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Four political objectives

* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Lt-Gen Myint Swe looks into Integrated Farm of Yangon Division Police Force

YANGON, 11 Jan—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and Deputy Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win, inspected vegetable plantations, livestock breeding farms and production booth at Integrated Farm of Yangon Division Police Force at Seinpanmyaing Police Housing in Kyaukyedwin Ward of North Okkalapa Township this morning.

Commander of Yangon Division Police Force Police Col Win Naing reported on cultivation of vegetable and other crops and progress of the breeding farm. Lt-Gen Myint Swe instructed officials to grow perennial crops, choose quality strains and use bio-fuel through waste of animals.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence visits integrated farm of Yangon Division Police Force.—MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe visited the vegetable and crop plantations, pig farm and gourd farm of Yangon East District Police Force, vegetable and crop plantation, pig farm and fish pond of Yangon Division Police Force and vegetable plantation, nursery, pig, duck and fish breeding farms of Yangon Division Wireless and Traffic Police Force.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe also viewed personal goods, clothes and foodstuffs displayed at the production booths of family members of 44 Township Police Forces of Yangon Division and gave instructions on production of hygienic foodstuff and quality personal goods.

He also looked into milch cow farm and mushroom farm of Yangon Division Wireless and Traffic Police Force, candles production and consumer products, salesroom of family members of Yangon Division Police Force and vegetable and crops plantations, pig farm and fish pond of Yangon West District Police Force.

MNA

Kachin State extending rubber farming

Article: *Kyaw Kyaw (Bhamo);* Photos: *Htay Aung (Kyemon)*

Today, rubber is essential raw material for everyday use, and world's rubber consumption is on the increase. Myanmar has fertile soil, favourable amount of rainfall and temperate climate to grow rubber on a commercial scale, so it is generating rubber farming through projects.

Now, Kachin State is growing rubber on a wider scale to meet the target of 100,000 acres. We media men from the Kyemon Daily paid a visit to Kachin State Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise in Myitkyina on 31 December. There, we noticed that rubber saplings were nurtured in the office compound.

Conducting us round the rubber farm, Kachin State MPCE Manager U Aung Myo Oo said that Myanmar tested sowing wild rubber seeds from Brazil about 100 years ago; that then rubber was grown on a large

(See page 7)

A thriving rubber farm in Kachin State.

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 12 January, 2009

Serve interest of the nation through engineering skills

The annual general meeting of Myanmar Engineering Society was held at the MES building the other day, with an address by Prime Minister General Thein Sein. At the ceremony ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations presented Distinguished Honorary Fellowship to Myanmar Engineering Society.

Myanmar, being a member of ASEAN, Myanmar Engineering Society too has been actively participating in the activities of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations (AFEO) consisting of ten engineering societies from ten ASEAN member nations since 2000. Myanmar Engineering Society successfully hosted Conference of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations (CAFEO-22) in 2004. At the conference, Myanmar engineers had the opportunities to meet and share experiences with their counterparts of ASEAN member nations.

Today is the knowledge age and every nation is endeavouring constantly for development of science and technology. As a developing nation Myanmar is also striving for development of science and technology in order to keep abreast of developed nations.

Efficiency of Myanmar Engineering Society plays a pivotal role in progress of the nation. Implementation of the mammoth projects costing a large sum of money through only technology of the national engineers reflects the efficiency of Myanmar engineers. Since natural resources can be exhausted one day, industrial technology is needed for the survival of mankind.

The engineers need to accept the point that engineering is an important requirement for establishment of a modern developed nation. Myanmar engineers are duty-bound to do their bit with the utilization of their skills.

Hmawkan-7 and Ponnasu roads commissioned into service

YANGON, 11 Jan—A ceremony to open Hmawkan-7 tarred road was opened at the road in Bago on 27 December, attended by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min.

The road is 1250 feet long and 12 feet wide and it was built at a cost of K 15.2 million with the contribution of township Development Affairs Committee and public.

Similarly, the commander and party attended the opening ceremony of Ponnakyunsu self-reliance tarred road in Bago township.

The road is 2000 feet long and 12 feet wide and it was built at a cost of over K 21.9 million with the contribution of the township Development Affairs Committee and the public.

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**

Industry-1 Minister visits factories in Bago Division

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspects cultivation of sugarcane plantation.

INDUSTRY-1

YANGON, 11 Jan— Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected stockpile of sugarcane and production process at Zeya Wady Sugar Mill of Myanma Foodstuff Industries on 9 January.

Next, the minister looked into progress of growing of 1500-acre plantation, cultivation of 133-acre sugarcane plantation at 500-acre extended sugarcane plantation and reclamation of remaining farmlands on both sides of Yangon-Mandalay Highway, thriving 1300-acre tapioca plantation at DaikU tapioca farm, production process of glucose, glucose energy soft drink and tapioca starch at DaikU Tapioca Starch Plant.

Afterwards, the minister visited Win Thuzar Shop (Bago) and progress of growing of 700-acre tapioca plantation at Bago tapioca farm.

At the briefing hall of the farm, the minister heard reports on progress of 700-acre tapioca plantation, storage of irrigation water from Laphyawyoe dam and the area of farmlands to be extended presented by the In-charge of the farm and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Myanmar Thiha Co demonstrates use of fire extinguishers

YANGON, 11 Jan — Dry Chemical Powder fire extinguishers produced by Myanmar Thiha Company were demonstrated at the office of the company at the corner of 24th Street and Strand Road here on 9 January.

***Demonstration of fire fighting with Dry Chemical Powder fire extinguisher produced by Myanmar Thiha Company.*—MNA**

An expert of the company explained facts about the use of fire extinguisher to put out fire and replied to queries raised by those present. Next, he demonstrated how to put out fire.

Myanmar Thiha company distributes Rain Flower and Fire Man brand fire extinguishers which have four kinds A,B,C and E and also produces various kinds of fire fighting equipment. The company and Ministry of Industry-2 jointly produced a three-year guarantee gas containers and gas stoves.

More information is available at Yangon head office and sales center at No. 326/328 at the corner of 24 th Street and Strand Road in Latha Township and dial 01 376395, 379637, 384288, 380245, Yangon Sales room (branch) at 132 on Konzaydan Street in Pabedan Township,01-379695, Mandalay branch at the corner of 78th and 42nd in Chan Myathazi Township, 02 33004, 0980-32499 and Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana office (branch) No. 15/473 on Yarzahtani Street in Palaung Plot 3, 067-23994.

MNA

An Iraqi policeman handcuffs suspected terrorists in Krlan village near Kirkuk, 290 kilometres (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq on 7 Jan, 2009. Eleven suspected terrorists were arrested and weapons sized during a joint US Army and Iraqi police raid at al-Mansuria village 40 kilometres southwest of Kirkuk, police said.—INTERNET

Iraq victims sue UK security firm

LONDON, 11 Jan— Guards employed by Hampshire-based company are accused of opening fire on unarmed civilians and driving off, leaving them with severe injuries. One of Britain's largest private security firms is being sued over allegations that its men opened fire on unarmed civilians and then drove away, leaving an Iraqi brother and sister fighting for their lives.

The case, the first of its kind brought by British lawyers against a private security contractor in Iraq, claims employees of Hampshire-based Erinys fired from a 4x4 vehicle at an approaching taxi in north Iraq. Documents relating to the claim describe how a 26-year-old man was shot in his right eye and his sister, 24, lost consciousness during the incident 15 months ago. Also hit was another passenger in the taxi, Iraqi journalist Sangar Mawloud Mohamed, 30, who lost part of his left ear and remains partly deaf.

The release of details of the shooting coincides with unease over the role of private security firms in Afghanistan and Iraq. Last week, five guards from US firm Blackwater denied the manslaughter of 17 Iraqis shot in Baghdad in 2007.

Papers relating to the Iraqis' claim describe how student Arazw Younus Qader, 24, passed out after being struck by shrapnel soon after Erinys employees began shooting at the taxi. On regaining consciousness, she turned to her brother, Zirag Younus Qader, 26, and "saw his eye hanging out of its socket and bleeding so profusely she thought that he would also die. She saw Zirag was losing consciousness and dragged him out of the car".

Internet

Venezuela's Chavez investigates US official

CARACAS, 11 Jan — Venezuela – President Hugo Chavez said on Saturday he may expel a top US Embassy official for allegedly plotting against his government from Puerto Rico.

Venezuela's socialist leader said he has information that leaders of the political opposition were meeting with US advisers in Puerto Rico to discuss how to prevent a referendum on term limits from passing.

"I'm investigating the possible presence of a US Embassy official in Caracas at this meeting," said Chavez, without naming the official. "If I confirm it, I will throw him out of the country.

Internet

Chicago Police officers investigate the scene of a five-person shooting outside Dunbar High School in Chicago, on 9 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Five people shot outside Chicago high school

CHICAGO, 11 Jan — Five people were shot as spectators left a crowded high school basketball game on Friday in what police called a possibly gang-related drive-by attack that sent panicked students running into a snowy street on the city's South Side.

Five males — three in serious condition and two in critical — were taken from Paul Laurence Dunbar Vocational Career Academy around 8 pm, said Chicago Fire Department spokeswoman Eve Rodriguez. Hospital spokespeople said later that at least three were expected to be treated and released.

"It was crazy. It was like killers on the loose," said Joshua Glaze, 15, a freshman at the school.

The game was in overtime and some students began to leave the building, Glaze said.

A vehicle then drove up and a person or people inside started shooting into the crowd, said Chicago Police Superintendent Jody Weis.

No suspect has been identified or arrested, but the shooting was "isolated" and possibly gang-related, Weis said. Two hundred officers were in the area looking for suspects, he said.—*Internet*

Thousands march to Pentagon to protest Iraq war

ARLINGTON (Virginia), 11 Jan —Thousands of anti-war demonstrators, some carrying yellow and black signs reading "US out of Iraq now!" marched on the Pentagon on Saturday, one of several protests worldwide to mark four years of war.

The march, on a cold, cloudy and windy day, comes just before the fourth anniversary of the start of the Iraq war on Tuesday and 40 years after a similar protest at the Pentagon over the Vietnam War.

On a stage in the Pentagon parking lot, speaker after speaker demanded the end of the war in Iraq and some called for President George W Bush's impeachment. A flag-draped coffin was displayed near the stage bearing a picture of a young soldier killed in Iraq.

"We're here in the shadow of the war machine," peace activist Cindy Sheehan said. "We need to shut it down."

Wearing a black ski cap, Sheehan said soldiers like her son, Casey, who was killed in Iraq, were being sent "to die for nothing."

A woman for the group that organised the protest told the cheering crowd, "Impeach Bush, impeach Cheney, impeach Gates." The latter references were to US Vice President Dick Cheney and US Defence Secretary Robert Gates.—*Internet*

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 561

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan — As of Saturday, 10 Jan, 2009, at least 561 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures on Friday at 10 am EST.

Of those, the military reports 408 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 66 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.

There were also four CIA officer deaths and one military civilian death.—*Internet*

***Israelis walk out of a shelter after the sounding of a warning siren for incoming rockets had ended, in the southern town of Sderot, on 9 Jan, 2009.*—INTERNET**

People skate on frozen canals in Kinderdijk's Mill Area, a UNESCO World Heritage site, near Rotterdam, Netherlands, on 3 Jan, 2009. Kinderdijk is a good example of an area where water management is carefully organised in the low countries with a system of mills and waterways.—INTERNET

Japanese prime minister arrives in Seoul

SEOUL, 11 Jan— Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso has arrived in South Korea for a visit aimed at boosting economic cooperation, with Afghanistan and North Korea also high on agenda.

Making his first visit to Seoul as Premier, Aso is being accompanied by a delegation of business leaders as the two neighbours seek to build a new relationship following years of frosty ties.

Leaders from the two countries hold summits every year, but the exchanges have often been overshadowed by territorial or historical disputes related to Japan's 1910-45 occupation of South Korea.

A long-running territorial row flared up again shortly before Aso's visit over Japan's claim to four uninhabited islands in the Sea of Japan (East Sea).

But the two leaders were expected to sidestep the sensitive issue and instead focus on measures to tackle the global economic crisis.

Internet

Palestinian minister warns of 'disrespect' in Gaza

UNITED NATIONS, 11 Jan—The Palestinian foreign minister says Israel and Hamas responded to the Security Council's call for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza with "total disrespect" and he urged the UN's most powerful body to enforce its demand.

"We cannot really wait until Israel will complete its mission while it really continues killing Palestinians, not on a daily basis but on an hourly basis," Riad Malki told *The Associated Press* in an interview on Friday.

Malki is foreign minister for the Palestinian Authority, which was driven out of Gaza by rival Hamas in 2007.

If the Security Council doesn't react in the next 48 hours, he said, Arab foreign ministers who came to the Security Council to help draft the resolution "will have a reaction." He did not elaborate.

Hopes dimmed that the resolution approved on Thursday would end the worst fighting in decades in Gaza after Israel rejected it as "not practical" and Hamas dismissed it, complaining that it had not been consulted.

"Both have responded to the resolution in the same way, in total disrespect," Malki said.—*Internet*

Sri Lanka says rebel group on brink of defeat

COLOMBO, 11 Jan— When Hamilton Wanasinghe was Sri Lanka's military chief in the early 1990s, he tried to buy desperately needed weapons from Russia to fight the Tamil Tiger rebels. Money was so short he offered to trade crates of tea for arms.

The Sri Lankan treasury rejected the deal, Wanasinghe says. Then, three years ago, a new president took office and the coffers burst open.

Military recruitment swelled, training improved and hundreds of millions of dollars were spent on new hardware to crush the rebels and end a civil war that has lasted 25 years and killed more than 70,000 people on this teardrop-shaped island off India's southern tip.

"The sky is the limit. Whatever the country can afford, they get," Wanasinghe said.

Senior officials, analysts, diplomats and former military officers say President Mahinda Rajapaksa's commitment to the fight — coupled with a string of miscalculations by the Tamil Tigers — has brought one of the world's most sophisticated rebel groups to the brink of defeat.

In recent weeks, government forces have broken through the rebels' front lines, forced them out of much of their de facto state in the north and cornered them in a shrinking pocket of northeastern jungle.

Top officials predict the imminent demise of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and its dream of creating a breakaway state for the country's ethnic Tamil minority in the north and east.

Internet

Map locates area still held by rebel troops as of Saturday and areas regained by government forces.—INTERNET

Six killed in Pakistan's tribal area attack

ISLAMABAD, 11 Jan— At least six people were killed and six others were injured early Sunday as militants attacked a check post in the country's northwest, according to local TV reports.

The private Dawn TV said that militants armed with rocket launchers and mortar guns attacked the security forces camp at Muhammad Ghat area of Tehsil Safi in Mohamand Agency.

The security forces also returned artillery fire but there was no report on any casualty on the part of the militants.

The injured security personnel were later flown in helicopters to Peshawar, the capital of the North West Frontier Province.

Some private TV channels put the death toll at 10. There has been no official comment on the attack so far.— *Internet*

Congo militia attack park station, kill ranger

DAKAR, 11 Jan— Militiamen attacked a national park station in eastern Congo, killing one ranger and wounding another, park officials said on Saturday.

So-called Mai Mai militiamen attacked a group of seven rangers in a government-controlled sector in the far north of Virunga National park for several hours on Thursday night, the park said in a statement.

The assault took place north of Lake Edward around Mount Tshiaberimu, a region home to a critically endangered population of 18 eastern lowland gorillas.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss," said park director Emmanuel de Merode. "The rangers of Virunga are more determined than ever to protect the gorillas in our care and we will ensure that the law is brought to bear on the perpetrators of this attack."

Mai Mai militias are made up of impoverished local young men who wield spears and machetes and believe magic amulets can protect them from bullets. The militia have traditionally supported the government against Rwandan-backed rebels supported by Laurent Nkunda.— *Internet*

Chavez says US heating oil programme never suspended

CARACAS, 11 Jan— President Hugo Chavez said on Saturday that Venezuela's programme to provide heating oil to poor American families was never halted, despite concerns that deliveries might be interrupted.

Venezuela's Citgo Petroleum Corp had to make a public announcement that the aid would continue after its partner nonprofit group said Citgo stopped the free fuel shipments because of the world economic crisis.

"They are speculating on all sides that Venezuela has suspended its program of cooperation with the poor of the United States," Chavez said. "No, it was never suspended."

Chavez did not address whether oil shipments were ever interrupted.

Boston-based Citizens Energy Corp — a charity organization run by Joseph Kennedy, the eldest son of late Sen Robert F Kennedy — on Monday alerted households benefiting from the four-year-old programme that oil shipments were in doubt.— *Internet*

Rescue workers search for victims in a restaurant buried by a landslide during a 6.1-magnitude earthquake in El Angel, Costa Rica, on 10 Jan, 2009. Searchers found more bodies in a restaurant buried under fallen earth, bringing the death toll to 16, the Red Cross said.—INTERNET

Ukraine signs deal on Russian gas transit monitoring

A stop sign is seen outside the Stirol chemical plant in the town of Gorlovka in the Donetsk region on 9 Jan, 2009. — XINHUA

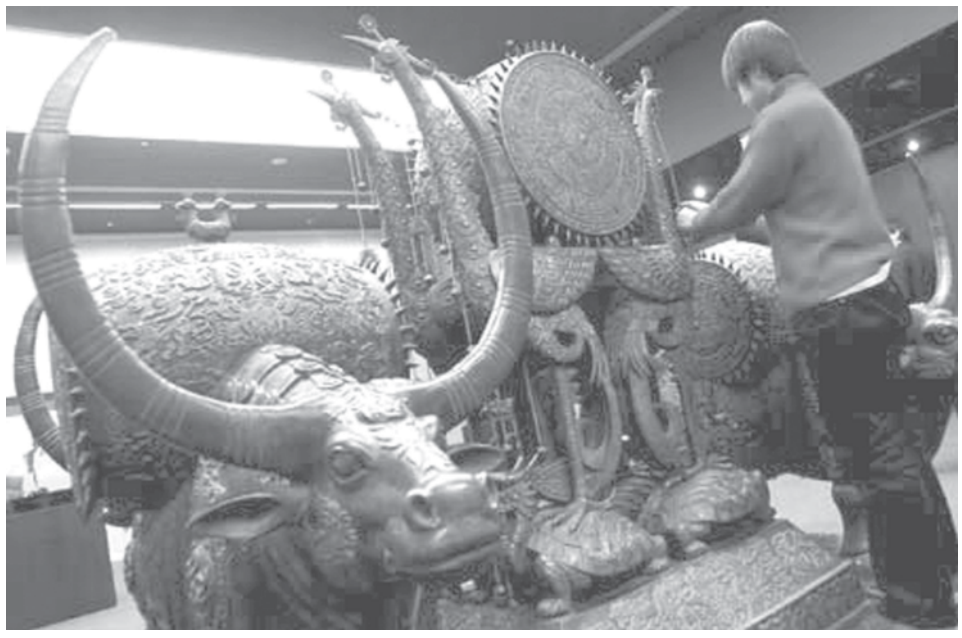
KIEV, 11 Jan — Ukraine has signed an agreement on the EU-led monitoring of Russian gas transit to Europe, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on Sunday.

"We once again have shown our goodwill," she said.

Tymoshenko made the announcement in Kiev after talks with Mirek Topolanek, the prime minister of the Czech Republic, which holds the rotating EU presidency.

Topolenek shuttled between Kiev and Moscow on Saturday to mediate the deal. He finally persuaded Kiev after marathon talks to accept the deal, allowing EU representatives, energy officials from Russia and Ukraine to travel to gas pumping stations on Ukraine's eastern and western borders to track the gas flow.

"Nothing prevents Russia now from resuming gas supplies," Topolanek said after Ukrainian officials endorsed the deal. "This agreement is very important for us," Topolanek said during the talks with Ukrainian officials. "We can't allow the entire energy system of Europe to collapse." —*Xinhua*



A staff member displays an artwork before an arts and crafts exhibition at the Art Gallery of China in Beijing, capital of China, on 9 Jan, 2009. About 350 delicate modern artworks were displayed on 10 Jan, at the exhibition, which will last till 10 Feb, 2009. — XINHUA

Gaza death toll reaches 854 as Israel intensifies offensive

GAZA, 11 Jan — Shortly before the end of the 15th day of Israeli air and ground offensive, the Israeli warplanes and tanks intensified on Saturday night strikes on different targets in the Gaza Strip, and the death toll has reached 854, witnesses and medics said.

Gaza emergency chief Mo'aweya Hassanein told reporters the death toll since the beginning of offensive on 27 Dec has mounted to 854 people after discovering the bodies of 18 people under destroyed houses rubbles allover the Gaza Strip.

More than 3,500 people are wounded, he said.

Witnesses said that the last hours of the 15th day of the Israeli offensive, Israeli warplanes carried out a series of airstrikes on northern and southern Gaza Strip as well as on Gaza City, while tanks also continued its shelling.

Hassanein said 11 Palestinians were killed on Saturday night, while 19 more people were killed during the day, and more than 70 people injured.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Performers of China's Central Ballet Troupe rehearse at Paris Opera in Paris, France, on 9 Jan, 2009. — XINHUA

Winter chills kill over 40 people in Hungary

BUDAPEST, 11 Jan — Winter chills have killed more than 40 people since the beginning of this year in Hungary, the Social and Labor Affairs Ministry said on Saturday.

In the capital city of Budapest, two homeless people were found frozen to death on the streets, while in the southern city of Szeged, an old man was found dead in a house without heating, media reported on Saturday.

The worst situation was reported in two states of Borsod-Abauj-Zemplen and Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg, where more than 20 have died of coldness this winter.

The Social and Labour Affairs Ministry has advised the citizens to inform the community staff as soon as possible once they find people, especially the aged, are under the threat of cold weather.

It also urged medical and welfare experts, community family physicians, postmen and neighbours to collaborate in times of emergencies caused by cold weather.

Prime Minister Gyurcsamy Ferenc has already requested the Social and Labour Affairs Minister and the Transport, Telecom and Energy minister to work out a program by next Wednesday to protect people from suffering similar fatalities. —*Xinhua*

Visitors look at new mobile phones at the LG booth at the annual Las Vegas Consumer Electronics Show (CES) held in Las Vegas, Nevada State of the United States, on 9 Jan, 2009. — XINHUA

Cell phone retailers reinventing old tricks to lure new customers

LAS VEGAS, 11 Jan — Increasing competition for new customers and dismal economic reports have prompted cell phone retailers to reinvent old tricks to lure new customers, market sources said on Saturday.

"The most recent trend is to offer customers trade-in value for their used phone when they buy a new phone," said Bob Sullivan, president of The Wireless Source, a trade-in programme sponsor.

"While trade-in programmes have been used for decades in other industries, it has not had much wide spread use within the cell phone industry," said Sullivan who was attending the 2009 Consumer Electronic Show (CES) in Las Vegas. — *Xinhua*

Plane undershoots runway in Philippines

MANILA, 11 Jan — A small passenger aircraft undershot the runway at an airport in central Philippines on Sunday morning, forcing the temporary closedown of the airport, a gateway to the country's popular tourist island Boracay. A ticket officer with the domestic airline company Zest Airways confirmed that one of its flights caught an accident at Caticlan airport and the airport is closed down.

But the company's spokesperson is not available for comment.

Earlier report of online news network *GMA News* said one passenger was injured in the undershoot accident of Flight-865 at around 7 am local time (2300 GMT Saturday).

Flights to Boracay via Caticlan were directed to nearby Kalibo Airport.

Xinhua

Japan's Ground Self-Defence Force helicopters fly in the sky during an annual new year military exercise in Narashino, east of Tokyo on 11 Jan, 2009. Some 400 troops and 19 aircraft took part in the exercise.
INTERNET

Scientists test cocaine on bees

BEIJING, 11 Jan — Australian scientists have undertaken research to discover the effect that cocaine has on bees.

Academics at Macquarie University applied a drop of cocaine solution to the backs of the insects and monitored their dance communication system, used to inform other bees where to find food and how good it tastes.

The research found that the bees used in the experiment responded more energetically than normal.

Australian scientists have undertaken research to discover the effect that cocaine has on bees.—XINHUA

What we're doing essentially is using cocaine as a tool to better understand how these tiny but quite complex brains function," said Dr Andrew Barron of Macquarie University.

"What we found was that the honey bee responds to cocaine in very similar ways as humans, so cocaine changes the way the bees evaluate."

Barron also noted that the insects began to show withdrawal symptoms when they were taken off the drug.

Internet

India Inc in damage-control mode after billion-dollar fraud scandal

MUMBAI, 11 Jan — A billion-dollar accounting scandal at one of India's top outsourcing firms has left the government and financial regulators scrabbling to control the damage.

Besides huge losses for investors, the scandal has seriously dented India Inc's reputation for strong corporate governance, often viewed as being a notch above its other Asian rival, China.

"The admission of fraud in financial affairs has created an adverse impression in the minds of trade, business and industry across the world," the Indian government admitted in a letter to a business regulation body.

Satyam founder and chairman B Ramalinga Raju had on Wednesday admitted his company's accounts and assets had been falsified over a period of several years, with profits inflated to the tune of more than one billion dollars.

He was arrested late Friday and is now in jail pending trial, a dramatic fall from grace for a business leader who was one of the pioneers of India's outsourcing boom and once the darling of international investment funds.

Satyam shares have gone into freefall, closing at 23.85 rupees on Friday compared with a value of around 180 rupees before the scandal broke.

"This has also resulted in serious damage to the reputation of Indian corporate sector and the regulatory mechanism in the eyes of the world," the government has said. The government stepped in on Friday night, sacking the board of directors of fraud-hit Satyam Computers and said it will name representatives to manage the affairs of the disgraced outsourcing giant.

Satyam's interim board had tried damage-control, pledging to investigate the swindle and rectify mistakes in the wake of the admissions.—*Internet*

Obama to make first foreign trip to Canada

OTTAWA, 11 Jan — US President-elect Barack Obama will make his first international trip to Canada, the Prime Minister's Office said in a Press release on Saturday.

"We can confirm that the president-elect has accepted the prime minister's invitation to visit Canada soon after he is inaugurated," said the release. Officials have been in close contact with President-elect Obama's transition team, it said.

The release does not specify the timing of Obama's trip or other details. US presidents typically travel to Canada in their first international trip, although President George W Bush made Mexico his first destination after he took office. —*MNA/Xinhua*

Debby Lee of Asustek Computer Inc media relations holds an Asus Eco Book made partly from bamboo in San Francisco, California.

Give us a smile: The lemon shark gives a grin and picks up a Best Photography award for photographer Bruce Yates.Showing a close-up of a lemon shark's face on the surface at sunset, it was recently selected from more than 20,000 photos as winner of the Oceans division of the international Nature's Best Photography 2008 Windland Smith Rice Awards.

Researcher says Jell-O may eliminate lake trout

A researcher at Montana State University said Jell-O, ultrasound, microwaves and electroshocking are among the possible solutions to eliminate lake trout in Yellowstone National Park.

Lake trout were introduced illegally into the park and threaten native cutthroat trout in Yellowstone Lake. To find the best way to destroy lake trout eggs, Al Zale received a grant from the National Park Service. Zale heads the Montana Cooperative Fishery Research Unit at MSU.

He and his collaborators will analyze several potential solutions and recommend the best.

If Jell-O is chosen, Zale says it would probably be unflavored. He says workers could spread it over the fish eggs to smother them.

Zale adds that it would seem efficient to get rid of the eggs during spawning season, which occurs primarily during late fall.

Anonymous donor pays Vermont man's $1,000 rent

Yes, Nathan, there is such a thing as Christmas angels. Nathan Dubray had his monthly rent paid by an anonymous benefactor who sent $1,000 in cash to his landlord on Christmas Eve. The same day, Dubray got a note telling him the rent had been paid and wishing him a merry Christmas and happy holidays.

It was signed "Christmas Angels."

Dubray's landlord, Rod Lauman, said he got an envelope containing the cash and a note saying it was for Dubray's rent.

Both men are mystified about who gave the money. But Dubray said he wishes he knew who it was, so he could thank them.

A saleswoman shows a teapot made of purple sand with an ox head-shaped spout, at a shop in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province. As the Chinese Year of Ox, the lunar New Year, draws near, teapots decorated with the image of oxen are sold well. The Chinese New Year starts from 26 Jan according to the traditional lunar calendar.

Vt man wins $650K after pulling ticket from trash

A Vermont man who threw out a lottery ticket he'd been given for Christmas pulled it out of the trash and cashed it — winning $650,000. Steven LeClair, of Richford, got the ticket for the 24 Dec Tri-State Megabucks drawing as a gift from his mother. But it was in a gift bag that LeClair threw away, not knowing it was inside.

Vermont Lottery spokeswoman Hadley Melendy said LeClair's wife found out two days later that the only winning ticket had been sold at Mac's Richford Market, so he went through a trash receptacle in his home and found it.

LeClair, who works for a car dealership and doesn't play the lottery, couldn't be reached for comment.

His telephone number isn't listed, and a message left for him with Vermont Lottery officials wasn't immediately returned.

New Hampshire and Maine also participate in Tri-State Megabucks.

NEWS ALBUM

Kachin State extending rubber farming

Article: *Kyaw Kyaw (Bhamo);* Photos: *Htay Aung (Kyemon)*

U Aik San and Daw Chein Yin May of Tein Nagar Hnakaung rubber farm.

(from page 1)

scale, and in 1992-1993, the Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise laid down two stages to restore rubber farming; that rubber farming made progress in 1994-1995 and rubber farming acreage reached nearly 10 million in 2007-2008; that researches were conducted on new rubber strains from Malaysia many times in the rubber research farms; that rubber nurseries established in 2005 produced 27 hybrids of 2000 Series, and of them, 11 hybrids proved successful in coastal regions, tropical regions with high rainfall, and heights with cold climate.

He added that rubber thrived well in Kachin State, so local authorities and departmental officials jointly established rubber farms, and that attracted the interest of local entrepreneurs, company proprietors and farmers; that the acreage of rubber farms increased to over 40,000 in 2007-2008 from just about 10,000 in 1999; that rubber was being grown extensively year by year in Myitkyina, Bhamo and Mohnyin districts especially in Myitkyina, Waingmaw and Momauk townships; and that due to the practice of horizontal and contour line systems, Dophonyan of Momauk Township, Bhamo District, had seen large rubber farms, each has an area of more than 10,000 and that became the largest rubber farms in Kachin State.

On arrival at 300-acre Tein Nagar Hnakaung rubber farm near Washaung Village in Waingmaw Township, we were conducted round the farm by proprietors U Aik San and Daw Chein Yin May. Daw Chein Yin May said that they took interest rubber farming due to educative tasks and constant field trips of local authorities and departmental officials to organize local farmers, and they grew rubber on 300 acres; that they were reaping the reward of using high-yield strains and advanced agricultural methods under the advice of the manager of Kachin State Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise; that they were planning to grow rubber on 2000 more acres; and that they thanked the government for its technical assistance for long-term interests of local national races.

U Aik San said that they grew local species of paddy and musk paddy of Thai species among rubber trees to save costs on the agricultural farming, and the mixed cropping proved successful; and that they were planning to grow musk paddy of Thai species because it had ready markets.

They were found active in farming rubber because they are doing well in their business due to the exercise of the mixed cropping of rubber and paddy.

The Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise is now working hard for regional greening and development, and as a result, the whole Kachin State is making progress in farming rubber. If Kachin State achieves the target of rubber farming acreage, it will be the largest rubber farming and producing state also contributing to regional greening.

Translation: MS

Kyemon: 8-1-2009

Some thriving rubber saplings in a nursery.

A man tries out the touch features of the new Windows 7 operating system at the Microsoft booth at the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Nevada, January 9, 2009. Sensors in the frame of the screen detect movement so the screen does not actually have to be touched.—INTERNET

Survey shows No human bird flu case found In Beijing

BEIJING, 11 Jan— No human bird flu case was found in a door-to-door epidemiological survey on Friday in Beijing, the municipal health bureau announced in a statement on Saturday.

The survey investigated 82,987 households with a total population of 331,951. In total, 142 flu cases were found. But none of them were H5N1avian influenza virus positive, according to the statement.

Hospitals in Beijing reported 1,984 flu cases on Friday and no bird flu case was found. The Ministry of Health reported a human bird flu case on 7 January, in which a 19-year-old female in Beijing was killed by the virus.

Of the 200 people in close contact with the patient in Beijing, 128 have been dismissed from medical observation.

MNA/XInhua

60 arrested over melamine-tainted Sanlu milk powder

SHIJIAZHUANG, 11 Jan—Sixty suspects have been formally arrested over the melamine-tainted Sanlu milk powder that caused urinary problems such as kidney stones in thousands of babies in China last year.

"Twenty-one of them went on trial between December 26 and 31, including four executives of Sanlu Group," said Zhang Deli, chief procurator of the Hebei Provincial People's Procuratorate.

"The court will announce the verdicts soon," Zhang told the ongoing annual session of the Hebei Provincial People's Congress.

Tian Wenhua, Sanlu's former board chairwoman and general manager, stood trial in the provincial capital Shijiazhuang on December 31, alongside the group's former deputy general managers Wang Yuliang and Hang Zhiqi, and Wu Jusheng, a former executive in charge of the firm's milk source division.

The four were arrested on September 26. Prior to these four, 17 people were on trial on charges of producing, adding melamine-laced "protein powder" to milk or selling the tainted milk to Sanlu or other dairies.

MNA/Xinhua

Peru bus dives off mountain road, at least 33 dead

LIMA, 11 Jan—A bus plunged 1,640 feet (500 metres) off an Andean mountain highway in heavy rain on Saturday, killing at least 33 people and injuring 23, police said.

Six children were among the dead in the accident in the northern district of Chota, Cajamarca Province, authorities told local radio.

"We've rescued the bodies of 30 people and three more died after being taken to the hospital in grave condition," police captain Jose Cotillo told Peruvian radio station RPP.

MNA/Reuter

Assistance provided for local people in eastern Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana hilly region

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan—Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin arrived at Mepauk Village in the eastern Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana hilly region on 9 January morning and inspected construction of a new building of the village primary school. After meeting the local people, he donated K 200,000 for the school repair. Officials also donated medicines, medical equipments, stationery, blankets, warm clothes, food and iodized salt to the village.

In meeting with the villagers, the commander said he was there to fulfill the needs of the local people and provide assistance. He quoted the Head of State as giving guidance that tea plantations are to be established in order to transform the eastern Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana hilly regions into the region of tea. Therefore, the commander said, more land will be reclaimed for the local people, who are to make efforts for meeting the target. He also stressed the need to avoid logging and making charcoals that can lead to deforestation. Then the commander inspected reclamation of land and ploughing tasks for cultivation of summer paddy.

The commander proceeded to Gamontaung village where he provided assistance, inspected the tea plantation and generation of electricity on a small scale through hydropower, and met the villagers.

In the evening, the commander inspected the primary school in Padakchaung village, provided assistance and visited tea plantations. Later, he visited Aung Beik Thaik village in Banbar village-tract and fulfilled the requirements.

During his tour, the commander donated blankets, stationery, packets of noodles and salt worth over K 1.8 million to 1679 students, 36 schools and 10 health care centres in 59 villages in seven village-tracts in the eastern Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana hilly region.

MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin donates cash for repair of Mepauk primary school.—MNA

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Min presents books and cash to head of model library Daw Hlaing Hlaing Myint.—MNA

Model Library Building opens in Aleywa model village

YANGON, 11 Jan—As a gesture of hailing the 62nd Anniversary Union Day, a ceremony to open Model Library Building and donate publications was held in front of the library on 8 January, attended by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min.

First, Assistant Director of Bago Division Information and Public Relations Department U Kyi, Acting Chairman of Kawa Township PDC Police Captain Saw San Do and the chairman of Aleywa village PDC formally opened the library.

Next, the commander donated publications and cash for the library through librarian Daw Hlaing Hlaing Myint and then inspected students who were reading books, journals and magazines and enjoyed entertainments of students and national races and presented gifts to them.

MNA

Minister inspects construction project of No. 5 Fertilizer Plant

YANGON, 11 Jan—Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi arrived at No. 5 Fertilizer Plant Construction Project (Pathein) in Ayeyawady Division on 10 Jan. At the briefing hall, the project director and engineers in-charge briefed the minister on tasks being carried out.

After hearing the reports, the minister gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks and systematic supervisions on construction of the buildings and installation of machines and future plans.

Next, the minister presented fruit baskets as gift to Chinese experts. The minister then looked into progress in constructing Control Building, Raw Water Pump House and Prilling Tower and accomplishment of Underground Piping System as well as Temporary Unloading Jetty.

MNA

Dagon BEHS No. 1 pays respects to former teachers

YANGON, 11 Jan—At Dagon Thiri Hall of Dagon Basic Education High School No. 1 (former Methodist English High School), yesterday morning, respects were paid to former teachers who had discharged duties at the school from 1954 to 1978.

On behalf of the old students, Professor Dr. U Thein Htut gave an introductory speech. Headmaster Dr. U Aung Ko Ko gave an opening speech. Next, the old students paid respects to the teachers and presented gifts to them. On behalf of the former teachers, Sayamagyi Daw Khin Win May gave an advice.

Old student U Mya Oo reported on financial statement. Later, those present were served with meals.

NLM

A ceremony to pay respects to teachers of Dagon BEHS-1 in progress.—NLM

Take Fire Preventive Measures

Functions of Mayanchaung checkpoint in Kyaikto inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan—Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, accompanied by Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and Deputy Director-General U Aye Ko of Customs Department, yesterday arrived at Mayanchaung checkpoint in Kyaikto Township.

They inspected supervision of illegal imports and exports and tasks of smooth and speedy flow of commodities.

At the meeting hall, the minister heard reports on organizational set up of the checkpoint and duty and functions by the in-charge of the checkpoint. Departmental officials also reported on their respective sectors. Later, the minister gave necessary instructions.—*MNA*

Yangon Command Commander inspects regional development tasks in Htantabin Township

YANGON, 11 Jan—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint together with officials yesterday morning inspected regional development tasks in Htantabin Township, Yangon North-District and met with departmental heads, townselders and members of social organizations.

At the house of U Ba Si the commander and party viewed the cooking of rice and lighting of bulbs with the use of natural waste bio-gas digester.

The commander and party met with the departmental heads, townselders and members of social organizations at the meeting hall of Htantabin Township PDC and Chairman of Htantabin Township PDC U Wai Toe and personnel concerned explained the tasks being carried out and facts about the township, sanitations, portable water, education and health.

Afterwards, they went to the township hospital and presented cash assistance to the patients.

The commander and party also inspected construction of retaining wall in Kyunngu Jetty in Ward-4 and head of division U Thaung Lwin of Yangon Division Water Resources Utilization Department and officials explained the tasks to be undertaken and the commander fulfilled their needs.

The commander and party also looked into Kyunngu river water pumping project 600-Acre and supply of water into the canal. And then the commander inspected Kogyi Sluice Gate.

Next, the commander and party viewed collective cultivation of summer paddy by machines and met with local peasants and fulfilled their needs.

MNA

Minister looks into universities

YANGON, 11 Jan—Minister for Education Dr. Chan Nyein together with Director-General of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) U Zaw Htay and officials arrived at Dagon University here this morning and Rector In-Charge U San briefed the minister and party on pass rates of day and distance courses, research paper reading sessions and professors on department-wise measures.

Next, the minister gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements of administration, academic matters and research works.

Upon arrival at Yangon University (West), the minister heard reports on department-wise measures presented by Rector Dr. Aung Aung Min and professors/heads of department.

Afterwards, the minister met with the rector, pro-rector and professors, and urged them to do researches in the interests of the State.

. On arrival at Yangon University (East) yesterday, the minister heard reports on department-wise measures presented by Rector U Kyaw Ye Tun and professors/heads of departments and gave instructions on measures to be taken for having adequate teaching aids and academic matters.

Next, the minister inspected students who were learning lessons at lecture halls and practical rooms of National Management College in Botahtaung Township.

MNA

***Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein meeting with Rector In-charge and professors of Dagon University.*—EDUCATION**

Diploma in Software Engineering Course for enthusiasts

YANGON, 11 Jan—CICT Diploma in Software Engineering Course acknowledged by Cambridge ITC of Malaysia will be conducted by Myanmar Professionals Education Centre in last week of January.

Technnical Director U Zaw Moe Tun and experienced teachers will provide six subjects and one practical project to the trainees. Moreover, experienced software developers of Myanmar Information Technology (MIT) will share knowledge on software developing.

The course will last nine months to produce the qualified software engineers. Those who had passed the matriculation examination may attend the Diploma in Software Engineering and may contact Myanmar Professionals Educaiton Centre, No. 112, Rooms 11-12, 8th Mile, Pyay Road, Mayangon Township, Tel: 668779, 668259 and 650124.

MNA

Volcanoes cool the tropics, but global warming may have helped override some recent eruptions

SCIENCE DAILY, 9 Jan—Climate researchers have shown that big volcanic eruptions over the past 450 years have temporarily cooled weather in the tropics—but suggest that such effects may have been masked in the 20th century by rising global temperatures. Their paper, which shows that higher latitudes can be even more sensitive to volcanism, appears in the current issue of Nature Geoscience. Scientists already agree that large eruptions have lowered temperatures at higher latitudes in recent centuries, because volcanic particles reflect sunlight back into space. For instance, 1816, the year following the massive Tambora eruption in Indonesia, became known as "The Year Without a Summer," after low temperatures caused crop failures in northern Europe and eastern North America. More extensive evidence comes in part from tree rings, which tend to grow thinner in years when temperatures go down.—*Internet*

This is Mount Bromo, an active volcano in East Java, Indonesia.

Speedy and smooth transportation in Kachin State

Article: *Kyaw Kyaw;* Photos: *Htay Aung (Kyemon)*

Members of news team from Kyemon Daily making interview with a driver of Myitkyina-Tanai Sein Chinthay Highway Bus Line.

(from page 16)

preparation was made for the buses. The bus lines parking in various areas of the town were organized to park at the bus terminal. Therefore, the travellers could choose their destinations and bus lines at the same place as they wished. The committee laid down disciplines for bus lines, drivers and bus conductors and is supervising them for convenience of the travellers. The Transport Planning Department organized the All Bus Lines Control Committee with the participation of bus owners and bus lines for ensuring unity and systematic runs.

We had an interview with a bus driver of Sein Chinthay Express Bus Line before heading for the highway. He said that his bus would leave for Tanai. In the past, the road to Tanai was rough and bad had. Therefore, only four wheels vehicles and jeeps could run on the road. At present, the roads were upgraded to the tarred ones on which express buses can run smoothly and conveniently. The better transportation brings convenience to the bus drivers and conductors and the travellers. After that, the bus left.

We made another interview with a passenger before taking a seat in the express bus that would leave for Mohnyin from the Jaingphaw Myay Bus Terminal. The passenger said that when she travelled to Mohnyin by jeep, she felt very uncomfortable due to poor transportation. Now, she could travel to Mohnyin from Myitkyina by express bus conveniently because of better and smooth transportation.

While visiting the Highway Bus Terminal, we met with a woman and had an interview before her departure for Phakant by van. She recounted her experience that in the past, she had to go to Phakant day and night on foot. She faced poor transportation along the road. At present, the road sections have been repaired, and the passengers can go to Phakant by van conveniently. Better transportation contributes to trade promotion and development of towns and villages. Thanks to construction of roads and bridges, progress can be seen in Phakant Gems Land. Later, she invited us to observe the development of Phakant Gems Land, and started her trip by car.

In Kachin State, the improvement of transportation reflects the rapid development of regions, towns and villages. In the past, only Three Crown and jeeps could be used in the local transportation. Now, the passengers can travel to their destinations by van, Hilux light-trucks, express buses and air-corn buses conveniently.

Due to upgrading of Union Highways and related roads in the region, the travellers enjoy fruits of better transport facilities. They can go to Kanbaikte and Panwa in the east, Mohnyin, Hopang and Phakant in the west, Tanai, Sumprabum and Putao in the north and Bhamo, Lwejel and Laiza in the south in all seasons. Moreover, we observed that thanks to construction of Myitkyina-Bhamo-Mandalay Strategic Highway, passengers and commodity transportation can be carried out without delay in the region.

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Translation: TTA

Kyemon: 10-1-2008

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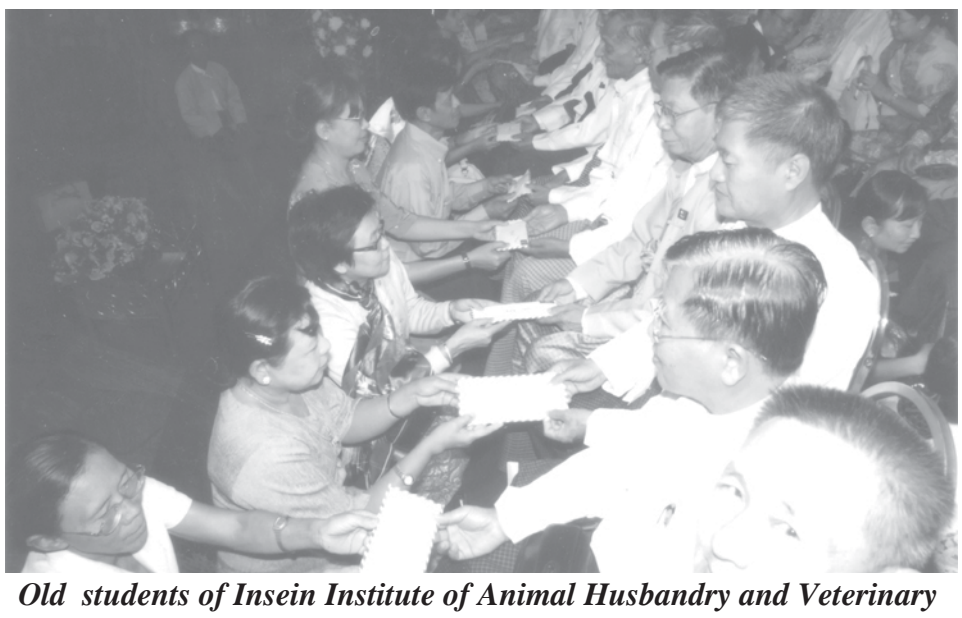
"I can travel to Mohnyin from Myitkyina by express bus conveniently because of better and smooth transport."
(A female passenger)



***Old students of Insein Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary pay respects to teachers.*—NLM**

Insein Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science pays respects, get-together

YANGON, 11 Jan—Old students of Insein Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science (1971-77) held respect paying ceremony at Western Park Ruby Restaurant on Strand Road in Ahlon Township on 4 January morning.

Old students paid respects to old faculty members and presented gifts. On behalf of the former faculty members, retired rector U Maung Maung Sa gave advice. On behalf of the old students, Dr Pyae Sone spoke words of thanks and Dr Myo Tint read financial statement and social welfare activities. Those present on the occasion were served with meals.—*NLM*

Minister visits banks, revenue offices in Toungoo and Ottwin townships

YANGON, 10 Jan—Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, together with the governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar and the director-general of Internal Revenue Department visited Myanma Economic Bank in Toungoo, Bago Division, yesterday morning. Officials concerned reported on banking services including savings and remittances. The minister next gave them necessary instructions.

Afterwards, he inspected matters related to tax collection at district and township internal revenue departments. The director-general and officials reported on work plans in the fiscal year. The minister then left necessary instructions.

At Myanma Economic Bank in Ottwin Township, Bago Division, the minister inspected banking services and the site chosen for construction of a new bank building. He also visited township internal revenue departments in Ottwin Township and left necessary instructions there.—*MNA*

***Medical Superintendent Dr Chit Ko Tin of North Okkalapa General Hopital speaks at donation of rice and milk powder by MOASIA Co Ltd (Dumex) in North Okkalapa Township on 2 January.*—NLM**

A guard yells down from a guard tower in Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba. US President-elect Barack Obama has said he was not ruling out possible prosecution for abuses committed under the George Bush administration, saying no one "is above the law".—INTERNET

Somali pirates free Iranian-chartered ship

TEHERAN, 11 Jan—Somali pirates have released an Iranian-chartered ship seized in November and said on Saturday they were hopeful a Ukrainian ship loaded with tanks would be freed soon.

Iran's biggest shipping firm said *Delight*, a cargo ship ferrying 36,000 tons of wheat to Iran from Germany, was released on Friday, the same day a Saudi tanker was freed after a three million-US-dollar ransom was parachuted onto its deck.

Somali pirates caused havoc in one of the world's busiest shipping lanes in 2008, hijacking dozens of ships including the Hong Kong-flagged Delight and Saudi supertanker *Sirius Star* with its 100 million US dollars worth of crude.

Pirates holding a Ukrainian cargo ship with 33 *T-72* tanks and other weapons on board said they might lower their ransom demands and release the *MV Faina* in the coming days.

Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL), which chartered *Delight,* said it was going to Iranian waters with its 25 crew. The company did not say whether a ransom had been paid.—*MNA/Reuters*

Rare red diamond on display at LA museum deemed "priceless"

LOS ANGELES, 11 Jan—A blood-red diamond once stolen by the Nazis is currently on display at a downtown Los Angeles museum through 1 February, thanks to a local jeweller who bought it in 2007. The 5-carat, emerald-cut stone is one of only three such stones of that size known to exist in the world, according to a report by local newspaper *Daily News* on Saturday. "Red is the rarest colour in diamonds. This is one of the rarest diamonds in the world, and even if my company went on for another 1,000 years we would never find a diamond more rare than this," Douglas Kazanjian, head of a Beverly Hills jewellery firm, told the newspaper.—*Internet*

Workers try to control penguins at the Linhai Skiing Resort in Dalian, northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 10 Jan, 2009. Six penguins appearing at the opening ceremony of the 2nd national skiing contest on Saturday attracted many visitors.
INTERNET

Skaters enjoy the scenery of windmills at the UNESCO World Heritage site in Kinderdijk, the Netherlands on 10 January, 2009. After more than a week of cold, an estimated 2.3 million skaters, out of a population of 16 million, have taken to frozen canals and lakes, according to a poll released ahead of the weekend.—INTERNET

Costa Rica searches for more bodies after quake

SAN JOSE (Costa Rica), 11 Jan—Rescue workers in Costa Rica dug into collapsed hills in search of bodies on Saturday and feared the death toll from a strong earthquake would rise from around 14.

Rescuers fanned out into remote jungle areas around Vara Blanca, on the flanks of the Poas Volcano, to excavate landslides in search of more victims after Thursday's 6.1-magnitude quake. "We are working on removing corpses, taking picks and shovels on all-terrain vehicles to reach areas where people may be buried," said National Emergency Commission official Victor Falla, speaking by telephone from a base near the area.

Colombia and the United States sent Blackhawk military helicopters to help the Costa Rican Government, which does not have an Army.

"They'll be taking people out of areas that are cut off. Some places are completely isolated," said civil protection spokesman Reinaldo Carballo. About 40 people are missing, he told *Reuters*. Hundreds of Costa Ricans and foreign tourists stranded by cut-off roads have already been moved to shelters or evacuated by air to the capital San Jose.

MNA/Reuters

A woman looks at a job listing board in Oakland, California. Barack Obama has said his economic stimulus plan will "save or create three to four million jobs" as the president-elect sought to stem criticism of the 775-billion-dollar package designed to revive the ailing US economy.—INTERNET

India says not reached end of road on Mumbai attacks

NEW DELHI, 11 Jan—India has not exhausted its diplomatic options in its attempt to bring the Mumbai attack plotters to justice, India's foreign minister said on Saturday.

"We have not reached the end of the road," Pranab Mukherjee told *CNN-IBN* television channel.

But he also said that India had enough evidence to support a statement made by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh earlier this week that "official agencies" in Pakistan were involved in the November attack in which 10 gunmen killed 179 people.

"We have adequate information and circumstantial evidence," Mukherjee told *The Statesman* newspaper. He said the "magnitude, ferocity and depth" of the attack showed it was well planed.

"And sometimes it becomes difficult to believe that such a preparation is going on in a piece of land where there is a government, a civilian government, and it is fully unaware of it," the foreign minister added.

MNA/Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (TGA-425)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (TGA-425) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.1.2009 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Kidnapped boy found safe

RIVERSIDE, 11 Jan—A 7-year-old boy was found on Saturday in Nevada a day after three men snatched him as he walked to school in Southern California, police said.

Eduardo Rivera, whose parents are in jail on identity theft charges, was living in a foster home in Riverside. Police said his parents gave information that led to his discovery in a house in Las Vegas, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

The boy was with three other children from the foster home at the time of the abduction.

Eduardo's parents have immigration holds in addition to criminal charges and may not be in the country legally, the newspaper said.—*Internet*

A surfer watches closely as a large orca (Killer Whale) swims close by him, accompanied by two smaller orca, at Stent Road surf break near Cape Egmont, Taranaki, New Zealand, on 10 Jan, 2009. Nothing happened to the surfer as the orca swam past him.—INTERNET

British climbers die in the Alps

LONDON, 11 Jan—The youngest Briton to have climbed Mount Everest has been killed along with a second British climber in an accident the French Alps. Rob Gauntlett, of Petworth, Sussex, reached the summit of Mount Everest when he was just 19 in 2006 and was highly regarded in the climbing world.

His mother Nicola Gauntlett said the 21-year-old's family were "devastated". She said he and his as yet unnamed friend had been ice-climbing in Chamonix when there was a "big fall".

Mrs Gauntlett said: "At the moment we don't know exactly what happened but there was obviously a big fall and they both died. We've only just been told the news." She said they arrived in the region on 2 January and were due back in the UK on Wednesday.

Mrs Gauntlett added that she and her husband, David, would be travelling to France on Sunday. Mrs Gauntlett said she was not prepared to disclose the identity of the second Briton who died. —*Internet*

Scotswoman faces prison in Italy for heist

EDINBURGH, 11 Jan— A Scottish fish exporter faces imprisonment in Italy now that an appeals court has ordered her extradition to serve a sentence for armed robbery.

Dorothy Fasola's case had been delayed by the death of a judge on the original appeals panel. But a new panel, in a ruling Friday, upheld a 2007 extradition order, The Scotsman reported.

Fasola, born in Scotland, moved to Italy when she married Luigi Fasola, an Italian. The Glasgow Daily Record described Luigi Fasola, who died in 1985, as a career criminal.

Dorothy Fasola was convicted in 1998 of masterminding a robbery from a goldsmith's workroom in 1991 but fled back to Scotland before the verdict. She was later convicted of counterfeiting.

Dorothy Fasola, who runs a fish exporting business in Peterhead near Aberdeen, argued that extradition would be the end of her company.

The Record said that she is also suspected of participating in a $35 million jewel robbery in Japan.—*Internet*

In this photo released China's Xinhua news agency, special armed police officers take part in an anti-terror drill at a railway station in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 10 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Canadian man charged with smuggling 22 pounds of cocaine in forklift

SYDNEY, 11 Jan — A 56-year-old Canadian man is charged with attempting to smuggle into Australia 22 pounds of cocaine, with a street value of $2.45 million, using forklift batteries.

Customs officers allegedly made the discovery on 22 Dec, after inspecting a container with a forklift inside that arrived at Sydney's Port Botany facility.An X-ray of the forklift allegedly revealed "anomalies" within the battery unit, Australian Customs said.

A white powder which tested positive for cocaine was found inside the 24 battery cells, Customs said.Police officers were called in to investigate, and the man was located at a Bankstown hotel.The stash was destined for an address in Moorebank, New South Wales.

"The drugs seized as a result of this operation have an approximate street value of more than $2.45 million," *AFP* National Border Manager Tim Morris said.The suspect faced Parramatta Local Court on Friday and was charged with importing and attempting to possess drugs.

Internet

Snow traps thousands at Madrid airport

MADRID, 11 Jan—Thousands of passengers were stranded at Madrid's Barajas airport late on Saturday after snow kept runways closed and flights grounded.

The third of the airport's four runways opened on Saturday and normal services were expected to resume on Sunday, Spanish press reported, citing comments by director of Spanish airports operator AENA, Javier Marin.

Some 45,000 passengers have suffered flight delays or cancellations at Barajas after one of the heaviest snowfalls in decades caused the international airport to shut down for five hours on Friday.

More snow fell on the capital overnight allowing no respite for passengers, including those travelling on Iberia as the bad weather added to disruptions in service caused by weeks of industrial action by pilots.

Spain, like many other parts of Europe, has had an unusually cold winter so far.—*Internet*

Palestinians carry a wounded man in a street in Gaza City following an Israeli strike. Tanks and warplanes pounded the outskirts of Gaza City before dawn on Sunday after Israel warned it would escalate its war on Hamas targets, as the death toll in the 16-day-old conflict passed 850.—INTERNET

Peanut butter contaminated with a strain of salmonella

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan— Minnesota health officials issued a product alert for peanut butter on Friday after finding a jar that was contaminated with a strain of salmonella linked to an outbreak across the US.

While the bacteria in the peanut butter match the outbreak strain genetically, the health officials said it was not clear yet that the peanut butter could be linked to any cases.

The outbreak of salmonella food poisoning has sickened at least 399 people and put 70 or more into hospital since September.

Officials from Minnesota's departments of agriculture and health said they were issuing a product advisory for King Nut brand creamy peanut butter after finding the Salmonella typhimurium bacteria in a big institutional-size jar.

"The Minnesota cases have the same genetic fingerprint as the cases in a national outbreak that has sickened almost 400 people in 42 states," the health department said.

It said the product was distributed in Minnesota to places such as long-term care facilities, hospitals, schools, universities, restaurants, cafeterias and bakeries.

Internet

Customers use their iPhones in a Miami coffee shop. Shortcovers expects to be turning iPhones into electronic books by month's end with the release of a mini-application that lets people read books, short stories or other written works on Apple-made smart phones in a direct challenge to electronic book devices sold by Amazon and Sony.—INTERNET

DNA testing for diseases offered in London

LONDON, 11 Jan — Genetic tests that can detect a person's increased risk of breast, ovarian and prostate cancer are being offered in England, officials said.

The Times of London reported on Saturday that the genetic screenings are being offered for the first time to individuals without family histories of the diseases.

The programme, run by the University College London, paves the way for a new approach to preventative medicine and embryo screening by parents.News of the programme came as Paul Serhal, medical director at University College Hospital's Assisted Conception Unit, announced the birth of one of the world's first babies selected to be free of a genetic risk of breast cancer.

The Times reported that the baby girl was born after embryos were screened to exclude the faulty BRCA1 gene, which gives a woman an 80 percent chance of developing breast cancer in her lifetime.

The University College London program is focusing on the London community of Ashkenazi Jews, who have a high risk of inheriting BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, which raise the risk of breast and prostate cancers.

Internet

Customers visit one of the bedrooms in Jukkasjaervi Ice Hotel in Sweden, the world's first ice hotel, on 8 Jan 2009. An ice hotel is a temporary hotel made up entirely of snow and sculpted blocks of ice. The Jukkasjaervi Ice Hotel has 91 rooms this year and is rebuilt every winter. —XINHUA

Genetically modified goats produce drug

BOSTON, 11 Jan — Scientists in Massachusetts say milk from a herd of genetically engineered goats is proving valuable in preventing dangerous blood clots.

A human protein from the milk is extracted and turned into a medicine to fight strokes, pulmonary embolisms and other dangerous conditions caused by blood clots, say scientists at GTC Biotheraputics.

A panel of the Food and Drug Administration on Friday voted overwhelmingly that the drug — called ATryn — is safe and effective. The FDA is expected to make a final ruling next month, the *Los Angeles Times* reported on Saturday.

If approved, the drug would be the first from a genetically engineered animal to be approved in the United States. Milk produced by genetically engineered rabbits and cows already is being tested to produce future lines of drugs to treat hemophilia, respiratory disease and swollen tissues.

While the biotechnology industry is rooting for ATryn, many consumers may balk at taking drugs made from genetically modified animals, said Jaydee Hanson, a policy analyst at the Centre for Food Safety, an advocacy group that opposes such genetic manipulation.

Internet

Baby born free of breast cancer gene

LONDON, 11 Jan — Doctors say a baby girl has become the first person in Britain to be genetically screened for a potentially fatal breast cancer gene.

The baby, whose family has a history of breast cancer, was screened as an embryo before being implanted in her mother, *The Daily Telegraph* reported on Saturday.

Doctors wanted to select and implant an embryo free of the BRCA1 gene, the *Telegraph* reported, noting people with BRCA1 have a much greater chance of developing breast cancer.

The mother and baby, who was born at a London hospital, both are doing well, said officials at University College London, where the screening technique was perfected. The date of the child's birth and name of the hospital were not provided."We have shown for the first time that this technique can be applied to stop the devastating cycle of this disease in families," said medical director Paul Serhal. "We are eradicating it from the whole family tree."—*Internet*

Researchers say oat cereals may curb diabetes

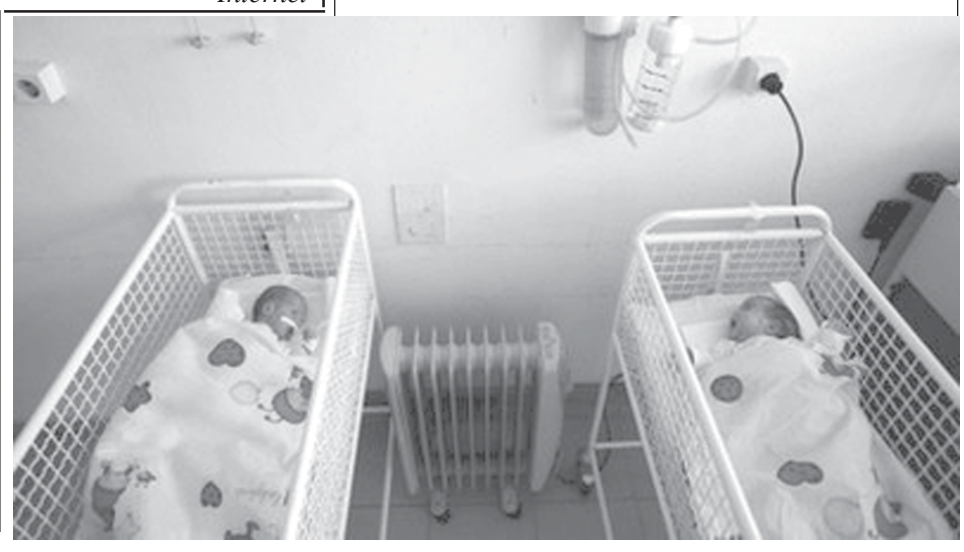
INVERNESS, 11 Jan — Researchers in Scotland are going to try to determine if the side effects of type 2 diabetes can be managed through a diet full of oat-rich cereals.

The Scottish government's Chief Scientist Office is providing $305,000 to finance a 16-week trial involving 60 volunteers. Researchers based in Inverness and Aberdeen will conduct the study.

The oats-diabetes study was organized by researchers at the University of the Highlands and Islands, the University of Aberdeen and the Rowett Institute.

Internet

New born babies sleep next to an electric heater in the Bulgarian capital's maternity hospital. Russia and the EU agreed on Saturday to monitor Russian gas supplies to Europe, piling pressure on Ukraine to accept a deal as the head of the Czech EU presidency arrived in Kiev for talks. — INTERNET



SPORTS

Inter Milan's midfielder Luis Figo (L) fights for the ball with Cagliari's midfielder Andrea Cossu during Italian Serie A football match at San Siro Stadium in Milan.—INTERNET

Inter draw while Beckham forced to wait for Milan start

ROME, 11 Jan—Defending champions Inter Milan endured a disappointing start to 2009 when they were forced to come from a goal down to salvage a 1-1 draw against Cagliari at the San Siro on Saturday.

The result gave Jose Mourinho's side a seven-point lead over Juventus, who face Siena on Sunday, at the top of Serie A. David Beckham will not be in AC Milan's starting line-up against Roma on Sunday, according to Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti.

"Beckham is ready to play, but he's coming out of two months of inactivity, so it's difficult to name him as a starter for the match against Roma," said the Milan chief.

"He will play if he is in the right condition and if we consider he can give a positive contribution to the match. Beckham is a great professional, very committed and we are all happy with him, even if he will only stay at Milan for two months."—*Internet*

Liverpool's title bid stumbles at Stoke

LONDON, 11 Jan—Liverpool played to a 0-0 draw at struggling Stoke on Saturday, leaving the Premier League leader in front by four points as it bids for its first English title since 1990.

Captain Steven Gerrard hit the crossbar and the post in the last six minutes for the 18-time champions.The result came after Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson said Liverpool would "make mistakes ... and get punished" in the second half of the season.

Internet

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

1 L	O	2 N	E	3 S	O	4 M	E	■	■	5 E	■	6 E
E	■	U	■	O	■	A	■	7 M	O	N	E	Y
8 P	A	N	T	O	M	I	N	E	■	D	■	E
A	■	N	■	N	■	D	■	N	■	9 E	B	B
10 L	E	E	S	■	11 S	E	A	T	E	D	■	R
■	■	R	■	12 A	■	N	■	I	■	■	■	O
13 C	O	Y	O	T	E	■	14 F	O	L	15 L	O	W
O	■	■	■	T	■	16 P	■	N	■	A	■	■
N	■	17 C	L	E	V	E	R	■	18 S	N	I	19 P
20 V	I	A	■	N	■	S	■	21 I	■	T	■	E
I	■	P	■	22 D	E	T	E	R	G	E	N	T
23 C	H	E	S	S	■	E	■	I	■	R	■	E
T	■	R	■	■	24 P	R	I	S	O	N	E	R

Serena toils to overcome gritty Stosur in Sydney WTA opening round

SYDNEY, 11 Jan—American Serena Williams fought off four match points before subduing Australian Samantha Stosur in her opening round match at the Sydney WTA International.

The nine-time grand slam champion appeared to be steaming to victory when she served for the match at 6-5 in the second set, but was dragged into a third set dog-fight with Stosur before prevailing in hot conditions.

The tournament top seed outlasted the 51-ranked Stosur, 6-3, 6-7 (4/7), 7-5 in two and a half hours.The world number two, who had her serve broken five times, won on her second match point after the Australian overhit a backhand.—*Internet*

Top-seeded Serena Williams of the US powers a return to Samantha Stosur of Australia during the opening round of the Sydney International tennis tournament, on 11 January .—INTERNET

Defending champion Sharapova withdraws from Australian Open

SYDNEY, 11 Jan—Maria Sharapova will not defend her title at the Australian Open next week after withdrawing from the year's opening grand slam tournament, according to officials.

The Russian world number nine advised tournament officials that she was not confident of her fitness levels after a shoulder surgery late last year.The 21-year-old was hindered by a right shoulder injury much of last season and skipped the Beijing Olympics and the US Open before having arthroscopic surgery in October.—*Internet*

***Maria Sharapova will not defend her title at the Australian Open next week after withdrawing from the year's opening grand slam tournament, according to officials.*—INTERNET**

Ogilvy seizes control at PGA Tour opener

KAPALUA, 11 Jan—A change to the Kona wind Saturday made Kapalua play entirely different in the Mercedes-Benz Championship. Geoff Ogilvy stayed his same, dominant self.

Even as a half-dozen players made charges up the leaderboard on the best day for scoring on the Plantation course, Ogilvy answered with some superb pitching and three straight birdies on the back nine on his way to an 8-under 65. That gave him a six-shot lead over Justin Leonard and DJ Trahan, and made everyone else in the winners-only field feels as though they were playing for second.—*Internet*

***Geoff Ogilvy, of Australia, reacts after making a birdie putt on the 9th green of the Plantation Course during the third round of the Mercedes-Benz Championship golf tournament in Kapalua, Hawaii.*—INTERNET**

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

(11.1.2009)

Man Utd	**3 - 0**	**Chelsea**
Wigan Athletic	**1 - 0**	**Tottenham**

Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo stretches for the ball during their English Premier League soccer match against Chelsea in Manchester, northern England, on 11 January, 2009.

***Aston Villa's Curtis Davies, second left, beats West Bromwich Albion's Carl Hoefkens, left, and goalkeeper Scott Carson, second right, the opening goal during their English Premier League soccer match at Villa Park stadium, Birmingham, England, on 10 Jan, 2009.*—INTERNET**

***Andrew Carroll (L) of Newcastle battles for the ball with (R) Matthew Upson of West Ham during a Premier League football match at St James' Park, Newcastle upon Tyne. Carroll celebrated his birthday in style at St James' Park as the Newcastle striker secured a point for the Magpies in an entertaining 2-2 draw with West Ham.*—INTERNET**

Wenger relieved to see Bendtner back on track

LONDON, 11 Jan—Arsene Wenger believes Nicklas Bendtner is back on track after the under-fire Arsenal striker sealed a precious 1-0 win over Bolton. Just five minutes remained at the Emirates stadium on Saturday when Bendtner slid in to convert Robin van Persie's chipped cross and ensure Arsenal remained just three points behind third-placed Aston Villa in the Premier League table. The goal capped an eccentric cameo from Bendtner, who had come on as a 75th-minute substitute.—*Internet*

***SKorea's travel account deficit drastically narrowed last year as the weaker won attracted more foreign tourists while preventing many Koreans from travelling abroad, according to the latest government data. The country's travel account shortfall fell to less than one third from 10.1 billion dollars in 2007 to 3.1 billion dollars in 2008.—*INTERNET**

Chile finmin says no recession seen in 2009

SANTIAGO, 11 Jan— Chile's finance minister said the economy should not enter in a recession in 2009 thanks to government moves to ease the impact of a global downturn, an interview published in daily *El Mercurio* said on Saturday.

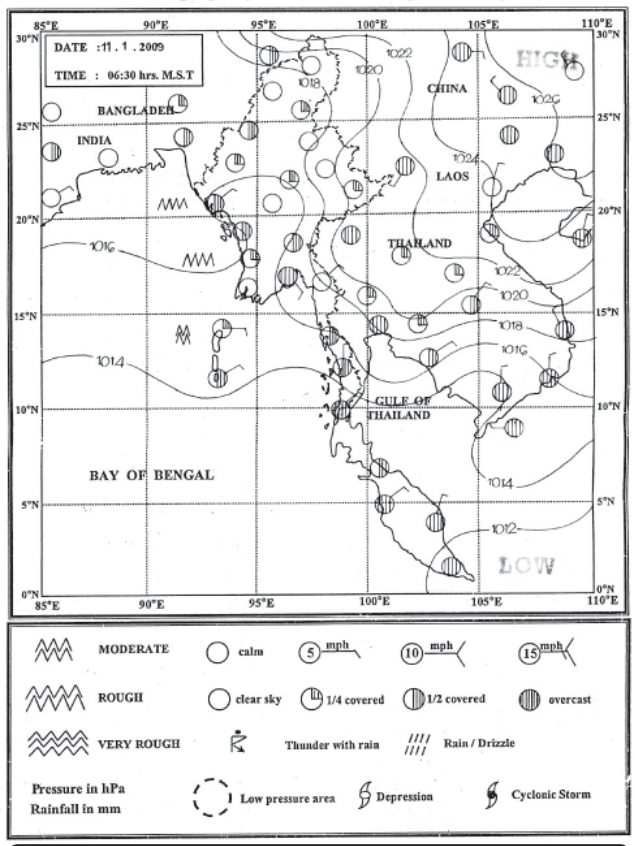
Minister Andres Velasco told the newspaper he did not expect gross domestic product to fall in two consecutive quarters of this year, which would technically constitute a recession.

"We do not have data that suggests the Chilean economy will be in that situation," Velasco was quoted as saying.

Earlier this week, the government announced a four billion-US-dollar economic stimulus plan to spur employment and growth despite the global financial crisis, aiming for an expansion of between 2 per cent and 3 per cent of GDP this year.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Briton charged over burning body dumped on motorway

LONDON, 11 Jan— Police have charged a 51-year-old man from east London with the murder of a man whose burning body was found by the M45 motorway in Warwickshire, Scotland Yard said on Saturday.

The victim was found on the eastbound embankment of the motorway on 30 December 30 and a post mortem revealed he died from head and neck injuries.

Police believe he was killed in east London before his body was driven to Warwickshire to be dumped and set alight. Scotland Yard said it had charged Irshad Mohammed Wali, 51, with the murder. He was arrested on January 7 along with five other men in separate raids in east London. —*MNA/Reuters*

***A man takes photos of the portrait of Apple's iconic CEO Steve Jobs, who has given the Macworld keynote address for the past 11 consecutive years but skipped this year's event, outside the meeting place of the Macworld Expo 2009 in San Francisco, the United States, 2009.—*INTERNET**

TV Myanmar

Monday, 12 January
View on today

7:00 am
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am
2. ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am
3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
4. Morning news

7:40 am
5. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am
6. Cute little dancers

8:00 am
7. Nice and sweet song

8:10 am
8. "မြို့ကြီးသားယဉ်ကျေးမှု" (လျှမ်းထက်၊ ဖိုးချစ်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း၊ နန်းဆုရတီစိုး၊ စုချစ်ဇော်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–ဇော်လူထက်)

8:20 am
9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am
10. International news

8:45 am
11. Musical programme

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:10 pm
2. Dance of national races

4:20 pm
3. မြန်မာစာ၊မြန်မာစကား(အပိုင်း–၄)

4:35 pm
4. အကပဒေသာ

4:50 pm
5. နိုင်ငံ့စီးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ

5:05 pm
6. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)

5:20 pm
7. Song to uphold national spirit

5:25 pm
8. မွေးမြူစိုက်ပျိုးစီးပွားတိုး (အပိုင်း–၃)

5:35 pm
9. Musical programme

5:45 pm
10. "ငှက်တစ်သောင်း" (ကင်းကောင်၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ ထူးမွန်၊ အကယ်ဒမီစိုးရွှေ၊ ဦးမြင့်စိုး၊ တိမ်ညွှန့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–မောင်သီ)

6:00 pm
11. Evening news

6:30 pm
12. Weather report

6:35 pm
13. ဆိုကြမယ်၊ပျော်ကြမယ်

7:10 pm
14. ဂီတစာဆိုတစ်ဦး၏ အကြိုက်ဆုံးတေးများထဲကတေးတစ်ပုဒ် (အပိုင်း–၂)

7:20 pm
15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နွဲ့ဆိုးဆိုးသူကိုယ့်ချစ်သူ" (အပိုင်း–၂)

8:00 pm
16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မြင့်မြတ်နှလုံးသားပိုင်ရှင်" (အပိုင်း–၁၇)

WEATHER

Sunday, 11 January, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (4˚C) below January average temperatures in Mon State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, (3˚C) to (4˚C) above January average temperatures in Kayah State and Bago Division and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures was Namhsan (4˚C).

Maximum temperature on 10-1-2009 was 90˚F. Minimum temperature on 11-1-2009 was 62˚F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 11-1-2009 was 57%. Total sunshine hours on 10-1-2009 was (7.8) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 11-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) m.p.h from North at (11:30) hours MST on 10-1-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 12th January 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan and Chin States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperature in Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 12-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-1-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

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Commander visits Nancho, Upper Paunglaung hydropower project sites

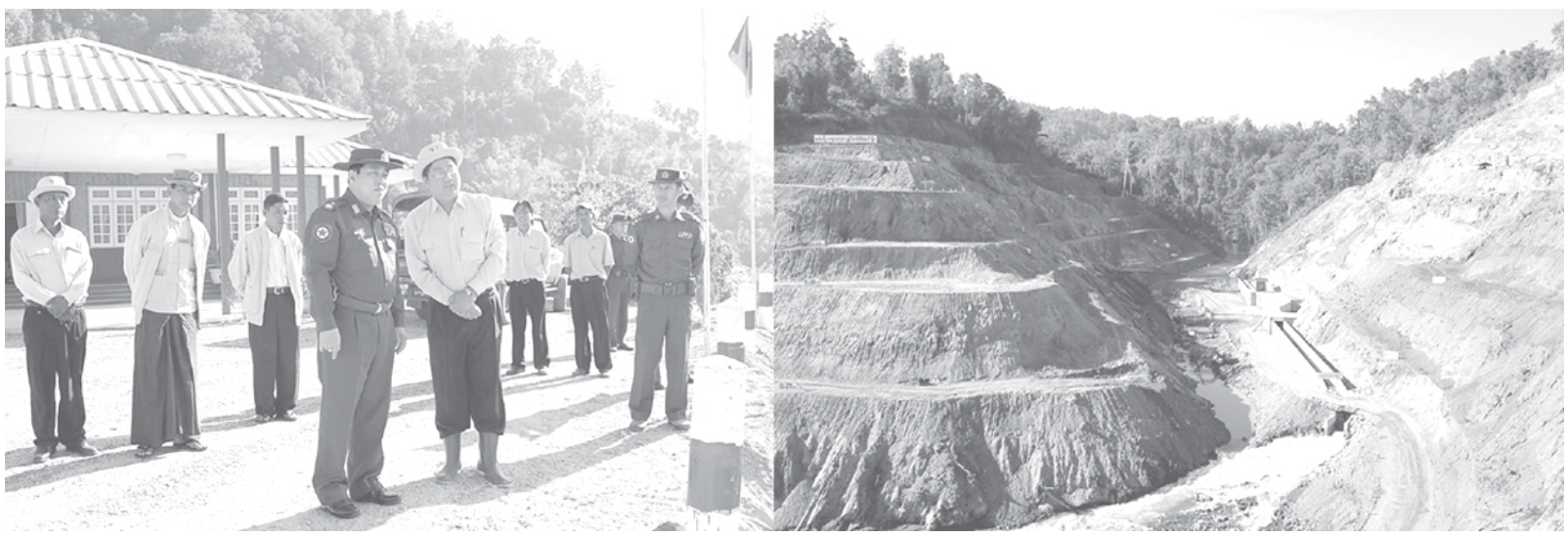
NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan—Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin heard reports on progress of Nancho Hydropower Project implemented to the east of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana presented by Assistant Director U Lin Naing Aye at the project site on 8 January morning.

After giving necessary instructions, the commander inspected progress in construction of water intake tunnel.

Nancho Hydropower Project site is located on Nancho Creek, 16 miles east of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana. On completion, 152 million kilowatt hours can be generated at the power plant yearly. At the Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project site, the commander heard a report on progress of the project presented by Deputy Director U Soe Naing and viewed land preparations for construction of the main embankment.

Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project site is situated on Paunglaung River, 26 miles east of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana. On completion, the two 70-megawatt generators can generate 454 million kilowatt hours yearly.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin inspects construction tasks of Nancho Hydropower Project in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.—MNA

ISD Tennis Tournament commences

YANGON, 11 Jan—The 46th Inter-State/Division Tennis Tournament 2009 was opened at Theinbyu Tennis Court, here, yesterday afternoon.

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint opened the competitions, and players recited four oaths. A total of 15 men's and nine women's teams are taking part in the competitions up to 16 January.

It was also attended by Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department, Chairperson Daw Aye Aye of Central Committee for Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, President of MTF U Zaw Zaw and officials.—*MNA*

Mothers pass on disease clues to offspring

Rats seen before test.

SCIENCEDAILY 11 Jan—When there is a threat of disease during pregnancy, mothers produce less aggressive sons with more efficient immune systems, researchers at The University of Nottingham have discovered. The study provides the first evidence for a transgenerational effect on immune response based on environmental cues — with maternal perception of disease risk in the immediate environment potentially determining offspring disease resistance and social dominance.—*Internet*

Speedy and smooth transportation in Kachin State

Article: *Kyaw Kyaw (Bhamo);* Photos: *Htay Aung (Kyemon)*

Various types of vehicles parking at Highway Bus Terminal in Eya Ward of Myitkyina.

Nowadays, transportation contributes towards sector-wise development of the nation. The government is implementing plans for ensuring better transportation that plays an important role in development of border areas and national races of Myanmar.

To write articles on better transportation in Kachin State, a news crew of the Kyemon Daily arrived at Nyeinchan Thayar Bus Terminal in Eya Ward of Myitkyina on 4 January.

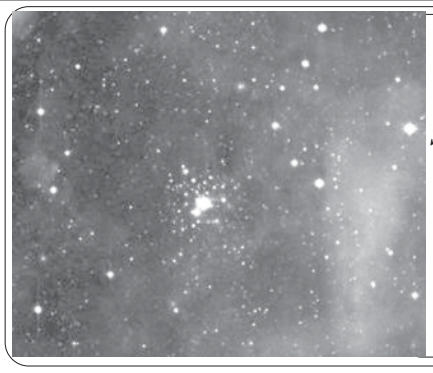
In an interview at the bus terminal, Chairman of All Bus Lines Control Committee U Thant Zin said that the buses parked on the roads near the railway station of Myitkyina in the past after transporting the passengers. They were not properly organized. He said after peace and stability had been restored in the region, transportation improved sigificantly. For convenience of the increasing number of travellers, the Highway Bus Terminal was opened in 2005. The terminal was located on four acres of plot, and land

(See page 10)

INSIDE

The engineers need to accept the point that engineering is an important requirement for establishment of a modern developed nation. Myanmar engineers are duty-bound to do their bit with the utilization of their skills.

PAGE 2 PERSPECTIVES



This photograph from NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope shows the young star cluster NGC 2362.
INTERNET

Baby Jupiters must gain weight fast

SCIENCE DAILY 11 Jan—The planet Jupiter gained weight in a hurry during its infancy. It had to, since the material from which it formed probably disappeared in just a few million years, according to a new study of planet formation around young stars. Smithsonian astronomers examined the 5 million-year-old star cluster NGC 2362 with NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope, which can detect the signatures of actively forming planets in infrared light.—*Internet*