory site and the police promptly dispatched eight police cars, complete with dogs, to seal off the area.

After surrounding the site, the policemen carefully moved in and ordered the masked suspects to stand still as they were crawling underneath some shrubs and heading toward a fence.

The two boys stopped in their tracks, raised their arms and took off their masks to reveal their identities as one 12-year-old and one 13-year-old boy.

This image of a giant spider crawling along a road created by artist Michael Bosanko. The 39-year-old Welsh artist creates the amazing light graffiti effect using only five coloured torches and by leaving his digital Canon camera on a long exposure. Ranging from ten seconds to even one hour, Bosanko's art is all about putting his idiosyncratic creations into normal urban and rural environments.

NEWS ALBUM



A graphic design of the likeness of the late soul singer James Brown greets visitors to the IP. Stanback Museum and Planetarium on the campus of South Carolina State University 19 Feb, 2009, in Orangeburg, SC.





Kyaukpyu and its nearby regions receive TV programmes

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb — Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspected TV retransmission station in Kyaukpyu on 25 February.

The station in-charge reported on

transmission of TV programmes to Kyaukpyu Township and nearby regions.

The commander and the minister discussed power of transmitters, receiving programmes,

construction of new retransmission station in Yanbye Township and other matters.

The commander and the minister inspected wall bulletins for the people, keeping of books

in the library and arrangements for readers at Kyaukpyu District Information and Public Relations Department.

They met staff officers of District IPRD. Officials concerned

reported on information, opening of rural libraries and distribution of daily newspapers to the villages.

The commander gave instructions on durability of the libraries, assistance

provided by local authorities and rapid distribution of the newspapers to the villages. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan also gave instructions on promotion of information.—MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye delivers an address in meeting with staff officers at the office of Kyaukpyu District IPRD.—MNA



Medicines donated to Health Ministry

YANGON, 28 Feb — A ceremony to hand over the medicines to the Ministry of Health donated by Myanmar Chefs Association and Win of Help (LOG) took place at the building on Natmauk Street in Bahan Township here this morning. Chairman of

MCA U Oliver Soe Thet explained the purpose of the donation and handed over the medicines worth US\$ 2.257 million to Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Acting Director-General of the Health Department Dr Win Myint spoke words of

thanks. Also present at the ceremony were German Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Julius Georg Lyu, the director-general of the Medical Research Department, directors, medical superintendents and officials.

MNA

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint accepts medicines worth US\$ 2.257 million presented by MCA Chairman U Oliver Soe Thet.

MNA



Staff Officer U Tun Tun Soe of Mandalay Division Fire Services Department demonstrates how to use extinguisher at the office of No. 2 Basic Education Department in Mandalay recently. — H

Myebon, Yathedaung, Buthidaung townships get new roads

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe attended the opening ceremonies of the 800-foot section of Bogyoke road in Myebon and the 1665-foot Pegauk-Kantha inter-village gravel road near

Pegauk Village, Myebon Township, on 19 February.

He inspected supply of water to the wards of Myebon, and attended the opening ceremonies of 495-foot tarred road in Yathedaung, and U Mya Wah tarred road in Ward (2), Buthidaung.

He graced the

inauguration of the gravel road lining Letwedet (Ywathit) village and Thabyedaung Village in Buthidaung Township. He had a meeting with villagers at the primary school of Gandama model village, and viewed agricultural and livestock farms and water supply system.—MNA

Another worker dies in chemical spill in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 28 Feb—One more worker, who was injured in a chemical spill in Singapore on Friday, died on Saturday, bringing the death toll to three in the incident, which also injured two others.

According to Channel NewsAsia reports on Saturday night, two workers died from chemical burns later Friday.

Another worker is in critical condition at the Singapore General Hospital with 70 percent burns to his body while a fifth worker is now in stable condition at the same hospital.

Internet

Myanmar Amateur Open 2009 golf tourney, 3-6 March

YANGON, 28 Feb—The Myanmar Golf Federation will organize Myanmar Amateur Open 2009 Golf Tournament at Yangon Golf Club

(Danyingon) in Insein Township, here, from 3 to 6 March.

Those with handicap 0-12 wishing to join the tournament are to register

Myanmar Golf Club (9th Mile) (Ph: 01-651374, 09-203671) or Yangon Golf Club with admission fee on 1 March.

MNA

All this needs to be known

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

Secretary-1 attends Meeting...

(from page 1)

Central Command Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung, Deputy Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the SPDC Office, departmental heads and senior military officers.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-1 said in the time of the State Peace and Development Council, Yangon-Mandalay Express Highway has been under construction in accord with the guidance of the Head of State for having easy access to all States and Divisions with Nay Pyi Taw at the centre to be able to carry out management matters speedily. The construction of the

of heavy machinery. So far, a total of 75.2 million cubic feet of earth work has been carried out against the target of 104.5 million cubic feet.

Underpasses were built for better transportation among villages near the express highway. Moreover, culvert boxes were constructed on the highway for smooth traffic flow and security. Five toll gates have been built on the highway, and local roads have access to the express highway. Arrangements will be made for construction of three Rest Camps along the express highway facilitated with canteens, workshop, fuel station, car park and police station.

With a view to avoiding traffic jam, vehicles that can run with the prescribed mileage only will be allowed to drive on the express highway. The express highway is

communication roads, car parks and toll gates and progress of works.

Lt-Col Tint Aung of Directorate of Military Engineering reported on progress of 89 miles and 3 furlongs long Myochaung-Tagara section being constructed by Directorate of Military Engineers, requirements of materials, list of heavy machinery, supporting works and construction for communication roads, car parks and toll gates.

Deputy Managing Director (Works) U Tint Hsan submitted the reports on progress of 29 miles long Tagara-C junction of Nay Pyi Taw section, 19 miles long C Junction-Nay Pyi Taw (Pantin) section and 48 miles long Tagara-Nay Pyi Taw (Pantin).

Lt-Col Tint Aung reported again on progress of



Earth works in progress at mile post (230/1) on Pantin-Paybinlay-Kukwe village road section. —MNA



Earth works in progress at mile post (237/4) on Pantin-Paybinlay-Kukwe village road section. —MNA

express highway stretching 325 miles and six furlongs from Yangon No. 3 Highway to Saga-in roundabout of Mandalay commenced in October 2005. The two-way, two-lane express highway section which is 202 miles and one furlong long from Yangon to C junction in Nay Pyi Taw will be put into service in March 2009.

The 360 feet wide express highway will have four lanes on each way and 30 feet wide island. The road with six inches thick first concrete layer and 12 inches thick second layer can withstand 80-ton loads. Likewise, the bridges built on the express highway can withstand 80-ton loads.

It was estimated that a total of 2.25 million tons

only for light automobiles and highway passenger buses, but not for the heavy trucks. In conclusion, the Secretary-1 said that arrangements were made in implementing the express highway project with necessary facilities meeting with international set standards.

Master of Ceremonies Assistant Quartermaster-General Lt-Col Aung Than Oo reported on accomplishments on the minutes of the meeting 3/2008.

Work Committee member Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung submitted the reports on inspection of set standards and quality, minimizing loss and wastage and keeping of systematic accounts for construction of road sections being undertaken by Public Works and

83 miles long Pantin-Paypinlay-Kukwe road section of the express highway and bridges and future tasks.

Deputy Superintending Engineer U Thein Zaw of Public Works briefed the Secretary-1 on progress of road works and bridges on 48 miles and 5 furlongs long Kukwe Village-Pyinsi-Saga-in roundabout section and future tasks. Deputy Managing Director (Works) U Tint Hsan reported on fixing fees for use of express highway at toll gates.

Members of the Work Committee Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Than Htay and U Pe Than, Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen Win Soe, Deputy Commanders



Photo shows one way road at mile post (246/4) on Pantin-Paybinlay-Kukwe village road section. —MNA



Earth works in progress at mile post (246/4) on Pantin-Paybinlay-Kukwe village road section. —MNA

of cement, 0.125 million tons of iron rods, 72 million gallons of fuel, 2.033 million cubic feet of gravel have to be used in the road construction. So far, the road construction has used 1.17 million tons of cement, over 90,000 tons of iron rods, 40 million gallons of fuel and over 1.4 million cubic feet of gravel. The construction task is being undertaken with the use of over 1,200 units

Directorate of Military Engineering.

Deputy Managing Director (Works) U Tint Hsan of Public Works presented reports on 83 miles and 6 furlongs long road section between No. 3 Highway and Myochaung being built by Public Works, requirements of construction materials, list of heavy machinery, supporting works, construction for

Col Min Zaw, Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun, Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung and Brig-Gen Win Myint discussed their respective sectors to provide necessary assistance for the construction task.

After holding discussions regarding the reports, the Secretary-1 attended to the needs.

(see page 9)



Earth works in progress at mile post (119/0) on Myochaung-Tagara road section. —MNA



Photo shows already-built Myochaung-Tagara road section at mile post (119/0). —MNA



Secretary-1 attends Meeting 1/2009 of Work Committee ...

(from page 8)

In his concluding remarks, the Secretary-1 instructed officials to supervise timely completion of the road sections meeting the set standards and the

traffic accidents.

The 352 miles and 6 furlongs long Yangon-Mandalay Express Highway includes 221 miles and one furlong long Yangon No. 3 Highway to Nay Pyi Taw (Pantin) and 131 miles and five furlongs long Section No. 2 from Nay Pyi Taw (Pantin) to Mandalay Saga-in roundabout. The 360 feet wide concrete highway will have four lanes each side. The island area of the highway will be

50-foot up-and-down bridges, 884 culvert boxes, 75 underpasses, three rest camps and five toll gates will be constructed.

Public Works and Directorate of Military Engineers divided the road sections of the international standard 8-lane concrete express highway for their construction works applying modern methods.

The construction of the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw



Road works in progress at mile post (142/6) on Myochaung-Thagara road section. —MNA



Photo shows already-built Myochaung-Thagara road section at mile post (142/6). —MNA

ministries concerned to render necessary assistance for the tasks on schedule. He also gave instructions on permitting the vehicles that can run the prescribed mph speed limit to use the express highway, distinctly erecting of mile posts, keeping of road signs at the necessary places and facilities for prevention against

30 feet wide. The highway will have six inches thick lower concrete layer and 12 inches thick upper concrete layer and it will withstand 80-ton loads.

Along the highway, a total of 72 180-foot and above up and down bridges, 200 up and down bridges that are between 50 feet and 180 feet long, 162 under-

section on the highway began in October 2005. As of March 2008, one way-two lane highway section from Yangon to Nay Pyi Taw was on test. At present, the two way-two lane highway has been completed and the express highway will be inaugurated soon formally.

MNA



A lake seen before construction works at mile post (146/0) on Myochaung-Thagara road section. — MNA



Photo shows already-built Myochaung-Thagara road section at mile post (146/0). —MNA

Communications stations in Mandalay Division inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw together with Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Thein Tun

yesterday visited General Post Office here and inspected the complaint division, the post station and the public access centre.

The minister and

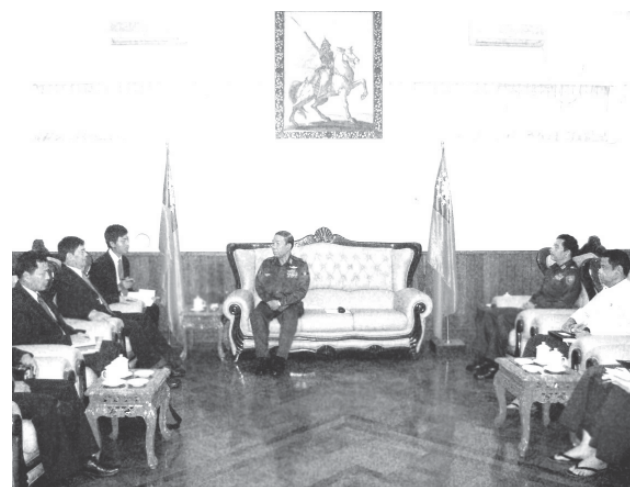
the deputy minister today visited Yamethin Auto Exchange in Mandalay Division and inspected installation of CDMA-450 antenna, GSM mobile system and auto

exchange room, Tatkon auto exchange and microwave station, Pyinmana auto exchange and left necessary instructions.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw visits auto exchange in Yamethin.—CPT



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi meets Vietnamese Ambassador Mr. Chu Cong Phung. —MNA

Energy Minister meets Vietnamese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb – Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi received Vietnamese Ambassador Mr. Chu Cong Phung at the minister's office here yesterday. They held comprehensive discussions on energy sector between the two countries.

Also present were Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, the directors-general, the managing directors and officials.

MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspects development of Myeik, Dawei

NAY PYI TAW, 28 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 viewed the site for construction of Wood-based Factory in the area of Myeik Myothit on 25 February.

He also visited Taninthayi Wood Industrial Factory Project and gave necessary instructions.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye looked into construction of the jetty, ice factory and office by Annawa Soe Co. At Po La Min Jetty, he viewed export rubber and timber of Phyo Shwe Wah Co for Malaysia and construction of housing estates and apartments and shops at the checkpoint on Kyaukphya Strand Road.

In Thayetchaung Township, he inspected progress in construction of Dawei-Myeik railroad.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected progress of Dawei University and two-storey library and construction of Dawei Sasana Beikman.

In Thabyechaung Village, he heard reports on production of monsoon



Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence inspects progress in construction of Dawei-Ye motor road.
MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence looks into construction of jetty by Annawa Soe Co.
MNA



paddy, cultivation of summer paddy and cold season crops presented by officials and viewed thriving crops and summer paddy plantations, broadcasting of fertilizer and weeding works.

Later, Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected progress in construction of Dawei-Ye motor road.—MNA

Sasana Nuggaha Title recipients to draw invitation cards

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—Sasana Nuggaha Title recipient laypersons wishing to attend the religious titles offering ceremony to be held on 10

March are to draw invitation cards in person from Assistant Director U Ko Ko of the Administration Department of the

Department for Promotion and Propagation of 406045) on 4 and 5 the Sasana (Ph: 067 March.—MNA

SAY NO TO DRUGS

Rakhine State enjoying fruits of better communications

Article by: Kyaw Sein , Photos by: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

(from page 16)

Furthermore, it is learnt that arrangements are being made to set up a CDMA mobile station in Gwa, Rakhine State.

Making more use of the communication facilities, people from Rakhine State have now been able to contact and communicate with those from different regions in a



U Thein Myint Assistant Manager (Telegraph).

short time and fully enjoy the fruits of regional development through improved communications.

Translation: TS
Myanma Alin:
28-2-2009

Photo shows stockpile of telephone cables to be installed in Kyauktaw Township.





Stakes driven for building TV retransmission station in Yanbye

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Stakes were driven for construction of TV retransmission station in Yanbye Township of Rakhine State on 24 February afternoon.

Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and officials drove stakes at the designated places and sprinkled scented water on them.

After the ceremony, the commander and the minister cordially greeted those present.

A new TV retransmission station is under construction in Yanbye Township for enabling various regions of Rakhine State to receive TV channels clearly. Moreover, retransmission machines at the TV retransmission stations in Thandwe and Kyauktaw Townships are being substituted with high frequency transmission machines.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan sprinkles scented water on stakes. —MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye drives stake for construction of TV retransmission station in Yanbye Township.

MNA

Japan donates medical equipment to Myanmar

YANGON, 28 Feb—The Japanese Government donated Tamiflu, antiviral medicine and

Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) to the Ministry of Health on Natmauk Street in Bahan Township here this morning.

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yasuaki Nogawa handed over the equipment worth 120,599,988 yens to Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Acting Director-General of the Department of Health Dr Win Myint expressed thanks.

MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint accepts Tamiflu, antiviral medicines and personal protective equipment (PPEs) presented by Japanese Ambassador Mr. Yasuaki Nogawa. —MNA

Thailand, Indonesia to launch bilateral trade agreement

HUA HIN (Thailand), 28 Feb—Commerce ministers of Thailand and Indonesia Saturday hold a meeting, agreeing to launch a bilateral trade agreement on economic cooperation, according to news release from the Thai Ministry of Commerce.

Porntiva Nagasai, Thai Minister of Commerce, and Mari Elga Pangestu,

Indonesian Minister of Commerce, met on the sideline of the 14th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit which opened here on Saturday.

The trade agreement is expected to be finalized in June this year as the text of the agreement is now being negotiated by officials of both countries, said the ministry, adding that both Thailand and

Indonesia have no objection to the agreement in principle.

Taking auto industry as example, the two countries agreed to find a new market and seek new tax measures that would alleviate the financial burden of their respective auto industries which are mostly small and medium-sized enterprises.—Internet



Airport workers stand around a Romanian Carpatair Saab 2000 plane following an emergency landing after developing trouble with its landing gear at the airport in Timisoara, western Romania, Saturday, on 28 Feb, 2009. The plane with 51 people on board made an emergency landing in western Romania Saturday, officials said. All the occupants escaped safely.—INTERNET

Emergency plane landing in Romania; all 51 safe

TIMISOARA (Romania), 28 Feb—A Romanian plane carrying 51 people made a safe emergency landing in western Romania on Saturday and all the occupants escaped injury, officials said. The Carpatair flight's front landing gear became stuck and the plane circled Timisoara International Airport for almost two hours, using up its fuel to avoid a potential fire before it landed on a 200-yard (200-meter) long bed of foam laid out by firefighters, officials said.

At least 10 ambulances and three fire engines were waiting for the stricken plane, the emergency department said. Dan Andrei, the airline's vice president, said, "the plane came down on the side wheels; it braked sharply and at a low speed it came on its front belly, while the front landing gear remained stuck."

The company said the two Moldovan pilots — Iurie Oleacov, 37, and Leonid Babischi, 47 — were highly experienced. The Saab 2000 aircraft was carrying 47 passengers and four crew members on its flight from the Moldovan capital, Chisinau, to Timisoara, airport spokeswoman Carmen Stoica said. Romanian border police, who deal with international customs, said the plane was carrying 11, Romanians, 23 Moldovans, nine Italians, two Greeks and two Germans. The crew is Moldovan. Timisoara ambulance chief Iancu Leonida said no one was hurt, but people were very frightened. "There are no injured people, although some might have minor scratches, but they are very scared and traumatized," he said. "They are being given medical care."—Internet

Montenegro police arrest 25 people in drug bust

PODGORICA, 28 Feb—Montenegro police arrested 25 people suspected of smuggling tonnes of marijuana from Albania, an official said on Friday, in the latest big drug bust as the two countries clamp down on crime in their bid to join the EU.

Both countries have stepped up border security and the joint activities of law enforcement agencies in the last few months.

Media reports on Fri-

day said a police officer and a low ranking government official were among those arrested in the biggest single drug bust in the Balkan country since December.

The suspects, belonging to seven crime clans, smuggled 2.5 tons of "extra strong marijuana also known as skunk" from Albania via Montenegro to neighbouring Serbia and Bosnia, police spokeswoman Tamara Popovic said.

Popovic said in a joint

action, Albanian police recently arrested another six people in connection with the case. She did not elaborate further.

In December Montenegrin law enforcement agencies arrested 19 people and seized some 550 kilos of narcotics.

The mountainous border between Montenegro and neighbouring Albania is frequently used for trafficking drugs, weapons and people.

MNA/Reuters

Canadians intercepted Russian bombers before Obama visit

OTTAWA, 28 Feb—One day before US President Barack Obama's Canadian visit last week, Canadian fighter jets intercepted two Russian bombers near Canadian air space, the defence minister said on Friday.

"At no time did Russian planes enter Canadian air space, but within 24 hours of the president's visit here ... we did scramble F-18 fighter planes from NORAD in Canada command," Peter MacKay

said in a news conference in Ottawa.

The Russian planes were in international waters, about 118 miles (190 kilometers) northeast of Tuktoyuktuk, in Canada's Northwest Ter-

ritories. "It was a routine flight over international airspace," Yevgeniy Khorishko, a spokesman at the Russian Embassy in Washington, told CBC news.

Internet



Canadian jets intercepted Russian TU-95 Bear bomber aircraft last week similar to this one.

INTERNET

Kurdish 'grave sites' to be dug

ISTANBUL, 28 Feb—A Turkish prosecutor has ordered the digging up of several sites where it is believed the bodies of Kurds killed in the 1990s may have been dumped. Hundreds of people disappeared at the height of the fighting in the mainly Kurdish south-east.

Lawyers say many were last seen with security forces members. The Kurdish conflict, which began in the 1980s when insurgents started fighting for a separate Kurdish state, still continues today. Close to 40,000 people have been killed.

More than 70 families applied to a prosecutor in the town of Silopi after information emerged suggesting the location of their relatives' bodies. The prosecutor has ordered the excavation of two old well-shafts behind an abandoned roadside restaurant.

Another site to be dug is on the grounds of a storage facility of the Botash oil company. Lawyers also want to examine parts of a municipal cemetery where they believe a mass grave of the missing could be found.—Internet



Cambodia to build first automobile assembly plant

PHNOM PENH, 28 Feb — One Cambodian company is putting the pedal to the metal after having received the approval from Prime Minister Hun Sen to begin construction on the country's first automobile assembly plant, national media reported Friday. The 60-million-US-dollar factory will assemble cars for the South Korean automobile maker Hyundai, which will supply vehicle parts, Lim Visal, assembly plant coordinator for Camco Motor Company was quoted by the *Cambodia Daily* newspaper as saying.

"The assembly factory will be constructed on 16.5 hectares of land in the Spe-

cial Economic Zone in Koh Kong Province and a car showroom will be opened in Phnom Penh," Lim Visal said, adding that the target date for the start of production is the middle of 2010.

Lim Visal said 500 workers will be hired for the construction of the plant, 1,000 after the construction is complete and possibly a total of 3,000 in the next 10 years. "The company plans to hire locally to man the plant and some of those hired will be sent to South Korea to train," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Argentine police arrest Brazil's student for staging own kidnapping

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 Feb — A Brazilian college student has been arrested by Argentine Federal Police in Buenos Aires for staging his own kidnapping, the local media reported on Thursday.

Bruno Santo dos Santos was arrested on Wednesday near a bank in downtown Buenos Aires. The 25-year-old went to the bank to withdraw 15,000 Argentine pesos (4,220 US dollars) transferred by his parents to pay the "kidnappers".

Two men, an Argentinean and an Uruguayan who accompanied him, were also arrested.

MNA/Xinhua

Spain seizes ship with 5,000 kilos of cocaine in Canary Islands

MADRID, 28 Feb—The Spanish Agency of Tributary Administration reported on Friday the capture of a fishing boat with 5,000 kilos of cocaine aboard in the waters of the Canary Islands.

Five Venezuelan crew members were detained in the naval operation taking place Friday morning, the agency said in a statement.

The cocaine freight was estimated to have a value of 250 million euros

in the street market of Europe. Six ships had been seized with a haul of 19,000 kilos of cocaine in the agency's anti-drug operations in the last four years, the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

Aztec dancers pose for a photo during a ceremony celebrating the birth of Cuauhtemoc, the last Aztec emperor, in Ixcateopan, Mexico, on 23 Feb, 2009.

INTERNET





Suspected al Qaeda operative charged in US court

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—President Barack Obama on Friday ordered suspected al Qaeda operative Ali al-Marri transferred to the US court system to face newly filed criminal charges after 5-1/2 years in a military prison in South Carolina.

The Obama administration's decision to move Marri into the US judicial system marked a significant policy shift from the Bush administration, which had argued that Marri could be held indefi-

nately without being charged.

Marri is suspected of being an al Qaeda "sleeper" agent sent by Osama bin Laden and by Khalid Sheik Mohammed, the mastermind of the September 11 attacks, to disrupt the US financial system by hacking into bank computers. He is the last of three terrorism suspects who had been held by the military in the United States without charges as an "enemy combatant."

The case could signal

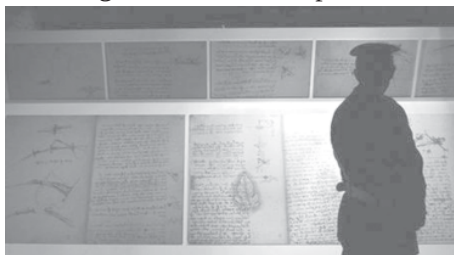
the Obama administration will prosecute in US courts at least some of the terrorism suspects held at the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. There are 245 detainees at Guantanamo. The administration also asked the US Supreme Court to dismiss Marri's challenge to his indefinite imprisonment by the military without charges on the grounds the criminal indictment announced on Friday made his appeal to the high court moot.—Internet



Pedestrians walk past a roadside newsstand in Beijing that shows a Chinese newspaper report on 26 February, about the sale at a Christie's auction in Paris of two bronze artifacts looted by British and French forces from Beijing's imperial Summer Palace 150 years ago.—INTERNET

Leonardo "Codex" reveals youthful self-portrait

ROME, 28 Feb—A sketch obscured by handwriting for five centuries in one of Leonardo da Vinci's notebooks may be a youthful self-portrait, according to Italian experts who



A security guard looks at Leonardo Da Vinci's scrapbooks of the 'Codex on the flight of birds' at the Mole Vanvitelliana in Ancona, central Italy.—INTERNET

"aged" the sketch to compare to confirmed later self-portraits.

Hidden under layers of thick writing on a page of the "Codex on the Flight of Birds," the sketch was spotted by the Italian scientific journalist

Piero Angela, who will present images of his discovery on Italian state television RAI Saturday.

Studying a high quality facsimile of the codex, Angela first detected the faint form of a nose behind the heavy black text of the codex's tenth page, he told a news conference on Friday.

He enlisted the help of art historians, Carabinieri police forensic experts and RAI's graphic department to turn the black text covering the sketch white, then the same tone as the paper.

Over months of micro-pixel work, graphic designer Giovanni Stillitano gradually "removed" the text and revealed the drawing underneath. What emerged was the face of a young to middle-aged man with long hair, a short beard and a penetrating gaze.

The features were first compared to all known portraits and sketches of young men by Leonardo, but no match was found.—Internet

British tourists fall to death in the Alps

LONDON, 28 Feb—Two British tourists have died after falling down a steep valley following a night out in a ski resort in the French Alps. The pair went missing after leaving a bar late at night in the resort of Deux Alpes on



Bodies of three Britons found in two different parts of the French Alps.—INTERNET

Wednesday. But their bodies were not discovered until Friday, police said.

The victims, who were aged 28 and 29 and came from York, have not yet been named. In another part of the Alps, climbers recovered the body of a British teacher who went missing during a hiking expedition more than seven months ago. Christopher Hilton's body was found on Wednesday trapped in a frozen waterfall at the foot of a 50-metre cliff. The 32-year-old appeared to have fallen to his death after slipping. Mountain rescuers were sent to recover the body from the waterfall near the town of Villard-Notre-Dame.—Internet

Slumdog Millionaire film sparks surge in Indian child sponsorship

LONDON, 28 Feb — Anti-poverty charity ActionAid says there has been a surge in Indian child sponsorship inquir-

ies in Britain since the Oscar triumph of *Slumdog Millionaire*. The charity said it had to rush the contact details of scores of Indian children to its offices in the UK. It normally fields around 500 inquiries a week for child sponsorship, but the number of inquiries soared to 1400 on the back of *Slumdog Millionaire*'s accolades. "We're calling it the

Slumdog effect," said fundraising director Richard Turner. "We haven't seen such a high level of interest in one country for a long time."

Slumdog Millionaire, a rags-to-riches tale of children from the slums of Mumbai, won eight Oscars this week, including the best picture academy award. It was directed by UK director Danny Boyle.

"Child sponsorship has transformed the lives of hundreds of thousands of children and is one of the most rewarding ways of giving," Mr Turner said. "Sponsor's money helps towards securing a decent education, better health care and economic security for children and the communities in which they live."

Internet

Baby died from mum's cold sore kiss of death

LONDON, 28 Feb—An 11-day-old baby girl died after her mother unwittingly infected her with the virus which causes cold sores, probably through a kiss or breastfeeding, a British coroner has ruled. An inquest found newborn Jennifer Schofield died from Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV).

Her mother Ruth, 35, probably caught it late into her pregnancy, the coroner said, most likely for the first time in her life, meaning she had not developed immunity and nor had her child. The virus attacked the baby's major organs and she died within days.

Ms Schofield fell ill with flu-like symptoms a few days before giving birth, and was treated for several mouth ulcers. Her daughter subsequently became unwell and was admitted to hospital because she was sleepy and not feeding.

Coroner James Adeley said no one could be blamed for failing to identify the virus. Ms Schofield is now campaigning to raise awareness of the condition which she said kills six babies a year in Britain.—Internet



The new Blackberry Bold was unveiled in October 2008. Japanese mobile phone operator NTT DoCoMo is suspending sales of Blackberry Bold after about 30 users reported that the smart phone's keyboards heated up during recharging.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Espanyol look to dent Real's title aspirations



Barcelona's forward Lionel Messi (left) vies with Espanyol's Moises Hurtado Perez (right) during a Spanish League football match in Barcelona.—INTERNET

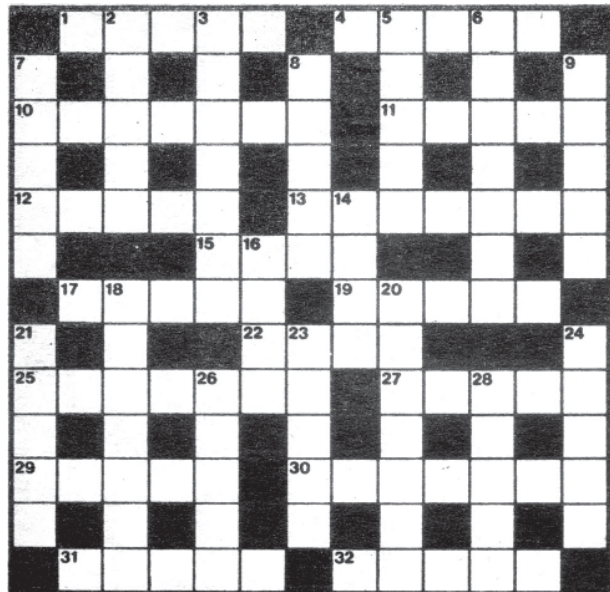
MADRID, 28 Feb—Having already slain the apparently invincible Barcelona, giant killers Espanyol now turn their attention to Real Madrid who have reduced the gap at the top of the table to seven points with a nine match winning run in the league.

Last weekend then bottom of the table Espanyol were given little or no chance before facing Barca but an astute tactical performance pressing the home side's defence and closing down the midfield, combined with the tiredness of their opponents led them to inflicting only Barca's second defeat of the season.

Espanyol forward Luis Garcia believes that the visit of Real — who enter the match on a low after being beaten 1-0 by Liverpool at home in their Champions League clash on Wednesday — has come at the perfect time.

"They are exactly who we want to face at the moment, we know that Real Madrid are on a good run but we have to think of our own situation and we have to take the game to them thinking about what we achieved at the Nou Camp," he said.—INTERNET

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Electrical units
- 4 Performing
- 10 Date book
- 11 Underworld river
- 12 Press, TV, etc.
- 13 Spanish grass
- 15 Wife of Kronos
- 17 Forest space
- 19 Mass meeting
- 22 Large pond
- 25 Fix in position
- 27 Garden bird
- 29 Supporting bandage
- 30 Poison
- 31 Great pain
- 32 Bottle

DOWN

- 2 Ready for war
- 3 Drinking jug
- 5 Lowest deck
- 6 Unaffected
- 7 Crazy
- 8 Cliff gravel
- 9 Author of Crusoe
- 14 Channel isle
- 16 Hades
- 18 Permanent
- 20 Spraying can
- 21 Wash out
- 23 Ritual table
- 24 Small meal
- 26 Rare gas
- 28 Extra pay

Italian teams looking to forget Euro disappointment

MILAN, 28 Feb—After the Italian teams' poor showing in European competition in midweek it's back to the domestic grindstone as Inter Milan look to maintain their nine-point lead in Serie A.

The Champions League did not prove a happy hunting ground for Italy's three remaining representatives as they failed to score a goal between them. Roma lost 1-0 to Arsenal and Juventus went down by the same score against Chelsea. Only Inter staved off defeat in a 0-0 draw against Manchester United which could easily have ended in a heavy loss.

Now Inter need to quickly forget Tuesday's game in which they were largely dominated and readapt to their position as kings of Italy. They host Roma in the plum tie of the weekend and they will be keen to reassert their domestic authority.—INTERNET

Bayern must repeat European passion play in Bundesliga



Schalke's defender Marcelo Jose Bordon (2nd right) and midfielder Levan Koblishvili (2nd left) vie for the ball with Werder Bremen's striker Markus Rosenberg (right) during their German first division Bundesliga football match in Gelsenkirchen.—INTERNET

BERLIN, 28 Feb—Luca Toni insists Bayern Munich must use the same passion they showed in their Champions League hammering of Sporting Lisbon in midweek to get their Bundesliga campaign back on track in Bremen this weekend.

The Italian World Cup-winning striker scored twice in Lisbon as Bayern routed the home side 5-0 in the round of 16, first-leg tie and are virtually guaranteed a Champions League quarter-final berth.

But Bayern's progress in Europe is a far cry from their Bundesliga form where they have lost three of their last four games and are down to fourth in the table - four points behind leaders Hamburg.

"We showed the real Bayern Munich in Lisbon," said Toni. "We've shown what we're capable of. The decisive factor was the whole team playing with passion and resolve, because we want to get out of a difficult situation together." Now we need to start winning again in the Bundesliga.—INTERNET

Argentina's Carballo leads Moonah Classic

FINGAL, 28 Feb—Argentina's Miguel Angel Carballo shot a 1-under 71 on Saturday to take a two-stroke lead in the Moonah Classic. Carballo, tied for the lead after the second round, had 9-under 207 total for three rounds on the Peter Thomson-designed Moonah Links layout.

Australia's Richie Gallichan was second after a 70 in the event sanctioned by the Australasian and Nationwide tours. New Zealand's David Smail (71) and Australia's veteran Peter O'Malley (72) were three strokes back at 6 under.—INTERNET

Lyon turn to domestic matters after European exertions



Toulouse's forward Pierre-Andre Gignac (right) vies with Valenciennes' defender Jacques Abardonado during a French L1 football match in Toulouse.—INTERNET

PARIS, 28 Feb—After an enterprising performance in the first leg of their Champions League round of 16 tie against Barcelona, French champions Lyon return to league action on Sunday buoyed by a six-point lead at the Ligue 1 summit.

Claude Puel's men struggled for form around the turn of the year, with their advantage in the league being cut to one point at one stage, but Tuesday's 1-1 draw at home to the Spanish league leaders represented their 11th consecutive game without defeat in all competitions.—INTERNET

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

(28-2-2009)

Arsenal	0 - 0	Fulham
Chelsea	2 - 1	Wigan Athletic
Everton	2 - 0	WBA
Middlesbrough	2 - 0	Liverpool



Chelsea's John Terry (C) heads the ball during their English Premier League soccer match against Wigan Athletic at Stamford Bridge in London 28 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



Arsenal's Abou Diaby challenges Fulham's Simon Davies (L) during their English Premier League soccer match against Fulham at the Emirates Stadium in London on 28 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



Welding robots are line up at an auto plant in Fukuoka prefecture, Japan's southern island of Kyushu. Japan confronted a deepening recession, reporting a sharp slide in factory output, as Britain grappled with yet another huge banking loss and two Nordic countries slipped into recession.—INTERNET

Experts say new drugs needed to fight flu pandemic

HONG KONG, 28 Feb—Experts on Friday urged governments on Friday to diversify their stockpiles of drugs and called for more new medicines to fight what could be the world's next flu pandemic caused by the H5N1 bird flu virus. Many advanced countries stock up on oseltamivir and zanamivir, two varieties of the same class of drugs that stops the H5N1 virus from multiplying. But oseltamivir has proven to be largely useless in fighting the H1N1 seasonal human influenza virus and experts are questioning how well, and how long, the drug would stand up against the H5N1 virus, should it unleash a pandemic.

"We have been extremely foolish on our policies of stockpiling drugs. We have been stockpiling two varieties of the same drug," virologist Robert Webster at the St Jude Children's Hospital in the United States said at a medical conference in Hong Kong. He said the resistance of the H1N1 virus to oseltamivir was as high as 98 per cent worldwide.—MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (1.3.2009) (Sunday)

Transmissions

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

Times

Local Transmission

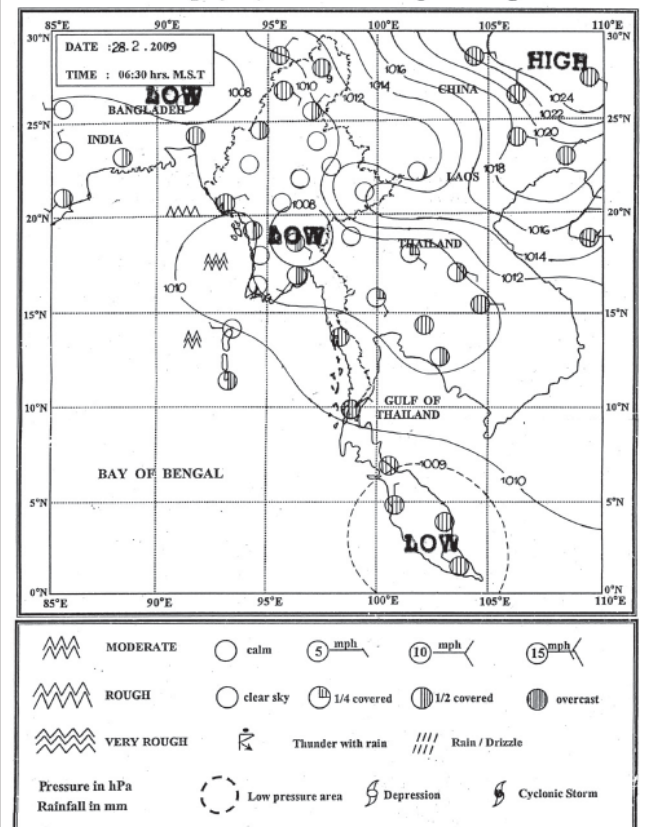
- ☐ Signature Tune
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- ☐ Walk in Aviary ... a Recreation Centre
- ☐ Colourful Flowers you can find in Myanmar
- ☐ Poem Garden "The Moon"
- ☐ Maungmagan, The Seaside Village
- ☐ A Day in Yangon (People's Square)
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America 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
- ☐ Lifestyles along the Ayeyawady (Mandalay to Pyay) (Part-3)
- ☐ Shwezawah Lacquerware
- ☐ Myanmar Movies Impact
- ☐ Hta Pwe (or) Mogok Gems Market
- ☐ Ornamental Jewellery of Outstanding Designs
- ☐ Myanmar Modern song
- ☐ Walk in Aviary ... a Recreation Centre
- ☐ Colourful Flowers you can find in Myanmar
- ☐ Poem Garden "The Moon"
- ☐ Maungmagan, The Seaside Village
- ☐ A Day in Yangon (People's Square)
- ☐ Nandawun (Souvenir Shop)
- ☐ Spirulina (or) Blue Green Algae
- ☐ Rakhine Traditional First Crop Alms Offering Ceremony
- ☐ Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 28 February, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division, (5°C) to (6°C) above February average temperatures in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States, Taninthayi Division and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Lashio and Namhsan (6°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Pautao and Machanbaw (0.36) inch.

Maximum temperature on 27-2-2009 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 28-2-2009 was 67°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-2-2009 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 27-2-2009 was (8.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 28-2-2009 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 (14:30) hours MST on 27-2-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 1st March 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Chin, Northern Shan and Mon States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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 1-3-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-3-2009: Generally fair weather.



Sunday, 1 March
View on today

7:00 am

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am

- ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မော်(၃၈)မြောက်မင်္ဂလာ

8:05 am

- ခပေါင်းရေလှောင်တံ

8:10 am

- "ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာသန့်စင်သော အစာ" (ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ ပွင့်၊

ဝမ်းပုံကြီး၊ ဟိမီးမြီး)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုးထွန်း)

8:20 am

- (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊
ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Musical Programme

11:00 am

- Martial Song

11:10 am

- Musical programme

11:25 am

- Round up of the week's
international news

11:40 am

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
"အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ"
(အပိုင်း-၂၇)

12:10 pm

- Golf Magazine (TV)

12:30 pm

- မြန်မာ့ဒီဇိုင်းယုံဇာတ်လမ်း
"အိမ်ရှင်အိမ်ငှား"
(မိုးဒီ၊ မင်းသူ၊ မြို့တော်ချစ်ဖွယ်၊

မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ ခင်မိုးမိုးအေး)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်နန္ဒ)

2:25 pm

- Musical programme

2:35 pm

- Song of national races

2:50 pm

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:10 pm

- Musical programme

4:25 pm

- တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုတေးသီချင်း
ဖြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ

4:35 pm

- ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ
ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ
(ဇီဝဗေဒဘာသာရပ်)

4:55 pm

- Song to uphold
National Spirit

5:00 pm

- အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:10 pm

- (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊
ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

5:25 pm

- Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ်
"Pocket Dragon
Adventure"

6:55 pm

- တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ
"လိမ်ဖယ်လိမ်ဖယ်ဖူးစာ"
(ခင်မောင်ချင်း၊ ရွှင်ပျော်၊
ဒိန်းခေါင်၊ ရာဇာပေါက်စီ၊
စိန်ပန်းသီး၊ ဒါလီလင်း၊
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ထင်ထင်)

7:15 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
"သစ္စာနှင့်ယဉ်သောမေတ္တာ"
(အပိုင်း-၂၃)

8:00 pm

- News

14. News

15. International news

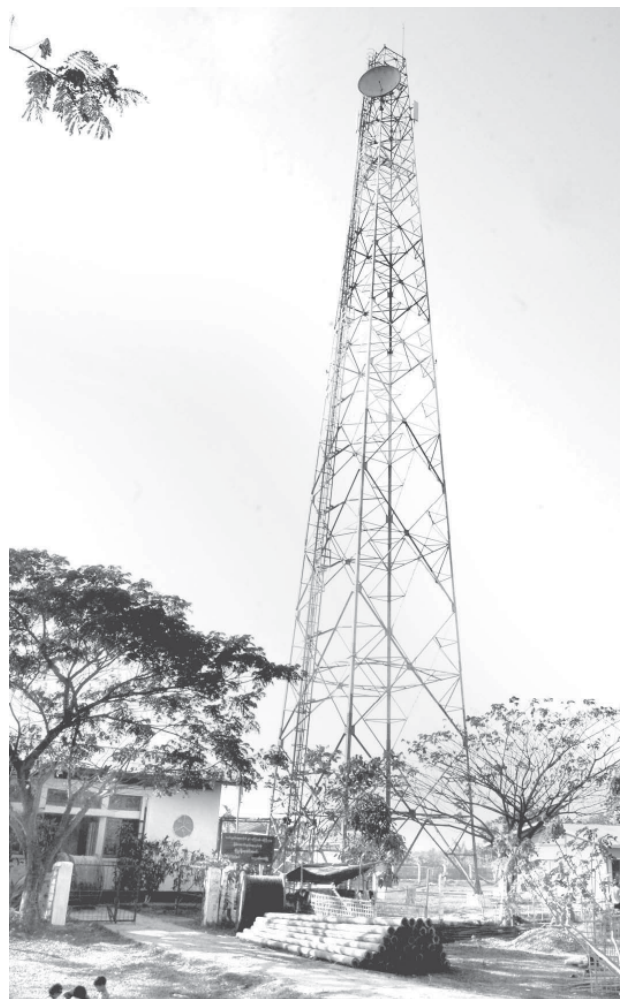
16. Weather report

17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"ကြမ္မာမုန်တိုင်း"
(အပိုင်း-၁၅)



Rakhine State enjoying fruits of better communications



Being a coastal region, Rakhine State is complete with a chain of mountains and rivers and was of difficult access. Such being the case, in the past, local people of Rakhine State had to rely solely on waterways for their transportation.

At present, Rakhine State is easily accessible with the emergence of a large number of roads and bridges built by the government. Meanwhile, the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications is installing the new telephone lines in Rakhine State in order that it can keep pace with changes and developments.

For local people to enjoy higher socioeconomic status the CDMA mobile station project is being launched out in Rakhine State.

After studying the preparations made for installation of lines at Sittway Communications Station, members of our news group conducted an interview with Assistant Manager (Telegraphs) U Thein Myint of Myanmar Posts and Telecom-

Telecommunications tower in Kyauktaw Township, Rakhine State.

Article by: Kyaw Sein

Photos by: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

munications over the project. U Thein Myint said that work is under way for installation of CDMA/GSM telephone lines in Rakhine State and that arrangements are being made for installation of 11,100 telephones in ten townships.

It is learnt that altogether 487 GSMs and 2495 CDMAAs have been installed in Rakhine State against the target of 1500 GSMs and 2500 CDMAAs. Altogether 509 CDMAAs have been installed in An, and 1582 CDMAAs have been installed in Thandwe against the target of 2000.

Likewise, altogether 146 CDMAAs have been installed in Maungdaw against the target of 600, and 519 CDMAAs have been installed in Kyaukpyu against the target of 1000.

A total of 199 CDMAAs have been installed in MraukU against the target of 600, and 162 CDMAAs have been installed in Myebon against the target of 600. And plan is under way for installation of 600 CDMAAs in Taungup, 600 in Manaung and 600 in Kyauktaw.

(See page 10)

Cahill helps Everton kill off struggling Albion



Everton's Australian midfielder Tim Cahill (22) scores against West Bromwich Albion during their English Premier League football match at Goodison Park in Liverpool, north west England. Cahill has kept Everton firmly on course for a top six finish in the Premier League as his header set up a 2-0 win.

Liverpool loses 2-0 in Premier League

LONDON, 28 Feb—Liverpool missed a chance to reduce Manchester United's lead at the top of the Premier League when it lost 2-0 at Middlesbrough on Saturday.

Boro had not won a league match since November and had not even scored in five games. But Tuncay Sanli added to Xabi Alonso's first-half own-goal to leave Liverpool in third place and seriously hurt its chances of its first league title since 1990.

Liverpool has 55 points, seven behind the defending champions. Man United is not playing in the Premier League this weekend because of Sunday's League Cup final with Tottenham.

Chelsea overtook Liverpool on goal differ-

LIVERPOOL, 28 Feb—Australia midfielder Tim Cahill kept Everton firmly on course for a top six finish in the Premier League as his header set up a 2-0 win over West Bromwich Albion on Saturday.

Cahill's eighth goal of the season came late in the first half at Goodison Park and Louis Saha sealed the points with a sublime second after the break. The win moved David Moyes' side nine points clear of seventh-placed Wigan, who were due to face Chelsea later on Saturday, and left Albion firmly rooted to the bottom of the table.

Tony Mowbray's team are now without a win in their last eight games and look destined for a quick return to the Championship.

Mowbray said: "We have been here many times this season where we felt we've done okay and we've played the type of game I want us to play."

Internet

ence after a 2-1 win over Wigan, while Arsenal drew 0-0 with visiting Fulham for a fourth straight scoreless tie. Chelsea has four points more than fourth-place Aston Villa and 10 more than Arsenal.

Internet

Liverpool's Sami Hyypia (R) challenges Middlesbrough's Jeremie Aliadiere during their English Premier League.
INTERNET



Military band contest continues

NAY PYI TAW, 28 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.

The military band representing LID (55), the band company-1 representing Yangon Command, the band company-1 representing Eastern Command, the band representing LID (77) and the band company-1 representing Nay Pyi Taw Command took part in the competition. — MNA

Summer Parade Sales for Kanebo & Kracie lovers

YANGON, 28 Feb – Summer Parade Sales will be held at Kanebo & Kracie counter here from 1 to 10 March.

All Kanebo & Kracie products will be sold under Buy One, Get One programme and some products at a 20 per cent discount. In addition to the programme, customers will be presented special gifts. — MNA

Talk 'Recession Update' on 5 March

YANGON, 28 Feb—U Khin Maung Nyo (Economics) will present talk 'Recession Update' under the arrangements of the Myanmar Hoteliers Association and the sponsorship of Silver View Resort (Ngwe Saung Beach) at Yuzana Hotel (Shwegondaing) in Bahan Township, here, at 4 pm on 5 March.

Anyone, member or non-member, may attend the talk, which is conducted in the first week of every month.—MNA