

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XV, Number 296

15th Waning of Pyatho 1369 ME

Wednesday, 6 February, 2008

Standing tall with glory as a Union among the world nations



Due to the relentless efforts made with the strength of the national solidarity and Union Spirit, Myanmar, which had lost independence for 100 years, was able to restore her independence on 4 January 1948, and since then it has been standing tall with glory as a sovereign Union among the world nations.

Senior General Than Shwe
 Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
 Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
 (From message sent on the occasion of 56th Anniversary Union Day)

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

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of sympathy to President of PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Feb—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of sympathy to His Excellency Mr Hu Jintao, President of the People’s Republic of China for the great loss of life and property caused by the heavy snow storm in some provinces of the People’s Republic of China.—MNA

Local people are now able to travel from Tamu to Kalay within the course of a day as Tamu sees remarkable development

Prime Minister inspects regional development tasks in Tamu, Sagaing Division

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Feb—Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, ministers, deputy ministers,

the Director-General of the Government Office and heads of departments, left Kalay, Sagaing Division, by Tatmadaw aircraft on 3 February morning and arrived

at Kalay Airport at 10.15 am. The Prime Minister and party were welcomed there by Member of the State (See page 6)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects Nann Phalon Market in Tamu. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 6 February, 2008

Ample opportunity for pursuit of higher education

The government is implementing a variety of plans for wider application of modern science and technology and nurturing younger generations to bring the goals in the education sector to fruition.

It is making economic reforms through long-term plans in the education sector to enable the nation to catch up with international community in terms of education.

Now, sector-wise measures are being taken systematically for the youth to pursue higher education not only in the cities in states and divisions but also in the special development regions in strategic geographical location.

The inauguration of the three-storey building of the Technological University (Kalay) in Kalay, Sagaing Division, took place the other day. The region has got arts and science university and university for computer studies plus the technological university, so the youth in Chin State and Kalay Region can now pursue higher education in their own region.

In the process for building a new nation, the government is implementing education promotion plans, and national education promotion plans step by step for nurturing the youth to produce human resources in the education sector.

It is required to guide and nurture the younger generations effectively so that they not only become well-educated and skilled in various sectors but also cultivate a good habit of preserving and safeguarding national prestige and integrity.

Now, opportunities for higher education are available throughout the nation. With the progress in the education field, there will be a greater number of human resources who will play a major role in building a new nation.

MWEA members leave for Lao PDR

YANGON, 5 Feb — Deputy Director-General U Aung Tun Khine of Social Welfare Department under Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement together with ASEAN Youth Performance Award Winner Executive of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs, Association Daw Cho Thiri Maung and Outstanding Youth Daw Cho Thet Tin (Demonstrator of Music Department) of University of Culture (Yangon) left here by air yesterday for Lao PDR to attend the 14th ASEAN Youth Meeting and ASEAN Youth Performance Awards Presentation Ceremony to be held there from 5 to 8 February.

They were seen off at



Daw Cho Thiri Maung of MWEA being seen at Yangon International Airport before depart for Vientiane, Laos.

MWEA

Yangon International Airport by Founder and Advisor of MWEA Daw Ye Ye Myint, Chairperson of MWEA Daw Khin Myint Myint 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

Power stations in Hlinethaya, Mayangon inspected

YANGON, 4 Feb—Minister for Electric Power (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint yesterday inspected power supply at Hlinethaya 230/33/11 KV main power station at Mile Post No 6/2 on Yangon-Pathayin Road.

He inspected the control room, the 33 KV power lines to Industrial Zone (1) and (2), and 230/66/11 KV Bayintnaung power station in Mayangon Township.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects Bayintnaung Sub-power Station in Mayangon Township. — ELECTRIC POWER NO 2

Foreign Minister sends message of sympathy to PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Feb—U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of sympathy to His Excellency Mr Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China for the great loss of life and property caused by the heavy snow storm in some provinces of the People's Republic of China.—MNA

Cash donations invited for International Institute of Abhidhamma



U Mya Than, Chairman of IIA, accepts cash from a donor at International Institute of Abhidhamma. — H

YANGON, 5 Feb— Well-wishers are making donations to the International Institute of Abhidhamma under construction.

Most recently, U Thein Cho and family and friends donated K 500,000 and FEC 500 for the institute through Chairman and Pro-rector of IIA U Mya Than (Retd Ambassador) at Thadhukari Dhammayon on Bo Aung

Kyaw Road here.

The chairman presented certificates of honour for the well-wishers through Daw Wint Thu Thu Maung (Cetana Sarpay).

Those wishing to make donations for promotion and propagation of Buddha Abhidhamma are to contact Thadhukari Dhammayon of No 295-297, Bo Aung Kyaw Road, Yangon (Tel 254102).

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Minister visits Hnget-aw-san Youth Training School

YANGON, 29 Jan — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe inspected the project for construction of Magyeegan-Hnget-aw-san gravel road in Kawhmu Township this morning.

He called for completion of the project on schedule meeting the set standards.

The Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs is

implementing the project with the funds of the SWRR Ministry.

Upon arrival at Hnget-aw-san Youth Training School in Hnget-aw-san Village, the minister heard a report on facts about the facility.

The minister gave necessary instructions, fulfilled the needs, and presented the trainees snacks and stationery.

Then, he viewed the crop plantations in the school compound.—MNA

Two conductors charged with malpractice

YANGON, 5 Feb — Action is taken against two bus conductors as they collected more bus fare from passengers in Yangon on 26 January.

Some members of the traffic rules enforcement committee of Myanmar Police Force found that two conductors of Thanmyanthu No 86 Bus Service collected K 100 from each passengers instead of K 50 on the way to Botahtaung from Hlinethaya.

Those two conductors are Aung Myint Tun, 25, a conductor of the bus with number plate 3ka/9666, of No 63, U Maung Thin Road, Ward-2, Htantabin Township, and Mamud Yakud, 35, a conductor of the bus with number plate Ba/400, of No 258 (B), Aung Thazin Road, Ward-10, Hline Township.

They were sent to Kamayut Police Station and charges were filed against them. — MNA



Soviet-era aircraft carrier Admiral Kuznetsov. Russia wrapped up its 12-day joint exercise between its Air Force and Navy in the Atlantic and Arctic oceans on 2 Feb, arousing concerns from NATO members and other western countries.—INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Foreign security guards wound civilian in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 4 Feb—An Iraqi civilian was severely injured when guards working for a foreign security firm opened fire in a busy street in central Baghdad on Sunday, a well-informed police source said.

The incident took place in the morning when a SUVs convoy of a foreign security firm

were passing through a street near the Zawraa Park just outside the Green Zone, which houses Iraqi Government offices and foreign embassies, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The civilian was wounded when the bodyguards in the vehicles opened fire to clear a way for their

convoy through the jam, the source said. Iraqi civilians have been attacked several times by guards working for private security firms that provide security to US and Iraqi officials and politicians.

Last 17 September, Iraqis were killed and many others wounded when guards affiliated to well-known US Black-water security firm opened fire randomly on civilians at Nisour Square in western Baghdad.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua

Kenya government, opposition seek to end conflict

NAIROBI, 5 Feb—Kenya's Government and opposition begin detailed negotiations on Tuesday to try to end political and tribal conflict that has killed at least 900 people and brought one of Africa's brightest economies to its knees.

Under the mediation of former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the two sides agreed on Monday on immediate steps to help the hundreds of thousands displaced by the violence and said they would now start work on the political impasse.

"(On Tuesday) we begin our work on the political issues, the crisis arising out of the December 2007 elections. That is going to take hard negotiations, understandably give and take," Annan told a news conference late on Monday.— *MNA/Reuters*

Death toll from Rwanda, Congo quakes hits 30

KIGALI, 5 Feb—The death toll from two earthquakes that struck hours apart in Rwanda and neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo on Sunday has gone up to 30, officials in both countries said, while around 350 are injured. "The death toll (in Rwanda) has now increased to 25 from the earthquake. Two hundred have serious injuries," Deputy Rwandan Police Chief Mary Gahonzire told *Reuters* in Kigali,

referring to a magnitude 5.0 earthquake that struck south Rwanda.

The acting governor of South Kivu's Bukavu

region, Bernard Watunkanza, said: "Up to now, there are five dead and 149 seriously injured."

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua



Demonstrators march through the streets of Medellin, Colombia, on 4 Feb, 2008, during a protest against the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC.—INTERNET

14 killed in Sri Lanka bombings, President says winning war

COLOMBO, 5 Feb—At least 14 people were killed in two roadside bombings in Sri Lanka on Monday, as the island's president marked independence day by insisting he was winning the war against Tamil Tiger rebels.

A bomb in the

northeast of the ethnically-divided island killed 13 bus passengers and wounded 16 others, including children, the military said, adding that among the dead were two women and two off-duty soldiers. A similar blast in the south against a military vehicle killed one

soldier. Three other soldiers escaped with injuries, police said.

The attacks, both blamed on the Tamil Tigers, came hours after an annual military parade at Colombo's seaside Galle Face promenade to mark Sri Lanka's 60th anniversary of independence from Britain. In an address to the nation, President Mahinda Rajapakse said the "challenge bestowed upon us by history is the defeat of terrorism," and said government forces had cornered the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in the north.

"We faced this challenge squarely without avoiding it. Our security forces are today achieving victories against terrorism un-precedented in history," he said.—*Internet*



At least 14 people were killed in two roadside bombings in Sri Lanka, as the island's president marked independence day by insisting he was winning the war against Tamil Tiger rebels on 5 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Two killed, nine wounded in attacks across Thailand



Thai policemen check the site of an explosion.—INTERNET

YALA, 5 Feb—Two people were killed and nine wounded Monday in a string of bombing and shooting attacks in Thailand's south, where a separatist insurgency is raging, police said.

Six people, including three police

officers, were wounded when a bomb exploded around midday outside a shop in Yala town, one of the region's main cities, police said. The five-kilogramme (11-pound) bomb had been planted near a motorcycle parked outside the shop, police said. An hour later, a second bomb exploded outside an religious school in nearby Pattani province, killing one government official and wounding two others and a policeman, they said.

Later in the day, a 30-year-old Muslim man was shot dead in a drive-by attack in Yala province, they added.

More than 2,800 people have been killed since the unrest broke out in January 2004 in the south, which was an autonomous Malay sultanate until mainly Buddhist Thailand annexed it in 1902, provoking decades of tension.—*Internet*



Air passengers crowd at check-in counters at Haneda airport in Tokyo, Japan. Snow blanketed the Japanese capital of Tokyo and wide areas of the Pacific side of central and eastern Japan on 5 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Suicide bomb attack on Pakistani military, five dead

RAWALPINDI, 4 Feb — A suicide bomber attacked a Pakistani military bus taking medical corps staff to work in the city of Rawalpindi on Monday killing at least five people and wounding 25, police and military officials said.

Violence has intensified in Pakistan in recent months with the Army battling militants in the northwest and suicide bomb attacks in towns and cities, raising concern

about prospects for the nuclear-armed country in the run-up to February 18 elections.

The bomb went off during the morning rush hour outside the Army's National Logistics Cell in the city, where the Army has its headquarters.

"The bomber was apparently on a motorcycle and rammed into a military vehicle," said a military official at the scene.

Several vehicles were

badly damaged and Army caps were scattered on the road at the site of the blast, about 100 metres (yards) from the back of the Army headquarters compound, a witness said.

City police official Basharat Abbasi said five people were killed and about 25 were wounded, 10 seriously.

It was the seventh suicide bomb blast in Rawalpindi in the past six months.

MNA/Reuters

Israeli troops kill two Palestinian gunmen in West Bank

JENIN (West Bank), 5 Feb — Israeli commandos killed two Palestinian gunmen in the occupied West Bank on Monday, the Army and a militant group said.

A special forces unit operating in Kabatiya Village, near the city of Jenin, spotted three gunmen and opened fire, a military spokesman said.

"We know that two were killed and one wounded. We found three assault rifles on them," the spokesman said.

The Islamic Jihad militant group announced over mosque loudspeakers in Jenin that two of its local leaders were killed in the incident.

Israeli forces frequently raid West Bank towns in search of militants suspected of involvement in attacks against the Jewish state.

MNA/Reuters



A Palestinian hurls stones during clashes with Egyptian forces at the Egyptian border with the Gaza Strip on 4 Feb, 2008. Masked Palestinian gunmen and Egyptian forces exchanged fire on 4 Feb, 2008 at Gaza's border with Egypt, a day after Cairo closed the breached frontier, witnesses said.—INTERNET

US soldier killed by RPG attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 5 Feb — An American soldier was killed when his vehicle was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) in Baghdad, the US military said on Monday.

The attack occurred on Thursday in eastern the capital, a brief military statement said.

The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers killed in Iraq to about 3,945 since the US-led invasion in 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

MNA/Xinhua

Woman killed in suicide bombing in Israel



Israeli police secure the site of a suicide bomb attack in the southern Israeli town of Dimona.

INTERNET

JERUSALEM, 4 Feb — An Israeli woman was killed and 11 people wounded on Monday in a suicide bombing claimed by Palestinian militants at a shopping centre in the desert town of Dimona, the first such attack in a year.

Medics said one sui-

cide bomber was killed in the blast and a second was killed by police shortly after the explosion that rocked the mall in Dimona, site of Israel's top secret nuclear reactor.

It was the first suicide bombing on Israeli soil since the relaunch of Israeli-Palestinian peace

talks at a US conference in November and the first since January last year.

The Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a group loosely linked to Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas' Fatah party, claimed joint responsibility with two other groups.

And the Palestinian Hamas movement which rules the Gaza Strip called the attack a "heroic act" and a "natural response to occupation crimes."

The Magen David Adom medical rescue services said in a statement that the blast killed one civilian and wounded 11, including one seriously, while a police officer told Israeli radio that the dead victim was a woman. —Internet

Chadian President refuses French evacuation offer

PARIS, 5 Feb — Besieged Chadian President Idriss Deby has turned down an offer by France to evacuate him from the country should his life be threatened, a source at the French President's office said Sunday.

"Since Friday, we have

proposed assisting Idriss Deby to leave Chad if he felt his life was in danger but he has refused," said the source, confirming an earlier report by a local radio station. "This offer is still valid," according to the source. According to a journalist working for

French International Radio in the Chadian capital, heavy artillery fire resumed Sunday morning in the capital's city centre, where government forces have been battling an allied rebel forces hostile to the Chadian President.

MNA/Xinhua



French soldiers evacuate foreign nationals in N'Djamena in this photograph released by the French Defence Ministry on 3 Feb, 2008. —INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Indonesia eyes 500,000 units car sales this year

JAKARTA, 5 Feb—Indonesia is expected to increase its car sales this year to 500,000 units, 66,000 units higher than that in 2007, President Director of the biggest dealer in the country Toyota-Astra Motor Johnny Darmawan said here Monday.

The president said that the prediction was sup-

ported by the low interest rate of 8 per cent, the stability of exchange rate and high margin of the market in Indonesia with 240 million population as well as other favourable condition such as new models of cars.

“We expects 500,000 cars sales this year,” he said.

On market shares, the biggest Southeast Asia

economy was still had a large margin compared to other country in the region, said Darmawan.

“Thailand with 60 million population, the sales reached from 700,000 to 800,000 units, while Indonesia with 240 millions people only reached to 434,000 units,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua



People look at a car covered with artificial fur, named ‘Polar Bear’ being exhibited at the annual ‘Kala Ghoda’ (Black Horse arts festival) in Mumbai on 4 Feb, 2008. The nine-day festival showcases Indian art and heritage.—INTERNET



The Japanese company that created the world’s first genetically modified blue roses, seen here, said on 4 Feb it will start selling them next year.

INTERNET

S Korea’s agriculture deficit hits record high in 2007

SEOUL, 5 Feb — South Korea’s agriculture deficit reached a record high at 10.92 billion US dollars in 2007 due to a sharp rise in global grain and feed prices, the state-run Agro-Fisheries Trade Corp said on Monday. In 2006, the country’s agricultural trade deficit in 2006 was 8.68 billion US dollars.

According to the Agro-Fisheries, the agriculture exports gained 10.2 per cent to 2.40 billion US dollars, while imports jumped 22.6 per cent to 13.32 billion US dollars. South Korea’s overall trade surplus topped 15.1 billion US dollars last year, with two-way trade exceeding a record 700 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Google opposes Microsoft’s bid to buy Yahoo

LOS ANGELES, 5 Feb—Internet search giant Google Inc Sunday voiced opposition to Microsoft’s bid to buy Yahoo Inc.

“Microsoft’s hostile bid for Yahoo raises troubling questions,” David Drummond, Google’s chief legal officer, said in remarks posted online.

Microsoft has offered 44.6 billion US dollars to

buy Yahoo Inc in a bid to gain ground on Google in the Internet’s booming search and advertising markets.

If the acquisition materializes, Microsoft and Yahoo would have about 16 per cent of the worldwide Internet search market — still far behind Google’s 62 per cent share, according to comScore Media Metrix.

“This is about more than simply a financial transaction, one company taking over another.

It’s about preserving the underlying principles of the Internet: openness and innovation.”

This was Google’s first official reaction to Microsoft’s acquisition bid. Google views the possible acquisition as Microsoft’s attempt to gain illegal control over the Internet.

MNA/Xinhua

Abu Dhabi plans investment of \$28b

ABU DHABI, 5 Feb — Abu Dhabi, the largest emirate of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will invest a total of 28 billion US dollars to develop its airports, sea port infrastructure and oil and gas output, local newspaper *Khaleej Times* reported on Monday.

The figure was revealed by Nasser Al Sowaidi, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Economic

Department, in a speech at the Abu Dhabi Economic Forum which was opened on Sunday.

“In the next few years, billions of dollars are projected to be pumped in to the economy and currently over 10 billion dollars is being injected into infrastructure projects including the expansion of Abu Dhabi International Airport, The UAE University and Khalifa

Port and Industrial Zone,” he said.

In addition, some 18 billion dollars will be invested in enhancing the emirate’s refining capacity, besides expansion in oil producing and distribution projects, he said, adding that “we seek to establish Abu Dhabi as a key gateway to the region and the world at the economic and trade sectors”. —MNA/Xinhua

Intel to invest over \$1b in India

MUMBAI, 5 Feb — Global chip maker Intel will invest more than one billion US dollars in India over the next three years as it seeks to prepare lightweight personal computers in partnership with Indian and foreign hardware firms.

“We have committed to spend over a billion dollars spread over next three years plus. We are focusing on a number of new initiatives for enabling easy availability of

personal computers (PCs) and broadband Internet in India,” Intel Technology India Director John A McClure said today.

The company is partnering with foreign and Indian computer hardware brands like ASUS Technologies, HCL, Wipro and Zenith for preparing lightweight easy-to-use Internet platforms.

The company is working on different designs for specific market segments. It is also preparing

to introduce Wimax technology in India, the fastest wireless BB technology available at lower cost than optical fiber.

“This is the best technology to bridge the PC-broadband Internet gap in India.

With three million broadband Internet subscription against a PC deployment of 35 million, India has the worst broadband-PC ratio in a large market,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua



A car-fuelling robot is seen fuelling up a car in Emmeloord, central Netherlands, on 4 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Local people are now able to travel from Tamu to Kalay...

(from page 1)

Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe, Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin of Kalay Station and senior military officers, heads of departments and others.

Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived in Tamu from Kalay by helicopter and proceeded to the Border Trade Department Office where they inspected samples of export and import items.

At the BTDO, the Prime Minister and party heard reports on the strength of the staff of the office,

With noble mind

- In serving public interest
- Do not deviate from own way
- Because of slanders
- Just carry it on

(Venerable Shwe Hinthay Sayadaw)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein meeting with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsmen in Tamu. — MNA

objectives and work carried out, trade of exports and imports in 2006-2007 and that in 2007-2008, transit trade and tax collection presented by Director of BTDO U Win Myint and the salient points of the border trade by Chairman of Chamber of Commerce of Tamu U Hla Maung. Next, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun gave a supplementary report.

In response to the reports, the Prime Minister stressed the need for officials concerned to seek means and ways for further development of trade volume between the two countries. He went on to say that chambers of commerce are to make coordinated and integrated efforts for success of mutual trade while striving for export of finished wood products, consumer goods, agricultural produce, meat and fish and

to abide by law, rules and regulations in doing export.

All the staff of the BTDO are to abstain from doing illegal trade, malpractice and corruption and to strive for boosting trade and cementing friendship and cooperation between the two nations, he added.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party looked into development of Tamu, construction of Kangyiwa Bridge in Tamu Myoyhit and upgrading of roads.

On arrival at the Tamu Township People's Hospital (25-bed), the Prime Minister inspected medical store, X-ray unit, laboratory and operation theatre and asked after warded patients.

After making cash donations for the hospital, the Prime Minister met with specialists, doctors, nurses and hospital staff and stressed the importance to impart health knowledge to the people and to take preventive measures against diseases in addition to providing health care services for the people.

Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived at Tamu Township PDC office and met with departmental officials, social organizations, USDA members, merchants and townsmen.

Chairman of Tamu District PDC U Soe Naing reported on the area and population of Tamu, prevalence of law and order, regional development tasks being carried out, construction of roads and schools, establishment of paddy husk-fired power station, cultivation of monsoon and winter crops in 2007-2008, self-sufficiency in rice and edible oil, growing of physic nut and rubber, tax collection, education and health sectors and participation of social organizations in regional development tasks.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that Tamu saw remarkable development coupled with better transport and local people are now able to travel from Tamu to Kalay within the course of a day as Tamu-Kalay-Kalaywa road has already been upgraded in cooperation with India.

(See page 10)

Chambers of commerce are to make coordinated and integrated efforts for success of mutual trade while striving for export of finished wood products, consumer goods, agricultural produce, meat and fish and to abide by law, rules and regulations in doing export.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein greets departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsmen in Tamu. —MNA

Kachin State which has developed significantly in the time of Tatmadaw Government

Sr	Subject	Unit	1988	2007	Progress
1.	Arable land	acre	379512	736637	357125
2.	River water pumping station		-	4	4
3.	Protected public forest	Sq mile	-	3615	3615
4.	Road	Mile	1471	1808	337
5.	Bridge (above 180 feet)		27	65	38
6.	Post office		64	82	18
7.	Telegraph office		20	31	11
8.	Telephone exchange		12	55	43
9.	Microwave station		-	15	15
10.	Hydropower station		1	5	4
11.	Private-owned factory		601	994	393
12.	Basic education school		1178	1379	201
13.	University, college		1	4	3
14.	Technological university/college		-	3	3
15.	University of computer studies		-	2	2
16.	Hospital		35	45	10
17.	Satellite station		-	3	3



Mogaung bridge in Mogaung Township, Myitkyina District, Kachin State, contributes much to smooth transportation of the region.



HAILING THE 61st ANNIVERSARY UNION DAY

The government is implementing projects for development of border areas and national races. Photo shows development of Panwa, Chibwe Township, in Kachin State.

Technological University (Myitkyina)



Students in Kachin State are now able to pursue higher education at Technological University (Myitkyina) in Myitkyina, Kachin State.

HAILING THE 61st ANNIVERSARY UNION DAY

The Union Day Pledge

Chingya (Maubin)



**WILL REMAIN EVER UNITED
WHOEVER CONSPIRES TO DIVIDE US**

On 12 February 1947, the delegates of the national races made a solemn vow to live in an independent Union of Myanmar free from colonial rule. That day was designated as the Union Day and coming Union Day will be the 61st anniversary.

The constitution essential for the independent Myanmar was drafted in 1947. Although it was drafted based on Union Spirit, there was a federal principle in it on demand of or as a compromise to the feudalists. The 1947 constitution was hastily drafted by 111 members of Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League

(AFPFL) at the preliminary conference and it was approved by AFPFL Conference.

Altogether 97 members of Constitution Drafting Commission drafted a new constitution in 1974 because the 1947 constitution was not in a position to guarantee the perpetuation of the Union. But the 1974 constitution was a barrier to perpetuation of the Union as it was drafted based on one-party system.

On the Golden Jubilee Armed Forces Day, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe explained the concepts of the Tatmadaw in connection with the national reconsolidation.

“If the political forces of the country are split, then steps taken to bring peace and tranquillity to the State and tasks undertaken to bring about development will be difficult to implement. Due to the disunity and internal strife, the country greatly lagged behind in development compared to other countries. The Tatmadaw realized that if such conditions continue, the country would not make any further progress from the existing state but would be dragged further down. Therefore the Tatmadaw became responsible to establish national reconsolidation.”

The Tatmadaw believed that it was needed to draft a constitution that would guarantee the perpetuation of the Union in building a democratic

nation in accord with the desire of the people and an enduring constitution would emerge only when it is based on national reconsolidation.

The Tatmadaw has built national reconsolidation based on non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty in cooperation with national race armed groups. Confidence building measures were taken between the Tatmadaw and national race armed groups. As a result, there was peace and stability and security in border areas.

There was no peace and security in those areas for over forty years. The Tatmadaw formed the Central Committee for Development of Border Area and National Races and constituted the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs and assigned duties to them. The Tatmadaw carried out tasks for construction of economic infrastructures and for development of transport, education and health sectors.

The local people are free from insurgency that threatened the social life, hindered the progress of the people in border areas for many years. Their life is now peaceful.

In connection with the elimination of narcotic drugs, the government has laid down 15-year plan and is implementing it with the aim of eliminating drugs that have rooted for over 100 years in border areas as an evil legacy of the colonialists. The plan is under way depending on own strength and resources as the national task. The government has made arrangements for local people who abandoned cultivation of opium enabling them to earn income from alternative sources since 1999-2000. International organizations have accepted and recognized that narcotic drugs production in border areas gradually decreased.

The drug elimination plan has been implemented under three tactics— supply elimination, law enforcement and demand elimination. Efforts are being made for elimination of drugs not only in border areas but in the whole country by 2014.

(See page 9)

A democratic society desired by the State is a society that will safeguard the Union. It is the society that will carry out the national development tasks or enjoy the development results among national races living in weal or woe and it is the society that will serve the interest of the national races. The society of the national races who safeguard the national policy of the State and Our Three Main National Causes— non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty—will emerge soon.

HAILING THE 61st ANNIVERSARY UNION DAY

The Union Day Pledge

Chingya (Maubin)

(from page 8)

The National Convention was first convened from 9 January 1993 to 1996. Eight groups including national race delegates attended it. On 30 August 2003, seven-step Road Map was announced. On 17 May 2004, the National Convention resumed to start implementation of the first phase. Over 1,000 delegates comprising 60 per cent of national race delegates from eight groups discussed and reviewed the past events or historic lessons, present and future situation and laid down the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles to be included in the new constitution.

In connection with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention, internal and external destructive elements made slanders. But it will be found that the already-laid down principles specially guarantee more rights of national people based on the prevailing conditions in Myanmar in comparison with the past constitutions.

A democratic society desired by the State is a society that will safeguard the Union. It is the society that will carry out the national

development tasks or enjoy the development results among national races living in weal or woe and it is the society that will serve the interest of the national races. The society of the national races who safeguard the national policy of the State or Our Three Main National Causes— non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty will emerge soon.

Based on the Union Spirit that was conceived on 12 February 1947, work was done at the National Convention for emergence of the constitution that guarantees the perpetuation of the Union.

Drafting of the constitution is under way based on fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention.

On the 61st Anniversary Union Day which falls on 12 February 2008, let us make a solemn vow to participate in every step towards the genuine discipline-flourishing multiparty democracy system upholding Our Three Main National Causes.

Translation: NY

61st Anniversary Union Day Objectives

- For all the national races to safeguard the national policy— non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty;
- For all the national races to keep Union Spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people;
- For all the national races to defend and safeguard the Union for the perpetual existence;
- For all the national races to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development;
- For all the national races to make endeavours for the emergence of an enduring State Constitution in accord with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention, and
- For all the national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map.

Unity, sole requirement

- * Will remain ever united
Whoever conspires to divide us
- * Will march on in unison
Whoever plots to disturb
- * We fear no one, or intimidation
Will build new nation
- * However much the neo-colonialists
Rock the boat
We are unperturbed
The conviction is firm
- * Strong and forceful are we
Despite instigation and sinister schemes
Manufactured by traitorous elements
Relying on the aliens
Prepared are we to create new era
- * Strength of the nation lies within
United and consolidated, all in amity
On the march to common goal
This process no one can stop
- * For years countable by thousands
In long history
Much like offspring of same parents
Helping each other
Sharing joys and sorrows
Ancestors redoubled efforts and left us
The golden land to inherit
Now stands as "Union"
Symbol of united strength
Upkeep is our duty to be done without fail
- * Shall not let national defences smashed
Shall not allow national image tarnished
Shall not make nation's history iglorious
Let's enhance traditions, glory
By improving them further
To make national spirit and courage
Known to the world
National goal not far off
Follow the correct path and
It is bound to be achieved
On the march in unison
Unity, sole requirement.

(Hailing the 61st Anniversary Union Day)
Zaw Min Min Oo
(Translation)

Union Spirit



**Traitorous elements
relying on aliens
& internal/external
destructionists**

Kaung Kaung

Local people are now able to travel...

(from page 6)

With better transport, peace and tranquillity prevailed in the region, making the town to be able to keep pace with changes and developments and to enjoy sound administrative machinery, he said.

As the government is making all-out efforts for bringing about equitable development across the nation, Tamu is now on the right track of development like other towns in the border, he said and spoke of the need to try hard with patriotism for development of trade and commerce in the region.

The Prime Minister called on officials concerned and local people to do their bit for successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map, putting in the fore Our Three Main National Causes as national duty at a time when relentless efforts are being made for development of education, health and social sectors, for realization of the 24 development zones and the five rural development tasks and for bringing about equitable development the length and breadth of the nation.

Next, the Prime Minister cordially greeted those present on the occasion.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister and party arrived back in Kalay by helicopter.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects People's Hospital in Tamu. — MNA

New roads put into commission to hail 61st Anniversary Union Day



Officials formally open a gravel road in Meethwetaik Village.

PBANRDA

YANGON, 5 Feb—The main road in Kangyidaunt Township, Ayeyawady Division, upgraded by Kangyidaunt Township Development Affairs Committee was opened at the archway of the transport facility this morning, to hail the 61st Anniversary Union Day.

The ceremony was attended by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe and CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt.

Kangyidaunt Township Development Affairs Committee implemented the laying of asphalt on the road. The 1550-foot-long road linking urban and rural areas contributes towards smooth transport for 34,800 local people.

The commander and the minister also attended the opening of the Meethwetaik-Bagосу village gravel road in Kyaunggon Township.

The one-mile-long earth road was upgraded to a gravel one with the funds of Kyaunggon Township Development Affairs Committee in 2007-2008 fiscal year. It helps improve the living conditions of 3,152 local people.

The minister met local

residents at the Bagосу Village Basic Education Primary School in the township. He clarified matters on three special development projects being implemented by the State government.

In meeting with secretaries and executives of Division/District/Township USDAs at Ayeyawady Division USDA yesterday, the minister elaborated on objectives and future programmes of the Association, its participation in regional development tasks, code of moral conduct of the USDA members, organizational measures and leadership role of the association.

MNA

Hotels & Tourism Minister inspects Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Feb — Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Shwenandaw Hotel, Soe Naing inspected hotels in the hotel zone in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the

inspection tour, the minister visited Shwenaeth Hotel, Shwe Myanmar Hotel and Kumudra Hotel. Minister Thingaha Hotel and Myattawwin Hotel in the zone yesterday morning.

In the afternoon, the minister inspected

Shwenaeth Hotel, Shwe Myanmar Hotel and Kumudra Hotel. Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing also visited Amarapura Hotel construction site of IGE Hotel Construction Project. — MNA

Multiplier course on poultry farming and bio-safety conducted



Dr Win Myint of Bago Division (West) LBVD delivers address at opening of multiplier course on poultry farming and bio-safety in Letpadan. — MNA

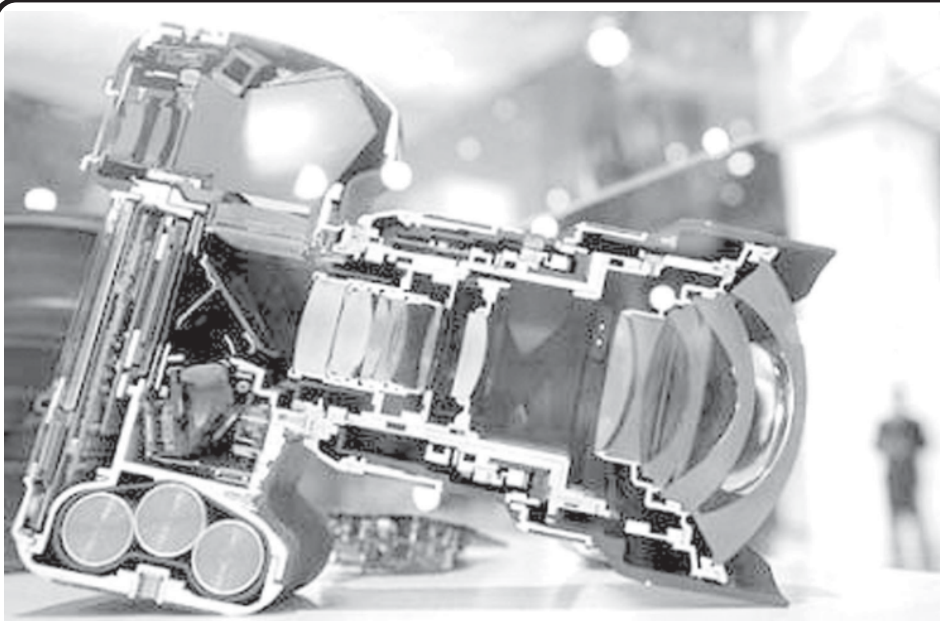
YANGON, 4 Feb—A multiplier course on poultry farming and bio-safety was launched under the programme co-organized by the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and FAO, Letpadan Union Solidarity and Development Association in Thayawady District, Bago Division

(West) on 27 January.

Chairman of Township Committee for Control of Bird Flu Outbreak Secretary of Township Peace and Development Council U Thet Khaing, Division Head Deputy Director Dr Win Myint, Assistant Director Dr Win Htut, and Staff Officer of Letpadan

Township Dr Maung Maung Yi made speeches. Departmental heads, members of non-governmental organizations and personnel of township livestock breeding enterprises were present on the occasion. Forty trainees completed the three-day course.

MNA



The photo shows a crosscut of a Nikon D3 digital camera at the trade show of PMA08 in Las Vegas, on 31 Jan, 2008. PMA08 which is held between on 31 Jan and 2 Feb, 2008 kicks open its doors to showcase the latest photo innovations with participation of camera producers from all over the world.—XINHUA PHOTO



A Christie's employee holds a painting by Spanish artist Pablo Picasso entitled 'Femme au Chapeau', 1938, at the Christie's auction house impressionist and modern art sale in London in January 2008. More than 100 million pounds (133 million euros, 197 million dollars) worth of impressionist and modern art changed hands Monday evening at a Christie's auction that kicked off a week packed with sales.—INTERNET



Snow and ice sculptures are illuminated at the Sapporo Snow Festival in Sapporo, northern Japan, on 5 Feb, 2008. The festival which displays about 300 snow and ice sculptures started on Tuesday and is expected to attract some 2 million visitors until February 11, organisers said.—INTERNET



South Indian dancers perform at the rear of the historic Taj Mahal monument during a programme to promote tourism in the northern Indian city of Agra, on 3 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET



Visitors walk in the snow at Yuyuan Garden, one of the most popular tourism sites in town, on 28 Jan, 2008 in Shanghai, China. China's government promised Monday to increase output of gasoline, coal and power to ease shortages amid severe winter weather that has forced rationing in some areas. The announcement came as coal prices hit a record high on Monday and heavy snows blocked deliveries to power plants.—INTERNET

Images of the Day

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Most popular Hawaii state parks on Kauai

KAUAI, 5 Feb—A new survey by the Hawaii Tourism Authority shows four of the state's 10 most popular state parks are on Kauai: Wailua State Park, Haena State Park; Waimea Canyon; and the Napali Coast.

The most frequently visited park site, however, is the Pali Lookout on Oahu, also known as Nu'uuanu Pali State Wayside. Also on the list are Diamond Head, Oahu; Makena State Park, Maui; Hapuna Beach State Recreation Area, Big Island; Iao Valley State Monument, Maui; and Ka'ena Point State Park, Oahu.

The survey conducted for the authority by OmniTrack Group Inc covers 55 state parks on all islands. Researchers randomly visited park sites and surveyed visitors between July and October.

About two-thirds of all

visitors were from out of state, with 86 percent of those from North America. Only 5 percent of park visitors were Japanese.—*Internet*

Bad weather keeps sea cable repair ship in Abu Dhabi

MUMBAI, 5 Feb—Bad weather has prevented a repair ship from setting off to mend one of three broken undersea cables providing Internet services to parts of the Middle East and Asia, an Indian-owned cable operator said.

FLAG Telecom, a wholly-owned subsidiary of India's No 2 mobile operator Reliance Communications said on its website a ship loaded with spares was waiting in Abu Dhabi port to sail to a break in its FALCON cable, which was cut off the coast of Dubai on Friday. "However due to bad weather, the port authorities have not permitted any ships to sail. As soon as weather clears, the ship will sail to the repair ground," FLAG said in its latest update, which it said was for 0600 GMT on 2 February.

A spokesman for Reliance Communications was unable to give a more recent update.

Undersea cable connections were initially disrupted off Egypt's northern coast on Wednesday, affecting Internet access in the Gulf region and south Asia, and forcing service providers to re-route traffic.

MNA/Reuters

US close to decision on polar bears

LOS ANGELES, 5 Feb—The Bush Administration is about to acknowledge officially that polar bears are threatened with extinction because of global warming, reports said Sunday.

"The Interior Department may act as soon as this week on its year-old proposal to make the polar bear the first species to be listed as threatened with extinction because of melting ice due to a warming planet," the *Los Angeles Times* said in a report on its website.

Conservationists have used the Endangered Species Act as a lever to force federal limits on greenhouse gases linked to global warming, and

possibly to battle smok-estack industry projects far from the Arctic, said the report.

Now both the federal government and conservationists would agree that polar bears could be the first species to fall victim to global warming. "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others," said Kassie Siegel, an attorney with the nonprofit Centre for Biological Diversity. "And then there is the polar bear," he added in a play on the famous line from George Orwell's political novel, *Animal Farm*.

Federal government scientists have presented increasingly compelling

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 P.O. Box 60, Yangon
 Dated: 6 February 2008

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 Yangon. 6 February 2008

Two children die in Brazil carnival truck crash

RIO DE JANEIRO, 5 Feb—At least two children died and 12 others were injured early Sunday in Belo Horizonte, capital of Brazilian state Minas Gerais, when a carnival truck hit a group of people dancing in the street, police said.

Police said the truck, which had been converted into an "electric throne" to carry orchestras, suffered a brake failure on a hillside and crushed those in its path.

A six-year-old boy and a 17-year-old girl died immediately on the scene, while another 12 people, including a 13-year-old girl, were taken to nearby hospitals. The dead girl's mother had to have her arm amputated after the crash.

Police said they had taken the truck's driver, Marcio Aparecido Sivla, after the accident, saying they will release him once the causes of the accidents have been determined.

MNA/Xinhua

Afghan police kill three Taleban fighters

KABUL, 4 Feb—Afghan police backed by NATO's air power have cleared several villages from Taleban insurgents in Afghanistan's southern Uruzgan Province besides eliminating three rebels, a statement of Afghanistan Interior Ministry said on Saturday.

"In the operation launched 10 days ago and supported by NATO aircraft in Deh Rawad District, three militants have been killed and several villages have been cleaned up of militants," the statement added.

A huge quantity of arms and ammunition and three wireless sets have also been seized by the police, it further stressed.

The mop up would continue till the complete elimination of Deh Rawad and adjoining area from the rebels, the statement emphasized.

Taleban have yet to make comment.

More than 6,000 people had been killed in the bloodiest year in 2007 since the collapse of Taleban regime six years ago in Afghanistan.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Thailand to closely monitor bird flu

BANGKOK, 4 Feb—Thailand's Public Health Ministry said on Sunday that it was necessary to closely monitor the bird flu situation in the next few months as there was possible risk of an outbreak.

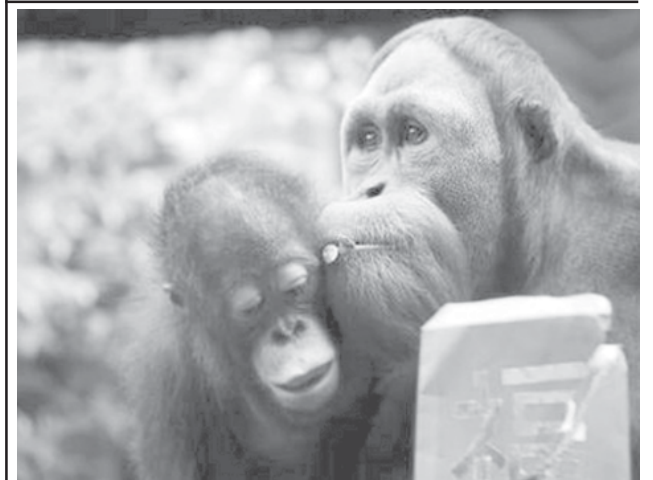
Deputy Permanent Secretary for Public Health Phaijit Varachit was quoted by the *Thai News Agency* as saying that the ministry needed to closely monitor the bird flu situation in Thailand because there were still poultry and human cases of the avian flu in other countries.

He added the cold weather in many parts of the world was prompting wild birds to migrate to Thailand.

He has instructed public health officials to work closely with husbandry officials and other local officials to prevent bird flu from further spreading among poultry and humans in Thailand.

Phaijit said more than 800,000 public health volunteers across the country were visiting villagers at their houses to track any possible bird flu infection and prevent an outbreak. He urged people to abstain from slaughtering sick chickens for consumption, particularly during the Chinese New Year celebrations.

Commenting on 31 people under 14 day surveillance after coming into direct contact with poultry in Thailand's Nakhon Sawan and Phichit provinces where avian flu was detected in chickens, Phaijit said none had tested positive for bird flu.—*MNA/Xinhua*



Orangutans Merlin (L) and Satria eat melon seeds from a "hong bao" at the Singapore Zoo on 4 Feb, 2008. "Hong baos" are red packets usually containing money given out during Chinese New Year celebrations. Orangutan means "man of the forest" in Malay.—INTERNET

သစ်တောသစ်ပင်
 ချစ်ခင်တဲ့လူမျိုး၊
 သစ်ပင်ကို
 နှစ်စဉ်စိုက်
 ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုး။

Mobile phones, coffee unlikely to cause cancer

CANBERRA, 5 Feb — Drinking coffee, using mobile phones or having breast implants is unlikely to cause cancer, according to a risk ranking system devised by an Australian cancer specialist to debunk popular myths. The cancer risk assessment reaffirms smoking, alcohol and exposure to sunlight as leading risk factors, but allays concerns about coffee, mobile phones, deodorants, breast im-

plants and water with added flouride.

The five-point system created by University of New South Wales Professor Bernard Stewart lists the risk of cancer from proven and likely, to inferred, unknown or unlikely. "Our tool will help establish if the level of risk is high, say on a par with smoking, or unlikely such as using deodorants, artificial sweeteners, drinking coffee," Stewart

said. He found active smokers and ex-smokers to be the most at risk, although the risk is reduced for people who quit smoking.

Drinking alcohol was also a high risk factor, particularly for people who also smoke, although Stewart said no specific type of alcoholic drink was most strongly to blame.

Drinking chlorinated water and using a mobile phone was far less likely to cause cancer, Stewart said, although the risks associated with the long-term use of mobile phones had not been fully established.

MNA/Reuters



A general view of Chenzhou through a window in China's southern Hunan province on 5 Feb, 2008. The city of four million has been without electricity for ten days.—INTERNET

Chile evacuates residents from volcano's edge

SANTIAGO, 4 Feb — Chilean authorities evacuated 20 residents near the Llaima volcano on Sunday as it spilled lava and ash a month after a fiery eruption.

"There are slight lava and ash emissions ... we evacuated 20 residents as a preventive measure," Miguel Munoz, a spokesman for Chile's national emergency services agency, told Reuters.

Llaima is one of Chile's most active volcanoes and is in the Araucania Region in the nation's south, about 435 miles (700 kilometres) south of the capital Santiago.

The volcano erupted on New Year's Day, sending up a huge plume of smoke and coating the surrounding wilderness park with ash, forcing the evacuation of dozens of tourists. — MNA/Reuters

China transplants heart, liver, kidney into same patient

XI'AN, 4 Feb — A Chinese hospital said on Sunday it had successfully transplanted a heart, liver and kidney into one patient, the first such operation in the country.

The transplant lasted 16 hours and ended early on Sunday morning. The 47-year-old female patient had come around and was recovering, said Dr Dou Kefeng of the Xijing Hospital hepatobiliary surgery department.

The hospital in Xi'an, capital of the northwestern Shaanxi Province, is known for conducting the first face transplant in China, the second globally, in 2006.

The multi-transplant patient was diagnosed

with uraemia and liver cancer when she came to the hospital on 8 January. However, doctors found a dilated cardiomyopathy, a disorder of the heart muscle, while planning the kidney and liver transplants.

This meant she required a new heart first. Dou said the patient was in critical and could have died before the Spring Festival that falls on Thursday if the transplants were not undertaken. The hospital decided to conduct the surgery at the request of the patient and her family. It wrote off the operation cost as the family from a small Shaanxi Province village could not afford to pay.

MNA/Xinhua



A model displays fall fashion from Ports 1961 during Fashion Week in New York, on 4 Feb, 2008. INTERNET

Russian Navy to build up presence in strategic areas

MOSCOW, 5 Feb — Russia will build up its presence in the strategic areas of the world, including the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, Navy Commander Admiral Vladimir Vysotsky said on Sunday.

"We'll do all we can to build up our presence where Russia has strategic interests," RIA news agency quoted the senior officer as saying at the Northern Fleet's base Severomorsk, in the Arctic Circle.

"What is important is that we have appeared (in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean) at a scheduled time and not just that we appeared there," he said while commenting a joint Air Force and Navy exercise in the Mediterranean Sea and the North Atlantic.

The 12-day war game and two-month manoeuvre was the first large-scale Russian Navy exercise in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean in 15 years.

MNA/Xinhua

Lebanese Army arrests 17 over Beirut bloody riots

BEIRUT, 4 Feb — The Lebanese Army on Saturday arrested 17 people over killing of seven protestors in Beirut a week ago, the official National News Agency reported.

Those detained included three officers, two non-commissioned officers, six soldiers and six civilians, said the report.

The military police ordered the arrests in light of the riots that took place on Sunday in the southern suburb of Beirut, a statement released by the

military prosecutor's office was quoted as saying.

The Sunday bloody riots, which left seven people dead and about 30 others injured, occurred after angry protestors began burning tires and blocking some major roads.

The protests against electricity rationing quickly degenerated into street violence and the Army deployed to prevent the unrest from spreading into other areas.

MNA/Xinhua



A Thai-Chinese woman passes a shop selling Chinese New Year decorations in China town in Bangkok, Thailand on 5 Feb, 2008. Chinese will celebrate their lunar New Year of the Rat on 7 Feb.—INTERNET

SPORTS



David Beckham and his Galaxy teammate Peter Vanegas practice during the first training session in Carson, California on 4 Feb, 2008.
INTERNET

Hiddink accuses club coaches of self interest

BELEK (Turkey), 5 Feb — Guus Hiddink has accused some of his fellow coaches of self interest in the latest club versus country row that has threatened Russia's preparations for the Euro 2008 finals.

With Russia not playing a game this week, Spartak Moscow coach Stanislav Cherchesov refused to allow striker Roman Pavlyuchenko and winger Vladimir Bystrov to attend the national team's training camp in Turkey's Mediterranean resort of Belek.

Russian FA chief Vitaly Mutko had to ask Spartak's billionaire owner Leonid Fedun to intervene and both Pavlyuchenko and Bystrov were eventually allowed to fly to Belek.

"Of course, I'm disappointed," the Dutchman told Reuters. "When we first

announced our plans to hold this training camp soon after we qualified for the (Euro 2008) finals, all premier league clubs gave their approval.

"Then, suddenly some clubs decided to change their mind. I don't think it's fair." "It also shows disrespect to the national team.

"We're trying hard to put together the best Russian team, so that it can compete on equal terms with all the major European powers and we need everyone pulling together, not trying to disrupt our preparation."

Other club coaches, including Dick Advocaat of Russian champions Zenit St Petersburg, and CSKA Moscow boss Valery Gazzayev were also initially reluctant to release their players.

MNA/Reuters

Fortunate bounce sees Egypt into semi-final

KUMASI, 5 Feb — A fortunate bounce off the body of striker Amr Zaki was enough to ensure Egypt retained hopes of a successful African Nations Cup title defence with a 2-1 win over Angola in their quarter-final on Monday.

Zaki's 38th-minute goal proved the winner at Kumasi's Baba Yara Stadium, setting up a semi-final with the Ivory Coast at the same venue on Thursday. Egypt took the lead with a Hosni Abd Rabou penalty in the 23rd minute but Angola equalized soon after with a superb dipping shot by Manucho.

The semi-final will be repeat of the 2006 final in Cairo, which the Egyptians won on penalties.

MNA/Reuters

Germany to get bonus for winning Euro 2008

BERLIN, 5 Feb — German players will receive a bonus of 250,000 euros (370,400 US dollars) a man if they win Euro 2008 in Austria and Switzerland, the German Football Association (DFB) said on Monday.

The bonus scheme, agreed after captain Michael Ballack and senior players Jens Lehmann, Miroslav Klose and Bernd Schneider met with the DFB on Sunday, will see each squad member receive 50,000 euros each if they make it through the first phase.

That will rise to 100,000 euros for reaching the semi-finals and 150,000 euros if they lose in the final.

To get the full quarter of a million each, Germany will have to win the tournament for the fourth time, following successes in 1972 and 1980 as West Germany and 1996 as a united country.

MNA/Reuters



Angola's Andre Macanga breaks past Egypt's Ahmed Fathi during their African Nations Cup quarter-finals soccer match in Kumasi on 4 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Fiorentina coach takes Italian manager award

ROME, 5 Feb — Fiorentina's Cesare Prandelli has won the Golden Bench award for Italy's best club coach for the second consecutive year.

The award, based on the votes of fellow coaches, reflects the Florence side's sixth-place finish last season despite a 15-point penalty for their role in Italy's 2006 match-fixing scandal.

"I'm very satisfied. It's a reward for the team's effort to overcome the handicap," the 50-year-old told Sky television.

"A coach can do his job well when he works with great players, not outstanding talents but great human beings, real men who never let you down."

Fiorentina are fourth in Serie A with 37 points from 21 games. MNA/Reuters



Mejdi Traoui of Tunisia (L) challenges Timothee Atouba (R) of Cameroon during their quarter-final match at the African Nations Cup soccer tournament in Tamale, on 4 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Struggling Recreativo Huelva sack coach Munoz

MADRID, 5 Feb — Recreativo Huelva have sacked coach Victor Munoz after a poor run of form, the Primera Liga club said on their Web site (www.recreativohuelva.com) on Monday.

The Andalusian side lost 2-1 at home to regional rivals Sevilla on Sunday for their seventh league game without a win.

That result saw them slip to 19th in the 20-team league, one point from safety.

Munoz, who has coached Villarreal, Real Zaragoza and Panathinaikos among others, had been in the post since July. —MNA/Reuters

Modest Guaratingueta set Sao Paulo C'ship pace

RIO DE JANEIRO, 5 Feb — Guaratingueta, a modest team from the interior of Sao Paulo, beat Guarani 3-1 on Sunday to lead the state championship race on 15 points.

Guaratingueta have opened up a two-point gap over second-placed Ponte Preta who ground out a goalless draw with third-placed Sao Paulo.

On-loan Inter Milan striker Adriano missed a string of chances for Sao Paulo and told reporters: "There's nothing to say really. It was obvious that it was difficult out there."

Santos could only draw 1-1 with Paulista and remain in the drop zone on

five points.

Palmeiras lost 1-0 to Noroeste but coach Wanderlei Luxemburgo was not too upset.

"I'm relatively satisfied compared with other games because the team played with the kind of fighting spirit I like to see," he said.

In the Rio de Janeiro championship Botafogo battled to a thrilling 3-2 win over Vasco da Gama, played out against the backdrop of the city's carnival celebrations.

Vasco hitback after trailing 2-0 and seemed to be in the driving seat after Ze Carlos was sent off following a dangerous tackle.

But Botafogo struck back and hit the winner with a penalty converted by Lucio Flavio awarded when Fabio fell in the area.

MNA/Reuters

Drogba misses award for shunning ceremony

SEKONDI (Ghana), 5 Feb — Ivory Coast striker Didier Drogba did not win the 2007 African Footballer of the Year award because he refused to attend Friday's ceremony in Lome, his team said on Monday.

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) had planned to give the award to the Chelsea forward but decided not to after he said he would not travel to the Togolese capital to collect it, Ivory Coast team spokesman Jean-Claude Djacus told Reuters.

Drogba is currently playing in the African Nations Cup in Ghana with Ivory Coast who have reached the semi-finals.

The award went to Mali striker Frederic Kanoute.

MNA/Reuters



Germany's Sabine Lisicki returns the ball to Ashley Harkleroad of the US during their match at the Fed Cup tennis tournament quarterfinal in La Jolla, California on 4 Feb, 2008.—INTERNET

Iran launches first space research centre

TEHERAN, 5 Feb — Iran launched its first home-built space research centre on Monday in Teheran in presence of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the official IRNA news agency reported.

“The launch of the first space research unit would be great stride to serve the mankind and would lead to Iran’s exaltation and progress,” Ahmadinejad was quoted as saying.

The country’s first space research centre comprises of Omid (Hope) satellite — Iran’s first homemade research satellite which has been designed and constructed by Iranian experts, IRNA

reported. The Omid satellite will be launched in the near future, it added.

According to Iran’s state television, Ahmadinejad, who was accompanied by Defence Minister Mostafa Mohammad Najjar, visited the ground station and the satellite launch pad at the complex, located in Iran Electronics Industries Co (Sa-Iran) in Teheran.

The project for the

Omid satellite took 10 years for the Iranian experts to accomplish and the satellite itself is designed to function in a low earth orbit system, the report said.

In February 2007, Iran joined the international space-faring community when it successfully tested a rocket that went into space as part of its drive to launch five satellites into orbit by 2010, it said.

MNA/Reuters



A rocket takes off from an unidentified location in Iran in this video grab on 4, Feb, 2008. —INTERNET

Lebanese man killed in gunfire from Israel

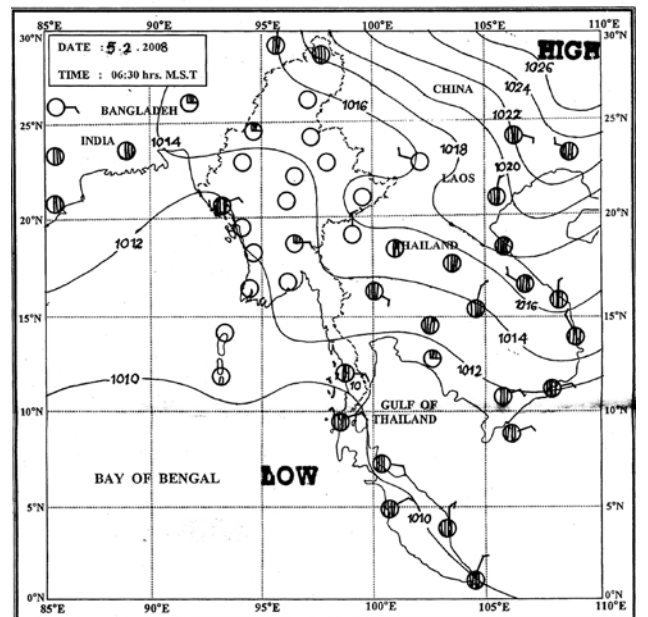
BEIRUT, 5 Feb — A Lebanese man was killed on Sunday in south Lebanon when Israeli forces opened fire from northern Israel, a security source in Lebanon said.

A second Lebanese man was seriously wounded in the shooting.

An Israeli Army spokesman said gunmen in Lebanon had opened fire on Israeli troops across the border. He said the incident involved three drug smugglers who had crossed into Israel.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 5 February, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers has been isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Mon States upper Sagaing Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below February average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and about February average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (-1°C), Haka (1°C), Pinlaung, Heho and Mogok (3°C) each, Lashio and PyinOoLwin (4°C) each, The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myeik (0.40) inch.

Maximum temperature on 4-2-2008 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 5-2-2008 was 64°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 5-2-2008 was 67%. Total sunshine hours on 4-2-2008 was (8.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 5-2-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (0.67) inch at Mingaladon, (0.47) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.35) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northwest at (17:30) hours MST on 4-2-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 6-2-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Mon States, upper Sagaing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%)

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperature in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 6-2-2008: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-2-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-2-2008: Fair weather.



Wednesday, 6 February
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music
-It'll be me
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music
-Oh, lonesome me
- 8:50 am National news/
Slogan
- 9:00 am Music
- It's you
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music
-Destiny
- 1:30 pm News/ Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music
-Up where we belong
-My immortal
- 9:00 pm Variations on a tune
-“Just the way you are”
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25 pm Music at your request
-Especially for you
-A Guy is a gay
- 9:45 pm News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

Wednesday, 6 February
View on today

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:55 am</p> <p>5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက</p> <p>8:05 am</p> <p>6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:10 am</p> <p>7. (ဝေ)နှစ်မြောက်ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. တံတားမြစ်ငယ်အသစ်သွယ်လှမှုစီးပွားကြွယ်</p>	<p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Let's Go</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ-ပထမနှစ် (မြန်မာမှုပညာအထူးပြု) (မြန်မာမှုပညာ)</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. Song of national races</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. (ဝေ)နှစ်မြောက်ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. Classical song</p> <p>5:25 pm</p> <p>7. (ဝေ)နှစ်မြောက်ပြည်ထောင်စုနေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>5:35 pm</p> <p>8. ရသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်</p> <p>6:00 pm</p> <p>9. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>10. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm</p> <p>11. မြန်မာလေ့ရိုးရာလက်စွဲ</p>	<p>6:50 pm</p> <p>12. “ဆုံဆည်းခွင့်” (မင်းထက်ကျော်စင်၊ ဖိုးသောကြာ၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်၊ ရုတ်သုတေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ သိန်းဟန်(ဖီးနစ်))</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>13. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်</p> <p>7:25 pm</p> <p>14. The mirror images of the musical oldies</p> <p>7:35 pm</p> <p>15. ရှုဖွယ်စုံညီမြန်မာပြည်</p> <p>7:45 pm</p> <p>16. ပြည်ထောင်စုစိတ်ဓာတ်မပြတ် ရင့်သန်ခိုင်မာစေရန်မှာဒီဝန်တာ (အသီးတစ်ရာအညာတစ်ခု ဒို့ပြည်ထောင်စု)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>17. News</p> <p>18. International news</p> <p>19. Weather report</p> <p>20. FRANZ HARARAY'S MAGIC PLANET</p> <p>21. “အရက်ဦး၏ပုံရိပ်များ” (ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ သင်းသင်းယုလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်ဝဏ္ဏ)</p> <p>22. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးပိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာတာဝန်ပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်</p> <p>23. The next day's programme</p>
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People's Desire

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

Commander visits river water pumping projects in Yangon North District

YANGON, 5 Feb—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win yesterday afternoon looked into the supply of water from Gyogon river water pumping project to 1000 acres of farmlands in Htantabin Township, tasks being carried out for growing summer paddy in the fields of

3000 acres with water from Yaybaw-thaung river water pumping project and in 5000 acres with water from Thabyedan river water pumping project in Taikkyi Township, and repairing of Tawlate-Ai-galaung road section.

He viewed the pumping of water from the main canal of Ai-galaung river water pumping project to irrigate 5000 acres in

Taikkyi Township, the two-acre model maize plantation and two-acre model groundnut plantation of farmer U Aung Kyaw, and the district nursery in the compound of Taikkyi Township Development Affairs Committee.

In 2007-2008 cultivation season, plans are being made to put more than 70,000 acres under sum-

merpaddy, more than 6,300 acres under edible oil crops, more than 41,900 acres under beans and pulses and more than 3,000 acres under maize in Taikkyi Township in Yangon North District.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspects Ai-galaung river water pumping project in Taikkyi Township. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sends message of sympathy to PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Feb—General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of sympathy to His Excellency Mr Wen Jiabao, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China for the great loss of life and property caused by the heavy snow storm in some provinces of the People's Republic of China.—MNA

Weather Forecast for 6-2-2008

NayPyiTaw and neighbouring area
Fair weather.
Yangon and neighbouring area
Generally fair weather.
Mandalay and neighbouring area
Fair weather.

Significant night temperatures

Loilem	(-1°C)
Haka	(1°C)
Pinlaung, Heho and Mogok	(3°C)
Lashio and PyinOoLwin	(4°C)

SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL 61st ANNIVERSARY UNION DAY

Article

The Union Day Pledge

On 12 February 1947, the delegates of the national races made a solemn wish to live in an independent Union of Myanmar free from colonial rule. That day was designated as the Union Day and coming Union Day will be the 61st anniversary.



Kachin State which has developed significantly in the time of the Tatmadaw Government



POEM

Unity, sole requirement
* Will remain ever united
Whoever conspires to divide us
* Will march on in unison
Whoever plots to disturb

CARTOON

