

Nabbanasacchikiriya ca, to realize the Nirvana; this is the way to auspiciousness.

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Thursday, 31 January, 2008

Experts to play an active role in various sectors to be able to apply education and technology effectively

Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences holds sixth annual meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan—The opening of the sixth annual meeting of the Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences took place at the

Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation here this morning, with an address by Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were ministers,

departmental heads, the president and vice-president of the academy, members of the executive committee, experts and guests.

The Prime Minister in

his speech said that the nation is rich in natural resources along with agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishery resources. The government is conserving them for national development. In this regard, the role of experts is very important.

Now, the world has seen rapid advancements in the fields of education and technology. It is required of local experts to play an active role in various sectors to be able to apply education and technology effectively in order that the nation is able to catch up with the improvements of other countries. Today, information technology and bio-technology are advancing rapidly, and it is crucial to

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein delivers an address at opening of 6th annual meeting of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences. — MNA

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

Today, information technology and bio-technology are advancing rapidly, and it is crucial to apply bio-technology beneficially without sacrificing the interests of human beings.



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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 31 January, 2008

Grow more marketable tea and perennial crops

Myanmar people usually serve tea, a common food, on various occasions. Plain tea and pickled tea are also used and the practice of eating pickled tea is one of the centuries-old Myanmar traditions.

Drinking green tea is good for health. Tea is grown in Shan and Chin States. Concerted efforts are being made to create Chin State as a tea-growing region. Tea likes cool climate and it is grown on hill regions. Tender tea leaves are picked during the period from March and April to September. They are picked once a week in low lands and once in two weeks in hill regions.

High yield tea produces 1,700 viss of fresh tea leaves and 450 viss of dried tea per acre.

Tea cultivation acreage in the country increases every year and export of tea has become a good foreign exchange earning business.

Farmers are urged to grow more marketable tea with high quality and other perennial crops with the use of modern cultivation methods through extended cultivation.

Minister meets FAO Resident Representative

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan— Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein met Resident Representative of FAO Mr Tang Zhengping at the Ministry, here, yesterday and held discussions on the development of livestock and fisheries sector in Myanmar.

Next, Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and Mr Tang Zhengping signed MoU on milch cow farming project and exchanged the notes.

Present also at the call were departmental heads and officials. — MNA

People's Desire

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

Maj-Gen Tha Aye on tour of Myeik



Maj-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence inspects Myeik University. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and departmental officials, donated cash to the funds of Maha Theikdzaya Pagoda on Sandawady Hill in Myeik on 28 January.

At the meeting hall of Coastal Region Command,

Maj-Gen Tha Aye met departmental officials and gave instructions on regional development.

Taninthayi Division has grown 443,902 acres of paddy in 2007-08 and produced 66.80 baskets rice per acre. In 2008-09, the plan will be implemented to extend cultivation of monsoon paddy. In addition, the division has put 24,448 acres of land under summer paddy against the target of

40,000 acres. Furthermore, the division has set the plan on growing of oil palm to meet the target of 500,000 acres and rubber against the target of 200,000 acres. Efforts are being made for exporting more marine products. Furthermore, close supervision is being made for giving priority to the maintenance of Yangon-Dawei-Kawthoung Union Highway.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye, the commander and party

viewed computer lab, computer aided (audio) rooms at Myeik University and installation of computers donated by Taninthayi Division PDC. They visited the university and viewed greening tasks on the campus of the university.

A total of 2,534 day students and 2,606 distance students are attending 13 subjects at the university.

MNA



Defenders of Commerce Team fight for a ball with a striker of Ulsan University team. — NLM

Ulsan University of ROK beat Commerce 4-1 in soccer friendly

YANGON, 30 Jan—The Myanmar-Korea friendly football match took place at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna), here, this afternoon.

First, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Park Key Chong, Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department,

President U Zaw Zaw of Myanmar Football Federation, Director-General Mr Seung Hwan Ko of Korean Football Federation, Leader of the Ulsan University Football Team Mr Um Sing-Ho and Leader of Commerce team U Ni Paul greeted footballers of both teams.

After exchanging commemorative banners, the players of both teams had documentary photo taken.

In the friendly match, Ulsan University team beat Commerce 4-1.

Among the spectators were Chairperson of Central Committee for Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye, executives of MFF and guests.

The second friendly match between Kanbawza and Ulsan University will be held at the same venue on 1 February afternoon.

MNA

McCain, Romney battle in tight Republican race



US Republican presidential candidate Senator John McCain

MIAMI, 29 Jan—Senator John McCain and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney on Sunday jostled for dominance in a tightening race for the Republican presidential nomination that could hinge on competing messages on the Iraq war and the flagging US economy.

Florida will be a crucial test of which of those issues will resonate with the Republican Party, whose core voters are a major force among the 1.5 million people expected to turn out for the state's primary on Tuesday.

McCain and Romney split the last three contests — McCain won South Carolina and Romney won Michigan and scarcely

contested Nevada. A new Reuters/C-SPAN/Zogby poll showed the two deadlocked at 30 per cent each in Florida. The winner could gain powerful momentum heading into "Super Tuesday" on 5 February when more than 20 states vote in a blitz of primaries that could anoint a Republican front-runner to contest November's election to succeed President George W Bush. McCain and Romney fought for control of Florida's airwaves, holding rallies and tightly scripted news conferences across the nation's fourth-biggest state. — MNA/Reuters



Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney

Thai King endorses Samak as new PM

BANGKOK, 30 Jan—The King of Thailand endorsed leader of People Power Party (PPP) Samak Sundaravej as Thailand's 25th Prime Minister, PPP spokesman Kudep Saikrachang said on Tuesday.

The royal endorsement came after House of Representatives elected the former Bangkok governor on Monday to lead the new government by 310 to 163 votes.

Samak easily beat Democrat Party leader Abhisit Vejjajiva, who was proposed as a candidate by the Democrats, the only opposition party.

Kudep said that party members will congratulate Samak at his



People Power Party leader, Samak Sundaravej speaks during a press conference at his house in Bangkok.—INTERNET

residence on Tuesday afternoon.

Earlier, Samak vowed to name his new Cabinet once the King endorses him as the country's next prime minister.

"From now on, I have many more responsi-

bilities on my shoulders. It won't be fun but I have to accept them," said Samak.

Samak said that the Cabinet lineup could be completed before 7 February.

MNA/Xinhua

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Somalia blast kills 4 including 2 aid workers

KISMAYU (Somalia), 30 Jan — Two Somalis and two foreign aid workers from the Dutch arm of Medecins Sans Frontieres were killed by a roadside bomb on Monday near the southern Somali port of Kismayu, Witnesses said.

"A roadside bomb blast targeted an MSF-Holland car, killing two foreigners, one Kenyan and the other a White man, and a Somali driver and a Somali journalist who was passing by on the road," witness Hussein Abdi told Reuters.

A Reuters reporter saw the bodies in the vehicle.

MSF-Holland could not be immediately reached for comment.

Kismayu, a strategic port, is under the control of the local clan, not Somalia's interim government.

The government is engaged in fighting a year-long insurgency led by Islamist militants in the capital Mogadishu, where it and its Ethiopian allies are frequently targets of roadside bombs and ambushes.

MNA/Reuters

Hamas rejects EU observers' return to Rafah crossing

GAZA, 30 Jan—A Hamas spokesman on Monday rejected the return of the European Union observers to help monitor Rafah crossing on the borders between the Gaza Strip and Egypt.

Upon a US-brokered deal in November 2005, Israel agreed to allow the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) to run the crossing in the presence of European

Union observers.

Fawzi Barhoum, Hamas spokesman in Gaza, said in a statement that the agreement, which allowed the Europeans to monitor Rafah crossing, was reached between Israel and the PNA in 2005 and it has expired.

"This agreement was only for one year, and it has already expired. What we want is to have a

crossing run only by the Palestinians and Egypt without the intervention of anybody," said Barhoum.

"The expired agreement to operate Rafah crossing led to more suffering and more siege, therefore we want to operate Rafah crossing without new suffering and a new siege," said Barhoum.

MNA/Xinhua

Russian training warplane crashes, killing one

MOSCOW, 30 Jan—A Russian military training aircraft crashed in the Volgograd Region of southern Russia on Monday, killing the pilot, Interfax news agency reported, citing an Air Force spokesman.

The pilot and a trainee ejected from the L-39 plane but the pilot later died from his injuries, Interfax quoted the spokesman as saying.

MNA/Reuters



People and vehicles make their way amid snowfall in Nanjing, Jiangsu. Brutal winter weather across China on Monday stranded hundreds of thousands of people and choked energy flows, claiming a rising human and economic toll that pummelled local stock prices ahead of Chinese New Year.

INTERNET

China sends in Army to battle snow chaos

BEIJING, 30 Jan — China dispatched the Army Wednesday to help millions of people stranded by snowstorms that have caused transport gridlock, crippled power distribution and left many towns and villages short on supplies.

At least 460,000 troops from the People's Liberation Army and paramilitary forces fanned out across parts of China where dozens of people have died amid the worst storms in 50 years, the government said.

"The People's Liberation Army has ordered its troops to go all out to help those battling the heavy snow in the southern part of the country," the state-run China Daily newspaper said.

"The troops were ordered to

give whatever assistance local governments required."

China is intensifying its efforts to deal with the punishing weather, which has caused chaos on the roads and railways just as millions of people swamp the transport system for the annual Lunar New Year holiday. State news agency Xinhua said China was waging "all-out war" as weather forecasters predicted more blizzards and icy conditions into next week.—Internet

Iran says Bush speech contained nothing new

TEHERAN, 30 Jan — Iran said on Tuesday there was nothing new in a speech by US President George W. Bush in which he told the Islamic Republic to halt sensitive nuclear work so negotiations between the two sides could start.

In his final State of the Union address on Monday, Bush renewed the call for Iran to stop enriching uranium that can be used for nuclear weapons. Washington, which has not had diplomatic ties with Iran since 1980, says it will only hold talks if enrichment is halted.

Teheran has refused to stop its atomic activities insisting that it has no

intention of building nuclear weapons and only wants the technology to make fuel for atomic power plants.

"We, like the American people, heard the repetitious speech of Bush which lacked any new points," Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Hosseini said in a statement carried by the official IRNA

news agency and other Iranian media.

"After two terms have now past, (Bush) hasn't had any considerable achievements in the domestic and international arena and it is unlikely that he will be able to cover his failure through diverting attention," Hosseini said.—MNA/Reuters

Police, insurgent killed in fire exchange in Thailand

BANGKOK, 30 Jan — A police officer and a suspected insurgent were killed in a clash early Tuesday in Thailand's southernmost Yala Province, police said.

The clash took place as security forces surrounded a house in Yala's Bannang Sata District where insurgents believed hiding.

The insurgents and security forces exchanged fire for about five minutes, before the militants fled the scene, leaving a dead insurgent behind.

The 27-year-old militant was on an arrest warrant in relation to a raid on a police station two years ago. — MNA/Xinhua

Missile kills 10 in N-W Pakistan

BANNU (Pakistan), 30 Jan — A missile strike on a house in Pakistan's North Waziristan region on the Afghan border killed 10 suspected militants, four of them foreigners, security officials said on Tuesday.

Violence has intensified in northwestern Pakistan in recent weeks with militants attacking security forces, who have mounted counter-attacks in response. Most of the fighting has been in South Waziristan, which also lies along the Afghan border.

Two intelligence officials who declined to be identified and residents of the area said a missile hit the house in Torkhali Village, near the town of Mir Ali, late on Monday. — MNA/Reuters

Pakistani soldiers on patrol in Darra Adam Khel in North West frontier Province, 28 January 2008. At least 12 people were killed in a suspected missile strike in Pakistan's troubled tribal region of North Waziristan, bordering Afghanistan, local officials said on Tuesday. —INTERNET



Annan meets Odinga, Kenya clashes kill 19

NAIVASHA (Kenya), 29 Jan— Ethnic clashes killed at least 19 people in Kenya's Rift Valley on Sunday as former UN chief Kofi Annan met opposition leader Raila Odinga to try to resolve a month-long crisis that has claimed 750 lives.

A Reuters reporter in Naivasha counted ten bodies, six burnt and four hacked to death as members of President Mwai Kibaki's Kikuyu tribe fought running battles with Luos and Kalenjins who back his rival Raila Odinga.

Two truckloads of soldiers were deployed as smoke poured from torched homes and cars. Barricades blocked Kenya's main western highway outside the town and police turned back vehicles heading towards the area.

The violence threatens to undermine mediation by Annan, who called on both feuding parties on Sunday to name four officials for further talks after he held discussions with Odinga.

MNA/Reuters

Azerbaijan air force jet crashes in Caspian Sea

BAKU, 30 Jan — A MiG-29 from Azerbaijan's Air Force crashed into the Caspian Sea on Tuesday during a routine training mission, killing both crew members, a Ministry of Defence spokesman said.

The military jet went down in the sea near the village of Shurabad north of Baku, the spokesman said, adding that a recovery operation was underway to locate the telemetric recording devices on board.

MNA/Reuters



Protesters shout behind a policeman after they blocked the country's main highway in Kikuyu village, near Nairobi on 30 Jan, 2008.

XINHUA

Portuguese "F-16" fighter plane crashes

LISBON, 30 Jan — A Portuguese Air Force F-16 fighter plane was completely destroyed in a Monday crash, although its pilot escaped in an ejector seat and parachuted to safety.

The US-made aircraft crash-landed at 13:40 local time (13:40 GMT) close to Monte Real Air Base,

close to Leiria, a city 67 kilometres north of Portuguese capital Lisbon. Authorities at the base did not say why the aircraft had crashed. The National Guard has closed roads that led to the crash site. Military authorities said there were no victims on the ground.

MNA/Xinhua

Kenyan military choppers open fire above crowd

NAIVASHA (Kenya), 30 Jan — Two Kenyan military helicopters opened fire on Tuesday above a crowd threatening members of the Luo tribe sheltering at a police post in the Rift Valley town of Naivasha, a Reuters reporter said.

"The helicopters are dive-bombing the crowd and firing their guns," Reuters reporter David Lewis said from the scene, as the machine guns thundered out what police said were rubber bullets.

The helicopters dived down towards a crowd of more than 600 people brandishing machetes and clubs three or four times as two police trucks prepared to evacuate the displaced Luos to safety.—MNA/Reuters

US recession could cut tourist numbers

MADRID, 30 Jan — The world's tourism industry could shrink this year if the United States falls into a deep recession and drags other economies with it, the World Tourism Organization said on Tuesday.

But Francesco Frangialli, Secretary General of the World Tourism Organization (WTO), added he remained optimistic the number of tourists arriving in foreign countries would rise for the fifth consecutive year, albeit at a slower rate than last year.

"The best prediction we can give today is that we do not predict negative growth for 2008, except if the American economy falls into a deep recession followed by the rest of the world," Frangialli told a news conference at the UN body's Madrid headquarters.—MNA/Reuters

A village woman farmer works at a cabbage field on the banks of River Kathajodi, outskirts of Cuttack, India, Wednesday, Jan.30, 2008. The long spell of intense cold and inclement weather has taken the toll of various vegetable and other crops in parts of northern India.

INTERNET



Nokia sells 70.7 m mobile phones in China

BEIJING, 29 Jan — Nokia saw mobile phone sales soar 38.6 per cent year on year to 70.7 million units in China last year, according to its quarterly report released on its official website.

The Finnish telecoms giant attributed the surge to its widespread distribution channels, various products and a strong position in the country's low-end market.

In 2007, China remained Nokia's single largest market in terms of sales revenues, followed by India and Germany, said the report without giving further details.

Since 2006, the world's largest mobile phone maker started entering China's huge rural market and its sales jumped 39 per cent to 6.9 billion dollars in 2006, as it sold 51 million mobile phones.

MNA/Xinhua

New car sale lowest in decade in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 29 Jan — Sale of new cars declined to its lowest level in a decade last year with the luxury ones dropping by 80 per cent, leading newspaper *The Financial Express* reported Monday.

"Last year was the worst in a decade," Bangladesh Automobile Dealers Association

(BADA) President M Salahuddin was quoted by the English-language newspaper as saying.

"The sale declined by at least 30 per cent. The government's anti-corruption crackdown, the drive against tax evasion, slow growth and declining export have combined to make the year the worst for us," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

UAE airline to buy new aircraft

Abu Dhabi, 30 Jan — RAK Airways of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will place an order for four new aircraft next month, *Emirates News Agency* reported on Monday.

52.4 billion dirhams in 2007 from 45.9 billion dirhams in 2006.

MNA/Xinhua

Cambodia to buy more electricity from Vietnam

PHNOM PENH, 29 Jan — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Monday that his country was planning to purchase more electricity from Vietnam to meet its ever rising demand. "I requested the Vietnamese side to supply Cambodia with more electricity," he told a school opening ceremony in Svay Rieng Province neighbouring Vietnam. The proposal was made during his visit

with Vietnamese official, he said, without elaborating the detail. "I told our Minister of Industry, Mine, and Energy to hold talk with the Vietnamese side to buy

200 megawatts of electricity per year in the new plan. We used to buy only 80 megawatts a year from Vietnam, but this was far from enough," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



Vehicles are stuck in a traffic jam along a major thoroughfare in the central business district of Beijing on 29 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Vietnam to export 700,000 tons of rice

HANOI, 29 Jan — Vietnamese rice exporters have inked contracts on shipping a total of 700,000 tons of rice abroad since the beginning of this year, according to local newspaper *Saigon Liberation* on Monday.

Export prices of Vietnamese rice will remain high this year: over 320 US dollars per ton of 25-per-cent broken rice and some 340 dollars per ton of 5-per-cent broken rice, the newspaper quoted the country's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development as reporting.

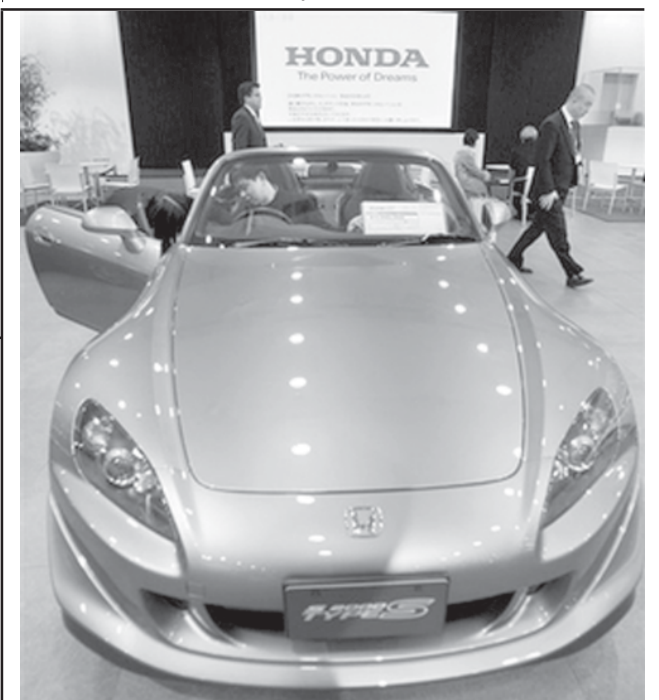
Vietnam, the world's second biggest rice exporter after Thailand, exported 4.5 million tons of rice worth nearly 1.5 billion dollars, mainly to the Philippines, Malaysia, Cuba, Indonesia and Japan, in 2007, down 3.1 per cent in volume but up 13.9 per cent in value against 2006, according to the country's General Statistics Office. Vietnam had a total rice-growing area of 7.2 million hectares which churned out nearly 35.9 million tons of paddy rice in 2007, down 1.7 per cent in acreage but up 0.1 per cent in output against 2006, said the office. — MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia sets maximum price for CNY food

KUALA LUMPUR, 30 Jan — Malaysian Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry has fixed a maximum wholesale and retail price for 11 types of food items for the Chinese New Year (CNY) festive season.

The move under the Price Control Scheme for CNY would be effective from 1-10 February, its minister Mohd Shafie Apdal said in Putrajaya, the administrative centre of Malaysia on Monday.

MNA/Xinhua



Visitors look at a Honda S2000 Type-S at a showroom in the Japanese automaker's headquarters in Tokyo on 29 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET



The words 'Darfur' and 'South Sudan' are scrawled on destroyed trucks used by Kenyans mainly from the Luo tribe as a makeshift roadblock in Kisumu, Kenya, Tuesday on 29 Jan 2008. —XINHUA

French court jails aid workers sent back from Chad

CRETEIL (France), 29 Jan—Six French activists sentenced in Chad to eight years' hard labour for trying to kidnap dozens of children had their sentences converted into French jail terms of the same length by a court on Monday.

The six members of the aid group Zoe's Ark were arrested in Chad in October and found guilty last month of trying to kidnap 103 African

children. They were later flown back to France under a cooperation agreement between the two countries.

The group said they were rescuing orphans from Sudan's Darfur region, a conflict zone across Chad's eastern border, and they intended to fly them to Europe for fostering there.

Most of the children were found to have come from families in Chadian

border villages who were persuaded to give up their offspring in exchange for promises of education.

French law does not recognize hard labour and the court in the Paris suburb of Creteil converted their sentences into normal prison terms of eight years at a hearing that did not examine the merits of the case against them in Chad.

MNA/Reuters

Gunmen free Pakistani school children, surrender

ISLAMABAD, 29 Jan—Gunmen who took up to 250 Pakistani school children hostage on Monday in a northwestern town freed them all and surrendered to tribal elders, a government spokesman said.

Violence and lawlessness has spread across Pakistan in recent months, seeping out of remote tribal regions on the Afghan border into cities and towns, raising fears about the stability of the nuclear-armed US ally.

"All the children have been released and the criminals have surrendered to the jirga," said Interior Ministry spokesman Javel Iqbal Cheema. A jirga is a council of tribal elders. Cheema said none of the children was hurt.

Cheema said the gunmen were members of a kidnap gang but

government officials and police had earlier said there were about seven Islamist militants holding the children in the school in Bannu Town.

President Pervez Musharraf told a news conference in London the gunmen were "ex-

tremists".

The gunmen fled into the school in the North West Frontier Province town and took the children hostage after they had kidnapped a health department official and his driver, police said.

MNA/Reuters



US diplomat dies in Pakistan; suicide suspected

ISLAMABAD, 29 Jan—Pakistani authorities found the body of a US diplomat with a bullet wound in his head at his home in Islamabad on Monday and were investigating a suspected case of suicide, police and the Interior Minister said.

The US Embassy named the dead man as 37-year-old Keith Ryan, an immigration and Customs enforcement attache from the Department of Homeland Security.

"There will be a full investigation; however, there does not appear to have been any foul play," the embassy said in a brief

statement. The embassy said Ryan had "passed away" on Monday morning, and his family had been informed.

Kaleem Imam, a Senior Superintendent of police in Islamabad, said the diplomat had been in Pakistan for a year and had been due to return to the United States on Monday, having finished his assignment. "But, he did not come out of the home and was found dead in the bathroom. There is

a bullet wound in his head," Imam said.

Ryan's body was found in his residence on a leafy avenue close to the diplomatic enclave in the Pakistani capital.

"We expect it is suicide, but we are investigating," Interior Minister Hamid Nawaz told Reuters. The United States does not let diplomats posted to Pakistan take their families, because of the security threat posed by Islamist militants.—MNA/Reuters

A model wears a creation by Lebanese fashion designer Abed Mahfouz part of his Spring-Summer 2008 high-fashion collection, during the AltaRoma fashion week at Rome's Auditorium, on 29 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET



A model presents a creation by German-Icelandic fashion label Ostwald Helgason during Berlin Fashion Week Jan 26, 2008.

INTERNET

Train kills six young revellers in Ukraine

KIEV, 29 Jan—A train ran over and killed six young people in Ukraine as they were crossing the rail tracks on their way home from a nightclub, the Emergencies Ministry said on Sunday. The revellers, all aged between 17-20 years, were crossing the tracks to reach their village in western Ukraine in the early hours, the ministry said. The train was travelling at 90 kilometres (56 miles) an hour when the driver spotted the youths but could not break quickly enough, the railroad authorities said, according to Interfax-Ukraine.—MNA/Reuters

Russian ship with 17 crew missing off China coast

BEIJING, 29 Jan—Chinese search-and-rescue teams were helping the hunt for a Russian ship with 17 crew that went missing in the East China Sea last week, state media reported on Monday.

China's Ministry of Communications was informed last Thursday that the ship, en route from the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido to Hong Kong, was missing about 212 nautical miles east of Shanghai.

MNA/Reuters

National Development and the Role of Health Sector—III

Professor Dr Paing Soe

(Continued from 18-1-2008)

While the diseases prevention measures are been implemented according to the basic health concept of "prevention is better than cure" the state is not neglecting on curative services but upgrading the services that include rehabilitation.

Medical care

To cope with the increasing population and advancing medical technologies, the state had upgraded hospitals quantitatively and qualitatively since taking the responsibility of the nation in 1988. Previously existing 16, 25, 50, 100, 150, 200, 300 bedded hospitals were upgraded to 98 (25-bedded hospitals), 25 (50-bedded hospitals), 15 (100-bedded hospitals), 3 (150-bedded hospitals), 20 (200-bedded hospitals), 1 (250-bedded hospital), 3 (300-bedded hospitals) and 1 (800-bedded hospital). In addition, plans were made to construct hospitals and clinics, staffing the facilities and provision of medical supplies and equipments for the development of border areas. New hospitals were also constructed at the capital and major towns of every state and division.

According to the Head of State's guidance of the equity between Yangon and Mandalay, construction of new ENT hospital, 300-bedded teaching hospital, mental health hospital, women's hospital and children's hospital are carried out in Mandalay. Special curative wards, medical equipments and provisions, qualified staffing and diagnostic facilities are also made comparable to Yangon. Currently, equity in health care services between Upper and Lower Myanmar is established and the patients from Upper Myanmar do not need to go down to Yangon for expansive quality care which is now available in Mandalay.

Major six disciplines of medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, anaesthesia and dentistry are established at every district hospital and 300 district level specialists are staffed there. In addition to the above disciplines, ophthalmology, ENT, orthopaedic, psychiatry, pathology and radiology disciplines are also established in state and division level hospitals and 259 state and division level specialists are also appointed for the hospitals.

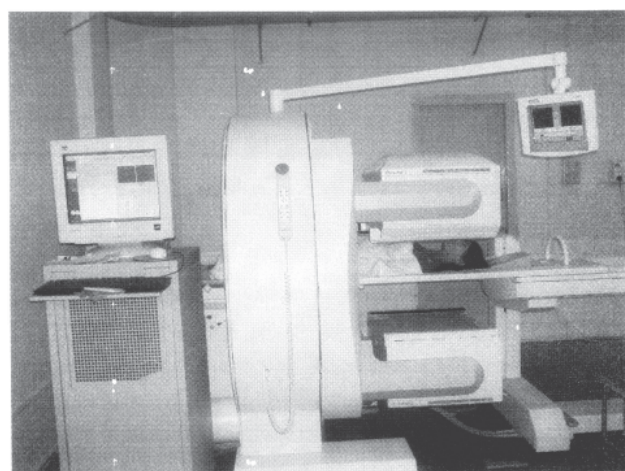
Following the guidance of the Head of State, to promote the medical service to international level, the government had provided financial support in foreign currency worth 40.43 million US dollars to purchase modern updated hospital instruments and equipments. These were installed in hospitals as included in the project for upgrading teaching hospitals of the Special 4 Year Plan for Promotion of National Education (Health Sector). In addition to central and teaching hospitals in Yangon and Mandalay, state and divisional hospitals and district hospitals, support were also provided for some township hospitals.

Like the teaching hospitals, the state and divisional hospitals are equipped with modern laboratory equipments, haematology analysers, histology tissue processing equipments, anesthesia machines, operation theatre equipments and intensive care facilities. This upgrading scheme is extended to district level hospitals currently.

At Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw hospitals, ultra modern diagnostic and curative equipment such as 64 slice CAT scan, MRI machines, radiation therapy machines, nuclear technology cardiac perfusion machines are installed and made available for effective treatment to the patients.

In the past, the cardiac patients need to travel abroad for diagnostic and treatment purposes because of the lack of necessary equipments to do cardiology procedures, although the trained expertise is available locally. The State Peace and Development Council Government had made available of the **cardiac catheterization laboratory in Yangon on 1-8-2000 and in Mandalay on 27-2-2001. Now the cardiologists and cardiac surgeons in Yangon and Mandalay can do balloon dilatation of blocked coronary arteries, Percutaneous Trans Coronary Angiography PTCA, PTCA + Stent deployment and cardiac catheterization angiography amounting 2,134 patients to date. Previously open heart surgery can be done only at Yangon General Hospital but with the upgrading of cardiac facilities Mandalay General Hospital is also available for open heart surgery. Mandalay Hospital had formed such procedures totalling 1496 cases to date.**

Myanmar medical specialists have accumulated



Cardiac perfusion using Radioisotope.

experiences and qualifications to such an extent that it is now able to do organ transplants and complicated surgical procedures such as separation of **conjoint twins**. To this, Myanmar medical specialists had attained the worldwide recognition of the level of Myanmar medical standard. Conjoint twins, Aye Aye Nyein and Ei Ei Nyein who were fused at the chest were operated and successfully separated at the Yangon Children's Hospital on 25-7-1999. Similarly and more complicated, **Moe Pa Pa Aung and Moe Ma Ma Aung who were fused at the pelvis were successfully separated on 11-8-2002.** This complicated procedure which is difficult

even in the developed countries was a success because of the state investment on the training of Myanmar doctors and their coordinated efforts.

The first **renal transplant** for Myanmar was done at **Yangon General Hospital** on 8-5-1997 and amounting to 26 transplants to date. **Mandalay** performed its first renal transplant on 25-1-2002 amounting to 8 cases to date. **The success of performing 34 cases without fatalities** was the teamwork and efforts of the Myanmar doctors and nurses with the state sponsorship and support. At present, the renal transplant is performed on regular basis and the citizens can get renal transplantation locally without going abroad and spending a large amount of money.

For the patients with damaged liver with no way of care apart from transplantation, the **first liver transplantation was successfully done on 25-8-2004.** It was good news for Myanmar organ donors who are keen on donations.

In the past, a person who needs an organ transplant has to go abroad and spends a lot on it. Those who can't afford is a nightmare for them. Thanks to the State investment most can take transplantation locally without spending much.

Previously, due to the lack of equipment and expertise there was an unnecessary loss of limbs and organs in major injuries. Realizing this, the state had provided modern equipment and trained health personnel to such a level that it can now save patients, do micro surgery and reattach severed limbs.

Orthopaedic surgeons of Yangon General Hospital successfully performed microsurgeries such as reattachment of the severed wrist of a sawmill worker on 31-7-2000, reattachment of forearm due to injury resulting from traffic accident on 4-11-2003 and reattachment of forearm due to dah cut on 4-11-2003.

On 13-1-2005, an amputated thumb at the base was transplanted with the second toe using micro surgery on 31-1-2005. Similarly, an amputated finger was transplanted with little toe on 31-1-2005.

A total of 3235 **cleft lip and cleft palate** patients were operated and repaired by the Myanmar specialists in cooperation and collaboration with the surgical teams from Germany, USA, Singapore, Australia, Japan, Korea, Belgium and Austria. Myanmar team alone performed 4646 cleft lip and cleft palate patients with the support of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association.

Treating and curing a disease is not a total care. It must be rehabilitated to complete recovery and to attain to the pre-disease condition. After treating and stabilizing a stroke, the patient must be rehabilitated to a level in which he or she is able to perform ordinary movements such as walking without aids. Rehabilitation is an important part of the medical care process.

(To be continued)

Health staff to make field trips to remote areas...

(from page 16)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo said that Head of State Senior General Than Shwe always gives guidance to systematically implement the plans for development of Thanlwin east regions and growth of regional economy that centred at Kengtung. As there prevails peace and stability in the region, the government is placing emphasis on improvement of education and health sectors of the local people. Only when the local people enjoy fruits of health and education sectors, will they have the abilities to carry out regional development tasks. Therefore, hospitals including 200-bed Shan State (East) General Hospital are being upgraded for providing health care services to the local people, and hospital equipment are being provided to the hospitals. Hence, doctors and health staff

are to give medical treatment to the people with goodwill. In conclusion, the Secretary-1 stressed the need to make field trips to remote areas and to disseminate wide range of health knowledge to the local people.

The Secretary-1 and party donated cash to the medical funds of hospitals in the state and that of Shan State (East) Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee through officials.

Next, they visited the hospital and presented gifts to the patients.

On 28 January morning, they inspected Technological University (Kengtung), Kengtung University and University of Computer Studies (Kengtung) and met faculty members.

At Technological University (Kengtung), they were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe, Principal Dr Zaw Min and

faculty members. The Deputy Minister and the Principal conducted the Secretary-1 and party round the university.

Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presented two sets of television to the university. In meeting with the faculty members, the Secretary-1 heard reports on academic matters.

At Kengtung University, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, Rector Dr Ko Ko Myint and faculty members welcomed the Secretary-1 and party.

After visiting the university, the Secretary-1 presented two TV sets for the university to officials and gave instructions on academic matters.

On arrival at University of Computer Studies (Kengtung), Deputy Minister U Kyaw Soe, Principal Dr Kyaw May Oo and faculty members wel-



Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo hands over two TV sets to University of Computer Studies through officials. — MNA

comed the Secretary-1 and party.

Next, they visited the university and presented two TV sets to officials.

On his inspection tour of universities in Kengtung, the Secretary-1 gave instructions to faculty members. In his address, the Secretary-1 said that the government has established universities in Kengtung region to enable the local youth to have the

opportunities to pursue higher education, and arrangements are being made for providing necessary teaching aids to the universities.

Especially, emphasis is being placed to create education and job opportunities for the local youth. Teachers are also to nurture their students to become intellectuals who will serve the interest of the State.

On 27 January evening, the Secretary-1 and party paid homage to Maha Muni Buddha Image in Kengtung and offered gold foils to the Image. Next, the Secretary-1 made cash donations to the funds of the Image.

They also paid homage to Khemaraththa Standing Buddha Statue and donated cash to the funds of the pagoda. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects Kengtung University. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo meets with USDA secretaries, executives in Shan State (East)

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Member of Panel of Patrons of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo met with secretaries and executives of state, district and township USDAs in Shan State (East) and held discussions on harmonious efforts to be exerted in the drive for regional development tasks at Golden Triangle Avenue of Triangle Region Command on 28 January.

Present on the occasion were Members of

Panel of Patrons of USDA (Central) Member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (East) PDC Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Joint-Secretary-General Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, CEC Members Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, secretaries and executives of state,

district and township USDAs.

During the meeting, CEC Member Shan State (East) In-Charge Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe and Member of Panel of Patrons Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing reported to the Secretary-1 on organizing tasks, public welfare services, assistance provided in the USDA's tasks and so did secretaries of state, district and township USDAs.

After hearing the reports, the Secretary-1 left necessary instructions.

MNA



Dr Win Naing and U Hla Oo of SPED being welcomed back by Vice-Presidents of MCF U Kyaw Kyaw and U Maung Maung at Yangon International Airport. — MCF

MCF Medical Officer arrives back from Sri Lanka

YANGON, 30 Jan — Medical Officer Dr Win Naing of Myanmar Cricket Federation and U Hla Oo of Sports and Physical Education Department arrived back here by air this morning

after attending the sports medicine and fitness course in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 22 to 30 January.

The course was organized by Asian Cricket Council (ACC).

They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Vice-Presidents U Kyaw Kyaw and U Maung Maung of MCF, Joint-Secretary (1) U Michael this morning. — MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views documentary photos and papers on research work for national bio-security, agriculture, forestry and livestock breeding sectors. — MNA

Experts to play an active role in various...

(from page 1)
apply bio-technology beneficially without sacrificing the interests of human beings, he said, calling for continued efforts to improve bio-technology in the interests of the nation.

Myanmar is an agro-based country, and its major economic productive forces are based on meat and fish and forestry sectors that are interrelated with the agricultural sector. Therefore, improvement of these sectors and boosting production are two priorities. In a bid to boost production of goods, emphasis is to be placed not only on improvement of productive forces but also on environmental conservation ensuring that there is no undesirable effects on the health of human beings.

In an effort to improve the agricultural sector for satisfying basic needs of the growing population, measures are to be taken proportionately for reclaiming fallow lands, improving the quality of the crops, boosting per acre yields of crops, use of high-yield strains, raising the cultivation capacity, production of value-added goods, use of advanced technologies, and production of chemical agents free crops he said.

Concerning production of bio-fuel, plans and projects have been laid

down for extensive growing of physic nut. Now, the world is under the threat of possible oil exhaustion, increasing cost of production and global warming. So, world nations are now trying to produce bio-fuel extensively. However, some countries have come to extract bio-fuel from edible crops, so the acres of the cultivable lands might be on the decrease, he pointed out.

Effective utilization of aquatic and terrestrial resources for boosting production of agricultural produce, promotion of cultivation capability and use of machinery, and application of advanced agricultural methods and high-yield strains are getting more important. Now, the government is giving encouragement to more private participation. So, it is expected to gain mo-

mentum in future.

For boosting production of crops, agricultural methods ranging from land preparations to harvesting crops are important, and so are extensive use of post-harvesting methods, he said.

In the forestry sector, it is important to carry out environmental conservation, efficient timber extraction, establishment of tree plantations, preservation of biodiversity, and

maintenance of ecological system. Today, the government is taking steps for conservation and sustainable progress of the environment with the aim of handing down a fine heritage to the Myanmar society and contributing towards the world's environmental conservation, he said, citing the guidance given by the Head of State. He emphasized the importance of ensuring non-deforestation and improve-

In the forestry sector, it is important to carry out environmental conservation, efficient timber extraction, establishment of tree plantations, preservation of biodiversity, and maintenance of ecological system.

ment of the ecological system for perpetual development of the environment.

He said not only human beings but also amphibious animals live in mangrove. Therefore conservation of mangrove can protect the amphibious creatures from being extinct. Protection of mangrove is important as forests and trees and mangrove absorb carbon that causes the global warming, he said.

He spoke of the need to make arrangements for use of firewood substitute fuel and for utilization of lesser known species and lesser-used timber that contributes towards the extraction of valuable Myanmar timber.

sector. He urged the experts to seek new techniques suitable for Myanmar soil and climate and to make arrangements for prevention of extinction of fish.

He said in the country preventive measures are being carried out systematically as there are bird flu cases in numerous countries in the world.

He said it is important to combine research and power of modern technology of experts in agriculture, forestry and livestock breeding and fisheries on self-reliance basis.

In conclusion, he said now every citizen is participating in the endeavor



Prime Minister General Thein Sein presents prize to Pro-rector Dr Tin Tin Myaing. — MNA

He also stressed the importance of development of technology on livestock breeding and conservation of marine resources in livestock breeding and fisheries

ours for the emergence of a modern developed nation whatever role they are in. He urged the experts to carry out tasks for economic growth (See page 10)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with ministers and executives of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences at 6th meeting of MAAFLFS. — MNA

Experts to play an active role in various sectors to be ...

(from page 9)
through agriculture, forestry and livestock breeding and fisheries sectors, to produce hygienic food, to conserve forests, environment, biodiversity, ecological system and to apply advanced technology in the respective sectors and to make efforts for turning out human resources.

Next, the Prime Minister presented certificates of honour to executive members of the acad-

emy Dr Tun Saing, retired Rector of Institute of Forestry U Win Kyi-1 and Pro-rector (teaching) of University of Animal Husbandry Dr Tin Tin Myaing.

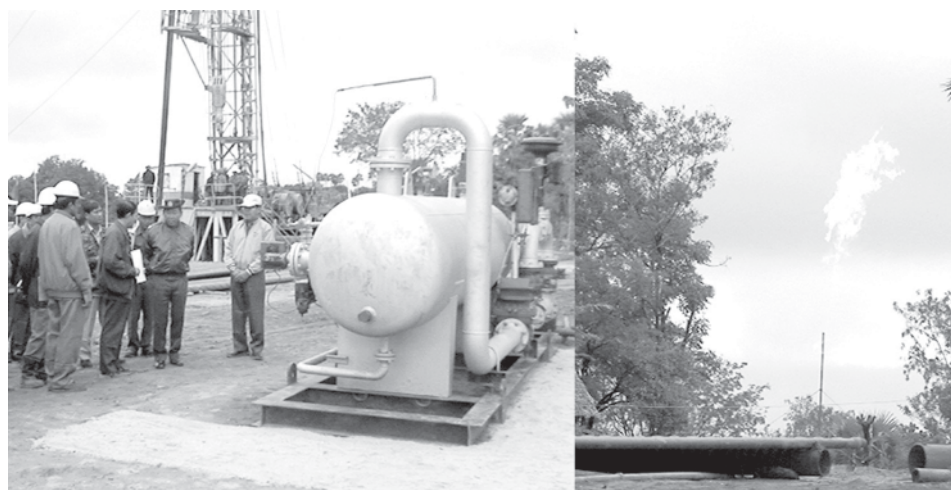
Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein presented certificates of recognition to Dr Kyaw Than,

Dr Nyan Tun and Dr Min Soe of the academy.

The Prime Minister cordially greeted those present and had photos taken together with executive members of the academy.

The Prime Minister and party observed booths on establishment of teak seed area, conservation of teak, development of national bio safety framework research activities and documentary photos.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi visits test well No 2 in Kyaukkwettaung Oil Field in Myaing Township. — MNA

USDA team successfully scales snow-capped Mt Phonrin

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Under the arrangement of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central), with the assistance of the Ministry of Sports, as part of integrated activities of the Myanmar Women's

Sports Federation and Myanmar Hiking and Mountainering Federation, a team comprising 14 USDA members, 17 MHMF members and 11 MWSF members totalling 42 managed to reach top of snow-capped Phonrin

mountain which is situated in Putao District of Kachin State during January.

The climbing team set off Putao to Ahtet Hsan Paung village on 6 January, then trekked up Wah Hsan Dan village on 7 January, Ziyardan village on 8 January, No 1 camp on 9 January, No 2 camp on 10 January, No 3 camp on 11 January and finally reached successfully top of snow-capped Phonrin at 8.45 am on 12 January.

All the climbers managed to plant flags of the Union of Myanmar, USDA and associations concerned and posed for a documentary photo when they reached the top of that mountain.

National races provided the climbing team with necessary assistance on their way to the mountain top. — MNA



USDA members pose for documentary photo on snow-capped Phonrin mountain in Putao District, Kachin State. — MNA

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw donates provisions to Chairman of SSMNC in Magway

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and military officers on 24 January paid respects to Chairman of State Sangha

MahaNayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Suddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara of Magway Maha Withutayama Taikthit and offered provisions to the Sayadaw.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw

and party inspected physic nut plantations of the battalions of Magway Station. Next, they looked into 100-bed Military Hospital in Magway and comforted the patients and presented cash assistance to them.

MNA

Kyaukkhwet/Letpanto oil and gas field inspected in Myaing Township

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspected Kyaukkhwet/Letpanto oil and natural gas field of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise in Myaing Township, Magway Division, on 28 January.

At the briefing hall, General Manager U Aye Zaw and Chief Geologist

U Myint Oo reported on production of oil and gas at the field.

Then, the minister gave instructions on timely completion of the maintenance of old oil wells and drilling of new wells, and stressed the need for drilling of new wells at promising places.

He looked into production and testing of

gas at new well Kyaukkhwettaung Test Well No 2. Afterwards, he viewed drilling of natural gas at Kyaukkhwettaung Test Well No 1.

Kyaukkhwet/Letpanto oil and natural gas field has a production of about 850 barrels of oil and two million cubic feet of natural gas daily. — MNA



Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meeting with CEC members of National League for Democracy in Yangon. (News on page 16) — MNA

Ginvera organizes selection of Grand prize winner

YANGON, 30 Jan — A ceremony to choose the lucky winner for Constellation Omega Clock worth K 2 million, Grand Prize of Ginvera, was held at Sedona Hotel, here, on 28 January.

Chief Editor U Win Nyein of Alintan Journal chose Daw Khin Than Myint of Pyar-ohn Medical Store from Mandalay as the Grand Prize winner.

Next, the entertain-

ment programmes followed. Chief Editor of Popular Journal U Hein Latt, Editor of Wellness Magazine Ma Nang Hwam Hkam and Voilet Journal Chief Editor Daw Tu Tu Myint Thein drew lots for lucky sale agents.

Ma Tin Tin Win (Win Thiri) of Mingalar Market won 21" Flat TV as the first prize, Ko Aung Naing Lwin (U Aung Lwin Store) of Toungoo and Ma Ei Khine Soe (Khine

Naing Store) of Mingaladon won DVD players as the second prizes, Ma Kyi Kyi (Pan Yoma Store) of Hinthada, Ma Myat Mon (Myittamon Store) of Mandalay and Ma Than Than Aye (Meinli Store) of Mandalay won MP3 players as third prizes.

Later, fashion show and lucky draw programme for the guests followed.

MNA



A group of black-headed gulls fly over the seaside of Yantai City, East China's Shandong Province, on 20 Jan, 2008. Recently, many black-headed gulls gather in the coastal areas of Yantai and form a beautiful scene of the city. —INTERNET



A vegetable wracked by snow and ice in Nanchang of Jiangxi Province is seen in this photo taken on 29 Jan, 2008. More than 8 million mu of crop was affected across the province by the recent freezing temperatures.

INTERNET



The "WD100" unmanned helicopter, researched and developed by He Xiang Aviation Technology Co, Ltd, completed an automatic landing flight in Anyang, Henan Province on 27 Jan. This indicates that China's technology in this field ranks among the most advanced in the world.

XINHUA

Images of the Day



Women play with snow in the ancient Roman city of Baalbek in the Bekaa valley during a snowstorm that hit Lebanon and several other countries in the Middle East on 30 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET



Working staff walk past scenes in Passenger Terminal 3 at the Beijing Capital International Airport, on 29 Jan, 2008. More than 10 scenes, most of which bear strong characteristics of classical Beijing imperial architectures, have been constructed inside Terminal 3.—XINHUA

Japanese firm offers "heartache leave" for staff

TOKYO, 30 Jan— Lovelorn staff at a Japanese marketing company can take paid time off after a bad break-up with a partner, with more "heartache leave" on offer as they get older.

Tokyo-based Hime & Company, which also gives staff paid time off to hit the shops during sales season, says heartache leave allows staff to cry themselves out and return to work refreshed. "Not everyone needs to take maternity leave but with heartbreak, everyone needs time off, just like when you get sick," CEO Miki Hiradate, whose company of six women markets cosmetics and other goods targeted for women, told Reuters by telephone.

Staff aged 24 years or younger can take one day off per year, while those between 25 and 29 can take two days off and those older can take three days off, the company said.

MNA/Reuters

ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION TO TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by the Department of Health, Central Medical Stores Depot for the Supply of Medical Equipment, Gas Pipe Line Accessories and Drugs used in treatment of HIV/AIDS.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, No.57, Sakawa Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, Commencing from (29.1.2008).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, not later than (14.2. 2008) 14:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraphic/ telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Deputy Director (Medical Stores) Phone No. 371284,372362.

Central Medical Stores Depot
Department of Health

Vietnam's property market becomes hotter

HANOI, 29 Jan—Rents in major cities of Vietnam have skyrocketed and there are few signs the market will cool in the next few years as demand continues to vastly outstrip supply, local newspaper *Vietnam Investment Review* reported Monday.

“We predict that office rents will peak in 18 months at more than 100 US dollars per square metre per month for Grade A space, with Grade B space reading as much as 90 dollars per square metre,” the newspaper quoted Brett Ashton, managing director of Savills Vietnam, as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

900 children die of malnutrition per day in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 29 Jan—Around 900 children die of malnutrition in Bangladesh every day mainly due to a poor dietary intake in the earliest months of their life, an eminent child specialist has said.

Professor Dr M Quadrat-e-Khuda Talukder said on Sunday at a seminar that the consequences of insufficient nourishment continue into adulthood and are passed on to the next generations, giving rise to a wide array of effects, leading newspaper *The Daily Star* reported Monday.

The seminar on “The Lancet’s Series on Maternal and Child Undernutrition” was organized by the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR’B). It was attended by health scientists, physicians, NGO officials and donor representatives, who also took part in the open discussion on health issues.

MNA/Xinhua

Five found guilty of Britain's biggest heist

LONDON, 29 Jan—A British court convicted five men on Monday of kidnap and robbery during Britain’s biggest ever heist, a daring 53 million pound (105 million US dollars) raid on a cash depot in southern England.

The robbers, some dressed as policemen and most wearing an array of false noses, chins and beards, snatched the record haul after getting

past “bunker” security by kidnapping the depot’s manager, his wife and son at gunpoint.

They were also helped by an “inside man”, who provided details of the building’s interior layout and security protocols and secretly filmed it using a tiny camera hidden on his belt. Despite the elaborate planning, the gang was rounded up by police within days of the

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Nike International Ltd. of Cedar House, 41 Cedar Avenue, Hamilton HM 12, Bermuda, is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following Trade Mark:-



Reg.No. IV/3036/2001
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in respect of “Footwear, apparel, sports bags, sporting goods, watches, eyewear and electronic equipment”.

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

Khine Khine U, Advocate
LL.B, D.B.L, LL.M (UK)
For Nike International Ltd.
#731, 7th Fl., Traders Hotel
Yangon.
Dated. January 31, 2008

S'pore Changi Airport handles record traffic in 2007

SINGAPORE, 29 Jan—Singapore’s Changi Airport handled a record 36.7 million passenger traffic in 2007, a 4.8-per cent growth over 2006, due to strong growth of traffic flow from key markets like China and India, the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) said on Monday.

Chinese passengers registered 12.6 per cent growth, and India visitors grew 15.6 per cent, said CAAS in a statement.

Emerging markets such

as Vietnam, Russia and South Africa also saw double digit growth in traffic at 24.4 per cent, 27.7 per cent and 15.1 per cent respectively.

However, on the cargo front, Changi Airport handled 1.89 million tons, a drop of 0.9 per cent compared to 2006. The CAAS said it was mainly due to the softening demand for electronics in the United States, and the growing preference by manufacturers to ship their products by sea instead of

by air, as a result of the high fuel price.

Highlights for Changi Airport in the last few months included the world’s first A380 commercial flight taking off in October, and the opening of Terminal 3 on 9 January, which boosts the airport’s total capacity by 45 per cent to 70 million. —MNA/Xinhua

Road accident kills four, injures 30 near Dhaka

DHAKA, 29 Jan— Four people were killed and 30 others injured when a bus plunged into a roadside ditch in Savar, about 30 kilometres northwest of Bangladesh’s capital Dhaka, Monday afternoon. Police said the Dhaka-bound bus fell into 30-foot (about nine-metre) deep ditch, breaking the railings of a bridge at about 1 pm local time, killing four people.

On information, police with the help of local people rescued 30 injured passengers from the ditch and sent them to different local hospitals.

Six of the injured were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.

Bangladesh has one of the highest fatality rates for road accidents, which kill more than 10,000 people every year, according to official statistics.—MNA/Xinhua

S Korean scientists find needle-free vaccination method

SEOUL, 30 Jan—South Korean researchers on Tuesday said they have discovered a new needle-free vaccination approach that may be safer to use and elicit a broader range of immune responses than conventional methods.

The Seoul-based International Vaccine Institute (IVI) said the novel approach calls for the administration of vaccines under the tongue, triggering immune responses in various mucosal tissues in the respiratory, digestive and reproductive tracts, which are major entry portals of pathogens into the body.

At present, most vaccines are given by needle shots into the bloodstream, with others being ingested or inhaled. Using needles, however, runs the risk of causing secondary infections in countries where medical conditions are poor.

Song Joo-hye and Kweon Mi-na, who led the research effort, said the “sublingual” administration of a flu vaccine on mice showed the animals developing a robust immune response in their lungs, and they were fully protected when they were later exposed to a severe form of influenza virus.

“Test results suggest that this method of vaccine administration poses no risk of antigen redirection to the central nervous system, which is a potential risk of giving influenza drugs intranasally,” said Kweon.

The IVI, established in 1997 as a United Nations Development Programme initiative devoted to the development of new vaccines to help the world’s poorest people, said the findings were published in the latest issue of the US-base *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to build nine seaports this year

HANOI, 29 Jan—State-owned Vietnam National Shipping Lines (Vinalines) will start construction of nine seaports nationwide in 2008, according to local newspaper *Youth* on

Monday.

The state corporation will build two wharves, the first category of the Van Phong seaport in central Khanh Hoa Province, capable of receiving cargo ships with up to 9,000 containers on board. Investment for the seaport is estimated at four billion US dollars.

Vinalines will pour some 28 trillion Vietnamese dong (nearly 1.8 billion dollars) into building a new seaport in northern Hai Phong city named Hai Phong International Gateway Port, which will be capable of annually handling roughly 100 million tons of cargoes. Its con-

struction is scheduled to start in May and complete in 2020.

MNA/Xinhua



Thai Navy officers and forestry officials display dead tigers and leopards seized after a raid on an illegal wildlife trade on the bank of Mekong river in That Phanom district of Nakhon Phanom province northeastern Thailand on 29 Jan, 2008. Thai officials seized 6 tigers, 5 leopards and 300 live pangolins bound for Laos.

INTERNET

Secondhand smoke worsens cystic fibrosis patients' lung function

BEIJING, 30 Jan — Conditions of cystic fibrosis patients will get worse when they are exposed to secondhand smoke, with those who have a specific gene being even worse, researchers said in the Journal of the American Medical Association Wednesday.

Cystic fibrosis is an inherited chronic disease that causes thick, sticky mucus to build up in the lungs, leading to life threatening lung

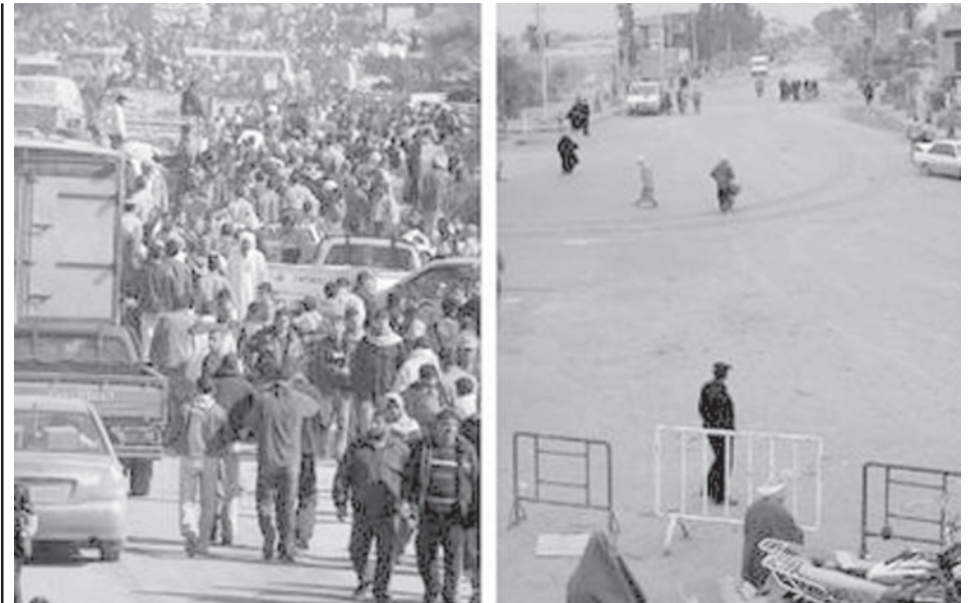
infections and other digestion problems.

Previous studies in poorer clinical outcomes for cystic fibrosis patients exposed to secondhand smoke were inconsistent, so the researchers undertook a retrospective assessment of lung function, stratified by environmental and genetic factors, said Garry R Cutting, at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore.

They studied 812

people averaged 19.5 with the disease and found that the lung function of those exposed to secondhand smoke was reduced by about 10 percent compared to those not exposed.

A specific version of a gene called TGFbeta1 doubled the negative effects of secondhand smoke on lung function, according to the researchers, who did not look at lung function in those active smokers with the disease.—Internet



A combination photo shows Palestinians from Gaza walking with goods along the main road of Rafah as they return to the Gaza Strip on 24 Jan, 2008 and a view of the same road on 30 Jan 2008. —INTERNET

Heavy snow kills 24 in China, losses hit

BEIJING, 29 Jan — Heavy snow has killed 24 people in China since 10 January, the Ministry of Civil Affairs said here on Monday.

More than 77.86 million people had been affected by the snow in 14 provinces, including Anhui, Jiangxi, Hubei and Hunan by 2 pm Monday, according to the ministry.

Among the deaths, 10 were killed in collapses of homes weighed down by the snow and another 10 died after falling on slippery roads. Two people drowned and two were hit by falling trees laden with heavy snow.

The snow has affected

more than 4.2 million hectares of farmland, led to the collapse of about 107,000 houses and damaged 399,000 other homes. Direct economic losses are estimated at 22.09 billion yuan (about three billion US dollars).

According to reports from local civil affairs departments, snow is still falling in some southern provinces, such as Hunan and Hubei, while some areas in Guizhou, Anhui and Jiangxi provinces and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region are getting icy rain.

On Monday, flights in at least 10 cities including Wuhan,

Nanjing, Changsha and Changzhou were halted temporarily due to bad weather.

Four expressways in Shanghai have been closed indefinitely by snow. —MNA/Xinhua

Bird flu spreads to two more districts in India

NEW DELHI, 29 Jan — Bird flu was detected in South 24 Parganas and West Midnapore taking the number of affected districts to 13 out of a total 19 in West Bengal (WB), according to reports from Expressindia, West Midnapore District on Monday.

Research: Couch potato lifestyle may speed up ageing

LONDON, 29 Jan — Being a couch potato in your free time could make you a decade older biologically than someone who is physically active, according to a major study of

people's "chromosomal clocks" by British researchers.

Researchers at St Thomas' Hospital in London measured the lengths of telomeres, the DNA that bookends our chromosomes, in the white blood cells of 2,401 twins, and found that people who did not exercise in their spare time had shorter telomeres than very active people, New Scientist reported Tuesday on its website.

Telomeres shorten each time a cell divides, and when they become too short a cell can no longer divide, so telomeres act as a kind of timer counting down our biological age.

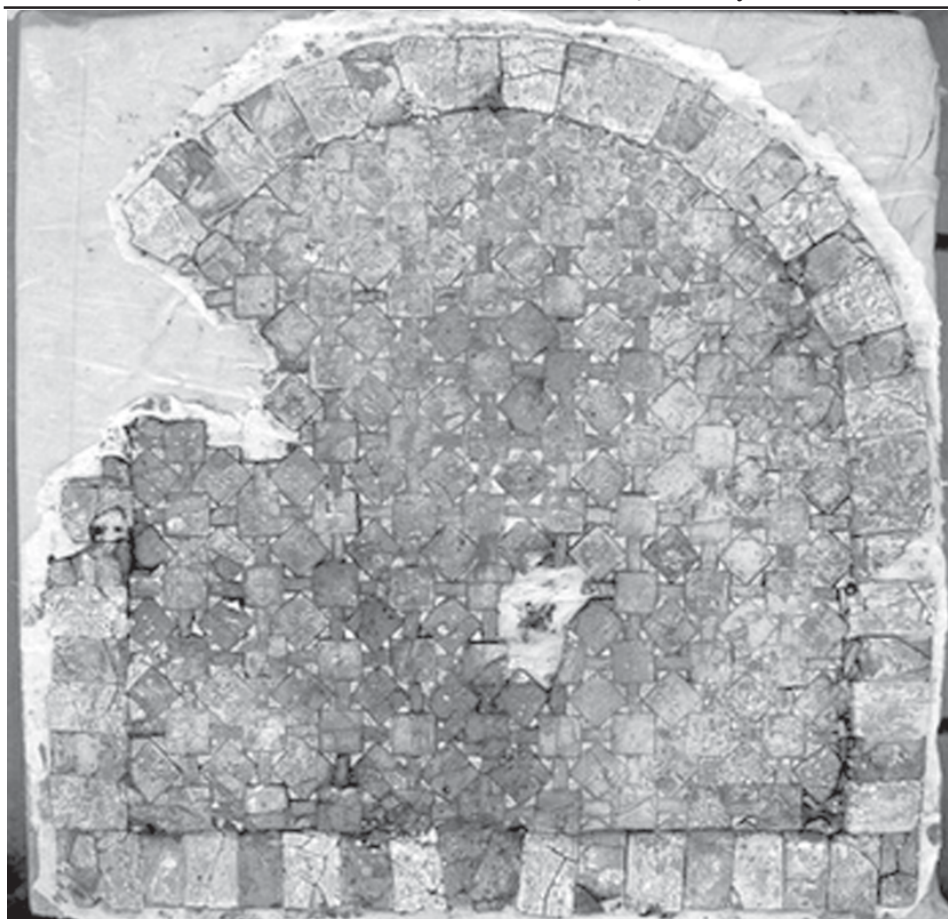
The researchers found that on average, the least active (getting just 16 minutes exercise a

week) had telomeres 200 base pairs shorter than the most active (exercising 3 hours a week), which translates into them being about 10 years older biologically

The researchers, whose previous study showed that smoking and obesity can shorten telomere length by the equivalent of 10 years, found that exercise and telomere length were linked independently of whether people smoked or were overweight

Accounting for whether or not participants had a chronic disease (possibly making them sedentary) did not change the findings either, suggesting that other factors linked with an inactive lifestyle affect biological age, they said.

Internet



In this photo released by the Israel Antiquities Authority on 28 Jan, 2008, a glass panel discovered in the ancient ruins of Caesarea in northern Israel, is seen in an unknown location. Experts have restored a one-of-a-kind 1,400-year-old glass mosaic glowing in gold, recovered from a site next to the Sea of Galilee, the Israel Antiquities Authority announced on Monday. INTERNET

Vietnam's software export surges in 2007

HANOI, 29 Jan — Vietnam gained 180 million US dollars from exporting software and related services in 2007, up 157 per cent over 2006, local newspaper Vietnam Investment Review reported on Monday.

Vietnam's leading software firm, FPT Software, doubled its pre-tax profit to 10 million dollars and

posted a 78.4-per-cent growth rate in software exports last year, the newspaper quoted a report of the country's Ministry of Information and Communications as reporting.

Vietnam's software sector has recorded a 50-per-cent growth rate, and has seen employee numbers double to 48,000 over the past four years.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



AS Roma's Mancini of Brazil, left, on his way to scoring during the Italy Cup soccer match between AS Roma and Sampdoria, at Rome's Olympic Stadium, on 29 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Roma reach Cup semi-final with win over Sampdoria

ROME, 30 Jan — Holders AS Roma reached the Italian Cup semi-finals after Mancini's fine individual goal sealed a 1-0 win over Sampdoria on Tuesday and a 2-1 aggregate victory.

Roma, second in Serie A, will play Udinese or Catania in a two-legged semi-final in April and May. Brazilian midfielder Mancini broke forward on the hour, played a trick on the edge of the area and then fired into the near corner for his second winning goal in two games.

Visitors Sampdoria, unbeaten in five heading into the match, had some of the better chances and Hugo Campagnaro's second-half shot had to be cleared off the line by Rodrigo Taddei.

Gennaro Delvecchio also fired straight at substitute goalkeeper Doni while forwards Claudio Bellucci and Emiliano Bonazzoli went close with headers.

Former Roma striker Antonio Cassano was out for Samp with a bad back and the Genoa side missed his cutting edge up front. — MNA/Reuters

Beckham fit for England selection

LONDON, 30 Jan — David Beckham has said he is fit and ready to play for England next week despite having no competitive action since November. New coach Fabio Capello will name his first squad on Saturday for next Wednesday's friendly against Switzerland and Beckham hopes to have the chance to win his 100th cap.

"I'm as fit as I can be. I'm fit and sharp and I'm ready to be selected," the 32-year-old former England captain, now playing for LA Galaxy, told the BBC.

Beckham has not played for Galaxy since October and his last competitive game was when he came on as a substitute for England in their 3-2 defeat by Croatia at Wem-

bley on 21 November.

However, he has been training with Arsenal and believes he is ready if selected.

"I have been training with one of the fittest teams in Europe, I've done everything possible to be fit and I am without doubt ready for it, but it's out of my hands now," he said.

MNA/Reuters

Juventus wrap up Sissoko signing

MILAN, 30 Jan — Juventus have signed Liverpool's Mohamed Sissoko for 11 million euros (16.26 million US dollars), the Serie A club said on Tuesday.

The combative Mali midfielder jetted to Italy at the weekend for a medical before heading back to the African Nations Cup in Ghana, where his side face Ivory Coast later on Tuesday.

Sissoko, who went to Anfield in 2005 but fell out of favour following the arrival of Javier Mascherano, has signed a five-year contract with the Turin club, a statement said. —MNA/Reuters

Bayern see off Wuppertal to reach Cup last eight

BERLIN, 30 Jan — Bayern Munich overcame an uncertain start to the second half of the season to beat third division Wuppertal 5-2 and book their place in the quarter-finals of the German Cup on Tuesday.

Bayern, looking a little creaky in their first match back after the six-week mid-season break, twice let slip the lead before a much improved second-half display saw them home.

Werder Bremen, Bayern's closest challengers in the Bundesliga, saw their hopes of a domestic double ended when they lost the heavyweight tie of the third round 2-1 away to Borussia Dortmund.

MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's Mathieu Flamini (top) is challenged by Newcastle United's David Rozeznal during their English Premier League soccer match at the Emirates Stadium in London on 29 Jan, 2008. —XINHUA



Rade Prca (L), is pictured here in 2005, at Munich's Olympic Stadium, during a Bundesliga football match. The Sweden international marked his first appearance in the Premier League with a stunning goal which confirmed an valuable 2-0 victory for his new club against Birmingham on Tuesday.—INTERNET

Nigeria reach last eight with Benin win

SEKONDI, 30 Jan — Midfielder John Obi Mikel scored and set up another as Nigeria beat Benin 2-0 to reach the quarter-finals of the African Nations Cup on Tuesday.

The Super Eagles will meet hosts Ghana for a last four spot on Sunday while Group B winners Ivory Coast, who beat Mali 3-0 in Accra, will take on Guinea. Mali, who needed a draw to progress, are eliminated on goal difference.

Nigeria improved after a lacklustre first half at the Essipon Stadium and made the breakthrough on 52 minutes when Obi Mikel headed in a Peter Odemwingie cross after Benin keeper Yoann Djidonou had failed to clear a Taye Taiwo free kick.

The Chelsea midfielder set up striker Yakubu Aiyegbeni to seal the win with a clinical finish four minutes from time.

MNA/Reuters



Toronto Raptors' Anthony Parker (C) tries in vain to put up a shot between Dominic McGuire (L) and Brendan Haywood (R) of the Washington Wizards during the second half of their NBA basketball game in Washington on 29 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET

Eto'o out to make history against Sudan

SEKONDI, 30 Jan — Cameroon striker Samuel Eto'o has the African Nations Cup scoring record in sight as the Indomitable Lions bid to secure a last eight place on Wednesday.

Cameroon, second in Group C on three points, take on table-propping Sudan in Tamale. Eto'o equalled Ivorian Laurent Pokou's mark of 14 goals by netting in a 5-1 demolition of Zambia on Saturday.

MNA/Reuters

South Korea's Kim On-a (C) passes the ball as Japan's Akane Aoto (L) tries to block while her teammate Yuko Arihama watches at the women's Asian Olympic qualification handball tournament for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games in Tokyo on 29 Jan, 2008.—INTERNET



ပိုလ်မူးကြီးဝင်းဌေး

ကြည်းဘုရားဝါထေး(၃)

သူရဲကောင်းမှတ်တမ်းဝင်

အသက်(၅၄)နှစ်

သဲတောမြို့၊ (၃)ရပ်ကွက်နေ(ဦးအောင်ရုဒေါ်အေး) တို့၏သား ဒေါ်လှလှမြင့်၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ခင်ပွန်း၊ မောင်အောင်မြတ်သူ၊ မောင်မြိုးစည်သူ တို့၏ ချစ်လှစွာသောမွေးသမီး ဝင်းဌေးကြီး ဝင်းဌေးသည် (၃၀-၁-၂၀၀၈)ရက် (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့) နေ့လည် (၁၂:၃၀) နာရီတွင် ကွယ်လွန်သွားပါသဖြင့် (၁-၂-၂၀၀၈)ရက် (သောကြာနေ့) မွန်းလွဲ (၁)နာရီတွင် ပုသိမ်မြို့၊ သရောင်းချောင်း သုသာန် သို့ ပို့ဆောင် မီးသင်္ဂြိုဟ်ပါမည်။

ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု

Serious floods hit north Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 30 Jan — Serious floods have hit the northern Argentine province of Salta, forcing some 15,000 people to evacuate, officials said on Monday.

Heavy rainfall and flooding in southern

Bolivia have sharply elevated the water level of the Pilcomayo River which flows through Argentina's Salta Province, inundating towns and villages along the river.

MNA/Xinhua

China donates \$300,000 to Kenya

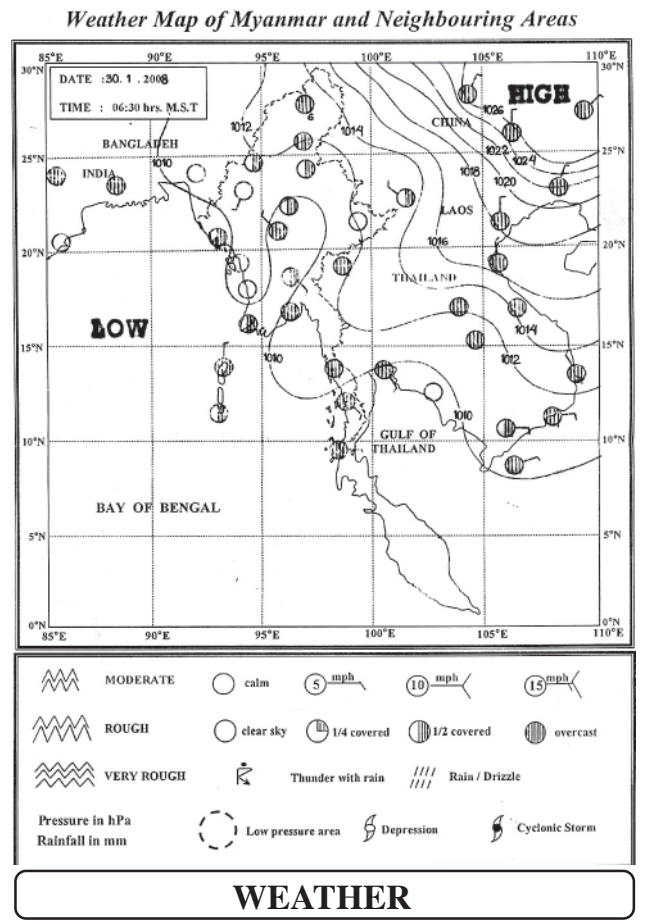
NAIROBI, 30 Jan — Chinese Government donated 300,000 US dollars humanitarian aid to Kenyan Red Cross Society on Monday.

"A friend in need is a friend indeed," Chinese Ambassador to Kenya Zhang Ming said in the handover ceremony, adding the Chinese Government and its people had enjoyed a "deep friendship" with the Kenyan.

"During the current difficult time, the Chinese Government and its people are highly concerned about the humanitarian situation in Kenya, and that's why we made donations one after another," said the ambassador.

"Even though they are not that much, it conveys the goodwill from the Chinese Government and its people," Zhang said, hoping the donations could help the displaced Kenyans to "sail through this tough time".

This is the third donation from the Chinese side in a short period of time. The first is 30,000 US dollars cash donation by the Chinese community in Kenya while the second 50,000 dollars from the Red Cross Society of China. — MNA/Xinhua



Sri Lanka says captures rebel positions, kills dozens

COLOMBO, 30 Jan — Sri Lankan troops have captured 16 Tamil Tiger bunkers in the northwest and killed at least 22 rebels in fighting on Tuesday, the military said, a day after clashes killed at least 28 Tigers and two soldiers.

The military says it has killed scores of rebels since a six-year ceasefire between the government and Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was scrapped on 16 January.

"The troops captured 16 LTTE terrorist bunkers

in Viyattankulam and Pallikullam in Mannar. The ground troops confirmed at least 22 terrorists were killed," said a military official, asking not to be named in line with policy.

Meanwhile, a pro-rebel website said eight

civilians including children were killed and 35 wounded on Tuesday in a roadside bomb targeting a school bus, which it blamed on the Army. A military spokesman denied the report.

MNA/Reuters

Radio Myanmar

Thursday, 31 January
Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music - Love shot
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music - Here comes the sun
- 8:50 am** National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music - Hang in long enough
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music - Aint that a shame
- 1:30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music - Forever young - I honestly love you
- 9:00 pm** Aspects of Myanmar - Myanmar cuisine
- 9:10 pm** Article - potpourri
- 9:20 pm** Topics - Lack of deep sleep may increase risk of type to diabetes - Morning gargle may be used for cancer tests
- 9:30 pm** Favourite songs chosen by music lovers - Like a rose - Show me the meaning of being lonely
- 9:45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

TV Myanmar

Thursday, 31 January
View on today

- 7:00 am**
 - ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am**
 - To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
 - Morning news
- 7:40 am**
 - Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am**
 - Dance of National Races
- 8:00 am**
 - အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am**
 - အကပဒေသာ
- 8:25 am**
 - တမာနှင့်မိုးနီရေလှောင်တစ်
- 8:30 am**
 - International news
- 8:45 am**
 - Let's Go
- 4:00 pm**
 - Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
 - Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
 - English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm**
 - Musical programme
- 5:00 pm**
 - အစေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ပထမနှစ် (ရသစာပေအရေးအသားအထူးပြု) (ရသစာပေအရေးအသား)
- 5:15 pm**
 - ချစ်စရာအရွယ်ကကြီးသွယ်
- 5:25 pm**
 - နားဝင်ပီယံသူလက်သံ
- 5:35 pm**
 - "ငှက်တစ်သောင်း" (ကင်းကောင်ငှက်ပျော့ကြော်၊ ထူးမွန်၊ အကယ်ဒမီ-ရိုးရွှေ၊ တိမ်ညွန့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်သိ)
- 5:50 pm**
 - မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်
- 6:00 pm**
 - Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
 - Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
 - တောင်သူအများစိုက်အားထား ငွေချည်(၆)၏အပြုံး မျက်နှာများ(မုံရွာနှင့်မြင်းမူ)
- 6:50 pm**
 - Musical programme
- 7:05 pm**
 - နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "လေဒီယာနှင့်တွေ့ဆုံခြင်း" (အပိုင်း-၄)
- 8:00 pm**
 - News
- 16. International news**
- 17. Weather report**
- 18. လပတ်မိုးလေဝသနှင့်ဇလဗေဒ ခန့်မှန်းချက်**
- 19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူများ" (အပိုင်း-၂၃)**
- 20. The next day's programme**

People's Desire

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

Health staff to make field trips to remote areas for dissemination of wide range of health knowledge to local people

Secretary-1 inspects Kengtung General Hospital (200-bed), universities in Kengtung

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, accompanied by SPDC member Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, ministers, deputy ministers, officials of the SPDC Office and departmental heads, left Yangon by air on 27 January morning and arrived at Kengtung Airport of Shan State (East) at 10 am.

They were welcomed by Deputy Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Wai Lin and senior military officers, officials and social organizations.

At Kengtung General Hospital (200-bed), the Secretary-1 heard reports on health care services in Shan State (East), prevention against infectious diseases, control of bird flu and SARS presented by officials. The medical superintendent of the hospital submitted reports on the brief history of the hospital, organizational set-up and health care services.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo briefed the Secretary-1 on infection of bird flu and control measure and cooperation with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the Ministry of Health and the WHO in the tasks.



After attending to the needs of staff in providing health care services, Chairman of National Health Committee (See page 8)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo comforts a patient at 200-bed hospital in Kengtung.— MNA



Relations Minister meets Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Jan — Minister for Labour and for Relations U Aung Kyi

Minister U Aung Kyi meeting with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at Seinle Kantha State House. — MNA

met Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at Seinle Kantha State House in Yangon from 1 pm to 1.31 pm and from 2.50 pm to 3.35 pm today.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi also held discussions with Chairman of National League for Democracy U

Aung Shwe, Secretary U Lwin, CEC members U Nyunt Wai, U Than Tun, U Hla Pe, U Lun Tin and U Soe Myint and Spokesperson of the party U Nyan Win at the same venue from 1.35 pm to 2.45 pm the same day.—MNA