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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

Ministry of Defence Team wins SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Championship for 2006

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein awards winners of Golf Championship

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Trophy Golf Championship-2006 was held at Yedagon Taung Golf Resort in Mandalay on 9 and 10 December and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein opened the championship.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairman of the leading committee for organizing the championship Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han teed off the tracer balls and opened the championship on 9 December.

Golf teams representing ministries, the Supreme-Court, the Attorney-General's Office, the Civil Service Selection and Training Board and the Yangon City Development Committee and others to-

talling 34 teams participated in the championship.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party also participated in the championship together with participants of the golf teams in the first day of the 18-hole event.

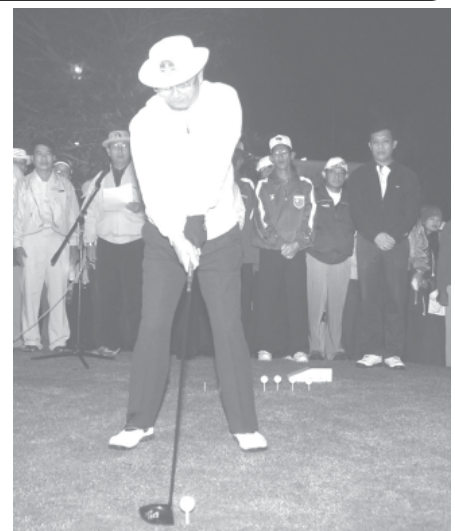
The final day of the event continued at the same golf resort yesterday and the championship concluded in the evening.

The prize presentation ceremony was held at the golf resort in the evening and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presented prizes to winners.

Also present at the ceremony were Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, deputy ministers, senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental officials and the golfers.

First, Chairman of the leading committee Minister U Aung Thaung briefed on the holding of the championship.

Next, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave the



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein tees off the Tracer Ball to open SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Championship for 2006.— MNA

championship trophy to Ministry of Defence Team who stood first in the team handicap event and the team scratch event and leader of the team accepted the trophy.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented the third prize to Ministry of Home Affairs Team in the team handicap event, the second prize to Ministry of Forestry Team and the first prize to Ministry of Defence Team.

Next, Minister U Aung Thaung awarded the third prize to the team representing the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, the second prize to Ministry of Forestry Team and the first prize to the Ministry of Defence Team in the team scratch event. He also presented cash awards to the music band and vocalists of Mandalay City Development Committee who presented entertainment during the prize presentation ceremony.

(See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents the trophy to the Ministry of Defence team in SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Championship for 2006.— MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 12 December, 2006

Turn out intellectuals and intelligentsia for national development

Now is the time when science and technologies are experiencing rapid development and so every nation in the world is trying to make its education sector compatible with the latest developments.

In such a situation, it is important for every citizen to be well-educated and rational and have all sense of perspective. More important, they should try to be upright and to serve the interests of the nation and the people.

The government is taking systematic measures to turn out intellectuals and intelligentsia for the emergence of a modern and developed nation. Efforts are being made for development of human resources and higher standard of education. Moreover, educational infrastructures are also being built across the nation.

Intellectuals and intelligentsia who can differentiate between good and bad and right and wrong play an important role in developing a nation. It is the duty of teachers to turn out such intellectuals and intelligentsia. Teachers should try their best for the realization of the national education promotion plans.

Only then will intellectuals and intelligentsia on whom the nation can rely constantly emerge and our common goal — a modern and developed nation — be realized.

Minister inspects Yangon-Mandalay Highway project

YANGON, 10 Dec — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by officials of Public Works, inspected construction of the approach road to Sittoung Bridge (Waw bank) and maintenance of Yangon-Bago six-lane road yesterday morning.

Next, the minister looked into road works on Yangon-Mandalay Highway from No 3 Junction to Bawnatgyi road section and the road section from mile posts (0/0) to (30/0). Superintending Engineer U Tin Hsan reported to the minister on laying of concrete, tarmacking, construction of conduit pipes and future tasks.

Giving his instructions, the minister stressed the need for timely completion of the project, meeting the set standards and use of machinery at full capacity.

MNA

People's Voice

- * 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

World AIDS Day observed in Kachin State



Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint addresses World AIDS Day 2006.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — Kachin State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Kachin State Health Department jointly organized the World AIDS Day 2006 at the City Hall in Myitkyina on 1 December morning.

Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint delivered an address.

Head of Kachin State Health Department Dr Khin Maung Win gave lectures on HIV and AIDS, and Leader of the Myitkyina Township AIDS and STD Control Team Dr Ar Zee on the disease control.

Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, wife Chairperson of Kachin State MCWSC Daw Nu Nu Swe and officials presented prizes to winners in the competi-

tions to mark the World AIDS Day. Next, they viewed prize winning works in the essay, painting, cartoon and poster contests and documentary photos on activities of the AIDS campaign.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun, senior military officers, Kachin State PDC Secretary U Maung Maung Win, departmental officials, social organizations and local people.

The commander greeted pre-school children who would visit Kachin State Cultural Museum.

At the Drug Addicts Hospital, the commander comforted the patients and presented brooches which marked the World AIDS Day to them.

MNA

Commander, Minister meet secretaries, executives of eight districts and 31 townships in Mandalay Division

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Dec — Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Patron of Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and USDA Secretariat Member Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met with secretaries and executives of eight district and 31 township USDAs at the hall of Mandalay Division USDA yesterday afternoon.

Secretary of Mandalay Division USDA U Tin Maung Oo reported on public welfare tasks carried out in eight districts and 31 townships.

Acting Secretary of Mandalay District USDA U Soe Thein and township secretaries submitted reports on undertaking of rural development tasks.

The commander and the secretariat member attended to their needs and instructed them to place emphasis on carrying out public welfare tasks including five rural development tasks.

In Amarapura Township, the commander and the minister offered robes and alms to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejobhasa and members of the Sangha at Sasanahita Sukhakari Monastery.

MNA



To hail the 40th Boold Donors Day, which falls on 14 December, U Thein Ngwe of The New Light of Myanmar made the 44th blood donation to Yangon National Blood Bank on 10 December, 2006. — NLM

Donate Blood

Lat-Am leaders end second summit

LONDON, 10 Dec—Latin American leaders have ended the second summit of the South American Community of Nations with a call for greater regional integration.

The summit was held in Bolivia alongside a meeting of indigenous groups from around the continent.

But it took place amidst tensions as Bolivian opposition groups are seeking greater autonomy for some areas.

Campaign leaders have

called on hundreds of thousands of their supporters to rally next week.

A band warmed up the crowd for the arrival of the visiting presidents.

It felt more like a music festival than a meeting of heads of state.

The Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, the Bolivian President Evo Morales and the Nicaraguan President-elect Daniel Ortega addressed a crowd of 40,000 in Cochabamba's main stadium.

Social and indigenous groups from around the continent were invited to the event, which ran in parallel with the summit.

The call was for an end to free trade.

But in their official meetings the presidents produced few concrete results. A South American parliament was mooted. A secretariat is to be set up in Brazil. Its aim will be to create a political bloc similar to the European Union.

Internet

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Syria's President Bashar al-Assad (L) welcomes his Nigerian counterpart Olusegun Obasanjo after reviewing an honour guard in Damascus on 10 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET



Workers at the assembly line in Tianjin Faw Toyota Motor Co, Ltd recently.—XINHUA

Bangladeshi President calls on Army to maintain peace

DHAKA, 10 Dec—Bangladeshi President Iajuddin Ahmed has called on the Army to help the civil administration to quell political unrest ahead of the country's general elections in January.

A spokesman of the President House said Saturday that the President has ordered the Home Secretary to deploy Army to assist the civil administration to restore order in the country.

The order for Army deployment came as a major political alliance led by Awami League President Sheikh Hasina threatened siege at the President House Monday to press for reconstitution of the controversial Election Commission. —MNA/Xinhua

Medical studies boost red wine sales

LOS ANGELES, 10 Dec— Red wine sales rose after medical studies suggested that red wine contains an anti-aging compound called resveratrol, it was reported on Saturday.

Market research firm ACNielsen this week reported a bump in red wine sales after a series of medical studies about the anti-aging properties of a compound called resveratrol, which is found in red wine, said the *Los Angeles Times*.

The ACNielsen report found that red wine sales had increased 8.3 per cent in the four weeks ended 18 November compared with the same period last year.

The rise "is more than what we'd normally expect", said market analyst Danny Raden at ACNielsen. "Our hypothesis is all that favourable press out there... led people

weighing their choices to tip in favour of red wine."

Although the experiments in mice proved authentic, a human would have to drink hundreds of glasses a day to get an equivalent dose of resveratrol, according to the studies.

"We're big winos and so here was another excuse to drink red wine," said Dana Frankley, 36, a wine dealer in California.

Harvard Medical School researcher David A Sinclair, senior author of a key resveratrol study, said wine drinkers were going overboard.

"To say our research endorses red wine consumption is missing the point," Sinclair said.

Besides, resveratrol is found in other food products, including nuts. The public has fixated on red wine, nuts have not seen a similar buzz.

MNA/Xinhua

China launches huge oil production, storage vessel

SHANGHAI, 10 Dec— A huge oil tanker, three football fields long and as tall as a 24-storey building, was launched Friday in Shanghai.

The ship, which can load or off-load 190,000 barrels of crude oil a day, is called a floating production storage off-loading (FPSO) vessel.

It was designed and built by Shanghai Waigaoqiao Shipbuilding Co Ltd and is the largest and most expensive of its kind in China, the company said.

The 300,000-ton dead weight vessel costs 240 million US dollars, close to the cost of an *Airbus A380*, the world's largest commercial airliner.

The vessel is 323 metres long and 63 metres wide, and measures 71 metres from its keel to the top of its smoke stack. It can store 2 million barrels of crude oil.

Shanghai Waigaoqiao Shipbuilding Co Ltd built the vessel for Conoco-Phillips China Inc.

MNA/Xinhua



Two US soldiers killed in Baghdad roadside bomb blast

BAGHDAD, 10 Dec— Two American soldiers were killed and two others were wounded by a roadside bomb during a "dismounted patrol" in south of Baghdad, the US military said in a statement on Saturday.

The soldiers, assigned to Multi-National Division-Baghdad, were responding to a possible improvised explosive device (IED) on Thursday in south of the city, when the blast took place, the statement said.

The latest deaths brought to 34 the number of US soldiers killed in Iraq since the beginning of December.

MNA/Xinhua

A major power transmission line that links Three Gorges project with Shanghai starts operation on 9 Dec, 2006, amid efforts to ensure the city's huge demand for power. —XINHUA

Gulf Arab states want nuclear power

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, 10 Dec—Gulf Arab countries want to acquire nuclear energy capability and have ordered a study on a possible joint atomic program, a statement read on Sunday at the close of a two-day Gulf Cooperation Council summit said.

“The countries of the region have the right to nuclear energy technology for peaceful purposes,” said Abdul-Rahman al-Attiya, secretary-general of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

The statement comes amid concerns over Iran’s nuclear ambitions and suspicions that Israel has nuclear weapons.

The statement called on Iran to cooperate with the international community

over its nuclear energy program, which Western countries led by the United States suspect is aimed at acquiring atomic weapons. Tehran says the program is peaceful.

It also called on Israel to cooperate with international bodies over its nuclear energy facilities.

Saudi officials have said a nuclear Iran could spur a regional arms race, hinting that Saudi Arabia, a key US ally, could look to acquire the technology too.

The GCC statement said its nuclear program would be aimed at meeting energy needs.

“The higher committee ordered a GCC-wide study to be carried out to create a joint program in nuclear technology for peaceful

purposes, according to international standards and arrangements,” he said, reading a closing statement.

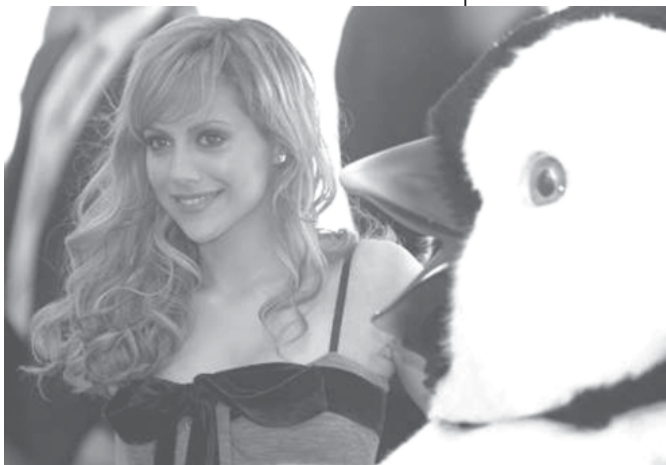
Internet

A tourist wears a ski mask while visiting the Great Wall at Badaling on the outskirts of Beijing on 9 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET



US actress Brittany Murphy poses with a man dressed as a penguin at the Sydney premiere of the movie “Happy Feet” at Fox Studios in Sydney on 10 Dec, 2006.

INTERNET



Malaysia to introduce new ID card for foreigners

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 Dec—The Malaysian Immigration Department will introduce a new identity card with security features for foreigners next year, an official said Friday. The new identity card will replace the existing card for foreign workers, maids, students,

trade officers, Malaysia My Second Home owners and workers of outsourcing companies, Home Minister Mohamed Radzi Sheikh Ahmad.

“The Immigration Department’s new identity card will have high physical security features apart from storing

the holder’s biometrics, photo and information in its chip,” he told reporters in the administrative centre of Putrajaya.

The card would be issued to 40,000 foreign students first, followed by the 1.8 million foreign workers, the minister added.—MNA/Xinhua

Fire at Moscow hospital kills 42

MOSCOW, 10 Dec—A fire broke out early Saturday at a drug treatment hospital in southwestern Moscow, killing up to 42 people, the Russian news agencies reported.

It was not immediately known how many people were injured and there were some different reports about the number of rescued people.

The ITAR-TASS news agency quoted the Emergency Ministry spokeswoman Irina Andrianova as saying that a total of 214 people were rushed to safety out of the burning building.

But reports from

Interfax quoted Emergency Ministry officials as saying that “some 100 people were rescued and 50 were hospitalized”. Some earlier reports also put the number of rescued people at 150.

MNA/Xinhua



East Timorese men wear traditional clothes during a ceremony in Dili on 10 Dec, 2006.

INTERNET

Firefighters battle bushfires in Australia

CANBERRA, 10 Dec—About 150,000 hectares, two homes and a pine plantation have so far been burnt in bushfires in Australia’s southeast state of Victoria.

Firefighters have worked through the night building containment lines near properties in Victoria’s Gippsland and the state’s north-east, in preparation for extreme fire conditions as temperatures in the high 30s and 40s are forecast for Saturday and Sunday.

Residents near Mansfield and further east in the King Valley have been on high alert

overnight, with fires threatening property, Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio reported. The Country Fire Authority’s Gary Weir said additional firefighters from the state of New South Wales as well as

New Zealand will join the front line Saturday.

“They’ll be helping around the north-east, around the Jamieson area and the Wangaratta area—we’ve prepositioned them,” he was quoted as saying.—MNA/Xinhua

US Marine killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 11 Dec—An American Marine was killed during a military operation in Iraq’s western Anbar Province, the US military said on Saturday.

The Marine, assigned to Regimental Combat Team 5, died of wounds sustained due to “enemy action” on Thursday, the military said in a statement.

Earlier, the military said two American soldiers were killed and two others were wounded by a roadside bomb during a “dismounted patrol” in south of Baghdad on Thursday.—MNA/Xinhua

Over 13% of young netizens, internet addicts

BEIJING, 10 Dec—More than 13.2 per cent of netizens under the age of 18 suffer from Internet addiction, said a report issued by the China National Children’s Centre here Friday. Internet addiction is particularly prominent among junior middle school and

vocational middle school students, the report on Chinese children’s life and development said.

Over 17 per cent of 13 to 17 years old netizens are hooked on the Internet, especially online gaming.

The report did not provide details on what

constitutes an Internet addict.

Official statistics show that China’s netizens reached 123 million by the end of the first half of this year, and 18.3 million were under the age of 18, accounting for 14.9 per cent of the total.

MNA/Xinhua



A man blows a trumpet at the end of the annual Argungu fishing festival on the Matan Fada river in Kebbi State, northwest Nigeria, on 9 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

Over 3.4 mln cars sold between Jan-Nov in China

BEIJING, 10 Dec—About 3.41 million cars were sold in between January and November, an increase of 40 per cent year-on-year, according to figures from the China Association of Auto-mobile Manufacturers.

According to figures released on Friday, Jetta was the most popular brand in November, followed by Santana and Excelle.

The top ten models sold 139,300 units, or 37.26 per cent of the national car sales in November.

The country's top 10 sedan manufacturers in the 11-month period this year are: Shanghai GM, FAW Volkswagen, Shanghai Volkswagen, Chery, Beijing Hyundai, Guangzhou Honda, FAW Toyota, FAW Xiali, Dongfeng Peugeot

Citroen and Geely.

Only Chery, FAW Xiali and Geely are Chinese companies, the others are joint ventures.

Sales of the 10 auto makers topped 2.34 million cars from January

to November, accounting for 68.71 per cent of the country's total.

China had between 8.4 and 9 million cars on the road at the end of last year.

MNA/Xinhua

108 arrested in massage parlour raids in Vancouver area

OTTAWA, 10 Dec—Canadian police carried out a series of raids on 18 massage parlours in Vancouver area Thursday night, making 108 arrests, reports said recently

Police targeted parlours suspected of having connections to the sex trade, organized crime and human trafficking operations.

Twenty-six of those arrested were clients at the parlours, while human trafficking investigators interviewed another 78 women, many of them

described as being Asian or South Asian, the reports said.

Mary Pichette, a social worker who runs a safe house for prostitutes in Surrey, said the raids were unprecedented in Canada.

Police found up to 130 women who were allegedly being sexually exploited, she said, adding that she believes the raids just scratch the surface of the problem.

MNA/Xinhua

“Discovery” lifts off, first night launch in four years

WASHINGTON, 10 Dec—US space shuttle *Discovery* successfully lifted off at 8:47 pm EST Saturday (0147 GMT on Sunday) at Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, flying to the *International Space Station* (ISS), according to NASA TV.

This was the first night launch in four years, also marking the third and last shuttle flight in 2006.

Outfitted with its external fuel tank and twin booster rockets at the seaside 39B launch pad, *Discovery* soared into space on the firing command, leaving splendid flames and roaring sound.

Discovery “lifts off successfully”, NASA spokesman Bruce Buckingham announced excitedly.

Several minutes before the scheduled launch time, Launch Director Mike Leinbach wished *Discovery* crew “good luck and Godspeed”.

“We’re looking forward to lighting up the night sky and rewiring the ISS,” replied commander Mark Polansky. The launch moment, which was lighting up the

Central Florida sky, was just like an amazing painting of masterpiece with the night sky as a cosmic canvas.

MNA/Xinhua

Chilean banker praises eco reform in China since WTO accession

SANTIAGO, 10 Dec—China has transformed its economy during the five years it has been a member of the World Trade Organization, Francisco Garces, a Chilean central banker and financial adviser said in a *Xinhua* interview Friday.

Garces described China's efforts to meet the goals set by the WTO when China joined in December 2001 as “gigantic”, saying that China has complied with most of the first round of goals set by the WTO.

“They have completed five years and in this time China has experienced sustained growth,” Garces told *Xinhua*.

China is now one of the most important trading nations, representing 10 per cent of world trade, and is contributing to

global growth and international price stability, he said.

Garces added that China's banks had become more autonomous thanks to opening of financial markets to allow foreign capital to be invested.

He highlighted Citibank's purchase of a Guangzhou Bank and other similar deals by Singapore-based firms.

Garces identified two

key challenges for the future — local financial regulation, especially relating to the influence of the central bank, and the development of local capital markets.

“This is not something that can be changed from one day to the next. It needs time and technical knowledge. That involves training staff both inside and outside China, and the hiring of outside experts,” he said.— MNA/Xinhua



Miss France 2007 Rachel Legrain Trapani from the Picardie region reacts after winning the title in Poitiers, central France on 9 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET



Visitors watch as a diver in Santa Claus costume feeds fish at Shanghai Ocean Aquarium on 9 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET



The US space shuttle *Discovery* lifts off from Launch Pad 39B at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 9 Dec, 2006.—XINHUA

Nepal in homework on Nepal-India trade treaty renewal

KATHMANDU, 10 Dec — As the current Nepal-India trade treaty is expiring on 5 March, 2007, the Nepali Government is on consultation with trade experts and other concerned stakeholders to build a national position for improving the treaty while renewing it, local *The Kathmandu Post* daily reported here Saturday.

“As both countries have already agreed to make some changes in the treaty given the changed context, we are now on consultation with stakeholders on how we can best serve the Nepali interest in the renewed treaty,” the newspaper reported quoting sources at the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies.

“As South Asia has already entered into free trade agreement, we need to make some changes to

maintain its unique characteristics,” he said.

India has been providing duty-free access to Nepali goods as per the treaty provision, but it has lost its edge with the enforcement of South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) last year.

“India has proposed the inclusion of service trade, investment, industrial promotion and energy in upcoming treaty to deepen the impact on bilateral trade in which

Nepal is also supportive,” said the official. However, Nepali businessmen and trade experts have asked the government to work for eliminating non-tariff barriers, selective inclusion of service sector and special measures for protecting the interest of Nepali farmers.

MNA/Xinhua



Thousands of runners dressed as Santa Claus wait for the start of a 5 km run during the Second Annual Las Vegas Great Santa Run on 9 Dec, 2006. An estimated 4,500 runners registered for the charity event, which also included a 1 km walk, organizers said. Liverpool, England holds the current Guinness World record with 3,991 Santa runners, according to organizers. —INTERNET

Pakistan successfully test-fires Ballistic Missile

ISLAMABAD, 10 Dec— Pakistan on Saturday conducted a successful launch of the Short Range Ballistic Missile, the Army said.

The *Hataf-III* (Ghaznavi) missile has a range of 290 km, a statement from the Army's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said.

This was the third launch of a ballistic missile by the Strategic Missile Group (SMG) in as many weeks as part of the training exercises of the Pakistan Army's Strategic Force Command (ASFC), according to the statement.

Two other SMGs had earlier conducted successful launches of the Ghauri and Shaheen-I ballistic

missiles last month.

“The launch came at the culmination phase of the training exercise, which validated the operational readiness of the Strategic Missile Group (SMG) equipped with *Ghaznavi* missiles,” the statement said.

Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Tanvir Mahmood Ahmed and a large number of senior military officers, scientists and engineers of the strategic organizations witnessed the launch exercise, it added.

MNA/Xinhua



Residents watch a performance on the outskirts of Changzhi, north China's Shanxi Province on 10 Dec, 2006. China's population is so large and its economy growing so quickly that it is set to displace Japan as the country with the world's second largest number of rich people after the US, *Financial Times* reported. —INTERNET

Ugandan capital bans food vending as cholera epidemic escalates

KAMPALA, 10 Dec — The authorities of Uganda's capital city of

Kampala has banned food vending in the city in an attempt to curb the rising cholera epidemic that has so far left 13 people dead and 305 hospitalized.

The indefinite ban, imposed by Kampala City Council (KCC), prohibited the selling of food items along the streets such as porridge, juice, ice cream, milk, roasted groundnuts, pancakes, water and roasted grasshoppers.

Dr Mesach Mubiru, the Kampala Health Director was quoted by local media on Friday as saying the ban followed reports that the majority of cases were caused by eating food sold at roadsides.

“It is therefore proven

that selling food items on the streets is unhealthy and must be stopped immediately,” said Mubiru. He added that all markets, abattoirs, restaurants and other eating places in the city ought to be inspected to conform to basic health standards.

The city council has also ordered its enforcement team to confiscate property of whoever attempts to sell prepared food on the streets and arrest the vendors. KCC, along with the Ministry of Health and World Health Organization have set up a cholera treatment centre at Mulago Hospital parking yard to handle the problem.

MNA/Xinhua

Donors pledge \$475m to fight bird flu

WASHINGTON, 10 Dec — International donors have pledged approximately 475 million dollars to help countries to fight highly pathogenic avian influenza, said a statement released by the World Bank on Friday.

UN officials had hoped for up to twice the amount pledged Friday, but welcomed the results at an avian flu summit in Bamako, Mali.

“This is a clear sign that the international community remains firmly focused on the fight against avian influenza, with a special emphasis on Africa, which remains vulnerable to the spread of the H5N1 virus,” said UN Senior Influenza Coordinator, Dr David Nabarro.

He said that more donor financing would certainly be available over the coming months as donors move into new budget cycles in the coming financial year, according to the statement.

The World Bank also vowed that it would help all countries get the financial and technical support they need to control avian flu in their poultry flocks, while protecting their communities from the risk of a human influenza pandemic. —MNA/Xinhua



A foraging Emperor penguin preens on snow-covered sea ice around the base of the active volcano Mount Erebus, near McMurdo Station, the largest US Science base in Antarctica, on 9 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

Favouritism democracy and benefiting democracy

Saw Nandar (Manaung)

The term "democracy" originated in Europe, and it was introduced in Athens city state. However, the practice of democracy was not brought to fruition at all in Athens city state in Europe. Poppy, which poses the gravest danger to the mankind, is native to Europe. At first, it was used for medical purposes only. Later, Europeans used it as a tool in colonizing other countries.

And the term "democracy" was used with several words modifying it according to the norm of the nation concerned, for instance: capitalist democracy, socialist democracy, and so on. Up to now, the motto "democracy wave must overwhelm the world" some countries are crying out is not found practical and firm. The world has not seen yet a model country whose democratic norms are in conformity with the wishes of the majority of its people. And it is virtually impossible to create a country that can bring the essence of the word democracy cent per cent. For that reason, a country's exercise of democracy must rest on the social life and the standard of living of its people, and its democracy must be modified by a suitable adjective.

It is perceived that in the past poppy was used in colonizing other countries, and now neo-colonialists are using the beautiful word "democracy" to expand their domination over the world. All other countries have adopted the word democracy into the language concerned. In fact, the word "democracy" must be termed a process practised according to the desire of the majority.

Anyhow, democracy must be a system that is practised in the interest of human beings, and it should not be a system that is practised just to win the support and applause of the majority of people. It is easy to win the favour of the majority, but difficult to serve the interests of the majority.

Favouritism democracy is a system designed just to win the support and applause of the majority. Such democracy does not bring any benefits to the people. However, benefiting democracy is a system intended to give the priority to the development of the nation and the majority of the people, not just to win the support of the people.

Favouritism democracy

I would like to present some weak points of the favouritism democracy Myanmar practised in the past. In 1948 Myanmar regained independence and the AFPFL government came to power, practising the parliamentary democracy. The AFPFL party, the then ruling party, exercised favouritism democracy, as evidenced by the fact that members of the party were vying each other for support such as issuing import licences and presenting capital to the relatives and friends of the circle concerned. So, they were unable to pay due attention to the interests of the people. At the third conference of the AFPFL held in 1958, the party split into two factions — Thantshin (Clean) AFPFL (Nu and Tin) and Temye (Stable) AFPFL (Swe and Nyein). They organized the people and friends of the circle concerned in scramble by offering various kinds of incentives to win victory over the other faction. They invested money in organizing parliament members, while offering the imprudent promise of secession from the Union to a small group of people as well as religious incentive, culminating in the damage to the fundamental principles of the AFPFL. That was followed by political unrest, and in the end, it had to transfer State power to the Tatmadaw in 1962.

Benefiting democracy

In the time of the kings, Myanmar saw many patriotic State leaders who constantly dedicated themselves to nation-building tasks. King Anaukphetlun, a member of Bayintnaung Dynasty, impaled Portuguese Philip Debrito (a) Nga Zinkar in the presence of the people. He also sentenced his famous poet Natshin Naung, a traitor to the nation who won the support of the people, to death penalty. He made a sharp decision to execute the follower of the colonialists, instead of yielding to the wish of the majority.

The administrative system of serving national interests of U Aung Zeya (a) King Alaung Phaya, founder of the Konbaung Era, was noteworthy.

The majority of Asian nations had to emulate the system as an example. The administrative responsibility was shared area-wise. If a person lost property due to theft, the administrator of the locality

concerned had to pay compensation to the victim. If a robbery occurred near a village, the head of that particular village bore the responsibility to pay the compensation. The system made the administrators always pay special attention to their duties. So the administrative machinery was always run smoothly. The court personnel had to strive to keep an area free from theft or robbery. They had to strictly obey the orders of their superiors. They could not hide anything. The people therefore were enjoying significant peace and stability. There was no bribery nor personality cult at all in the country during the time.

There are stories in the religious treatises concerning the matter. One of the stories says, "Once there was a king who ruled his subjects with justice, sympathy and goodwill. His court officials were flattering him. As he wished to know the nation's real situation, he secretly left the palace in disguise one night. While on his way to a village, the king was abducted by a group of robbers. After robbing him of his money, the robbers told him not to complain about the robbery to the local administrator, because, they said, they had already bribed him. When the king asked the robbers, "Are other areas like this?", the robbers said "Yes". When the king arrived back at the court, he punished the corrupt administrators at all levels. The king also promoted and presented gifts to the sincere and straightforward court personnel."

The story warns us that corrupt officials and flatterers may appear in any administrative system; that the ruler should not be deceived by such persons as they are going to give trouble to the people; that the ruler should keep in the fore the people's interests.

Favouritism democracy is used in the interest of a group of people or a party. It will harm the public interest and jeopardize the rule of law. Benefiting democracy is practised by the persons who love the nation and dare to make sacrifices in the national interests. The latter system will lead the nation to prosperity and progress.

The National Convention has been in session to draw a new constitution for the people to exercise the multiparty democracy system. At the National Convention, the delegates representing the whole nation are laying down and adopting the detailed basic principles for the constitution. They have already adopted most of the detailed basic principles. The new constitution will ensure discipline-flourishing democracy. The administrative machinery will be run in accord with the constitution for the benefit of the nation and the people. Hence, we all should strive for implementing democracy that serves the public interest.

(Translation: MS+TMT)

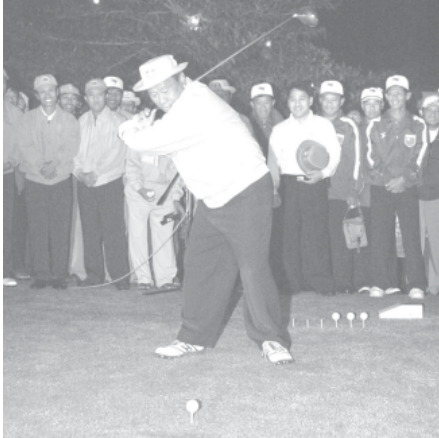
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Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein awards winners of Golf Championship...

(from page 1)

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw presented prizes to those who

Zaw Han presented prizes to those who stood grades from four to 20 in the individual handicap event.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint tees off to open SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Championship.

MNA

won Most Birdie, Most Par, Longest Drive and Nearest Pin and awarded the first, second and third prize winners of the individual (handicap) and (scratch) events.

Next, ministers and Mayor Brig-Gen Phone

After the ceremony, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party posed for a documentary photo together with Ministry of Defence Team.

In the team handicap event, Ministry of Defence Team won the tro-



Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw tees off to open SPDC Chairman's Trophy Golf Championship. — MNA

Judgment of three special criminal appeal cases passed, six special civil appeal cases heard

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Yangon) U Thein Soe,

Supreme Court Judges U Myint Thein and U Han Shein sitting at court room No 1 of the Supreme Court (Nay Pyi Taw), passed judgment of three special

criminal appeal cases and heard six special civil appeal cases under section 7 of the Judiciary Law, 2000.

MNA

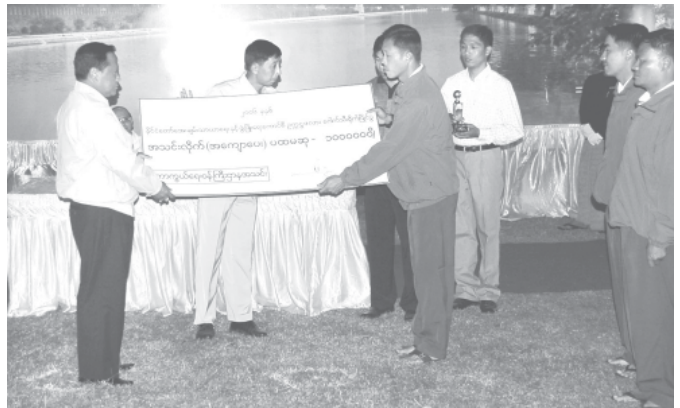


Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with Ministry of Defence Team. — MNA

phy with 477 strokes; Ministry of Forestry Team stood second with 527 strokes and Ministry of Home Affairs stood third with 548 strokes.

In the team scratch event, Ministry of Defence Team stood first with 621 strokes; Ministry of Forestry Team second with 665 strokes and Ministry of PBANRDA stood third with 666 strokes.

In the individual handicap event, Capt Ye



Lt-Gen Ye Myint presents prize to Ministry of Defence Team who stood first in team handicap event. — MNA

Htet of Ministry of Defence stood first with 117 strokes, Capt Htet Aung Khaing of Ministry of Defence stood second with 118 strokes and Capt Nyan Koe of Ministry of Defence stood third with 120 strokes.

In the individual scratch event, Capt Ye Htet of Ministry of Defence stood first with 153 strokes; Capt Htet Aung Khaing of Ministry of Defence second with 154 strokes and Capt Nyan Koe third with 156 strokes.

Police Captain Ye Myint of Ministry of Home Affairs won the most par prize, Capt Zaw Min of Ministry of Defence won the most birdie prize and Capt Ye Htet of Ministry of Defence won the most eagle prize. — MNA



Minister U Aung Thaung presents prize to Ministry of Defence Team who stood first in team scratch event. — MNA

Thanks to concerted efforts of the State, the Tatmadaw and the people changes and developments of the nation are destined for new democratic nation

Advanced Management (Special) Course No 3 for USDA Executives opened



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo delivers an address at opening of Advanced Management (Special) Course No 3 for USDA Executives. — MNA

YANGON, 11 Dec—The Advanced Management (Special) Course No 3 for Executives of the Union Solidarity and Development Association was opened at the Pyidaungsu hall of the USDA Training School in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division this morning with an address by Secretary-General of the USDA U Htay Oo.

Also present on the occasion were executives of the USDA, guests, In Charge of the course Lt-Col Khin Win, supervisors and trainees.

In his address, Secretary-General of the USDA U Htay Oo said that at present efforts are being made for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, adding that the government is taking all the necessary measures in transition to democracy aspired by the people. At the same time, the State, the Tatmadaw and the people are making concerted efforts for laying down good foundations that can guarantee the perpetuation of a new nation that will soon emerge.

He said that members of the USDA born of the people are now actively taking part in nation-building endeavours together with the people. Based on noble objectives and correct principles, the USDA has laid down and is implementing the future work programmes in the interest of the State and the people. As it has won trust and cooperation of the people, the number of its members has increased up to over 23.8 million, he noted.

As the number of its members has been on the increase all the more efforts are to be made for the association to become a strong and qualified force in order that it can further serve the interest of the people, he added. Priority is being given to qualitative

improvement of each member so that the USDA at different levels can effectively participate in the drive for building a new and modern nation.

Based on united strength, the USDA at different levels will be able to serve the interest of peoples of the respective regions as each of its members has been endowed with qualification, he stressed. Each and every course conducted by the USDA (Central) for USDA at different levels was aimed at enabling each member to serve the interest of the people rather than his own.

He said that the course opened today was conducted with the aim of enabling USDA at different levels to take part in nation-building endeavours in accord with the future work programmes laid down by the USDA (Central) and of ensuring the entire national people to participate in national development tasks through the organizing strength of the USDAs.

At the course, experienced and well-qualified course instructors will give lectures on correct leadership and obedience, national politics, national security and prevailing situations of the nation. And those who are attending the course are the ones who are carrying out regional development tasks with might and main in line with the future work programmes laid down by the USDA (Central).

Thanks to concerted efforts of the State, the Tatmadaw and the people, changes and developments of the nation are destined for a new democratic nation that is the national goal. In the meantime, systematic steps are being taken for perpetuation of a new nation soon to emerge while striving for stability of the State, ensuring strong economy of the State and high

standard of the national education.

Having a glance at the present situations it is found that progress has been made in all aspects as a result of making to concerted efforts of the State, the Tatmadaw and the people, and the nation is on the right path of the stability and development, he said.

He said that the Union of Myanmar is a nation where various national races have been residing through thick and thin since yore. The Union Spirit came into existence on the basis of loving-kindness and mutual understanding between national races. The Union Spirit is a prerequisite for Our Three Main National Causes.

Now, unprecedented progress has been made in all sectors since efforts are being made with nationalistic spirit. And the seven-step Road Map has been laid down and is being implemented for the emergence of a new, modern and developed nation. In the process, the National Convention, the first phase of the Road Map is being convened, and the emergence of a new constitution is the duty of all the citizens. This being so, the entire national people are to do their bit for successful realization of the seven-step Road Map.

At a time when the nation is making progress in all spheres, the internal and external destructive elements in cohort with some foreign broadcasting stations are turning a blind eye to national development and making attempts to jeopardize the stability and peace already in place. Their attempts cannot destroy the nation-building endeavours but impede the national development. Therefore, the USDA is to defend and ward off the attempts that are detrimental to the State.

In conclusion, he stressed the need for the USDA members to try their best to be able to further serve the national interest, applying knowledge and experience gained from the course in a pragmatic way, to successfully implement the future work programmes laid down by the USDA (Central), to try their utmost for ensuring peace and stability of the nation, while striving for flourishing of nationalistic spirit and to try hard to become a strong national force capable of serving the interest of the State and the nation under the leadership of the USDA (Central).

After the opening ceremony, the Secretary-General cordially greeted the trainees.—MNA

Now, unprecedented progress has been made in all sectors since efforts are being made with nationalistic spirit. And the seven-step Road Map has been laid down and is being implemented for the emergence of a new, modern and developed nation.

Chairman of MIDC inspects foundry shop of Mandalay Industrial Zone



Minister U Aung Thaung inspects machinery parts produced at Foundry Shop in Upgrading Project for Mandalay Industrial Zone. — INDUSTRY-1

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — Chairman of Myanma Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected foundry shop of Mandalay Industrial Zone Upgrading Project yesterday.

The minister inspected process of casting, production of spare parts for vehicles such as gears, steering wheels, compressors and brake shoes according to the demands of government departments

and private industries.

He gave instructions on production of import substitute items of high quality.

The minister went to machine shop and inspected production of vertical lathe machine and installation of long lathes.

The foundry shop produces 87 items including the body of light truck and the covers of headlights of the jeep.

The minister then met chairman of Mandalay Tawwin Industrial Co Ltd

and members and industrialists.

Chairman of Mandalay Tawwin Industrial Co Ltd U Aung Win Khaing reported on progress of the foundry shops, production and arrangements for quality control of the products.

Next, U Myint Swe of Mann Star Motor Production reported on production of the vehicles.

The minister observed vehicles manufactured by Mandalay Industrial Zone and visited AMA. — MNA



Myanmar delegation led by U Thein Htut, Chief Editor, Myanmar News Agency (External), seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for Japan on 11 December 2006. Under the programme of "One Village One Product Movement" and sponsorship of Asian Productivity Organization (APO), Japan, the six-member delegation will go on study tour of Oika in Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan, from 13 to 16 December and will participate in workshop in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17 to 23 December. — MNA

Commander, minister attend inauguration...

(from page 16)

At Mandalay Railway Station, Deputy Minister U Pe Than together with Managing Director U Min Swe of Myanma Railways and responsible personnel sprinkled scented water to the coaches of No 37 special express up train which will ply between Mandalay and Myitkyina. Next, they cordially greeted the passengers,

presented souvenirs to them.

The No 37 special express up train and No 38 special express down train will start their fourneys at 12 noon daily Starting from 11 December and the trains will stop at Shwebo and Monyin Stations only.

The No 38 special express down train will have altogether 11

coaches— six coaches at the ordinary class, four sleepers at the upper class and one coach at the upper class.

The coaches of the special express trains were from 130 coaches presented as goodwill gifts by China during Prime Minister General Soe Win's goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China in 2006.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min presents gift to a passenger on Myitkyina-Mandalay Special Express Train. — MNA

Myanmar Fisheries Market Festival in Yangon 15-17 Dec

YANGON, 11 Dec — Myanmar Fisheries Federation will hold the Myanmar Fisheries Market Festival in its compound at the corner of Bayintnaung Road and Hsewa Setyon Street in West Gyogon, Insein, Yangon, from 15 to 17 December.

Booths will be opened every day from 9 am to 10 pm at the festival launched at 3 pm on 15 December.

The festival will educate the public to know more about the fishery products for health and other purposes and help boost production and exports of the sector. It will

also introduce advanced packaging systems and various types of cuisine and cooking methods to the visitors.

The MFF and other related associations and private companies will open booths, shops and restaurants at the festival.

Myanmar is producing fishery products for local demand and exports. During the third five-year national economic project from 2001-2002 to 2005-2006, the fishery sector was the fourth largest contributor to the GDP and also the fourth largest source of foreign exchange earnings.

With the leadership

of the ministry, the sector will boost exports to reach US \$ 400 million in 2006-2007 fiscal year in addition to raise its contribution to the GDP.

With the help of Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the Myanmar Fisheries Association was upgraded into Myanmar Fisheries Federation on 1 December 1998. The MFF became a member federation of the ASEAN Fisheries Federation on 18 September 2002.

The MFF will organize the festival in hailing its eight annual general meeting that will be held 15 December. — MNA

Urban Chinese record double-digit income growth

BEIJING, 11 Dec — China's rapid economic growth has brought about double-digit growth in the incomes for urban residents this year, said a report of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), a major government think tank.

The average per capita disposable income of urban residents is likely to increase by 10.5 per cent this year and by 10 per cent next year, said the CASS in analysis

and forecast for 2007.

Rural residents are expected to see incomes up by 6.1 per cent this year and 6 per cent next year.

According to the National Development and Reform Commission, urban residents' per capita disposable income reached 5,997 yuan (749.6 US dollars) in the first half of this year, an increase of 10.2 per cent. The disposable incomes of rural

residents was 1,797 yuan (224.6 dollars), up 11.9 per cent.

The CASS report warned that China's serious unemployment situation is likely to continue next year, with more than 15 million urban people unable to find jobs and more than 100 million labourers in rural areas yet to be fully employed, widening the rural-urban income gap.

MNA/Xinhua



GM's California design lab has recently released a two dimensional rendering of the Hummer O2 at the 2006 Los Angeles Auto Show.—INTERNET

Ian Blair cleared by inquiry into Menezes shooting

LONDON, 11 Dec — London's chief police officer Sir Ian Blair has been cleared of any misconduct charges over the mistaken killing of a Brazilian man on a subway train last year.

Blair, the Commissioner of London's Metropolitan Police has been told in a letter by Independent Police Complaints Commission that there is no evidence that he misled the public over the shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes, *The Times* newspaper reported.

The Brazilian was killed by police marksmen in an underground carriage at Stockwell Station in South London on 22 July last year during a botched counter-terrorist operation the day after four bombers allegedly tried to blow up underground trains.

The 27-year-old electrician was followed from a house linked to one

of the suspects and shot nine times after boarding a train.

One investigation by the Independent Police Complaints Commission has looked at the shooting

and another, nicknamed "Stockwell Two", has examined complaints from the de Menezes family about what Sir Ian and his force said afterwards.

MNA/PTI



A labourer winnows wheat at a foodstuff storage in Xining, northwest China's Qinghai Province, on 8 Dec, 2006. — INTERNET

Ex-detainees reportedly seek right to sue Rumsfeld

LOS ANGELES, 11 Dec — Nine former detainees in Iraq and Afghanistan are seeking the right to sue outgoing Defence Secretary Donald H Rumsfeld and three senior Army leaders for alleged torture, it was reported here on Saturday.

The suit is believed to be the first to try to hold US officials accountable for the abuse at prisons.

As non-citizens of the US, the detainees, however, might not be allowed to pursue their claims in US court, the *Los Angeles Times* reported, quoting a judge.

This indicates the flareup of the debate over abuses in US military prisons in Iraq and Afghanistan. The scandal triggered worldwide outcry and forced an overhaul of US interrogation rules.

In US District Court, lawyers for Iraqi and Afghan civilians said Rumsfeld and the officers, two of whom have retired, violated US and international law and should be held personally responsible for the abuse they say their clients suffered, said the paper.

The ex-prisoners said in the suit that they were beaten to the point of unconsciousness, mutilated, stabbed and urinated on, and endured mock executions, among other abuses.

They were among the thousands of prisoners held by the US military at Abu Ghraib and other locations in Iraq and Afghanistan, including detention facilities in Kandahar and Bagram.

They asked the court to award unspecified monetary damages and to declare their treatment illegal.

US District Judge Thomas F. Hogan indicated he was sympathetic to the former detainees' plight, but he questioned whether they had the right under the US Constitution to sue.—MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia sends more aid to Philippines

KUALA LUMPUR, 11 Dec — Malaysia on Saturday sent second batch of aid to the Albay Province in the Philippines for the victims of Typhoon Dorian.

Two C130 transport aircraft carrying 14 tons of aid Saturday morning took off from the Royal Malaysian Air Force base in Subang near here and left for the Legaspi City Airport.

National Security Division's disaster and crisis management director, Che Moin Umar, said the aid includes items such as clothes, medicine, gas stoves, mosquito repellents and foodstuff.

MNA/Xinhua

Fire leaves 2 dead, hundreds homeless in LA

LOS ANGELES, 11 Dec — Two people were killed and hundreds were left homeless after a fire ripped through a three-storey complex apartment near Los Angeles, fire officials said on Sunday.

The fire started Saturday and spread swiftly through the apartment building in Long Beach, about several miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles, said the officials.

Fire investigators combed the 310-unit property, looking for causes why the blaze was moving so fast. The fire also injured 18 people.—MNA/Xinhua

Four found dead in Brooklyn, New York

NEW YORK, 11 Dec — The decayed bodies of two adults and two children were found inside an apartment in Brooklyn, New York on Sunday, police said.

Police were called to the scene because of reports of an odor, and the search ended up with police breaking down the door and finding the bodies.

The victims were a man, a woman, and an adolescent boy and girl, police said. No names or cause of death were immediately released.

Neighbors had differing accounts of when the people in the apartment had last been seen. One neighbor said she had seen the woman late last week, but another remembered last seeing the couple around Thanksgiving.

Neighbours first reported an ugly smell on Saturday. MNA/Xinhua

Seven killed as India's mining dump caves in

PANAJI, 11 Dec — Seven persons were killed when a mining dump caved in at an iron ore mine at Collem in Goa Saturday, police said.

One body has been retrieved from the site, while the remaining six bodies could not be recovered by the police, fire and emergency services.

Personnel of the Military Training Regiment has been called at the site, while rescue operation were on to retrieve the remaining trapped bodies from the site, South Goa Superintendent of Police Shekar Prabhudessai said.

MNA/PTI

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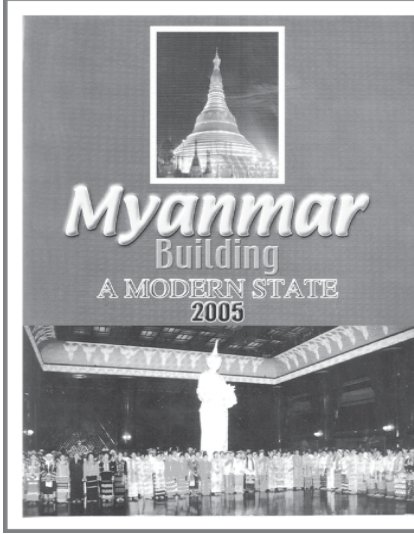
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TERAJU VOYNO (185)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TERAJU VOYNO (185) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.12.2006 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 PTE LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Typhoon “Seniang” hits central Philippines

MANILA, 11 Dec—Typhoon Seniang (international codename Utor) struck the central Philippines, causing power blackouts in many areas, the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) said on Sunday.

The typhoon made landfall in Eastern Samar on Saturday, knocking out power and communication lines in many areas in Cebu, Leyte, Aklan, Tacloban

City, Boracay and Sariaya, Quezon, according to an NDCC report. In Albay Province, up to 57,000 people trooped to makeshift evacuation centres, fearing a repeat of a mudslide that killed hundreds in the province last week, said the NDCC.

Typhoon Seniang hit Romblon early Sunday as it moves towards the southern part of Occidental Mindoro and the Calamian Group of Islands, said state weather bureau PAGASA.

The PAGASA said, as of 4 am Sunday, the eye of the typhoon was spotted at 50 kilometres south of Romblon or 140 kilometres east-southeast of San Jose, Occidental Mindoro. It is predicted to pass through Occidental Mindoro by Sunday afternoon.—MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

China’s GDP to grow by 10.5% this year

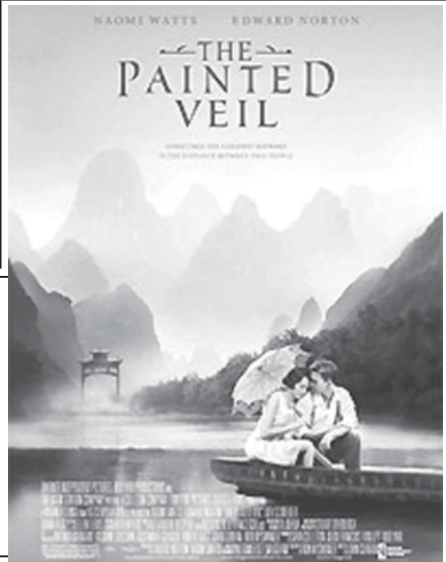
BEIJING, 11 Dec—China’s gross domestic product (GDP) is estimated to exceed 20 trillion yuan (about 2.56 trillion US dollars) this year, up 10.5 per cent over 2005, said Ma Kai,

minister of the State Development and Reform Commission (SDRC), here on Saturday.

Addressing the national development and reform working conference, Ma said that

the country’s economy has been developing this year fairly fast with good efficiency and low inflation. Stable economic operation has benefited the people and will power future development.

MNA/Xinhua

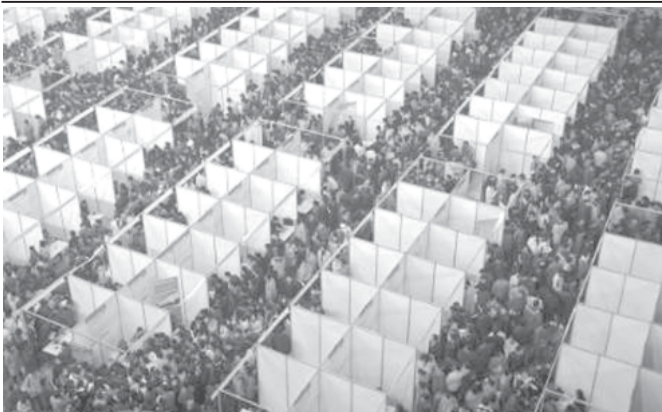


The poster of the movie “The Painted Veil”. Thanks to the upcoming film premiere, “The Painted Veil” by Somerset Maugham has been published in Chinese and will be available in bookstores this weekend.—INTERNET

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Job seekers visit a job fair in Hefei, east China's Anhui Province on 10 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

China launches geostationary orbit satellite

XICHANG, 10 Dec — China successfully launched its second geostationary orbit meteorological satellite, *Fengyun-2D (FY-2D)*, on Friday to provide better weather forecast services for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

The *FY-2D* satellite was launched into the target orbit at 8:53 am aboard a *Long March-3A* carrier rocket from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province.

"The satellite will monitor weather changes

at all the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games ve-nues," Li Qin, chief designer of the *FY-2D*, told *Xinhua*.

"The *FY-2D* will provide accurate and timely information about weather changes to help us with weather forecasts during the Beijing 2008

Olympic Games, especially the opening and closing ceremony and important contests," he said. The satellite separated from the rocket about 24 minutes after lift-off and then successfully entered the geostationary transfer orbit, according to the satellite monitoring centre in Xi'an.

This launch is the eleventh flight of the *LM-3A* carrier rocket and all 11 flights have been successful.

"The *LM-3A* has now entered a phase of steady commercial operation," said Li Jinghong, deputy designer of the rocket.

China started developing the *LM-3A* in March 1986. At its first launch on 8 February, 1994, the *LM-3A* carrier rocket successfully sent the *Shijian-4* satellite and a dummy satellite into orbit. —MNA/Xinhua

Scientists studying malaria fuels spread of "AIDS"

NAIROBI, 10 Dec — Scientists studying the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS in the Kenyan city of Kisumu have found malaria may be fuelling the spread of the killer scourge in the East African nation.

The new scientific studies say HIV was spreading more quickly than they would expect just through risky sexual behaviour. When people with HIV/AIDS contract malaria, it causes a surge of HIV virus in their blood, making them more likely to infect a partner.

The way the two diseases interact can help them spread faster, said the research published in the journal *Science*.

"This results in an increase in the viral load of HIV virus in the body. Studies have shown that the higher the viral load, the easier a person is able to transmit the virus to

another person if they are having unprotected sex," the studies say.

According to the researchers, 5 per cent of HIV infections can be linked to increased viral load caused by malaria. They also believe that 10 per cent of adult malaria cases are linked to HIV.

The further weakening of the body defence system of an HIV-positive person by malaria parasite is also known to intensify their progression towards HIV/AIDS.

Such development is likely to result in more deaths among the infected people, if they are not on a responsive treatment regime. —MNA/Xinhua



An African lion named "Prince" lies on the ground after being anaesthetized by veterinarians at the Ramat Gan Safari near the central Israeli city of Tel Aviv on 10 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

Europe's "ariane" rocket launches two US satellites

PARIS, 10 Dec — Europe's *Ariane 5* rocket was launched late Friday in French Guiana, carrying two US telecommunications satellites into orbit.

The heavy-lift *Ariane 5*

rocket was launched from Europe's Kourou spacebase on the northeastern coast of South America at 7:08 pm (2208 GMT), its fifth mission in 2006. According to the Arianespace rocket launch company live broadcast, the *WildBlue-1* communications satellite was released 27 minutes into the launch, followed by SES Americom's *AMC-18* satellite five minutes later.

WildBlue-1 was released into a preliminary orbit and is designed to provide high speed broadband Internet service to rural areas in the United States and Canada, while *AMC-18* will be used for high definition television and telecommunications service across the United States.

MNA/Xinhua

Report says OPEC may refrain from further output cut

WASHINGTON, 10 Dec — With oil prices back above 60 US dollars a barrel and the global economy slowing, OPEC is likely to refrain from further tightening its oil spigots when the cartel meets next Thursday in Nigeria, *The Wall Street Journal* reported on Friday.

But in an indication that oil prices are likely to remain lofty, the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries will be poised to cut output if needed, with an eye on large stockpiles of crude stored around the world, the report quoted senior officials of this organization as saying.

The cartel, which meets about a third of the world demand of 85 million barrels of crude per day, in October called for a 4.4-per-cent reduction in its output. It remains unclear how much has been cut, but even partial compliance will mean the market is about to feel a drop in shipments. Some industry analysts say prices could rise next year because the world will need more oil from the cartel, not less.

Several OPEC officials said the cartel is likely to schedule another meeting for late January or early February to review output levels.

"We don't have to do anything right now. This is our analysis of the situation," said a senior official of one major member of the 11-nation cartel.

MNA/Xinhua



A chained dog sits on a snow-covered hill at the port of Pajares, in the northern Spanish region of Asturias, on 10 Dec, 2006. Northern Spain was hit by a freeze weather with heavy wind, rain and snowfalls. —INTERNET

SPORTS

N Korea beat China 3-1 into women's soccer final at Asiad

DOHA, 11 Dec— Two extra-time goals gifted North Korea a 3-1 win over China in the women's soccer semifinal at the Doha Asian Games on Sunday.

North Korea controlled the game in the first half, but it was China who scored first. Chinese midfielder Wang Dandan powered the ball home from a cross at the 10th minute.

But North Korean forward Kil Son Hui tied the score in the 21st minute with a goal-mouth tap. Then, North Korea squandered several scoring chances in front of the well-organized Chinese defence.

After the interval, China played more actively in the attacking but both sides failed to get any more goals.

China's defence collapsed during extra time and North Korea scored twice in five minutes. Ri Kum Suk first scored on 94 minutes, followed by the goal from Ri Un Gyong in the 99th minute. —MNA/Xinhua



The Chinese synchronised swimming team performs its free routine during the team event free routine final at Doha Asiad, Qatar, on 9 Dec, 2006.—XINHUA

China, Japan reaches women's volleyball final

DOHA, 11 Dec— Defending champion China has outgun Taipei in straight sets, setting up a final clash against Japan in the women's volleyball tournament here on Sunday.

It is the fourth time for the two Asian powerhouses to meet in Asiad's

final and the last China-Japan final was staged in Seoul in 1986, when China bagged the gold medal.

The semifinal between China and Taipei turned out to be easier than previously expected by the Chinese coach Chen Zhonghe with his opponents scoring as low as 17, 13, 17 points in each set respectively.

Wang Yimei, a rising star of China, contributed

most with 15 points, followed by the Chinese powerful hitter Yang Hao who scored 14 points.

The two teams have met in preliminaries when China beat Taipei also in straight sets.

Chen declined to make any comment after the match, but China's ace spiker Zhou Shuhong praised the performance of their opponents.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan's Narisako wins men's 400m hurdles

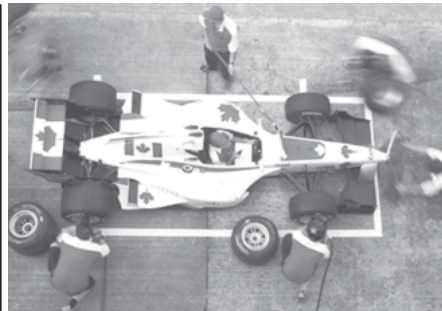
DOHA, 11 Dec— Kenji Narisako beat Chinese hurdler Meng Yan to win the men's 400 metres hurdles here on Sunday, adding a first gold medal from the athletics competitions to Japan at the Asian Games.

Narisako crossed the finish line with a time of 48.78 seconds, ahead of China's Meng at 0.48 seconds. His compatriot Naohiro Kawakita finished third in 50.19.

MNA/Xinhua



A woman walks a horse during the final game between La Dolfina and La Aguada in the Argentine Open Polo Championship at the Campo Argentino de Polo in the Buenos Aires' neighborhood of Palermo on 9 Dec, 2006. La Dolfina won the game.—INTERNET



Canadian pit crew practice changing tyres before the A1 Grand Prix race at Indonesia's Sentul International Circuit on 10 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

S Koreans win 59kg, 84kg taekwondo golds

DOHA, 11 Dec— Lee Sung Hye of South Korea beat Nguyen Thi Hoai Thu of Vietnam 3-0 in the women's 59kg division here on Sunday. Tseng Pei Hua of Chinese Taipei and Ayasha Shakya of Nepal took the bronze.

Kim Hak Hwan of South Korea took the gold medal in the men's over 84kg taekwondo at the 15th Asian Games here on Sunday, beating Mehdi Navaei Seraskanroud of Iran 2-0 in the final.

Abdlqader Abdelmete A Al Adhmi Abdlqader of Qatar and Liu Xiaobo of China shared the bronze medals.—MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia wins Asiad badminton gold after 36-year wait

KUALA LUMPUR, 11 Dec— Malaysian pair Koo Kien Keat/Tan Boon Heong put an end to the country's 36-year wait for a gold from badminton

in the Asian Games, local Press reported Sunday.

The pair defeated Indonesian opponents Luluk Hadiyanto/Alven Yulianto 21-13, 21-14 in the men's doubles final in Doha Saturday night.

Last time Malaysian shuttlers won Asian Games gold medals was in 1970, when the country bagged three golds in men's singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles.

Koo/Tan not only brought home the first gold after 36 years of painful waiting but also became the first Malaysian badminton players to advance to the Asiad final after the year 1994.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese Ikeda wins women's long jump in Asian Games

DOHA, 11 Dec— Japanese Kumiko Ikeda flew 6.81 meters to win the women's long jump gold medal at the Asian Games on Sunday.

Anju Bobby George of India took silver in 6.52 meters and Olga Rypakova of Kazakhstan got bronze with 6.49 meters. —MNA/Xinhua

Barclays Premiership Table

		P	GD	PTS
1	Man Utd	17	29	44
2	Chelsea	16	17	36
3	Portsmouth	17	9	28
4	Liverpool	17	8	28
5	Bolton	17	4	27
6	Arsenal	16	13	26
7	Reading	17	-2	26
8	Tottenham	17	-1	25
9	Aston Villa	16	4	24
10	Everton	17	3	24
11	Wigan	16	-1	22
12	Man City	17	-6	20
13	Fulham	17	-11	20
14	Newcastle	16	-3	19
15	Middlesbrough	17	-8	17
16	Blackburn	16	-7	16
17	Sheff Utd	16	-9	16
18	West Ham	17	-14	14
19	Charlton	17	-15	12
20	Watford	16	-10	11

Internet

China, South Korea share fencing golds at Asiad

DOHA, 11 Dec— Chinese fencer Wang Jingzhi snatched the men's individual sabre gold after a close-fought bout against South Korea's Oh Eun Seek, but world champion Zhong Weiping of China lost the women's individual epee gold to her South Korean opponent at the 15th Asian Games on Sunday.

Wang stormed into a 8-4 lead by the first break, but in the second three minutes, Oh launched a strong fight back, coming from behind to lead 9-8. In the final session, both players intensified offenses, with the lead changing hands several times. But Wang triumphed in the last second with a narrow 15-14 win.

Wang, the silver medallist at the Busan Asian Games, said that he was too conservative after gaining a big lead in the first session, which gave his opponent chances to score with aggressive attacks.

China's Zhou Hanming and Kothny Wiradech of Thailand had the bronze.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan's Sawano wins men's pole vault gold at Doha Asiad

DOHA, 11 Dec— Japan's Daichi Sawano cleared the height of 5.60 metres to clinch the men's pole vault gold medal at the 15th Asian Games here on Sunday.

Uzbekistan's Leonid Andreev won the silver medal after clearing 5.55m, his season's best. China's Yang Yansheng took the bronze with 5.50m.—MNA/Xinhua



Houston Rockets' Yao Ming (R) of China tries to drive around Washington Wizards' Etan Thomas during the first quarter of their NBA basketball game in Washington on 9 Dec, 2006.—XINHUA

Second hospital fire kills nine in Russia

Moscow, 11 Dec—Nine people were killed and 16 others injured in the second hospital fire in Russia over the weekend, news agencies reported on Sunday.

A total of 223 patients and seven staff members were in the building of a psycho-neurological clinic in the Siberian region of Kemerovo when the blaze started shortly after midnight, Valery

Korchagin, spokesman for the regional branch of the Emergency Situations Ministry, told the Interfax news agency.

All the injured were taken to hospitals and the rest of the patients were

temporarily accommodated at healthcare centers in the region.

Kemerovo's Governor Aman Tuleyev said the two-storey brick house was built during World War II but was completely

renovated two years ago.

The fire was brought under control three hours after it began, and arson was said to be the cause of the fire, said officials.

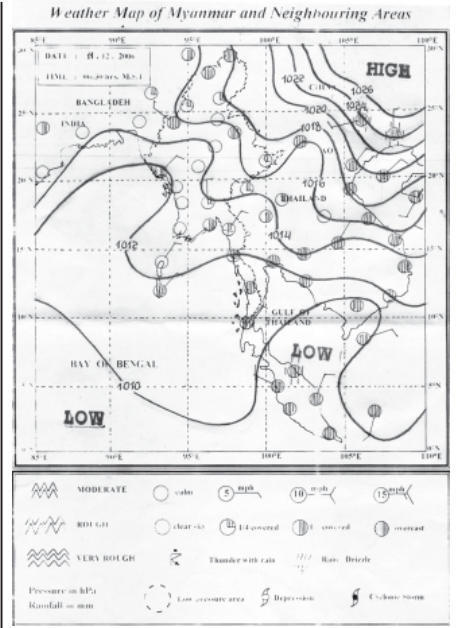
The fire came just a day after another fire early Saturday at a drug treatment hospital in southwestern Moscow killed 45 people.

Sources close to the investigation told Interfax that Saturday's fire may be an arson committed by a female patient, a drug addict, who was seeking revenge after doctors refused to give her drugs.

MNA/Xinhua



A man and a doctor comfort a relative of a patient outside a hospital where a fire broke out in Moscow on 8 Dec, 2005. A fire that swept through a Moscow drug rehabilitation clinic killing 45 people is suspected to have been caused by arson, Yuri Nenashev, the head of the state fire inspection department of the Russian Ministry of Emergency Situations, told journalists.—XINHUA



WEATHER

Sunday, 11 December, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Chin and Rakhine States, Magway Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, eastern Shan, Kayin and Mon States, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (7°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (0°C) and Mogok (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 10-12-2006 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 11-12-2006 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 11-12-2006 was 80%. Total sunshine hours on 10-12-2006 was (7.8) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 11-12-2006 were (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (98.46) inches at Mingaladon and (111.61) inches at Kaba-Aye and (116.69) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (9) mph from Northwest at 15:15 hours MST on 10-12-2006.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) MST today, yesterday's low pressure area over Southwest Bay become unimportant. Weather is partly cloudy in the South Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 12-12-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain in Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Ayeyarwady and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining states and divisions. 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 in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 12-12-2006: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 12-12-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 12-12-2006: Fair weather.

Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, 12 December
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:
-Cold hearted
... Paula Abdul
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:
-Delicious
... Rod Stewart
- 8:50 am National news/
Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
-Perfect girl
... Tik N' Tak Friends
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music
-Somewhere, someday
... Jennifer Paige
-What's the story
... Richard Marr
- 9:00 pm English Speaking
Course Level (II)
Unit (8)
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Weekly sport
reel
- 9:30 pm Music for your
listening pleasure
-Learn to fly
... A1
-Love don't care
... Fire House
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Tuesday, 12 December

View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. တရားရုံးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာဂန္ထ ဝုရ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသဒ္ဒမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
- 5. ကျားပန်းဥယျာဉ်
- 8:05 am
- 6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:15 am
- 7. Song of yester year
- 8:25 am
- 8. ဂမုန်းရေလောင်တစ်
- 8:30 am
- 9. International news
- 8:35 pm
- 10. Let's go
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song.
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Song to uphold National Spirit.
- 4:30 pm
- 3. English for everyday use
- 4:45 pm
- 4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ချုပ်ပြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (သင်္ချာ၊ ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြုများ) (သင်္ချာ)
- 5:00 pm
- 5. Dance of national races
- 5:15 pm
- 6. ခံစားနားဆင် ဘေးဓာတ်ဝင်
- 5:25 pm
- 7. “နင်းကြည့်စမ်းပါ” (မင်းအုပ်စိုး၊ ညီဘွား၊ ခင်စိုးဝင်း) (ခါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
- 5:35 pm
- 8. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm
- 9. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
- 10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- 11. နိုင်ငံခြား ကာတွန်းဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ဓာတ်တွင်းသားငယ်လေး” (အပိုင်း-၃၄)
- 6:50 pm
- 12. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 7:15 pm
- 13. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်ခြင်းနှင့်အတူ” (အပိုင်း-၂၆)
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. International news.
- 16. Weather report.
- 17. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “တကယ်သဘောကျတယ်” (အပိုင်း-၈)
- 18. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ် ဓယ်မျက်နှာ ဓမ္မဇာတာဝန်မှာ ပွားများခြင်း တရားတော်
- 19. The next day' programme

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Meeting of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia held

YANGON, 11 Dec — The Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia held its group meeting at the meeting hall-6 in Nyaungnapin Camp, Hmawby Township at 9 am today.

It was attended by members of panel of chairmen of the Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia and NC delegates.

At the meeting, film director U Khin Zaw presided over the meeting together with Director-General of Medical Science Department Dr Maung Maung Wint and U Hla Myint of the Ministry of Rail Transportation. Deputy Director U Than Win of NCC Work Committee Office acted as master of ceremonies and Assistant Director U



Alternate Meeting Chairman film Director U Khin Zaw addresses group meeting of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia. — MNA

Nyein Myint, co-MC.

First, the master of ceremonies declared the meeting valid as 45 delegates out of 56 were present, accounting for 80.36 per cent.

Next, alternate chairman film director U Khin Zaw made a

speech on the occasion. Rector of Institute of Medicine 1 Dr Myo Myint read out the proposal to be submitted to the Plenary Session of the National Convention to lay down the detailed basic principles for the chapter on Amendment

of Constitution to be included in drafting the State Constitution; Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon film director U Kyi Soe Tun, the chapter on State Flag; architect and sculpturer technician U Win Maung (Tanpa-

wady), the chapter on State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital; technician U Sein Kyi of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, the chapter on Transitory Provisions and professor Daw Po (Retd) of Myanmar Department

ment of Yangon University, the chapter on General Provisions.

Afterwards, NC delegates held discussions on the proposals and the meeting chairman made conclusion remarks.

MNA

INSIDE

The story warns us that corrupt officials and flatterers may appear in any administrative system; that the ruler should not be deceived by such persons as they are going to give trouble to the people; that the ruler should keep in the fore the people's interests.

PAGE 7

SAW NANDAR (MANAUNG)

Commander, minister attend inauguration of Myitkyina-Mandalay special express train

YANGON, 11 Dec — The Ministry of Rail Transportation has already planned to run one up train and one down train on Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad section daily for the convenience of the travellers who are plying between Myitkyina and Mandalay. A ceremony to inaugurate No 38 special express down train to run from Myitkyina to Mandalay was held at platform No 1 of Myitkyina Railway Station yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thuang Lwin, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun, senior military officers, departmental personnel, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, Women's Affairs Organizations, Maternal and Child Welfare Association and social organizations and local people.

At Myitkyina Railway Station, the commander and the ministers sprinkled scented water on coaches of the No 38 special express the coaches and cordially greeted the passengers and presented souvenirs to them.

As the train started leaving Myitkyina station, the local people waved at the passengers. On its way to Nankway, Mogaung, Pinbaw, Hopin and Monyin stations, the local people welcomed the passengers by presenting music and dances.

(See page 10)



Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw formally open the ceremony to launch Myitkyina-Mandalay Special Express Train. — MNA