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Thursday, 11 December, 2008

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

Farms use bio-gas to generate power



Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects thriving tapioca plantation at Nyaunghnapin Vegetable Cultivation and Poultry and Fish special farming zone-2 in Hlegu Township.—MNA

INSIDE

Walking for one to three hours once a week and taking exercise regularly encourage strong heart and lungs and decrease the risk of heart disease.

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PERSPECTIVES

Talks on Global Financial Crisis on 13 Dec

YANGON, 10 Dec—The Myanmar Fisheries Federation and the Myanmar Prawn Entrepreneurs Association jointly organized talks with the sponsorship of Ever Flow River Group of Companies at Thiri Annawa Hall of MFF on

Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township on 13 December at 2 pm.

Vice-President of MFF U Tin Maung Than will give talks on Global Financial Crisis and Today's Economy. Interested persons may attend the talks.—MNA

YANGON, 10 Dec — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, inspected the integrated farm of the command in Mingaladon Township today.

At the briefing hall, the farm in-charge reported on breeding of layers and use of electricity supplied by the bio-gas fired generator at the farm.

During the inspection tour, Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected process of extraction of bio gas from chicken

dung, power supply from the bio-gas fired generator and the farm.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe visited the 200-acre rubber plantation of the local battalion in Hmawby Township where the commanding officer of the local battalion reported on completion of planting rubber.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party also went to Nyaunghnapin Vegetable Cultivation and Poultry and Fish special farming zone 1 and zone 2 in Hlegu Township and visited thriving vegetable plantations.

(See page 8)

Rino accepts knee 'challenge'

MILAN, 10 Dec—Milan midfielder Gennaro Gattuso is viewing his knee ligament injury as a "challenge" and he intends to return stronger than ever.

The Rossoneri ace was told yesterday that he tore an anterior cruciate ligament in his knee during last weekend's game with Catania.

The estimated re-

covery time is around six months, which more or less rules Ringhio out for the rest of the season.

"I'm taking this as a new challenge," Gattuso declared. "It's just a battle to win.

"I am disappointed, but I need to look forward. I have won lots of tests in my career and I will win this one."

Gattuso went for

tests in Belgium with Dr Marc Martens this morning and again displayed his positive attitude in an interview with Tel Lombardia.

"I'm really gutted by what has happened," he admitted. "But I think I can recover ahead of schedule. "I will react to everything I am told with enthusiasm. They say that things could always be worse and there's no need to despair."

Internet



PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 11 December, 2008

Walk in the morning sun

Health is a state of physical, mental, and social well-being. It involves more than just the absence of disease. A truly healthy person not only feels good physically but also has a realistic outlook on life and gets along well with other people. Good health enables man to enjoy life fully.

Being healthy contributes towards intellectual improvement. Man and all living beings need vitamin for growing and functioning of cells in the body. Vitamin D makes bones and joints strong and it is necessary to aid the absorption of calcium from food. In the body, it transforms itself into hormone and controls the growth of regular cells. Moreover, Vitamin D prevents proliferation of non-regular cells and development of cancer.

Adequacy of Vitamin D also prevents heart disease, gout, bone disease, diabetes, gum disease. To get adequate Vitamin D, one should sunbathe for 15 minutes in the morning.

Now the cold season sets in. One should take exercises such as walking every morning. Walking makes us fresh and bones and joints strong and prevents obesity.

Walking for one to three hours once a week and taking exercise regularly encourage strong heart and lungs and decrease the risk of heart disease.

Everyone gets adequate Vitamin D from the sun and their muscles, bones and joints become strong by walking every morning in the sun breathing fresh air.

MWAF provides home care to grandmas in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Dec—Under the programme of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, the Leader of the Work Group for Rehabilitation and Reintegration Daw Tin Tin Nwe, Leader of the Work Group for Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children Daw Khin May Soe and chairpersons of township Women's Affairs Organizations on 5 December visited the houses of seven elderly women in some wards of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana Township and donated cash and kind worth K 160,000 each to them. Dr Daw Kyawt Tha Sein, in-charge of school health care for Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana Township, gave medical check-up and health care to them.

Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana Township WAO provides health care to 18 old women in wards of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana Township.—MNA

People's Desire

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

Novice Karatedo Contest, National Karatedo Championship held in Mandalay

YANGON, 10 Dec— Under the supervision of the Myanmar Olympic Committee, the Myanmar Karatedo Federation and Mandalay Division Sports and Physical Education Committee jointly organized the Novice Karatedo Contest and the National Karatedo Championship (2008) at Bahtoo Gymnasium in Mandalay from 28 to 30 November.

On 28 November, President of the federation Dr Win Zaw gave an opening address and opened the competitions.

Deputy Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung, Deputy Director-General U Kyaw Soe Myint and President of the federation Dr Win Zaw accepted cash donations from 27 wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.



Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Than Tun Aung presents certificate of honour to a wellwisher.—MKF

Afterwards, the first day competitions commenced. It was also attended by officials of the Ministry of Sports, executives of the MKF and fans.

The finals and prize presentation ceremony

were held at the same venue on 30 November.

Deputy Director-General U Kyaw Soe Myint presented best player awards and cash rewards to Maung Wan Ko Ko Oo and Ma Thinn Thinn Thuzar (Ministry of

Forestry). Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han awarded championship shields and cash awards to the Ministry of Forestry men's team and women's team.—MNA

Press conference on Bye Bye 2008 Promotion launched

YANGON, 10 Dec—A press conference on Bye Bye 2008 Promotion of Lucky Bird Co Ltd was held at Lucky Bird Centre II on Theinbyu street in Mingala Taungnyunt Township this afternoon.

Director Daw May Phyu Thwe of Lucky Bird Company explained facts about the programmes of the promotion. Next, Service Manager U Nay Thura explained the introduction of new model Toshiba AV Notebook-Qosmio X300-RED while General Manager U Thein Soe made demonstration.

Officials of the company replied to queries raised by media persons. Computers and related accessories are available at discount at No. 355, Theinbyu street, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon, at No. 5, 26th B Street, between 78th and 79th Streets, Mandalay and at No. 12, Yangon-Mandalay Road, in front of Hsinyadana, Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana (Tel-01-248167, 01-379875, 02-21572, 067-23190, 09-5011450, 09-9927729, 09-9924544, 09-8022025) from 12 to 22 December.—MNA



Director Daw May Phyu Thwe of Lucky Bird Co Ltd explains facts about Bye Bye 2008 Promotion.—MNA

Iraq war was both intel, policy failure

WASHINGTON, 10 Dec—Gently admonishing President George W. Bush, the nation's newly retired chief intelligence analyst on Tuesday suggested that the Iraq war was as much the failure of policymakers as it was the flawed intelligence on which they relied.

Bush told ABC News last week his biggest regret was "the intelligence failure in Iraq." "I wish the intelligence had been different, I guess," Bush said.

Thomas Fingar, until this week the deputy director of national intelligence for analysis, declined to directly address the president's swipe. But he said: "I learned something a long time ago in this town. There are only two possibilities: policy success and intelligence failure."

Fingar is in a better position than many in the intelligence agencies to assess those possibilities. Before the Iraq invasion, he was second in command of a small group of State Department analysts that notably cast doubt—albeit behind closed doors—on a key Bush administration rationale for the 2003 war.

His office "got it less wrong," he told reporters Tuesday during a valedictory round-table discussion.

But he acknowledged that the overall analysis of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction capabilities was wrong, and some of the underlying intelligence false. In fact, an exhaustive search turned up no nuclear, chemical or biological weapons or any evidence there was an active program to develop it.—*Internet*



Iraqis inspect a destroyed house in the village of Al-Muqdadiyah, east of Baghdad.—INTERNET

Iraq welcomes charges against US contractors over Baghdad shootings

WASHINGTON, 10 Dec—Iraq's government welcomed on Tuesday charges handed down in Washington against five private US security guards over a deadly shooting in Baghdad, but said it could still demand compensation for the victims. "The Iraqi government is pleased with what the American jurisdiction is (doing) now," spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said when asked about the indictments announced on Monday against five former guards for the security firm Blackwater. "But also, at the end, the Iraqi government reserves its right to protect the victims and the families and get the proper compensation for them," said Dabbagh, answering questions during an appearance at a foreign policy institute in Washington.

The Blackwater guards were charged with killing 14 Iraqi civilians and wounding 18 others using gunfire and grenades against unarmed Iraqis while travelling in a convoy through a busy Baghdad intersection in September 2007.—*Internet*



Relatives embrace a detainee (C) after he was just released from a U.S. military prison in Baghdad's southern Doura district, on 10 December, 2008.

INTERNET

Iraqi police arrest 30 in fatal truck bombings

BAGHDAD, 10 Dec—Iraqi police have arrested 30 members of an al-Qaida cell, including the alleged mastermind of truck bombings that killed 17 people in the former insurgent stronghold of Fallujah, officials said on Tuesday.

Tariq al-Karbouli, the alleged leader of the cell, was picked up on Monday in the Abu Ghraib area west of Baghdad, Iraqi officials said. The other members of the cell were apprehended in a series of raids that ended early on Tuesday, the officials added.

They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information. Two bomb-laden trucks exploded on Thursday at police stations in Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, killing 17 people and leveling buildings, police reported.—*Internet*

Taleban commander killed near Afghan capital

KABUL, 10 Dec—Taleban commander Muhammed Bobi was killed on Tuesday during a targeted operation in eastern Afghan province of Logar, some 80 kilometres away from capital city of Kabul, said a statement of NATO troops based here.

Muhammed Bobi was killed in Pol-e Alam district as a result of an overnight joint operation by Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) and the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), the statement said.—*Internet*

Two killed in Afghanistan market blast

KANDAHAR, 10 Dec—A bomb exploded in a market in southern Afghanistan killing two civilians, including a child aged seven, and wounding nine others, police said on Wednesday.

The device went off on Tuesday in the centre of a market north of Tarin Kowt, the capital of Oruzgan province, provincial police chief Juma Gul Himat told *AFP*. "The bombing took place around noon in a marketplace in the north of the city. A bomb exploded among the crowd," he said. "A seven-year-old child and an adult were killed and nine other civilians, including four children, wounded, but

their lives are not in danger."

He said two people had been arrested for "this cowardly attack... done by the enemies of Afghanistan," a term used to refer to insurgents fighting the Western-backed Kabul government.

Taleban militants, who are well implanted in Oruzgan province, have stepped up their insurgency in the past two years despite the presence of around 70,000 NATO and US troops in the country.

They were driven out of power by a US-led coalition in late 2001 following the 11 September terror attacks that year against the United States.—*Internet*

Iraqis ride past a collapsed building in Fallujah in July 2008. Ten suspected Al-Qaeda members have been arrested on charges of organizing last week's deadly truck bombings in the former insurgent bastion of Fallujah.

INTERNET



Afghan police and children are seen through the cracked glass of a vehicle blown up in a suicide bomb attack in Kabul on 30 Nov, 2008.

INTERNET





File photo shows a Chinese employee working at a Volkswagen vehicle plant in the city of Changchung, China. Foreign direct investment in the country rose 26.3 percent in the first eleven months of the year compared with the same period last year, the government has said.—INTERNET

Ill governor charged in Obama successor probe

CHICAGO, 10 Dec—Illinois Gov Rod Blagojevich was roused from bed and arrested on Tuesday after prosecutors said he was caught on wiretaps audaciously scheming to sell Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat for cash or a plum job for himself in the new administration. "I've got this thing and it's (expletive) golden," the 51-year-old Democrat said of his authority to appoint Obama's replacement,

"and I'm just not giving it up for (expletive) nothing. I'm not gonna do it." Prosecutors did not accuse Obama himself of any wrongdoing or even knowing about the matter. The president-elect said: "I had no contact with the governor or his office, and so I was not aware of what was happening." FBI agents arrested the governor before daybreak at his Chicago home and took him away while his

family was still asleep, saying the wiretaps convinced them that Blagojevich's "political corruption crime spree" had to be stopped before it was too late. "The Senate seat, as recently as days ago, seemed to be on the verge of being auctioned off," US Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald said. "The conduct would make Lincoln roll over in his grave." *Internet*

Israel reopens crossings with Gaza to aid, fuel

JERUSALEM, 10 Dec—Israel has reopened its crossings with Gaza to shipments of humanitarian aid and fuel. International journalists are also being allowed in. The Israeli military says 45 trucks of food and medical supplies are to

pass through on Tuesday, along with shipments of cooking gas and fuel for Gaza's power plant. The military says cargo and passenger crossings were reopened because of a lull Monday in attacks by Gaza militants on Israel.

The reopening of the crossings also means international journalists can again enter Gaza. This is just the second time reporters have been allowed in since fighting erupted on 5 November. The violence has left a 6-month-old truce in doubt.—*Internet*



A peace activist waves to a boat after its arrival in the Gaza Strip. Israel allowed the boat carrying pro-Palestinian activists to sail there in the fourth such voyage in protest at an Israeli blockade of the Hamas-ruled territory.—INTERNET

20 killed in bus fire in India

LUCKNOW, 10 Dec—A speeding bus caught fire in northern India, killing at least 20 Hindu pilgrims traveling on the vehicle, police said on Tuesday. About 55 people were on the bus, said Brij Lal, a senior police officer in the state of Uttar Pradesh, adding that the death toll was expected to rise. Lal says a tire burst or a snapped axle caused sparks, which set the fuel tank alight. The bus then overturned, sliding for several hundred yards (metres) down the highway near the town of Firozabad, 125 miles (200 kilometres) southwest of Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh.—*Internet*

Suspected remains of US airmen repatriated

HANOI, 10 Dec—Remains believed to be those of four American airmen killed during the Vietnam War were placed on a US military transport plane in Hanoi on Tuesday and sent back to the United States to be identified. The four aluminum cases holding the remains were draped with American flags as uniformed US soldiers carried them onto the plane at Noi Bai International Airport.

The remains were headed to Hawaii for forensic testing. The repatriation was the 108th, according to the MIA office in Hanoi. The remains were recovered from four different sites in northern Vietnam in the past two months, said Lieutenant Col Todd Emoto of the MIA office. "It is a very good percentage," Emoto said. "We found four sets from four sites. The cooperation with our Vietnamese counterpart is exceptional." The remains are believed to be those of airmen because they were found in northern Vietnamese provinces where US ground forces were not active during the conflict. The MIA office said there was some additional evidence indicating they were airmen but did not give specifics. *Internet*

Hong Kong reports bird flu outbreak

HONG KONG, 10 Dec—Three dead chickens tested positive for bird flu in Hong Kong, prompting the city to suspend poultry imports for 21 days and begin slaughtering 80,000 birds, an official said on Tuesday. "We feel that Hong Kong is facing a new alert for bird flu," said York Chow, secretary for food and health. Chow said the chickens, found on Monday at a farm with 60,000 birds, had the H5 virus and further tests were being done to see if they had the deadly H5N1 strain. The farm and neighbouring poultry operations were declared part of an infected zone, and about 80,000 birds in the area would be killed to prevent the spread of the

disease, Chow said. He added that the 21-day ban on poultry imports would last through the Christmas holiday, a time when chicken is an important dish in celebratory dinners. Hong Kong's biggest

bird flu outbreak was in 1997, when the H5N1 strain jumped to humans and killed six people. That prompted the government to slaughter all 1.5 million poultry in the territory. *Internet*



Workers disinfect themselves as they prepare to move bags of dead chickens at a farm on the Chinese border in Hong Kong.—INTERNET

Indonesia reports two human bird flu cases

JAKARTA, 10 Dec—A two-year old Indonesian girl has died on avian influenza, and another nine-year old girl has been infected by the virus, health ministry said here on Wednesday. The cases put the total cases of human bird flu infection to 139, including 113 fatalities, in Indonesia since the virus hit the archipelago country in 2003. The two-year-old girl from East Jakarta died on 29 November after developing symptoms on 18 November, spokesperson of the ministry Lily Sriwahyuni said. Investigation indicated that the source of her infection was from live bird market, the spokesperson said. The other girl from Riau province in Sumatra developed symptoms on 7 November after her poultry died, said Sriwahyuni. The girl was admitted into a hospital five day later and recovered on 22 November. The worldwide death toll, so far, reached 246 people out of 389 cases.—*Internet*

Somali pirates release Greek ship

NAIROBI, 10 Dec—A regional maritime body confirmed on Tuesday the release of a Greek ship, the MV Capt Stephanos, which was hijacked in September by Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden with 19 crew members.

A statement from the East Africa Seafarers Assistance Program (SAP) said the vessel, which was freed late on Monday, has a Ukrainian citizen, one Chinese and 17 Filipino seafarers, who were captured by Somali pirates 21

Sept.

“The Greek ship-owner’s company Chartworld Shipping Corporation (Athens) finally confirmed that the Greek ship MV Capt Stephanos, with a Ukrainian citizen as a crew member, one Chinese and 17 Filipino seafarers, captured by Somali pirates 21 September, was set free following 11 weeks of captivity,” the statement said.

“The crew members’ state of health is estimated as satisfactory, the

Ukrainian Foreign Ministry informed. According to the ship-owner’s information, presently the released ship is heading for Brindisi port (Italy),” it said. Maritime officials said a surge in piracy attacks at sea this year in the busy pirate-infested waters of the Gulf of Aden and Somali coast has pushed up insurance costs, brought the gangs tens of millions of dollars in ransoms, and prompted foreign warships to rush to the area.—Xinhua



Photo dated, on 8 Dec, 2008 shows the relocated Quanli village in Lueyang county, northwest China’s Shaanxi Province. Two hundred and six quake-survived villagers have moved into their new houses in the newly-built village prior to the upcoming winter.—XINHUA



Farmers build a house in Gonggar County of Shannan Prefecture, southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, on 9 Dec, 2008. —XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Israeli may take offensive operations to stop rocket attacks

JERUSALEM, 10 Dec—Israel’s outgoing Prime Minister Ehud Olmert on Tuesday warned that his government would take offensive operations in order to stop the ongoing rocket attacks from the Gaza Strip.

“We will never flee from our homes. We won’t defend, but will attack, and stop once and for all what threatens our daily lives,” local daily Ha’aretz quoted him as saying during a tour of rocket-battered communities along the Israel-Gaza border.

“We know what needs to be done, but we also know when to act in order that you won’t be scared and won’t need to run breathlessly to the shelters,” added the premier.

Earlier in the day, Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni, a strong contender for the next premiership, said that Israel should respond to every rocket attack launched by Gazan militants to prevent an image of weakness.

“A (military) response is important, even if it doesn’t automatically end the Palestinian rocket fire. There is something important in the impression and Israel’s deterrence ability,” another newspaper *The Jerusalem Post* quoted her as telling a conference in Tel Aviv. Livni also stressed that Israel must take all steps necessary to weaken Hamas’ rule in the coastal strip, saying that a ceasefire may seem in the short time a legitimate step, but “we must remember that when Israel gets into these arrangements, they harm us and strengthen Hamas.”—Xinhua

Diesel truckers face greater cancer risk from exhaust

LOS ANGELES, 10 Dec—Trucking company workers who have been regularly exposed to diesel exhaust from vehicles on highways, city streets and loading docks have a higher risk of lung cancer than other workers, according to a new national study.

Drivers who do short-haul pickups and deliveries, including loading and unloading containers at ports and working at freight-delivery companies, had the highest rate of deaths and disease, said

the study published by the San Francisco Chronicle on Tuesday.

Dockworkers were also at a higher risk, according to the report by researchers at the University of California in Berkeley and Harvard who based their report on 31,135 worker records.

Long-haul drivers were at lower risk probably because they are protected when they shut their windows. In contrast, short-haul drivers who often leave their windows open are exposed to

the exhaust. The study noted that fresh, newly released particles have a greater potential to cause mutations of DNA.

This new study compared eight jobs within the trucking industry, including clerks, and found a higher rate of lung cancer among these certain categories. A 2007 study by the same authors compared all jobs within the trucking industry to the general population, and also found higher lung cancer rates in the industry.—Xinhua

A big discount sign is seen in luxury Time Warner Center in New York, the United States of America. More and more people prefer shopping in supermarket like Walmart.

XINHUA

Top police official killed in Mexico City

MEXICO CITY, 10 Dec—A top Mexico City police official was fatally shot as he drove to his home on Tuesday, authorities said. Police said Victor Hugo Moneda Rangel, who was third in command of the Mexico City Police Department, was killed when three people traveling in a compact car and a motorcycle intercepted his vehicle shortly after midnight and shot him at least 20 times.—Xinhua

World GDP growth to be 2.5% in 2008

WASHINGTON, 10 Dec—World GDP growth will be 2.5 percent in 2008 and 0.9 percent for 2009, according to a report released by the World Bank on Tuesday.

According to the Global Economic Prospects (GEP) 2009 report, the ongoing world financial crisis has dimmed short-term prospects for developing countries, and the volume of world trade is likely to contract for the first time since 1982.

Meanwhile, the sharp slowdown has caused commodity prices to plummet, ending a historic five-year boom.

Xinhua





The model of BMW-Brilliance 3 Series is displayed at the launch ceremony in Beijing, China, on 8 Dec, 2008. The launch ceremony of BMW-Brilliance 3 Series including 320, 325 and 335, is held in Beijing, on 8 Dec, 2008.— INTERNET

Accidents kill 2,000 children worldwide every day

MANILA, 10 Dec— More than 2,000 children were killed in accidents or died of unintentional injury every day, while tens of millions of children were left with life-long disabilities every year, a latest report of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) says.

"Unintentional injuries are the leading cause

of childhood death after the age of nine years and that 95 percent of these child injuries occur in developing countries. More must be done to prevent such harm to children," a press release of Manila-based WHO Western Pacific Regional Office quoted UNICEF Executive Director Ann M Veneman as saying on Wednesday.

She said the World

Report on Child Injury Prevention, done by collaboration of 180 experts around the globe, finds road crashes, drowning, burns, falls, and poisoning are the top five causes of injury deaths.

According to the report, as the leading cause of death among 10-19 year-olds, road accidents kill 260,000 children every year while injuring about 10 million.—Internet

Panda bites park keeper in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 10 Dec— A giant panda named Peace bit a park keeper's left leg while he was laying bamboo leaves in the animal's pen at a Hong Kong amusement park, officials said Tuesday.

The park staffer was recovering well in hospital after the attack at Ocean Park, which has four giant pandas from China, park spokeswoman Christie Lau said.

Lau said park officials were still investigating the 30 Nov incident involving the male panda, whose name, An An, means "peace" in Mandarin.

Lau declined to provide further details.

A park visitor posted a video clip on YouTube that allegedly shows the post-attack scene, with the keeper in a green park uniform crawling out of the panda pen as the furry animal runs back into its den.

Internet

Fire in Taj Hotel, no casualties

MUMBAI, 10 Dec— A fire broke out in the Taj Mahal Hotel here in India's financial hub Mumbai, the target of the terrorist attack less than two weeks ago, creating a scare early in the morning but it was quickly put out.

Fire brigade personnel rushed to the scene of the fire, believed to have been triggered by an electrical short circuit, and put out the blaze quickly.

An official statement from the Taj Hotel said the fire near an unused kitchen of the 20th floor was detected by the hotel's maintenance staff at 7:15 a.m. IST Monday. The situation was under control by 8:15 a.m. IST, it added.

The hotel was the scene of massive fires set off by terrorists who exploded grenades when the security forces battled them during the flushing out operation.—MNA/PTI



Mumbai's Fire Brigade trucks are seen in front of Taj hotel in Mumbai on 9 Dec, 2008. A fire broke out between the 20th and 21st floor of the Taj Hotel's new building in south Mumbai early today.—INTERNET

NEWSALBUM

Indian woman gives birth at 70

An Indian woman has given birth to her first child at the age of 70 after receiving IVF treatment, newspapers quoted her doctor as saying yesterday.

Rajo Devi, who married 50 years ago, gave birth to a baby girl on Nov 28 after in vitro fertilization, said Anurag Bishnoi, a doctor at the Hisar fertility center in Haryana state.

"Rajo Devi and (her husband) Bala Ram approached the center for treatment and the embryo transfer was done on April 19," he told the Hindustan Times. "Both the mother and child are in good health."

Bishnoi claimed Devi was the world's oldest mother.

Another 70-year-old Indian was reported to have given birth to twins via IVF in July this year, while a 66-year-old Spanish woman had twins in 2006.

Devi's husband, aged 72, had also wed his wife's sister after 10 years of his first marriage did not result in children. His second wife also failed to become pregnant.

It was not clear whose egg and sperm were used in the successful treatment.



Zhang Shoupei displays crab shells to make a comparison between its natural status and one patterned with traditional local opera facial make-up at Shantang Community in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 3 Dec, 2008. Zhang enjoys painting opera facial make-up patterns on crab shells as a hobby.



A girl walks a "panda" in a street of Wuhan, Hubei Province in central China, attracting the attention of lots of people around. The "panda" turns out to be a dog wearing pandas' makeup!

The one that didn't get away yields long-lost ring

The one that didn't get away held an unlikely surprise for a Texas man. The blue-stoned class ring of Joe Richardson, engraved with his name, turned up inside an 8-pound bass 21 years after he lost it while fishing on Lake Sam Rayburn.

"My first reaction was — you gotta be kidding," he said on Wednesday.

The fisherman who discovered the tarnished ring inside his catch contacted Richardson on 28 November in Buna, about 100 miles northeast of Houston, after tracking him down with help from the Internet.

His fisherman hero asked to remain anonymous.

Richardson, 41, said he lost the ring about two weeks after his 1987 graduation from Universal Technical Institute in Houston. His mom had bought it for about \$200 and wasn't pleased when it went missing.

As a mechanic, Richardson said he

doesn't wear jewelry so he tucked the undamaged ring away.

"I have not cleaned it," he said. "I told my wife I don't want to clean it."



In this photo provided by the Richardson family, Joe Richardson's class ring is shown in Beuna, Texas. Richardson says he lost the ring about two weeks after his 1987 graduation from Universal Technical Institute in Houston. A fisherman found the ring inside his catch and tracked Richardson down with help from the Internet.

The first "comprehensive inventory" of marine and land species released by a research team from British Antarctic Survey and University of Hamburg describes the continent as a region rich in biodiversity, on 1 Dec, 2008. The inventory includes over 1,200 marine and land species the team found there, most of which live on the deep seabed of Antarctica.



Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project

Article and Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sethmu)

(from page 16)

Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project is located near Pyntha Village in Gangaw Township, Magway Division. The earthen facility was constructed by damming the Myittha River. On completion, the project will be able to benefit 12,000 acres of farmlands and generate 170 million kilowatt hours a year. The project is being undertaken by Construction (8) of the Irrigation Department.

The Myittha River rises on the mountain

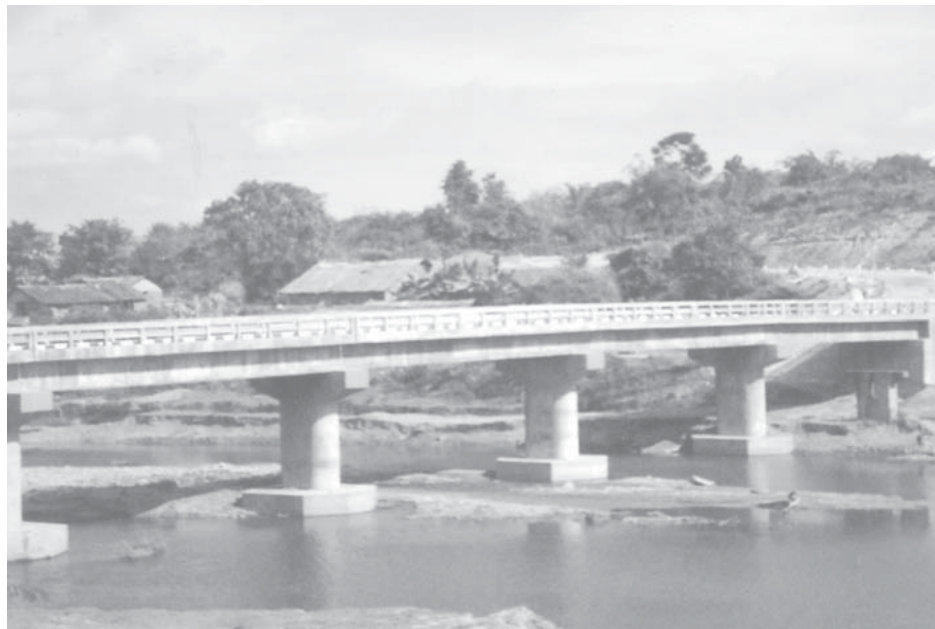
ranges in Chin State and empties itself into the Chindwin River. We passed through Mawchaung Bridge at Kansundaunt Village. The bridge was built by Myanmar engineers under the supervision of Engineers U Tin Moe Aung and U Win Nyunt of Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project. Until the bridge was constructed, local people had to get across the Maw Creek by boat, and proceed to Gangaw-Htilin. The 360-foot-long facility has a 14-foot-wide motorway and

two three-foot pedestrians on it. It is of reinforced concrete bored pile type and it can withstand 36 tons of loads. Due to the facility, local people now enjoy smooth transport.

The dam is 205 feet high. The main dam is 29,750 feet long. The facility's full tank level is 1010 feet and dead storage level, 932 feet. Its maximum water storage capacity is 377,600 acre feet; stagnant water storage capacity, 70,800 acre feet; and water surface area, 5788 acres. Its diversion canal is 14,300



A completed section of the dike of Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project.



Mawchaung Bridge designed to ensure smooth transport.

feet long and 100 feet wide. Its 1040-foot-wide spillway is of duck bill type. It will be able to benefit 12,000 acres of arable lands. Its catchment area is 700 square miles and annual inflow water capacity, 1,310,000 acre feet.

Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project is designed to store 377,600 acre feet of water; benefit some 12,000 acres of farmlands, enhance regional development through multiple and mixed-cropping patterns;

ensure regional greening; and produce 170 million kilowatt hours a year.

The generated hydropower is to be distributed to Gangaw Township and surrounding areas. Due to the facility, adequate irrigation water will be supplied to the farmlands on the left side of the Myittha River. Its dyke has been constructed by about 10,000 feet. Construction tasks are being carried out all-day round.

Gangaw Township of Magway Division is

close to Chin State. It gets a lot of rainfall in the rainy season, but water is scarce in summer. In consequence, crops could not be grown in summer. Upon completion of the project, local people can enjoy sufficient irrigation and potable water and electricity. In addition, they will be able to enjoy progress in the transport, education, health and social sectors.

Translation: MS
Kyemon: 8-12-2008

Rehabilitation tasks inspected in villages of Labutta Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Dec—Member of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint inspected progress in building Oktwin-Hteiksun road section, cyclone shelters, two-storey school and breeding animals on a small scale in Hainggyikyun in Labutta district on 7 December.

Next, the minister oversaw measures being taken for acquiring fresh water and progress in building Konthaya Basic Education Middle School and then met with departmental officials and local

people.

The following day the minister inspected salt fields in Thoungkalay village and met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders and gave instructions on harmonious efforts to be made for the improvement of the villages.

Upon arrival at Thabyayngu village, the minister looked into progress in building cyclone shelters and thriving fruits and plants and encouraged rural people.

In Chaungwa village, the minister inspected progress in build-

ing the new two-storey school and the pre-primary school and donated a generator for the village.

MNA

Collaboration on prevention against DHF in South Okkalapa

YANGON, 10 Dec—Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice Mayor Col Maung Pa visited an activity on prevention against Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever in

South Okkalapa Township today.

The Health Departments of the Ministry of Health and Yangon City Development Committee organized the activity on 14th Street in 10th Ward,

South Okkalapa Township today.

Similar activities on prevention against DHF were held in Kyimyindine, Ahlon, Sangyong and Yankin townships.

□MNA

Dogs feel envy, Austrian study finds

VIENNA, 10 Dec—Dogs can feel a simple form of envy, researchers have found.

Experiments with various species have shown that monkeys often express resentful behavior when a partner receives a greater reward for performing an identical task. Monkeys have been shown to stage strikes, refusing to participate and ignoring what they perceive as inferior compensation. Dogs are capable of similar, though less sensitive, discrimination, report Friederike Range and colleagues.



The researchers conducted experiments with pairs of domestic dogs accompanied by their owners. While the partner and subject dogs sat next to each other with their owner standing behind them, each dog was prompted to put its paw in the experimenter's hand, and upon complying, given a piece of sausage or bread.

Compared to a variety of control situations, the dogs reacted differently to unfair reward distribution, as measured by their reaction when the partner was given food for the task, but the subject was not. —Internet

Farms use bio-gas to...

(from page 1)

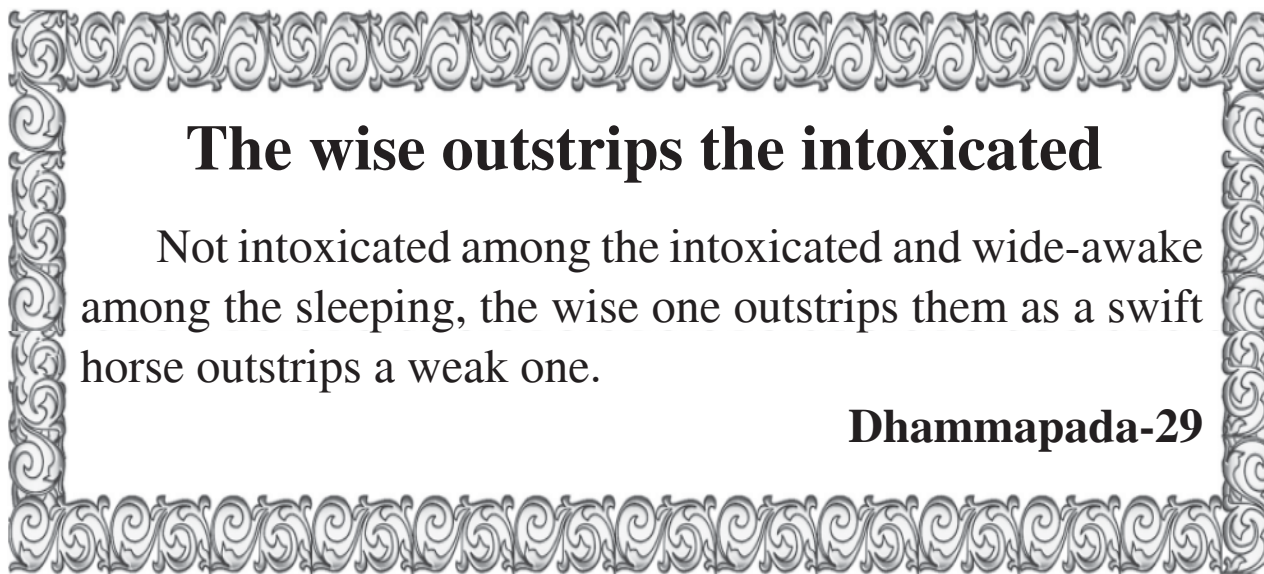
He also held a meeting with officials concerned at the office of the management committee of the poultry and fish special farming zone-1. At the meeting, chairmen of the farming zones and officials concerned reported on matters related to irrigation water supply to the zones, transportation and management of the zones. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Myint Swe fulfilled the requirements.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party went to Ngasudaung Village in Hlegu Township and visited the pig farm in the village. During the tour, he also inspected extraction of bio gas from pig dung.

During the tour of Green Land Farm at the vegetable and fish special farming zone-3, Deputy Director-General of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Aung Kyi and Director Dr Ohn Kyaw reported on pig farming in Yangon Division.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



The wise outstrips the intoxicated

Not intoxicated among the intoxicated and wide-awake among the sleeping, the wise one outstrips them as a swift horse outstrips a weak one.

Dhammapada-29

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presents journals and periodicals to a Library at Nyaungyin Village, Myinmu Township.

MNA



Minister contributes books, cash to library, school building in Sagaing Division

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Dec—Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended a ceremony to open a self-reliant library in Myinmu Township yesterday. At the opening ceremony, the minister presented journals, periodicals, sports gear and K 100,000 to the library through officials concerned.

The library is 22 ft long, 15 ft wide and 15 ft high, and was constructed at the cost of K 2 millions funded by the local people. Afterwards, the minister went to Padu Village in Sagaing Township and attended a ceremony to open the building for the affiliated basic education high school of the village.

After the opening ceremony, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint donated a set of computer, exercise books and sports equipment to the school through officials concerned. The two-storey building is 140 ft long, 30 ft wide and 23 ft height, and was constructed at the cost of K 30 million.—MNA

Commander, Ministers inspect Kawthoung, Myeik airports

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Dec—Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing

Thein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein arrived at Kawthoung Airport on 6 December. At the airport lounge, Director-General U Tun Hlaing of Department of Civil

Aviation reported on matters relating to Kawthoung airport. Afterwards, the commander and Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe gave necessary instructions.

On 8 December, the commander and the ministers inspected Myeik airport.—MNA

Kayin State Police meet

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Dec—Kayin State Police Force held the coordination meeting at Hsinbyushin Hall in Hpa-an on 8 December, with an address by Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Zaw Min.

Commander of Kayin State Police Force Police Col Hse Maung explained the instruction of the Minister for Home Affairs, the Deputy Minister and the Director-General of MPF.

MNA

Minister attends short refresher course No. 2/2008

YANGON, 10 Dec—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint delivered an address at the opening ceremony of the refresher short course No. 2/2008 at the Head Office of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Board on 8 December.

A total of 41 service personnel including 19 officers are attending the short course. The minister and party proceeded to 230 KV Kamanet (Bago)-Thanlyin grid construction project site and inspected progress in building No. 11 pylon and connection of power line.

At 230/33/11 KV Kamanet sub-power station, the minister and party oversaw the power line connecting from Kamanet (Bago) to Myaungdaka and the power line to connect from Kamanet (Bago) to Thanlyin, power availability and power supply and Control Panel Box.—MNA

K 38.475 mln for social welfare services

YANGON, 10 Dec—Department of the Myanmar Geosciences Society and Myanmar students from Saitama University of Japan collectively donated kind worth K 38.475 million to the Social Welfare

Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement at Kyaikwaing Youth Training School in Mayangon Township this morning.

Deputy Director-General U Aung Tun Khaing of Social Welfare Department and officials accepted the donations, presented certificates of honour and then spoke words of thanks.—MNA

Sports journals donated to library of SPEI

YANGON, 10 Dec—U Kyi Nyunt (Sagaing Kyi Nyunt) and family donated 230 copies of sports magazines in English version to the

library of Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon) of the Ministry of Sports through Librarian Daw Nwe Nwe Myint this

morning. Those wishing to donate books on sports subject to the institute may dial 01-400432.

MNA



Deputy Director-General U Aung Tun Khaing and officials accept donations worth K 38.475 million. —SWD

Industry-1 Minister inspects production of factories

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Dec—Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected Pyawbwe Textile Factory (Project) on 8 December morning and instructed officials to open the factory on schedule.

At the salt farm near Hsataung Village of Pyawbwe Township, the minister gave instructions on extended production of inland salt.

He viewed use of bio-fuel digestors in Kantaung Village of Meiktila Township and Phayabyu Village in Wundwin Township.

At Myittha Textile Factory (Project), the minister inspected

installation of machines and test-running.

In the afternoon, he visited Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries (Inyaung) and inspected production process.

At Enamel Ware and Steel Product Factory (Minsu), the minister viewed production procedures of the goods and gave instructions on manufacturing of import-substitute products.

The minister inspected Cement Plant (Kyaukse), Bicycle Factory (Kyaukse) and Sewing Machine Factory in the region of industries (Kyaukse). In the evening, the minister looked into purchase of cotton in Singaing.—MNA



Minister U Aung Thaung inspects inland salt farm near Hsataung village of Pyawbwe Township.—INDUSTRY-1

Construction Ministry honours outstanding students of staff families

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Dec—Ministry of Construction honoured outstanding students of the staff families of the ministry on 8 December.

At the 8th ceremony to honour the students who passed the matriculation examination with distinctions in Myittha Township held at Myittha Basic Education High School, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen

Saw Tun presented five million kyats to the chairman of executive committee U Aung Lin for the outstanding students.

The minister, his wife and officials presented prizes to the students who passed with distinctions, and headmistress Daw Thaug Thaug spoke words of thanks.

The minister proceeded to Kyaukse and

also attended the prize presentation to honour outstanding students in Kyaukse and Singaing Townships.

The minister, his wife and officials awarded students who passed the matriculation examination with distinctions and the headmistress of No. 1 Basic Education High School Daw San Yu Mar spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Basic Course No. 43 for Junior Officers conducted

YANGON, 10 Dec—Basic Course No. 43 for Junior Officers was opened at Central Institute of Civil Service

(Phaunggyi) this morning, with an address by U Win Maung, rector of the CICS.

Also present were

pro-rectors, heads of departments, lecturers, assistant lecturers, 66 male trainees and 177 female trainees.—MNA

New road inaugurated in Bahan Tsp

YANGON, 10 Dec—With the technological assistance provided by Engineering Department of Yangon City Development Committee, the opening ceremony of new Komin Kochin asphalt

concrete street took place in Bahan township, took place this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin. Chairman of Township

Peace and Development Council U Aung Mon Latt and chairman of committee for building the street Dr Tin Nyunt formally opened the new street. The newly-built street is 1250 feet long and 16 feet wide.—MNA

Annual meetings of MFPPEA

YANGON, 10 Dec—The Myanmar Fishery Products Processors and Exporters Association, the Crab Entrepreneurs Association, the Eel Entrepreneurs Asso-

ciation and the Ornamental Fish Entrepreneurs Association will hold their annual meetings at the Myanmar Fishery Federation on

Bayintnaung Road, West Gyogon Ward, Insein Township, here, at 9 a.m. on 14 December.

All members are invited to attend the meetings.—MNA

IBTC Open Golf Championships continues third round



YANGON, 10 Dec—The IBTC Open Golf Championships, the third leg of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009, jointly organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA, continued for the third day at Lashio Golf Club in Lashio on 8 December morning.

After the third round, Zaw Zaw Latt (Srixon) enlarged his role at the top position in the professional golfers division by firing 213 strokes in three-day total, followed by Min Naing (Srixon) at the second position with 214, Thein Zaw Myint (KM Golf Centre) at the third position with 215, while Zaw Zin Win (Srixon) and Yin Aung Latt took the fourth position with 216 each.

Soe Moe Win led the men's amateur golfers division with 207 together with first runner-up Bo Bo

with 210, second runner-up Aung Win (Forestry) with 212 and fourth position golfer Maung Maung Oo with 215.

The championships is sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd together with Air Bagan Ltd, Hotel Yangon, Ruby Dragon (Jade and Gems) Co Ltd, KBZ Bank Ltd, Alpine Purified Drinking Water, MY Associates Co Ltd, Srixon, Tiger Head Cement, KM Golf Centre, Canon and Lifeline (DHEA-Plus). Han Golf Event Management performed the functions of the championships.—MNA



Soe Moe Win leading men's amateur golfer division at the third round.—MGF

Kyini model village of Pyawbwe Township

Article: Tin Htwe (MNA); Photos: Tha Nyan

During a visit to Pyawbwe Township, Yamethin District, Mandalay Division, our media team of the Kyemon Daily covered the news about the opening of Pyawbwe-Phayangsu Railroad at Pyawbwe Station on 30

Swechaung Bridge between Theegon and Minywa villages. The RC-type facility cost 13 million kyats.

Chairman of the village Peace and Development Council U Sein Win and village elder U Than explained that

weaving machines. Some entrepreneurs of the model village run small-scale foundry plants and weaving machines are priced at only 650,000 kyats a unit, much cheaper than a foreign-made one.

Around 1973, textile entrepreneurs from Wundwin and Thedaw placed orders for weaving machine spare parts. Unlike in the past, now they place orders for complete sets of weaving machines. The model village also produces machine spare parts for factories under the

kyats by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and three million kyats by the villagers. The centre provides health care to over 20,000 people of 13 villages.

U Maung Pu, a village elder, said that till the village-to-village road was constructed, bullock cart was only means of transport to go here and there; that Kyini Village and Hinkhwet-ai Village jointly constructed a road linking Kyini Village and Yangon-Mandalay Highway on self-reliant basis which was inaugurated on 3 May



A man at work of the weaving machine industry of Kyini model village in Pyawbwe Township.

November. We also got a good opportunity to observe regional development tasks around the township, including road, bridge and irrigation facility projects, renovation of educational institutions, and thriving agricultural farms.

Kyini Village-tract is located on Yangon-Mandalay Highway, stretching out four miles. It has been upgraded to a model one with 217 houses and a primary school. Villagers grow mostly paddy, tomato and chilli. On Kyini-Theegone-Minywa-Thabyeyo-Gyogon village-to-village road is

their village was not far from Yangon-Mandalay Highway, but it was not easily accessible from their village due to poor transport; that villagers contributed their voluntary services to the construction of a road leading to the highway; that villagers were happy with the road because transport was smooth all-year round; and that smooth transport led to development in the social, health, education and economic sectors of the villagers.

Kyini Village receives orders for weaving machines placed by Wundwin and Thedaw. In the past, the towns had to import



Pyawbwe Township PDC Chairman U San Htay, village elder U Tin Oo and responsible persons seen in an interview.

Ministry of Industry-1.

U Nyi Shein, an entrepreneur, explained that it took three days and it needed about 600 viss of cast iron to cast a weaving machine; that they used briquettes made of oil residue to smelt cast iron; and that a viss of oil residue briquettes cost 350 kyats.

A rural health care centre was established in the village with the contribution of five million kyats: two million

2007; that in the past, they had to transport weaving machines by bullock cart and then by car to Wundwin, and if they set out in the early morning, they reached their destination at about 11 p.m. the same day; that then they could transport their products by car; and that villagers got higher incomes and the village-tract had about 50 motorcycles, eight pickups two light trucks, two Jeeps, and three



The road linking Theegone Village and Yangon-Mandalay Highway.

motorized trailers.

The model village also has a tube-well and a generator, so the living standard of the villagers is on a par with that of urban dwellers. They are now trying to upgrade their library.

U Hla Hsaung, a senior citizen of the village is now 70, but still robust. His family has become rich, running weaving machinery industry, and leads a luxury life with a fine house and a Dyna car. He said, "My business is so

good here that I even don't have a slightest idea of moving to a city".

Kyini Village has been transformed into a model one thanks to the three of the five rural development tasks laid down by the Head of State: to ensure smooth transport, to improve health standard and to ensure economic development of rural areas.

Translation: MS
Kyemon: 10-12-2008



U Maung Pu, a village elder of Kyini model village.



Where's Rudolf? A group of Santas speed off at the start of the 3km Wendy's Great New Zealand Santa Run in Auckland, New Zealand.—INTERNET

Laos to host ASEAN rubber conference 2009

HANOI, 10 Dec — The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Rubber Conference 2009 will be held in Vientiane, the capital city of Laos, from June 18 to June 20 in 2009, with the participation of almost 700 rubber industry experts and policy makers from 25 countries and regions, the Lao newspaper *Vientiane*

Times reported on Tuesday. Participants will discuss issues concerning the world's natural rubber demand and supply trends, sustainable and profitable strategies for natural rubber, development of small rubber enterprises and technology to meet global competitiveness, and the price outlook for 2009 and 2010.

The event under the

theme "Technology, Innovation and Market Driven Strategies: Keys to global development of the natural rubber industry" will be a chance for participants to get access to the latest research findings and developments on new high yielding rubber varieties and measures to prevent diseases that affect rubber trees. — MNA/Xinhua

Huge waves smash PNG villages

PORT MORESBY, 10 Dec — Huge waves caused by king tides smashed into dozens of villages and towns in northern Papua New Guinea, destroying homes and flooding businesses and a hospital, local media reported on Wednesday.

Authorities said there were no reports of casualties, but they were still trying to contact several outlying islands after the waves hit across an 800 kilometres (500 mile) stretch of ocean on Tuesday. Hundreds of people were left homeless

The waves struck PNG's north coast near the town of Wewak and islands to the northeast, such as New Ireland. "Huge waves that lasted for about six hours lashed these areas and created pools as deep as two metres, sending sediment and debris flooding into homes and businesses," reported *The National* newspaper.

New Ireland disaster coordinator Elsie Wambun told *The Post Courier* newspaper the sea rose up to 1.5 metres (4.5 feet).

"The wave took out the hospital," said Nessie Amos from Kavieng on New Ireland. "The hospital's equipment was washed out but patients were saved and taken to another hospital." — MNA/Reuters



A woman carries water on her head whilst carrying her child on her back in the Budiro suburb in Harare December 10, 2008. —INTERNET

IAF to deploy Aerostat radar to secure Delhi

NEW DELHI, 10 Dec — Faced with intelligence inputs of a possible threat from the skies on the pattern of 9/11, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has decided to instal highly-sophisticated radar in Delhi to detect 'rogue' low-flying aircraft. The decision to instal 'Aerostat' radar in the national capital Delhi comes close on the heels of Defence Minister A K Antony saying that the country needs to guard against aerial threats.

"We are planning to deploy a dedicated Aerostat radar here to secure the capital from threats from low-flying aircraft," IAF sources told *PTI* here on Tuesday.

These radars would be integrated with units of surface-to-air missiles (SAM) based in the capital.

After the recent terror strikes in Mumbai, intelligence agencies had warned about a WTC-type terror strikes at important locations across the country.

Antony had chaired a high-level meeting of the tri-services chiefs and his ministry officials to discuss means to counter any such aerial threat, after terrorists breached coastal security in Mumbai recently.

In response to the intelligence warnings, IAF chief Air Chief Marshal Fali Homi Major had recently said, "We are prepared to tackle any such threat." — MNA/PTI

Lebanese man gets life sentence in German bomb

PLOTDUESSELDORF (Germany), 10 Dec — A German court on Tuesday handed a Lebanese man a life sentence for trying to set off bombs on German trains two years ago.

The court in the western city of Duesseldorf convicted Youssef al-Haj Deeb of attempted murder of an undefined number of people. Prosecutors said the planned attacks in western Germany could have caused up to 75 casualties.

Prosecutors said Haj Deeb and an accomplice boarded two trains in Cologne, one headed for Koblenz, one for Dortmund, in July 2006

with suitcases containing tanks of propane gas and crude detonators.

Both men were filmed by video cameras at the station. The bombs failed to go off due to a technical fault.

Haj Deeb told the court he had not intended to kill anyone with the devices, saying he had intentionally built them in such way that they would not explode.

"I am sorry," he told the court last week.

He said his actions had been meant as a warning after cartoons depicting the Prophet Mohammad were published in a Danish newspaper in 2005, and reprinted by other

European publications. The cartoons sparked protests across the Muslim world.

MNA/Reuters

Macedonia's ex-PM jailed for abuse of power

SKOPIE, 10 Dec — A former Macedonian prime minister was sentenced on Tuesday to three and a half years in jail after he was found guilty of abuse of power while serving as

defence minister during an armed conflict in 2001.

Vlado Buckovski and three other former officials, as well as the former Army chief of staff, were found guilty of illegally

purchasing excessive quantities of tank parts during the ethnic conflict in the former Yugoslav republic, causing losses of 2.5 million euros (3.2 million US dollars) to the state budget.

"The court found that the accused have committed the crime and are found guilty," Judge Vangelica Markudova said.

Buckovski, who served as prime minister from 2004 to 2006, called the verdict "scandalous" and said he would appeal.

"We have proved that we are innocent and sorry that Macedonia and the court didn't use this opportunity to show its independence," he said.

MNA/Reuters



Swiss artist Olaf Breuning stands next to his sand sculpture at South Beach in Miami, Florida, on 6 December. The work was commissioned by the Sagamore Hotel to celebrate Art Basel Miami. Its not sellable, he said of the tons of sand that have been shaped.—INTERNET

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Dated: 11 December 2008

Court jails tanker officers over S Korea's worst oil spill

SEOUL, 10 Dec—A South Korean court on Wednesday jailed the Indian captain and chief officer of a Hong Kong supertanker after ruling they were partly to blame for the country's worst oil spill, court officials said.

The appeal court, overturning a lower court ruling, found the Hebei Spirit's owner and top officers partly to blame for the spillage on 7 December last year which fouled miles of beaches.

Captain Jasprit Chawla

was sentenced to 18 months in prison and fined 20 million won (14,000 dollars) while chief officer Syam Chetan was sentenced to eight months and fined 10 million won, the officials told *AFP*.

Yonhap news agency had reported the captain was jailed for one year.

The ship's owner, Hong Kong-registered Hebei Ocean Shipping, was fined 30 million won.

The ruling was likely to spark anger among international shipping opera-

tors and seafarer unions, who insist the tanker crew were blameless. The lower court in June had found them not guilty.

The accident happened when a barge carrying a construction crane broke free after a cable linking it to one of two tugs snapped in rough seas.

The barge, owned by Samsung Heavy Industries, rammed the anchored 147,000-ton Hebei Spirit. It holed it in three places and spilt 10,900 tons of crude oil.—*Internet*



An elderly woman walks along a beach covered with oil after the tanker Hebei Spirit shed its load off the South Korean coast.—INTERNET



A partially damaged statue of a lion is seen in the ancient city of Babylon, some 100 kms south of Baghdad.—INTERNET

Toyota to cut more production in North America

TOKYO, 10 Dec—Toyota Motor Corp. said on Wednesday it would further reduce production in North America to cope with a slump in the global auto industry.

The carmaker plans to suspend part of the production in Indiana and Kentucky for up to nine days and in Canada for up to 10 days early next year.

Japan's leading automaker will also halt pro-

duction of its Tacoma and Corolla brands at a plant jointly operated with General Motors in California for 10 days, a Toyota spokesman said. "At the plant in Kentucky, all the assembly lines will be suspended for nine days," said Toyota spokesman Hi-deaki Honma, who declined to confirm what the impact would be on the number of vehicles produced. The cuts are in ad-

dition to plans already announced by Toyota to reduce production at its US, Canadian and French factories, and lay off 3,000 temporary workers in Japan. Toyota has also moved to cut domestic production, including that of the luxurious Lexus brand, and slash management bonuses by 10 percent as it seeks to cut costs in the face of plunging profits.—*Internet*

Scientists find nutty risk reducer: Eat more nuts

CHICAGO, 10 Dec—Here's a health tip in a nutshell: Eating a handful of nuts a day for a year — along with a Mediterranean diet rich in fruit, vegetables and fish — may help undo a collection of risk factors for heart disease. Spanish researchers found that adding nuts worked better than boosting the olive oil in a typical Mediterranean diet. Both regimens cut the heart

risks known as metabolic syndrome in more people than a low-fat diet did.

"What's most surprising is they found substantial metabolic benefits in the absence of calorie reduction or weight loss," said Dr JoAnn Manson, chief of preventive medicine at Harvard's Brigham and Women's Hospital.

In the study, appearing

on Monday in the Archives of Internal Medicine, the people who improved most were told to eat about three whole walnuts, seven or eight whole hazelnuts and seven or eight whole almonds. They didn't lose weight, on average, but more of them succeeded in reducing belly fat and improving their cholesterol and blood pressure.—*Internet*

Diabetes drugs double women's fracture risk

LONDON, 10 Dec—Long-term use of GlaxoSmithKline's Avandia and Takeda's Actos doubles the risk of bone fractures in women with type 2 diabetes, according to a study released on Wednesday.

Scientists already knew the two thiazolidinedione (TZD) drugs for diabetes

were associated with fractures, but the magnitude of the risk had not been evaluated.

"This study shows that these agents double the risk of fractures in women with type 2 diabetes, who are already at higher risk before taking the therapy," said Sonal Singh of North Carolina's Wake

Forest University School of Medicine.

Singh and colleagues at Wake Forest, working with researchers at Britain's University of East Anglia, based their findings on a pooled analysis of 10 previous clinical studies lasting at least a year involving 14,000 patients.—*Internet*



File photo shows a salesman waiting for customers at an electronic shop in Jakarta. Japan's Sony Corp said, on Tuesday that it was cutting 8,000 jobs worldwide and shutting some plants as part of an overhaul of its business to cope with the global economic downturn.—INTERNET



A forklift truck driver moves vehicle parts outside the Wagon Automotive factory in Walsall, near Birmingham, central England, on 8 Dec. In Britain, manufacturing output sank 1.4 percent in October from September, the eighth monthly drop in a row, and was down 4.9 percent on a 12-month basis, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) said in a statement.—INTERNET



A car that has been scrapped and crushed for recycling is exhibited at the New England International Auto show in Boston, Massachusetts, on 3 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET

Scientists try to mitigate climate change effects

POZNAN (Poland), 10 Dec — Scientists studying the changing nature of the Earth's climate say they have completed one crucial task — proving beyond a doubt that global warming is real.

Now they have to figure out just what to do about it.

“It is critical for us to get a much better understanding of the impact of climate change in some parts of the world,” Rajendra Pachauri,

chairman of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, told *The Associated Press* in an interview on Tuesday.

Scientific warnings of potential catastrophe have been the backdrop for talks among more than 10,000 delegates and environmentalists negotiating a treaty to control the emission of greenhouse gases, which have grown by 70 percent since 1970. The treaty, due to

be completed in one year, would replace the Kyoto Protocol, which expires in 2012.

Pachauri said he was concerned that negotiators were sparring and probing — and leaving key decisions for the last moment.

“My concern is that if we leave everything to the end, we might end up with a weak agreement that doesn't really address the problem,” he said.

Internet

CO2 found on “hot Jupiter” planet

WASHINGTON, 10 Dec — Carbon dioxide has been seen on a hot planet outside our solar system — another piece of evidence supporting the possibility that life could develop elsewhere, astronomers said on Tuesday.

NASA said its Hubble Space Telescope has discovered carbon dioxide in the atmosphere of “hot Jupiter” planet HD 189733b, which orbits a nearby star 63 light-years from Earth.

The planet is itself too hot to support life — its surface is about 1,800 degrees F (1,000 degrees C). But the astronomers said the observations are a

proof-of-concept demonstration that the basic chemistry for life can be measured on planets orbiting other stars.

In March, they found the ingredients for methane on the planet, one of about 300 planets so far found circling stars other than our own. Evidence has also been found for water vapor there. “These atmospheric studies will begin to determine the compositions and chemical processes operating on distant worlds orbiting other stars,” said Eric Smith, Hubble Space Telescope program scientist at NASA. Mark Swain of

NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California used Hubble's near-infrared camera and multi-object spectrometer to study infrared light from the planet.—Internet

Ireland's food scare crisis spread Tuesday as officials said cancer-linked chemicals had been found in cows as well as pigs, but insisted the risk to human health was minimal.—INTERNET



Cancer to pass heart disease as No. 1 killer

WASHINGTON, 10 Dec — Cancer is on pace to supplant heart disease as the No. 1 cause of death worldwide in 2010, with a growing burden in poor countries thanks to more cigarette smoking and other factors, global health experts said on Tuesday.

Globally, an estimated 12.4 million people will be diagnosed with some form of cancer this year and 7.6 million people will die, the UN World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer said in a report.

“The global cancer burden doubled in the last 30 years of the 20th century, and it is estimated that this will double again

between 2000 and 2020 and nearly triple by 2030,” according to the report.

By 2030, 26.4 million people a year may be diagnosed with cancer, with 17 million people dying from it, the report forecast.

In men, lung cancer was the most common form in terms of new cases and deaths, while breast cancer was the most common type among women in new cases and deaths, according to the report. More men than women get cancer and die from it.

“This is going to present amazing problems at every level in every society worldwide,” the IARC's Peter Boyle said at a news conference.—Internet

Mobile phone chip to counter radiation unveiled

BRUSSELS, 10 Dec — Belgian health products distributor Omega Pharma will launch a chip it claims can counter potentially damaging radiation from mobile phones and has high hopes for its sales.

The company, which sells non-prescription products such as wart treatments, pregnancy tests and sun tan lotions to pharmacists, unveiled the E-waves phone chip on Tuesday, a day before its launch in Belgium.

Testing of the chip, which offsets the electromagnetic radiation from the phone, showed it lessened symptoms such as headaches and loss of concentration that might be associated with mobile

phone use, Omega said.

It also neutralized the heating effect within the body produced by electromagnetic signals.—Internet

Malaria vaccine shows promise in Africa tests

NEW YORK, 10 Dec — A vaccine that may become the world's first to prevent malaria shows promise in protecting African children, researchers said on Monday, calling the results a “major milestone.”

In early tests, the experimental vaccine was more than 50 percent effective in preventing the deadly disease in infants and toddlers in two countries in Africa, the scientists said. A larger and longer test is expected to begin early next year, the latest effort at slowing a disease that kills nearly 1 million people annually. It is the first malaria vaccine to make it this far, and if further studies are successful, marketing approval could be sought as early as 2011. The vaccine was developed by the British-based GlaxoSmithKline PLC.—Internet

MacBook and MacBook Pro laptops are seen on display at Apple Headquarters in Cupertino, California. Apple has replaced advice that people install anti-virus software on Macintosh computers with assurances that the machines are safe “out of the box.”—INTERNET



SPORTS



Anorthosis Famagusta goalkeeper Zoltan Nagy (R, Up) fights for the ball with Panathinaikos' Vangelis Mantzios (R, down) during their Champions League football game at the Athens Olympic stadium. Panathinaikos won 1-0.—INTERNET

Panathinaikos qualify as group winners

ATHENS, 10 Dec—Greeks Panathinaikos beat Anorthosis Famagusta of Cyprus 1-0 at the Athens Olympic Stadium here on Tuesday to win Group B and qualify for next year's Champions League first knockout round. Gutsy midfielder Giorgos Karagounis scored in the 69th minute after gaining possession from the Anorthosis defense before shooting past substitute keeper Zoltan Nagy from up close.

The win for Panathinaikos put an end to the Champions League dream of surprise-package Anorthosis, who were eliminated as the last-placed team in the pool with Werder Bremen taking the UEFA Cup spot in third having beaten Inter Milan 2-1.

It was also a perfect birthday present for Panathinaikos coach Henk Ten Cate who turned the team around after a poor start.—INTERNET

Liverpool beat PSV 3-1 away to win group

EINDHOVEN, 10 Dec—Liverpool cruised to a 3-1 win at PSV Eindhoven on Tuesday that earned them top place in Group D of the Champions League.

The English league leaders went into the match second to Atletico Madrid in the group although equal on points but the Spanish side could only manage a 0-0 draw away to Olympique Marseille in their final match.

PSV, who finished fourth in the group, are out of Europe before the end of the year for the first time in six seasons.—INTERNET



Bruno Marioni of Mexico's Pachuca jumps for the header at a practice session for the FIFA Club World Cup in Chiba, west of Tokyo, on 10 Dec, 2008.—INTERNET

Australia commits 45 million dollars to 2018 WC bid

SYDNEY, 10 Dec—Australia's bid to host the 2018 World Cup has received a major boost when the government agreed to spend more than 45 million dollars to back the campaign.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, Sports Minister Kate Ellis and Tourism Minister Martin Ferguson said in a statement the 45.6-million-dollar (30 million US) cash injection "sends a clear message to the football world that Australia is serious about hosting the 2018 FIFA World Cup."

"There is no better place in the world than right here in Australia," Ellis told reporters.

"This announcement shows to the entire football world we are very serious in our commitment and we know if successful it would be a great win not just for the football fraternity, but for the sporting world and our economy and infrastructure."—INTERNET



Australian Football Federation President Frank Lowy addresses the 58th FIFA Congress in Sydney, in May. Australia's bid to host the 2018 World Cup has received a major boost when the government agreed to spend more than 45 million dollars to back the campaign.—INTERNET

Sorenstam plans to sign off in style on return from India

DUBAI, 10 Dec—Former world number one Annika Sorenstam plans to sign off from the women's tour in style at the Dubai Ladies Masters starting on Thursday after spending time at a yoga retreat on her first visit to India. The 38-year-old Swede, who has won 72 LPGA tournaments including 10 majors, will retire after the Masters to get married, start a family and pursue her business interests.

"I had a really weird preparation for this week and I will have to rely on memories from the previous years and the knowledge of the course to play some good golf," Sorenstam told reporters.—INTERNET

Roma top group as Bordeaux settle for UEFA Cup

ROME, 10 Dec—AS Roma secured top spot in Champions League group A with a 2-0 victory over a less than vintage Bordeaux at the Stadio Olimpico here on Tuesday.

Goals from Matteo Brighi

and Francesco Totti ensured Roma beat Chelsea to first place in the pool and they will play a group runner-up in the second round next year.

The French team will have to settle for a place in the UEFA Cup as consolation after failing to put their hosts under any serious pressure.

For Roma it capped a remarkable turnaround since losing their opening game of the group at home to Romanian debutants CFR Cluj.—INTERNET



AS Roma's midfielder Matteo Brighi celebrates after scoring against Bordeaux during their Champions league group A football match at Olympic stadium in Rome. Roma won 2-0.—INTERNET

Bremen shock Inter to secure UEFA Cup berth

BREMEN, 10 Dec—Werder Bremen booked their place in the UEFA Cup as they bowed out of the Champions League with a shock 2-1 win over Inter Milan - their first in the competition this season - here on Tuesday.

Second-half goals by ex-Chelsea striker Claudio Pizarro and Markus Rosenberg put Bremen into a 2-0 lead before Swedish striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic drilled home a top-class consolation goal from 20 metres out for Milan with time running out.

Having failed to win a single Group B game all season, Bremen were only

playing to avoid last place while Milan are safely into the next round and were vying for top spot and left a few of their stars on the bench.—INTERNET



Werder Bremen's Swedish striker Markus Rosenberg celebrates after scoring during the Werder Bremen (Germany) vs Inter Milan (Italy) group B Champions League football match in Bremen. Bremen won 2-1.—INTERNET

Ballesteros released after brain surgery

MADRID, 10 Dec—Seve Ballesteros thanked doctors and staff for giving him the chance to play the "mulligan of my life" on Tuesday when he was released from the hospital more than two months after brain surgery to remove a malignant tumor.

The 51-year-old Spanish golfing great will continue to be treated as an outpa-

tient, Madrid's La Paz hospital said in a statement. Ballesteros thanked not only the neurosurgeons who performed the operations, but also the staff and well-wishers who showed support since he was hospitalized 66 days ago. "Thanks to them I will be able to play the mulligan of my life, which I expect to enjoy at my best," Ballesteros said in a statement posted on his Web site. "There is a long recovery time ahead and I shall keep fighting with patience and determination against the brain tumor that was detected at the beginning of October."—INTERNET

Scolari not fazed by shootout with Europe's big guns

LONDON, 10 Dec—Luiz Felipe Scolari insists he doesn't care who Chelsea play in the Champions League second round even though his side's failure to win their group could lead to a shootout with one of Europe's big guns.

The Blues survived a nervous display against CFR Cluj on Tuesday to claim a 2-



Chelsea's Didier Drogba (right) celebrates after scoring against CFR Cluj during their Champions League Group A match at Stamford Bridge in London. Chelsea won 2-1.—INTERNET

1 win which guaranteed their progress into the last 16, but Roma's victory over Bordeaux meant Chelsea only qualified as Group A runners-up. As one of the eight second placed teams, Chelsea will be pitted against a group winner in the draw on 19 December and that could mean they face the likes of Barcelona, Juventus, Real Madrid, Bayern Munich or French champions Lyon.

A showdown with former Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho, now at Inter Milan, was avoided after the Italians also finished second but there are plenty of perilous ties in wait for last season's runners-up.—INTERNET

OBITUARY

Mr. K. M. Nath (Khetra Mohan Nath)
(a) Nelson Nath
Age 74 years

Son of late K. C. Nath and late S. S. Devi of Pathein, beloved husband of Mrs. Aruna Nath, father of Kanchun, Nipa (a) Nicole [Kedaung (Myanmar) Co Ltd], Rekha-Nitai (a) Kyaw Win and Bobby of No. 33, Eiksietan Housing Estate, Waizayantar Garden, Waizayantar Road, Thingangyun Township, Yangon, expired suddenly on 5th December 2008 at 4.30 a.m. at Kolkata, India.

Friends and relatives far and near, please accept this as the only intimation.

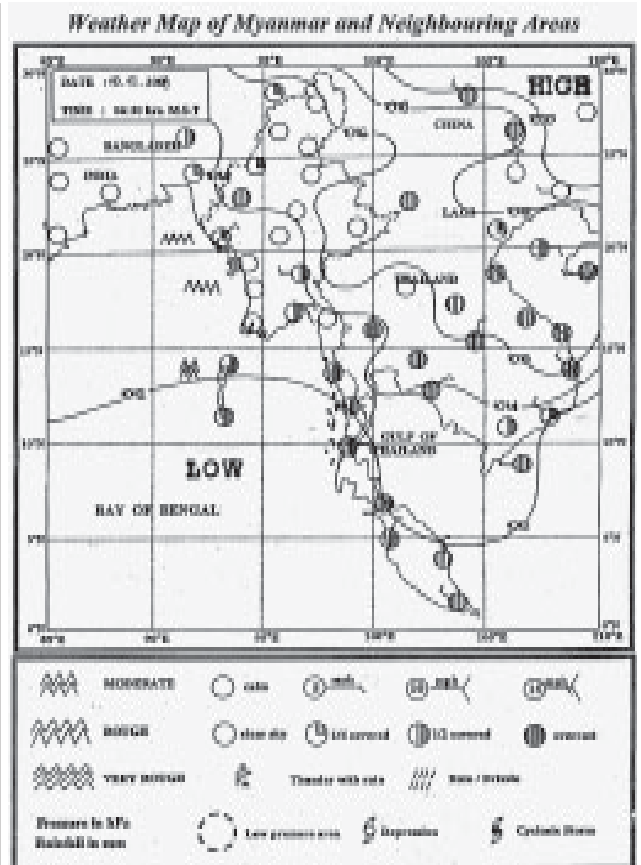
Bereaved family members

US declines to free "Reuters" photographer in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 10 Dec—The US military in Iraq is not obliged to obey an Iraqi court order to release a freelance photographer working for Reuters news agency and will hold him into 2009, a spokesman said on Tuesday.

The Iraqi Central Criminal Court ruled on 30 November that there was no evidence against Ibrahim Jassam Mohammed, and ordered the US military to release him from Camp Cropper prison near Baghdad Airport, where he has been detained since September.

"Though we appreciate the decision of the Central Criminal Court of Iraq in the Jassam case, their decision does not negate the intelligence information that currently lists him as a threat to Iraq security and stability," said Major Neal Fisher, spokesman for the US military's detainee operations in Iraq.—MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Wednesday, 10 December, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Mon State, upper Sagaing, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, (4°C) above December average temperatures in Mandalay Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (1°C) and Hakha (2°C).

Maximum temperature on 9-12-2008 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 10-12-2008 was 62°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 10-12-2008 was 72%. Total sunshine hours on 9-12-2008 was (8.6) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 10-12-2008 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 (5) mph from Southeast at (12:30) hours MST on 9-12-2008.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 11th December 2008: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Shan States, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 11-12-2008: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-12-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-12-2008: Generally fair weather.

Cambodian NA approves nat'l budget of over \$1.88b for 2009

PHNOM PENH, 10 Dec —The Cambodian National Assembly (NA) here on Tuesday approved the 2009 national budget of over 1.88 billion US dollars with its emphasis on education, health and military defence.

"We thank the Parliament for it agreed with the request of the

government for the expenditure of the national budget for 2009, and it will contribute to reducing poverty in the country and lead to more economic growth," Ouk Rabun, secretary of state of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, told the Parliament after the approval.—MNA/Xinhua

EU mission deploys in Kosovo amid tight security

MITROVICA, 10 Dec — The European Union began a long-delayed police and justice mission in Kosovo on Tuesday as international peacekeepers stepped up security in the north where Serbs oppose the

move. The first of a 1,900-strong force of European and American police, Customs agents, judges and prosecutors began deployment in mainly Albanian Kosovo which seceded from Serbia in February.

"Today marks an important new step in the ever closer relationship between the EU and Kosovo," said Pieter Feith, the top EU official who oversees implementation of Kosovo's independence.

Internet

A man reads a newspaper in Beijing in early November. The country's media has witnessed major changes since a series of reforms swept the vast communist nation 30 years ago and now many journalists are pushing the envelope, helped by the Internet and other new technologies.—INTERNET



Thursday, 11 December
View on today

- 7:00 am**
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်တရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 7:55 am**
5. Dance variety

- 8:10 am**
6. "အသက်ကလေးရယ်တဲ့ရှည်စေလို" (ဦးအောင်လွင်၊ ကြည်စိုး၊ မေထွဋ်ခေါင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)
- 8:30 am**
7. International news
- 8:45 am**
8. Musical programme
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm**
2. Dance of national races
- 4:20 pm**
3. နားဝင်ပီယံသူလက်သံ
- 4:35 pm**
4. "ငှက်တစ်သောင်း" (ကင်းကောင်၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ ထူးမွန်၊ အကယ်ဒမီစိုးရွှေ)

- ဦးမြင့်စိုး၊ တိမ်ညွန့်၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်သီ)
- 4:50 pm**
5. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:00 pm**
6. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (သမိုင်းအထူးပြု) (သမိုင်း)
- 5:15 pm**
7. Songs to uphold national spirit
- 5:25 pm**
8. Cute little dancers
- 5:35 pm**
9. Musical programme
- 5:45 pm**
10. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

- 6:00 pm**
11. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
12. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
13. ထူးဆန်းထွေလာများကိုသိပ္ပံဖြင့် ချဉ်းကပ်ခြင်း
- 6:50 pm**
14. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်
- 7:05 pm**
15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကုန်သွယ်မှုနဲ့တိုင်း" (အပိုင်း-၃၃)
- 8:00 pm**
16. News
- 8:00 pm**
17. International news
- 8:00 pm**
18. Weather report
- 8:00 pm**
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပင်လယ်ဖျော်မင်းသား" (အပိုင်း-၅၃)

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Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project

Article and Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sethmu)

The Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is constantly implementing multipurpose dam projects to utilize water sources in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State for economic growth of the nation and regional devel-

opment.

A UN mission visited Myanmar and observed Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project in 1962. In 1985, a team of Myanmar engineers carried out feasibility study to construct a dam at the site near Pyintha and

Myayni villages submitted by the mission. Only in November 2002, could the Myanmar engineer team designate the site for Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project near Pyintha Village through a further study. (See page 7)



A work site of Myittha Multipurpose Dam Project.

Secret ingredient for the health of tropical rainforests discovered

PANAMA CITY, 10 Dec—A team of researchers led by Princeton University scientists has found for the first time that tropical rainforests, a vital part of the Earth's ecosystem, rely on the rare trace element molybdenum to capture the nitrogen fertilizer needed to



support their wildly productive growth. Most of the nitrogen that supports the rapid, lush growth of rainforests comes from tiny bacteria that can turn nitrogen in the air into fertilizer in the soil.

Until now, scientists had thought that phosphorus was the key element supporting the prodigious expansion of rainforests, according to Lars Hedin, a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at Princeton University who led the research. But an experiment testing the effects of various elements on test plots in lowland rainforests on the Gigante Peninsula in the Barro Colorado Nature Monument in Panama showed that areas treated with molybdenum withdrew more nitrogen from the atmosphere than other elements.

"We were surprised," said Hedin, who is also a professor in the Princeton Environmental Institute. "It's not what we were expecting."

The report is detailed in the December 7 online edition of Nature Geoscience.—Internet

Mediterranean diet plus nuts may be helpful in managing metabolic syndrome

MADRID, 10 Dec—A traditional Mediterranean diet with an additional daily serving of mixed nuts appears to be useful for managing some metabolic abnormalities in older adults at high risk for heart disease, according to a new report.

The metabolic syndrome is a set of metabolic abnormalities that includes abdominal obesity and high cholesterol, high blood pressure and high blood glucose levels, all of which are risk factors for cardiovascular disease, according to background information in the article.—Internet



Benitez delighted with Liverpool future positives as Darby, Spearing, Kelly taste European debut

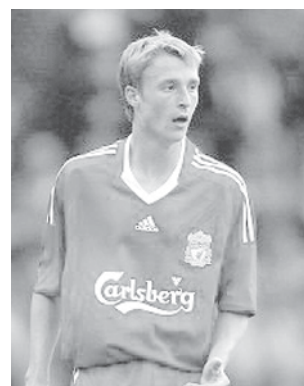
LIVERPOOL, 10 Dec—Liverpool boss Rafa Benitez is delighted with positives all around as the Reds made it to the Champions League last-16 by topping the Group D with last night's come from behind 3-1 win at PSV Eindhoven.

The Reds, who are

at the top of the Premiership too, also had the youngsters Stephen Darby, Jay Spearing and Martin Kelly featuring in the European game for the first time and Benitez is happy that things went according to his script.

"It is always good to be able to bring on local

youngsters, produced by the club," the Spanish tactician is quoted as saying on the club's official website.



"And Stephen Darby, Jay Spearing and Martin Kelly all did well on their European debuts.

"Everything went right and I was delighted with the overall performance. There were plenty of positives for the club and its future. We wanted to win the group to make sure we had the second leg of the next round at Anfield. Once we had got level we were always a threat."—Internet