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Tuesday, 2 December, 2008

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Laotian President

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—On the occasion of the 33rd Anniversary of the Founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2008, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Mr Choummaly Sayasone, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates UAE President

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Khalifa Bin Zayid Al Nuhayyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates which falls on 2 December 2008.

MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends message of felicitations to Laotian Vice-President

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—On the occasion of the 33rd Anniversary of the Founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2008, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Mr Bounnhang Vorachit, Vice-President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends message of felicitations to Vice-President of UAE

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Muhammad Bin Rashid Al Maktum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December 2008.—MNA

State aims to build up industrial nation based on agricultural sector

Prime Minister addresses meeting on development of agricultural sector and boosting of export items



Prime Minister General Thein Sein addresses the coordination meeting on development of agricultural sector and boosting of export items.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec – A coordination meeting on development of agricultural sector and boosting of export items took place at the Government Office here this afternoon with an address by Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

The meeting was attended by ministers, directors-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office and the Government Office, departmental heads, chairmen and vice-chairmen of industrial zones, entrepreneurs from fish-

ery, edible oil palm, bio-ethanol and rubber businesses and officials.

Addressing the meeting, the Prime Minister said the State has aimed to build up an industrialized nation based on the agricultural sector. Most of the rich nations are industrialized ones. Myanmar has a lot of natural resources to build up an industrialized nation. Nonetheless, it has not been in a position to achieve the goal quickly as there is

(See page 8)



PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 2 December, 2008

Fully equip people with nationalistic fervour through might of pen

Literature is a source of national culture. Being the cultural pillar of each and every citizen literature highlights the cultural status of the State and the people of a particular nation.

In the course of Myanmar history, men of letters have had the right to inherit the legacy of Myanmar literature. Thus, they are to hand down the national legacy to the new generation youths. Meanwhile, they need to exert constant efforts for the development of Myanmar literature.

While making all-out efforts for the development of Myanmar literature, the government chooses the masterpieces of literature and holds a ceremony to present handsome prizes to the men of letters yearly.

The authorities concerned announced the winners of the Life-long National Literary Award and the National Literary Award the other day. The awards cover novel genre, collected short stories genre, collected poems genre, belles-letter genre, literature on Myanmar culture and fine arts genre, child literature genre, youth literature genre, translation (knowledge) genre, translation (aesthetics) genre, general knowledge (arts) genre and general knowledge (applied science) genre.

It is incumbent upon all the men of letters to widen the scope of knowledge of the people so that they can keep pace with changes and developments. At the same time, they are to equip the people with national outlooks and nationalistic fervour through the might of their pen.

Today, efforts are being made for the development of Myanmar literature. At such a time, the onus is on the literati to serve the best interest of the State and the people by producing literature depicting nationalistic spirit and nationalistic fervour.

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

Foreign Minister sends message of felicitations to Laotian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—On the occasion of the 33rd Anniversary of the Founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2008, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Dr Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.—MNA

Foreign Minister sends message of felicitations to UAE counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Mr Abdallah bin Zayed Al-Nuhayyan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December 2008.

MNA

Tasks of IWT, Yangon International Airport inspected



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspects berthing of Z-crafts at Pansodan/Dalla jetty of Inland Water Transport.—MNA

YANGON, 1 Dec—Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe on 29 November visited the passenger lounge at Pansodan/Dalla jetty of Inland Water Transport and inspected sales of tickets, berthing of Z-craft and vessels in Yangon River.

At Lanmadaw Morton jetty, the minister viewed passengers and loading of commodities onto vessel Bandaka that would leave Yangon for Labutta. At the office of Delta Division, Managing Director U Soe Tint of IWT reported on waterways to Ayeyawady Division and condition of vessels, salvage of sunken vessels and repair of ships, Assistant General Manager

U Myo Naing, on running of vessels and income, Managing Director U Thein Htay, on repairing of jetties.

The minister gave necessary instructions.

At Yangon International Airport, the minister inspected arrival of passengers and checking with the use of X-ray machine.

In meeting with staff, the minister heard reports on security of the airport by Airport General Manager U Khin Maung Myint. After giving instructions, the minister inspected the freight division, the ground service division and the mechanical division.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe looks into Women's Development Centre.—MNA

Minister visits disabled adult training school

YANGON, 1 Dec—Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe visited Women's Development Centre in Kamayut Township on 28 November.

At the Women's Development Centre, Daw Khin Win Nwe, head of the centre, reported to the minister on teaching vocational subjects for women, employment and resettlement. Next, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe gave instructions, and went

weaving workshop, sculpture workshop, sale centre, quarters and the mess hall.

The minister went to Social Welfare Training School on Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township where Principal U Aye Kyaw of the disabled adult training school reported on training courses on electronic, hair cutting, photography, sewing, lacing and computer. Principal of the disabled youth training school Daw Yi Mar Tin on teaching

for disabled youths, and In-charge of the home for disabled youth Daw Than Than Nwe on nursing for disabled youth.

The minister instructed officials to teach advanced vocational subjects and to cooperate with INGOs and NGOs.

Afterwards, the minister inspected training courses for computer, photography, sewing, lacing, hair cutting, radio and electronic at the training school of disabled adult and nursery for disabled.—MNA

Iraq: bombs kill more than 30 in Baghdad, Mosul

BAGHDAD, 1 Dec — A series of bombs struck US and Iraqi security forces in Baghdad and the northern city of Mosul on Monday, killing at least 32 people and wounding dozens more, Iraqi officials said.

At least 16 people were killed and 46 wounded in a nearly simultaneous double bombing near a police academy in eastern Baghdad.

In Mosul, a suicide car bomber detonated his explosives as a joint US-Iraqi convoy drove by in a crowded commercial area, a police officer said. The officer also declined to be identified for the same reason.

At least 15 people — most civilians — were killed

and 30 wounded in that attack, the officer said. An official at the morgue where the bodies were taken confirmed the death toll.

Earlier Monday, a senior Defense Ministry official was wounded in a roadside bomb attack that killed one of his bodyguards, Iraqi military spokesman Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi said.

Internet

A man injured in a twin bombing near the entrance to a police academy is helped out of hospital, in Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, 1 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET



NATO trucks attacked in Pakistan; bomber kills eight

PESHAWAR (Pakistan), 1 Dec — Militants in northwestern Pakistan attacked trucks ferrying supplies to NATO and US forces in Afghanistan on Monday, killing two people and destroying a dozen vehicles, witnesses and police said.

Meanwhile, a suicide bomber killed eight people and wounded 40 others at a military checkpoint in the region's Swat Valley, police said.



A Pakistani examines burnt trucks caused by insurgents' attack at the Faisal terminal in Peshawar, Pakistan, on 1 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET

The attack on the US-led coalition trucks took place at a terminal in Peshawar, which sits along the supply route from Pakistan to Afghanistan. The city has seen an upsurge in violence in recent weeks, including the slaying of an American working on a US-funded aid project. Several gunmen fired rockets and automatic weapons at the Faisal terminal, killing a driver and a clerk and destroying 12 trucks, said police officer Ahsanullah Khan.

Up to 75 percent of the supplies for Western forces in landlocked Afghanistan pass through Pakistan. Earlier this month, suspected Taliban militants hijacked several trucks carrying Humvees near the Khyber Pass.

Al-Qaida and Taliban militants in the northwestern border region are blamed for rising attacks in Pakistan and also in Afghanistan, where violence is running at its highest level since the U.S.-led invasion in 2001.

Meanwhile, shooting and violence continued in parts of Karachi, the largest city and commercial hub of Pakistan, raising the death toll to 32 in three days of violence.—Internet

Obama rolls out national security team

WASHINGTON, 1 Dec — President-elect Barack Obama on Monday announced Sen Hillary Clinton as his pick for secretary of state, calling her an "American of tremendous stature who will have my complete confidence."

Obama also confirmed that he is keeping Defence Secretary Robert Gates in his current post.

Rounding out his Monday announcements, Obama named retired Marine Gen Jim Jones as his national security adviser, Eric Holder as attorney general, Arizona Gov Janet Napolitano as homeland security secretary and Susan Rice as ambassador to the United Nations.

All of the selections are people who have been mentioned often during weeks of fevered speculation about the likely nominees.

Internet

NPR journalists' car bombed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 1 Dec — An American journalist for National Public Radio and three Iraqi colleagues escaped injury Sunday when a bomb attached to their car exploded as it was parked along a street in west Baghdad.

Ivan Watson, a 33 year-old reporter for NPR on temporary assignment in Iraq, said he had gone to interview people in a kebab cafe a few yards from an Iraqi army checkpoint. Watson, who is normally based in Istanbul, Turkey, was accompanied by producer and translator Ali Hamdani and two drivers who refused to be named for security reasons.—Internet

90,000 civilians killed since US invasion

BAGHDAD, 1 Dec — The number of civilians killed in Iraq rose last month after a series of Baghdad bombings, data showed.

Iraqi government figures showed 296 civilians died violent deaths in November, up from 238 in October.

Last year's November civilian death toll was 538.

Officials said a series of Baghdad bombings last month aimed at derailing a parliamentary vote on a controversial security deal with Washington, which was approved on Thursday.

Since the invasion a total of 4,207 US soldiers have died in Iraq or in surrounding areas where troops are stationed, including those killed by non-hostile causes such as accidents or illness. At least 90,000 civilians have been killed, according to www.iraqbodycount.net.

Internet

India clears last Mumbai siege site

MUMBAI, 1 Dec—Authorities finished removing bodies from the bullet-and-grenade-scarred Taj Mahal hotel Monday, the final site of the Mumbai siege to be cleared, and said the death toll from the attack stood at 172 killed.

Security forces were scouring the 565 room hotel for booby traps and bodies, and declared the landmark building cleared two days after they killed the last three militants holed up inside following a deadly, three-day rampage in India's financial center.

"We were apprehensive about more bodies



In this on 26 Nov, 2008 file photo, a gunman identified by police as Ajmal Qasab walks at the Chatrapathi Sivaji Terminal railway station in Mumbai, India.—INTERNET

being found. But this is not likely —all rooms in the Taj have been opened and checked," said Maharashtra state government spokesman Bhushan Gagrani.

The army had already cleared two other sites, the five-star Oberoi hotel and the headquarters of an ultra-Orthodox Jewish Center.

The only gunman captured after the 60-hour terrorist siege of Mumbai said he belonged to a Pakistani militant group with links to the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir, a senior police officer said.

Internet



Children wearing traditional costumes attend the folk singing festival of the Dong ethnic group in Congjiang county, southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 28 Nov, 2008. The 5th China Congjiang Folk Singing Festival of the Dong ethnic group was held in Congjiang county on 28 Nov.

XINHUA

Iran says oil market oversupply at two million bpd

TEHERAN, 1 Dec — The global oil market is oversupplied by 2 million barrels per day (bpd), Iran's oil minister said here Sunday, a day after the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) deferred a decision on a new output cut. "Market assessments indicate that the market has around 2 million barrels per day of oversupply," Gholam Hossein

Nozari was quoted by Iran's satellite Press TV as saying.

OPEC announced in Cairo on Saturday that it would maintain the current crude oil output until next month's meeting in Algeria.

OPEC President Chakib Khelil, who is also Algeria's energy and mines minister, made the remarks after a consultative ministerial meeting of the group to discuss ways to shore up the oil prices.

The ministers agreed to take any additional action to balance supply and

demand and achieve market stability, Khelil said, adding that the oil cartel was concerned about the continued deterioration of the world economy and its impact on oil demand.

OPEC, which supplies about 40 percent of the global oil output, believed oil demand would be affected significantly amid concerns of world economic recession in the first half of next year.

"In the first quarter of next year we are probably going to have a decline in demand," Khelil said.

Xinhua

Raining season in Colombia kills at least 57 people

BOGOTA, 1 Dec — The second raining season in Colombia this year has left at least 57 people dead and some 67,000 houses destroyed since mid-September, the director of Colombia's Red Cross said on Sunday.

Carlos Marquez said more than 154,000 families have been affected by floods and landslides, especially along the country's two longest rivers of Magdalena and Cauca.

The situation on the ground has caused great concern as the raining season is expected to last at least another 15 days, Marquez said, adding the government has maintained alert levels given the swollen rivers and brooks in the country.

Juan Lozano, Colombia's minister of environment and housing, urged mayors of the affected cities to carry out immediate assessment of possible strikes of flood-related disasters. —Xinhua

15 miners confirmed dead in China coalmine blast

HARBIN, 1 Dec — Rescuers said Monday morning they had found the bodies of all the 15 miners trapped in Sunday's colliery blast in Qitaihe City, Heilongjiang Province.

The explosion occurred at around 4:50 pm Sunday when 25 people were working in the coal mine. Ten of them managed to escape, leaving the 15 trapped underground. The cause of the blast is still under investigation in Changlong coal mine, which has legal operation license and an annual production capacity of 40,000 tons. —Xinhua

Israeli missile wounds three militants in Gaza

GAZA, 1 Dec — Three Palestinian militants were wounded early on Sunday in an Israeli strike in central Gaza Strip, near the border with Israel, sources said.

The sources added that the Israeli artillery shelling followed an explosion as Israeli forces infiltrated for 150 meters into the east of al-Maghazi refugee camp in central Gaza Strip.

The Popular Resistance Committees (PRC), an armed group loyal to

Hamas, said the wounded gunmen were from its members and that they set off a bomb, targeting the invading troops, before the Israeli tanks attacked them.

The incidents took place around midnight.

Israeli soldiers and Palestinian militants have frequently engaged each other near the border between Gaza and Israel since 4 Nov when Israel



Students queue up at the job fair held in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 29 Nov, 2008. Around 40,000 graduated students from 28 schools in the three provinces in northeast China and north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region came to the job fair held in Changchun. —XINHUA

Nikkei tumbles on lingering economic worries

TOKYO, 1 Dec — Tokyo stocks tumbled Monday morning as investors remained jittery about the future economic climate.

The benchmark 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average lost 166.44 points, or 1.96 percent, from Friday to 8,345.83.

The broader Topix index of all First Section issues on the Tokyo Stock Exchange was down 12.05 points, or 1.44 percent, to 822.77. —Xinhua

Israeli PM condemns Mumbai attack as reminiscent of worst moments

JERUSALEM, 1 Dec — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert on Sunday harshly condemned the terrorist attacks in India's Mumbai, saying that it was a "terrible act" that takes Jews back to the worst moments in their history.

At least six Israelis were among the 195 killed, with 295 others injured during the shocking incident after 10 gunmen stormed luxury hotels, hospitals, train stations and the Chabad House, a

Jewish prayer and study center in the Indian economical capital for the past three days.

The images from the Chabad House, including pictures of the murdered victims wrapped in prayer shawls, "are shocking and take us back to events that we pray never recur," local daily Ha'aretz quoted Olmert as saying at a cabinet meeting. "The hatred of Jews, the State of Israel and Jewish symbols are still a factor that spurs and encourages such murderous acts," Olmert said.

Olmert, meanwhile, toned down criticism voiced by some Israeli security experts who blamed some of the casualties on Indian military's mishandling of the standoff.

Xinhua



Villagers print the book of the Chen's family tree with wooden movable type in Wentang village of Qimen county, east China's Anhui Province, recently.

XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

IAEA monitors safety of Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant

TEHERAN, 1 Dec — The International Atomic Energy Organization (IAEA) representative to Iran Christer Viktorsson said on Sunday that IAEA monitors the safety of Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant, in Iran's southern Bushehr province, the official IRNA news agency reported.

"Cooperation between IAEA and Iran on the security and safety of Bushehr nuclear power

plant is in line with existing protocols and agreements," IRNA quoted Viktorsson as saying, adding that "Iran is now fully cooperating with IAEA to maintain safety of Bushehr nuclear power plant."

He made the remarks in the First International Seminar on Nuclear Power Plant, Environment and Sustainable Development which was opened in Teheran Sun-

day morning in the presence of Iranian Parliament (Majlis) Speaker Ali Larijani. Referring to IAEA's due obligations, he added that "IAEA renders any services to meet safety demands during setting up of new nuclear power plants," and technical points should be observed by the countries in the construction of the nuclear power plants.

Internet



Photo taken on 29 Nov, 2008 shows the rime scene in Maizhokunggar County of Lhasa, capital of southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region. —XINHUA

Six killed, three injured in South Africa's head-on collision

JOHANNESBURG, 1 Dec — Six people died and three others were seriously injured as two vehicles collided on Pretoriaroad in Kempton Park on Sunday, Ekurhuleni Metro police confirmed.

Local police spokesman Kobeli Mokheseng said a maroon Ford Ikonsedan, believed to be transporting staff from East Rand Mall in Boksburg to Tembisa, collided with a Volkswagen Touran station wagon at 1:15 am (23:15 GMT Saturday).

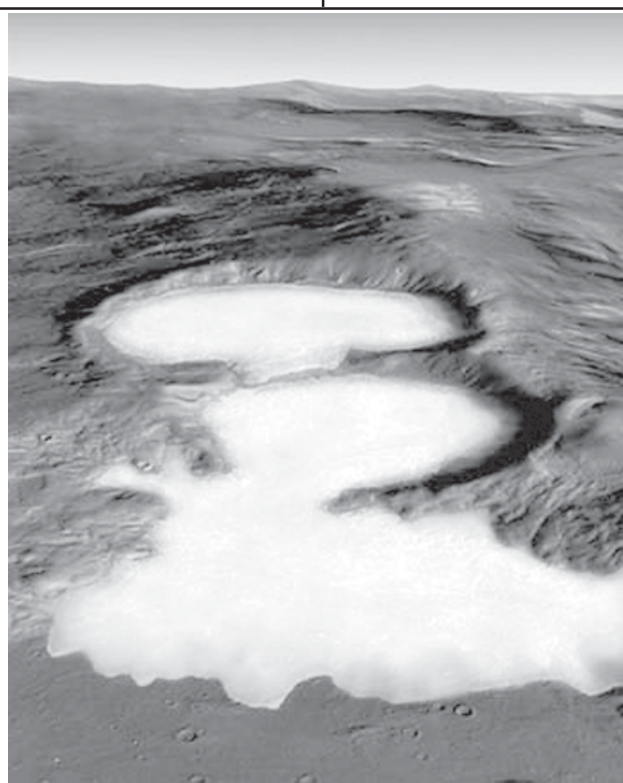
"Six people, including a 10 year-old-boy died and three sustained serious injuries.

A 45-year old male, whom we assume was the driver of the Volkswagen Touran, was rushed to Arwyp hospital for medical treatment due to serious injuries he suffered," said Mokheseng.

Two men and a woman between the ages of 38 and 40 also sustained serious injuries and were taken to the Tembisa hospital.

"We are not sure at this stage who the driver of the Ford Ikon is," he said.

Internet



An artist's conception shows what NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter has revealed, vast Martian glaciers of water ice under protective blankets of rocky debris at much lower latitudes than any ice previously identified on the Red Planet. —XINHUA

Turkey to send aid boat to Gaza

GAZA, 1 Dec — Turkey will send an aid ship to the Gaza Strip as the Palestinians expect a similar Libyan boat to dock in Gaza harbour, deposed Hamas government said Sunday.

"The Turkish ship will be carrying pro-Palestinian campaigners and medicine," said a Hamas press release. "The new voyage comes as part of the revolution of ships that try to overcome (Israeli) siege on the Gaza Strip." The statement did not reveal the time of the Turkish voyage, but it said the Libyan boat which carries 3,000 tons of aid is expected to enter Gaza territorial waters on Monday if Israel did not intercept the journey.

The attempts to break Gaza siege were first succeeded in August when the US-based private Free Gaza Movement ferried international peace and human rights activists to Gaza.

In October and November, another two boats arrived here with international activists and European lawmakers. Israel first threatened to prevent the ships from getting to the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip but retreated the threats in order not to give the campaigners the publicity they sought if they were denied entry, according to the Israeli Foreign Ministry. —Internet

Beijing meets pollution target



The sun rises over eastern Beijing's developing skyline amid a murky layer of pollutants.

INTERNET

BEIJING, 1 Dec — Beijing achieved its annual target of low pollution days one month early due in part to Olympics measures, but repeating the success next year will be a big challenge, state media said Monday.

China's capital on

Sunday experienced its 256th so-called "blue sky day", when air pollution falls below 100 on the local index, the state-run China Daily reported, quoting the municipal environmental protection bureau.

This was due in part to

two months of strict pollution controls for the Beijing Olympics in August, such as restricting vehicle traffic and shutting down factories.

The measures, as well as long-term policies taken since 1998, saw Beijing reduce pollution by over 60 percent during the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the report quoted Du Shaozhong, deputy director of the bureau, as saying.

Du warned that achieving a similar target in 2009 would be a "big challenge" but promised that authorities would continue to fight air pollution, according to the China Daily.

Internet

US space shuttle Endeavour lands in California after mission



The US space shuttle Endeavour deploys a parachute after touching down at Edwards Air Force Base in California on 30 Nov, 2008. —INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 1 Dec — US space shuttle Endeavour landed safely in California Sunday afternoon after a 16-day trip, as unfavorable weather conditions in Florida prevented the shuttle from landing in its home base

in Cape Canaveral.

Residents across Southern California heard two sonic booms around 1:20 pm local time (2120 GMT), when Endeavour broke the sound barrier under the sunny sky as it was gliding into local air-

space en route to Edwards Air Force Base, more than 150 kilometers north of Los Angeles.

At least one explosion call was received by the Los Angeles Fire Department, when people reacted to the twin sonic booms created by the space shuttle as it flew over the city.

Fire crews were sent to an apartment building near Studio City north of downtown Los Angeles and checked out the apartment complex, but concluded that residents had heard the shuttle, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department.

Internet



A diver wearing a Santa Claus costume feeds a beluga, or white whale, in a large fish tank during a Christmas show at the Hakkeijima Sea Paradise aquarium in Yokohama, suburban Tokyo.—INTERNET

Iraq-Iran war dead are exchanged

BASRA, 1 Dec—For the first time since 2003, Iran and Iraq have exchanged the remains of soldiers killed in the war between the two countries.

The bodies of 241 soldiers, most of them Iraqis, were handed over at a border crossing near Basra.

It is the first time remains were exchanged since the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003.

It is also the first ever direct contact between Tehran and Baghdad to secure the release of their war dead.

Previously they had done this via third parties or diplomatic channels.

At the Shalamjah

border post coffins draped in the Iranian and Iraqi flags were carried in a solemn procession at the handover ceremony.

For the relatives of the fallen soldiers it was an emotional moment.

Many women broke

down in tears after waiting for more than 20 years to be reunited with the remains of their brothers, fathers and sons.

The eight-year Iran-Iraq war claimed the lives of close to a million men.

Internet

Libyan ship carrying Gaza supplies turns back

GAZA CITY, 1 Dec—Israeli and Palestinian officials say a Libyan ship carrying 3,000 tons of supplies for the Gaza Strip has turned back before reaching the coast.

The change of course ended the highest-profile attempt yet to break the blockade of Hamas-ruled Gaza by Israel and Egypt. A smaller vessel carrying activists has made three successful runs from Cyprus to Gaza this year.

It was not clear why the Libyan ship changed course.

Internet

Three Mexicans face court in Australia over cocaine swoop

CANBERRA, 1 Dec — Australian police said Monday they have smashed a multi-national drug cartel and seized up to 16 million Austrian dollars (10.4 million US dollars) of cocaine and three Mexican nationals being charged.

Australian Federal Police (AFP) believed the Mexicans were only part of the operation and hope

their arrests would lead to the local arm of a sophisticated drug ring.

“We believe the cocaine originated in South America and has had to transit through the US into Australia, so quite a degree of planning involved in this attempt,” AFP Assistant Commissioner Tim Morris said.

“We suspect there’s a local end to this syndicate.

Those investigations are continuing, so we’re not going to speculate about who or when action might be taken, other than to say we expect substantially more investigations to happen over the next weeks or months and even more arrests,” the Australian Associated Press quoted Morris as saying in Melbourne.

Internet



South Korea’s Hyundai Motors Co employees work at the assembly line the company’s factory in Wanju, South Korea, on 1 Dec, 2008. Hyundai Motor said on Monday it had decided there was no need for overtime work and weekend shifts in December.—INTERNET

Eiffel Tower staircase fragment fetches half a million euros

A piece of the original staircase of the Eiffel Tower fetched 553,000 euros (710,000 dollars), 10 times its estimated price, in a Paris auction on Wednesday.

The 2.7-metre (nine-foot) high chunk, the third of its kind sold in a year, went to private US buyer after a tense battle between him and another interested party who both placed bids by phone, said Sotheby’s auctioneers.

The spiral section was part of the flight leading from the second to the third levels of the tower. It was scaled by Gustav Eiffel himself at the inauguration in 1889, when the lift was not yet in service.

Some descendents of Eiffel were present at Wednesday’s auction.

“What we are selling is a symbol,” said Cecile Verdier of Sotheby’s Paris. “It’s more than an object, it’s a piece of Paris - of the Eiffel Tower and that’s the stuff of dreams.”

This handout image shows an artist’s impression of an ancestral turtle from the Triassic Period found in Guizhou Province, China. A stunningly intact 220-million-year-old fossil found in southwestern China appears to have settled a long-simmering debate over reptile evolution: how did turtles get their shell?



An employee of Sotheby’s Auction House stands next to a portion of the original staircase of the Eiffel Tower, during its auction sale in Paris. The 270 cm-high section, which weighs 750 kilos, fetched 553,000 euros (710,000 dollars), 10 times its estimated price.

Health Tip: Hide or get rid of excess hair

In women, factors such as hormonal changes, diet, illness, or use of certain medications can trigger the growth of excess or unwanted hair.

To remove or minimize its appearance, the US National Library of Medicine offers these suggestions:

- * Bleach the hair so that it is less visible.
- * Shave, wax, pluck or chemically remove the hair.
- * Use electrolysis, a procedure in which an electric current is used to prevent hair from growing. But several treatments may be required.
- * Remove hair with laser treatments.
- * Lose weight. This can affect hormone levels, and in turn, reduce hair growth.



A staff member of the diocese of Erfurt talks to journalists in the Mariendom, Cathedral of Mary, in Erfurt, Germany. Specialists will restore the medieval painted glass, during the next 19 years.

GPS guides Norwegian tourists into trouble in Rio

Three Norwegian tourists came under fire and one was shot after the satellite navigation system in their car guided them straight into one of Rio de Janeiro’s most dangerous slums.

The three men cut short their vacation in Brazil and headed home Monday after Trygve Killingtveit, 24, was shot in the shoulder by suspected drug traffickers from one of the gangs that control hundreds of shantytowns in Rio.

The tourists were returning from the beach resort of Buzios about three hours north of Rio Saturday when they got lost, Brazil’s Globo TV and several newspapers reported.

NEWS ALBUM

Thriving prawn farms of Rakhine State

Article: Reporter Singu Soe Win; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

(from page 16)

A female tiger prawn lays about 800,000 eggs the first time. After being processed by the Fisheries Department, she lays 600,000 eggs in the second time and 500,000 eggs in the third and last time.

The mother tiger prawn grew up in the sea. So, tiger shrimps can be raised only on a sea shore line.

Tiger shrimps are kept in seawater with the

every 45 days. If there is no customer, we lose all our investments. In this region, there are many private-owned natural prawn breeding ponds. Baby prawns get into those ponds naturally. So, they do not buy shrimps from us. Last year, an entrepreneur brought shrimps from us to breed, and made a good profit from his farm. We learnt that some entrepreneurs will get shrimps from us this season" said the in-

vided for the workers free. In addition to salaries, they get kilo bonus, overtime wages and bonus for non-absenteeism.

U Zaw Aung of ASIA Golden Shrimp Ltd (AGS) told the Myanma Alin Daily, "Our factory has 214 monthly wages and daily wages workers. They get kilo bonus, overtime wages and leave bonus apart from their salaries. So, they get 50,000 to 200,000 kyats a month. And we provide them with

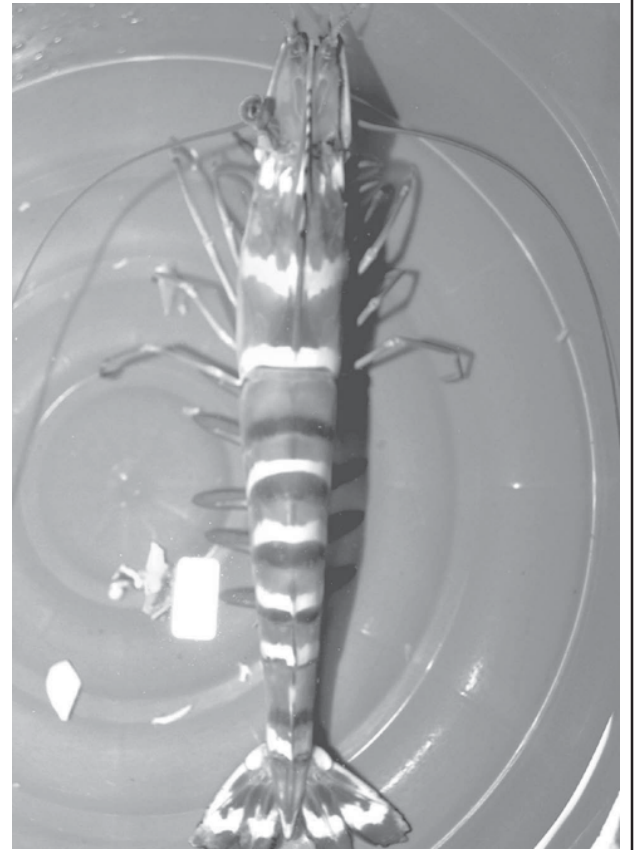
140,000 kyats a day.

The two factories ship about 70 tons of prawns to Yangon a month and export via Yangon.

Proprietor of ASM fish and prawn purchasing centre U Aung Hsan Myint said that he got 100 viss of fish and 50 viss of prawn from fishermen daily; that he transported the products to Sanpya Market of Yangon; and that local entrepreneurs were doing well in their businesses due to smooth transport.

He said, "I have made an investment of about 30 million kyats. I transport fish and prawn to Yangon every two days. Trucks are not allowed to drive on Yangon-Sittway Road in the rainy season. So, I send fish and prawn containers by ship to Yangon. It takes me only a day for me if I transport my goods to Yangon through Sittway Road. If so, I can minimize losses and wastage. It takes me four days if I transport by ship, so it cost more with more loss and wastage. I earn more than 500,000 kyats a month."

We also visited lobster processing factory of U Myint Aung. He explained that he got lobsters at the price of 20,000 kyats



A female tiger prawn that holds her eggs on her back

a viss; that the weight of a viss represents seven to 10 lobsters; that lobsters were kept in three tanks, a tank a day, and they fell asleep in the last tank; that the lobsters that had fallen asleep were wrapped up in pieces of newspaper and packed; that 200 viss of lobsters were transported to Yangon by air and purchasing centres of Yangon exported them; and that he got lobsters at the prices of 50,000 to 80,000 kyats a viss.

Lobsters that fall asleep after being kept in natural water three times, a day, and wake up when they are touched with natural water are unique to Rakhine State. It is expensive and marketable. So, Rakhine State is expected to play a greater role in the nation's fish and prawn farming.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
30-11-2008



Female workers processing prawns.

PPT rate between 28 and 30 in the dark for 45 days. After the 45-day period, a shrimp has grown as big as a match stick. They are sold to private prawn breeders at the price of 6 to 6.5 kyats a fry, accounting for over 1 million kyats in the first time, and over 1.5 million kyats in the second and third times. So, by making an investment of 25,000 kyats, a breeder can make a healthy profit of over 2.5 million kyats from a tiger prawn.

However, the process is easier said than done. It is, indeed, a demanding task. The whole business is paused in the rainy season when there is no customer. But, the power generator is kept on operating round the clock. Babies and the mother tiger prawn are not resistant to the light at all.

"We produce 150,000 shrimps once

charge of the farm.

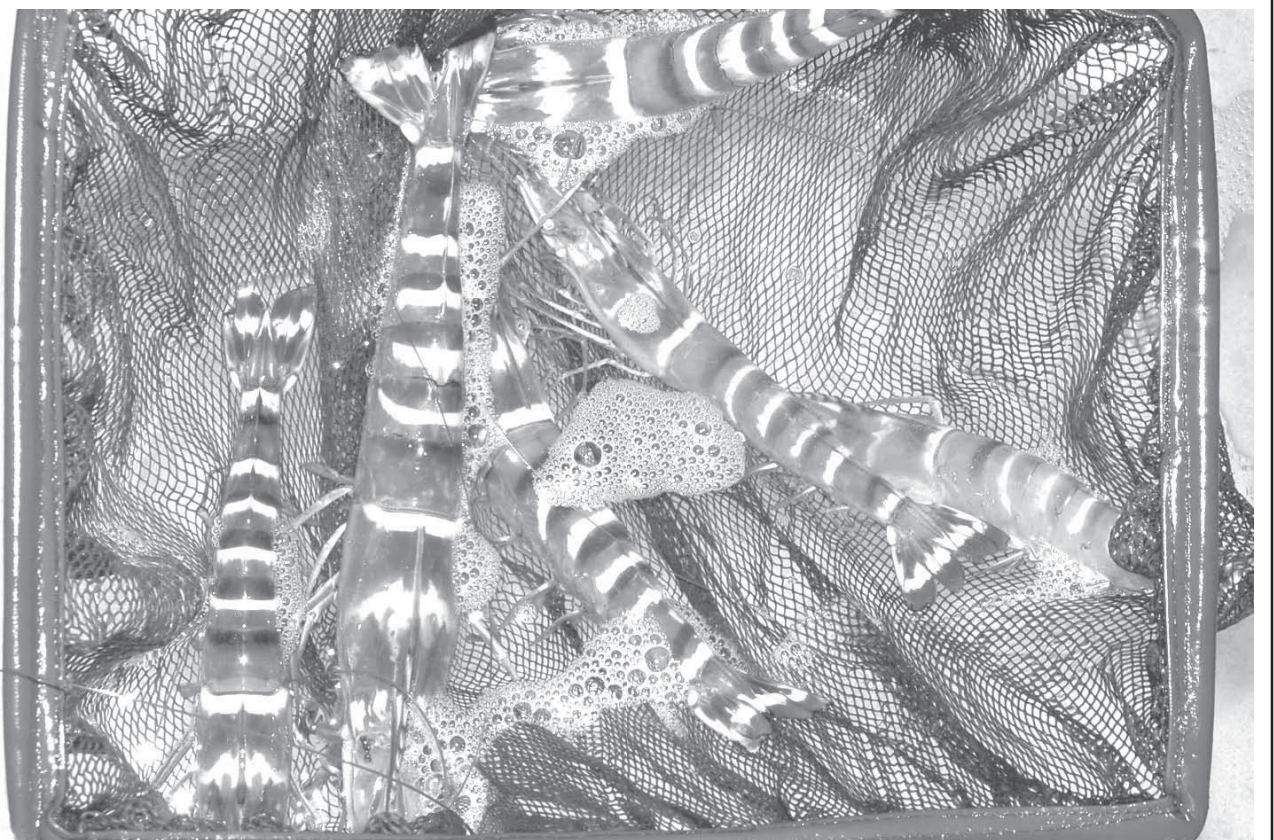
Prawn farm owners do not guess how many shrimps get into their farm naturally. Mostly, the production goes downward if shrimps do not get into their ponds as many as expected. Kyaukpyu's private prawn farming is expected to make an economic boom due to the fact that local entrepreneurs have come to realize the benefits of knowing exact number of the shrimps they breed.

Kyaukpyu has two cold storages, two entrepreneurs, 18 purchasing centres, 300 offshore trawlers, 800 deep sea trawlers, 25 sales centres and two processing centres.

NCR 100-ton ice factory and cold storage of Peace Makers Ltd is also situated in Zetiya Village. It has 96 workers, whose monthly salaries range from 20,000 to 70,000 kyats. Byproducts are pro-

duced for the workers free. In addition to salaries, they get kilo bonus, overtime wages and bonus for non-absenteeism.

AGS was launched on 1 July 1998 at a cost of 261,600 US\$ with a revolving investment of 500 million kyats. An average cost of the factory is



Some seawater tiger prawns seen at an incubation farm in Kyaukpyu.

State aims to build up industrial...

(from page 1)

not adequate expertise and capital to tap such natural resources. There need lots of intellectuals and intelligentsia, resources and capital to establish an industrial nation. For human resource development, basic education schools, universities and colleges have been opened throughout the nation for pursuing basic, high and higher education. Likewise, seeking great investments must be based on the agricultural sector, said the Prime Minister.

Agriculture is an investment as well as a legacy Myanmar has inherited from nature. The country is blessed with temperate climate with favorable conditions. Agricultural sector contributes most to the national economy in terms of proportion and the volume of agricultural produce in exportation is far greater than any other export items. This is why it is necessary to boost agricultural production year by year for domestic consumption and exports.

Similarly, cultivation of crops such as paddy, beans and pulses, corn and sesame is to be boosted to ensure local self-sufficiency and more exports. For example, rice is a major crop in the country as well as a marketable item in the world market.

The Prime Minister went on to say that in 1988 only more than 11 million acres could be put under paddy and 630 million baskets of paddy produced.

ing, reaping and collecting loss and wastage have to be minimized. Small harvesters and winnowers have been produced for every household of farmers to see to it.

Myanmar is to strive for ensuring local self-sufficiency in rice and export about 3 million tons of rice annually.

It is also necessary to keep boosting export items. Up to October 2008, more and more crops such as rice, corn and sesame could be produced. But export volume of beans and pulses fell by 5.4 percent and that of rubber by 0.7 percent.

He said the export volume of animal product was

bouring countries in Asia and the main export items are foodstuff – rice, beans and pulses and meat and fish. The crisis does not affect the demand and products can be exported as much as it can produce.

Moreover, he said, the country has no contact with west bloc banks, western bloc monetary organizations. In monetary sector, there will be no loss as the foreign loans are few compared with other countries.

There is no economic effect on the country as the government is building infrastructures on self-reliance basis with her own technology and own money and the economy is growing.

There is sufficiency of rice, the main food of the country, beans and pulses and meat and fish. There is

Agriculture is an investment as well as a legacy Myanmar has inherited from nature.

up by 25.4% compared to the previous year. In marine product group the export volume was down by 6.1%. The export volumes of fish and prawn were down by 1.7% and 4.2% respectively. Similarly, the export volumes of forest products and industrial finished products were down by 0.6% and 15.9% respectively. The export volume of gas was down by 18.2%.

no need to worry about the food as the country exports its surplus food.

As extended cultivation of the high yield cotton is being carried out with the emergence of more textile mills the nation will be in no way short of clothing in time of emergency. For shelters also, raw materials for sheltering buildings such as timber, bamboo, cement, bricks, sand, marble, etc are in abundance in the nation where there is favorable weather. This being the case, there is no problems for shelters.

All in all, there are many job opportunities in Myanmar as it is rich in natural resources, thereby resulting in satisfying the food, clothing and shelter needs of the people. But what is important is that the entire people are to work hard. The government, on its part, is to render all necessary assistance to the people paying serious attention to the national interest.

There are only 46,057 Myanmar workers working abroad legally out of those working abroad legally and illegally. According to the statistics of some countries it is estimated that there may be over 2 million Myanmar workers who are working abroad illegally.

Out of over 2 million workers, the number of workers who would arrive back home will not

There is no economic effect on the country as the government is building infrastructures on self-reliance basis.

But the previous year saw over 19 million acres of paddy, and over 1500 million baskets of paddy were produced. However, only about 20000 tons of rice was exported. Up to October this year, over 170,000 tons of rice has been exported. Although the export of rice was limited due to the cyclone Nargis, more rice is to be exported as new harvests have taken place.

Although Myanmar's rice production has increased, it can be found that she has not been capable of producing more rice than the nations that are smaller and have fewer farmlands than Myanmar. Today, Thailand exports seven million tons of quality rice and Vietnam 4.5 million tons. So Myanmar needs greater effort for exporting more rice. Myanmar has enough cultivable land to boost paddy production. Out of 43.7 million acres of cultivable land, only 28.8 million acres of paddy (65.9%) could be grown. Myanmar has land as well as water resources. Even the Central Myanmar with scarcity of water has seen clusters of dams, embankments and river water pumping stations, noted the Prime Minister.

It is necessary for Myanmar to have quality high-yield paddy strains and quality fertilizers. In addition, harvesting and winnowing should be carried out systematically and carefully in order not to cause wastage and damage due to the weather. The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation on its part is planning to produce high yield paddy strains and the State is also establishing two more fertilizer plants. At the time of paddy becoming ripe, the system of harvest-

He spoke of the need to review the reason for the fall in export volume.

He said most of the countries are facing difficulties due to the financial crisis. It is necessary for the country that exports consumer goods to boost production because every nation always needs commodities.

The financial crisis that began in a big western nation spread rapidly in a short time to other countries and caused damages them. European countries and some nations in Asia are feeling the effects of the

The agricultural sector alone requires millions of workers.

economic problem.

There are economic difficulties in most of the countries such as decline in their currencies and export items on account of less demand, decline in production, unemployment because of the close-down of some factories, decline in tourism industry and bankruptcy of banks, he said.

Unlike other nations, there are significant situations in the country. Regarding the banks, the Central Bank constantly supervises the State-run banks and private banks in accord with laws and rules and regulations and the people can trust in the banks, he said.

The main export markets of the country are neigh-

exceed 500,000 should the nations concerned cut the jobs or close factories and mills.

The agricultural sector alone requires millions of workers. Taninthayi Division has already put 249,274 acres under oil palm against the target of 500,000 acres. At present, as there are 17974 workers only, many more workers will be needed so that the division can continue growing oil palm to meet the target as well as to harvest fruits of oil palm and run the crude palm oil factory. It is obvious that employers of the oil palm company are providing employees with all necessary requirements including education health, housing and other social matters.

Likewise, as 939700 acres of rubber has been grown millions of workers are required in the rubber industry in order to produce latex and raw rubber materials and to establish new rubber plantations. At present, there are about 200,000 workers.

(See page 9)

Millions of workers are required in the rubber industry in order to produce latex and raw rubber materials and to establish new rubber plantations.

State aims to build up industrial...

(from page 8)

As workers are still in demand in teak plantations, timber extraction, fisheries and salt industry, jobs are ready for Myanmar nationals who will come back home when they are out of work abroad.

The impact of global financial crisis on Myanmar is insignificant. More jobs will emerge if the entire national people make concerted efforts in all seriousness, and this will undeniably fulfill the food, clothing and shelter needs of the people. As the nation has been able to make progress on the basis of own strength, own capital and own education and knowledge even though it has been subject to economic sanctions imposed by western nations, it will in no way ignore the interest of the national people.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation are ready to extend help to those who come back home on account of losing their jobs abroad, and they are to contact the ministries concerned.

Next, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo made clarifications on cultivation of paddy with the use of high yield strains, fulfillment of fertilizer, implementations of dam and water pumping projects using underground water, extended cultiva-

tion of industrial crops, production and exports of value-added industrial crops, reduction of difficulties in investment of peasants and assistance to be provided for the emergence of the correct market of the produce.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung made clarifications on production of various farm supporting machines and arrangements for the stable market of the produce.

Afterwards, Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein made clarifications on manufacturing and distribution of farm implements, production of rubber and arrangements to be made for manufacturing of farm implements if they are ordered.

Similarly, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha made clarifications on plans for implementing projects in the sectors of agriculture, industry, energy and forestry and present productivity in the various sectors, world economic crisis and situation of export items.

Later, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein reported on ways and means sought to guard against the impact on export services due to the global economy crisis, arrangements to be made to extend markets for different export items and requirements for speedy flow of export items to the markets.

Next, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe made clarifications on conditions of domestic flight services, run of vessels and transportation of export items.

Afterwards, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint explained gem mining, mineral exploration, extension of export items and job opportunities.

Similarly, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung made clarifications on export of State-owned and private-owned forest products and market opportunities.

Palm oil and entrepreneurs and representatives of various industrial zones presented reports on sector-wise production and export conditions, production and distribution of ethanol, boosting production of farm implements from industrial zones, condition of industrial goods and job opportunities.

In response to the reports, the Prime Minister made arrangements to fulfill the requirements and gave concluding remarks. In his concluding remarks he said the global economic crisis did not impact directly on the country but can do indirectly on it. Moreover, the country may see instability of markets due to the economic crisis. Unlike other countries, Myanmar is blessed with basis needs and thus it is required to place emphasis on boosting production, savings in production costs and minimizing loss and wastage.—MNA

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein addresses AGM of associations under

MFF.—MNA



AGMs of associations under Myanmar Fisheries Federation held

YANGON, 1 Dec—Myanmar Fisheries Federation, Myanmar Fish Farmers Association, Myanmar Aquafeed Association and Myanmar Freshwater Fisheries Association held the annual general meeting at the hall of the federation in Insein this morning, with an address by Patron of the federation Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein.

President of the federation U Htay Myint and Chairman of the Myanmar Aquafeed Association U Ohn Lwin extended greetings.

Secretary of the Myanmar Aquafeed Association U Myint Oo read the third

annual report and financial statement and sought the approval of the meeting.

At the second annual general meeting of Myanmar Fish Farmers Association, Chairman U Nyein Myaing extended greetings. Joint-Secretary of the association U Saw Myint Swe read the annual reported and financial statement.

At the fourth AGM of Myanmar Freshwater Fisheries Association, Chairman U Than Lwin extended greetings. Joint Secretary U Nay Soe read the annual report and financial statement.

Later, the minister and officials replied to the queries raised by those present.—MNA

Final events, prize presentation of Youth Track and Field Championship held

YANGON, 1 Dec —The final events and prize presentation of 8th Myanmar Track and Field President's Cup Youth Track and Field Championship were held at the youth training camp (Thuwunna) here yesterday.

After the final events, officials presented prizes to winners in the men's and women's 400 metre relays event, first prize, two championship shields to men and women teams and winners who broke record in discus event.—MNA

MMA get-together on 14 Dec

YANGON, 1 Dec—The 26th ceremony to pay respects to the teachers, organized by Women Chapter of Myanmar Medical Association (Yangon) will be held at Myanmar Medical Association

Hall at No. 249 on Theinbyu Road in Mingla Taungnyunt Township here on 14 December morning. Member doctors are invited to attend the ceremony without fail.—MNA

Alumni of law to hold respect paying ceremony on 10 Jan

YANGON, 1 Dec —The 3rd respect paying ceremony of old students specialised in Law (1974-1979) will be held at M3 Food Centre in Bahan Township on 10 January, 2009.

Those wishing to fund the ceremony

may contact U Mya Han (09 5139576), Dr Daw Tin May Tun (09 5020543), Daw Ohnma Has (09 514451), Daw San San Myint (09 5002950), Daw Nwe Nwe Win (09 5187850), and Daw Thin Thin Myaing (09 5155917).—NLM

Today Group of Companies marks 15th Anniversary

YANGON, 1 Dec—The 15th anniversary of the establishment of Today Group of Companies, which was founded in 1993 was held at Parkroyal Hotel in Alanpya Phaya Street here on 29 November.

Dr Tha Tun Oo, chairman of Today Group of Companies made a speech and expressed gratitude, presenting gifts to

the staff. Today Group of Companies comprises Today Publishing House Ltd, Today Advertising Ltd, Premium Marketing Co Ltd, Today Printing Co Ltd, Today Book Store, Myanmar Silk Road Travel Ltd and Today Media & Information Ltd and is running with over 120 staff.

MNA

Cash and kind donated to self-reliant libraries in Yangon Division

YANGON, 1 Dec— A ceremony to donate cash and kind to self-reliant libraries in Yangon Division was held at Sabai Hall of Sangyoung No-2 Basic Education High School here today.

It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, departmental heads, departmental officials from divisions, districts and townships,

national communities, in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. Departmental officials and the people are to make endeavours for perpetuation of the established libraries as a national duty, he said.

Yangon City Development Committee donated K 100,000, Myanmar War Veterans Organization (Headquarters) K 200,000, Yangon Division USDA K 300,000, Yangon Division All Private Bus Lines Control Committee K 500,000 and books and

books worth K 1,096,350, Dr Tha Tun Oo (Today Publishing House) books worth K 1,050,000, Supervisory Committee for Kaungkinkyay Library in Kasin Village of Hlinethaya Township the buildings worth K 2.5 million, World Vision the buildings worth K 2.4 million, Brick Entrepreneurs Association of Shantegy Village of Dagon Myothit (East) the buildings worth K 2.1 million, knowledge Bank Library Committee of Thingangyun Township the buildings worth K 2,053,930, U Khin



Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint accepts cash from a donor at the ceremony to donate cash and kind for self-reliant libraries in Yangon Division.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts cash from a donor at the ceremony to donate cash and kind to self-reliant libraries in Yangon Division.—MNA

members of social organizations, wellwishers and guests.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint said establishment of self-reliant rural libraries contributes towards the improvement of knowledge of the rural people. He said officials concerned are to make efforts for perpetual existence of the rural libraries.

He thanked the wellwishers for donation of cash and kind.

In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said today is the knowledge age. Self-reliant rural libraries were established with the aim of cultivating reading among the rural people and keeping abreast of the development of inter-

national communities, in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. Departmental officials and the people are to make endeavours for perpetuation of the established libraries as a national duty, he said. Yangon City Development Committee donated K 100,000, Myanmar War Veterans Organization (Headquarters) K 200,000, Yangon Division USDA K 300,000, Yangon Division All Private Bus Lines Control Committee K 500,000 and books and journals worth K 70,000, UMFCCI K 500,000 and books and journals worth K 420,000, Myanmar Rice Millers Entrepreneurs Association and Wun-yankha Company K 200,000 and books worth K 400,000, Myanmar Rice Dealers Association K 100,000, Daido Life Foundation books worth K 3.48 million, Dr Tin Tun Oo (Swesone Media Group) books worth K 1.1 million and Htoo Trading Company K 1 million.

The Commander accepted cash and donations and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Afterwards, Phwint-phyoang Company of Yankin Township donated the buildings worth K 3 million, U Than Maung-Daw Thi Thi Khin (Pandaing Bookstore)

Maung Win of Nyaungthonbin Village of Thanlyin Township the buildings worth K 2 million, U Tin Shwe of Ngapa Village of Thanlyin Township the buildings worth K 1.5 million and Shwe Hein Htet Company 1 million, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint K 1 million and Yangon Command K 1 million.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan also accepted cash and kinds and presented certificates of honours to the wellwishers.

Similarly, Good Brother Company also donated 1 million, U Khin Maung Lin-Daw Cherry and Family of Dagon Myothit (North) the

buildings worth K 1 million, U Aung Zaw of Shantegy Village of Dagon Myothit (East) the buildings worth K 1 million, Pyinnya Shwetaung Book House books worth K 1 million, U Moe Myint Maung-Daw Aye Aye Than and Family of Sanchaung Township books worth K 955,000, Inforithm-Maze Book House books worth K 830,000, Kyaung Hnit Kyaung Book House books

worth K 820,000, U Cho Lay of Myayaryoe Village of Thanlyin Township the buildings worth K 700,000, All Bus Lines Control Committee (High Ways) K 500,000, U Khin Maung Than (Zan Zan) of Morning News Journal books worth K 610,000, U Khin Maung Kywe (Kaung Thant) of Kaung Thant Book House books worth K 510,600, Super One Company K 500,000, Rector Dr Daw Marlar Aung of the University of Yangon Distance Education K

300,000 and books and journals worth K 1,819,800, U Chit Khine and Family of Edin Group K 500,000 and the other wellwishers donated cash and kinds, accepted by the officials and presented certificates of honours to them.

Today, a total of 284 wellwishers donated K 97,788,230 including K 16,785,000 and buildings, media items and books and journals worth K 81,003,230 at the ceremony.

MNA

New train schedules come into effect beginning 1 Dec

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation announced new train schedules for railroad sections for the convenience of the travelling public. The new schedules for railroad sections will come into effect beginning 1 December 2008.

No. 7 Up-train leaves Yangon Railways Station at 11.00 a.m. and arrives at Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana at 7.45 p.m. The train stops at Bago and Toungoo stations for three minutes. No. 29 Up-train leaves Yangon Railways Station at 12.15 p.m. and arrives in Mandalay at 4 a.m. the following day. It stops over at Bago, Toungoo, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana and Thazi stations. No. 9 Up-train leaves Yangon Railways Station at 8.30 a.m. and reaches Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana at 9.30 p.m. No. 25 Up-train leaves Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 9.30 p.m. and arrives in Mandalay at 5.30 a.m. the following day. No. 1 Up-train leaves Yangon Railways Station as usual and reaches Mandalay at 6.10 a.m. the following day. No. 10 Down-train leaves Pyinmana station at 4.30 a.m. and arrives in Yangon at 5.45 p.m.

New Pyawbwe-Phayangazu railroad section will be opened on 30 November. Trains will run on Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Shwenyaung-Loikaw Railroad section. No. 147 Up-train leaves Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 10.30 p.m. and reaches Loikaw at 8.15 p.m. the following day. No. 140 Up-train leaves Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 11 p.m. and arrives at Shwenyaung station at 1.35 p.m. the following day. No. 142 Down-train leaves Shwenyaung at 11.30 a.m. and arrives at Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 3 a.m. the following the day. No. 148 Down-train leaves Loikaw at 5.45 a.m. and arrives at Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana station at 3.30 a.m. the following the day. No. 143 Up-train leaves Thazi station at 5 a.m. and arrives at Yaksawk station at 7.15 p.m. No. 144 Down-train leaves Yaksawk station at 5.30 a.m. and arrives at Thazi station at 8.45 p.m.

The schedules will also be posted at the respective stations in states and divisions.—MNA

Industry-2 Minister receives Indian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein received Ambassador of the Republic of India Mr

Aloke Sen at the ministry here this afternoon. They cordially held discussion on accomplishment of industrial and commercial

cooperation between the two countries next year and assistance for industrial development in the future.

MNA

Prizes to be awarded to colour photo contest winners

YANGON, 1 Dec—The prize presentation ceremony of “Aye Chan Khit Mi Myanmar Pyi” colour photo contest will be held at Central

Hotel here on 24 December, to mark the 61st Anniversary of Independence Day which falls on 4 January, 2009.

The judges for prize presentation have chosen the winners. For more information dial 371342.

MNA

Minister lays foundation for school building in Pyawbwe

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Deputy Minister U Pe Than attended a ceremony to lay foundation for a school building in Pyawbwe Township yesterday.

The minister, deputy minister and officials concerned laid foundations during the ceremony at the basic education high school (branch) in East Shawphygon Village in Pyawbwe Township.

The two-story building will be constructed at the cost of K 19.1 million — 11.5 million from Ministry of Rail Transportation and K 7.6 million from donors.

MNA

Champion Myanmar Football team honoured

YANGON, 1 Dec—A ceremony to honour Myanmar Football team which clinched championship trophy at Grand Royal Challenge Cup 2008 was held at Traders Hotel today, attended by Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, director-general and officials of the ministry, President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw and executives, Managing Director U Aung Moe

Kyaw of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd and staff and wellwishers.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint extended greetings on the occasion and U Aung Moe Kyaw spoke words of thanks. MFF President U Zaw Zaw and wife presented K 12.5 million, U Aung Moe Kyaw and wife K 10 million, Myanmar Olympic Committee 5 million, Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing of Asia

World Co Ltd K 3 million and Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation K 500,000 to the Myanmar Football Team.

Six teams took part in the Grand Royal Challenge Cup 2008, Myanmar drew with Bangladesh and won over Indonesia 2-1 in round-robin matches. Myanmar edged out Malaysia 4-1 in semi-final and beat Indonesia 2-1 in Final Match.

NLM



Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein receives Ambassador of the Republic of India Mr Aloke Sen.—MNA

Exhibition on traffic rules enforcement on 26-31 Dec

YANGON, 1 Dec — Under the arrangement of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee, the 2nd exhibition on traffic rules will be held at Mingala Market in Nay Pyi Taw from 26 to 31 December.

The exhibition will be held for the second time as part of efforts for educating local people on

their knowledge on traffic rules, and students can participate in quiz programme during the exhibition which will be held in conjunction with the market festival.

Departments will stage booths to disseminate knowledge on traffic rules and industries will keep open sales rooms at the exhibition. Visitors will be

entertained with songs and dances during the exhibition.

Those wishing to participate in the exhibition and market festival may contact the office of the Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee, Ph 032-30042, and Htet Media & Entertainment Co Ltd, Ph 095 108676; 095 181809. —MNA



U Aung Moe Kyaw and wife of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd present K 10 million to the Myanmar Football Team. —NLM

Myawaddy Trading Ltd launches new brand

YANGON, 1 Dec—Launching of new brand product of Myawaddy Trading Ltd was held at Sedona Hotel here on 28 November. It was attended by sale representatives, merchants, shopkeepers and guests.

At the ceremony, Managing Director Col Myint Aung (Retd) of Myawaddy Trading introduced the new product of Premium Gold to the audience.

The new product of high quality is manufactured by the factory of international standard of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Co, joint venture with the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd.—MNA



A new brand product of Myawaddy Trading Ltd is introduced.—MNA

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV YONG JIANG VOY NO (225)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YONG JIANG VOY NO (225) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 30.11.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO SHIPPING CO.,
LTD**

Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

**Iran to stage naval
maneuver in December**

TEHERAN, 1 Dec—Iran's Navy Force commander Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari said that his country will stage a naval drill in and around the Strait of Hormuz next month, Iran's satellite Press TV reported Sunday. The drill will be carried out to test Iran's defense power and combat readiness, Sayyari was quoted as saying.

Dubbing the forthcoming maneuver as "Unity 87," he said that "every exercise seeks particular objectives, and the 'Unity 87' maneuver will focus on designated objectives."

Earlier last week, Sayyari said that "All the movements of the enemy in the Oman Sea, Persian Gulf and Hormuz Strait are under control and the enemy will never dare to enter Iran's waters."

The United States and Israel have consistently refused to rule out the possibility of military strikes against Iran over its refusal to halt its nuclear program.

The United States and its allies have accused Iran of trying to develop nuclear weapons under the cover of a civilian nuclear program.—*Xinhua*

**Dollar trades at lower
95-yen level in Tokyo**

TOKYO, 1 Dec—The US dollar traded at the lower-95 yen level early Monday in Tokyo, little changed from its levels Friday in New York.

At 9:00 am, the dollar fetched 95.37-42 yen compared with 95.45-55 yen in New York and 95.29-32 yen in Tokyo at 5:00 pm Friday.

The euro traded at 1.2680-2685 dollars and 120.96-121.01 yen versus 1.2689-2699 dollars and 121.22-32 yen in New York and 1.2937-2940 dollars and 123.30-34 yen in Tokyo late Friday.—*Xinhua*

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Aventis Pharma Deutschland GmbH, a company incorporated in Germany, of Bruningstrasse 50, D-65926 Frankfurt am Main, Germany, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

LASIX

Reg. No. 915/1963
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in respect of "Pharmaceutical preparations for human and veterinary use".

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

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Aventis Pharma
Deutschland GmbH
P. O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 2 December 2008

An iceberg drifts at Rothera Point, Adelaide Island, Antarctica. Representatives from almost every country on the planet are set to start 12 days of tough talks in Poland aimed at getting the ball rolling for a new global climate change pact.

INTERNET

**Nine headless bodies found
in Mexican border city**

TIJUANA, 1 Dec—The bodies of nine decapitated men were found in a vacant lot in Tijuana Sunday, part of a wave of violence that claimed at least 23 lives over the weekend in this border city plagued by warring traffickers, authorities said.

The heads were discovered in plastic bags near the bodies in a poor neighborhood of Tijuana, across from San Diego, Baja California state police said in a statement. Three police identification cards were also found at the site.

The statement gave no motive for the killings, but they came as Mexico's drug cartels wage a bloody fight for smuggling routes and against government forces, dumping beheaded bodies onto streets, carrying out massacres and even tossing grenades into a crowd of Independence Day revelers—an attack that killed eight people in September.



A soldier secures the perimeter of a crime scene, background, where nine decapitated bodies were founded in Tijuana, Mexico, on 30 Nov, 2008.

INTERNET

More than 4,000 people have died so far this year in drug-related violence in Mexico. Across Tijuana on Sunday, attacks by gunmen killed five people in addition to the nine beheaded bodies.

State police said nine more people were killed in attacks on Saturday. In one, gunmen killed a 4-year-old child in an attack on a grocery store.—*Internet*



**At least one
injured in US
shopping mall
shooting**

WASHINGTON, 1 Dec—Shots were heard from a shopping mall in Miami, Florida, leaving at least one injured, according to a report on Monday.

Xinhua

**Malaysia probes alleged
Malaysian link in Mumbai attacks**

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 Dec—Malaysian police were probing if there was any link to Malaysia in the recent terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, local newspapers The Star reported on Monday.

Malaysian police were ascertaining if Malaysian travel documents were used to facilitate the movements of the terrorists in the Mumbai massacre, the English-language daily said.

Some Foreign reports claimed that the gunmen who killed 180 people in Mumbai attacks were said to have had Malaysian addresses, and Malaysian-issued

credit cards were also found there, according to the daily.

Malaysian Home Minister Syed Hamid Albar denied any link to Malaysia in the attacks.

He said that the Malaysian authorities would assist their Indian counterparts to investigate the identities of the gunmen who allegedly had Malaysian addresses.

Syed Hamid said that Malaysian travel documents were much sought after in the international arena and syndicates liked to forge Malaysian travel documents.

Malaysian Consul-General to India Wan Zaidi Wan Abdullah has also dismissed the alleged Malaysian involvement in the terrorist attacks, *The Star* said.

He said the Times of India newspaper could have misreported that some of the terrorists had Malaysian identity cards, adding that only a fake Mauritius identity card was found.—*Xinhua*



Containers and trucks loaded with food and military vehicles for NATO and US-led forces in Peshawar. Taliban militants Monday destroyed a dozen trucks in the Pakistani city of Peshawar containing supplies for NATO troops in Afghanistan.—INTERNET

Congo's war-baby gorillas bring hope for endangered species



A baby mountain gorilla plays near another one and a female adult in a clearing on the slopes of Mount Mikeno in the Virunga National Park on 28 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET

BUKIMA, 1 Dec—High above the war-battered plain, a giant silverback gorilla ruminatively strips a plant of its leaves with green tombstone teeth. Five females nearby suckle their babies. The world can celebrate a small miracle in eastern Congo.

Park rangers greeted the primordial scene with hushed astonishment after hacking for two hours through the verdant gloom of the jungle Friday, the only sound the metallic ring of a machete on

stringy vines and the din of insects.

In a clearing on the slopes of Mount Mikeno, a 4,500 metre (14,000 feet) - high volcano, a young blackback carefully picked insects and seeds from his brother's shaggy black fur. An impish new-born clung to her mother's back, fixing the interlopers with shimmering dark brown eyes.

Park director Emmanuel de Merode later described the discovery of five new-borns at the outset of a month-long census as "quite phenomenal", given that the endangered gorillas' habitat has long been a war zone.

"They've had a growth of about 11 percent in 10 years, less than two percent a year. To get five births in a group of 30 is about 15 percent growth. It's quite tremendous and very unusual," he said. The infants are all war-babies, born in the 15-month period since CNDP rebels wrested control of the eastern gorilla-sector of Virunga national park from government forces in September 2007. The rangers they chased away lost all contact with park, home to 200 of the world's last 700 mountain gorillas.

Internet

Climate change gathers steam, say scientists

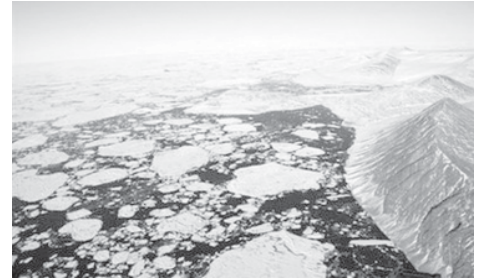
PARIS, 1 Dec — Earth's climate appears to be changing more quickly and deeply than a benchmark UN report for policymakers predicted, top scientists said ahead of international climate talks starting Monday in Poland.

Evidence published since the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change's (IPCC) February 2007 report suggests that future global warming may be driven not just by things over which humans have a degree of control, such as burning fossil fuels or destroying forest, a half-dozen climate experts told *AFP*.

Even without additional drivers, the IPCC has warned that current rates of greenhouse gas emissions, if unchecked, would unleash devastating droughts, floods and huge increases in human misery by century's end.

But the new studies, they say, indicate that human activity may be triggering powerful natural forces that would be nearly impossible to reverse and that could push temperatures up even further.

At the top of the list for virtually all



This image shows Markham Fiord, in August, after the Markham Ice Shelf broke away. "In the last couple of years, Arctic Sea ice is at an all-time low in summer, which has got a lot of people very, very concerned," commented Robert Watson, Chief Scientific Advisor for Britain's department for environmental affairs.—INTERNET

of the scientists canvassed was the rapid melting of the Arctic ice cap.

"In the last couple of years, Arctic Sea ice is at an all-time low in summer, which has got a lot of people very, very concerned," commented Robert Watson, Chief Scientific Advisor for Britain's department for environmental affairs and chairman of the IPCC's previous assessment in 2001.—*Internet*



Pregnant Indians risk passing diabetes to babies

CHENNAI (India), 1 Dec — Up to 15 per cent of pregnant women in India are developing diabetes, raising the risk of their children developing the disease, said experts on Sunday, who blamed factors including

A model presents a cheongsam creation designed by Li Xiafang in east China's Shanghai Municipality, on 28 Nov, 2008. Li Xiafang's cheongsam show was held at the Oriental Pearl Theatre in Shanghai on Friday.—XINHUA

malnutrition.

Experts at a diabetes summit in Chennai in southern India said genetics, a sedentary lifestyle, as well as women simply being undernourished and unable to cope with pregnancy, were the main reasons for the high rate of diabetes in pregnancy.

"If a young girl is healthy, she produces eggs that are appropriately nourished," Chittaranjan Yajnik, director of the diabetes unit at King Edward Memorial Hospital in Pune, India, told *Reuters* in an interview.—*MNA/Reuters*

Mass grave containing 33 bodies found in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 Dec — Iraqi security forces have found a mass grave containing 33 decomposed bodies in a village in the volatile province of Diyala, an Interior Ministry source said on Sunday.

Based on information from local residents, the forces discovered the site of the mass grave on Saturday in the Albu-Tu'ma village near the town of Khalis, 75 km northeast of Baghdad, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. Bodies of children and women were among the bullet-riddled bodies, the source said, adding that the remains have been buried for more than a year.

The forces believe the victims were kidnapped and killed by the al-Qaida members who were controlling the area at that time, said the source.—*Internet*

Tourists look at a topiary sculpture of a samurai warrior at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney on 1 Dec, 2008. The 10-foot-tall (3.48 m) samurai warrior was unveiled by a garden tools manufacturer to encourage people to transform their outside spaces this summer.—INTERNET



Over 135,000 HIV-infected people reported in Vietnam

HANOI, 1 Dec — There has been 135,171 HIV positive people reported in Vietnam nationwide, the local newspaper *New Hanoi* reported on Monday.

Of the HIV-acquired cases, 29,134 had full-blown AIDS and 41,418 died of the disease in the country so far, the daily quoted the source with the Ministry of Health (MoH) as saying.

Local health officials warned that Vietnam is facing the risk of disease's expansion to young population. HIV-acquired cases aged from 20 to 39 increased to 89 percent from 15 percent, according to MoH.

People with HIV live in all of the country's provinces and cities. Ho Chi Minh City has the highest number of HIV/AIDS cases, followed by two northern provinces of Quang Ninh and Hai Phong of Vietnam.

At a meeting held on Sunday in Hanoi on the occasion of the World AIDS Day, which is marked on 1 Dec Deputy Prime Minister Truong Vinh Trong urged the whole nation to redouble efforts in the fight against HIV/AIDS, with focus on the changing social behaviors to AIDS victims.—*Internet*

SPORTS

Stuttgart seal first win for new coach

BERLIN, 1 Dec — Stuttgart sealed on Sunday the first win for newly crowned coach Markus Babel after they beat Schalke 04 2-0 at home.

Substitute Jan Simak and Mario Gomez handed Babel a winning start for his new career as a Bundesliga coach. Babel assumed the Stuttgart job after Armin Veh's sacking last weekend due to poor performance of the 2006-2007 Bundesliga champions.

Simak opened the scoring after 79 minutes - just six minutes after the Czech international was sent to the field - before Gomez made it 2-0 against Schalke 04 four minutes later.

Schalke drop deeper into mid-table mediocrity with just one win from their last six Games, Stuttgart ended a winless run of six games.—Internet



Mario Gomez (C) of VfB Stuttgart challenges Christian Pander (L) and Jermaine Jones (R) of Schalke 04 during their German Bundesliga soccer match in Stuttgart on 30 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET

Tennis player Victor Hanescu wins national championship

BUCHAREST, 1 Dec — Romanian No.1 tennis player Victor Hanescu on Sunday won the men's division of the First Edition of National Tennis Championship "Masters Romania".

Hanescu defeated Victor Crivoi 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 in a game that lasted one hour and 48 minutes.

Hanescu is the No.1 Romanian player in the ATP rankings, holding the 50th place.

The women's division was won earlier by Monica Niculescu, who defeated Irina Begu 1-6, 6-4, 6-1 in a match that took two hours and 27 minutes.—Xinhua

Espanyol sacks coach Marquez

MADRID, 1 Dec — Spanish Primera Liga club Espanyol took the decision to sack their coach Bartolome "Tintin" Marquez late on Sunday night.

The 46-year-old lasted just 13 games as Espanyol first team coach after replacing Ernesto Valverde during the summer. However, despite a positive start to the season, Espanyol have had a disappointing campaign to date.

The Barcelona based side won their opening two Primera Liga matches, raising hopes of a push for a place in Europe, but a dreadful run of just one win in the last 11 matches has ended those hopes.

This Sunday saw Espanyol lose 1-0 at home to recently promoted Sporting Gijon in what had widely been reported to be Martin's last chance to save his job.

The Espanyol fans booed their players off the pitch and barely four hours later the club President Daniel Sanchez Llibre announced Marquez's departure.

Llibre announced he hoped to name Marquez's replacement on Wednesday.—Internet

Arsenal back in title race after stunning Chelsea

LONDON, 1 Dec — Arsenal are back in the English Premier League title race after Robin van Persie's double in three minutes helped stun leaders Chelsea 2-1 on Sunday.

The defending champions, with a game in hand, are now only five points behind Chelsea and Liverpool, who could move three points clear at the top of the table given a home win over West Ham United on Monday.

Arsenal's title hopes were thrown into even more serious doubt when Johan Djourou turned Jose Bosingwa's cross into his own net after 31 minutes at Stamford Bridge to give Chelsea the lead.

Xinhua

China breaks women's 3,000m relay short-track speed skating world record

BEIJING, 1 Dec — Chinese short-track speed skaters broke the world record in women's 3,000m relay with a time of 4:07.804 at an ISU World Cup event here on Sunday.

The Chinese team led throughout the final to clinch the fourth gold for the hosts at the three-day event. South Korea took the silver in 4:08.230, and Italy finished third in 4:13.666. In the men's 5,000m relay, the United States clinched the gold in 6:47.432, followed by Canada in 6:47.484 and China in 6:47.676.

The season's third stop of the six-leg World Cup series raised its curtain in the Capital Gymnasium on Friday. It attracted 179 skaters from 28 countries and regions, featuring five men and five women's events.

Xinhua



Players of China celebrate the victory after the final of women's 3000m relay during the ISU World Cup Short Track 2008/2009 in Beijing, capital of China, on 30 Nov, 2008. The team of China won the champion with 4 minutes and 07.804 seconds.—XINHUA

Brazil beat Venezuela 6-0 in indoor soccer friendly

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 Dec — The Brazilian indoor soccer team beat Venezuela 6-0 on Sunday in the International Challenge in Araraquara, city of the state of Sao Paulo.

Both teams will play again in Campin as City on Monday. The games should have taken place in the state of Santa Catarina but were moved to Sao Paulo because of the strong rains that flooded the region and left some 100 people dead.—Xinhua



Espanyol's coach Bartolome Marquez



Barcelona's Lionel Messi (L) is challenged by Sevilla's Federico Fazio during their Spanish First Division soccer match at Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan stadium in Seville on 29 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET

Barcelona display authority as Real Madrid lose their way

MADRID, 1 Dec — Barcelona stamped their authority on match day 13 of the Primera Liga with a 3-0 away win against Sevilla in the Sanchez Pizjuan Stadium.

A first half goal from Samuel Eto'o opened the scoring before two late strikes from Leo Messi sealed a convincing win in one of the most difficult grounds in Spain. Barcelona's win was made all the more important by the fact that Real Madrid slipped to defeat away to Getafe.

Getafe had proved a week ago that it is a tough team to break down and against Real Madrid they played positive attacking football.

Two goals from Juan Albin put Getafe two goals ahead after 47 minutes, before Javier Saviola a chance of taking something from the match when he pulled a goal back seven minutes later.

However, Ikechukwu Uche sealed the points for Getafe six minutes from the final whistle in a game where Getafe also had two clear penalty appeals turned down.—Internet

France beat Nigeria to reach semis of U20 women's World Cup

SANTIAGO, 1 Dec — France edged Nigeria 3-2 in the quarterfinals of the FIFA U-20 women's World Cup here on Sunday.

Other quarterfinals will see England against the United States, Japan versus DPR. Korea and Brazil against Germany.—Xinhua

10-man United tops City in derby

LONDON, 1 Dec — Wayne Rooney led 10-man Manchester United to a 1-0 victory over Manchester City in the English Premier League on Sunday in a heated 150th derby that saw Cristiano Ronaldo sent off.

The England striker ended a six-week goal drought to ensure fame prevailed over fortune as the European and English champions took on their neighbor for the first time since Abu Dhabi royalty made City the wealthiest club in the world.

Rooney had been determined to show that the Red Devils are the true "Kings of Manchester," and his 42nd-minute goal — his 100th in club football — proved decisive. City goalkeeper Joe Hart spilled Michael Carrick's shot from a tight angle, and Rooney was able to tap over into an unguarded net.

United clung onto its slender advantage despite facing a far-more assertive City in the second half and playing the last 22 minutes a man down.—Xinhua

Suicide bomber hits German embassy vehicle in Kabul

KABUL, 1 Dec—A suicide bomber hit a German embassy vehicle in Kabul on Sunday, killing three Afghan civilians, said the government, an attack claimed by the Taliban which left six wounded.

Violence has escalated this year in Afghanistan, the bloodiest period since Taliban's ouster in 2001, raising doubts about the prospects for stability despite increasing numbers of foreign troops in the

country. "It was a suicide attack on the German embassy car," Ali Shah Paktiawal, a senior Kabul police official told reporters near the scene.

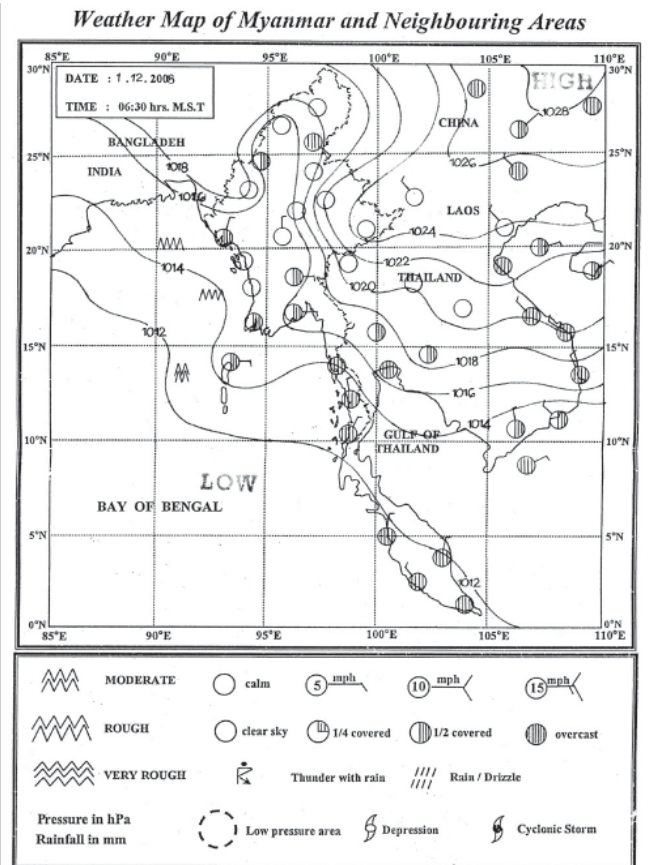
The bomber was on foot when he attacked the embassy vehicle opposite a high school on the main road leading to the parliament building in the southwestern part of the city, he said.

Another police officer

said the only occupant of the vehicle, its driver, escaped unhurt.—Internet



An Afghan policeman keeps watch next to the German embassy vehicle at the site of a suicide attack in Kabul, on 30 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET



WEATHER

Monday, 1 December, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above November average temperatures in Kachin and Chin States, (5°C) below November average temperatures in Kayah State and upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (-3°C) and Namhsan (0°C) and Heho (3°C).

Maximum temperature on 30-11-2008 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 1-12-2008 was 58°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 1-12-2008 was 66%. Total sunshine hours on 30-11-2008 was (9.8) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 1-12-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (110.31) inches at Mingaladon, (120.95) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from East at (6:30) hours MST on 1-12-2008.

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 2nd December 2008: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Shan States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining areas.

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 2-12-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-12-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-12-2008: Generally fair weather.

Body of Singaporean woman returns home

SINGAPORE, 1 Dec— The body of a Singapore woman hostage killed in the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, was flown back to the city state on Sunday night.

According to Channel News Asia reports, some 50 family members and close friends were among the first to pay their respects to the late 28-year-old Lo Hwei Yen, and they were joined by residents living nearby.

Lo, a lawyer, was in Mumbai for a short business trip and she had died from wounds to her head and abdomen after being captured by militants at the Oberoi-Trident Hotel on Thursday.

Both Singapore's President S R Nathan and Prime Minister Lee Hsien Long have extended their deepest condolences to the husband and family of Lo Hwei Yen, the first Singapore woman killed in a terror attack.

MNA/Xinhua

150 whales die in stranding off Australian coast

SYDNEY, 1 Dec— At least 150 whales have died in a mass stranding off Tasmania's west coast, Australian authorities said on Sunday, despite the efforts of rescuers who managed to shepherd a small number back to the ocean.

The state government said the number of long-finned pilot whales that had perished had climbed to 150 after a body count on Sunday, almost double the earlier estimate of 80.

The stranded whales were discovered on Saturday and members of the local community and government officials worked to rescue them, but

the whales had been badly injured by the rocks. Department of Primary Industries and Water spokesman Warwick Brennan was quoted in Australian media said rescuers in a boat managed to steer about 30 whales out of the bay.

Mass strandings of whales occur periodically in Australia and New Zealand for reasons that are not entirely understood. Theories include disturbance of echolocation, possibly by interference from sound produced by human activities at sea.

MNA/Reuters



Tuesday, 2 December
View on today

- 7:00 am 1. ဣန္ဒာဝိသုဒ္ဓိသဘာဝဓာတ်မြေရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am 4. Nice and sweet song

- 7:50 am 5. Song of national races
- 8:00 am 6. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:15 am 7. Songs of yesteryears
- 8:30 am 8. International news
- 8:40 am 9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:50 am 10. Musical programme
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm 2. နားဝင်ပီယံသံ့လက်သံ
- 4:25 pm 3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး

- ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)
- 4:40 pm 4. Songs to uphold national spirit
- 4:45 pm 5. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm 6. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက် ထုတ်ကုန်များ
- 5:15 pm 7. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 5:30 pm 8. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm 9. Evening news

- 6:30 pm 10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm 11. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 6:55 pm 12. လူတစ်စုံလင်ရွှေညောင်ရင်
- 7:05 pm 13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "စူပါမင်းနုနှင့်မာနရှင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၂)
- 8:00 pm 14. News
- 15. International news
- 16. Weather report
- 17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မြင့်မြင့်နုလုံးသားပိုင်ရှင်" (အပိုင်း-၆)

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

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Laotian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—On the occasion of the 33rd Anniversary of the Founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2008, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to UAE counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Muhammad Bin Rashid Al Maktum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December 2008.

MNA

Thriving prawn farms of Rakhine State

Article: Reporter Singu Soe Win; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

Kyaukpyu sea prawn incubation farm is located on a 0.77-acre land in Zetiya Village, one mile and three furlongs from Kyaukpyu. It consists of an office room, light-proof buildings, 10 five-ton-capacity shrimp nursery water tanks, four 20-ton capacity shrimp nursery water tanks, two 10-ton-capacity incubation water tanks, two 20-ton-capacity seawater tanks, two 15-ton-capacity pasteurization tanks, and one filtering tank.

Nine-inch-long grown-up female prawns are bred in a light-proof water tank. Such a prawn costs 20,000 kyats. A female prawn holds about 800,000 grey-colour eggs on her back, which are visible with naked eyes.

Female tiger prawns are bred in a light-proof tank. When they hold eggs, they are transferred to another tank. Newly-laid eggs are invisible with naked eyes. Tiger prawns hatch and grow up in the dark.

(See page 7)



Prawn containers are loaded onto ships for local and foreign markets.

Want sustainable fishing?

TORONTO, 1 Dec — Scientists at the University of Toronto analysed Canadian fisheries data to determine the effect of the "keep the large ones" policy that is typical of fisheries. What they found is that the effect of this policy is an unsustainable fishery.

In fact, the opposite policy (keep the small young ones and throw back the large old ones) would result in a more sustainable fishery. In short — a big fish in the water is worth two in the net.—Internet



Large mouth bass in a lake. A fish population will produce more young — and therefore sustain more fishing — if it is made up of big, old fish.—INTERNET

Timetable for 2009 Matriculation Examination announced

YANGON, 1 Dec — The Myanmar Board of Examinations under the Ministry of Education today announced that the Matriculation Examination for 2009 will be held in March according to the following timetable.

Students are to sit for the examination from 9 a.m. to 12 noon daily for Myanmar on 11 March 2009 (Wednesday), for English on 12 March 2009 (Thurs-

day), for Mathematics on 13 March 2009 (Friday), for Chemistry on 14 March 2009 (Saturday), for Physics on 16 March 2009 (Monday), for Biology/History on 17 March 2009 (Tuesday), for Geography on 18 March 2009 (Wednesday), for Economics on 19 March 2009 (Thursday) and for Optional Myanmar on 20 March 2009 (Friday).

MNA

Ferguson rushes to Ronaldo's defence

MANCHESTER, 1 Dec —Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson has jumped to the defence of Portuguese In-

ternational Cristiano Ronaldo after the winger was sent off for two bookable offences during their Premier League

encounter against Manchester City at the Eastlands Stadium on Sunday.

Internet

