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Patriotic Tatmadaw

Our Tatmadaw was a Patriotic Army founded by the people during the struggle for Independence. Since its inception, the Tatmadaw was one which overcame various difficulties and obstacles to come into existence.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From address delivered at the 63rd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade)



Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Pakistani President

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — On the occasion of the anniversary of the Pakistan Day, which falls on 23 March 2009, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Asif Ali Zardari, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.— MNA

True patriotism

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

Transport network basic requirement for harmonious progress of whole Union

Kyangin-Okshitpin railroad section commissioned into service

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—As a gesture of hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2009, Kyangin-Okshitpin railroad section of Kyangin-Pakokku railroad construction project of Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation was inaugurated at Okshitpin railway station in Padaung Township this morning, with an address by Member

of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann.

Also present on the occasion were Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe, Chairman of Bago Division PDC

Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min, ministers, deputy ministers, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe, Vice-Chairman of Bago Division PDC Brig-Gen Sein Myint, officials of the SPDC Office and departmental heads, staff of Myanma Railways and local people.

(See page 10)



General Thura Shwe Mann greets passengers on express train to be run from Okshitpin to Kamma.—MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 23 March, 2009

Exert concerted efforts for improvement of socio-economic status of the people

Hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day a ceremony to open Ngawun Bridge (Myogwin) in Ingapu Township, Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Division, was held on 21 March, and member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony and unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge.

Ayeyawady of today is totally different from that of the past. In the past, its transport had to rely solely on waterways. Since 1989 after the birth of the Tatmadaw government, the division has seen altogether 45 large and small bridges in its transport sector.

With the emergence of a large number of roads and bridges, unprecedented progress has been made in the division. Meanwhile, with better transport in the region, economic, trade and social sectors of the division are ongoing and improving.

Such development can be largely attributed to goodwill, far-sightedness and hard work of the government as well as cooperation, integrity and efforts of local people in Ayeyawady Division.

It is safe to say that the combined efforts of the State, the people and the Tatmadaw based on mutual understanding are witness to the success of the division.

Making the most of the new bridge, vehicles with 60 tons of load can now easily run to and from Hinthada, Ingapu, Myanaung, Kyangin and Laymyethna townships.

At a time when efforts are being made in a pragmatic way for bringing about equitable development across the nation the entire national people are to actively take part in the drive for improvement of the socio-economic status of local people.

1st anniversary of Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden to be marked in conjunction with opening of planetarium

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March – Planetarium (Nay Pyi Taw) will be opened soon in conjunction with a ceremony to mark the first anniversary of Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden in accord with the guidance of Head of State and under the arrangement of Ministry of Forestry. Along with the opening of the planetarium, funfairs and festivities will be held as a gesture marking the first anniversary of Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden.

Other entertainment programmes such as Ar Zar Ni San San Circus and Ghost Riders music band accompanied by vocalists will include on the occasion.—MNA

People's Desire

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

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint visits Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon, Yamethin, Pyawbwe, Meiktila, Mahlaing



Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of Ministry of Defence gives clothes and presents to residents in Paypinlay Village, Pyawbwe Township.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March — Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence together with officials met with local people of Phaya Toung and Kayin Chaung villages in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township on 19 March and called for making efforts for education, health, agriculture and breeding tasks.

Next, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Vice-Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen

Than Tun Aung and officials also met residents of Yingutkon and Siegon villages in Yamethin Township and residents of Paypinlay Village in Pyawbwe Township. They provided clothes and aids to them.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and party held discussion with residents of Ahlaywa and Ngwasinngoke villages in Meiktila Township and Phatkon and Kukwe villages in Mahlaing Township.

MNA

Paper reading session on Current International Issues and Myanmar held



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint speaks at paper reading session on Current International Issues and Myanmar.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—Organized by the Ministry of Culture, paper reading session on Current International Issues and Myanmar was held at the ministry here this morning, attended by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint.

The minister delivered an address and

opened the session.

Next, Vice-Chairman (2) of Myanmar Historical Commission Dr Toe Hla extended greetings and Director-General U Sann Win of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library explained purpose of holding the session.

In the session,

Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Department for Promotion and Propagation of Sasana, member of MHC Dr Daw Myint Kyi, Professor and Head of History Department of Yangon University Dr Margaret Wong and Lecturer Dr Yin Myo Thu of International Relations Department of

Yangon University read out their papers and answered the queries raised by those present.

Next, the minister gave necessary instructions and Director-General U Sann Win presented gifts to session chairmen and resource persons.

MNA



Obama's Afghan task 'tougher' than Iraq

WASHINGTON, 22 March —Barack Obama hopes his new Afghanistan strategy will replicate the US success in Iraq of co-opting Islamic hardliners, but even the president himself warns the task will be tougher.

Experts said the key US challenge would not be to

directly fight al-Qaeda as in Iraq but to bolster security and development — and in the process, empower an Afghan government sorely needing credibility.

Afghanistan has fought off invaders from the British to the Soviets, and the US-backed Kabul govern-

ment has virtually no influence in parts of the rugged nation — a far cry from Iraq where Saddam Hussein had ruled with an iron fist.

Violence started falling in Iraq when Sunni tribal leaders in 2007 allied with US forces against al-Qaeda extremists — just as more US troops poured into Iraq under then president George W Bush's "surge" strategy.

Internet



Afghan walk at the site of a suicide attack at a police post east of Kabul. Barack Obama hopes his new Afghanistan strategy will replicate the US success in Iraq of co-opting Islamic hardliners, but even the president himself warns the task will be tougher.—INTERNET



Afghan army kills 13 militants, detains 25 in south

KABUL, 22 March—Afghan troops killed 13 Taliban militants and detained 25 more during an overnight operation in Nadali district of Helmand Province, southern Afghanistan, said Mo-hidin Ghorri, senior military commander in the province General, on Saturday.

"The successful operation was launched Friday night during which 13 rebels including their commander Mullah Abidullah were killed and 25 others made captive," Ghorri told *Xinhua*. There were no casualties on Afghan troops, he said. Taliban fighters have not made any comment so far.

Internet

Villagers look through the door of a building which was destroyed during a US and Afghan forces operation in Bati Kot district of Nangarhar province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan on 19 March, 2009.

INTERNET



White smoke rises from a home of former Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida during a fire in the seaside city of Oiso, southwest of Tokyo, on 22 March, 2009. A fire destroyed the two-story wooden home, which had been opened occasionally for sightseeing tours as a historical landmark, and police said they were investigating whether arson or other foul play may be involved. No one was injured.—INTERNET

Turkish FM expects reduction of US troops in Iraq

ISTANBUL, 22 March—Turkey's Foreign Minister Ali Babacan on Saturday expressed his expectation that the number of US troops in Iraq would be reduced to the minimum level.

In an interview with Turkish private ATV channel, Babacan said that the US troops in Iraq might be reduced to the minimum level, adding that he was doubtful that the US military presence in that country would be zeroed till the end of 2011.

Babacan said it seemed that Turkey could undertake an active role in training the Iraqi security forces so that they could protect the country.—Internet

Int'l troops raid kills five in Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 March—International troops stationed in Kunduz Province early Sunday morning conducted a raid on the house of Mayor Sofi Abdul Manan, killing five people, said an official.

Juma Khan, district chief of Iman Sahib, in talk with *Xinhua* confirmed that the incident occurred at 4:30 am local time (0000GMT) when international troops in a surprise operation broke in the Mayor's house and killed five people inside.

However, Manan, the Mayor, was not on the death list, Juma Khan said.

The district chief added that he has no idea why international troops targeted Manan's house.—Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,260

BAGHDAD, 22 March—As of Saturday, 21 March, 2009, at least 4,260 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,425 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.

Internet

Roadside bombs kill three, wounds three in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 March—Two mines planted by militants struck two vehicles in two districts of Kandahar the former stronghold of Taliban Saturday leaving three people dead and three others injured, all of them civilians, provincial administration spokesman Zalmai Ayubi said.

"The first incident took place in Arghandab district as the mine planed by rebels hit a van as a result a non-combatant was killed, while the second attack occurred against military vehicle in Maiwand district killing two civilians and wounding three others," Ayubi told *Xinhua*.

He also said that the two bombs planted against military convoys missed the target and harmed non-combatants.—Internet

Suicide car bombing kills, injures over 10 in Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 March—A suicide car bombing Saturday afternoon targeted a shrine in the suburban area of Khost city, capital of Khost Province in eastern Afghanistan, killing and injuring at least 10 people, official and witnesses said.

Gul Dad, a senior official in the provincial crime and investigation section, told *Xinhua* that the suicide bomber driving a car laden with explosives blew himself up near a shrine where people were praying and gathering for Afghan New Year.

He said four people were killed in the blast and four more were injured, all of them civilians.

However, witnesses at the site predicted higher casualties, saying families of some victims have come to carried the dead bodies home or to hospital.

Internet



Protestors shout during an anti-war rally in Washington, capital of the United States, on 21 March, 2009. Thousands of protestors attended the rally here on Saturday.—INTERNET

Protest launched in Washington to mark Iraq war anniversary

WASHINGTON, 22 March — Despite President Barack Obama's policy to withdraw most US troops from Iraq by August 2010, Washington DC still witnessed another massive anti-war protest Saturday afternoon to mark the sixth anniversary of the Iraq war.

"I came here to voice support for the end of the war, which was wrong and unjustified from the very beginning," said Perry Parch, a Vietnam War veteran among thousands of protestors gathering in a lawn in front of the Lincoln Memorial.

However, the anti-war protest appeared less crowded than those that were staged in front of the White House in the past several years during the Bush administration.

Holding banners reading "End the Occupation Now" and "Stop US Wars," protestors employed various and creative ways to express their determined opposition against the new government's war policies.

Coffins made of cardboard and covered with different countries' national flags were lined on the lawn to symbolize loss of lives in wars. —Internet

Anti-war march held in Los Angeles to mark Iraq war anniversary

LOS ANGELES, 22 March — Shouting "Occupation is a crime" and holding banners such as "Bring All the Troops Home Now," thousands of demonstrators held an anti-war rally in Hollywood, Los Angeles on Saturday. The demonstrators marched along the famous Hollywood Boulevard to demand an end to the six-year war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Our resources are being squandered on wars in Iraq and Afghanistan when we have a devastating economic crisis at home," said "peace mom" Cindy Sheehan, who spoke at a rally on behalf of Global Women's Strike. Her son was killed in Iraq in 2004.

Naming himself as Jay, a veteran who lost both eyes during his two years in Vietnam joined the march with the help of his friend. He told *Xinhua* that like the war in Vietnam, the Iraq war has killed many Americans and it is time to pull out US troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. —Internet

Roadside bomb kills one, wounds 11 in E Afghanistan

KHOST (Afghanistan), 22 March—One Afghan construction laborer was killed and 11 others wounded as their bus struck a roadside bomb on Sunday in eastern Afghan province of Khost, a provincial public health official said.

"In the wee hours of morning, 12 wounded people including one man in critical condition were transferred to the local hospitals," Amir Badasha told *Xinhua*.

He said the seriously-wounded man died of wounds later in the hospital.

The incident occurred in Musa Khil district and all victims were local Afghans who were working for an Afghan road construction firm, he further said.

No group or individuals have claimed the responsibility for the incident yet.

Conflicts and Taliban-linked insurgency had left over 5,000 people, with some 2,000 civilians, dead in 2008. It is predicted that the violence will go up in 2009 as the US government has announced reinforcement of troops for curbing the militancy in the post-Taliban central Asian state. —Internet

China's fighter plane makes forced landing for engine failure

BEIJING, 22 March — A *Jian 10* (Fighter-10), China's most advanced military jet, had made a successful forced landing during a training flight after an engine failure, China Central Television (CCTV) reported Sunday.

When the pilot Li Feng was exercising a difficult action in the fighter on 7 March at the height of 4,500 metres, a warning popped up on the screen, the report said.

Li, a deputy regiment

commander of the Air force, realized the plane might lose power at any time and requested to return after a quick check on the engine.

The engine stopped working when the fighter was 7 kilometres away from the airport. Then the fighter began to fall at a speed of 25 metres per second, it reported.

Striving to adjust the aircraft pose, Li steered the fighter into the runway through inertia.

Though the drag para-

chute failed to work, the pilot managed to bring the plane to a stop after it taxied down the runway for 1,400 metres, according to the report, noting that the forced landing took 104 seconds.

China unveiled the *Jian-10* in January 2007. With proprietary intellectual property rights (IPR), the *Jian-10* heralds the third-generation of Chinese fighter aircraft.

Internet



The Cominak mineral treatment plant near the Arlit opencast uranium mine in Niger. A South Korean state-run firm Korea Resources Corporation has signed a memorandum of understanding to import annually some 400 tonnes of uranium from the west African nation, its chief has said.—INTERNET

Fear of hydrofluoric acid leak prompts evacuation of 5,000 in Pennsylvania

WASHINGTON, 22 March — Safety concerns resulting from the crash of a truck carrying large amount of hydrofluoric acid prompted evacuation of some 5,000 people in eastern Pennsylvania early Saturday, authorities said.

The truck was carrying some 33,000 pounds (14.9 tons) of acid and the acid spilled after the truck crashed near Wind Gap, Pennsylvania, Jeff Steiert with the local Office of Emergency Management told reporters.

About 5,000 people within a 1 mile (1.609 km) radius of the accident were ordered to evacuate as a precaution, and could be away for up to 24 hours, he said.

The driver, who was briefly trapped in the truck, was treated at a hospital and released. No other injuries had been reported, Steiert said.

Most of the acid in the tank was in the form of pressurized gas, although some water was present. En-

vironmental workers were cleaning up the spill and police were working to control traffic. —Internet



A tractor trailer carrying hydrofluoric acid sits on its side on Route 33 south near Wind Gap, Pennsylvania, on 21 March, 2009.—INTERNET



Customers shop for Olympic licensed products on sale in Beijing, capital of China, on 19 March, 2009. Licensed products of 2008 Beijing Olympic Games will stop being sold soon. Reduced price of these souvenirs attracted a large number of customers.—XINHUA

World economy to shrink by 1-2 percent in 2009

BRUSSELS, 22 March—The world economy is set to shrink by 1 to 2 percent this year, World Bank President Robert Zoellick said at a conference here on Saturday.

Referring to an International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecast, Zoellick said such a worldwide economic contraction was un-precedented since the Great Depression in the 1930's. "We haven't seen a figure like that globally

since World War Two, which really means since the Great Depression," he told the gathering sponsored by the German Marshall Fund transatlantic think tank.

What the world's countries are now doing are "too little and too late" and fall short of effective measures in addressing the roots of the global financial meltdown, said the World Bank chief.

He suggested a system

of reviews on the impact of existing stimulus plans undertaken by governments to be established at the upcoming G-20 London summit in early April.

"Some of the packages actually withdraw stimulus in 2010.

So given the uncertainty of this crisis I think you want to have a review process to see whether more would be needed in 2010."

Xinhua

Four police officers shot wounded in Oakland

LOS ANGELES, 22 March —Four police officers were shot and wounded in two separate incidents in Oakland near San Francisco on Saturday, authorities said.

The first incident occurred when gunmen shot two officers during a traffic stop, Oakland police spokesman Jeff Thomason said.

An ensuing manhunt for the gunman ended in gunfire, in which two other officers and a suspect were shot, Thomason said.

He said the two officers shot in the initial incident are in critical condition. The condition of the two other officers and the suspect shot in the second

incident was not immediately known.

Following the first shooting, police launched a massive manhunt, roping off streets and shutting an entire area of east Oakland to traffic, police said.

Xinhua

An egret is released to the nature in Ningbo, a port city in east China's Zhengjiang Province, on 21 March, 2009. A number of birds saved by the Ningbo wildlife rescue centre were released to the nature on 21 March, the World Forest Day.

XINHUA



All items from Xinhua News Agency

Hamas urged to make immediate decision on unity proposals

GAZA, 22 March —A representative of non-partisan Palestinians to unity talks on Saturday called on the Islamic Hamas movement to make an immediate decision on the proposals aimed at ending

internal schism.

"I hope an agreement would be reached soon but it seems our brothers in Hamas' delegation need more consultations," said Munib al-Massari, a veteran businessman who once was nominated as a leader of an independent technocratic government.

The first round of the Egyptian-hosted inter-Palestinian dialogue ended this week in Cairo with a preliminary agreement on

forming a transitional government to politically unite the Gaza Strip and West Bank before holding parliamentary and presidential elections in January 2010.

The dialogue is aimed to reconcile Hamas and President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah movement and eliminate the aftermath of Hamas' violent takeover of the Gaza Strip in June 2007.

Xinhua

Indian ship with 16 crew hijacked off Somalia

NEW DELHI, 22 March —An Indian ship with 16 crew was hijacked Saturday off the coast of Somalia, said local newspaper Hindustan Times on Sunday.

The hijacked ship, Al Rafiquei, was taken to an undisclosed location after being hijacked on its way to Mogadishu from Dubai, said the local daily.

The ship was carrying a cargo of rice, refined oil, wheat and general

cargo, said the newspaper quoting Mumbai-based Director-General Shipping, a shipping management authority.

Such vessels have just basic gadgets and their crew members are not certified, according to the newspaper.—Xinhua

Israeli police foils suspected bomb attack

JERUSALEM, 22 March — Israeli police on Saturday night neutralized an explosive device at a shopping mall in the northern city of Haifa, local daily Ha'aretz reported.

Local authorities were alerted when security guards at the mall heard a light explosion and located a suspicious car, said the report, adding that police sappers found another explosive device inside a bag in the car's trunk and then neutralized it.—Xinhua

5.7 magnitude earthquake hits New Zealand North Island

WELLINGTON, 22 March —An earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter scale hit the New Zealand North Island's Bay of Plenty region on Sunday, the GNS Science reported.

The quake occurred at 09:28 am New Zealand local time (20:28 GMT Saturday) at a depth of 160 km, the New Zealand Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences reported.

The quake's epicenter was about 30 km northwest of Whakatane, and was widely felt across

the North Island.

There were no immediate reports of any damage or injuries.

No tsunami warning was issued by the Hawaii-based Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

Xinhua

Photo taken on 18 March shows two pilots in the cockpit of the air bus A330-300 on its high-precision navigation test flight.—XINHUA





Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends opening...

(from page 16)

Next, the Prime Minister and party viewed the operating of machines of the sections and inspected the products of the MTI displayed at the factory.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views running of machines of Textile Factory (Myittha) of Myanma Textile Industries.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein unveils the signboard of Textile Factory (Myittha) of Myanma Textile Industries.—MNA

Managing Director U Oo Thein Maung, Chairman U Soe Win of Kyaukse District PDC and Mr Liu Jian Zhong open Textile Factory (Myittha).

MNA

The factory was built at a cost of K 6,317.576 million—K 6,251.916 million and US\$ 9.8 million by the government.

The factory can manufacture 3.455 million pounds of 1/32 type

thread, 0.577 million pounds of 1/21 type thread without spinning stick and 1.440 million pounds of 1/32 combing thread, totalling 5.472 million pounds of thread yearly. The machines are installed with auto level-

ers for better yarn evenness. At present, the factory is producing 1.32 cotton thread, 1/32 and 1/40 combing cotton threads and 1/10 and 1/21 OE cotton threads.

Moreover, the factory is operating the running-test of 1/60 type cotton thread by purchasing quality Ngwechi-6 long cotton. In the future, the factory will produce 1/80 and 1/100 types of cotton threads.

MNA



Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Pakistan

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — On the occasion of the anniversary of the Pakistan Day, which falls on 23 March 2009, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.—MNA

Energy Minister inspects No. 0194 fuel station

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi yesterday inspected No. 0194 fuel station of Toungoo under Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw road section of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, which will be opened on 24 March.

The minister called for selling engine oil with correct volume, good relations, fire preventive measure and greening around the station. The station will sell 92 Ron, Octane, petrol and diesel from 6 a.m to 6 p.m daily and six vehicles fill the fuel at the same time.

Customers may buy fuel at No. 0194 at Toungoo and No. 0199 at Bawnetgyi fuel stations as well as Nay Pyi Taw and Toungoo fuel stations which were previously opened.—MNA

Myanmar CP Tennis Tournament 28 March-1 April

YANGON, 22 March—Hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the Myanmar CP Tennis Tournament, to be organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation and sponsored by Myanmar CP Co Ltd, will be held at Theinbyu Tennis Court, here, from 28 March to 1 April.

The tournament will be categorized as the team event, the men's open singles and doubles events, the women's open singles event, the above-55 singles and doubles events, the U-10, the U-12 and the U-14 boys' and girls' events.

For taking part in the team event, every tennis squad may be constituted with 6-7 players including the players who had not been chosen as the State/Division level selected players, one player each of

above-45, above-50 and above-60 years old at State/Division level, and former selected players. The players must not be over-aged ones.

The federation will release K 30,000 each as travel expenses to the tennis teams from the countryside and K 10,000 each to the players in the age-wise youth events and accommodate all the teams and players.

Those wishing to take part in the tournament may get registered with the federation by dialing 372360, 381991 and 381992 (extension-0), not later than 4 p.m on 26 March. The fixtures for the tournament will be drawn at 2 p.m on 27 March, and a responsible person each from all the teams has to attend the fixture drawing ceremony at the office of the federation.

MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures



HAILING THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

Development of education sector in the time of Tatmadaw Government

No.	Subject	1988	2008	Progress
1.	Basic education school			
	- Basic Education High School	722	2171	1449
	- Basic Education Middle School	1696	2833	1137
	- Basic Education Primary School	26996	31329	4333
	- Multi-media classrooms	-	1829	1829
	- Primary education	-	2059	2059
2.	Teachership education			
	- Education college	-	20	20
3.	Higher education			
	- University college/degree college	27	44	17
	- Human resources development department	-	44	44
4.	Science and Technology			
	- Technological university	1	30	29
	- Technological college	-	4	4
	- University of computer studies	1	26	25
	- Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University	-	1	1
5.	Myanmar Maritime University	-	1	1
6.	Universities/colleges of other ministries	1	22	21



*Loikaw University built for development of education
sector in Kayah State.*



Technological University (Sittway) in Sittway of Rakhine State.

*University of Computer Studies (Hpa-an) built in Hpa-an of Kayin
State.*



HAILING THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

The people and the Tatmadaw remain inseparable from each other

Ko Myanmar

THE TATMADAW IS THE NATION'S STRENGTH

World countries have different stances and concepts of their armed forces according to the historical backgrounds, cultures, customs and values of the

Anawrahta had unified the nation into the First Myanmar Empire, members of the Tatmadaw were from the three-figure and four-figure-population

external attacks.

Also in Myinsaing, Pinya, Innwa and Konbaung periods, the people left their harrows and ploughs and armed

colonialist movements, national liberation movements and Anti-Fascist Resistance, the entire people across the nation gave unanimous encouragement and support to the servicemen in action. Members of the Burma Independence Army, the Burma Defence Army, the Patriotic Burmese Force and the Tatmadaw engaged in the battles, sacrificing life and

in the battle. Many artistes took a ride in the vehicles going to Insein frontline and gave away noodle packages to show their encouragement and support for the Tatmadaw members. Those events were also documented. If the people had not expressed their rousing encouragement to the Tatmadaw members in action, Myanmar would have

onstrated superb gallantry in repulsing the attacks, and local people and Red Cross members distributed meals and picked up wounded soldiers in the frontline. In the end, the insurgents suffered great loss of lives in the battle. From that time on, BCP insurgents have never been on their feet again, and that was the start of their downfall.

Myanmar people, if the occasion arose, were ready to serve as soldiers with a sense of national defence duty.

Throughout the anti-colonialist movements, national liberation movements and Anti-Fascist Resistance, the entire people across the nation gave unanimous encouragement and support to the servicemen in action.

Tatmadaw concerned.

Since the time before the birth of Myanmar, the people and the Tatmadaw have been inseparable from each other. In Myanmar in the Bagan period, soldiers were the people and vice versa. At the time when King

towns born of the people. And the garrison towns discharging security duties to defend the nation from alien invasion were formed with the soldiers born of the people. At the time, each citizen had a sense of bounden duty to guard the motherland against

themselves with spears and swords to defend the mother country in times of alien intrusion. Myanmar people, if the occasion arose, were ready to serve as soldiers with a sense of national defence duty.

Throughout the anti-

limb, which was evidenced by the loss of a great number of casualties of Myanmar patriotic revolutionaries in the Anti-Fascist Resistance that was launched in the Myanmar month of Tabaung (March).

In the post-independence period, the government's machinery was effective just around Yangon area, and so the government was called Yangon government as well as the eight-mile government. At that time, the Tatmadaw members discharging national defence duties to save the nation from falling into the abyss of collapse won wholehearted support of the people, and that was documented. Many university students who were in no position to return home due to the armed insurgency joined the army and got involved

faced collapse like Yugoslavia.

Throughout the period in the post-independence when internal armed struggle line reached its peak, the Tatmadaw protected the people's life and property, sharing joys and sorrows of the people. In response, the people provided support and encouragement to the Tatmadaw members. In Si Si Wan Tarpan battle that broke out in 1986, for instance, the troops of the Burma Communist Party used all the weapons they had been provided in the battle they had waged to occupy a township in the border areas of Shan State (North) in order to declare the township as an independent area. In the beginning of the battle, they could occupy some outposts. Tatmadaw members dem-

Such a battlefield is not the only evidence that the Tatmadaw stands by the interests of the people, and the people give encouragement to the Tatmadaw in times of emergencies as they are like the parents and their children. In times of natural disasters, the people and the Tatmadaw work together to show significant resilience. For instance, in the cyclone "Nargis" that hit hard Myanmar in 2008, Tatmadaw members in collaboration with local people day in, day out cleared the storm-hit urban areas covered with a complete mess of debris such as grounded trees and branches, fallen lamp posts, telephone wires and cable wires. In storm-affected rural areas, a large

(See page 9)

**HAILING THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY**

The people and the Tatmadaw remain inseparable from each other

Ko Myanmar

(from page 8)
number of Tatmadaw aircraft, choppers, vessels and vehicles were used in carrying out rescue tasks, distributing relief supplies, giving health care, and transporting goods. Members of local

diarrhoea; all the paddy farms in Ayeyawady Division, the granary of Myanmar, had been flooded by seawater, so there would be a catastrophic fall in paddy output and that would affect the whole nation; the prices of rice would go up

evidences of the whole history of the nation. The evidences are:

- (1) Tatmadaw members are born of the people, so the people have a sense of oneness with Tatmadaw members,
- (2) Tatmadaw members

Overall, in the course of the Myanmar history, the people and the Tatmadaw have remained inseparable from each other in defending the motherland from threats. There is no need to worry about natural and man-made disasters so long as the people and the Tatmadaw maintain the consolidated unity between them.

Not surprisingly, the elements at home and abroad who are allergic to national reconsolidation and development of Myanmar are resorting to all possible ways to undermine the unity of Tatmadaw members and drive a wedge between the people and the Tatmadaw.

What is the most

However much unscrupulous persons are making negative comments and attempting to sow discord and hatred among national brethren, they can never eradicate the evidences of the whole history of the nation.

regiments and units participated with heart and soul in removing the debris, rebuilding damaged houses, constructing roads, digging lakes, giving health care, and distributing food hand in hand with donors, voluntary organizations and local people. As a result, remarkable success was achieved in the rehabilitation and reconstruction tasks.

Nonetheless, those with negative attitude towards Myanmar regarding the natural disaster speculated that hundreds of thousands of more victims would soon die from hunger; hundreds of thousands of people would die of epidemics of infectious diseases such as

many times; and the public outrage would lead to mass demonstrations. However, eventually all their speculations proved wrong.

The achievement of

maintain a fine tradition of safeguarding the lives, property and interests of the people at risk to life in times of emergencies,

There is no need to worry about natural and man-made disasters so long as the people and the Tatmadaw maintain the consolidated unity between them.

averting such miserable consequences was large due to the harmonious hard work of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

However much unscrupulous persons are making negative comments and attempting to sow discord and hatred among national brethren, they can never eradicate the

- (3) If the people and the Tatmadaw remain harmonious, they can surmount any types of difficulty. The nation has seen many events throughout the history of the nation in which the people and the Tatmadaw have managed to overcome adversities.

important in that regard is to strengthen the consolidated unity between the people and the Tatmadaw to be able to have resistance to destructive acts. Only then will it be possible to tackle a variety of difficulties and challenges in building a new nation.

Translation: MS

Objectives of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

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

POEM

The Myanmar Tatmadaw

- * **Army, Navy, Air Force in full strength
The prominent Tatmadaw
Various duties it discharges
With heart and soul
Always for the country
Serving her interest
Ever remains alert
Safeguards it the nation
At any critical moment**
- * **With courage and zeal
Shouldering duties the Tatmadaw
Ever true to the country
Stability, peace and prosperity
For the country it always brings
Intellectual and physical power it possesses
Strength and mobility at full
Always in the service of
Country and people**

Pyinnya Thu (Trs)

Hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

New roads inaugurated to hail 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

YANGON, 22 March—Hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day a ceremony to open new tarred Kangyi Street in Letpadan built by Letpadan Township Development Committee was held at the road.

Township Development Committee Executive Officer U Nay Man explained work carried out for opening the road, and officials formally opened the street. Next, Director-General of Development

Affairs Department U Myo Myint inspected the street.

Likewise, a new tarred street was opened in Paungde at a ceremony held at the top of the street. Executive Officer of the Township Development Committee U Win Maw clarified efforts for opening the street. Next, Chairman of Paungde Township Peace and Development Council U Ko Ko Lwin and the executive officer formally opened the street.

MNA

Transport network ...

(from page 1)

General Thura Shwe Mann in his address said, the railroad is opened as a gesture of hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. Better transport plays a vital role in government's efforts for harmonious progress of the whole Union.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe in his guidance said that better transport contributes to public social lives and also serves as the foundation of unity. In accord with the guidance, the government has made systematic plans to link all the regions including border areas divided by geographical conditions using a large amount of funds from its budget. The railroad has emerged due to continuous efforts based on public participation, innovations of service personnel and the government's goodwill to uplift economy and social lives of the people and ensure a safe and secure transport.

The 35-mile long Okshitpin-Kamma railroad is a section of 320-mile long Kyangin-Pakokku railroad. The 40-mile long Kyangin-Okshitpin section was commissioned into service on 1 March 2008. Soon, trains will be able to run along the



General Thura Shwe Mann opens stone plaque of Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.— MNA

222-mile long railroad linking Patheingyi and Kamma via Kyangin. The Head of State has already given guidance to build a network of railroads for socio-economic progress of all states and divisions.

The new projects are 320-mile long Kyangin-Pakokku railroad, 95-mile long Katha-Bhamo railroad, 95-mile long Pyawbwe-Natogyi Magway railroad, 132-mile long Dawei-Myeik railroad, 198-mile long Namhsam-Kengtung railroad, and 257-mile long Sittway-An-Minbu railroad. Soon, the national railway network will emerge.

Thanks to the endeavors of the Rail Transportation Ministry, there are now railroads from

Myittha to the north to Dawei in the south and from Namhsam in the east to Kalay in the west. In addition Loikaw in the south-east is also reachable by train. Another project is Pyawbwe-Natogyi Magway railroad. And when the said railroad touches Kyangin-Pakokku railroad on the west bank of Ayeyawady River, a railway connecting east and west banks of the Ayeyawady and up to Nay Pyi Taw in the central Myanmar will emerge. Railroads have been built in Kayah State, Tanintharyi Division and upper Magway Division which had no railways in the past. New railroads have already been built in Shan State and Sagaing Division. People all along the railroads will



be able to enjoy a lot of benefits from them.

It is safe to say that the transport sector has undergone a great change to keep pace with changes and development of new technol-

ogy. However, rail transportation is still in existence as a service on which much have to rely. Such being the case, the government is giving priority to secure and smooth rail

sector with the emergence of a large number of village-to-village roads, town-to-town roads and district-to-district roads as well as roads that link one region and another and those link-



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Min, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min and Col Phone Maw Shwe open Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section.— MNA



Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section.— MNA

transportation that still plays an important role in passenger and commodity transport.

To bring about better rail transportation, renovation of old railroads, building of new railroads, upgrading a single railroad into dual ones, construction of new railway stations and upgrading of major railway stations in cities into the ones of international level were carried out. As a result, before 1988, there were 1976 miles of railroads, 2793 miles of railways and 487 railway stations. And at present, there are 3238 miles of railroads, 4326 miles of railways and 821 railway stations with an increase of 1262 miles of railroads, 1533 miles of railways and 334 railway stations.

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, progress has been made in road transport sector in addition to rail transportation

ing states and divisions and Union Highways. Meanwhile, new roads in border areas were constructed. As a result, there were over 20,000 miles of tarred roads, gravel roads and earth roads in 1988, and there are now over 70,000 miles of those transport facilities.

In the meantime, emphasis was placed on building of bridges large and small in different regions. Therefore, there emerged 221 bridges with a length of over 180 feet including 17 major river crossing bridges.

In the aviation sector, construction of new airports and upgrading of original airports were carried out. Consequently, there are now over 70 airports in the nation including two international airports.

In the water transport sector, there were 13 jetties to which foreign vessels can (See page 11)



Transport network ...

(from page 10)

moor in the past. And at present, there are 26 jetties of such kind plus three container yards of international level.

The government spent a large amount of funds and labour on the tasks for development of such transport sectors. Local people have already realized that such goodwill of the government towards them is huge and profound.

Remarkable progress achieved in striving for improvement of socio-economic status of the people based on own resources and strength can be vividly witnessed.

The emergence of railroads including Okshitpin-Kamma railroad that were built to bring about equitable development the length and breadth of the nation can be attributable to genuine goodwill and correct stand of the government. With this concept, the entire people are to safeguard those facilities for perpetuation while striving for improvement of their socio-economic status making better use of them.

In conclusion, General Thura Shwe Mann stressed the need for staff of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, passengers and local people to try their best for durability of the newly opened Okshitpin-Kamma railroad.

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Min gave a speech. He

said that in the time of the Tatmadaw government, priority is being given to ensuring secure and smooth transportation in all regions of the nation and the remarkable progress can be witness in the transportation sector among the regions. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, Patheingyi Road had been constructed in regions on the west bank of Ayeyawady River, he added. Moreover, workers of Myanmar Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation are making concerted efforts for construction of three sections on 322 miles long Kyangin-Pakokku railroad to link Patheingyi, Kyangin and Pakokku on the west bank of Ayeyawady River, he said.

At present, he said that 35-mile Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section, which is the second part of 111-mile Kyangin-Thayet railroad section, was successfully opened. In conclusion, he noted that Patheingyi-Kyangin-Pakokku-Kalay railroad will contribute to development in inter-relation among Ayeyawady, Bago, Magway and Sagaing



General Thura Shwe Mann greets attendees at the opening of Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section.—MNA

divisions on the west bank of Ayeyawady River.

Next, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe delivered a speech. He said that the newly opened Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section will contribute to economic development of the local people and he thanked the Head of State for his permission to build the railroad and

the minister and staff of the Ministry of Rail Transportation for their concerted efforts in construction of the railroad section.

The Minister for Rail Transportation also made a speech, saying that 320-mile Kyangin-Pakokku railroad is being constructed with three sections—110-mile Kyangin-Thayet railroad section, 100-mile Thayet-Pwintbyu

railroad section and 110-mile Pwintbyu-Pakokku railroad section. Of them, 38-mile Kyangin-Okshitpin railroad section of Kyangin-Thayet railroad section was opened on 1 March 2008 and 35-mile Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section was opened today, he added.

The minister continued to say that Construction of Okshitpin-Kamma

The General unveiled the stone plaque. Next, the General, Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, the commanders and the ministers sprinkled scented water on the special train and posed for documentary photo.

After the ceremony, the General and party greeted the local people onboard the special train that will leave Okshitpin for Kamma.

At Kamma Station, the General and party cordially greeted departmental personnel and local people attending the opening ceremony of Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section.

Speaking on the occasion, the General said that he came to Kamma region for the first time and met with local people. He said that he was pleased with getting the opportunity to open the railroad section. He continued to say that it is not easy to carry out regional development tasks including construction of railroads. Only when the development undertakings are to be carried out with goodwill, diligence and perseverance, will achievement be gained, he noted. He pointed out that it is necessary to maintain the durability of the development infrastructures and to strive for efficiently applying the development facilities. He added that in the region with lack of peace and stability, efforts cannot be made for

(See page 12)

The railroad emerges due to continuous efforts based on public participation, service personnel's innovative efforts and the government's goodwill to uplift economy and social lives of the people and ensure a safe and secure transport.



Special Train leaving Okshitpin Railway Station for Kamma.— MNA

Transport network ...

(from page 11)

carrying out development tasks in full swing. In conclusion, the General urged the local people to continuously strive for gaining more and more development of the region.

In his speech, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that only when peace and stability is prevailing in the region with development of road transportation, will the regional development tasks be undertaken. Prevalence of peace and stability, unity, reasoning power and better transport are essential for building a modern and developed nation, he added.

Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min explained construction of the railroad for development of regions on the western bank of Ayeyawady River, opening of the newly-built railroad section as a valuable transport route for the region and the people, and arrangements for giving permission to the local people to ride the train free of charge for three days in commemoration of the railroad section opening ceremony.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the General.

At that time, the special train that left Okshitpin railway station this morning arrived at Kamma station, and the local people welcomed it.

At Thegon, Padaung, Phayapaw, Nyaunggaing and Dangaing railway stations along the railroad section, the local people accorded rousing welcome to the train. Deputy Minister U Pe Than and officials presented gifts to the local passengers.

In line with the guidance of the Head of State to ensure equitable development of the western regions on the west bank of Ayeyawady River similar to that of the river's eastern bank, Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation is building 320-mile Kyangin-Pakokku railroad with three sections—110-mile Kyangin-Thayet railroad section, 100-mile Thayet-Pwintbyu railroad section and 110-mile Pwintbyu-Pakokku railroad section. In Kyangin-Thayet railroad section, 38-mile Kyangin-Okshitpin section was opened on 1 March 2008, and 35-mile Okshitpin-Kamma section was inaugurated today. A total of 185 bridges and six railway stations were constructed along the section.

Thanks to construction of Okshitpin-Kamma railroad section, the local people can travel from Patheingyi to Kyangin and Kyangin to Kamma through the 222 miles long route.

MNA

Need for maintenance of village libraries stressed Commander, Minister meet local people, attend opening of village library



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Soe and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially meet with local people of Thanathmyaung Village in Salingyi Township, Sagaing Division.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March – Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met with departmental officials at division, district and township levels, members of social organizations and over 2700 local people from 10 nearby villages in Thanathmyaung Village in Salingyi Township, Sagaing Division, and made cash donations for regional development tasks and donated publications to libraries on 16 March afternoon.

At the meeting, local authorities reported on regional development work. Next, the commander and the minister fulfilled the requirements and made speeches.

The commander presented periodicals for village libraries; and the minister K 300,000 for the building of Aung Chantha Village primary school, K 200,000 for Thanathmyaung Village post-primary school and periodicals for village libraries; and Secretary of

Sagaing Division Union Solidarity and Development Association U Soe Soe K 50,000 and publications for the village library.

After the meeting, the commander and the minister cordially greeted the local people. Afterwards, they attended an opening ceremony of Thanathmyaung Village library. The donors U Moe and wife Daw Win Sein formally opened the library.

The commander and the minister visited the local people reading in the library and stressed the need for responsible persons to try to maintain the library for its durability.

The commander and the minister then attended a ceremony to meet more than 2200 local people from 33 villages in nine village-tracts, departmental officials and members of social organizations in Sulegon Village in Kani Township, Monywa District, on 17 March morning. Responsible persons reported on regional development tasks. In response to the report, the commander and the minister fulfilled the needs and made speeches.

After that, the commander donated K 200,000 each to Tapon Village middle school (branch), Sagamya Village post-primary school and Htanaungpaka Village post-primary school, a set of computer for Sulegon Village middle school and publications for village libraries. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan also donated K 200,000 to Tabaung library and periodicals to village libraries. After the ceremony, the commander and the minister cordially greeted those present.

They then visited the station hospital in Thakhuttane model village, comforted the patients and presented gifts to them.

Later, the commander and the minister visited Nyaungkan village high school (branch) where they inspected the multi-media classroom and left necessary instructions. —MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Soe and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attend opening of Thanathmyaung Village library.—MNA





Malaysia to introduce special incentives for foreign investors

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 March—Malaysia is expected to introduce a special incentive package to attract foreign investors, especially those who bring in high technologies into the country. The package will be introduced by the middle of this year to help attract foreign direct investment worth of 30 billion ringgit (8.1 billion US dollars) in the next two years according to local newspapers *the star* on

Saturday. Malaysian International Trade and Industries Minister Muhyiddin Yassin said here on Saturday that the package would offer better incentives.

Those bringing in high-level technologies to the country, such as nanotechnology or bio-technology as well as renewable energy technology, will qualify for the incentive package, he was quoted as saying.—MNA/Xinhua

Macedonia holds polls crucial for EU bid

SKOPJE, 22 March — Macedonia votes Sunday in presidential and local elections seen as crucial for its EU membership bid amid tight security aimed at avoiding deadly incidents such those that marred previous votes.

Almost 1.8 million eligible voters will choose a new president with a five-year mandate, as well as mayors and councillors of major towns in this former Yugoslav republic.

Police patrols have been reinforced in regions where incidents occurred in previous polls in a bid to prevent a repetition of the unrest seen in ethnic Albanian areas during elections last June, when one person was killed and several others wounded in gun battles.

Some 8,500 police officers were given written instructions on how to act on election day and prevent violence at polling stations as a part of a special security plan drawn up by the interior ministry.

The authorities, presidential candidates but also international officials have appealed for violence-free elections that would be conducted in accordance with international standards and serve as a proof of the Balkans country's ability to organise free and fair polls.—Internet

College graduates to serve as short-term teachers

BEIJING, 22 March—A total of 50,000 college graduates will be employed by schools across China as short-term teachers in 2009 — almost triple the number of short-term teachers enrolled last year.

These teachers will work under three-year contracts with local education departments and be paid by a special central government fund, as a part of the effort to help college graduates to find jobs in the world financial crisis, according to the Ministry of Education. Some of them will have their own classes, but others will assist full-time teachers.—Internet



A biogas bus. The city officials of Oslo plan to introduce as of 2010 buses that run on biofuels extracted from wastewater, a "clean" energy consisting of methane generated by fermenting sludge.—INTERNET

Kidnappers of Britons in Iraq send video to Baghdad Embassy

LONDON, 22 March — A group that kidnapped five British men in Iraq nearly two years ago has sent a video to the British embassy in Baghdad, a spokesman said Saturday.

The video, which has not been released to the media, features one of the five men who were captured in May 2007, a spokeswoman for the Foreign Office told AFP.

"I can confirm we have received a video of one of the British hostages who was taken in 2007," she said.

"We are not commenting on the details. It is clearly a significant develop-

ment. Needless to say, we are continuing to work actively for the safe release of all the hostages."

According to British news programme Channel 4 News, the video shows hostage Peter Moore saying the group were being treated well, and calling on the British government to secure their release.

Channel 4 News said the video was shot eight days ago. The men — an IT consultant and his four bodyguards — were seized by 40 gunmen wearing police uniforms in a daring kidnapping at the Iraqi finance ministry in Baghdad on 29 May, 2007.—Internet

Researchers find pint-sized meat-eating dinosaur

Imagine a vicious velociraptor like those in "Jurassic Park," but only as big as a modern chicken. That's what Canadian researchers say they have found, the smallest meat-eating dinosaur yet discovered in North America. This pint-sized cousin of velociraptor, weighing in at 4-to-5 pounds, "probably hunted and ate whatever it could for its size — insects, mammals, amphibians and maybe even baby dinosaurs," according to Nicholas Longrich of the University of Calgary.

The creature lived 75 million years ago in the swamps and forests of southern Alberta, Longrich and colleague Philip J Currie report in Tuesday's edition of *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.



This undated photo provided by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences shows the blade-like slashing claw from the second toe of the foot, on a Canadian quarter for scale, of *Hesperonychus elizabethae*. Canadian researchers say they have found the smallest meat-eating dinosaur yet discovered in North America.

12-year-old arrested for "helping to rob a bar"

In an "unlikely" arrest in the armed robbery case, Omaha police arrested a 12-year-old boy for allegedly holding up the California Bar early Thursday morning.

According to police, the boy is one of three people suspected of robbery. Investigators said the boy and two men walked into the Bar around 12:45 am, and one of the men pulled a gun. Officers said the 12-year-old and an 18-year-old then demanded money from the Keno register.

Police said the 18-year-old punched a female employee, and the three suspects fled the area.

While the 18-year-old and the 12-year-old were arrested near the scene, police continue to search for a third suspect.

NEWS ALBUM



A family watches numerous sardines and a single ray swimming in a large fish tank during a press preview of the Hakkeijima Sea Paradise Aquarium in Yokohama, in Kanagawa prefecture, suburban Tokyo.



New-born Siberian tigers are seen at a Siberian tiger artificial propagation center in Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province. Three baby Siberian tigers are artificially fed now as their mother is lack of milk after giving birth.

Walking, talking female robot to hit Japan catwalk

A new walking, talking robot from Japan has a female face that can smile and has trimmed down to 43 kilogrammes (95 pounds) to make a debut at a fashion show. But it still hasn't cleared safety standards required to share the catwalk with human models.

Developers at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, a government-backed organization, said their "cybernetic human," shown Monday, wasn't ready to help with daily chores or work side by side with people — as many hope robots will be able to do in the future.

Man unwisely tries to rob Tae Kwon do studio

A robber gets more than he bargained for when he targeted a Tae Kwon Do studio in suburban Milwaukee. The robber thought he could quietly slip in and out of David Kang's studio in Fox Point with some loot. What he didn't realize is that he would encounter a Tae Kwon Do master who wasn't about to let him off the hook.

Kang was giving a private lesson Tuesday and heard someone in his office. Kang found the man going through his closet, grabbed him by the neck and sat him down while he called police.

The robber took off and Kang gave chase, finally catching up with the man and holding him by the neck until police arrived.

SPORTS



Manchester City's players jubilate after winning a recent football match in Aalborg, Denmark.—INTERNET

Given backs Robinho and City co to come good

MANCHESTER, 22 March—Shay Given is predicting that the scent of silverware will bring out the best in Manchester City's big names in the final stages of the season.

A penalty shoot-out win over Aalborg in midweek has put Mark Hughes's side into the last eight of the UEFA Cup, where they will face Martin Jol's Hamburg.

Goalkeeper Given, the star of the shoot-out win in Demark, expects to see team-mates like Robinho raise their game. "We are getting to the exciting end of the tournament now and we have got some big players in our changing room," the Ireland international said. "The closer we get to the final, the more they will be right up for it."

"It would mean everything to get to the final but we don't just want to reach it, we'd love to win it."

Internet

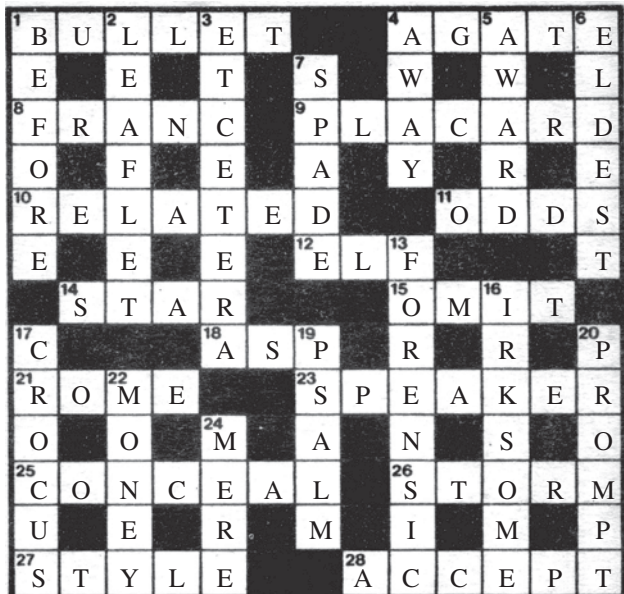
Murray downs Federer to reach Indian Wells final

INDIAN WELLS, 22 March—Britain's Andy Murray defeated world number two Roger Federer 6-3, 4-6, 6-1 here Saturday to reach the final of the Indian Wells ATP Masters series tournament.

Murray, the world number four, has now won six of his eight career meetings against the mighty Swiss, including four in a row since losing to Federer in last September's US Open final.

Federer did little to help himself reverse that trend, with an uncharacteristic 32 unforced errors. "Every time I play Roger I feel like I've got a shot to win," said Murray, who frustrated Federer with his ability to cover the court and mix up the pace.—Internet

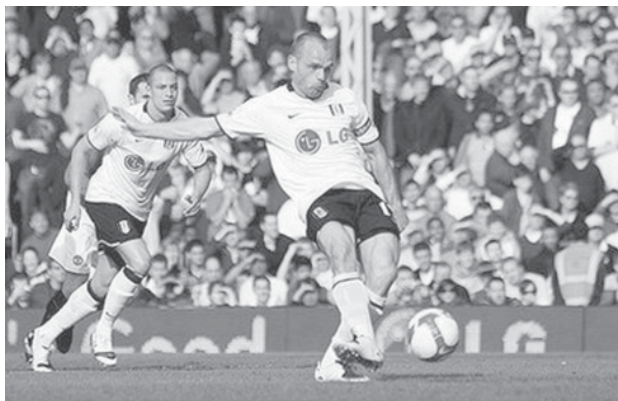
Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle



United self-destruct, Fulham blow title race wide open

LONDON, 22 March—Danny Murphy and Zoltan Gera struck to hand Fulham a shock win over nine-man Manchester United and throw open the Premier League title race. Sir Alex Ferguson's league leaders followed last weekend's defeat to Liverpool with a second successive reverse that opened the door for Chelsea and Liverpool to close the gap at the head of the table.

And to make a miserable afternoon even worse, Ferguson was forced to watch as Paul Scholes and Wayne Rooney were dismissed, ruling them out of crucial games in the final run-in. The week-long post-mortem that followed last weekend's jarring 4-1 defeat had been centred on the impact it might possibly have on United's poise during the run-in.—Internet



Fulham's Danny Murphy scores from the penalty spot against Manchester United during their Premier League football match at Craven Cottage in London. Murphy and Zoltan Gera struck to hand Fulham a shock win over nine-man Manchester United and throw open the Premier League title race.—INTERNET

Time on Wenger's side as Arsenal close gap

NEWCASTLE, 22 March—Arsene Wenger believes time is on Arsenal's side after a 3-1 victory over a Newcastle team who now languish in the bottom three in the Premier League.

Wenger interrupted his pre-match preparations to glance at a TV screen that showed Manchester United and Chelsea had both suffered shock defeats on Saturday. If his young team required any more incentive, it came with the knowledge that they could close the gap on two of the teams above them in the table.

Arsenal completed a win that puts Chelsea and Liverpool in their sights with Wenger still not writing off their chances of overhauling the current leaders from Old Trafford, although he admitted: "It's a billion to one."—Internet

Klitschko retains WBC belt, stops Gomez in ninth

STUTTGART, 22 March—Vitali Klitschko stopped Juan Carlos Gomez in the ninth round Saturday night, easily retaining his WBC heavyweight title.

The 37-year-old champion twice put down the Germany-based Cuban defector, in the seventh and ninth rounds, before the referee Daniel Van de Wiele stopped the fight with 1 minute, 11 seconds remaining in the round.

Klitschko (37-2, 36 KOs) was making the first defense of the title he reclaimed by stopping Samuel Peter in dominating fashion last October. The Ukrainian, whose brother Wladimir holds two other versions of the title, hasn't lost since getting knocked out by Lennox Lewis in 2003.

"I knew that he was a world-class boxer," Klitschko said. "I said before that the fight would not be easy."—Internet



Ukrainian boxer Vitali Klitschko, right, punches Juan Carlos Gomez from Cuba, left, in a WBC heavyweight world championship fight in Stuttgart, Germany, on 21 March, 2009.—INTERNET

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

(22-3-2009)

Liverpool	5 - 0	Aston Villa
Manchester City	1 - 0	Sunderland
Wigan Athletic	1 - 0	Hull City

Manchester City's Vincent Kompany (L) tackles Sunderland's Dean Whitehead during their English Premier League soccer match at the City of Manchester Stadium in Manchester, central England on 22 March, 2009.
INTERNET



Juve keep title hopes alive with Roma romp

ROME, 22 March—Juventus beat injury-ravaged AS Roma 4-1 at Rome's Stadio Olimpico on Saturday to keep alive their faint Serie A title hopes.

Vincenzo Iaquinta starred with a brace of goals as second-placed Juve cut Inter Milan's lead at the top of the table to four points, ahead of the champions' match against rock-bottom Reggina on Sunday.

It was a fifth straight league win for Juventus whose belief in their title chances is growing week



Juventus' forward Alessandro Del Piero plays the ball in front of an AS Roma player during their Italian Serie A football match at Olympic stadium in Rome. —INTERNET

by week. Even so, coach Claudio Ranieri said he didn't want to think about his team's title rivals.

"I like our shape, our determination and the way we knew how to manage the match against difficult opponents," he said.

"I knew Roma would cause us problems but we played well and we didn't over-complicate things. I'm not expecting anything from this team. At Juventus we always want to do our best and we're trying to improve. We have a winning mentality.—Internet



Hunt for 'suspicious device' on plane in London



An airliner takes off from Gatwick Airport. Explosives experts are searching an Emirates aircraft at Gatwick Airport outside London after a report of a "suspicious device" on board, police said.—INTERNET

LONDON, 22 March—Explosives experts are searching an Emirates plane at Gatwick Airport near London, officials said Sunday, after a passenger found a note just before landing saying there was a suspicious device onboard.

Flight EK 011 from Dubai to Gatwick landed safely after a "a note implying a security threat" was found onboard 10 minutes before it touched down, an Emirates spokesman said.

The airline added that the plane was now being inspected and passengers interviewed.

The incident temporarily closed the airport, one of the country's biggest, but it has since been reopened, Sussex Police said. They added that there was no major disruption to flights.

"Sussex Police was called at 6.48am (0648 GMT) this morning following a report of a suspicious device on board an Emirates flight from Dubai," they said in a statement.

"The aircraft was safely landed at Gatwick Airport and is currently in a holding area. All passengers and crew have been evacuated and the EOD (explosive ordnance disposal) is currently carrying out extensive searches."—Internet

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (23.3.2009) (Monday)

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

Local Transmission

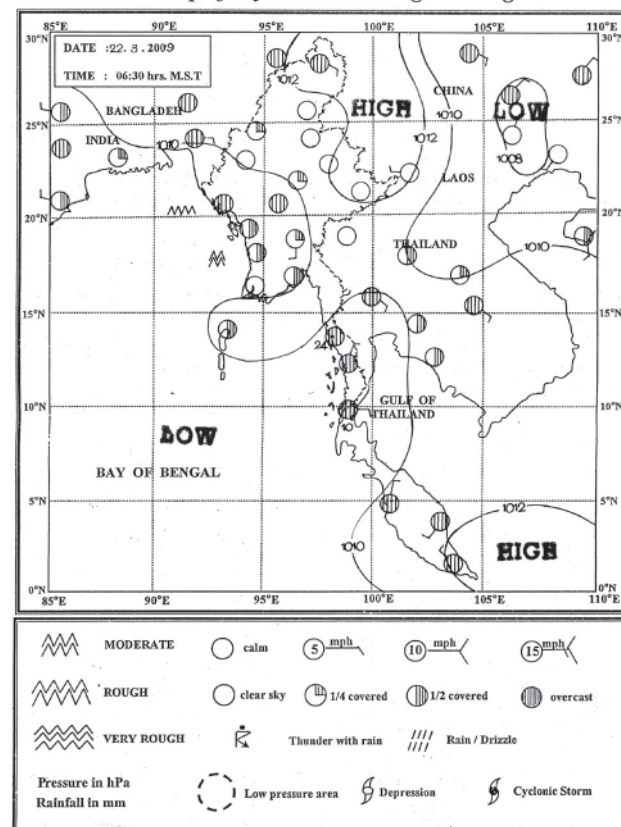
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * The National Museum (Part-1)
- * Traditions of Ganan National
- * Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw (Health Sector and Education Sector)
- * Science Fair (Part 1)
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Traditional Myanmar Pickled Tea
- * The Great Bell of King Sintgu
- * Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw (Agriculture Sector, Forestry Sector, Livestock and Fisheries Sector)
- * Thiri Zeya Buhmi Golden Palace and Museum of King Anawrahta
- * Beauty of the Women of Myanmar (Pre-War Period)
- * Everything you want to know about star tortoises, but dare not ask?
- * Weaving School in Falam
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * The National Museum (Part-1)
- * Traditions of Ganan National
- * Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw (Health Sector and Education Sector)
- * Science Fair (Part 1)
- * Benefits of Electric River Water Pumping Projects for Socio-economic Progress
- * Hukaung Valley Rattan Survey (Part 1)
- * Export Prawn
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 22 March, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperatures in Kachin, Chin and Mon States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and about March average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Minbu and Thayawady (40°C) each. The Noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Dawei (0.95) inch and Kawthoung (0.40) inch.

Maximum temperature on 21-3-2009 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 22-3-2009 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 22-3-2009 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 21-3-2009 was (8.1) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 22-3-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and 0.04 inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 21-3-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 23rd March 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin and Mon States and Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Chin, Rakhine, Shan and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon 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 rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 23-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-3-2009: Partly cloudy.



**Monday, 23 March
View on today**

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြုဆရာတော်
ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:55 am

6. Song of National Races

8:00 am

7. Cute little Dancers

8:10 am

8. ရေစကြိုအားမာန်
ခင်မွန်ရေလှောင်တံခံ

8:20 am

9. (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊
ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. "တောမြိုင်စွန်းမှ လွမ်းမျက်ရည်"
(ရဲအောင်၊ လူမုန်း၊ သူထူး၊
မေသန္တာဦး၊ ထူးသာ၊ ကမ္ဘာရှား၊
ဝမ်းပုံကြီး)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီစိုးမိုး)

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:20 pm

3. Dance variety

4:30 pm

4. Musical programme

4:40 pm

5. တီးကွက်ညီညာညွန့်သံသာ(၁)

4:50 pm

6. တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ဂုဏ်ပြု
တေးသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ

5:00 pm

7. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး
ရှုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ
ဒုတိယနှစ် (မြန်မာစာအထူးပြု)
(မြန်မာစာ)

5:15 pm

8. Song to uphold
National Spirit

5:25 pm

9. Musical Programme
(The Radio Myanmar
Modern Music Troupe)

5:35 am

10. မြန်မာစာမြန်မာစာကား

5:50 pm

11. (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊

ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

6:00 pm

12. Evening news

6:30 pm

13. Weather report

6:35 pm

14. သံစဉ်ချိုမြ အမှတ်တရ

6:45 pm

12. "အမေတူသား" (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)
(ဇင်ပိုင်း၊ လူမင်း၊ မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊
နေမျိုးအောင်၊ ထွန်းထွန်း
(Examplez)၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊
နန္ဒာလှိုင်၊ သက်မွန်မြင့်၊
မေသန္တာဦး)
(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီစိုးမိုး)

8:00 pm

13. News

14. International news

15. Weather report

16. ပြည်သူ့အတွက်တပ်မတော်

"ပြည်သူ့အားမာန်ဆည်တံခံ"

17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"ချစ်သူသံစဉ်" (အပိုင်း-၃)

**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

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends opening ceremony of Textile Factory (Myittha) of MTI

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—A ceremony to open the Textile Factory (Myittha) of Myanmar Textile Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1 was held at the factory in Myittha Township on 20 March morning, attended by Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Also present on the

occasion were Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, ministers, deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office, departmen-



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views running of machines at Textile Factory (Myittha) of Myanmar Textile Industries.

MNA



An aerial view of Textile Factory (Myittha) of Myanmar Textile Industries under Ministry of Industry-1.—MNA

tal heads, local authorities, officials and technicians of the People's Republic of China, social organization members, staff and local people. Managing Director U Oo Thein Maung of MTI, Chairman of Kyaukse District PDC U Soe Win and Deputy Director Mr Liu Jian Zhong of the People's Republic of China formally opened the factory.

The Prime Minister unveiled the signboard of the factory.

(See page 6)

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sends felicitations to Pakistan

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — On the occasion of the anniversary of the Pakistan Day, which falls on 23 March 2009, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.— MNA

SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

POEM

The Myanmar Tatmadaw

- * Army, Navy, Air Force in full strength
- The prominent Tatmadaw
- Various duties it discharges
- With heart and soul

Development of education sector in the time of Tatmadaw Government



The people and the Tatmadaw remain inseparable from each other

KO MYANMAR