

**Danañca, generosity; this is the way to auspiciousness.**

Established 1914

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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

## Taninthayi Division cultivated 443,902 acres of monsoon paddy, to put 41,000 acres under summer paddy in 2007-2008



*Maj-Gen Tha Aye views broadcasting of fertilizer on irrigated fields in Tonbyawgyi Village in Myeik Township. — MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence attended a ceremony to broadcast fertilizers for summer paddy held at Tonbyawgyi Village, Myeik Township, Taninthayi Division on 27 January and gave necessary instructions.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-

Gen Khin Zaw Oo, members of the Division PDC, division, district and township level departmental officials, social organizations, members of the agriculture supervisory committee and local people.

Accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and departmental officials, Maj-Gen Tha Aye heard a report presented by Manager of Taninthayi

Division Myanmar Agriculture Service U Aung Kyaw Oo on cultivation of 420,813 acres of monsoon paddy and 37,580 acres of summer paddy in 2006-2007, cultivation of 443,902 acres of monsoon paddy in 2007-2008 and arrangements for growing of 41,000 acres of summer paddy and called on extended cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy for self-sufficiency in rice and meeting the target of

*(See page 9)*

## Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspects bridges on Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan — Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence inspected bridges on the railroad linking Kyangin and Pakokku on 23 January.

During the inspection tour, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw was accompanied by Deputy Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and officials.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspected the site chosen to construct Chaungmakaing Bridge on the railroad near Pakokku. An official of Public Works reported to Maj-Gen Khin Zaw on the construction tasks at the bridge construction project.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party visited work sites to construct a new railroad between Kyangin and Pakokku and to construct a

railway station. Afterwards, they visited Chaungmagyi Bridge construction site on Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad.

Before the inspection tour of bridges, they visited Taungzalat Youth Nursery School of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana in Pakokku and donated cash to the school.

*(See page 8)*

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 30 January, 2008

### Construction of more irrigation facilities for exceeding target of paddy output

Wagadok Supporting Dam near Taunghsat-in Village in Bago Township, Bago Division, was inaugurated the other day.

It is the 44th of the irrigation facilities that have been built in Bago Division. It can irrigate some 1200 acres of farmlands in the villages in Thanatpin and Thongwa regions. In addition, it is also designed to feed water to Moeyungyi Lake, so it will share irrigation of water with Moeyungyi Lake in cultivating summer paddy in more than 43,000 acres.

Moreover, it will contribute towards supply of more irrigation water in the regions along the Bago-Sittoung Canal and the greening of the areas of 30-mile radius of Yangon round the year.

Now, the government is pursuing the goal of exceeding the local demands of rice and edible oil. In order to achieve the goal, it is taking measures such as reclamation of vacant lands, supply of irrigation water, and boosting per acre yields of the crops.

In particular, the government is constructing dams, sluice gates, and diversion weirs wherever necessary with the aim of supplying adequate irrigation water for the agricultural purpose. So far, it has constructed 207 dams including Wagadok facility throughout the nation. As a result, the sown acreage of monsoon and summer paddy, multiple crops and mixed crops is on the increase.

The government is making huge investments in irrigation projects all over the country. Farmers on their part have to work harder to exceed the targeted outputs of monsoon and summer paddy and other crops.



PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST FIRE —  
*Officials of South Okkalapa Township Fire Services Department inspect preventive measures against fire in the township on 28 January, 2008. — MNA*

## People's Desire

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

### Minister for Forestry inspects standardization of logs

YANGON, 29 Jan — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, accompanied by departmental heads, yesterday morning inspected the standardization of logs to be sold through tender system at Kan-3 Jetty of Myanma Timber Enterprise in Ahlon Township, here.

The sale of logs through international tender system by Myanma Timber Enterprise's Internal Marketing and Sawmill Division continued at the tender hall of MTE (Head Office) here.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung

attended the sale and cordially greeted foreigners who would purchase logs and local entrepreneurs.

The tender sale includes high quality teak, teak logs, and sawn timber. The low quality logs will be sold through sealed tender system. And sawn timber will be sold in local and foreign currency.

Altogether 42 foreigners and 162 local entrepreneurs from 57 local and foreign companies attended the auction.

MNA

### Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs arrives back from Sri Lanka, India

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—The Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu arrived back here by air on 27 January after paying official goodwill visits to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Republic of India from 20 to 27 January.

Members of the delegation U Kyaw Swar Oo, Assistant Director of Minister's Office and U Han Thein Kyaw, Head of Branch-II of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also arrived back on the same flight.

The Deputy Minister and party arrived at Colombo on 21 January and were welcomed there by Mr KSC Dissanayaka, Director-General of the East Asia & Pacific Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka and responsible officials at Colombo International Airport.

On 22 January, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, accompanied by Ambassador of Myanmar to Sri Lanka U Tin Oo Lwin and members of the Myanmar delegation, met with Mr Alhaj Hussein A Bhaila, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka at Cinnamon Grand Hotel. The two Deputy Ministers touched upon matters concerning bilat-



*Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu calls on Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Mr Rohitha Bogallagama. — MNA*

eral relations between the two countries and exchanged views on regional and international affairs.

In the evening, the Deputy Minister attended a dinner hosted by his counterpart of Sri Lanka at Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand Hotel.

While in Sri Lanka, the Deputy Minister paid a courtesy call on Mr Rohitha Bogallagama, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka on 23 January at the latter's office in Colombo. They discussed a wide range of bilateral issues of mutual interests to further strengthen the bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.

During his visit, the Deputy Minister visited Kandy and paid homage to the Sri Dalada Maligawa Lord Buddha's Tooth relic temple and also viewed the two elephants

with tusks donated by Myanmar to Sri Lanka in 2007. The Deputy Minister also met staff of the Myanmar Embassy at the residence of the Myanmar Ambassador in Colombo.

On the second leg of the tour, as a Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu proceeded to India and arrived at New Delhi on 24 January. They were welcomed by Ambassador of Myanmar to India U Kyi Thein and responsible officials at New Delhi International Airport.

Next, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, accompanied by Ambassador of Myanmar to India U Kyi Thein called on Mr Shyam Saran, Special Advisor at the Prime Minister's Office of India at Hotel Claridges.

In the evening,

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu held official talks with Mr Shivshankar Menon, Foreign Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs at Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi. They discussed matters relating to bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and international affairs.

HE Shivshankar Menon hosted a dinner in honour of U Kyaw Thu and Myanmar delegates.

During his stay in New Delhi, the Deputy Minister paid a courtesy call on Shri Pranab Mukharjee, Minister for External Affairs of India, on 25 January at the Ministry of External Affairs. They discussed issues of mutual interest to further strengthen the existing friendly relations and bilateral cooperation between the two countries.—MNA



Democratic presidential hopeful, Sen Barack Obama, D-Ill., left, stands with Sen Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., during a rally for Obama at American University on 28 Jan, 2008, in Washington. —INTERNET

## Senator Edward Kennedy to support Obama

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan—Senator Edward Kennedy, who bears one of the most famous names in American politics and is a leading liberal voice in the US Congress, will endorse Senator Barack Obama's presidential campaign on Monday, Democratic sources said.

Kennedy, the

youngest brother of assassinated President John F Kennedy and a veteran senator from Massachusetts, intends to announce his support for Obama at American University in Washington, a source close to the senator said.

He will be accompanied by his niece,

Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of the late president, who has already endorsed Obama.

She wrote in Sunday's *New York Times* that Obama, a first-term senator from Illinois, seems able to inspire people the way her father did a half century ago.

MNA/Reuters

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Five US soldiers killed in Iraq

MOSUL, 29 Jan— Five US soldiers were killed on Monday when their patrol was struck by a roadside bomb and attacked with small arms fire in the restive city of Mosul, the US military said. Iraqi police said fighting had broken out in the east of the city between US troops and unidentified armed

men but declined to elaborate. The US military said it was awaiting more details.

US and Iraqi forces are engaged in an extensive operation against Al-Qaeda in the city, where blasts last week killed dozens of people including a police chief.

Iraq's Defence Minister

Abdel Qader Jassim Mohammed said the situation in Mosul is "worse than imagined" after touring the flashpoint city on Sunday.

The minister was sharply critical of the Iraqi army's deployment in the city, telling reporters: "The forces are scattered.—Internet

### About 50 militants killed in Pakistan's tribal area

ISLAMABAD, 29 Jan— Security forces have killed around 50 militants in northwestern Pakistan's tribal area, an Army spokesman said on Sunday. Army spokesman Major General Athar Abbas said that the Army launched an operation in Darra Adam Khel tribal region on Friday and a total of about 50 militants were killed in the three-day clashes.

Militants hijacked four trucks carrying stores

and supplies of Army including ammunition in Darra Adam Khel region on Thursday. Athar Abbas confirmed that seven soldiers were also killed and 10 others injured. The Army said in another statement that the Frontier Crops troops continued their operation in tribal areas on Sunday.

#### To control tunnel

Pakistani troops, backed by helicopter gunships, are battling pro-

Taliban militants to recapture a key road tunnel leading to the volatile tribal belt on the Afghan border, the military said on Sunday.

Militants captured the Japanese-built tunnel on the main road link between Peshawar, capital of the North West Frontier Province, and the tribal belt during fighting near Darra Adam Kheil tribal region on Saturday.

MNA/Xinhua



Pakistan Army troops patrol in Miran Shah, capital of North Waziristan, Pakistan's tribal area along the Afghanistan on 29, Jan 2008.

INTERNET

### Canada threatens to pull troops from Afghanistan

OTTAWA, 29 Jan — Canada will pull its 2,500 troops out of Afghanistan early next year unless NATO sends in significant reinforcements, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said on Monday,

signalling Ottawa has lost patience with what it sees as foot-dragging by allies.

Harper, who wants the soldiers to stay longer than their current withdrawal date of

February 2009, said NATO's failure to station enough forces in Afghanistan meant the whole future of the organization was under serious threat.

MNA/Reuters



Protesters throw stones at riot police as rival ethnic gangs began fighting in Kibera slums after gunmen killed a Kenyan opposition politician at his home in the early hours in Nairobi on 29 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

### Frankfurt Islamist group planning attack

MADRID, 29 Jan—A group of Islamist extremists in Frankfurt was planning an attack in Germany, according to a would-be suicide bomber

captured by police in Spain, Spanish newspaper *El Pais* reported on Sunday.

The Frankfurt cell was one of several in European

cities with orders to attack targets in Spain, France, Portugal, Germany and Britain, according to the would-be attacker turned police informant, *El Pais* reported.

The report did not make clear whether the German cell was to attack Frankfurt or another city. Testimony from the same informant, who was captured after he arrived in Barcelona on 16 January, led to the arrest of 14 South Asians last Saturday in Barcelona after he told police an Islamist extremist cell planned to attack the city's metro and other targets in Europe, *El Pais* reported, quoting Spanish police.

MNA/Reuters

### Man arrested near White House for verbal threat

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan — A man was arrested on Monday for making a verbal threat against US President George W Bush outside the fence at the White House, the Secret Service said.

"We had an individual arrested for making a threat against the President on the fence line," Malcolm Wiley, spokesman for the Secret Service said. "He said behind a suspicious package," he said.

That prompted the area immediately outside the White House to be closed off to the public, he said.

Wiley had no further details about the identity of the man who was arrested or what he was charged with.

MNA/Reuters

## Ex-spy chief says US used waterboarding

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan — The United States used waterboarding in terrorism interrogations but no longer does, a former US spy chief said in the Bush Administration's most explicit confirmation of the technique's use.

US officials have been reluctant to acknowledge the CIA's use of the simulated drowning technique, which human rights groups call an illegal form of torture.

The remarks by former Director of National Intelligence John Negroponte in an interview with *National Journal* magazine come as senators are expected on Wednesday to grill Attorney General Michael Mukasey on a promised review of the legality of interrogation methods. Asked by the magazine if debate over US counterterrorism techniques was hampering its effort in

a "war of ideas", Negroponte said, "We've taken steps to address the issue of interrogations, for instance, and waterboarding has not been used in years."

Negroponte served as the first director of national intelligence, a position created by President George W Bush in the wake of the 11 September attacks, from 2005 to 2007. He is now deputy secretary of state.

MNA/Reuters



Tourists walk through the Forbidden City in Beijing after an overnight snowfall. China issues a severe weather warning after the heaviest snowfalls in 50 years left hundreds of thousands stranded ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday. —INTERNET

## China pays atomic blast participants

BEIJING, 28 Jan — China has started paying "subsidies" to participants in its past nuclear test explosions as part of a general rise in welfare for former military staff, state media reported.

China exploded its first nuclear test device in 1964 and continued test blasts until 1996, when the government announced a moratorium on the programme based in the far western region of Xinjiang.

But only now has China said that people close to the radioactive explosions have begun receiving subsidies.

The Minister for Civil Affairs, Li Xueju, said "participants of nuclear tests", military and civilian, had begun receiving the payments from 2007, the official *Xinhua* news agency reported late on Saturday.

The ministry handles some of China's welfare policies for former soldiers.

China shrouds its atomic weapons programme in secrecy, and it is unclear what prompted the announcement or whether the payments cover medical costs for civilian residents and military personnel possibly affected by the blasts.

MNA/Reuters



Poland's Gzhegozh Shymanski takes part in the Arnold Strongman Challenge competition in a hangar at an aircraft factory in Kiev on 26 Jan, 2008. The Arnold Strongman Challenge is a qualifying round for the Arnold Strongman Classic in Columbus, Ohio, on 26 Jan, 2008. —XINHUA

## Explosion rocks Philippine apartment, killing three

MANILA, 28 Jan — A powerful explosion on Monday ripped through a three-storey apartment building in a coastal town of the central Cavite Province, killing three people and wounding several others, police said.

According to local police, the blast occurred at around noon in a fishermen residential area. A row of houses nearby were affected.

The cause of the blast is under investigation, said the police. — MNA/Xinhua

## Landmine blast wounds AU peacekeepers in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 28 Jan — A landmine blast wounded at least three African Union peacekeepers in the Somali capital on Saturday, witnesses and a spokesman for the AU force said.

Soldiers from Uganda and Burundi are serving as peacekeepers in Mogadishu, where the interim government faces an insurgency led by remnants of a hardline Islamic courts movement.

Captain Barigye Bahouku, the AU force spokesman, said one of their vehicles hit a landmine planted near Mogadishu's sea port. —MNA/Reuters

## Gunmen kill three family members in Baghdad violence

BAGHDAD, 28 Jan — Gunmen shot dead three family members in Baghdad, while a roadside bomb wounded an Iraqi Army soldier, an Interior Ministry source said on Sunday.

"Unknown gunmen stormed a house in Baghdad's northeastern neighbourhood of Ur, killing an old man and two women and wounding their son," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. —MNA/Xinhua

## Eight shot dead in Beirut opposition protests

BEIRUT, 28 Jan — Eight Lebanese opposition supporters were shot dead in Beirut on Sunday in some of the worst internal violence since Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war, raising tensions in a country gripped by political conflict.

A senior opposition source said all the dead were members of Hizbollah or Amal — Shiite Muslim groups that have led a political campaign against the anti-Damascus governing coalition. At least 29 more people were wounded. —MNA/Reuters

## Iran produces 300 tons of UF6 in Isfahan N-facility

TEHERAN, 28 Jan — Deputy head of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Javad Vaeedi said on Sunday that his country has so far produced 300 tons of uranium hexafluoride

(UF6) gas used for uranium enrichment in the Isfahan nuclear facility. Addressing a congregation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), Vaeedi said "The Isfahan

uranium conversion facility is active and it has produced more than 300 tons of UF6," local *Fars* news agency reported.

He said that despite pressures by Western countries which once stressed that Iran should not have even 20 centrifuges, there are now 3,000 centrifuges operative in Iran. The Iranian official also touched upon Iran's initiative — known as a modality or action plan — to build international confidence and return the country's nuclear dossier to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

MNA/Xinhua

*Palestinians pass through the destroyed border wall into Egypt near the Rafah border crossing on 28 Jan, 2008.*

INTERNET



## Sea freight charges in Bangladesh set to go up

DHAKA, 28 Jan—The feeder operators in Bangladesh are planning to raise sea freight charges by around 40 percent from 16 February this year, a move that will increase the costs of imports and hamper exports, sources said on Saturday.

The freight charges for each 20-foot (6.1-metre) container will be raised by 100 US dollars and the 40-foot container by 200 US dollars, leading English newspaper *The Financial Express* reported Saturday.

Currently, the freight

charges between the country's southeastern port Chittagong and Singapore ranges between 260 and 280 US dollars for each 20-foot container.

"We have decided to raise the freight by 100 US dollars for each 20-foot container mainly because of high prices of bunker and increase in the operating cost," said one official working for a leading feeder operator.

Shipping sources said each feeder vessel requires at least 180 tons of fuel oil worth 75,000 US dollars and 35 tons of diesel worth

28,000 US dollars for a voyage between Chittagong and Singapore.

Sources in the shipping circle said that once the feeder operators increase their freight charges, the main line operators (MLOs) transporting goods to the continents, too would follow suit.

Currently, the freight charge for shipping goods from Bangladesh to European ports is about 1800 US dollars and American ports 2,000 US dollars for each 20-foot container.

MNA/Xinhua



A broker reacts while trading on his computer terminal at a stock brokerage firm in Mumbai on 28 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

## S Korea, EU try to revive momentum for trade deal

SEOUL, 28 Jan—South Korean and EU trade envoys began fresh trade talks on Monday with plans to steer clear of sensitive topics such as cars in order to move discussions forward.

South Korea's chief negotiator said he hopes to strike a deal by May with the country's second largest trade partner after China. A South Korea-EU pact could increase their annual 80 billion US dollars in trade by about

25 per cent, studies have said.

"There is an understanding that separate negotiations will not take place this time on automobiles because additional time is needed to work on the differences in views," the South Korean Trade Ministry said in a statement.

The two sides launched talks in May 2007, shortly after South Korea struck a free trade agreement with the United States,

but they failed to meet an end of year deadline to finalise an agreement.

This round of talks is slated to end on Friday.

The EU has said South Korea's proposed measures on technical standards would hurt European car exporters and warned it could scupper the talks. South Korea has said it would see if more concessions on standards such as vehicle emissions were possible.—MNA/Reuters



A model displays Matsushita Electric Industrial's new dry cell battery "Evolta", on 15 Jan, in Tokyo. Japanese electronic makers Matsushita and Toshiba are planning major consolidation of their battery businesses amid surging prices of raw materials and rare metals, news reports said on 26 Jan, 2008. INTERNET

## ECONOMIC NEWS

### FEVAD says e-commerce has bright future in France

PARIS, 28 Jan—E-commerce in France is expected to continue to expand within the next years, France's Federation of e-commerce and Distance Sales (FEVAD) has said. In 2007, French buyers spent 16.1 billion euros (about 26.7 billion US dollars) online, which is a rise

of 35 per cent compared to figures reported in 2006, FEVAD Managing Director Marc Lolivier said during a Press conference Thursday.

"The turnover is expected to double within the next two years, hitting 31.4 billion euros by 2010," said Lolivier, adding that 13,000 new

Internet merchants had been registered in France in 2007 alone.

"More shoppers are realizing that buying on the Internet is easy and that things go well for most of the time.

MNA/Xinhua

### Vietnames exports to ASEAN to rise this year

HANOI, 29 Jan—Vietnam plans to export 9 billion US dollars worth of goods, including rice, crude oil, seafood and electronic components, to other members of the 10-member Association of South-East Asian Nations

(ASEAN) in 2008, up 15.4 per cent against 2007, according to local newspaper *Saigon Liberation* on Monday.

Vietnam is estimated to reap 32 million dollars from exporting fruit and vegetables to the ASEAN

this year, up 30 per cent, the newspaper quoted the country's Ministry of Industry and Commerce as reporting. According to the ministry's prediction, Vietnam will, this year, reap four billion dollars from exporting its goods to China, up 25 per cent against last year; 6.5 billion dollars to Japan, up 14 per cent; 13.1 billion dollars to the United States, up 28 per cent; and 10.4 billion dollars to the European Union, up 23.5 per cent.

Vietnam has targeted total export turnovers of 57.6-58.6 billion dollars in 2008, up from nearly 48.4 billion dollars in 2007, and 39.6 billion dollars in 2006, according to the ministry.

MNA/Xinhua

### China-German BMW venture posts 36% rise in 2007 sales

BEIJING, 29 Jan—BMW Brilliance Automotive Co, the German premium car maker's Chinese venture, said on Saturday it sold 36 per cent more locally made vehicles in 2007. Total sales of the BMW 3 Series and 5 Series reached a record 30,600 units on the Chinese mainland, from 22,500 units a year earlier, the company said. The 2007 figure included sales of the stretch 5 Series — a luxury model especially made for the country's nouveaux riches — which soared 61 per cent year on year to 17,647 units.—MNA/Xinhua



Journalists test an Apple iPhone following its introduction in Berlin on 19 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

## Egypt agrees Abbas plan for Gaza border

RAMALLAH (West Bank), 28 Jan — Egypt has agreed to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' plan to assume control of Gaza's sole crossing with Egypt, excluding Hamas Islamists who rule the territory, Palestinian officials said on Sunday.

Abbas has been seeking Egyptian and Israeli support for taking over Gaza's border crossings, including the one at Rafah with Egypt

that Hamas blasted open on Wednesday.

Hundreds of thousands of Gazans have since poured across the border into Egypt to stock up on goods in short supply because of an Israeli-led blockade of the Hamas-controlled territory.

On the sidelines of talks with Egyptian officials in Cairo, Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad al-Malki told *Reuters* that Egypt agreed to returning to a 2005

border agreement which gave Abbas control over the Rafah crossing.

Under the agreement, Malki said, Abbas' presidential guard would provide security at the crossing. The presidential guard had been stationed there until June, when Hamas routed forces loyal to Abbas' secular Fatah faction and seized control of the impoverished territory of 1.5 million people.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqis search for wounded people amid the rubble at the site of an explosion in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, on 24 Jan.—INTERNET

## Iran, Iraq ink agreement on environment protection

TEHERAN, 28 Jan—Iranian and Iraqi officials signed an eight-article agreement on cooperation in the field of environment protection, the official *IRNA* news agency reported.

The document was inked by head of Iran's Department of Environ-

ment Fatemeh Vaez-Javadi and Iraqi Minister of Environment Nermin Othman in Teheran.

Speaking to reporters prior to signing the agreement, the Iranian official said the document would facilitate Teheran-Baghdad cooperation for further protection of their

natural resources.

According to the document, the two parties are required to cooperate on industrial pollution control, enforce ban on hunting along Iran-Iraq borders and campaign against wildlife epidemic diseases, Vaez-Javadi said.—MNA/Xinhua



A Palestinian carries his belongings as he crosses back into the Gaza Strip from Egypt through the breached border point in the border town of Rafah, on 28 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

## One soldier, 37 rebels killed in Sri Lankan clashes

COLOMBO, 28 Jan—Fierce clashes between the Sri Lankan Government forces and Tamil Tiger rebels have left one soldier and 37 rebel militants dead from Saturday to Sunday, defence official here said on Sunday.

Separate clashes took place in Palamadu, Madu south, Vilaththikulam,

Parayanakulam and Kallikulam areas in the north on Saturday morning, killing 22 Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels while 11 others were killed in the northeastern Welioya area on Saturday afternoon. Three rebels were killed in the northern Jaffna Peninsula's Muhamalai forward defence

lines Saturday night and a government troop also succumbed to his injuries in the clashes, the officials said. Meanwhile the police Special Task Force (STF) said they had gunned down a rebel area leader at Kaluwanchikudy in the eastern district of Batticaloa early Sunday morning.

MNA/Xinhua

## Vietnam reports more traffic-related deaths in 2007

HANOI, 28 Jan—Vietnam saw a 0.5-per cent decrease in the number of traffic accidents, but a 3.2-per cent rise in fatalities caused by the accidents last year, according to the country's National Traffic Safety Committee on Friday. There were 14,624 traffic accidents, which killed 13,150 people and injured 10,546 others in 2007.

The respective figures in 2006 were 14,701, 12,739 and 9,806. Localities having over 300 deaths caused by traffic accidents last year include southern Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi capital, northern Ha Tay Province and southern Binh Duong Province.

Vietnam is launching campaigns to raise public awareness about traffic safety, and upgrading traffic networks, especially roads and bridges.

MNA/Xinhua

## Over half million stranded at China station

BEIJING, 28 Jan—Over half a million passengers could be left stranded at a railway station in south China on Monday ahead of the biggest holiday of the year after snow cut power to more than 136 trains, state media said. Heavy snow and sleet in recent days have hit central, eastern and southern China, areas used to milder winters. Dozens of people have died and many highways, railways and airports have been paralysed, especially in the east.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said the weather was threatening lives and disrupting supplies of fresh food, coal, oil and electricity ahead of celebrations marking the Lunar New Year, which starts on 7 February. He warned of worse to come.—MNA/Reuters

## Pakistan arrests 10 Indian fishermen

ISLAMABAD, 28 Jan—Pakistan has arrested a group of 10 Indian fishermen for entering into its territorial waters, *NewsNetwork International* (NNI) news agency reported on Saturday.

The Indian fishermen crossed some 90 nautical miles (around 166.68 kilometres) from the coast in Pakistan's territorial waters, said the report.

The fishermen were seized and handed over to the police, the *NNI* report said, adding that two launches of the fishermen were also captured.

This is the third group of Indian fishermen who have been arrested during last few days for illegally fishing in Pakistan waters.

It was reported that a total of five fishermen were arrested on 14 January and six on 16 January.—MNA/Xinhua



A resident cleans up snow around vehicles in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 28 Jan, 2008. By 8:00 on Monday about 36 centimetres of snowfall hit the city, breaking a record since 1961.—XINHUA

## Iran to react if UN adopts sanctions

TEHERAN, 29 Jan — Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said on Monday that his country would show “serious and logical” reaction if the UN Security Council adopts more sanctions against it.

“We hope such an action not to happen,” Mottaki told a Press conference when answering a question about Iran’s reaction in case of adoption of a new UN Security Council resolution. “Otherwise, Teheran would show a serious and logical

reaction which will be declared later,” Mottaki said.

The top Iranian diplomat urged that the UN Security Council should wait until International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director-General Mohamed ElBaradei presents

his report to the Board of Governors in February.

“The Security Council must heed the IAEA report to be released in February which will oblige the council to declare its two former resolutions null and void,” he said.

Mottaki’s remarks came as the Security Council members are due on Monday to discuss a proposed new resolution with punitive sanctions against the Islamic Republic. —MNA/Xinhua

## China issues red alert for snowstorms

BEIJING, 29 Jan— The China Meteorological Administration (CMA) early Monday issued a red alert for severe snowstorms forecast for central and eastern China.

Heavy snow is set to blanket northern Hunan, eastern Hubei, south-eastern Henan, north-western Zhejiang as well as most areas of Anhui and Jiangsu provinces on Monday, while some of these areas will expect snowstorms, according to the CMA.

Meanwhile, freezing

rain will pound some parts of Guizhou, Hunan, Jiangxi, Guangxi, Anhui and Zhejiang. —MNA/Xinhua

## S Korea’s president-elect names ex-FM as PM

SEOUL, 29 Jan— South Korea’s president-elect named the first member of his cabinet on Monday, saying he wants a veteran diplomat and a low-key conservative who is now working on a UN climate change team to be his Prime Minister.

By naming Han Seung-soo as premier. Lee Myung-bak is turning to a proven technocrat who has already served as foreign, finance and commerce minister, to manage the government’s policy at home and abroad, analysts said.



Passengers wait for their delayed trains outside of the Shanghai Station on Tuesday, 29 Jan, 2008, in Shanghai, China.

INTERNET

## Train derails in N Thailand, no casualties

BANGKOK, 29 Jan—A train running from Bangkok to the North on Sunday morning derailed in central province of Nakhon Sawan Province, forcing all the services along the line to have been halted.

According to website of the *Bangkok Post*, the train, bounding for northern city of Tapan Hin, was derailed in Nakhon Sawan’s Chumsaeng Station on Sunday morning.

Several trains have had to terminate their services at Chumsaeng station since it is the only railway line connecting the North and Bangkok.

There is no report of casualties. But all northern bound services had to be suspended until further notice. — MNA/Xinhua

## Military helicopter crashes in C Philippine village

MANILA, 29 Jan— A Philippine Air Force Huey helicopter has crash-landed on a personnel pick-up mission in the central Philippines, the military said Monday.

According to an initial Air Force report, all nine people on board survived the crash but at least five of them sustained minor injuries.

The military said the *UH-1H* chopper was on way from Iloilo to Cebu’s Mactan Air Base when it hit coconut trees and soon plunged on a grassy land in Balamban of the central Cebu Province Saturday afternoon.

The main and tail rotor blades of the chopper were torn from their assembly while the elevator, skid and cargo doors were damaged, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two US soldiers killed in bomb attacks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 29 Jan — Two American soldiers were killed in bomb attacks during the past two days in Baghdad, the US military said on Monday.

A soldier was killed on Sunday when his vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb explosion in northeastern capital, a military statement said.

A second soldier was killed on Saturday when a roadside bomb went off near his unit during a foot patrol near Baghdad’s northern neighbourhood of Kadhimiyah, another statement said. The soldiers’ names are being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statements said.

MNA/Xinhua



The crashed passenger bus is lifted up on the highway in southwestern China’s Guizhou Province on 29 Jan 2008. A passenger bus veered off a slippery mountainous road in the southwestern province of Guizhou on Tuesday morning, killing at least 25 people. — INTERNET

## British Tesco bomb hoaxer jailed for blackmail

LONDON, 29 Jan— A man who admitted making bomb threats against Tesco, sparking panic and closing a dozen stores across the country, was jailed on Monday.

Unemployed Philip McHugh, 52, had admitted three counts of blackmail and two of making bomb threats towards Tesco, at an earlier hearing at St Albans Crown Court.

The former tax inspector, from Clitheroe, Lancashire, was jailed for six years, officials said, after he had sent 75 hoax

letters to Britain’s biggest retailer.

Tesco closed supermarkets in London, Wales, Scotland, northern and central England on 14 July last year after it received threatening letters demanding huge sums of money. All reopened the following day and McHugh was

arrested on 23 July.

The court heard his letters threatened to contaminate products. Tesco, where about one third of Britons buy their groceries, said at the time that despite financial demands being made, the company had not paid out any money.

MNA/Reuters

## Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspects ...

(from page 1)

They also inspected greening tasks and conservation of Tantkyi Mountain Range in Pakokku and called on officials concerned to grow shady trees and to carry out preventive measures against wild-fire.

Tantkyi Mountain is 1,040 ft high and shady trees are grown on 36,900 acres of land on the mountain. Tree planting ceremonies are held and shady trees are planted on the mountain as part of efforts for conservation of forest on the mountain.

They also visited Swedawshin Pagoda on the mountain and made cash donations.

Maj-Gen Khin



**Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspects Chaungmagyi Bridge No 1 construction project on Kyangin-Pakokku Rail-Road. — MNA**

Zaw and party visited the bridge construction at Chataung construction site in Seikphyu Township and urged officials concerned to complete the project timely.

Y a w c h a u n g Bridge and Chitchaung Bridge are located in

Seikphyu Township, Pakokku District. Yawchaung Bridge with 10-foot-wide motor road is 1,445 ft long and it is flanked by 8-foot-wide walkways. Chitchaung Bridge is 935 ft long and its motor road is 16 ft wide.

During the inspection tour of Yenangyoung Industrial Zone, they visited Star motorcycle production of Shwenagar Industry and production process of bio-diesel at Physic nut oil factory in the zone.

They also met with departmental officials at General Administration Department in Yenangyoung Township.

They also met with officers and other ranks and their families of the local battalion in

Magway and urged them to make efforts for success of agriculture and livestock breeding tasks and to cooperate with departmental officials and local people in implementing regional development tasks.

MNA

## CPT Minister meets Chinese Information Industry Deputy Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw met with the Chinese delegation led by Deputy Minister for Information Industry Mr Jiang Yaoping of the People's Republic of China at his office here at 10 am this morning. During the meeting, they cordially discussed the matters relating to present and future

communications tasks. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Thein Tun, heads of departments, Director-General Mr Wang Gang of Chinese Information Industry, Deputy Director-General Mr Qian Tingshuo and delegation members.

The Chinese delegation led by Deputy Minister for Information Industry Mr Jiang

Yaoping of the People's Republic of China arrived here by air at 9 am today and they were welcomed by Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Thein Tun and officials.

The two deputy ministers discussed matters on bilateral cooperation in the communications sector at meeting hall of the ministry.

Deputy Minister Mr Jiang Yaoping and



**Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw receives Deputy Minister Mr Jiang Yaoping of the People's Republic of China. — MNA**

members toured Nay Pyi Taw in the afternoon. In the evening, Minister

Brig-Gen Thein Zaw hosted dinner to the Deputy Minister and

members at Golden Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone.—MNA



**Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu signs Book of Condolences opened on demise of President of Indonesia General (Retd) Haji Muhammad Soeharto on 29 January, 2008. — MNA**

## Workshop on Quality Children TV Production commences

YANGON, 29 Jan—The opening of Country Workshop on Quality Children TV Production Course, jointly organized by the Myanmar Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information, AIBD, EBS and FES, took place at the MRTV on Pyay Road, here, this morning.

Present on the occasion were Director-General of the MRTV U Khin Maung Htay and directors, Programme Manager of AIBD Ms Hyunsook Chung and trainees.

Twenty-five MRTV staff are attending the four-day course.

MNA

## Annual meeting of MPBSSMA on 2 Feb

YANGON, 29 Jan—The 15th annual meeting of Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association will be held at UMFCI

Office Tower at No 29, Minye Kyawswa Road, Lanmadaw Township, at 4.30 pm on 2 February.

MNA



## Taninthayi Division cultivated 443,902 acres of monsoon paddy,...

(from page 1)

growing rubber and pepper in addition to edible oil palm through concerted efforts of departmental officials and local people.

After that, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party looked into broadcasting of fertilizers for summer paddy conducted at Tonbyawgyi Village, Myeik Township.

Altogether 293 farmers of the village have already cultivated 379 acres of summer paddy against the target of 743 acres in 2007-2008 summer paddy cultivation season.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party inspected tarring of the road section between mile post Nos 28/2 and 28/3 of the Myeik-Taninthayi Road.

On arrival at Shwedu Village, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party viewed construction of No 2 Myeik circular road and left necessary instructions.

Later, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party proceeded to Myeik People's Hospital (200-bed) and inspected medical and surgical wards, operation theatre, intensive care unit, X-ray unit, TV X-ray unit and installation of medical equipment and asked after warded patients.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye spoke of the need to provide full health care services to the people through disseminating health knowledge right down to rural regions, to narrow health care gap between rural and urban regions, to make use of health facilities and medical equipment systematically and to provide health care services to needy people through the funds of the health supervisory committee.—MNA



Deputy Minister U Maung Myint meets the Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia. — MNA

## Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs arrives back from Saudi Arabia

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan— At the invitation of the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint paid a goodwill visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 23 to 27 January. While in Saudi Arabia, he met with the Deputy Ministers of Labour, and of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. He also met the State Minister of Foreign Affairs and discussed matters of mutual interest between the two countries.

Deputy Minister U Maung Myint arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw today.—MNA

## Who harbours hatred is not appeased

“He abused me, he defeated me, he robbed me”, the hatred of them, who harbours this thought, is not appeased.

Dhammapada 3

## Committee for Prevention against ...

(from page 16)

raw recruits for seven times.

Moreover, courses and workshops on prevention against recruiting minors to the armed forces were opened at Kyaikwaing Youth Training School five times from 19 November to 20 December 2007 under the arrangement of the committee, Social Welfare Department and UNICEF.

The workshops were attended by 191 participants—78 from defence services training schools and recruiting units, 49 from Social Welfare De-

partment, 62 from Myanmar Police Force and 2 from the Ministry of Education. Arrangements are being made for conducting multiplier courses in the units. He said the committee cooperated with UN agencies. As a result, there are only very few cases of recruiting minors. Due to the supervision of the committee, new members of the military force were systematically recruited in accord with the laws, rules, orders and directives issued. The achievements of the committee improved year after year, he said.

Under the written request of organizations such as ILO, ICRC etc and guardians, those who joined the armed forces but did not meet the minimum age were scrutinized and were sent to their respective parents. Those who did not meet the qualification and were unfit to join the armed forces were sent back to their respective parents. They were handed over to the guardians in the presence of the officials of Social Welfare Department and township au-

thorities in accord with the records. From 2002 to 2007, altogether 792 persons who were minors, persons who did not meet the qualifications and unfit persons were sent back to their respective parents; it is known to all committee members that investigation is conducted systematically and action is taken whenever there is a forced recruitment of minors for armed forces, violating the directives; and that from 2002 to 2007, action was taken against 43 other ranks and officers in that regard.

He said that the performances of the committee are regularly reported to UN agencies in Myanmar through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that takes the responsibility as the focal point in this regard as well as to the organizations concerned through the Myanmar resident representative to the UN in New York; and that the Tatmadaw is carrying out the procedures in accordance with law, rules and regulations, however expatriate national traitors with negative views in col-

lusion with some foreign media are making groundless accusations that there are child soldiers in Myanmar Tatmadaw with the intention of attacking the nation.

In conclusion, he instructed the officials concerned to continue to take measures in line with the law, not to accept the minors who try to enlist themselves in the armed forces and to enforce the subordinate organizations to abide by the law, rules and regulations promulgated in the interests of children. He called for discussions about the performances of the committee members and follow-up plans.

The attendees reported on steps being taken in accordance with the law and rules and regulations for prevention of recruiting child soldiers and protection of the interests of children. The joint-secretary of the committee gave an account of the work done by the committee.

The committee chairman assessed the reports and gave concluding remarks.

MNA

## 186 receive basic diplomatic skills

YANGON, 29 Jan — Basic Diplomatic Course No 17/2007 of Ministry of Foreign Affairs was concluded at the ministry here today.

Altogether 186 trainees including businessmen, staff of private companies and governmental employees attended the 12-week course.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint delivered an address at the concluding ceremony.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general of the departments under the ministry, departmental officials, retired ambassadors, professors from universities and instructors of the course. — MNA

Deputy Minister U Maung Myint presents certificate to an outstanding trainee of Diploma Course on Basic Diplomatic Skills. — MNA



## KOICA assists in Myanmar Taekwondo development

YANGON, 29 Jan—A commemoration ceremony was held at the Yuzana Hotel on 28 January to congratulate Myanmar Taekwondo players on their remarkable achievement at the 24th South East Asian Games that were held in Thailand last December.

Present at the ceremony were the Minister for Sports, the President of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation (MTF), the Minister Counselor of Embassy of the Republic of Korea, the KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency) Resident



*A ceremony to honour Myanmar Taekwondo players in progress at Yuzana Hotel.— MNA*

Representative, other staff members of Ministry of Sports and MTF, and Taekwondo players and coaches.

During the ceremony, congratulatory speeches were made by the Minister for Sports, the President of MTF, and the Minister Counselor of the Korean Embassy and the prize awarding ceremony followed. Myanmar National Taekwondo Team won one gold, one silver and four bronze medals at the SEA games.

Since KOICA sent Taekwondo Head Coach Mr Yu Ung-Cho to MTF in 2004, National Taekwondo Team's competition capabilities have been greatly enhanced with Mr Yu's continuous supports by providing Taekwondo equipment and supplies and organizing in-country and overseas training for Taekwondo players as well as coaches. In particular, he has led the National Team players and staff to take overseas training in Korea in cooperation with MTF on September-November 2008, aimed at providing the team players with the opportunities of practical experiences before their participation in the SEA Games.

Along with the Taekwondo Coach dispatch program, KOICA's development assistance program to Myanmar contributes to not only the economic and social development of Myanmar but also strengthens relationship between the two countries in various sectors. — H

## DISTRICT NEWS



### Buddha Pujaniya to be held at Shwe Aung Ywe Pagoda on 14-23 Feb

BAGO, 29 Jan — Buddha Pujaniya Festival of historic Shwe Aung Ywe @ San Daw Shin Sulla Muni Pagoda here which was built during the life time of Buddha will be held from 14 to 23 February.

A hair relic of Buddha has been enshrined at the pagoda which was believed to be built after nine months Lord Buddha had gained his enlightenment.

The pagoda was situated at the top of Khamonbaw Hill in Nantawya Ward, Bago.

A ceremony to apply gold foils to the pagoda and to donate offertories to Members of the Sangha will be held at the pagoda to mark the festival. Those wishing to donate cash and kind and rice may contact the pagoda's Board of Trustees (Tel 052-24322) not later than 2 February.

MYANMA ALIN

### Tawpa village in Phaung Pyin gets tube-well

PHAUNG PYIN, 29 Jan — Phaung Pyin Township Development Committee has sunk a tube-well in Tawpa village recently.

Officials concerned of the committee went to the village and inspected the tube-well equipped with a hand pump in the village on 2 January.

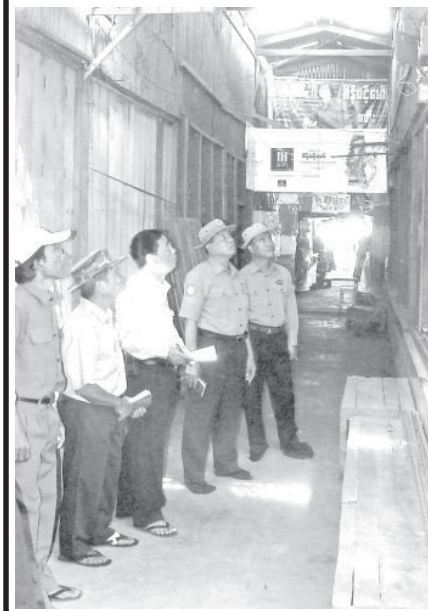
MYANMA ALIN

### Dawei Tsp DC dredges drains

DAWEI, 29 Jan — Dawei Township Development Committee dredged the drains on Arzarni Road on 16 December.

Executive of the committee U Soe Nyunt and officials closely supervised the work.

Township DAC



Officials of Mawlamyaing-gyun Township Development Affairs Committee inspect connection of cables on 11 January, 2008.

MYANMA ALIN

## Tharaphu Magazine launches Internet pages

YANGON, 29 Jan— In commemoration of its tenth anniversary a ceremony to launch Internet pages by Tharaphu Magazine was held at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here this afternoon.

It was attended by personnel from Tharaphu Magazine, journalists, writers and companies and organizations which have something to do with the magazine, readership and others.

Executive Editor of Tharaphu Daw Nan Hwan Kham made an introductory speech on the occasion. And those from the publication clarified the salient points on the launch of Internet pages.

The newly launched Internet pages are quite different from the old ones which were put on Internet three years ago through www.foreverspace.com as they can be accessible according to contents by your own choice.

The magazine is

making arrangements for readers to be able to access information from newspapers and other publications on a daily basis.

Tharaphu Magazine which carries an array of fashion, model, cosmetics and health education has turned ten years.

Those who want to insert advertisements in it are to contact No 200 (second floor), 36th Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon (Tel 383025) or have access to www.tharaphumag.com.

MNA



*Executive Editor of Tharaphu Magazine Nan Hwan Kham extends greetings at a ceremony to launch the online service of the magazine. — MNA*

## Librarian course opened in Mingala Taungnyunt Township

YANGON, 29 Jan — Librarians Training Course jointly organized by Mingala Taungnyunt Union Solidarity and Development Association and Information and Public Relations Department was opened at Township USDA this morning.

Present on the occasion were Joint-Secretary U Thar Win of Yangon Division USDA, the Division Executives U Tin Aung and U Tin Hlaing, Staff Officer U Soe Nyunt of Yangon East District IPRD, Chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council U Chit Ko Ko, Secretary U Soe Hlaing Oo, Head of the Township Police Force Police Captain Kan Win, Head of the township Development Affairs

Committee, U That Zin Thein, Head of Immigration and Population Department U Khin Maung Myint, Secretary U Zaw Lin of the Township USDA, Joint Secretary U Win Hlaing and Executives, Staff Officer Daw San San Kyaw of Township IPRD, guests and trainees.

The Yangon Division USDA Joint Secretary, the Staff Officer of Yangon East District IPRD and the Chairman of the Township PDC delivered speeches on the occasion. And the Division Executive U Tin Aung accepted the cash donated by well-wishers. The course will lecture a wide range of subjects on library.

MNA

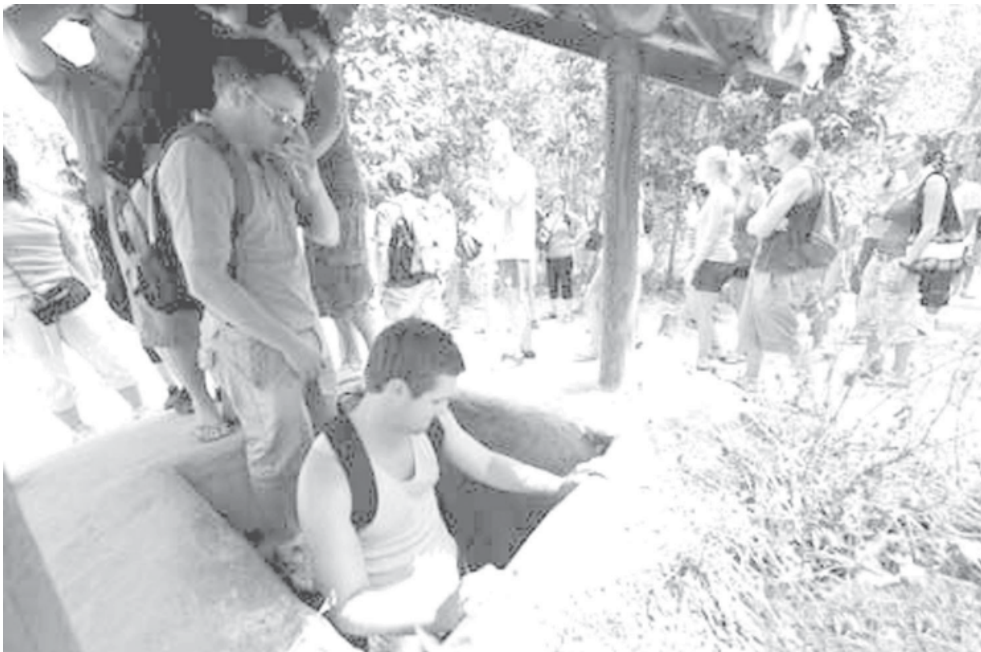
## Images of the Day



*A robot in the Karlsruhe Center for Art and Media Technology proves on 25 Jan, that the digital age does not have to spell the end of neat handwriting. The machine has spent the last seven months recreating a version of the Bible as translated by Martin Luther. The work of copying the roughly 3.5 million letters of the Bible's 66 books into detailed calligraphy required 700 milliliters (23 fluid ounces) of ink and 900 meters (2,953 feet) of paper.—INTERNET*



*Four-year-old Tom plays with a diver at the Water Sports Fair in Düsseldorf on Sunday, Jan. 20. Around 1,700 exhibitors from 57 nations will be displaying the latest trends in the field at the fair which runs until Jan. 27. INTERNET*



*Visitors visit the Cu Chi tunnels, reportedly a 120-mile network of tunnels dug by hand beneath the U.S. military's 25 Division base in Cu Chi, 21 miles from Ho Chi Minh City, on 27Jan, 2008. For years, Viet Cong guerrillas lived in a network of tunnels three storeys deep, a labyrinth that spanned over 300 kilometres (186 miles), connecting villages in virtual underground cities north of Saigon. Today, they are a tourist trap.*

INTERNET

*Actor Jim Carrey*

*bungee jumps off*

*the Arroyo Seco*

*Bridge during the*

*filming of "Yes*

*Man" in Pasadena,*

*California Jan. 28,*

*2008.*

INTERNET



*A competitor runs through fire during the Tough Guy event in Perton, central England, on 27 Jan, 2008. —INTERNET*



*The Cube homes designed by Amsterdam architect Piet Blom in 1978 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, are seen on this April, 2007 photo. On 14 May, 1940 a Nazi bombardment flattened buildings and sparked an inferno that destroyed most of downtown Rotterdam, creating an architects' playground during post-World War II reconstruction—INTERNET*

**ADVERTISEMENT**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (VDG-083)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (083) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 30.1.2008 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 INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**Shenzhen builds large multi-functional traffic station**

SHENZHEN, 28 Jan—A multi-functional traffic complex for long-distance bus, taxi, subway and urban bus lines went into operation on Saturday in Shenzhen with the aim to ease transportation pressure in the southern Chinese city, the local traffic bureau said on Sunday. According to an official of the bureau, the total land area of the station is 78,600 square metres and the station buildings have a floor area of 137,000 square metres. Total investment in the project amounted to 698 million yuan (96.4 million US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

**World's big polluters meet in Hawaii over climate**

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan— The world's biggest greenhouse gas-polluting countries are sending delegates to Hawaii this week for a US-hosted meeting aimed at curbing climate change without stalling economic growth. The two-day gathering, which starts on Wednesday in Honolulu, is meant to spur UN negotiations for an international climate agreement by 2009, so a pact will be ready when the current carbon-capping Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012.

The Bush Administration rejects the Kyoto plan, saying it unfairly exempts developing countries from cutting back on emissions, and could cost US jobs.

In addition to the United States, by many counts the biggest emitter of climate-warming carbon dioxide, the conference is expecting representatives from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, South Korea and the United Kingdom.

MNA/Reuters

**One dies, two infected on bird flu in Indonesia**

JAKARTA, 29 Jan—One Indonesian boy died on avian influenza and two other adults are infected by the virus, putting the total death to 99 out of 123 cases in Indonesia, Indonesian Health Ministry said here Monday.

The 9-year-old boy, 32-year-old man and 31-year-old woman, are from Jakarta and its outskirts city, an official of the anti bird flu centre of the

ministry Suharda Ningrum said.

The boy from Depok Town in outskirts city of Jakarta died on Sunday at a bird-flu designed hospital of Sulianti Suroso in Jakarta, Ningrum said, adding that it was not clear whether the boy had historical contact with fowl. The official said, "the two patients infected by the disease all of their laboratory tests positive of

(FOR LOCAL SERVICES ONLY)

Int. Org. requires Assistant Admin/Finance Officer (NOA) stationed in Maungdaw.

Additional Information on vacancy at any UN or INGO Bulletin Board in Yangon and Maungdaw. Closing date: 15 February 2008.

**B'desh cyclone survivors struggle with cold, rain**

DHAKA, 29 Jan — Tens of thousands of people living in tents since a cyclone devastated the southern Bangladesh coast in November are

now battling cold and rain, local officials and residents said on Sunday.

No deaths had yet been reported from the cold snap, but the number

of people lining up at health centres with ailments is rising in the worst-affected Bagerhat and Swarankhola districts, following four days of low temperatures and rain.

"The pain is no less now than what we went through in the aftermath of cyclone," said Delwar Munshi of Bagerhat over telephone. "Most of us were living in the shelters made of polythene and plastic sheets, but that too have gone now with the rain and wind," he added.

Cyclone Sidr, the worst in Bangladesh since 1991, struck on 15 November with winds of 250 kilos per hour (155 miles per hour) and a five-metre sea surge, killing more than 3,300 people.

Nearly half a million people are estimated to be living in temporary shelters such as tents made of polythene.

MNA/Reuters

**China opens more museums, memorial halls for free**

BEIJING, 28 Jan— Chinese Government is to open more museums, memorial halls and national patriotism education bases to the public for free amid efforts to upgrade cultural services.

All national museums and provincial comprehensive museums will stop charging entry fees this year, says a government circular.

Museums and memorial halls listed as national patriotism education bases will open for free, adds the circular, jointly issued by the Publicity Department

of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, the ministries of finance and culture, and the State Administration of Cultural Heritage on 23 January.

Free entry is also available to museums above county level in Zhejiang, Fujian, Hubei, Jiangxi, Anhui and Gansu provinces and Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. Other provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities are encouraged cut or abolish entry fees according to their circumstances, the circular says.

All museums, memorial

halls and national patriotism education bases will be free to visit by 2009 except cultural relics and historical sites, which will have cheap rates for minors, the elderly, soldiers, the disabled and low-income families, says the circular.

For special or guest exhibitions, museums and memorial halls can charge fees, the circular says, and museums are encouraged to have cheap tickets and flexible plans, such as regular free entry, and cheap tickets for groups and families.

MNA/Xinhua

**Singapore reports 11 chikungunya cases**

SINGAPORE, 28 Jan—One more Singaporean has been hit by the mosquito-borne, dengue-like chikungunya fever here, bringing the total number of cases to 11 so far, local media reported on Saturday.

Channel NewsAsia quoted the Health Ministry as saying that the latest case detected on Friday is a Singaporean with no recent travel history and who spent some time daily in the Little India area.

The first 10 cases of the tropical disease, which are all linked to the Clive Street area in Little India, are detected as locally transmitted.

Nine of the 11 cases were admitted at the Communicable Disease Centre for isolation and management, said the report.

Persons infected with chikungunya fever should stay indoors to prevent from being bitten again by mosquitoes, which may spread the infection further.

Channel NewsAsia said that all have been discharged, except for two who are still under observation, including the latest case.—MNA/Xinhua

**About 11,000 fowls culled in Bangladesh**

DHAKA, 27 Jan—Over 11,243 chickens, ducks and pigeons were culled and 2,000 eggs destroyed Thursday night and Friday in Bangladesh's southern Barguna and northwestern Dinajpur districts after the detection of avian influenza.

In Barguna District, about 190 kilometres south of capital Dhaka, around 4,243 poultry birds were culled Thursday night as the avian influenza virus affected poultry farms in the district town, private news agency UNB reported Friday night.

Sources said the avian virus was detected at a poultry farm in the town. Later, the chickens, ducks and pigeons of 122 families and poultry nearby the virus-affected farms were culled. Besides, many crows were found dead here due to the avian influenza.

In Dinajpur, about 285 kilometres northwest of capital Dhaka, over 7,000 chickens, ducks and pigeons of seven poultry farms and 178 families were culled, and 2,000 eggs destroyed Thursday night and Friday.

MNA/Xinhua

Photo taken on 28 Jan, 2008 shows the exterior view of the National Aquatics Centre also known as "Water Cube" in Beijing. —XINHUA



## Singapore to double its rail lines by 2020

SINGAPORE, 28 Jan — Singapore will spend some 20 billion Singapore dollars (about 14 billion US dollars) to build new rail lines, doubling the city-state's rail network to 278 kilometres by 2020, the government said Friday.

Transport Minister Raymond Lim announced that two new rail lines will be built. One is the Thomson Line which will travel northwards from the Central Business District to the northern Woodlands, the other is the Eastern Region Line which will

head to Changi in the east.

The two lines will be finished in 2018 and 2020 and will together add 48 kilometres to the current rail network.

The government has already committed 20 billion Singapore dollars last year for the on-going Boon Lay Extension, the Circle Line and the Downtown Line.

The completion of the 40-kilometres Downtown Line will be brought forward from 2018 to 2016 while the 33-kilometres Circle Line will open one

year earlier in mid-2009, said the minister.

Meanwhile, two of the three existing rail lines will be extended.

The North-South line will be extended one-kilometres southwards to serve upcoming developments in the southern Marina Bay area, while the East-West Lines will be extended by another 14 kilometres into Tuas, across from Malaysia.

The extension of the two lines will be completed around 2015.

MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese, US students join hands to explore Mars

LOS ANGELES, 28 Jan — In the first-ever programme of its kind, teams of US and Chinese high school students on Sunday started a joint programme to explore Mars at Arizona State University (ASU).

The nine-day programme involves 16 Chinese students and eight of their counterparts from Arizona Nogales High School, the ASU said in a statement.

Together, the space-minded students will take part in the China Youth Space Academy at ASU's Mars Space Flight Facility.

The university's School of Earth and Space Exploration is an international leader in space science, with instruments operating both in orbit and on the surface of Mars.

Each student team, consisting of both US and

Chinese students, will decide on a Mars geological problem to solve. Then the teams will command the *Mars Odyssey* spacecraft, which is in orbit around the red planet, to take images and data to solve the problems, the statement said. In the final step, the student teams will analyze their data and report on their findings, just as working scientists do.

MNA/Xinhua

## Afghans search for kidnapped US aid worker

KANDAHAR, 28 Jan — Afghan forces searched on Sunday for a US aid worker kidnapped by gunmen from the southern city of Kandahar.

No one has claimed responsibility for the abduction of the 49-year-old unidentified burqa-clad woman who was seized from her car along with her driver while heading for work on Saturday.

"We have had no luck

so far and the search continues," said one official who requested to remain anonymous.

The woman had been living for years in a rented house in Kandahar, part of the main stronghold of Taleban insurgents who have been behind a series of abductions of foreigners and Afghans in recent years. A purported Taleban spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said

he had no information if the Islamic movement which is fighting against the foreign troops and Afghan Government was behind the abduction.

"It is not clear as to who has done this. So far, our friends have not said anything to me about it (whether Taleban have kidnapped her or not)," he told *Reuters* by phone from an undisclosed location.

MNA/Reuters



Josh Brolin (L) accepts the award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture in 'No Country for Old Men' with cast members (L-R) Tess Harper, Javier Bardem and Tommy Lee Jones at the 14th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards in Los Angeles on 27 Jan, 2008. — INTERNET

## Bird flu affects over 326,000 chickens in B'desh

DHAKA, 28 Jan — Bird flu has so far affected more than 326,000 chickens in 29 out of Bangladesh's 64 districts since the first detection of the virus in the country last year, a government official said on Sunday.

All the affected chickens from 93 poultry farms were culled by the country's Livestock Department, Manik Lal Samaddar, Special Assistant to the Chief Adviser of the caretaker government, who is in charge of the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, told local reporters.

He said, chickens in 48 sub-district of 29 districts have been affected since the avian influenza virus was first detected in a poultry farm near capital Dhaka in

March last year.

As the bird flu broke out in neighbouring India, the Bangladeshi Government has taken steps to combat the spread of avian influenza in the country, he said, adding that the government has already alerted Bangladesh border guards, paramilitary force that all the poultry equipment and eggs could not be allowed to enter the country from India.

He said that the Livestock Ministry is coordinating with Health Ministry to check spreading of the avian influenza to human body.

"If people are affected with avian influenza, it would create hindrance to manpower export," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Traffic accident kills 25 in China

GUIYANG, 29 Jan — At least 25 people were killed after their bus veered off a slippery mountainous road in the southwestern province of Guizhou on Tuesday morning, according to the local production safety watchdog.

A 35-seat passenger bus, carrying 38 people, veered off a highway in the

mountainous area of Zunyi City and plunged into a 40-metre-deep valley at about 7:40am, officials with the provincial work safety supervision administration said.

Two passengers suffering serious injuries were in a critical condition, and another 11 had slight injuries, doctors said.

Initial investigation blamed the tragedy on the unusual snowy weather in the region over the past days. The road was covered with a thick layer of ice and the temperature was about minus two degrees Celsius, a sharp contrast to the usual warm winter climate.

Internet

## Cancer patients can use Medisave for scans in outpatient clinics from 1 April



SINGAPORE, 29 Jan — From 1 April, cancer patients will be able to use their Medisave to pay for diagnostic scans, such as MRI, CT and PET scans, in outpatient clinics. Currently, they can only do so when they are hospitalised.

Health Minister Khaw Boon Wan announced the policy change on Tuesday after he donated blood at the Bloodbank HSA. The Health Ministry says it has decided on the change because such scans are now part of the standard of care, in the outpatient setting, for many cancer conditions. For example, a diagnostic scan is needed to monitor the patient's treatment progress, or during a post-treatment follow-up check. With the new move, cancer patients can withdraw up to \$600 from their Medisave account each year to help pay for the scans. — Internet

# SPORTS



Ghana's Haminu Draman (L) challenges Morocco's Jamal Alioui during their African Cup of Nations soccer match in Accra, Ghana. Ghana won the match 2-0.—INTERNET

## Manucho leads Angola's Nations Cup charge

TAMALE (Ghana), 29 Jan — Samuel Eto'o and Didier Drogba have found themselves upstaged at the African Nations Cup by previously little-known Angola striker Manucho.

The lanky 24-year-old, who is due to join Manchester United after the tournament, has scored three goals in two games to put his team on the brink of a place in the quarter-finals.

Having opened his account in a 1-1 draw with South Africa last Wednesday, Manucho added two more in a shock 3-1 win

over much-fancied Senegal on Sunday that left Angola within one point of a first quarter-final appearance. "We made some mistakes in the first half but in the second half we were the better team," he told reporters.

"My first priority is to help the team qualify for the quarter-finals but I would also like to be considered as one of the best players of the tournament."

Manucho's menacing presence in the air has given added bite to an Angola

team who have emerged from the shadows of African football in the last few years, notably reaching the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

The striker was virtually unknown outside Angola, where he played for Luanda-based Petro Atletico and was the league's top scorer twice in a row, until he impressed United in a three-week trial. He is due to join the English champions once he has secured a work permit. —MNA/Reuters

## Scott storms to win in Qatar Masters

DOHA, 29 Jan — Australia's Adam Scott produced a record final round of 11-under-par 61 to win the Qatar Masters by three strokes on Sunday.

The 27-year-old Scott started the day tied for fifth place but came out firing to stun his rivals with a total of 20-under 268 and finish ahead of Sweden's Henrik Stenson.

"This is my lowest ever score but the thought of a course record was never on my mind," said Scott, who became the first player to take the title for a second time after winning in 2002. He was in terrific form from the start, sinking birdies on all the first five holes. He added another birdie on the seventh for a front-nine 30.

His return journey was also impressive, with birdies on the 10th, 11th and 12th. After missing a birdie putt on the 14th he made amends with another two birdies on the 15th and 17th. —MNA/Reuters

## Kasperczak quits as Senegal coach

TAMALE, 29 Jan — Senegal coach Henryk Kasperczak quit on Monday a day after his team's 3-1 defeat to Angola in the African Nations Cup.

"I have offered my resignation and it has been accepted by the federation," the former Poland World Cup defender told reporters after becoming the first coaching victim of the tournament. "I have told the players of my decision".

The 61-year-old was coaching at the Nations Cup for the fifth time, having previously led Ivory Coast, Tunisia, Morocco and Mali.

Sunday's shock loss left Senegal, who

were among the pre-tournament favourites for the title, with one point from two games in Group D and facing an early exit. They must beat South Africa in their final game on Thursday to have any chance of reaching the last eight but will still be knocked out if Angola and Tunisia, who have four points apiece, draw in the other match.

Assistant coach Lamine Ndaye will take charge against South Africa.

Kasperczak said he had initially stepped down after Sunday's game, had then been asked to rethink but stood by his decision. —MNA/Reuters

## Guinea through despite 1-1 draw with Namibia

SEKONDI, 29 Jan — Guinea qualified for the African Nations Cup quarter-finals despite being held to a 1-1 draw by Namibia on Monday.

The West Africans finished second in Group A, five points behind hosts Ghana, who went through with a 2-0 defeat of Morocco in Accra.

Guinea will play their quarterfinal in Sekondi on Sunday against the winners of Group B, probably Ivory Coast who have already secured their place in the last eight before their final group match against Mali in Accra on Tuesday. Robert Nouzaret's side opened the scoring through Souleymane Youla on 62 minutes only for Namibia to equalize nine minutes from time courtesy of Brian Brendell's second goal of the tournament. —MNA/Reuters

## Juve sign Stendardo on loan, Mellberg for July

MILAN, 29 Jan — Juventus have signed Lazio defender Guglielmo Stendardo on loan for the rest of the season while Aston Villa's Olof Mellberg will join in July, the Serie A club said on Monday.

Claudio Ranieri's side are also expected to seal Mohamed Sissoko's transfer from Liverpool later before the Mali midfielder heads back to the African Nations Cup in Ghana.

Third-placed Juve have a defensive injury crisis and have brought in Italian Stendardo after a move to recruit Sweden's Mellberg in January stalled.

Villa blocked an early deal but his contract runs out in June and the 30-year-old will be a Juve player for next season having penned a three-year deal, a Juventus statement said.

"I am very happy with this agreement. Italy will be an important experience, at a prestigious club and in one of the most important championships in the world," Mellberg said.

"Now I must finish the season in an Aston Villa shirt but I really can not wait to come to Juventus." —MNA/Reuters



Argentine tennis player Gaston Gaudio hits a return to Santiago Ventura of Spain during the ATP tennis tournament in Vina Del Mar city, 75 miles (120 km) northwest of Santiago, Chile on 28 Jan, 2008. Ventura won the match.—INTERNET

## Mali refuse to allow Kanoute to attend ceremony

ACCRA, 29 Jan — Mali will refuse to allow striker Frederic Kanoute to attend the African Footballer of the Year award function on Friday if they qualify for the African Nations Cup quarter-finals.

Mali need a point from their last Group B match against Ivory Coast in Accra on Tuesday to reach the last eight. Coach Jean Francois Jodar said on Monday he would not let Kanoute go to the event, which is being held in Lome, Togo, 48 hours before the quarter-finals begin on Sunday.

Kanoute is one of three candidates shortlisted for the award, along with Ghana's Michael Essien and Ivory Coast captain Didier Drogba, who won it last year. —MNA/Reuters

## Hicks says no plans to sell Liverpool

LONDON, 29 Jan — Liverpool joint-owner Tom Hicks put his full support behind manager Rafael Benitez on Sunday, saying he expected the Spaniard to remain in charge for the remaining two years of his contract and maybe beyond.

Hicks and fellow American George Gillett had a falling out with Benitez last year after the manager criticized them over their financing of transfers but both sides have since said they are now on good terms.

"We have a great manager who has our support," Hicks told BBC Radio 5-Live on Sunday.

"We had a lot of consternation about Rafa. After our meeting of 16 December, where he really showed his real strong intent to do the right thing with us and by the club, he's been a gentleman ever since.—MNA/Reuters

## Official says six deaths at all Beijing venues

BEIJING, 29 Jan — Six workers died during the construction of the venues for this year's Olympic Games, including two in building the showpiece Bird's Nest Stadium, a Beijing official said on Monday.

A British newspaper article last week accused China of covering up the accidental deaths of at least 10 workers during the construction of the National Stadium.

"There were two deaths in the Bird's Nest, one in 2006 and one in 2007," Ding Zhenkuan, deputy chief of the Beijing Bureau of Work Safety, told a news conference.

"We have properly compensated the families, reported the accidents to the construction community and seriously punished those responsible."

Ding later confirmed the death of a further four workers during other construction for the Games, a Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games (BOCOG) official said.

There was also one serious injury and three lighter injuries over the five years of construction, Ding said. Ground was broken on the 91,000-seat stadium in 2003 and it was the only one of the 36 Olympic venues in China not completed by the end of last year. —MNA/Reuters

# Insurgents kill five US soldiers in Iraq's Mosul

**BAGHDAD, 29 Jan—** Five US soldiers were killed when their patrol was hit by a roadside bomb and then came under small arms fire in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on Monday, the US military said.

The military said US and Iraqi forces had secured the area following the incident, which was one of the deadliest attacks against US troops in months. There were no further details.

also reported that clashes had broken out in the Haysuma neighbourhood, a known al-Qaeda stronghold in eastern Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city 390 kilometres (240 miles) north of Baghdad.

against the US patrol takes to 36 the number of soldiers killed in Iraq this month, up from 23 in December but similar to levels in October and November.

Mosul has been in the spotlight after Prime

Minister Nuri al-Maliki said on Friday that Iraqi forces were preparing for a "decisive" offensive against al-Qaeda in Iraq to push the Sunni Islamist militants out of their last major urban stronghold.

Iraqi tanks and helicopters began arriving in Mosul with troop reinforcements on Sunday.

US military officials on Sunday said their own operations around Mosul were continuing.

US military commanders say al-Qaeda, blamed for most serious bombings in Iraq, has regrouped in northern provinces after being squeezed out of the western province of Anbar and from around Baghdad during security crackdowns last year. — MNA/Reuters

## Russian rocket lifts off with telecom satellite atop

Moscow, 29 Jan— Russia launched a carrier rocket early Monday, with a telecommunication satellite atop, local media reported.

The rocket, carrying the Express-AM33 satellite,

blasted off from the Baikonur space centre in central Asia at 3:18am Moscow Time (2318 GMT, Sunday), control centre officials said.

The satellite, with a lifespan of 12 years, was designated to replace the

Express-AM11 that was shut off in 2006 due to an accident.

Four Proton-M rockets were launched from Baikonur in 2007, but one of them failed.

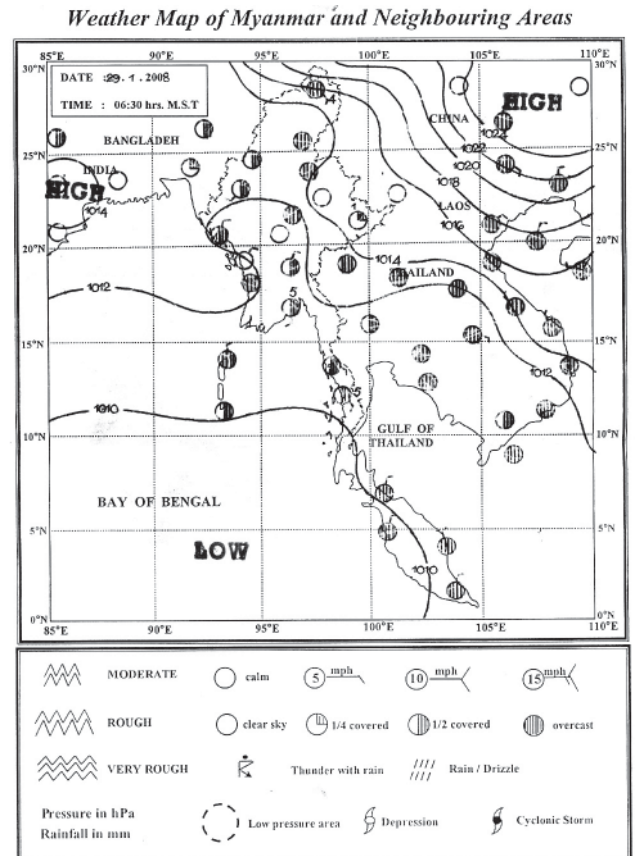
MNA/Xinhua

## Huge fire breaks out in Iraq's central bank

BAGHDAD, 29 Jan— A huge fire broke out before dawn in Iraq's central bank in downtown Baghdad on Monday, causing no human casualties, an Interior Ministry source said.

The flames, which had broke out at about 2:00 am local time (2300 GMT, Sunday), engulfed most of the four-storey building, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Fire engines rushed to the scene to douse the fire which was under control by the morning, the source said. Iraqi security forces cordoned off the area while experts are investigating the incident, he said. — MNA/Xinhua



### WEATHER

Tuesday, 29 January, 2008

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Yangon Division, isolated in Kachin, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (5°C) below January average temperatures in Chin, Rakhine States and upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Kayin and Mon States, Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-4°C), Loi-liem (0°C), Namhsan (2°C) and Heho (3°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Mawlamyine (0.39) inch, Putao, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and Myeik (0.20) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 28-1-2008 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 29-1-2008 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 29-1-2008 was 87%. Total sunshine hours on 28-1-2008 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 29-1-2008 was 3mm (0.12 inch) at Mingaladon, 5mm (0.20 inch) at Kaba-Aye and Nil at Central Yangon (nil). Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was 4mm (0.16 inch), at Mingaladon 5mm (0.20 inch) at Kaba-Aye and (Tr) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from North at (12:30) hours MST on 28-1-2008.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 30-1-2008:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Chin, Northern Shan, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%)

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-1-2008:** Partly cloudy

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-1-2008:** Partly cloudy

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-1-2008:** Partly cloudy



Wednesday, 30 January  
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music -Fast cars
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music -Hold on
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music -Let your love go
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music -Kiss me quick
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music -All for love
- 9:00 pm Variations on a tune "Up town girl"
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:30 pm Music at your request -Don't take your love away
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Wednesday, 30 January  
View on today

- 7:00 am
  1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာ ရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ 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
- 7:50 am
  5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:00 am
  6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am
  7. ခိုလှုံမြတ်ထွန်းတံတား
- 8:20 am
  8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am
  9. International news

- 8:45 am
  10. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm
  1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
  2. Song for uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
  3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-စတုတ္ထနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု) (ဥပဒေပညာ)
- 4:45 pm
  4. Song of National Races
- 5:00 pm
  5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:15 pm
  6. Classical song
- 5:25 pm
  7. ရှုဖွယ်စုံလင်အာဆီယံ အစီအစဉ်
- 5:35 pm
  8. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင် လွင်ပြင်
- 6:00 pm
  9. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
  10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
  11. မြန်မာဓလေ့ ရိုးရာလက်ရာ
- 6:50 pm
  12. "ကောင်းခြင်းမေဖြာ" (ထွန်းထွန်းနိုင်၊ ရန်ပိုင်စိုး၊ ပိုင်စေရဲထွန်း၊ မင်းသူ၊

- မြင့်မြင့်ခိုင်၊ ခင်မိုးမိုး၊ အေး၊ ချစ်စန်းဦး (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး (ပဲရစ်))
- 7:10 pm
  13. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်
- 7:35 pm
  14. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ
- 7:45 pm
  15. မြတ်ဗုဒ္ဓမဇ္ဈိမ၏ အနှိုင်းပဲ ရတနာ
- 8:00 pm
  16. News
  17. International news
  18. Weather report
  19. FRANZ HARARAY'S MAGIC PLANET
  20. Myanmar video feature: "မြားနတ်မောင်ထိချက် ပြင်းတယ်" (လွင်မိုး၊ စိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ၊ ပပဝင်းခင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကျော်ဇောလင်း)
  21. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီးဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာဘာဝနာပွားများ ခြင်းတရားတော်
  22. The next day's programme

# People's Desire

- ★ We favour stability.
- ★ We favour peace.
- ★ We oppose unrest and violence.

## Committee for Prevention against Recruiting Minors into Army holds seventh meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan — The Committee for Prevention against Recruiting Minors into Army held its seventh meeting here this evening, with an address by Chairman of the Committee for Prevention against Recruiting Minors into Army Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung.

Also present were members of the committee the deputy ministers, the deputy chief justice, the deputy attorney-general, senior military officers, the director-general of Myanmar Police Force, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the director-general of International Organizations and



*Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung delivers an address at 7th meeting of the Committee for Prevention against Recruiting Minors into Army. — MNA*

Economic Department, the director-general of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Department, heads of departments.

The committee chairman said the Committee for Prevention against Re-

cruiting Minors into Army was formed on 5 January 2004 by the State Peace and Development Council. On 14 December 2007, the committee was reconstituted in accord with the latest developments. The

coordination meetings were held for six times in four years and future plans were laid down and implemented. He said the committee supervised its functions in accord with the three objectives—prevent-

ing the use of force in recruiting minors to the Armed Forces, protecting the interests of children and ensuring enforcement of the orders and directives issued on protecting the children. In the country there are laws, rules, orders and directives in connection with the protecting the freedom of children. There are also laws and orders preventing recruitment of minors into the Armed Forces.

Pamphlets and wall posters on recruitment of

soldiers are distributed to rural areas and billboards are erected for public knowledge, he added.

He said the committee allowed ambassadors and military attaches working in Myanmar including personnel of UN agencies such as UNICEF and UNDP to visit recruiting units and basic military training depots in Yangon and Mandalay. Arrangements were made for interview with

(See page 9)

**The committee allowed ambassadors and military attaches working in Myanmar including personnel of UN agencies such as UNICEF and UNDP to visit recruiting units and basic military training depots in Yangon and Mandalay. Arrangements were made for interview with raw recruits for seven times.**

- ★ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
- ★ BBC lying
- ★ VOA deceiving
- ★ RFA setting up hostilities
- ★ Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers