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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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects river water pumping projects in Yangon North District

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects Balar-2 river water pumping project in Hlegu Township.—MNA

YANGON, 14 Jan—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence this afternoon inspected the Yangon City water supply project (Ngamoyeik), river water pumping projects, Ngamoyeik sluice gate project and Ywathagyi station upgrading project in Yangon North District and fulfilled the requirements.

On arrival at the water purifying plant of the Yangon City water supply project (Ngamoyeik) in Nyaungnhapin Village, Hmawby Township, Lt-Gen Myint Swe heard a report presented by YCDC Joint-Secretary U Kyaw Soe on salient points of the project, water supply, water supply programmes, progress of work and future tasks, and called on officials concerned to make relentless efforts for timely completion of the project and to take systematic steps in dredging Inya Lake.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, YCDC Secretary U Aung Than Win and heads of department, looked into water supply of the water purifying plant to wards of Yangon.

At present, the water purifying plant supplies 45 million gallons of drinking water daily as the first phase, and on completion, it will be able to supply 135 million gallons of drinking water daily.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe proceeded to Hlegu Township where he inspected Balar-2 river water pumping project, Hsinphon river water pumping project, Malit river water pumping project and Yekyaw river water pumping project.

Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe viewed water supply to summer paddy fields and stressed the need to supply water extensively in order to exceed the target of summer paddy cultivation and to maintain those projects for perpetual existence, and gave necessary instructions.

After that, Lt-Gen Myint Swe arrived at Ngamoyeik sluice gate project near Sitpintaung Village, Dagon Myothit (East) where he heard a

(See page 9)

Golfer robot putts a ball, at the Robe Expo being held in New Delhi, India, on 11 Jan, 2008. The robot putts with accuracy once the desire coordinates are given to it.—INTERNET

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 15 January, 2008

Strive for eye patients to regain eyesight

Eyesight is one of the most important things for human beings. And it is not possible for blind people to live a life of determination.

Nowadays, there are over 45 million global people who have gone blind.

Emphasis is thus being placed on giving treatment to eye patients with a chance of regaining eyesight. Trachoma, which often causes blindness, was common in the Central Myanmar in the past. Centres for Prevention of Trachoma and Blindness have been opened the length and breadth of the nation and work is well under way for control of the eye disorders. As a result, trachoma is on the brink of being totally eradicated.

At present, those with cataract and glaucoma that often cause blindness are under the knife. A group of eye specialists provided free medical and surgical treatment to eye patients in Myingyan, Chauk, Meiktila, Monywa and Singaing as well as Thandwe and Taungup in Rakhine State.

Hence, with the participation of social organizations and well-wishers, the Ministry of Health is to do its utmost in the drive for regaining the eyesight of those with eye complaints. Only then, will the campaign for regaining eyesight meet with success.

Special Appellate Bench sits

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan — The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Mandalay) U Khin Maung Latt, Supreme Court Judges of Supreme Court (Mandalay) U Myint Aung and U Sein Hlaing sitting at court room No 1 of the Supreme Court (Nay Pyi Taw), delivered judgment of (5) special criminal appeal cases and (10) special civil appeal cases. And then heard (16) special criminal appeal cases under Section 8 of the Judiciary Law, 2000.

MNA

All this needs to be known

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

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**

MMCWA Diagnosis Centre opened

President of MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin delivers an address at a ceremony to open Diagnosis Centre of MMCWA. — MNA

YANGON, 14 Jan — Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association's Diagnosis Centre, which has been upgraded, was opened at the MMCWA office at the corner of Thanthuma Road and Parami Road in South Okkalapa Township here this morning.

The opening ceremony was attended by President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Khin Khin Win, President of MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin and CEC members, Chairperson of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Daw Mar Mar Wai and members, chairpersons and members of district and township supervisory committees of MCWA, specialists and guests.

First, President of MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin made a speech and Vice-President of MMCWA Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint explained activities of the Diagnosis Centre.

Afterwards, Daw Khin Khin Win, Daw Khin Saw Hnin and officials inspected the Diagnosis Centre of MMCWA.

The centre was opened in 1999 and upgraded into the PMCT Centre in 2006 to take measures for prevention against mother-to-child HIV virus infection. With the aid of Japan Grassroots Grant Assistance, arrangements were made to open the X-ray room and lab in 2006. Moreover, plans are under way to expand health care services as of January 2007.

MNA

MWAF Vice-President meets PRC goodwill delegation

MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay meets with Vice-Chairperson of the Standing Committee of National People's Congress Madame He Luli and party. — MNA

YANGON, 14 Jan — Vice-President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Khin Thet Htay met members of goodwill delegation led by Madame He Luli, Vice-Chairperson of Standing Committee of National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China and President of Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament at the meeting hall of MWAF on Thanlwin Road here this morning.

Madame He Luli is here at the invitation of Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association.

Present on the occasion were CEC Members of MWAF, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu and officials.—*MNA*

Pakistan denies deported "NYT" magazine reporter

ISLAMABAD, 13 Jan — A media watchdog said Pakistan had expelled a reporter for the *New York Times* magazine who interviewed Taleban leaders and visited Baluchistan Province on the Afghan border but the government denied he was deported.

The Pakistani Government said he was not expelled and left the country of his own volition. The journalist, Nicholas Schmidle, whose report "Next-Gen Taleban" appeared in the magazine at the weekend, was deported on Friday, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) said.

"The article contained interviews with anti-government Taleban leaders and was written from ... Baluchistan Province, and its capital, Quetta," the New York-based watchdog said.

MNA/Reuters

Winner Antara Da Roy (C), first runner-up Dr Nandini Chowdhury (L), and second runner-up Sumana Chattopadhyay smile during the 'Sanada Srimai' beauty contest for married women in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 11 Jan, 2008. – INTERNET

Safety concerns at US Embassy in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 13 Jan — The newly-constructed US Embassy in Iraq has potentially deadly problems with its fire safety system and other parts of the compound have never been inspected, *The Washington Post* reported on Saturday.

Quoting State Department documents and anonymous officials, the newspaper said US officials dismissed worries about the fire system in order to claim that construction was mostly completed by the end of last year.

"This is serious enough to get someone killed," the newspaper quoted a State Department official.

The electrical system, power plant and other parts of the embassy have not been inspected, the official said.

MNA/Reuters

Dozens killed by snow, cold in Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 Jan — Dozens of people have been killed by heavy snow and freezing weather in recent days in Afghanistan, an official said on Saturday.

The snow falls have also blocked roads connecting remote districts to urban areas in several western provinces, said Ghulam Mohammad Mujahid, an official of the Afghan Red Crescent Society.

Some 35 employees of a construction company, including Iranian nationals, have been trapped by an avalanche in Herat Province close to the border with Iran, Mujahid said. "Efforts are underway to rescue them," he told *Reuters*.

MNA/Reuters

Mine blast kills at least seven in Kazakhstan

ALMATY, 13 Jan — At least seven miners were killed and more than 20 other missing in a mine explosion in central Kazakhstan on Friday, a local official said.

Regional governor Nurlan Nigmatulin said that emergency workers were trying to put out a fire caused by a methane gas explosion at the Abaiskaya mine in the central Karaganda region.

A total of eight rescue teams were working on the site, but the operation has been hampered by the thick smoke.

The governor said that most of the miners had been evacuated. Seven bodies have been found so far and more than 20 were still missing, he said.

The *Interfax* news agency reported that the explosion occurred at around 0930 local time (0330 GMT) when around 190 miners were working underground.

The Abaiskaya mine is one of Kazakhstan's eight mines owned by the world's largest steel-maker, Luxembourg-based Arcelor Mittal, which had no immediate comment on the blast yet.

MNA/Xinhua

China completes first 300,000-ton man-made waterway

HANGZHOU, 14 Jan — A 300,000-ton man-made waterway near east China's metropolis of Shanghai was completed on Saturday, which experts say will greatly reduce transport costs.

The eight-month project deepened a 15-kilometre-long section of the Xiashimenkou waterway from 22 metres to 25 metres at the Ningbo-Zhoushan port in Zhejiang Province at a cost of 500 million yuan(68 million US dollars).

Only 150,000 to 200,000 ton vessels could pass through the section before. —*MNA/Xinhua*

Unknown gunmen again raid American school in Gaza

GAZA, 13 Jan— Unidentified Palestinian militants once again stormed the American International School in northern Gaza Strip early Saturday, destroying some equipment and setting fire to school buses, the principal said. The raid on the school, which is located in Beit Lahiya Town, was the second in three days, said the school principal Rebhi Salem.

The gunmen "stormed the school at 2:00 am and stayed there for more than two hours and destroyed the school's properties, stole computers and some private belongings," Salem said.

The attackers also set six school buses and a car ablaze before they left, he added. On the eve of US President George W Bush's visit to the Middle East, unknown assailants blew up several bombs at the school, causing damages but no casualty was reported.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnamese traditional dress 'ao dai' fashion is seen during a celebration of the start of the count down 1000 days until the 2010's grand ceremony of the 1000th anniversary of the capital city Hanoi's establishment, at Ba Kieu Temple near Hoan Kiem Lake in Hanoi,Vietnam, on 13 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Peres says peace talks must not be stopped

JERUSALEM, 14 Jan — As time is running out, peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians must not be stopped for one moment, Israeli President Shimon Peres said on Sunday.

Speaking at a Geneva Accord conference in Herzliya, north of Tel Aviv, on Sunday evening, Peres was quoted by local Yedioth Ahronoth as saying that time for negotiations is limited.

"We have a year, and that's very little time. We cannot spend this year talking. We have to negotiate, both openly and secretly, and we must not stop for one moment," he said.

US President George W Bush told Peres on Wednesday that he hoped a Mideast peace pact can be achieved before he leaves office in January 2009.

"No one will deal with the key issues at the beginning of the negotiations. On most issues there is an agreement, but writing the document is extremely difficult. I am not surprised that the Palestinians insist on their demands. So do we," Peres added.

"Both (Israeli Prime Minister Ehud) Olmert and (Palestinian President Mahmoud) Abbas want peace," the President said.

MNA/Xinhua

French Socialists reject Blair as EU president

PARIS, 14 Jan — The head of France's opposition Socialist Party rejected on Sunday the idea that former British Prime Minister Tony Blair could become the first president of the European Union.

In a speech on Saturday to France's ruling centre-right UMP Party, Blair set out his vision for Europe, fuelling speculation he may seek to become the 27-nation bloc's first president, a post due to be created later this year.

But Francois Hollande said the former British Labour prime minister's support for the US-led invasion of Iraq made him unsuitable for the post.

"We need a president who could be representative of a political Europe, a Europe independent from the United States and I don't think Tony Blair fits that profile," Hollande told France's Radio J in an interview.

MNA/Reuters

GM must expand in India to compete with Tata

DETROIT, 14 Jan— General Motors Corp must expand its operations in India if it is to compete in emerging markets, GM chairman Rick Wagoner said Sunday.

While it is still too early to tell how consumers will respond to Tata Motor's 2,500 dollar Nano, it is clear that there is strong demand for low-cost vehicles, Wagoner told reporters on the sidelines of the Detroit auto show. "To some extent it's what content you're willing to take off and what the consumer wants too," he said. Lower cost vehicles have failed in the United States because consumers there are unwilling to accept the trade-offs in terms of styling. Quality and strict regulations will block the introduction of truly low-cost vehicles in established markets like the US, Europe and Japan, he said.

Internet

ADB loans Vietnam $200m for three projects development

HANOI, 13 Jan — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is to loan 200 million US dollars to Vietnam to help the country implement three projects on education, finance and transport development, local newspaper *Vietnam Economic Times* reported Friday.

Under an agreement signed by the bank and the State Bank of Vietnam on Thursday, a 50-million-dollar loan will be used to offer children, especially girls and ethnic children in 103 poor districts nationwide, wider access to junior secondary education.

A 75-million-dollar loan is to finance a project on developing coastal corridor roads in Vietnam's southern localities bordering Cambodia.

Another 75-million-dollar loan will be used to help the Vietnamese Government enhance the liquidity of the local financial market, improve its institutional framework on stock issuance, and intensify measures to protect investors.

MNA/Xinhua

Gulf Air places US$4b order with Boeing

MANAMA, 13 Jan— : The Bahrain-based airline Gulf Air has ordered 16 Boeing *787 Dreamliners* valued at around four billion dollars and taken options for eight more, an airline official told *AFP* on Saturday.

"Gulf Air has signed today (Saturday) with Boeing a firm order for 16 *Boeing 787* aircraft and taken the right to purchase eight more of the same aircraft," Adnan Malek, acting head of corporate communication at Gulf Air said.

The value of the firm order for the new long-haul jets at list price is around four billion dollars, while the total amount would go up to six billion dollars if options are firmed up in the future, he added.

The struggling carrier had announced during the Dubai air show that it was planning to renew its entire fleet looking to order up to 35 planes.

Gulf Air's newly appointed chief executive Bjorn Naf said during the show that the company was holding intensive talks with Boeing and its European rival Airbus, but he did not rule out leasing some aircraft.

Internet

This photo released by Boeing shows the "787 Dreamliner" in the final stages of assembly.
INTERNET

Chavez says Venezuelan economy up 8.4% in 2007

CARACAS, 14 Jan — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said Friday that his country's economy increased by 8.4 per cent in 2007, the highest in the South American countries.

When concluding his annual report to Venezuela's National Assembly, Chavez said Venezuela's economy has undergone a long period of economic growth.

Over the past four years, the economy has grown at an average of 11.8 per cent annually.

However, the inflation reached 22.5 per cent in 2007, which, according to Chavez, was rooted in some structural problems.

He said the government would take more effective measures to control the inflation.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippine tourist industry booms in 2007

MANILA, 14 Jan — Over three million foreign and local tourists visited various tourist sites in the Philippines in 2007, the highest number in history, the Department of Tourism reported on Saturday.

Tourism Secretary Joseph Ace Durano said the 3.09 million tourists also spent 4.885 billion US dollars, a 40.99-per-cent increase over last year. "Ultimately, De-partment of Tourism aims to attract not only more tourists, but also higher value visitors who stay longer and spend more, generating more oppor-tunities for the country," Durano told local media.

Tourists from South Korea remains the top visitors, followed by those from China, while India and European tourists are also coming in large numbers, Durano said without providing specific numbers. The government is upgrading its plans to promote higher value tourism products and services to attract more tourists this year, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

China's digital camera sales surge 30% in 2007

BEIJING, 14 Jan — China's digital camera sales in 2007 surged 29.9 per cent to hit 8.3 million sets in 2007, according to the estimates of the CCID Consulting, a leading market consultant.

Statistics showed that 5.9 million sets of digital cameras were sold in the first three quarters of last year. The sale in the fourth quarter was estimated at 2.4 million sets.

The sale of digital single lens reflex (DSLR) cameras was put at 310,000 sets, up 47.6 per cent. The two Japanese brands, Canon and Nikon, were still monopolizing the DSLR market.

CCID also forecast that sales of digital cameras in 2008 would top 10 million. It said DSLRs would not become a mainstream product in the next two years, as the price is still too high. Beijing-based CCID Consulting was the first domestic consulting firm to be listed in the Growth Enterprise Market of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. —*MNA/Xinhua*

A kite-flying enthusiast from Japan flies a kite during an international kite competition in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad on 12 Jan, 2008. More than 145 kite-flying enthusiasts from 24 countries will be competing in the festival.—INTERNET

Workers prepare to pump crude palm oil at a biodiesel plant in Ipoh, about 200 km (124 miles) north of Kuala Lumpur on 11 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET

Iran highlights cooperation with UN N-agency

TEHERAN, 13 Jan— Mohammad Saeedi, deputy head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (IAEO), on Friday applauded its cooperation with the UN atomic watchdog as "entering a new phase".

The official *IRNA* news agency quoted Saeedi as saying that " Regarding Iran's active cooperation with the IAEA and settlement of basic and key issues on Iran's nuclear case, relations between Teheran and the agency have entered a new phase".

The result of such "active cooperation" and "settlement" of essential issues should be normalization of the country's nuclear issue, said Saeedi, adding he hopes it could be transferred to the IAEA from the UN Security Council. The Iranian official made the remarks amid a key visit by the International Atomic Energy Agency chief (IAEA) Mohamed El-Baradei in Teheran to discuss the "vague" issues regarding Iran's nuclear programmes.

ElBaradei, who was accompanied by his deputy Olli Heinonen, arrived in Teheran Friday morning at the invitation of Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, Iran's Vice-President and head of the IAEO.

According to his spokeswoman Melissa Fleming in Vienna, ElBaradei "hoped his visit can contribute to the clarification of some vague issues regarding Iran's nuclear programmes and would help to find measures to improve and accelerate the IAEA's supervision and inspection on the programmes".

MNA/Xinhua

Germany opens probe into alleged terror attack

BERLIN, 13 Jan— German authorities have opened an investigation into the dangers of possible terror attacks in Germany, local media reported on Saturday. German prosecutors have started to investigate into claims that terrorists planned to blow up a truckload of explosives in Germany, said a report released by *Der Spiegel* magazine two days before its publication.

According to the report, German authorities received warnings from their Lebanese counterpart and have since stepped up security measures.

The explosives, believed to be still on the way, are supposed to be coming in to the northern German port city of Rostock through Russia and Finland, said the report.The attackers were potentially acting in revenge for the arrest of Fritz Martin Gelowicz and other suspects who allegedly planned to attack a US military base in Germany, it said. Gelowicz was arrested in Germany in September, 2007.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Greeters watch as a plane full of US Army soldiers taxis to the gate on their way through the Bangor International Airport, Maine, in 2006. A study conducted by The New York Times has found 121 murder cases in the United States, which involve veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars following their return from the front.—INTERNET

Aussie kayakers reach NZ after 62-day marathon row

MELBOURNE, 14 Jan — Two Australian adventurers who spent two months paddling across the Tasman Sea in a kayak arrived in New Zealand on Sunday to a rousing welcome.

Several thousand people crowded the shore at Ngamotu Beach, near New Plymouth on New Zealand's west coast, to greet James Castrission, 25, and Justin Jones, 24. A fleet of Maori wakas (canoes) sailed out to welcome them.

The pair, exhausted, sleepless and unsteady on their feet after 62 days in cramped conditions, had hoped to complete the 2,200-kilometre (1,400-mile) journey from Sydney by Christmas but were battered by strong winds and currents and spent days rowing in circles. In the end they travelled more than 3,300 kilometres.

MNA/Reuters

Australian adventurers Justin Jones (L) and James Castrission test paddle their one-tonne kayak 'Lot 41' around Sydney Harbour before commencing the 2,200-km voyage to Auckland, New Zealand, on 6 Jan. Two Sydney adventurers became the first to kayak from Australia to New Zealand when they came ashore after 62 days at sea.—INTERNET

Macedonian military helicopter crash kills 11

BLACE, 13 Jan— A Macedonian military helicopter transporting soldiers home from Bosnia crashed near a village south of the capital Skopje on Saturday, killing 11 passengers and crew. Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski said the cause of the crash in the Katlanovo region was not known, but described it as an accident.

"According to preliminary reports, 11 people were on their way from Bosnia," he told reporters at the crash site. "So far, seven bodies have been identified."

A government statement said there were no survivors. Gruevski said the *Mi-17* transport helicopter had been approaching landing around midday (1100 GMT) when the accident occurred.—*MNA/Reuters*

Obama proposes $75b stimulus plan

LAS VEGAS, 14 Jan— Amid growing worries about a worsening of the US economy, Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama proposed a 75-billion-US-dollar economic stimulus plan on Sunday that includes worker tax credits, a one-time pension supplement and help to homeowners facing foreclosure.

The plan would include an immediate 250 US dollars tax credit to workers that could double if the economy worsens, a one-time 250 US dollars supplement to Social Security payments, a 10-billion-US-dollar fund to help homeowners facing foreclosure and a 10-billion-US-dollar fund to bolster states facing budget shortfalls amid lower tax revenues.

"We need that middle-class tax cut now more than ever — not five months from now or five weeks from now, but now," Obama said in a statement. "I'm announcing a plan to jump-start the economy by putting money in the pockets of those who need it most and will spend it quickly".

The Illinois senator's office unveiled the proposals at the start of a day of campaigning in Nevada, which holds the next contested Democratic primary on Saturday. —*MNA/Reuters*

National Development and the Role of Health Sector—I

Professor Dr Paing Soe

One of the basic necessities in human life is to attain a disease free longevity in which health is a very important factor. In order to achieve this goal, the State and the Ministry of Health has laid down health policies and strategies for promissory development using every means that is applicable to the country and the people of Myanmar. The main aim of the health policies are directed towards living a full life, which is not only achieving longevity but also a disease-free productive life. The strategies to achieve these goals are: (1) disease prevention and control (2) prompt and effective treatment, and finally, (3) health education to the grass roots level.

The effort of every health personnel should not only have the ability to treat diseases but also towards giving health-related care on all aspects. Since the basic rule for health indicated that preventing disease and promoting health through educating people is better than treating diseases, all health personnel must have knowledge and experience in disease prevention and control, health promotion and education. In addition, health knowledge should not remain static but should also be improved, updated and must be able to impart this knowledge to newer generations.

To be able to effectively prevent and treat upcoming new diseases, one must have the ability to do research at the same time. As health personnel conduct basic research, they should also conduct scientific experiments on herbal medicine for their effective usage as compared to western medicine. For the effective health care delivery, the ability to formulate projects, conduct health systems research and drawing health plans is a must for all health personnel.

Resource Development

During frequent visits to various regions of the country and on meeting with the health personnel, the Head of State had many times given guidance as:

"Together with the development of human resource for health, other necessary requirements, including structural and material requirements are being fulfilled. If only Human Resource Development and Material Development are comparatively implemented hand in hand, the academic field of interest will be developed. In addition it is necessary that Research and Development are also carried out together."

"Human development plays the pivotal role for all developments, either arts or science, including the health sector, as it is impossible to upgrade the academic level without the human resource development. Because of the competencies and efficiencies of the health care specialists and physicians, Myanmar is well recognized in the field of health care".

"For this reason, the State has initiated the upgrading of human resource for health which is needed for the country, through upgrading health institutions to university levels in various fields including medicine, dental medicine, pharmacy, medical technology, nursing, community medicine, public health and traditional medicine. In order to produce qualified personnel, occupational and work-related training courses leading to doctorates, masters and diploma courses are opened extensively while some have also been sent aboard for further studies."

"Unheeded of the immense cost involved, the government has been carrying out the task, not only on upgrading the State and Divisional Hospitals as necessary, but also opening of new hospitals and clinics to enhance the standard of health care delivery and the uplift of the standard of health of the people purely out of the spirit of goodwill".

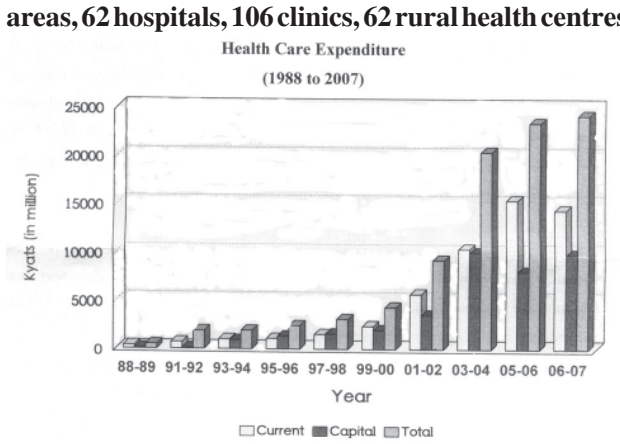
To fulfill the guidance and the objectives, materials, human and technology development have been carried out with great momentum. **The State Peace and Development Council Government had spent from 464.2 million Kyats in 1988 to 48017.3 million Kyats in 2007. The amount which has risen more than a hundred fold.**

Trust funds are set up with donations for purchase of essential medicines at various hospitals at all levels. It now amounted to 3273.38 million Kyats.

In order to provide effective health coverage over the ever increasing human population and to narrow the health care gap between urban and rural areas, new hospitals, clinics, rural health centres. primary health centres and maternal and child health centres are opened throughout the country.

Development of Hospital-Clinic

For the development of national races of border areas, 62 hospitals, 106 clinics, 62 rural health centres



and 148 divisional rural sub centres are opened where never existed before.

The State has laid down the projects for the requirement of buildings, modern medicine, equipments, laboratories and operation theatres which are required to treat people more closely and for the treatment of re-emerging diseases, infections diseases, new emerging diseases occurring nowadays.

The government needs modern medicine, equipment laboratories, operation theatres and other facilities for giving effective treatment in cure of infections diseases and others. Therefore it has laid down plans and is implementing them. **The State had laid down projects to upgrade hospitals in states and divisions, districts and townships. A total of 167 hospitals were upgraded and equipped according to the grade of the hospitals.**

The State had also included health infrastructure development in State sponsored special projects such as border area development project, rural area development project, special economic (24) zones project. As the State had constructed union highways, network roads linking between districts and townships and villages, railroads, large and small bridges, the communication in every part of the country is much improved and everybody is within the easy reach of health care facilities thus narrowing the gap between urban and rural areas. The construction of dams and water reservoirs for irrigation not only benefit the agriculture sector but also resulted in getting clean and safe water supply, regulating climate and preventing natural disasters such as floods and can prevent water borne diseases.

The world in current situation is facing the dangers of re-emerging diseases, highly infectious diseases and new diseases to which it needs to do health research for curative, control and education to counter these dangers. **The Head of State had guided to construct two new medical research departments in Pyin-Oo-Lwin and Nay Pyi Taw at the same level with existing research department in Yangon realizing that competitive efforts among those departments will benefit the development of medical research. It also established two new facilities, National Poison Control Centre and National Blood Research Centre in Yangon according to the current needs of the country.**

At the same time **the state had laid down projects to equip the facilities with modern equipments according to their status. The State also formulates the special education uplifting project by using a huge amount of hard currencies. Realizing that the total health care needs qualified doctors, nurses and technicians new medical universities and nurses training schools were opened totaling (15) universities and (46) schools currently where only (6) universities and (26) schools existed before 1988. The graduates from these institutions were appointed and staffed at the various health care facilities so that the health manpower increases manifolds. Previously, the health personnel were sent abroad for doctorate courses but as of now, (37) doctorate courses and (20) master courses are being conducted at the medical universities.**

Human Resource Development

Medical Presonnel	1988	2007	Progress
Doctor	12268	26591	14323
Dentist	857	2305	1552
Nurse	8349	21781	13432
Dental Nurse	96	165	71
Health Assistant	1238	3790	2552
Lady Health Visitor	1557	3523	1966
Midwife	8121	20287	12166
Technician.	490	4014	3524

At the same time affiliations with the foreign medical institutions are made to promote and acquire newer technologies. One of the fruitful results of the effort is the recognition by the World Health Organization to Yangon Nursing University as the WHO collaborating centre for nurses training.;

In this information technology era the world is rapidly changing and developing in every aspect. The health personnel need to know the rapidly changing developments and must be updated. To emphasize this, internet communications facilities, internet networking, electronic library services were installed for the health personnel and continuing medical education were conducted parallel.

The development of the material resources and human resources cumulated in public health promotion, medical care and medical research tremendously.

(To be continued)

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw gives cash award and certificate of honour to Actor Nay Toe.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents cash award and certificate of honour to Actor Yan Aung.—MNA

Information Minister speaks…

(from page 16)

through Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon Chairman U Myint Thein Pe.

Next, Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint presented certificates of honour for the artistes to co-director Min Min and cash awards to the Myanmar Orchestra of the Karaweik Palace. Then Academy Malikha Soe Htaik Aung spoke words of thanks and the dinner was hosted to those present.

After the ceremony, Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and departmental heads cordially greeted the artistes.

MNA

Health Minister inspects hospitals in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 14 Jan — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint visited Peasants' Hospital in Sarmalauk Village in Nyaungdon Township, Ayeyawady Division, yesterday and fulfilled the requirements of the hospital.

Afterwards, the minister and party went to the people's hospital in Danubyu Township. After visiting the hospital, the minister met with employees of the hospital and members of social organizations and called for their cooperation for development of the hospital.

Afterwards, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and party visited Zalun Township people's hospital where Head of the township Health Department Dr Khin Htay Myint conducted them around the hospital.

During his tour of inspection in Ayeyawady Division, the minister also inspected Duya Station hospital and the Hinthada General Hospital. At the General Hospital. Head of Hinthada District Health Department Dr Thein Myint conducted them around the operation theatre, patient wards, delivery room, intensive care units, X-ray room, paediatric ward and laboratory of the hospital. The minister urged officials concerned to carry out sanitation tasks at the hospital in cooperation with the authorites concerned.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint also met with members of Hinthada District Health Committee, staff of the hospital, townselders and members of social organizations and attended to the need after hearing their reports.

The minister and party also inspected Talothtaw Station Hospital in Hinthada Township and urged residents including members of social organizations to work together for development of the hospital.

MNA

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint inspects Talothtaw Hospital in Hinthada Township.—MNA

PRC Goodwill delegation leaves for home

YANGON, 14 Jan— Members of goodwill delegation led by Madame He Luli, Vice-Chairperson of Standing Committee of National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China and President of Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament left for home this afternoon.

They were here at the at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by USDA CEC members U Aung Thein Lin and U Nyan Tun Aung, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Guan Mu and officials of USDA Headquarters.

CEC member U Aung Thein Lin presented a documentary album to Madame He Luli before her departure for home.

MNA

USDA CEC members U Aung Thein Lin and U Nyan Tun Aung see off Madame He Luli and delegation members at the airport.—MNA

Do Kyae Ywa Journal Vol V No 2 comes out

YANGON, 14 Jan— With a view to widening the scope of knowledge of farmers Vol V No 2 of the Do Kyae Ywa Journal is in circulation.

It carries articles on agriculture, livestock breeding, health, religion and festivals of the month. Moreover, it covers short stories, moral lessons, educative articles, story, jokes, cartoon, poem, and brief preview of Myanma videos and news.

The journal is available at Information and Public Relations Department, Sarpay Beikman bookshop, Wah Moe Aung bookshop with a price of 150K per copy, and manuscripts can be sent to No 228 Theinbyu Street, Botahtaung Township (Tel-371340,371342).—*MNA*

Special sales launched

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Ministry of Industry-1 conducted its special sales at Kyauktaing ground in Maubin Township on 10 January.

Col Win Naung of Ministry of Industry-1 and Chairman of Maubin District Peace and Development Council U Htay Win opened the special sales.

The special sales sells the products of the ministry and it lasts until 19 January.—*MNA*

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects…

(from page 1)

report by Director of Irrigation Department (Yangon Division) U Kyaw Thein on the salient points of the project.

After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Myint Swe looked into the sluice gate.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party proceeded to Ywathagyi station in Dagon Myothit (East) where they heard a report presented by Assistant General Manager (Civil) of Myanma Railways U Htay Aung on the salient points of the project. In response to the report, Lt-Gen Myint Swe attended to the needs and inspected the project site.—*MNA*

Never do bad deed

Not good is the doing of that deed, having done which one repents and the result of which one experiences lamenting with a tearful face.

Dhammapada 67

Hockey equipment donated to Nay Pyi Taw Command

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin attended the ceremony to donate goalkeeper jersies, hockey sticks and balls worth K 1,850,000 to Nay Pyi Taw Command hockey team today.

Secretary of Asian Hockey Federation Development Committee and Relations Committee U Kyaw Naing and Secretary of Tatmadaw Hockey Committee Major Nyo Min Lwin explained the purpose of the donation.

Managing Director U Kyaw Naing of Kyaw Naing & Associates Co Ltd presented hockey jersies worth K 1 million; on behalf of Chairman U Kyaw Win of Shwethanlwin Co Ltd, Secretary of Tatmadaw Hockey Committee Major Nyo Min Lwin, 15 hocky sticks and 10 balls worth K 750,000; and on behalf of Just Fashion owner U Zaw Win, Managing Director U Kyaw Naing of Kyaw Naing & Associate Co Ltd, training goalkeeper jersies worth K 100,000 to the commander.

The commander presented certificates of honour to the donors and spoke words of thanks.

MNA

CAD & CAM course concluded

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan — Ministry of Industry-2 conducted concluding ceremony of CAD & CAM Course at the ministry here on 11 January.

Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin delivered an address.

Next, Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw presented first, second and third prizes to the outstanding trainees and gave certificates to them.

A total of 20 trainees of the departments and enterprises under the ministry participated in the course that lasted one month.—*MNA*

Press Conference of the 3rd ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting held

YANGON, 14 Jan — A Press Conference on the 3rd ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting hosted by Myanmar was held at the Yangon International Airport this morning.

The conference was attended by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Ministers of Culture from ASEAN and ASEAN+3 nations, deputy ministers, senior officers, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, officials from Ministry of Culture, media men from Ministry of Information and correspondents from Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint said the Third Meeting of the ASEAN and ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) and Fifth Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials for Culture which were held from 10 to 14 January 2008 in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Fifth Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials for Culture and Arts (SOMCA) meeting was held on 10 January and the Fifth Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Senior Officials for Culture and Arts (SOMCA+3) meeting was held on 11 January. The Third Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA) meeting was held on 12 January and the Third Meeting of the ASEAN+3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (AMCA+3) meeting took place on 13 January.

At the SOMCA meeting, the senior officials reviewed the decisions of the previous meeting such as the Third Coordinating Meeting on the ASEAN Socio- Cultural Community (SOC-COM), Jakarta, Indonesia, on 22, October 2007, report of the 42nd Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information, Kuantan, Malaysia, 8-10 June 2007 and Report of the Ninth Meeting of the ASEAN COCI Sub-Committee on Culture (SCC), held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, 20-21 November 2007.

The senior officials discussed and reviewed the reports on the First Meeting of the Working Group Meeting of the SOMCA such as Report of the First Meeting of the ASEAN SOMCA Working Group on Human Resources Development in the Cultural Context, Penang, Malaysia 7-8 March 2007, report of the First Meeting of the ASEAN SOMCA Working Group on Networking on the ASEAN Cultural Heritage (NACH), Mandalay, Myanmar 31 May 2007, and report of the First Meeting of the ASEAN SOMCA working group on Networking on the ASEAN Cultural Enterprises (SMCEs), Manila, 7-8 August 2007.

Next, they exchanged views on the agreement on Cultural cooperation between the governments of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Government of the Russian Federation and they agreed to hold the 6th Meeting of SOMCA in Cebu, the Philippines, in January 2010.

At the SOMCA+3 Meeting, which was held in Myanmar on 11 January 2008, report of the First Meeting of the ASEAN SOMCA Working Group on Networking on the ASEAN Cultural Heritage (NACH), Mandalay, 30 May 2007 were discussed. Moreover, cooperation programmes with China, Japan and Korea were discussed and decided to hold the 4th Meeting of SOMCA+3 in 2010 in Cebu, the Philippines.

At the AMCA Meeting, which was held on 12th January 2008, the meeting discussed to announce the Press Statement of the Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts and Secretary- General, Report of the 5th Meeting of ASEAN SOMCA, report of the 4th Meeting of the ASEAN SOMCA, Thailand, and the projects of the conservation works of the Cultural Heritage in ASEAN+3 were discussed cordially. Then, they discussed the time and venue to hold the 4th Meeting of AMCA+3.

At the AMCA+3 Meeting which was held on 13th January 2008, the Chairman and ASEAN+3 countries presented the Press Statement of the Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts and discussed the Report of the SOMCA Meeting. Then, they agreed to hold the 4th AMCA+3 Meeting in January 2010 in Cebu, the Philippines.

Concerning the ASEAN SOMCA Meeting and AMCA+3 Meeting, he invited questions.

Then, the ministers and the Secretary- General answered the queries raised by correspondents.

After the conference, Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and officials saw off ministers of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 nations, deputy ministers, senior officers and the secretary-General who left here by air for their respective nations.

MNA

***Press Conference of 3rd ASEAN and ASEAN +3 Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts Meeting in progress at Yangon International Airport.*—MNA**

MJF honours victorious athletes

YANGON, 14 Jan — Myanmar Judo Federation honoured victorious athletes of judo team who participated in the XXIV South East Asian Games in Thailand, the managers and coaches at Gold Hotel in Thingangyun Township today.

First, Vice-President U Aye Kyi of Myanmar Judo Federation delivered an address.

Patron of the federation Col Hla Thaung Myint (Retd) donated K 760,000 to the federation, patron of the federation Judo sports in-charge Daw Myint Myint Aye K 1 million, Patrons Daw Hay Mar and Dr Daw Myat Thida Myint K 300,000 each. Vice President U Aye Kyi received the donations and presented certificate of honour to them.

Chairperson of Central Work Committee of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye presented cash reward and certificates to gold medalist Aye Aye Aung, silver medalists Thanda Win, Hein Latt Zaw, Zaw Naing and Khin Myo Thu and bronze medalists Lay Kalyar Aung, Zin Lin Aung and Maung Maung San.

Afterwards, Patron of Myanmar Judo Federation Daw Shwe Thet and officials gave cash award and certificates to playmates, managers and coaches, Col Hla Thaung Myint(Retd) to staff of the federation.

Next, the gold medalist Aye Aye Aung spoke words of thanks.

MNA

***Vice-President U Aye Kyi of Myanmar Judo Federation addresses ceremony to honour victorious athletes.*—MJF**

Nepali EC announces CA election schedule

KATHMANDU, 14 Jan—Nepali Election Commission (EC) on Saturday decided to formulate the election code of conduct effective for the governmental, state enterprises, non-governmental and local bodies from 16 January.

The EC has set the voting time for the upcoming election to the constituent assembly (CA) from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm local time on 10 April.

The government announced the new date for the CA polls on Friday afternoon.

For government and non-governmental organizations, the election code of conduct will be effective from 16 January; for parties following the submission of the closed list of candidacies for proportional voting system while, for election candidates, it will come into effect after the registration of candidacy.

The media will also have to follow the codes once the election symbols are allocated to the CA candidates.

The Commission also said that all officials deployed for election purposes would be insured for one million rupees (about 15,000 US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

Argentine President opens channel on YouTube

BUENOS AIRES, 14 Jan— Argentine President Christina Fernandez has opened her personal channel on the world's largest online video carrier YouTube, local media reported on Saturday.

Tens of thousands visits were paid to her channel since it was first opened last April when the then first lady was preparing her presidential campaign.

So far, 71 video clips could be found on the channel, and the one featuring a speech by Fernandez at the George Washington University during her visit to the United States last year was most frequently viewed.

MNA/Xinhua

Egypt joins Kyoto Convention

CAIRO, 14 Jan— Egypt on Friday joined the Kyoto Convention on the simplification of Customs procedures launched by the World Customs Organization (WCO), the official *MENA* news agency reported.

The official access of Egypt to the convention will take place early April, Samiha Fawzi, first assistant to Egyptian Trade and Industry Minister, was quoted as saying.

Egypt becomes the 56th member of the international agreement on facilitating Customs procedures, said the report. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Kabul police arrest two, recover arms, ammunition

KABUL, 14 Jan— Police in Afghanistan capital Kabul arrested two persons on charge of involvement in weapons smuggling and recovered arms and munitions from their home, a statement of Interior Ministry said on Saturday.

"Police arrested two arms smugglers in Kabul on Friday and recovered arms and ammunition including assault rifle of Kalashnikov, pistol and bullets from their home," the statement added.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia not to make decision on Soeharto legal cases

JAKARTA, 14 Jan— Indonesia would not make any decision on whether to resume or terminate all legal cases filed against former president Soeharto who is now in critical condition in hospital, President Susilo Bamabang Yudhoyono said here Saturday.

President Susilo told a Press conference after a Cabinet meeting at his residence in West Java soon following his return from Malaysia.

The ailing 86-year-old Soeharto is facing numerous charges for human rights violation and corruption during his 32-years rules. In May 2006, the Attorney General Office closed a criminal case against him due to his deteriorating health. But the office has refused to close his civil case and offered an out of court settlement.

Susilo said that on the civil case of former president Soeharto, he thought it was not appropriate to discuss that issue because the former president was in critical condition.

"I heard as if the government has an initiative to settle this civil case of Soeharto. The government considers it is not the right time and not a priority at this days," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Peru refutes Chile charges on maritime boundaries

LIMA,14 Jan— Peruvian President Alan Garcia refuted Saturday criticisms by Chile on Peru's plan to bring the disputed maritime boundaries between the two countries at The Hague's International Court. The disputed boundary is a pure legal issue, not a political one, Garcia said, adding that by bringing it to The Hague, Peru hopes to solve the problem peacefully and avoid any damage to the relations between the two countries.

However, Chilean Foreign Minister Alejandro Foxley said earlier that by so doing, Peru was seeking to re-define the already decided maritime boundaries, which he said was "totally unacceptable".

Foxley Friday urged Peru to act prudently before it presses its claim at The Hague's International Court.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing beefs up security for Olympics

BEIJING, 14 Jan— Olympic host Beijing on Saturday launched a security operation across the capital pledging strict urban management and good social order to ensure a "safe Olympic Games".

The move, called "Action for a Safe Olympics", will first crack down on gangster-related crimes, tighten surveillance on entertainment venues such as karaoke bars and bath houses.

Wang Anshun, Communist Party deputy chief of Beijing, said the overall requirement of the operation was to ensure "no big incidents, a fall in lesser incidents, strict management and good social order".

MNA/Xinhua

***A South Korean angler casts a line through a hole created in the surface of the frozen river during a contest to catch trout in Hwacheon, eastnorth of Seoul, South Korea, on 13 Jan, 2008. The contest is part of an annual ice festival which draws over 1,000,000 visitors every year.*—INTERNET**

Drive safely

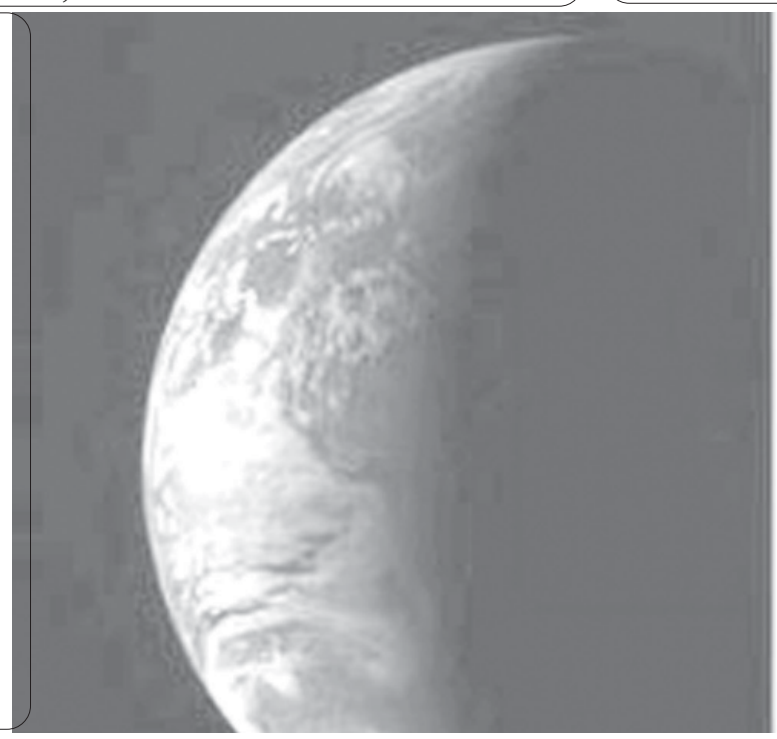
Images of the Day

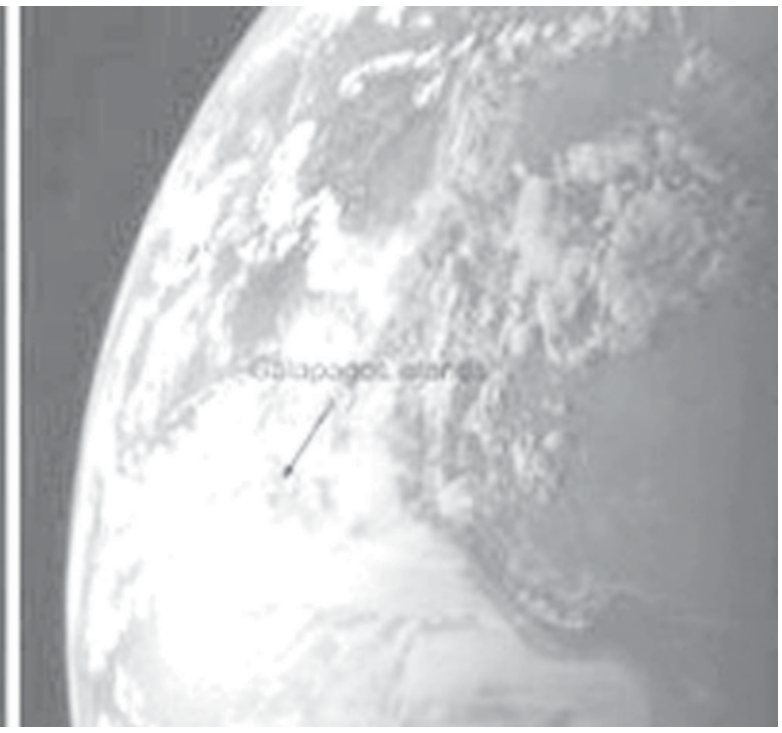
A model shows of a high-definition LCD TV from electronics giant Sharp in Tokyo. The Japanese government will begin a joint project with private companies to develop technology for next-generation ultra high-definition video, a daily newspaper report said on Monday.—INTERNET

Entertainment journalists (L-R) Lara Spencer, Brooke Anderson, Jim Moret, Giuliana Rancic, Dayna Devon and Mary Hart who announced the winners at the 65th annual Golden Globe Awards news conference pose after the event at the Beverly Hilton hotel in Beverly Hills, California on 13 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

The next-generation shopping cart with MediaCart digital screen.
INTERNET

This combo image of Earth was taken by a pioneering NASA spacecraft MESSENGER (The MErcury Surface, Space ENvironment, GEochemistry and Ranging). MESSENGER spacecraft is slightly more than halfway through its 4.9-billion mile journey and will be the first to visit Mercury in almost 33 years when it flys by on 14 Jan, 2008. The MESSENGER was built for NASA by the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.
INTERNET





ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV EASTERN FORTIS VOY NO (1)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EASTERN FORTIS VOY NO (1) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.1.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL TERMINALS THILAWA 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 S1 MARITIME CO, LTD
KOREA

Phone No: 256924/256914

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Iroko Pharmaceuticals LLC, a limited liability company incorporated in Delaware, of Navy Yard Corporate Center, One Crescent Drive, Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19112, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

ALDOMET

Reg. No. 700/1968
in respect of "Medicinal preparation for use in the treatment of hypertension".

INDOCID-M

Reg. No. 727/1973
in respect of "Analgesic and anti-inflammatory agent".

INDOCID-R

Reg. No. 1790/1989
in respect of "Analgesic and anti-inflammatory agents, being pharmaceutical preparations".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.,
for **Iroko Pharmaceuticals LLC**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 15 January, 2008

Bangladesh caretaker chief says will be vote in '08

DHAKA, 13 Jan—The head of Bangladesh's Army-backed interim government renewed his pledge on Saturday to hold a free and fair election before the end of the year to establish a credible democracy.

"There should be no doubt at all that we are fully committed to holding the election before end of 2008 and leave the country to an honest, democratic government around this time next year," Fakhruddin Ahmed said in a broadcast to mark the first anniversary of his administration.

"I also want to assure all that no political party is an opponent of this government, which took over a year ago at a critical juncture of our history," he said.

The interim administration took charge on 11 January, 2007, following months of political violence, imposed a state of emergency and cancelled an election planned for 22 January, 2007. It launched a massive crackdown on corruption and has detained more than 170 politicians.

Among them are former prime ministers Sheikh Hasina and her rival Begum Khaleda Zia, who are in jail facing trial for suspected corruption and abuse of power.

He urged politicians to help his administration deliver its mission —to return to democracy and good governance.

MNA/Reuters

Actress Rodriguez released early from LA jail

LOS ANGELES, 14 Jan—Actress Michelle Rodriguez has been released from jail after serving 17 days of a six-month sentence for probation violation, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department said on Thursday.

The 29-year-old former star of the TV series "Lost" was freed on Wednesday evening from the Century Regional Detention Facility in Lynwood, south of downtown Los Angeles. A judge sentenced Rodriguez in October for violating her probation on previous drunken-driving and hit-and-run offenses, and specified she not be granted work furlough, early release or home confinement. She surrendered on 23 December.

MNA/Reuters

Yangtze River to get one more bridge

WUHAN, 14 Jan—Central China's Wuhan City has decided to build another bridge over the Yangtze River, the world's third longest, said local sources.

The new bridge will span the river by linking up Nianyutao in the city's Wuchang area and Maying Road in Hanyang. It will share the heavy traffic flow on the half-century-old Wuhan Yangtze River Highway-Railway Bridge.

Ferry service used to be the sole means of transport for local people to travel across the river before October 1957 when the Wuhan highway-railway bridge was put into operation. However, the bridge is overburdened to carry about 100,000 motor vehicles and 300 trains each day.

So far, five bridges are in use over the Yangtze in the city of Wuhan, one more is being built. The construction of another one will start in the first half of this year.

A total of 61 bridges have been built or are being constructed on the main stream of the Yangtze since October 1957. The Yangtze, China's longest river which stretches 6,300 kilometres, originates in northwest China's Qinghai Province and flows through ten provincial areas before emptying itself near Shanghai into the East China Sea.– *MNA/Xinhua*

Rockslide kills seven in central Vietnam

HANOI, 14 Jan—Seven Vietnamese workers from the central Nghe An Province were killed Saturday afternoon after rocks at a quarry fell onto them, *Vietnam News Agency* reported.

The accident happened in Quynh Luu District and it claimed two lives instantly, and injured seriously eight workers. But five of the eight injured died on the way to hospital. Of the deaths, four women have been confirmed, said the report.

On 6 January, three local male workers died in another rockslide in a granite quarry in central Phu Yen Province.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Argentine flight delays spark passenger violence

BUENOS AIRES, 14 Jan—Frustrated passengers smashed ticket counters and threw objects at airline staff at Argentina's main airport on Saturday after the country's flagship airline cancelled international flights for a second day.

Television images showed damaged ticket counters and broken glass in the main hall of the Aerolineas Argentinas terminal, where passengers angry at delays caused by a baggage handllers strike and a walkout by ticket counter workers shouted down an Aerolineas Argentinas employee and threw objects at him.

The strike for higher wages had sparked delays at the airport in a Buenos Aires suburb since Friday. Several thousand passengers were stranded when Aerolineas Argentinas cancelled its flights abroad, according to local media. Phone calls to the airline and airport company went unanswered on Saturday

MNA/Reuters

Mexican teenager hurt in incident at US border

TIJUANA (Mexico), 14 Jan — A teenager was injured when US border patrol agents fired tear gas into Mexico over the weekend, despite a Mexican Government complaint that US agents were using excessive force.

Fifteen-year-old Cristian Saldana was hit in the nose by a tear gas canister on Saturday after he threw stones at border patrol agents trying to stop people from illegally crossing into the United States, witnesses said.

The teenager required stitches at a local hospital.

Mexico's government criticized the US border patrol for using excessive force after border patrol agents fired tear gas in another incident on Friday.

Mexico said it would investigate the use of tear gas by US agents, which it said has disturbed families in their homes. In the Tijuana neighbourhood where the incidents occurred, some homes are less than 10 metres (30 feet) from the border fence.

MNA/Reuters

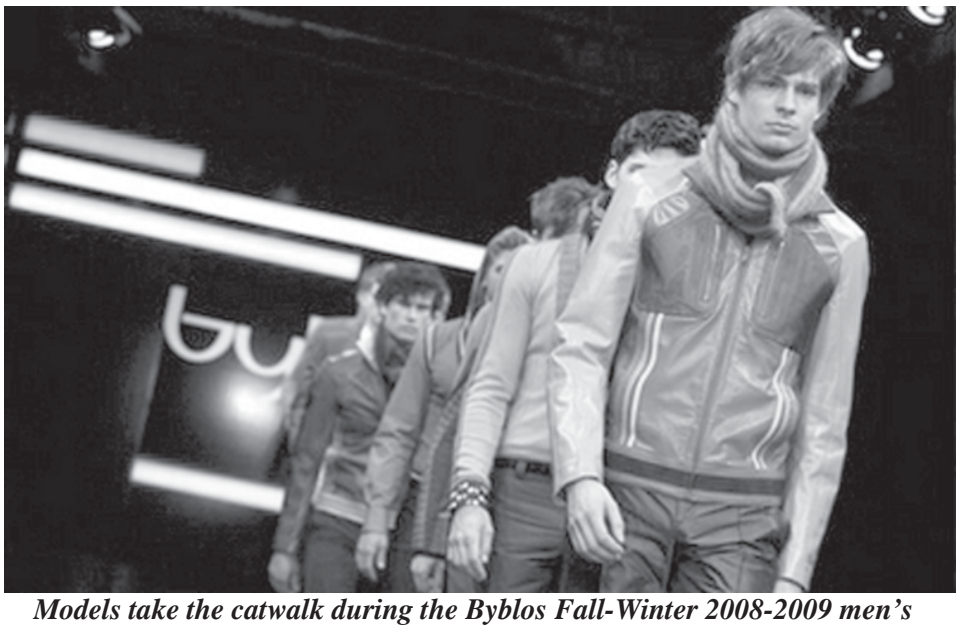
Five sentenced in terror trial in Brussels

BRUSSELS, 14 Jan— A court in Brussels has sentenced five members of an Islamic extremist group to up to ten years in prison, Belgian newspapers reported Friday.

The court ruled on Thursday that the men were members of a terrorist organization that recruits candidates for suicide attacks in Iraq. It was responsible for sending a Belgian woman to carry out a suicide bombing in Iraq in 2005.

The stiffest sentence was given to the ring leader Bilal Soughir, a Belgian of Tunisian descent. He received a ten-year sentence. The other suspects were sentenced in absentia for 28 months to five years in prison.

MNA/Xinhua



Models take the catwalk during the Byblos Fall-Winter 2008-2009 men's collection, presented in Milan, Italy, on 13 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Chinese expedition team reaches Antarctic icecap peak

CHANGCHENG STATION (Antarctica), 13 Jan—A 17-member Chinese expedition team Saturday reached Dome A, the Antarctic icecap peak, after a grueling 21-day journey.

The scientists reached the peak with an elevation of 4,093 metres at 11:45 am local time (0645 GMT). It is the second time that Chinese scientists have arrived at the peak after a similar climb on 18 January, 2005, the first ever by mankind.

In an excited mood, the explorers held a solemn flag-raising ceremony and erected a memorial sculpture at the peak.

Sun Bo, leader of the expedition team, told Changcheng Station in Antarctica via satellite phone that all 17 members were in good health. He said they were determined to finish a variety of scientific missions despite tough conditions.

The scientists are set to explore ice, observe ice streams, select a location for an astronomical observatory and carry out other tasks in areas around Dome A to prepare for the establishment of China's third Antarctic research station.

The expedition team set off from Zhongshan Station in eastern Antarctica on 22 December for Dome A.

China currently has two stations in Antarctica. Changcheng Station, founded in February 1985, is located south of King George Island, and Zhongshan Station, built in February 1989, is located south of Prydz Bay on the Mirror Peninsula, east of the Larsemann Hills. The 17 researchers are part of China's 24th scientific expedition team to Antarctica.

China launched its first expedition to Antarctica in 1984, since when such expeditions have been conducted on an annual basis. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Seventeen members of Chinese Antarctic exploration team pose for group photos in Antarctic on 22 Dec, 2007, before leaving for inner Antarctic. Their destination is the peak of the Antarctic icecap which is at an altitude of 4,093 meters.—INTERNET

UN seeks over $100m aid for Nepal

KATHMANDU, 14 Jan—The United Nations (UN) has sought over 104 million US dollars in aid to meet humanitarian and development needs of Nepal, reported the local media house's website THT on-line Saturday.

The Common Appeal for Transition Support (CATS) for Nepal 2008, launched last week, includes 61 projects to address urgent needs in Nepal in food and nutrition, protection, health, disaster preparedness and response.

Almost 29 million US dollars of the aid this year is earmarked for refugees, internally displaced persons and children affected by armed conflict, a UN news release said.

The release notes that although the conflict ended in late 2006 after the Nepali government and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)(CPN-M) signed peace agreement, the country continues to face challenges as it seeks to recover and rebuild.

"Bombings, killings, abductions, demands for ransom and other forms of threats aimed at political opponents and civilian populations continue to hinder the ability of the state to deliver basic services in the country," the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has said in the release.

MNA/Xinhua

Performers wearing their masks attend the Fifth Mask Festival held in southwest Bulgaria on 12 Jan, 2008.—XINHUA

Four injured as building roof collapses in E Canada

OTTAWA, 14 Jan—Four people received minor injuries after the roof of a three-story building collapsed Friday in Canada's eastern city of Toronto.

The walls of the house crumbled first, causing the roof cave in shortly after 5 am in the morning, police said.

The building, located in Toronto's east end and housing a tavern on the main floor, was under renovation. Police suspect structural damage resulting from the renovation as the cause for the collapse.

A man named Jay Slievert first noticed the collapse and informed his neighbours of the accident. Four people were sent to hospital with minor injuries.

"It was all cracking all around us, and I woke the rest of the tenants up," the shaken Jay Slievert told reporters after the incident.—*MNA/Xinhua*.

Cyprus to rebuild fire-destroyed Greek village

NICOSIA, 14 Jan—The Cyprus Government signed a contract on Friday with an international construction company to rebuild Artemida Village in Greece, which was destroyed by the disastrous forest fires last summer.

The 8.5 million-euro contract is part of an overall effort by Cyprus to reconstruct the village in Peloponnesus, where many houses and a local cultural centre were reportedly destroyed by the fires.

Forest fires broke out in Greece in August 2007, killing 64 people and leaving hundreds homeless. Cypriot firemen were sent to help stamp out the fires.

Cypriot Interior Minister Christos Patsalides said during Friday's signing ceremony that the government decided to undertake this project in the benefit of Artemida's habitants and the people of Greece in general, local media reported.

The reconstruction project, which will cost Cyprus a total of 14.5 million euros, is another proof of the "fraternal relations" between Cyprus and Greece, said the minister

MNA/Xinhua

Philippines looks for value as tuna catch falls

GENERAL SANTOS CITY (Philippines), 14 Jan—For decades, the fishermen of the southern Philippines have been going to sea for a few days, catching one or two tuna fish and living off the sales for a month.

As the catch rose to match surging demand, the Philippines became the world's fourth-largest tuna producer.

Six of the country's eight tuna canneries are now at General Santos City, on the southern tip of the archipelago, and the government built a 56-million-US dollar fishport at its natural harbour.

Purse seiner boats, which use huge nets that scoop up fish by the score, were increasingly used.

Last year, for the first time, the catch dwindled.

MNA/Reuters

Gentoo penguins rest on an island near the Changcheng (Great Wall) Station, one of China's Antarctic research stations ,on 12 Jan, 2008.—XINHUA

SPORTS

Larsson agrees to stay with Helsingborg through '08

STOCKHOLM, 13 Jan — Henrik Larsson has signed a one-year contract to extend his stay with his Swedish home club Helsingborg through 2008, the former Barcelona striker said on Saturday.

"I took the decision because I feel motivated. If you don't have the motivation it's not worth continuing," Larsson told the daily Helsingborgs Dagblad's Web site (www.hd.se).

"I feel I can still deliver at the top level," added the 36-year-old, who retired from the national team after their second round loss to hosts Germany at the 2006 World Cup.—*MNA/Reuters*

Celtic reach Scottish Cup fifth round

GLASGOW, 13 Jan — Holders Celtic eased into the fifth round of the Scottish FA Cup with a 3-0 win over second division Stirling Albion on Saturday, when seven matches were postponed due to frozen pitches.

Dutch striker Jan Vennegoor of Hesselink headed Celtic in front in the first half. Australian forward Scott McDonald added a second in the 70th minute before Japanese midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura fired a third to complete the scoring.

Motherwell fought back for a 2-2 draw at Hearts thanks to a double from Chris Porter in their first match since the death of skipper Phil O'Donnell. Hibernian won 3-0 at home to Inverness Caledonian Thistle with a hat-trick from Dene Shiels in their first match under new Finnish manager Mixu Paatelainen and St Mirren beat fourth division Dumbarton 3-0.—*MNA/Reuters*

***Bolton Wanderers' Tamir Cohen (R) challenges Blackburn Rovers' Steven Reid for the ball during their English Premier League soccer match in Bolton, northern England, on 13 Jan, 2008.* —INTERNET**

***Sunderland's coach Roy Keane shouts during their English Premier League soccer match against Portsmouth at The Stadium of Light in Sunderland, northern England on 13 Jan, 2008.*—INTERNET**

Sunderland earn vital victory over Portsmouth

LONDON, 14 Jan — Two goals from Kieran Richardson gave Sunderland a 2-0 victory over Portsmouth on Sunday to boost their hopes of escaping the Premier League drop zone.

The former Manchester United midfielder struck after 33 and 44 minutes of a scrappy game to hand Roy Keane's side their fifth league victory of the season. Sunderland remain third from bottom with 20 points from 22 matches, the same as Bolton Wanderers who were beaten 2-1 by Blackburn Rovers in a late kickoff. Wigan Athletic and Birmingham City also have 20 points.

Portsmouth, boasting the best away record in the Premier League, were handicapped by the absence of several key players away on African Nations Cup duty. Sunderland took advantage with Richardson heavily involved throughout.

Just past the half hour mark he converted from close range after a square pass from Kenwyne Jones. He doubled the lead with a neat finish a minute before the break and was denied a hat-trick by the crossbar in the second half when he tried his luck from distance.

Portsmouth drop a place to ninth, below Blackburn who came from a goal down to leave Bolton is serious relegation trouble.

Kevin Nolan's spectacular volley illuminated a woeful first half but Rovers hit back with a Christopher Samba header and a last-minute solo goal from substitute Jason Roberts.—*MNA/Reuters*

Van Nistelrooy double ends Levante's resistance

MADRID, 14 Jan — Leaders Real Madrid needed two late goals from Ruud van Nistelrooy to beat basement club Levante 2-0 away in the Primera Liga on Sunday.

The Dutchman scored with a penalty and a long-range effort in the last 15 minutes to end a spirited display from the home side, and restore Real's seven-point lead at the midway point of the season.

Barcelona are second with 40 points following their 4-0 hammering of Real Murcia at the Nou Camp on Saturday.

Levante had one goal and one point to their name from their previous five outings but took the game to Real, causing the visitors problems at every set piece.

Julio Baptista and Raul had shots blocked on the line in a double chance at a corner in the 22nd minute, but offered little before the break.

Soon after the restart, Baptista failed to put away another scrappy chance as the ball bobbled on to a post and Robinho lashed a shot against the post in the 70th.

A handball in the 75th minute gave Van Nistelrooy the chance to break the deadlock from the penalty spot, and with two minutes to go he fired in a low shot from outside the area to seal the win. Atletico Madrid climbed to third on 37 points after riding their luck to secure a 1-0 home win over Valencia. —*MNA/Reuters*

Milan break home hoodoo in style, Inter win

MILAN, 14 Jan — AC Milan beat Napoli 5-2 on Sunday to record their first league win at the San Siro this term with Pato scoring on his debut and Ronaldo netting twice to open his season's account.

Ronaldo, playing in only his second match this season after injury problems, gave Milan a 15th-minute lead when his shot ballooned off Napoli keeper Gennaro Iezzo and just crossed line before Andrea Cupi hooked clear.

Napoli equalized when Ezequiel Lavezzi's cross was toe-poked in by Roberto Sosa, but Milan were soon back in front when Iezzo denied Brazilian 18-year-old Pato twice only for Clarence Seedorf to smash home.

A clumsy foul by Kakha Kaladze on Lavezzi allowed Maurizio Domizzi to pull Napoli level from the penalty spot after 38 minutes of an enthralling first half.

The second period belonged to Milan however, with a diving header from Ronaldo, Kaka's crisp shot and Pato's cool finish sealing the win in style.

The European champions remain 12th but have three games in hand on most clubs having won the Club World Cup in Japan in December before Serie A's three-week midseason break.

MNA/Reuters

***Way above the net : Ivan Miljkovis(L) of Serbia smashes the ball against the block of Jeroen Paul Trommel(C) and Wytze Koolstr of Netherlands during the semi-finals of the Olympic Games 2008 European Qualification Tournaments, in Izmir.*—INTERNET**

Zidane interested in return to football

PARIS, 13 Jan — Zinedine Zidane has said he would like to return to the world of football, but admitted he did not know in which role.

One of the sport's all-time greats, Zidane retired after France's defeat by Italy in the 2006 World Cup final, where he was sent off for his infamous head-butt on Marco Materazzi. "I have no goal but coming back into football, I would like that," the former France playmaker told *L'Equipe Magazine* weekly in a rare interview released on Saturday.

"Then, in which way, how, I don't know," he added.

Zidane said he had a project to build soccer pitches for children in Marseille, the city where he grew up.

The gifted son of Algerian immigrants, Zidane was the inspiration behind France's 1998 World Cup triumph on home soil and has been involved in charity since ending his playing career.

MNA/Reuters

Lopez scores twice as Porto go 11 points clear

LISBON, 13 Jan — Lisandro Lopez scored twice in Porto's 4-0 home win over Braga that extended their lead at the top of the Portuguese championship to 11 points after rivals Benfica were held to a 0-0 draw at home by Leixoes on Saturday.

The champions head the standings on 41 points from 16 matches, followed by Benfica on 30. Third-placed Sporting travel to Academica on Sunday with a chance to close the gap on Benfica to one point. Porto went ahead after five minutes when Argentine striker Lopez tapped in a perfect cross from the right by in-form defender Jose Bosingwa. His compatriot Lucho Gonzalez set up the second goal with a neat cross which was met with a powerful header from fellow midfielder Raul Meireles after 18 minutes.—*MNA/Reuters*

Israel to get "smarter" US-made bombs than Saudi Arabia

JERUSALEM, 14 Jan— The United States has agreed in principle to provide Israel with better "smart bombs" than those it plans to sell Saudi Arabia under a regional defence package, senior Israeli security sources said on Sunday.

Keen to bolster Middle East allies against an ascendant Iran, the Bush Administration last year proposed supplying Gulf Arab states with some 20 billion US dollars in new weapons, including Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) bomb kits for the Saudis.

The plan has angered Israel's backers in Washington, who say the JDAMs, which give satellite guidance for bombs, may one day be used against the Jewish state or at least blunt its power to deter potential foes. Israel has had JDAMs since 1990 and has used them extensively in a 2006 offensive in Lebanon.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's government dropped its objections to the proposed Saudi deal in July after securing US military aid grants worth 30 billion US dollars over the next decade.

Two Israeli security sources said the United States further mollified the Olmert Government with an "understanding in principle" that future JDAM sales to Israel would include advanced technologies not on offer to Saudi Arabia.

"We are checking which of the top-of-the-line JDAMs will become available to us. The agreement is that Israel's qualitative edge will be preserved," one source said.

The spokesman for the US Embassy in Tel Aviv could not immediately be reached for comment.

MNA/Reuters

The surfers ride a wave at the Mavericks surf competition in Half Moon Bay, California on 12 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

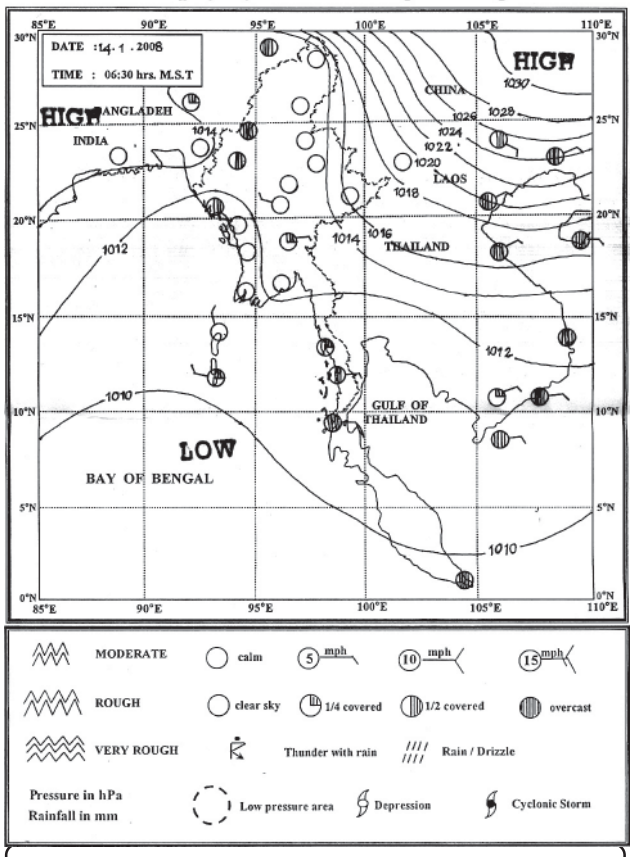
Flood, fire at China mines kill at least 11

BEIJING, 14 Jan— A fire killed at least six coal miners in eastern China, and the bodies of five others were pulled from a flooded shaft in the southwest, state media said on Sunday, latest casualties in the world's deadliest mining sector.

China, the largest producer and consumer of coal, has been battling to improve safety standards in its mines, but accidents are common as owners push production beyond safety limits to meet robust demand to fuel the country's economic boom.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 14 January, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain has been is solated in Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3ºC) to (4ºC) below January average temperatures in Shan and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing Division, (3ºC) to (4ºC) above January average temperatures in Kachin and Chin States, Taninthayi Division and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem(0ºC) Namhsam, and Mogok and An (4ºC) each, and Lashio (5ºC).

Maximum temperature on 13-1-2008 was 94ºF. Minimum temperature on 14-1-2008 was 60ºF. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 14-1-2008 was 65%. Total sunshine hours on 13-1-2008 was (8.2) hours approx.

Rainfall on 14-1-2008 was nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northeast at (12:30) hours MST on 13-1-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 15-1-2008: Possibility of isolated rain in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decerase of night temperatures in the eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 15-1-2008: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-1-2008: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-1-2008: Fair weather.

Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, 15 January
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music
-If U still love me
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music
-All my life
8:50 am National news/ Slogan
9:00 am Music
-Close to you
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music
-Love is the groove
1:30 pm News/ Slogan
1:40 pm Launch time music
-Girl I'm gonna get U
-I don't know why
9:00pm English speaking course
9:10 pm Article
9:20 pm Weekly sports rell
9:30pm Listening pleasure
-I'm gonna miss you forever
-My heart will go on
9:45 pm News /Slogan
10:00 pm PEL

TV Myanmar

Tuesday, 15 January
View on today

7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊အဘိဓေမဟာ ရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊အဘိဓေအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိက၊တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ 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. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

8:05 am
6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am
7. Song of yesteryear

8:20 am
8. ဖြူးရောင်းတံတား

8:30 am
9. International news

8:45 am
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. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ–ပထမနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ ရူပဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒ၊ ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြုများ) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)

5:00 pm
5. Dance of National races

5:15 pm
6. ခံစားနှားဆင် တေးဇာတ်ဝင်

5:25 pm
7. ဆိုကြမယ်ပျော်ကြမယ်

6:00 pm
8. Evening news

6:30 pm
9. Weather report

6:35 pm
10. သုတစုံလင် ရွှေဥဏ္ဍာရင်

7:10 pm
11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မြူခိုးဝေဝေချစ်သက်တည်" (အပိုင်း–၁၅)

8:00 pm
12. News
13. International news
14. Weather report
15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်စေတမန်" (အပိုင်း–၁၇)
16. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာ ဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်း တရားတော်
17. The next day's programme

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People's Desire

☆ We favour stability.

☆ We favour peace.

☆ We oppose unrest and violence.

Information Minister speaks at dinner in honour of artistes

YANGON, 14 Jan — Union Solidarity and Development Association hosted a dinner in honour of the artistes, who starred in the teleplay *Kyesin Thetthe* (As witnessed by Stars) hailing the USDA Annual General Meeting-2007, at the Kandawgyi Karaweik Palace yesterday evening. USDA Secretariat member Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an honorary speech.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers a speech at a dinner to honour artistes who starred in Kyesin Thetthe "As witnessed by stars". — MNA

In his speech, the minister said the teleplay *Kyesin Thetthe*, which was shown on TV in commemoration of the USDA AGM, had been popular among the people. The success was due to the harmonious efforts of the artistes from the movie, music and literary fields. So the State praises and expresses thanks to the artistes for their respective roles in the teleplay. The media can show not only the right path but also the wrong one to the younger generation. Likewise, a nation may fall under colonial rule because of the media. Therefore, all the people born on the same land partaking water from the same source are to maintain and safeguard the nation's independence and sovereignty as a national duty, he noted.

In conclusion, the minister said, all the artistes are urged to continue to participate in the national tasks in unity and collaboration.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presented certificates of honour and cash awards to Director Malikha Soe Htaik Aung, Scriptwriter Academy Nyein Min and writer Ma Sandar, movie stars Academy Yan Aung, Academy Lwin Moe, Academy Tun Tun Win, Academy May Thinza Oo and Academy Eindra Kyaw Zin. USDA Secretariat member Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and CEC member Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa presented certificates of honour and cash awards to other cast members.

President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint presented K 3 million to the artistes and technicians

(See page 8)

INSIDE

"Human development plays the pivotal role for all developments, either arts or science, including the health sector, as it is impossible to upgrade the academic level without the human resources development. Because of the competencies and efficiencies of the health care specialists and physicians, Myanmar is well recognized in the field of health care."

PAGE 7 PROFESSOR DR PAING SOE

☆ RFA, VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies

☆ RFA, VOA and BBC saboteurs, watch your step!

☆ The public be warned of killers in the air waves — RFA, VOA and BBC