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Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend ceremony to offer meals to State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, SSMNC member Sayadaws, title recipient Sayadaws



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party receive Nine Precepts from the Sayadaw at meals offering ceremony to State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, members of SSMNC and title recipient Sayadaws. —MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attended the meals offering ceremony held by families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) for State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Sayadaws and religious title recipient Sayadaws at Sasana

Beikman in the precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda here at 9 a.m. today.

Also present on the occasion were State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Sayadaws and religious title recipient Sayadaws and nuns, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief

(Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Ohn, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, (See page 8)

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, 7 March, 2009

Strive with added momentum in the fight against narcotic drugs

Production and trafficking of narcotic drugs spread across the world. Opium, heroin, opium oil and marijuana as well as stimulants that are produced with the use of precursor chemicals pose a major threat to the international community.

It is obvious that those who abused stimulants excessively have become mentally deranged and they are ready to commit serious crimes. The drug problem is closely linked to transnational crimes including terrorism. Being a global problem, it can only be addressed through close international cooperation.

The government has laid down the 15-year drug elimination plan since 1999 and is implementing it in all seriousness. In the process, poppy substitute crops were introduced in the border areas where poppy was previously grown. During the second five-year period of the plan altogether over 700,000 acres of seasonal crops and over 800,000 acres of perennial crops were grown. Likewise, cash assistance and techniques were provided to those engaged in livestock breeding.

At regional level, Myanmar is working together with neighbours, countries in the region and sub-regions and the international community in the fight against drugs. Myanmar has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with six countries for the creation of a Greater Mekong Sub-Region Drug Free Zone, and is joining hands with countries in the region for success of the drive.

Drug elimination measures are being taken with the participation of the entire national people. As a result, altogether 2,429 drug cases were exposed from January to December 2008, and action was taken against those involved in the cases.

As the government is making all-out efforts in its fight against drugs hand in hand with the entire national people with added momentum, we firmly believe that the drug elimination tasks will achieve greater success than ever.

MGEA Vice-Chairman U Kyaw Myint (Shwe Myin Byan Gold Refining Industry) makes an address at the meeting. — UMFCFI



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

17th Military Band Competition concludes successfully

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—To mark the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the concluding ceremony of the 17th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition was held in conjunction with the prize presentation ceremony, here, this morning, attended by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2009 Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win.

First, the military bands took the designated positions at the parade ground and saluted the Chief of Armed Forces Training. After saluting the State Flag, they paid tribute to the fallen Tatmadawmen and recited four oaths.

Chief of Armed



Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win presents a shield to third prize winning band of Eastern Command. — MNA

Forces Training Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win presented shields to first prize winning band of Yangon Command, second prize winning band of Central Command and third prize winning band of Eastern

Command.

Later, the prize winning military bands demonstrated their skills.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing

the competition Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, departmental officials, the parade commander and column commanders of the parade columns, members of the Management Committee for Observance of the Armed Forces Day and subcommittees and members of the panel of judges.

MNA

MGEA executive committee meets

YANGON, 6 March —The executive committee of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association held a meeting (7/09-10) on the first floor of UMFCFI Office Tower on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Road in Lanmadaw Township here yesterday.

Chairman of the association U Thudaw (Academy Gold Refining Industry) and Vice-

Chairman U Kyaw Myint (Shwe Myin Byan Gold Refining Industry) delivered addresses and Secretary U Kyaw Win (U Hton Goldsmith Industry) presented the minutes of previous meeting and coordination meeting and sought the approval of those present.

Next, chairmen and secretaries of state/division associations presented reports on tasks of respective associations, trend of gold price and general matters. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the chairman.

MNA

Those from US and British embassies visited NLD (Headquarters) 21 times in February

YANGON, 6 March—The National League for Democracy (Headquarters) has kept in touch with the US and British embassies and is following their instructions. The people are criticizing such act of the NLD and keeping a watchful eye on it.

Those from the US and British embassies visited the NLD (Headquarters) on West Shwegondaing Street here 21 times in February 2009. During their visits, they met with CEC members of the party and gave large and small envelopes and parcels to the latter.

MNA

AGM of UMFCFI on 30 March

YANGON, 6 March—The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will hold its 18th Annual General Meeting at the City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw at 1.30 p.m. on 30 March.

Advisers to the UMFCFI, CEC members, executives and members, executives and members of brother associations were invited to the AGM.—MNA



US hopes Iran to attend Int'l conference on Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 6 March — The United States hoped all Afghanistan's neighbours, including Iran, would attend an international conference on Afghanistan due to be held on 31 March, the White House said on Thursday.

"Afghanistan is something that presents a great challenge, not just for our country, but for the rest of the world ... Obviously we hope that all of Afghanistan's neighbours are available and that the dialogue is constructive and moves us forward," White House spokesman Robert Gibbs told reporters.

"I would expect that Iran would be invited as a neighbour and that we hope, if they decide to come, that they bring constructive solutions and ideas in working with the international community to address the challenges," Gibbs noted.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton proposed in Brussels earlier in the day that an international ministerial conference be held on 31 March to contribute to stabilizing Afghanistan and fighting Taliban-led insurgency. "If we move forward with such a meeting, it is expected that Iran would be invited as a neighbour of Afghanistan," Clinton said. —Internet

The site of a car bomb attack in Hamza, 130 km (80 miles) south of Baghdad, on 5 March, 2009. A car bomb in a popular livestock market killed 12 people and wounded 40 in the Shi'ite town of Hamza, police said.—INTERNET

NATO agrees to restart direct talks with Russia

BRUSSELS, 6 March — NATO foreign ministers agreed on Thursday to resume formal political contacts with Russia after they were frozen for seven months, said NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.

"Ministers reached agreement to formally resume the NATO-Russia Council, including at min-

isterial level, as soon as possible after the (NATO) summit in Strasbourg and Kehl (on 3 April)," de Hoop Scheffer told reporters.

Technically, the foreign ministers' decision means that ambassadorial-level formal meetings of the NATO-Russia Council, a mechanism for political dialogue, can resume immediately. NATO foreign ministers suspended the council in August 2008 shortly after the military conflict between Russia and Georgia. But the council met informally once this year after NATO countries agreed in December 2008 to gradually re-engage Russia informally.

De Hoop Scheffer said Thursday that the resumption of formal contacts with Russia does not mean that NATO has changed its position on Russia's behavior, particularly in Georgia. —Internet

rogation of terrorist suspects, including those that were widely considered torture.

The review would look into questions like how the CIA handled its detention and determined if detainees possessed relevant information.

They also include whether CIA obtained useful intelligence by means of both standard interrogation techniques and "enhanced" methods, and whether it has accurately described its

handling of suspected terrorists to the Justice Department and the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The senators said that the conclusion of the review would help shape detention and interrogation policies in the future that have been mandated by President Barack Obama. However, no punishment would be resulted from the review on those that have carried out the interrogations, they clarified.

Internet



NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer attends a Press conference after the informal meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers in Brussels, Belgium, on 5 March, 2009. —INTERNET

Israeli, Turkish foreign ministers meet secretly

JERUSALEM, 6 March — The Israeli and Turkish foreign ministers met secretly on the sidelines of a NATO conference Thursday — the first high-level contact between the countries since friction erupted over Israel's recent offensive in the Gaza Strip, the Israeli foreign ministry said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and Turkish Foreign Minister Ali Babacan met in Brussels to discuss opportunities to advance regional peacemaking, a statement from the Israeli ministry said.

The two emphasized "the strategic importance of the firm relations between the two states" in advancing Mideast stability, the statement said.

Internet

Sri Lanka to open safe passage for civilians

COLOMBO, 6 March — The Sri Lankan government appealed on Friday for tens of thousands of civilians to flee the northern war zone and said it would open two safe passages in the area for the exodus. The civilians are trapped along with the Tamil Tiger rebels inside a shrinking strip of land along the northeast coast.

International officials have issued increasing appeals to the military and the rebels to halt their battle temporarily to allow the civilians to escape, but the government has refused, saying it was on the verge of crushing the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and ending the quarter-century civil war. Foreign Secretary Palitha Kohona said on Friday that the government was calling on the trapped civilians to flee to government-controlled areas to the north and south along a coastal road.

The United Nations cautiously welcomed the appeal.

Internet



Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd (R) and South Korean President Lee Myung-bak (L) laugh during their joint press conference at Parliament House in Canberra.—INTERNET

Aus, S Korea agree on security pact, free trade

CANBERRA, 6 March — Australia and South Korea agreed during a summit between Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and President Lee Myung-bak Thursday to deepen security ties and launch formal talks on a free trade agreement.

The security agreement calls for close consultations on issues of common strategic interest in the Asia-Pacific region, counter-terrorism strategies and transnational crime, a joint statement said. The two countries will

also sign a pact allowing for the secure exchange of classified military information between defence organisations and related industry contractors.

"We agreed to develop a closer defence and security relationship," Rudd told a joint news conference with Lee. "We believe it is important for our military to work more closely together and to deal with some of the common challenges of security together in the Asia-Pacific region."

Internet

Officials say Taliban kill two 'US spies' in Pakistan

MIRANSHAH, 6 March — Taliban militants in Pakistan's restive tribal area on Friday killed two men they accused of spying for US forces stationed across the border in Afghanistan, officials said.

The bullet-riddled bodies of Afghan refugee Sher Khan and Pakistani tribal elder Nazar Jan were found early Friday at separate places in the North Waziristan tribal district bordering Afghanistan, officials in those areas said.

"Notes found with the bodies said the men were killed for spying for the US," tribal police official Rukh Niaz Khan told AFP.

Islamist militants frequently kidnap and kill local tribesmen or Afghan refugees on charges of spying for the Pakistani government or US forces, who are battling a Taliban-led insurgency across the border in Afghanistan. —Internet



Job seekers line up to enter the job fair at the Marriott Marquis hotel in Manhattan, New York, the United States, on 5 March, 2009.—INTERNET

IDB seeks urgent measures to address world financial crisis

MANAGUA, 6 March — The President of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) said here on Thursday that the body is seeking urgent measures to help countries in the region weather the world financial crisis.

Luis Moreno made the remark when inaugurating the 23rd Central America and Dominican Republic Governors Meeting, which aimed to come up

with ways of dealing with the negative effects of the crisis.

"We gathered together to put forward ideas at a moment when there is a lack of answers to address the world economic crisis," Moreno said.

The governors stressed the need to widen financing to counter the world economic crisis.

Moreno said the two-day meeting will analyze

the IDB's role in the region and discuss the agenda on its medium-term development.

IDB's governors from Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Panama and Dominican Republic attended the meeting, which coincided with the 50th anniversary of the IDB foundation.

Internet

Dollar at lower-98 yen in Tokyo

TOKYO, 6 March — The US dollar stood at the lower-98 yen level on Friday morning in Tokyo.

The dollar bought 98.10-15 yen at midday, compared with 98.01-11 yen in New York and 99.60-62 yen in Tokyo at 5 pm on Thursday.

The euro was quoted at 1.2565-2570 dollars and 123.31-36 yen, against 1.2535-2545 dollars and 122.91-123.01 yen in New York and 1.2610-2612 dollars and 125.60-64 yen in Tokyo late on Thursday.

Internet

Vietnam to host int'l furniture exports fair

HANOI, 6 March — Vietnam, world major wood furniture exporter, will hold an international fair next week to promote furniture and wooden products and popularize Vietnamese brands on the global market, *Vietnam News* reported on Friday.

The second Vietnam International Furniture and Home Accessories Fair will be held in Vietnam's southern

economic hub Ho Chi Minh City on 11 March.

During the four-day fair, companies will display furniture for use in the living room, bedroom, dining room and the office, said the organizer, the Vietnamese Handicraft and Wood Processing Industry Association.

Machinery and equipment for wood manufacturing and processing

be also be on exhibit.

The fair is expected to attract 150 local and international exhibitors with 600 booths, ten percent more than last year.

Contracts worth tens of millions of dollars were signed at last year's fair, said Nguyen Trung Tin, vice chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City's People's Committee.

Internet

More than 3,700 unemployed flock to New York job fair

NEW YORK, 6 March — More than 3700 unemployed people flocked to a job fair in New York on Thursday. The fair, sponsored by jobs Web site Monster.com, was one of a string of huge career expos held in New York in the past couple of months.

There were 92 companies represented at on Thursday's event, Eric Winegardner, a spokesman for the Monster.com said, adding there were

1,000 openings for job-hunters.

Monster.com, the leading global online career and recruitment resource and flagship brand of Monster Worldwide, Inc, Thursday announced the launch of the year-long Keep America Working Tour, a nationwide, multi-city job fair designed to link employers that have open job positions with people who need them.

The tour will visit more than 140 stops across

America throughout 2009.

Laura Ryan, vice president of group manager at Monster.com, told *Xinhua* that altogether 3720 seekers came to the event, adding "there were a variety of industries represented today including healthcare, finance, retail, consumer products and state and local government."

The next stop on the Keeping America Working tour is in DC on 9 March.

Internet

Nepal, India begins to review trade deal

KATHMANDU, 6 March — A meeting of joint secretaries of commerce of Nepal and India has begun here to review the Nepal-India Trade Treaty, the National News Agency RSS reported on Friday.

The meeting, started on Thursday, will try to reach an understanding in remaining issues as per the understanding reached in the inter-governmental committee meeting some three months ago, according to the leader of

Nepali delegation and joint secretary at the ministry of commerce and supplies Surya Silwal.

He said Nepal has presented an amended proposal to the treaty to control illegal trade in between the two countries.

The meeting concluded on Friday.

Joint secretaries of the two countries will sign the conclusion of the meeting.

The document signed by joint secretaries will be presented in the secretary-level meeting.

If approved by the secretaries, the document will be presented in the cabinets of the two countries for approval.

The Indian delegation is led by Rajiv Kher, joint secretary of Commerce of India.

Internet

Brazilian President to meet Obama in Washington

BRASILIA, 6 March — Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva will have his first meeting with US President Barack Obama on 14 March in Washington, a Lula spokesperson said on Thursday.

One topic of the meeting will be the tense relationship between the United States and Venezuela, which Lula has promised Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez he will mediate, the spokesperson told *Xinhua*.

In September 2008, Chavez expelled the US ambassador in Caracas and called back the Venezuelan ambassador to Washington. Chavez took the action because he said the United States was interfering in Bolivia.—Internet



People visit the 6th Hainan International Automotive Industry Exhibition in Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province, on 6 March, 2009. The exhibition opened on Friday attracted over 180 brands from home and abroad. More than 20 new types were displayed in the exhibition, including some hybrid vehicles and electric cars.—XINHUA



US to use Colombian anti-drug programme in Afghanistan

BOGOTA, 6 March—Washington plans to implement part of Colombia's anti-drug programme in Afghanistan, the chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff said on Thursday.

Mike Mullen said the Colombian programme, which was founded by the United States, will be used in Afghanistan to contain the spread of drugs in the turbulent southwestern Asian nation.

Colombian Defence Minister Juan Manuel Santo said, however, that the programme will not be completely replicated in Afghanistan because the environment in that country is different from that of Colombia.

Mullen and Santos also discussed the possibility of sending Colombian troops to Afghanistan.

"We talked about Colombia's promise on sending troops to Afghanistan, which we consider a positive and needed step in that country," Mullen said.

Colombia has been receiving anti-drug funds from the United States for the past nine years.—Xinhua



A huge hairtail is shown at a harbour in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 3 March, 2009. The 3.4-metre-long fish, caught on Tuesday at Zhoushan Fishery, weighs around 12-kilogramme.—INTERNET

Archaeologists find earliest known domestic horses

WASHINGTON, 6 March — An international team of archaeologists has uncovered the earliest known evidence of horses being domesticated by humans.

The discovery, which suggests that horses were both ridden and milked, could point to the very beginnings of horse domestication and the origins of the equine breeds we know today.

Led by the Universities of Exeter and Bristol in the United Kingdom, the research will be published Friday in leading academic journal Science.

The researchers have traced the origins of horse domestication back to the Botai Culture of Kazakhstan about 5,500 years ago. That is about 1,000 years earlier than previously thought and about 2,000 years earlier than domestic horses are known to have been in Europe.

The findings strongly suggest that horses were originally domesticated, not just for riding, but also to provide food, including milk.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China's largest PC maker targets rural market

BEIJING, 6 March—Lenovo, China's largest personal computer maker, aims to sell 5 million computers in rural areas within three years, reported Friday's China Daily.

The company plans to establish 700 sales and service outlets at township level, and to cover 320,000 villages across the country through 7,800 sales networks in the following three years.

It will introduce 15 new models specifically designed for the rural market. The retail prices of these models are set at as low as 3,000 yuan (about 440 US dollars), according to Xia Li, Lenovo's vice president.—Xinhua

Cuba calls to enhance exchanges between political organizations

HAVANA, 6 March—Cuban Vice President Esteban Lazo on Thursday urged to enhance exchanges between political organizations in order to seek solutions to common problems.

He made the call at a meeting with visiting German Communist Party (DKP) leader Heinz Stehr. Such exchanges are more necessary against the backdrop of current difficulties due to the deepening global economic crisis.

Lazo also appreciated DKP's financing and facilities-building aid in Cuba's local health sector, and hailed its moral support to the country.

On his part, Stehr praised Cuba's role on the revolutionary process of Latin America.

Xinhua

People pose for photos with selected beauties for a pageant of "the queen of corn festival" in Managua, capital of Nicaragua, on 4 March, 2009. 15 beauties selected from all provinces in Nicaragua will compete for the queen of corn festival in May 2009.—XINHUA



A model poses with a laptop during the CeBIT computer fair in Hanover on 3 March, 2009.—XINHUA

Singapore to build largest renewable diesel plant in Asia

SINGAPORE, 6 March—Singapore on Friday kicked off the construction of Asia's largest renewable diesel refinery invested by a Finland-based oil company.

The plant was invested by Neste Oil with 1.2 billion Singapore dollars (about 0.77 billion US dollars) to produce high quality biofuel from renewable feedstock. The plant's capacity of 800,000 tons per annum makes it the largest facility producing diesel fuel from renewable feedstock in Asia.

"Despite the immediate challenges, we are confident that the outlook of the energy and chemicals industries remains positive," said Lim Hng Kiang, Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry at the foundation stone ceremony of the refinery. Over the next two years, Neste Oil will hire and train 100 personnel in Singapore, including engineers, technicians and operators, who will commence work in the facility.—Xinhua

Flash floods force thousands to evacuate in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 6 March — Flash floods, triggered by days of torrential rain, inundated dozens of villages in Tuban and Bojonegoro districts in Indonesia's East Java Province and forced thousands of people to evacuate on Friday.

The heavy rains caused Kali Kening, a tributary of the Bengawan Solo river, to burst its banks creating a flood that invaded villages in the districts of Tuban and Bojonegoro, according to Antara news agency.

The flood have forced 300 families in Selongabus village to abandon their homes and seek temporary shelter elsewhere, head of the village Mustain was quoted as saying. A number of people at first refused to evacuate but because the flood water level continued to rise, they eventually changed their mind and fled their homes, he said.

Xinhua

Kyrgyz President reiterates one-China policy

ALMATY, 6 March — Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev on Thursday reiterated his country's firm support for China's stance on Taipei and other issues.

Kyrgyzstan will also support China as it plays an important role in international and regional affairs, Bakiyev said. Bakiyev made the remarks while meeting with outgoing Chinese Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan Zhang Yannian in Bishkek.

The president presented Zhang with the Danaker medal of friendship for his contributions to the development of bilateral ties. Bakiyev hailed China-Kyrgyzstan relations during the presentation, saying bilateral cooperation has generated fruitful results in the fields of political and economic issues, transportation, culture, security and education. —Xinhua

Britain's Channel 5 may cut up to 87 jobs

LONDON, 6 March — British broadcaster Channel 5, which is owned by RTL Group, could cut up to 87 jobs as part of a restructuring to help it cope with the economic downturn.

The broadcaster said in a statement that the cuts, out of its total workforce of 354, were part of a restructuring aimed at making it more efficient. —MNA/Reuters



US not to open new military base in Central Asia

ALMATY, 6 March — US Ambassador to Tajikistan Tracey Ann Jacobson said the United States will not open a new military base in any Central Asian country to replace the Manas air base in Kyrgyzstan, local media reported on Thursday.

According to reports reaching here from Dushanbe, capital of

Tajikistan, Jacobson said in an interview with a local newspaper that she never heard any plan about opening a new military bases in Central Asia from her colleagues in the Pentagon.

Jacobson denied that the US will seek to open a new military base in Tajikistan or Uzbekistan. She said Tajikistan and

Uzbekistan have agreed to allow the US to transit non-military supplies through their territories, but have not inked a formal deal yet. On 20 February, Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev signed a law to officially close the Manas air base, a key logistic center for US-led operations in Afghanistan.

MNA/Xinhua

Fire injures one at Japan's Kashiwazaki-Kariwa N-plant

TOKYO, 6 March — One worker was injured when a fire broke out Thursday at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant in Niigata Prefecture, local media reported.

There was no other report of injuries or radioactive leak in the incident, its operator Tokyo Electric Power Co said.

Smoke was detected at

around 9:30 am from No 1 reactor of the nuclear plant, the world largest one in terms of output, and the fire was extinguished more than an hour later, it said.

The plant has been shut down since 16 July, 2007 when a magnitude 6.8 quake hit the area and some radioactive water leaked into the sea.

MNA/Xinhua

Manuel Uribe writes a text message on his cell phone at his mother's home in the suburb of San Nicolas de los Garza, Monterrey on 5 March, 2009. Uribe, who once weighed 1,235 pounds (560 kg), will use a modified truck with the help of a driver for the first time next week, which will help him to go out anytime he wants to. —INTERNET



Continental Airlines flight 3306 from Toronto casts a shadow over a snow-covered parking lot as it approaches Newark Airport in Newark, New Jersey. A massive late winter snowstorm pummeled the Northeast on Monday, grounding hundreds of flights at the three major airports serving New York City — more than 900 flights were canceled — a majority of all flights at Kennedy, Newark and LaGuardia.

Balinese girls perform yoga during a competition during an international yoga festival in Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia. Yoga teachers from around the world conduct yoga courses as a means of promoting personal health throughout the week-long event.



What's the best diet? eating less food

Low fat, low carb, high protein — there's a diet plan of every flavor. And if you're one of the millions of Americans who struggle with weight, you've probably tried them all, likely with little success. That wouldn't surprise Dr Frank Sacks, a professor at the Harvard School of Public Health and lead author of a new study published in the 26 February issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, whose findings confirm what a growing body of weight-loss evidence has already suggested: one diet is no better than the next when it comes to weight loss.

It doesn't matter where your calories come from, as long as you're eating less. (Read about environmentally friendly food.)

"We have a really simple and practical message for people: it's not so much the type of diet you eat," says Sacks. "It's how much you put in your mouth."

Give veggies a funny name to attract kids

Want your kids eat more vegetables, rename them next time you offer them to children, says scientists, suggesting the influence of names persists. In a new study, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, four-year-olds were given regular carrots and, on other lunch days, they were given the same vegetables renamed X-ray Vision Carrots. On the latter days, they ate nearly twice as many.

Children continued to eat about 50 percent more carrots even on the days when they were no longer eating it.

The research was presented today at the annual meeting of the School Nutrition Association in Washington, DC. Lead author Brian Wansink of Cornell University said, "Cool names can make for cool foods. Whether it be 'power peas' or 'dinosaur broccoli trees,' giving a food a fun name makes kids think it will be more fun to eat. And it seems to keep working — even the next day," Wansink said.

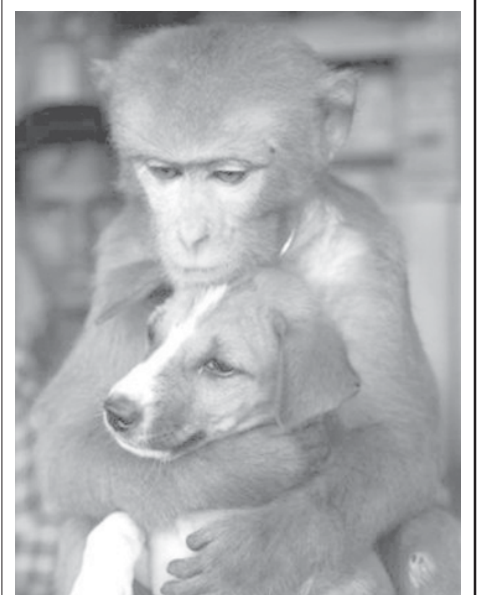
French surfer killed in shark attack

A young French man has died after he was attacked by sharks while surfing in New Caledonia, police say.

The 19-year-old student's arm was ripped off and his leg bitten when he was attacked "apparently by several

sharks" while trying to get back onto a boat with his friend on Friday, police said. The man's friend managed to get him to shore, but he was dead by the time emergency workers reached him.

NEWS ALBUM



A female monkey fondly cuddles a puppy at a shop in the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka. The pet monkey, bought from an animal trader, "adopted" the puppy recently and spends many happy hours hugging it.



Auspicious ceremony for hoisting of the sacred golden umbrella atop Uppatasanti Pagoda and the great grand Religious Title-Presentation ceremony of 2009 in Nay Pyi Taw

Ba Sein (Religious Affairs)

The Buddha Himself made a vow (resolution) before this Parinibbana (noble demise).

The vow says, "After my parinibbana, all my sacred relics should not be in one and should be parted in various pieces and propagated in different parts for all beings in the universe to be able to attain the stage of the Nibbana".

During the time of the Omniscient Buddha and after the noble demise of the Omniscient Buddha, the four kinds of pagodas (Cetiya) were built by Buddhist peoples and Buddhist communities across the world dedication to the Nine Supreme Attributes of the Omniscient Buddha. The four kinds of pagodas (Cetiya) are as follows:-

1. Dhatu Cetiya (Pagoda) in which the sacred relics of the Omniscient Buddha are enshrined.
2. Dhamma Cetiya (Pagoda) in which scriptures and inscriptions of the Omniscient Buddha are enshrined.
3. Oddhissa Cetiya (Pagoda) in which the Omniscient Buddha Images and Statues are enshrined.
4. Pariboga Cetiya (Pagoda) in which materials and objects used by the Omniscient Buddha are enshrined.

We all Buddhists throughout the Union of Myanmar are very pleased and honoured to learn that the construction of the newly-built Uppatasanti Pagoda of 325 feet in height has been completed in accordance with Ovada (admonition) of the State Sanghamahanyaka Committee and the State Ovadacariya Mahatheras (Chief Monks) and under

the prudent and effective guidance of the Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and close instructions and supervision of the Chairman of the Uppatasanti Pagoda Construction Leading Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Leading Committee members.

And now, it is further learnt that in accordance with Buddhist traditions and ritual rites, the auspicious ceremony for upper enshrinement of religious objects and hoisting the sacred golden umbrella (Shwehtidaw) atop the pagoda was grandly held on 7th March 2009, the auspicious ceremony for hoisting the Diamond Orb and the Vane atop the sacred golden umbrella (Shwehtidaw) of the pagoda will be held on 8th March 2009 and the auspicious ceremony for offering the golden lotus robe, the emerald bowl and the consecration of the pagoda on 9th March 2009 respectively.

All Buddhist people, well-wishers and donors throughout the country are cordially invited to attend these auspicious ceremonies in order to pay homage to newly-built Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw.

Paying homage to the newly-built Uppatasanti Pagoda, the Replica of the most famous Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon, will be like just paying homage to the most famous Shwedagon Pagoda which was built in the lifetime of the Buddha in 103 Great Era (589 BC) over 2550 years ago.

The great grand Religious Title-Presentation Ceremony of 2009 and the auspicious Ceremony for offering of provisions and various articles

In order to promote and flourish the three kinds of the Buddha Sasana, viz. 1. Pariyatti Sasana

(Learning the Buddha's teachings), 2. Patipatti Sasana (Practical application of the Buddha's teachings) and 3. Pativedha Sasana (Realization of the Buddha's teachings) at home and abroad, the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar issued Notification No. 1/2009 on the 61st Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar which falls on 4th January 2009, conferring the Religious Titles on the 205 eminent Buddhist monks including 11 from abroad, 18 elder nuns and 23 lay persons including 1 from abroad who distinctively carried out the noble task of purification, perpetuation, promotion and propagation of the three kinds of Buddha Sasana across the world.

The great grand ceremony for presenting the religious titles to the title recipients will be held in the precinct of the newly-built Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw, the capital of the Union of Myanmar on 10th March 2009 (Full moon of Tabaung 1370 ME). It is learnt that the State Ovadacariya Mahatheras (Chief Monks), members of the State Sanghamahanayaka Committee, members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders and all title recipients have already been invited to attend these auspicious ceremonies. It is further learnt that altogether 663 members of the Sangha, 18 elder nuns and 23 laypersons (title recipients) and other invited persons will be present on this auspicious occasion.

The auspicious ceremony for offering of provisions and various articles to 205 members of the Sangha and 18 elder nuns will be held on a large scale in the precinct of the pagoda after the great grand Religious Title-Presentation Ceremony is over on the same day. Provisions and various articles will be also offered to 458 members of the Sangha staying at the hostels in the precinct of the pagoda on the same day.

All Buddhists, donors and well-wishers are cordially invited to attend these auspicious ceremonies for paying profound respect to the members of the Sangha and sharing merits of good deeds.

We all Buddhists throughout the Union of Myanmar are very pleased and honoured to learn that the construction of the newly-built Uppatasanti Pagoda of 325 feet in height has been completed.



Wellwisher Mr Peter Bussinger of Studer Trust (Hong Kong) donates K 30 million for 50 houses of Shwehtoo Village in Bogale Township through Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint at head office of Fire Services Department in Mayangon Township. —MNA

Fifty houses for storm victims in Bogale

YANGON, 6 March—Wellwishers and donors are making donations to storm victims. On 2 March, donor Mr Peter Bussinger of Studer Trust (Hong Kong) donated K 30

million for construction of 50 houses in Shwehtoo village, Kyeinchaunggyi village-tract in Bogale Township of Ayeyawady Division at Maykhala hall of Fire Services Department (Head office)

in Mayangon Township here. Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and officials accepted the donation and spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Industry-1 Ministry holds market festivals

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March – Hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the opening of market festivals organized by the Ministry of Industry-1 were held in Shwedaung of Bago

Division and Kyaukse of Mandalay Division on 4 March.

Similar festivals will also be held in Kyonmangay and Zalun of Ayeyawady Division

and Pindaya of Shan State from 6 to 12 March and Letpadan of Bago Division from 9 to 15 March. Products of the ministry will be available at the festivals. —MNA



Adviser U Arnt Maung acted as master of ceremonies and read the agenda of the ceremony. Members of the Sangha and the congregation opened the ceremony with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa.

(See page 9)

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer provisions to Chairman Sayadaw of SSMNC Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara.
MNA



Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet present offertories to Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of SSMNC Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tejosarabhivamsa.— MNA

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin donate alms to Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of SSMNC Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Tejaniya. —MNA

Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend...

(from page 1)

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 Myint Swe, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Maj-Gen Thein Htaik, Maj-Gen Hsan Hsint, Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Maj-Gen Maung

Shein of the Ministry of Defence, the Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Nay Pyi Taw Mayor, senior military officers, deputy ministers, the director-general of the SPDC Office and the Government Office, departmental heads, title recipient lay persons and guests.





Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend...

(from page 8)

Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party

General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San donated robes and alms to Secretary Nyaungdon

Pandita Bhaddanta Tejosarabhivamsa.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win offered robes and alms to Vice-Chairman

Dhammikayon Pariyatti Monastery Kyaikpi Kyaung Sayadaw of Yankin Township Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Gunesana.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin donated robes and provisions to Vice-Chairman Yenangyoung

Shwedaung Pali Tekkatho Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Tejaniya.

Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Daw Kyaing Kyaing presented provisions to the title recipient nuns.

The Secretary Sayadaw delivered a sermon, and the Senior General and wife and party shared merits gained. Later, the ceremony ended with three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Çiram Titthatu.

After the ceremony, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing donated fruit to the Buddha Image at the Sasana Beikman and offered day meals to members of the Sangha.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San offer provisions to Secretary Sayadaw of SSMNC Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa.
MNA



received the Nine Precepts from Chairman of SSMNC Magway Maha Withutayama Taikthit Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara.

Members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta. The Senior General and wife offered robes and alms to the Chairman Sayadaw.

Vice-Senior

Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Osadhabhivamsa.

General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet presented robes and offertories to Vice-Chairman Mandalay Masoeyein Monastery Nikaya Nayupadetha Kyaung Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha

Prime Minister General Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win present offertories to Vice-Chairman Sayadaw of SSMNC Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Gunesana.—MNA



ITBMU to open foreign language courses, computer courses in April

YANGON, 6 March—The 8th basic and advanced English and German spoken four-month courses will be conducted from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in April and the basic computer applied and introduction to computer

course plus applied Internet and e-mail two-month course and the Advanced applied computer and AutoCAD course from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday in April at International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University.

The persons

who had passed the basic education high school examination and the matriculation examination, and the graduates, wishing to attend the courses, may submit applications. For further information, dial 650712, 650708 and 650716.

MNA

Hlawga Park to open on 10 March

YANGON, 6 March — Hlawga Park of the Forest Department will be kept open on 10 March (the Full Moon Day of Taboung) for the public recreation.

Visitors can enjoy recreation there from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the public holiday. —MNA

Cookery course on 19 March

YANGON, 6 March —Organized by Myanmar Overseas Seafarers Association, a cookery course for European food will be opened on 19

March.

Those wishing to take the course may contact offices (branch) of the association No. 34 on Yamona Street in

Yamona Ward 2, Dawbon Township and No. 7 on Laydaukan Street in Thingangyun Township.

MNA

Entertainments to mark rites of Uppatasanti Pagoda go on

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—The festivities to mark the rites to hoist Shwehtidaw (golden tired umbrella) and diamond orb atop the Uppatasanti Pagoda and consecrate the

pagoda on Uppatasanti Hill here continued for the sixth day on the ground near Yazahtani Road, south of the pagoda, yesterday.

Moe Min theatrical troupe

entertained the visitors, while the Documentary Film Division of the Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise showed movies “Taung-tha-man-thit-sar” and “A-may-hnint-thamee-myar”, attracting the attention of more than 26,500 local people.

Mandalay Thit Lwin Anyeint troupe presented entertainment programmes and the Documentary Film

Division screened films “Pan-pyo-thu-doh-alankar” and “Moegok-setwaing-go-kyaw-lun-ywe” this evening.

Mandalay Thit Lwin Anyeint troupe perform entertainment programmes and the Documentary Film Division shows films “Chit-chin-phwe-myitta” and “Myet-hna-myar-de-kaungkin” for the eighth day tomorrow.—MNA

Shops selling various kinds of food and goods in pagoda festival ground where festivities are being held in commemoration of hoisting Htidaw and Seinbudaw and consecration ceremonies of Uppatasanti Pagoda. —MNA



Local people joyfully enjoying entertainments at festivities to mark hoisting Htidaw and Seinbudaw and consecration ceremonies of Uppatasanti Pagoda.

MNA



Kaung Myat Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship continues

YANGON, 6 March—Organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, the Kaung Myat Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 2009 continued at Yangon Golf Club in Danyingon of Insein Township on 3 March morning.

After the second round, Aung Win (Forest) is still leading the competition with 141. Nay Bala Win Myint stood

second with 142, Bo Bo third with 146, Htay Aung fourth with 147 and Kyaw Hlaing fifth with 148.

With the aim of turning out the superb golfers, Kaung Myat Companies (KM Golf Centre) mainly sponsored the championship together with co-sponsors International Beverages Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan Ltd.

MNA



Aung Win (Forest) leading the Kaung Myat Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 2009 at Yangon Golf Club in Danyingon of Insein Township. —MGF

104 fires broke out in February

YANGON, 6 March—The whole nation saw 104 fires in February—75 due to negligence, 19 due to electric short circuit one due to hot weather, five arsons and four forest fires.

The fires burnt down 661 houses, leaving 3390 people homeless, six dead and six injured.

Mandalay Division saw 29 fires, followed by Yangon

Division and Sagaing Division.

Now, it has ushered in the dry season, and related departments are, thus, raising the public awareness about fire, stepping up fire preventive measures and conducting firefighting drills.—MNA

Beware of Fire



Pyaingchaung Dam irrigating 5,000 acres of summer paddy and other crops for development and greening in Kyauktaw Township

Article: Kyaw Sein; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

The government is focusing on building of a modern and peaceful nation, on growth of the State economy and on development of the

Department carried out the land survey work for the dam project in 1984 and the geological survey in 1986. The dam was built on Pyaing Creek near

water was supplied to 1,075 acres of summer paddy and four acres of summer sesame. In 2007-2008, a total of 3,238 acres of summer paddy and 43

canals was being carried out while irrigating monsoon paddy plantations. As such, it will take some years for implementation of the

acres at its full brim. The 860-foot main earthen embankment is 116 feet high. The reinforced concrete type conduit is 570 feet long. The

Tharichaung Dam will be built on Thari Creek. The soil test and ground survey have been completed and the axis of the embankment



Photo shows an aerial view of Pyaingchaung Dam in Kyauktaw Township of Rakhine State.

regions. While undertaking the extended cultivation of crops, the government is implementing the dam projects for agricultural purpose.

Pyaingchaung Dam Project being implemented by the Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Kyauktaw Township of Rakhine State is one of the irrigation facilities. Pyaingchaung Dam is being built not only for irrigating farmlands but also for supplying hydropower to Kyauktaw Township.

The Irrigation

Mindan Village with five square miles of watershed area. By storing over 25,000 acre feet of water, the dam can irrigate 4,000 acres of summer paddy or 5,000 acres of crops for ensuring development and greening of Kyauktaw Township.

Regarding Pyaingchaung Dam Project, an interview was made with Staff Officer U Aung Kyi Soe of Construction-3. He said, "Pyaingchaung Dam Project commenced in 2002-2003 financial year and the irrigation facility was successfully inaugurated on 30 March 2007. In 2006-2007 when the dam was being built,

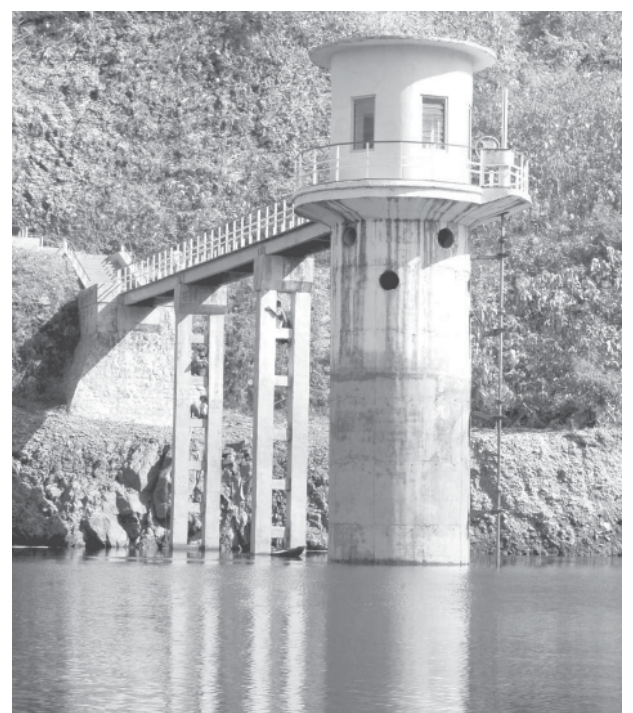
acres of summer sesame were irrigated. The irrigation tasks of Pyaingchaung Dam are being carried out to supply 4,000 acres of summer paddy and 700 acres of summer sesame for meeting the target in 2008-2009. To generate hydropower, efforts are being made for completion of the task this year."

With regard to cultivation of summer paddy in 2008-2009, he further explained, "As harvesting of monsoon paddy was late last year, the digging of canal delayed for supplying water. In December, January, February and March, the digging of

irrigation plan. However, all-out efforts are being made to complete the task to supply water to 4,000 acres of summer paddy in 2009-2010."

At present, the plan is being implemented to generate hydroelectricity. Two 40-kilowatt generators will supply 80 kilowatts to Kyauktaw and its surrounding villages. Arrangements are being made to launch the supply of electricity in coming May.

Pyaingchaung Dam has 29,985 acre feet of water inflow and it can store over 25,000 acre feet of water at the highest level. The water surface of the dam will be 625



Control tower of Pyaingchaung Dam seen with embankment in the background.

reinforced concrete spillway is 30 feet wide and 550 feet long. The main canal stretches eight miles and tributary canals, 13 miles.

The Construction-3 of Irrigation Department that had built Zeechaung Dam and Pyaingchaung Dam is making preparations for construction of Tharichaung Dam, upstream Zee Creek in Kyauktaw Township.

has been chosen. Construction of the dam will commence in opening season of 2009. On completion, the dam will benefit 3,000 acres of farmlands. In the future, Pyaingchaung, Zeechaung and Tharichaung Dams will supply water to about 9,000 acres of farmlands in Kyauktaw Township.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
4-3-2009



Mouths of left and right canals of Pyaingchaung Dam in Kyauktaw Township.



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MARINE BLUE VOY NO (45)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MARINE BLUE VOY NO (45) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.3.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W.6 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: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MARE BALTICUM VOY NO (129)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MARE BALTICUM VOY NO (129) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.3.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 BLPL LOGISTICS PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DUBAI TRADER VOY NO (905N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DUBAI TRADER VOY NO (905N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.3.2009 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 P.D.Z LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RUKUN VOY NO (475)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RUKUN VOY NO (475) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.3.2009 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Burglar counting his loot on street attracts police

BEIJING, 6 March—A burglar attracted attention from police officers because he was counting a big pile of money on the street. Police questioned him and discovered that his Identification Card was stolen.

They also learned he was a native of Gansu Province who was on a wanted listed for other crimes.

Feng admitted to police that he was also a burglar in Gansu and continued stealing in Beijing where he targeted offices and hospitals.—Internet



A burglar attracted attention from police officers because he was counting a big pile of money on the street.—INTERNET

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION
NEWS AND PERIODICALS ENTERPRISE
INVITATION TO TENDER

1. Sealed tenders are invited by News and Periodicals Enterprise for the supply of the following prepress machines-

Description	Quantity
CTP (Computer to Plate) Machine	2 Nos
2. Tender documents are available at Procurement Committee, No. 28, Kokkine Yeiktha Street, Bahan Township, Yangon. Closing date of bid will be on 23 rd March 2009 at 16:30 hrs.	
3. Please contact Phone No. 01- 536029 & 01-534574 for further information.	

Ministry of Information
Procurement Committee
No.28, Kokkine Yeiktha Street, Bahan Township,
Yangon.

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

Amazon carbon sink
threatened by drought

WASHINGTON, 6 March — The Amazon is surprisingly sensitive to drought, which causes massive carbon loss in tropical forests, mainly through killing trees, according to a 30-year study focusing on the world's largest tropical forest.

“For years the Amazon forest has been helping to slow down climate change. But relying on this subsidy from nature is extremely dangerous,” said Professor Oliver Phillips, from the University of Leeds in Britain and the lead author of the research, whose findings are to be published on the journal Science on Friday. “If the earth's carbon sinks slow or go into reverse, as our results show is possible, carbon dioxide levels will rise even faster. Deeper cuts in emissions will be required to stabilize our climate.”

The study, a global collaboration between more than 40 institutions, was based on the unusual 2005 drought in the Amazon. This gave scientists a glimpse into the region's future climate, in which a warming tropical North Atlantic may cause hotter and more intense dry seasons.—Internet

EU report says online
shopping increasingly popular

BRUSSELS, 6 March — Online shopping is increasingly popular in the European Union (EU) but barriers to cross-border trade are holding back its development, the European Commission said in a report on Thursday.

Between 2006 and 2008 the proportion of EU consumers buying at least one item over the Internet increased from 27 percent to 33 percent.

These average figures mark the huge popularity of online shopping in countries like Britain, France and Germany where more than half of Internet users have made online purchases in the last year.

In the Nordic countries, namely Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland and Iceland, the proportion of Internet users who bought products and services online was 91 percent in 2008, according to the report.

Countries like Italy and Spain are also fast growing markets. However, the extent of online purchasing cross border remains small, at only seven percent in 2008, compared to six percent in 2006.

Internet

Police seize
645kg of
cocaine
in mid-western
Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 6 March—Brazil's Federal Police seized on late Wednesday a shipment of 645 kilograms of cocaine in Mato Grosso state, in the country's mid-western region, local police said.

The police said the shipment's value is estimated at 5.8 million reais (2.44 million US dollars).

The seizure, which was the largest of the region in the last eight years, took place on the BR-364 federal road, in the outskirts of Rondonopolis, during a routine traffic stop.

Police said the cocaine was found in tablets, hidden in a fake bottom of a truck which carried a large rice shipment. The truck belonged to the National Supply Company (Conab), a state-owned organization linked to the Brazilian Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply.

Internet



The Kepler mission and its scope. NASA is preparing to launch the Kepler space telescope on Friday to help answer a question that has boggled the minds of astronomers for centuries.—INTERNET

Does educational TV viewing influence babies' brains?

BEIJING, 6 March — Educational programmes on TV are unlikely to stimulate brains of toddlers who are less than two years age, say a study.

Marie Evans Schmidt, a research associate at the Center on Media & Child Health at Children's Hospital Boston, studied more than 800 youngsters from birth to 3 years, recording the time that they spent on watching television or DVDs as reported by their mothers, as well as their performance on language

and motor-skill tests.

On average, the babies spent 1.2 hour per day watching TV during their first two years of life, slightly less than the average viewing time reported in previous studies.

In her initial analysis, Schmidt found that babies who spent more time in front of the TV performed worse on language and motor-skill tests at age three than those who watched less.

Xinhua

Two statues of ancient pharaoh found

CAIRO, 6 March — A team of Egyptian and European archaeologists has discovered two large statues of an ancient pharaoh who ruled Egypt some 3,400 years ago, the country's archaeology chief said on Thursday.

The two statues of Amenhotep III were found while the excavation team was clearing out a temple dedicated to him on the west bank of the Nile in the southern city of Luxor, according to a statement by Zahi Hawass, head of the Su-

preme Council of Antiquities.

Hawass said one statue is made of black granite and shows Amenhotep wearing a traditional pharaonic headcover, while the second one depicts him in the shape of sphinx — the mythological creature with a human head and the body of a lion.

The statues were said to be "large" but no other details were provided.

Amenhotep was the ninth pharaoh of the 18th dynasty, in what is known

as the New Kingdom. He ruled for around 40 years during the 14th century B.C. He was the father of pharaoh Akhenaten who tried to make ancient Egyptians worship a single god, the sun god Ra, making him one of the first known proponents of monotheism.

Luxor is one of the most popular tourist sites in Egypt, famous for its Valley of the Kings and other ruins from pharaonic times.

Internet



This undated photo released by Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities on 5 March, 2009, shows a statue of ancient pharaoh Amenhotep III which was found by an excavation team clearing out a temple dedicated to the pharaoh, on the west bank of the Nile in the southern city of Luxor, in Egypt.

INTERNET

Researchers find common compound that can block HIV

WASHINGTON, 6 March — Researchers at the University of Minnesota have identified a compound that, applied vaginally, can prevent transmission of the nonhuman primate version of HIV, called SIV.

The discovery, which was published in the March 5 issue of the journal *Nature*, raises hopes of new treatment in the future to block HIV transmission in humans. The Minnesota research team focused on a compound called glycerol monolaurate (GML),

a widely-used ingredient in some foods and cosmetics.

In the study, two weeks after being exposed to SIV, five monkeys treated with a gel containing GML showed no signs of the virus spreading. By comparison, four of five monkeys that did not receive the GML gel were infected with SIV.

The compound may act by suppressing a counterproductive immune re-

sponse that helps the virus rather than fights it, the researchers explained. The GML compound could lead to a novel and cost-effective way to prevent HIV, even other sexually transmitted infections in women, said Dr. Ashley Haase, the lead researcher.

But he cautioned that their study was small and only tried in animals. More work was needed before human trials could take place.—Internet

French kisses cost British driver 150 Euros

SAINT-MALO, 6 March — A British man who drove with a licence plate modified to read "kisses" in French was fined 150 euros (190 dollars, 130 pounds) by a French court on Thursday.

Graham Moore, 60, from Yorkshire in northern England, had risked up to five years in prison for driving with the plate, B180US, modified to read BISOUS, which had belonged to his son's car.

Moore said his now deceased son had modified the plate to amuse his French girlfriend, and that he taken to using it in France in his memory.—Internet



Traffic near Paris on A4 motorway in January. A British man who drove with a licence plate modified to read "kisses" in French was fined 150 euros (190 dollars, 130 pounds) by a French court on Thursday.—INTERNET

China's Health Ministry gears up for food safety monitoring

BEIJING, 6 March — China's Ministry of Health issued a circular to health authorities on Thursday urging them to step up prevention of food contamination and monitoring of food quality-related illnesses.

The ministry urged health departments to strengthen the work of contamination monitoring stations in 16 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, and food-related illness monitoring

stations in 21 provinces. "New food safety problems keep arising, while the traditional food problems are still not effectively under control," said the circular, which followed the National People's Congress Standing Committee's adoption of the Food Safety Law on Saturday.

The circular required local health departments

to collaborate with local governments to step up inspections of milk products, and to build a platform to share information on food safety. Health Minister Chen Zhu said the ministry would create a national database of information about food contamination, food-related illnesses and diet surveys within two years.—Xinhua



Photo shows positive pressure air breathing apparatus displayed on a model in Spiderman dress at a public security products and technology exhibition held in Beijing, capital of China, on 6 March, 2009. More than 300 enterprises took part in the 3-day exhibition to show their latest products and technology in the field.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Creamer, Park share HSBC Women's Champions lead

SINGAPORE, 6 March — Americans Paula Creamer and Jane Park shot 1-under 71s on Friday to share the second-round lead in the LPGA Tour's HSBC Women's Champions.

The third-ranked Creamer, coming off a third-place finish last week in Thailand, matched Park at 6-under 138 on the Tanah Merah Country Club's Garden Course. Creamer has eight LPGA Tour victories, four last season. Park, the former UCLA star who won the 2004 US Women's Amateur, is seeking her first LPGA Tour victory.

Katherine Hull, the Australian Ladies Masters winner last month, shot a 69 to join Mi Hyun Kim (68) at 5 under. Sun Young Yoo (69) and Ai Miyazato (72) were 4 under, and Angela Stanford (72) was another stroke back along with Lindsey Wright (69), Shanshan Feng (71) and Se Ri Pak (72). Stanford won the season-opening SBS Open.

Top-ranked Lorena Ochoa, the defending champion coming off her 25th LPGA Tour victory last week in Thailand, was 2 under after a 73. Fourth-ranked Suzann Pettersen (70) and Hall of Famer Juli Inkster (70) also were 2 under.—*Internet*

English teams aren't English, scoffs Italy coach Lippi

ROME, 6 March — Italy coach Marcello Lippi has dismissed notions of a battle between English and Italian teams in the Champions League this season by claiming that the Premier League sides aren't actually English.

The Italy coach, who guided the Azzurri to World Cup glory in Berlin three years ago, told a foreign press meeting that he believes the Italian teams can progress in the Champions League against their 'international' opponents.

Juventus and AS Roma lost 1-0 away in their round of 16 first legs against Chelsea and Arsenal respectively while Inter Milan were held 0-0 at home by Manchester United. Those results have cast a shadow over Italian football with many in the game convinced Serie A representatives will fall to English opposition for the second year in a row. But Lippi hit out at the make-up of the Premier League sides.

"Chelsea, Manchester (United) and Arsenal, like Liverpool, don't represent English football," said Lippi. "But instead, like in other countries, that of globalised football where the owners, coaches and the majority of players are not English."

The true clash between the two (English and Italian) is only between the national teams."

Of the four English clubs in the Champions League only Arsenal are not foreign-owned; none of the four have an English manager.—*Internet*



Italy coach Marcello Lippi.

Ashley Cole arrested after drunken rant

LONDON, 6 March — Chelsea and England defender Ashley Cole was arrested for being drunk and disorderly overnight on Thursday, reports and police said. The 28-year-old left-back was detained and held in custody for some three hours after a drunken confrontation with police, media reported.

The *Daily Mail* newspaper said the player repeatedly swore at police after emerging from a nightclub in London's plush South Kensington district. After refusing to tone down his language, he was taken to a police station.

After three hours in a custody cell, he was given a spot fine of 80 pounds (113 dollars, 90 euros) and released. A spokesman for Scotland Yard said: "At about 2.15am today, a man was arrested in Brompton Road, South Kensington, on suspicion of being drunk and disorderly and taken to a central London police station."

"He was later issued with a fixed penalty notice for being drunk and disorderly and released at 5.37am," said the police spokesman, without identifying the man.—*Internet*

Blatter fears Premier League 'damage'

LONDON, 6 March — FIFA president Sepp Blatter believes the dominance of the Premier League's big four — Manchester United, Liverpool, Chelsea and Arsenal — is proving unhealthy for competition.

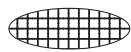
Since the formation of the Premier League in 1992, there have only been four different winners and Blatter is concerned that the priority of most teams is merely to avoid costly relegation.

"In a competition where two-thirds or three-quarters of the participants in the league play not to be first, but not to be relegated, there is something wrong," Blatter told the BBC.

The FIFA chief added that the global power and appeal of the English Premier League is damaging the sport worldwide.—*Internet*



FIFA
president
Sepp
Blatter.



New 'Musketeers' fire French Davis Cup hopes

PARIS, 6 March — France will take on the Czech Republic in their Davis Cup first-round tie bolstered by the feeling that their team is stronger than it has been for over 75 years. Gilles Simon, Gael Monfils, Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and Richard Gasquet are all either current or former top-10 players, while Michael Llodra is ranked among the best doubles players in the world.

Not since the glory days of the 'Musketeers' — Henri Cochet, Rene Lacoste, Jean Borotra and Jacques Brugnon, who won every Davis Cup between 1927 and 1932 — has France been able to call upon such talent. "Apart from perhaps the Musketeers, we've never had such a strong French team on paper in our history," captain Guy Forget said. Simon and Tsonga — who won tournaments in Johannesburg and Marseille in February — are expected to get the nod for Friday's first two singles matches, with former world number seven Gasquet tipped to pair Llodra in the doubles.—*Internet*



Inter Milan's Mario Balotelli.

Balotelli discharged from hospital

ROME, 6 March — Teenage Inter Milan forward Mario Balotelli, who collapsed during Wednesday's Coppa Italia semi-final, has discharged himself from hospital in Genoa.

Balotelli fell to the ground and complained of respiratory problems just seconds after he had collided with a post during Inter's 3-0 first leg defeat at Sampdoria. He was carried from the field on a stretcher and taken to hospital. But hospital sources said they had wanted to keep the 18-year-old in overnight only for him to discharge himself and leave.—*Internet*

US say spectre of absent Federer won't haunt Davis Cup tennis tie

BIRMINGHAM, 6 March — James Blake said he won't be losing any sleep over the absence of Roger Federer as the Davis Cup World Group tie between the United States and Switzerland begins on Friday.

"I've been sleeping real well," said the American, who is hoping to revive his own fortunes in the global tennis competition after sitting out last autumn's losing semi-final against Spain due to fatigue and lack of motivation.

Federer, training at his base in Dubai along with possible coaching candidate Darren Cahill prior to returning to tennis at next week's Masters 1000 in Indian Wells, California, is skipping the tie. The official reason is the back pain which occasionally bothers the world number 2 and which also kept him out of his "home" ATP event in the emirate last week.

His absence makes the United States the favorites against a Swiss side led by 16th-ranked Stan Wawrinka, and Blake won't be wondering about what might have been with Federer out of the mix. American number one Andy Roddick agreed that for this weekend at least, Federer does not matter.—*Internet*

Taylor escapes extra sanction after Ronaldo clash

LONDON, 6 March — Newcastle's Steven Taylor will not face any further disciplinary punishment after being booked during the 2-1 loss to Premier League leaders Manchester United on Wednesday, the FA have announced.

Taylor appeared to foul Cristiano Ronaldo in the first-half before following up with another strong challenge on Michael Carrick. However, referee Steve Bennett told the Football Association here Thursday that Taylor's yellow card was for the foul on Carrick.

After watching video footage, Bennett said he would have booked Taylor for the Ronaldo challenge as well. That in turn would have led to the England Under-21 captain being sent-off for two bookable offences. However, under the rules of world football governing body FIFA, the FA cannot change punishments that would have involved two yellow cards as opposed to a single red.—*Internet*



Technicians inspect damaged spectator stands due to high winds on the top of a purpose-built arena for the Spain's Davis Cup match against Serbia in Benidorm on 6 March, 2009. The tie has been suspended due to high winds as the weather conditions had made the purpose-built arena on the outskirts of the seaside town unsafe, the Spanish tennis federation (RFET) said on Friday.—INTERNET

Heroin in pregnant woman's waistband

BEIJING, 6 March—Seventy three bags of heroin were recovered from a pregnant woman's waistband after she was arrested by police because her car had "illegal window tint".

The 31-year-old woman was a passenger in a car stopped by officers on Wednesday in Dunleith Del, US, because they believed it had illegal window tint. When officers took her to police headquarters, they found 73 bags of heroin stashed in the waistband of her pants.

The driver, 27, was charged with drug and weapons offenses.—Internet

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (7.3.2009) (Saturday)

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

Local Transmission

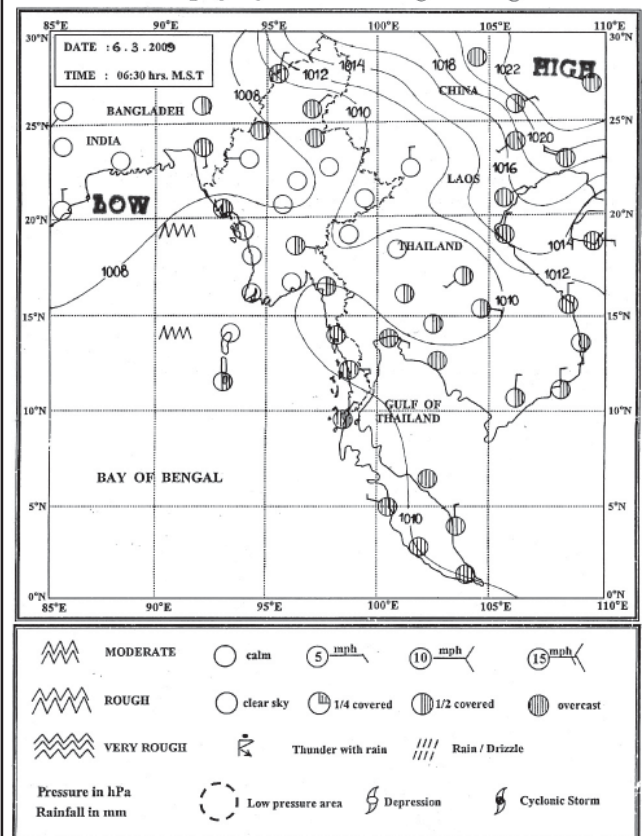
- ☐ Signature Tune
- ☐ Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights
- ☐ Medicinal Orchid
- ☐ Aesthetic Jade Wares
- ☐ ASEAN Countries to boost economic cooperation
- ☐ With the Gentle Breeze...
- ☐ Min Sone Hill and its Star Tortoisess
- ☐ Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- ☐ Signature Tune
- ☐ Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights
- ☐ Weaving Industry of Lotus Cloths
- ☐ A Hidden Treasure (Kekku)
- ☐ Unique Style of Kachin Dress
- ☐ Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Myin Mu-Bagan)
- ☐ National Races Village (Shan and Bamar)
- ☐ Inside Keng Tong
- ☐ Myanmar Handiwork, Painting Art
- ☐ The Gok Hteik Viaduct
- ☐ Medicinal Orchid
- ☐ Min Sone Hill and its Star Tortoisess
- ☐ With the Gentle Breeze....
- ☐ ASEAN Countries to boost economic cooperation
- ☐ Unforgettable Customs of the Chins
- ☐ Learning Opportunities for Disable Persons
- ☐ Blacksmith Village Min Kan
- ☐ Myanmar Traditional Art, Silversmith
- ☐ Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 6 March, 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 Mon State, upper Sagaing, Taninthayi and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (4°C) above March average temperatures in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below March average temperatures in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and about March average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu and Aungmye (40°C) each and Magway (39°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Machanbaw (0.12) inch.

Maximum temperature on 5-3-2009 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 6-3-2009 was 66°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 6-3-2009 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 5-3-2009 was (8.9) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 6-3-2009 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 (6) mph from Southwest at (12:30) hours MST on 5-3-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 7th March 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Shan, Kayah and Mon States and Yangon Division 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 isolated rain or thundershower in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 7-3-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-3-2009: Generally fair weather.

Weather outlook for second 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, 7 March
View on today

7:00 am

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

7:55 am

- Musical programme

8:10 am

- (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Song of national races

8:55 am

- လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး

11:00 am

- Martial Song

11:10 am

- Musical Programme

11:20 am

- Game for children

11:45 am

- Round up of the week's TV local news

12:00 am

- Yan can cook

1:10 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
“အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ”
(အပိုင်း-၂၈)

1:55 pm

- ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ
(Telematch)

2:40 pm

- International news

2:50 pm

- နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက် ထုတ်ကုန်များ

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:10 pm

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:20 pm

- သာဂရစက်မှုနယ်မြေ

4:30 pm

- တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုတေး သီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ

4:40 pm

- အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဒဿနိကဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ဒဿနိကဗေဒ)

5:00 pm

- Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:05 pm

- Musical programme

5:25 pm

- “ဆွေမျိုးတော်ပေယံ”
(ဒုရဲမှူးတင်လင်း)

- ဆောင်းအိမ်ထွန်း၊ ဗေဒါ)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)

5:30 pm

- မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်တွေ့

5:45 pm

- (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- အလှူရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:55 pm

- ပဉ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်

7:15 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ
“သစ္စာနှင့်ယှဉ်သောမေတ္တာ”
(အပိုင်း-၂၄)

8:00 pm

- News

- International news

- Weather report

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- “ကြမ္မာမုန်တိုင်း”
(အပိုင်း-၁၆)



Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer fruit to a Buddha Image being kept at Sasana Beikman. —MNA

Uppatasanti Pagoda hosts a grand religious ceremony



Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing donate alms to State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, member Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, member Sayadaws of State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Sayadaws and title recipient Sayadaws.

MNA

Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, presents offertories to a title recipient nun.

MNA

