

### 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

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye discusses disaster management and regional development in Rakhine State



**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gives instructions on disaster management and regional development tasks in meeting with State, District and Township level departmental officials of Rakhine State.—MNA**



NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan— Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met with State, District and Township level departmental officials at the local battalion of Sittway in Rakhine State on 9 January and gave instructions on disaster management and regional development

tasks. Also present on the occasion together with Vice-Senior General Maung Aye were Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers of Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Rakhine State

PDC Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thuang Aye, the Vice-chairman of Rakhine

State PDC, personnel of the SPDC office, departmental officials from districts and townships in Rakhine State.

First, Chairman of Rakhine State PDC Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thuang Aye presented reports on damages and losses caused by about ten storms in the past 40 years in Rakhine State, disaster preparedness measures in the state, construction of shelters in the townships,

In his instructions, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that occurrence of cyclonic storms due to changing global climate should be taken into consideration, necessary measures are to be taken systematically in respective townships, lessons from Nargis storm which wiped out certain areas of Ayeyawady Division should be taken, so that preparedness measures are to be taken before coming monsoon season,

asters and other threats in unison and strive for regional development and development of the State, he said. He continued that wounds left by Nargis storm have been successfully cured thanks to good morale and unity of the nationals and sufficiency of domestic food supplies.

He went on to say that it is pivotal that each and every region are to make efforts for surplus of food and strong economy. As Rakhine State is blessed

preservation of mangroves, preparedness in regions vulnerable to natural disasters.

he pointed out. The government, the people and the Tatmadaw are to prevent natural dis-

with favorable geographical conditions, it can produce more than consumed, and the surplus is to be sustained from strength to strength, collaborative efforts are to be made for strengthening the economy of Rakhine State through constant development of manufacturing industries including farming industry, reduction of production costs, and minimizing loss and wastage in addition innovative (See page 8)

**The government, the people and the Tatmadaw are to prevent natural disasters and other threats in unison and strive for regional development and development of the State. Wounds left by Nargis storm have been successfully cured thanks to good morale and unity of the nationals and sufficiency of domestic food supplies.**

## PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 13 January, 2009

### Actively take part in polio elimination drive

One of the most important tasks carried out widely by the State and the national people for health and fitness of new generations is the activities to mark the National Immunization Days. The government has launched the National Immunization Days since 1996.

Myanmar has conducted vaccination campaigns every year since 1978. In its efforts to eliminate seven diseases that can be prevented through giving vaccination, the government gives priority to elimination of polio disease as it has been designated as the most crucial disease.

In doing so, oral polio vaccines were given to children under one year at least three times with one month gap. At the same time, a domiciliary visit was made extensively to give polio vaccines to children ranging from newborns to those under five and continue to monitor the spread of polio.

The Ministry of Health has made field trips right down to different regions including rural and far-flung areas and given regular polio vaccines to children with the aim of eliminating the fatal disease in those regions.

The government launches the National Immunization Days yearly to ensure that oral polio vaccines are given to all children from newborns to those under five to maintain the polio-free reputation.

In response to the goodwill of the State, the entire national people are to actively take part in the immunization activities by doing their bit for successful realization of the aim of giving oral polio vaccines to 7.23 million children ranging from newborns to those under five to be implemented by the government from 7 to 9 February as the second phase.

## 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

### President of the Republic of the Philippines sends felicitations to Senior General Than Shwe

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan — *The following is the message of felicitations sent from President of the Philippines Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, on the occasion of the 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.*

Excellency,

On behalf of the Government and people of the Republic of the Philippines, I wish to extend my warmest wishes and heartfelt congratulations to Your Excellency and to the Government and people of the Union of Myanmar on the occasion of your 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Independence.

The strong and cordial relationship between our two countries has been proven by mutual support

during challenging times especially in coping with natural disasters and other calamities. The support and cooperation that we extend to each other continue to provide the strong foundation of our enduring relationship—binding us as strong neighbors and brothers in ASEAN.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

### Heads of Governments send felicitations to Prime Minister General Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan — *The following is the messages of felicitations sent from foreign heads of Government to General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar.*

**From Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines**  
Excellency,

The Government and people of the Republic of the Philippines join me in wishing the Government and people of the Union of Myanmar warmest greetings and felicitations on the occasion of the 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Independence of the Union of Myanmar.

The close and friendly relations between the Philippines and Myanmar continue to deepen as we pursue collaboration and cooperation in various areas of mutual concern. The relationship between our two countries and peoples likewise grows stronger as we pursue the goals of greater ASEAN community.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**From Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of Malaysia**  
Excellency,

On the auspicious occasion of the 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, the Government and the people of Malaysia join me in extending our congratulations and best wishes to Your Excellency, the Government and the people of the Union of Myanmar.

It is my fervent hope that the close ties and excellent cooperation between our two countries and our peoples will continue to flourish. I look forward to working closely with Your Excellency towards broadening and deepening our bilateral relations for our mutual benefit.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

### IBTC Open Golf Championships kicks off

YANGON, 12 Jan— The opening ceremony of the second leg of IBTC Open Golf Championships of Myanmar Golf Tour 2008-2009, jointly organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar P.G.A and mainly sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd took place at Yedaguntaung Golf Course in Mandalay, Mandalay Division yesterday morning.

Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Chairman of Mandalay City

Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, Vice-President of Myanmar P.G.A and Myanmar Golf Federation U Min Thein and Executive Director of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd U Tint Oo teed off the tracer balls to open the tournament.

After the first day 18-hole event, Zaw Zaw Latt and Zaw Zin Win (Srixon) led Professional Golfers with 67 strokes five-under-par. Min Naing (Srixon) second with 68 strokes four-under-par, Soe Kyaw

Naing (Srixon) third with 69 three-under-par and Aung San Win (Srixon) four with 70 two-under-par.

In National Amateur event, Nay Bala Win Myint is leading with 67 strokes five-under-par. Bo Bo Lay second with 70 strokes two-under-par and Aung Win (Forestry) third with 71 strokes one-under-par.

With the aim of ensuring the emergence of Myanmar Golfers, International Beverages Trading Co Ltd mainly sponsored the championship with co-sponsors Air Bagan Ltd, Hotel Yangon, Ruby Dragon (Jades and Gems) Co Ltd, KBZ Bank Ltd,

MGW Construction Ltd, Alpine Purified Drinking Water, MY Associates Co Ltd, Srixon, Tiger Head Cement, KM Golf Center,

ACCEL International Co Ltd (Canon) and Lifeline (DHEA-Plus) and management organizer Han Event Management.

The second day 18-hole event was due to be held at the designated place today.

MNA



Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe tees off the tracer balls to open second leg of IBTC Golf Championships.—MNA

## Tobacco Kills

# Israeli forces advance deep into Gaza urban areas

GAZA CITY, 12 Jan—Israeli ground forces made their deepest foray yet Sunday into Gaza's most populated area, with tanks rolling into residential neighbourhoods and infantry fighting urban warfare in streets and buildings with Hamas militants who kept up their rocketing of southern Israel.

An Israeli Army spokeswoman said residential neighbourhoods in Gaza are riddled with homemade bombs and booby traps, including

mannequins placed at apartment entrances to simulate militants and rigged to explode if soldiers approach.

The army "is advancing more into urban areas," said the spokeswoman, Maj Avital Leibovich. "Since the majority of the Hamas militants are pretty much in hiding in those places, mainly urban places, then we operate in those areas." Early Monday, Israeli Navy gunboats fired more than 25 shells at

Gaza City, setting fires and shaking office buildings, including the local bureau of *The Associated Press*. The military said that in general, the targets are Hamas installations but had no immediate information about the shelling that began just after midnight.

Before daybreak Monday, at least one militant was killed in an Israeli airstrike in northern Gaza, where a battle was in progress, hospital officials said.—*Internet*



A car burns following an Israeli air strike at the Rafah refugee camp in the southern Gaza Strip, near the border with Egypt. Israel poured reservists into Gaza on Monday as the death toll in its war on Hamas neared 900, but officials said an end to the fighting might be in sight as more ceasefire talks were scheduled in Egypt.—INTERNET



An Iraqi police officer lies on the ground after he was wounded in a bomb attack in central Baghdad on 12 Jan, 2009. A series of bomb attacks in Baghdad on Monday killed at least four people and wounded nearly 20, police said.—INTERNET

## Bombs aimed at police kill five in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 12 Jan—Iraqi police say bombs targeting security forces have killed at least five people in Baghdad.

Officials say the deadliest blast occurred when two bombs exploded nearly simultaneously as a police patrol passed by a bakery in a mainly Shiite area in eastern Baghdad. They say three civilians were killed and 10 other people wounded.

Police say two other civilians have been killed and seven people wounded in separate bombs aimed at police and army patrols in central Baghdad. The police officials spoke on Monday on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to release the information.—*Internet*

## British Marine killed in blast in Afghanistan

LONDON, 12 Jan—A British Royal Marine was killed on Sunday in southern Afghanistan when an explosion struck his patrol in Helmand Province, the Ministry of Defence said.

"The death of this Royal Marine is a tragedy for everyone in Task Force Helmand," Commander Paula Rowe, said in an MoD statement. "Whilst words cannot ease their loss, our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this desperately sad time."

The Marine's identity was not released.

The incident happened in the Kajaki area of Helmand on Sunday morning, the MoD said.

*Internet*

## Nigerian militants say two British hostages still alive

LAGOS, 12 Jan—Two British hostages kidnapped several months ago are still alive and well, the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), the most prominent militant group operating in Nigeria's oil-rich Niger Delta region, said in a statement reaching here on Sunday.

Some recent pictures of

the hostages were attached in the statement, sent via e-mail with an alias of "Jomo Gbomo".

"To reassure the families of the two British hostages identified as Robin Barry Hughes and Matthew John Maguire that they are alive and well, MEND hereby releases their recent pictures," said

the statement.

The statement also quoted the hostages' message to their families as saying that their plight "is caused by the insincere Nigerian government, greedy oil companies and the dumb Prime Minister of Great Britain Gordon Brown."

The two hostages were kidnapped off an oil vessel operating in Nigerian southern oil region in early September 2008, along with some of their colleagues, who were released by militants soon after the accident.

*Xinhua*

## Senior militant commander captured in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 12 Jan—The Iraqi military says a senior militant commander accused of several bombings and assassinations has been captured in Baghdad.

Brig Gen Qassim al-Moussawi says Thair Khadim Abid Salman al-Samarraie has confessed to being the military commander of the Sunni militant group Ansar al-Sunnah.

The spokesman said on Sunday the suspect was arrested on 18 Dec.

*Internet*

## Militants kill two alleged US spies in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 12 Jan — Pakistan's militants have killed two men allegedly spying for the United States in Pakistan's northwestern tribal region, local media said on Monday.

The bullet-ridden bodies of two brothers were found Monday near the town of Mir Ali in North Waziristan tribal agency along the Afghan border, the *News Network International (NNI)* news agency quoted local tribe men as saying. A note written in local Pashtun language was found near the bodies, which said that the men killed were spying for the United States and warned that those who work for America would meet the same fate. This is the latest incident of such killing in Pakistan's tribal region.—*Internet*

An Israeli police explosives expert carries the remains of a rocket after it landed in the southern city of Beersheba on 11 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET



## China aviation venture to build 8b yuan copter base in Tianjin

TIANJIN, 12 Jan — China will build a commercial helicopter production base here, local authorities said on Monday.

The Aviation Industry Corp of China (AICC), the country's largest helicopter maker, signed an agreement with the municipal government last week to start work on the base in the first half of this year, said Feng Zhijiang, head of the Tian Free

Trade Zone. The cost will be about 8 billion yuan (1.2 billion US dollars), Feng said.

The new China Aviation Industry Helicopters Corp Ltd will include a headquarters, a research and development base, assembly facilities and customer services, Feng told the ongoing Tianjin people's congress.

The new company will focus on medium and heavy helicopters,

filling a void in the domestic market.

Sales are forecast to reach 30 billion to 40 billion yuan within 10 years.

Two helicopters are expected to be assembled this year, Feng said.

China needs about 3,000 helicopters in the next 20 years but has only about 100 civilian craft, said Fang Yong, AICC deputy general manager.

Internet



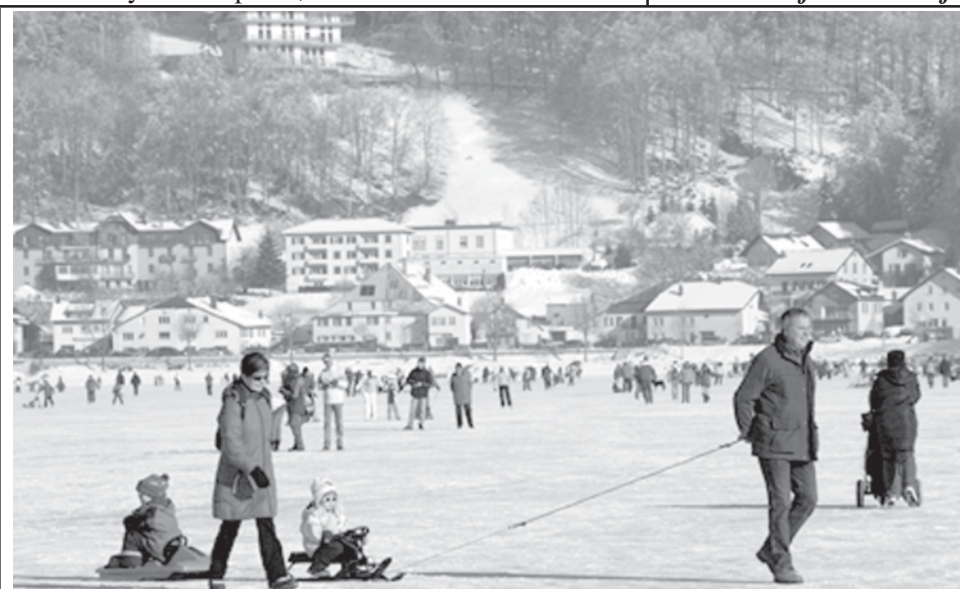
People take a walk in both sides of the US-Mexico border as the low tide exposes the end of the border fence in Tijuana, Mexico, on 11 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

## S Korea, Japan agree to improve bilateral ties

SEOUL, 12 Jan — South Korean President Lee Myung-bak and Japanese Prime Minister Aso Taro on Monday agreed here that the two nations will make joint efforts to improve bilateral ties and promote cooperation in cope with financial crisis.

At a joint press conference held after the summit meeting between Lee and Aso, Lee said the two leaders held very substantial and detailed discussions on closer economic cooperation.

The two sides agreed to boost Japanese enterprises' investment in South Korea, expand cooperation on financial issues, extend exchanges in science and technology and seek joint efforts in nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula and the reconstruction in Afghanistan, Lee said.—Internet



People enjoy the frozen Lac de Joux at Le Pont in the Jura region in Western Switzerland on 11 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

## Detroit auto show opens amid economic woes

DETROIT, 12 Jan — The North American International Auto Show (NAIAS), one of world's most prestigious of its kind, opens on Sunday in Detroit as a deepened economic recession inflicts deep woes on automakers worldwide and overshadows a possible recovery of US ailing auto industry in the near future.

The absence of some



The BMW Z4 Roadster is introduced during the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, Michigan, on 11 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET

big names from the show, including Nissan, Suzuki, Mitsubishi, Ferrari, Land Rover, Rolls-Royce and Porsche, serves as a reminder what a trying time the automakers have to endure.

The missing companies pull out of the event to save cash in order to outlast the economic slump. The past year saw a global decline in auto sales.

The Detroit Three-General Motors, Ford and Chrysler LLC — which have long wallowed in financial troubles and edged towards the brink of bankruptcy, have suffered most.

After having enjoyed a brief moment of record selling of vehicles in January, 2008, GM, for example, has ever since experienced a free fall in sales and profit, which helps bring the giant to its knees in seeking rescue from the government.

Internet

## Egypt hands over stolen antiquity to Iraq

CAIRO, 12 Jan — Egyptian antiquity department on Sunday returned an ancient bronze statue to Iraq that was stolen and smuggled out of Iraq in 2005.

During a ceremony on Sunday, Secretary General of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) Zahi Hawass handed over the bronze statue depicting a standing woman to Iraqi charge d'affaires in Cairo Abdel Hadi Ahmed.

Hawass said the story of the statue dates back to 2005, when an Egyptian tried to smuggle this item into Egypt but was detained at the port of Nuweiba in the Sinai Peninsula.

According to the SCA,



Zahi Hawass (L), Secretary General of Egypt's Supreme Council of the Antiquities, on behalf of the Egyptian government, hands over an Iraqi Mesopotamian bronze statue to the Iraqi attache in Egypt Abdel Hadi Dadhil Ahmed, at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, capital of Egypt, on 11 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

the artifact was verified by an archaeological committee as an authentic Mesopotamian antiquity.

Internet

## Washington's 2009 deficit projected to rocket to \$2 tn

LOS ANGELES, 12 Jan — Combined with already planned spending, US President-elect Barack Obama's future package of tax cuts and spending increases would push Washington's 2009 deficit to between 1.5 trillion and 2 trillion dollars, it was reported on Sunday.

This indicated that the United States "is about to embrace an economic theory that was widely thought for most of the last generation to have been discredited: the idea that great bursts of deficit-funded government expenditure can jolt an economy back to growth," the *Los Angeles Times* said.

"The nation is poised to put this theory to the test on a scale untried in peacetime by any developed country on Earth," said the paper.

This also showed that how quickly the options for the next government were shrinking, the paper noted.

Only during World War II did US government expenditures account for a greater share of economic activity, according to federal statistics. That's also true for virtually every other developed country.—Internet



Bridegrooms Li Guanglong and Li Guangbiao, who are twins, ride horses during a wedding ceremony in the Chinese traditional manner in Donghai County, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 11 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

# Over 180 passengers missing in boat accident in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 12 Jan—A total of 182 passengers went missing as their motorboat sank in Parepare waters of Indonesia's South Sulawesi province at 4 am on Sunday when it was sailing from the Parepare port to Balikpapan.

The boat, named KM Teratai, left the Parepare port at 4 pm on Saturday but sank in Parepare waters due to huge waves on Sunday, the Antara news agency quoted a rescue coordinator as saying.

Coordinator of the rescue and search team from the University of Hasanuddin, Salman said in Makassar, capital of South Sulawesi Province, on Sunday, that the ill-fated Teratai carried 200 passengers,

18 of whom had been rescued by local fishermen, and 182 still missing.

"Three of the 18 passengers brought to the coast were rescued by Nur Salim, one of the fishermen from Majene," Salman said.

KM Teratai left the Parepare port in South Sulawesi for Balikpapan at about 16:00 local time on Saturday. KM Teratai had 200 passengers on board. But earlier reports said there were 300 passengers on the boat.

"Because of heavy rain and high waves, the captain could not control the vessel which then sank after being battered by big waves on its way to Balikpapan," Salman said.—Xinhua



A mother is held by her son after locating the name of her daughter on the list of passengers on a ferry which sank at Parepare port on 12 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

## All items from Xinhua News Agency



In this 24 Feb, 2007 file photo, Japan's H-2A rocket, carrying a spy satellite, blasts off from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Tanegashima, southern Japan. Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd said Monday it has signed an agreement to send a South Korean satellite into orbit, the first commercial order for use of a Japanese-made rocket.—INTERNET

## China issues food safety alert ahead of Spring Festival

BEIJING, 12 Jan—China's Ministry of Health said Monday morning that the government would strengthen law enforcement on illegal substance and addictive abuse in food as the Chinese lunar new year, the country's biggest festivity, draws near.

Mao Qun'an, the ministry spokesman, said that an interagency mechanism had been set up to enforce laws and regulations on food safety, particularly in the two weeks preceding the Chinese lunar new year (26 Jan, 2009), in seven provinces, including Hebei, where the melamin-tainted milk formula scandal occurred.

The spokesman said the

inspection would primarily focus on supermarkets and food-additive processing factories and restaurants. He said violators would be severely punished. Mao also promised the ministry would publicize major violations as soon as possible.

Xinhua

**Polaroid Pogo Instant Digital Camera prints out a photo during a demonstration at the 2009 International Consumer Electronics Show at the Las Vegas Convention Centre on 9 Jan, 2009 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Polaroid Corp, the iconic inventor of the instant photo, has reinvented itself for the digital age, launching a digital camera which makes instant full-colour prints.—XINHUA**

## Moderate offshore quake hits S Philippines

MANILA, 12 Jan—An offshore earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale hit the southern Philippine region of Mindanao on Sunday night, with no casualty or damage to property reported.

The quake was recorded at 11:53 pm local time (1553 GMT), and the epicenter was 1110 kilometers southeast of Manila at a depth of 107.5 kilometers, said the United States Geological Service.

The Philippines is hit regularly by earthquakes, and most of them are low in magnitude and cause little damage.

The Southeast Asian country is part of the so-called Pacific Ring of Fire, a string of islands on the Pacific Ocean rim that were formed by the eruptions of undersea volcanoes.—Xinhua

## At least six killed in Fiji flood

WELLINGTON, 12 Jan—A state of emergency has been declared in Fiji where at least six people have died and more than 9,000 have been forced out of their homes after days of torrential rain.

The severe flooding has cut power and telephone lines, drinking water was limited and hundreds of holiday-makers have been stranded, the Fiji media reported on Monday.

The state of emergency has been imposed on the western division of Fiji's main island, Viti Levu.

The towns of Nadi, Rakiraki and Ba were swamped after being pelted by more than 200 mm of rain since Friday.—Xinhua

## Ford to develop electric vehicle

DETROIT, 12 Jan—Ford Motor Company, one of the US Big Three, announced at the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) on Sunday a plan to bring pure battery-powered vehicles, hybrids and plug-in hybrid vehicles to market.

The plan signals the next phase in Ford's commitment to deliver the best or among the best fuel efficiency with every new vehicle it introduces and to make fuel efficiency solutions affordable for millions of customers.

"Ford is heading in the direction America and our customers want us to go, which is a green, high-tech and global future," said Ford Executive Chairman Bill Ford at a Press conference.

"I think that is where society would like to see the entire industry go, and Ford is going to lead that charge," he added.

To start, Ford will introduce in North America: A new battery electric commercial van in 2010; A new battery electric small car in 2011 to be developed jointly with Magna International; Next-generation hybrid vehicles, including a plug-in version. These vehicles pave the way for additional applications in the future, using Ford's high-volume global small car and midsize car platforms.

The electric vehicle will have a range of up to 100 miles on a single charge, without using a single drop of gasoline. Ford is partnering with high-tech partners to bring electric-powered vehicles to market quickly and more affordably.

Xinhua





*Kimono-clad participants, who attain the age of 20 years this year, take photos of Disney characters on stage during a Coming of Age ceremony at Tokyo Disneyland in Urayasu city, near Tokyo, on 12 Jan, 2009.*  
INTERNET

### Six children die in Buenos Aires fire

BUENOS AIRES, 12 Jan— Fire swept through an abandoned bank building in Buenos Aires this weekend, killing six children from one family, authorities said. The siblings, two sisters and four brothers ages 1-13, had been living in the old building in the city's La Boca neighbourhood. Their parents and another sibling escaped unharmed. A dozen people were injured, some seriously burned in the Saturday blaze, the *Latin American Herald Tribune* reported on Sunday.—*Internet*

### More Americans develop skin cancer

LOS ANGELES, 12 Jan — More Americans, particularly older men, have developed the deadly skin cancer melanoma, a new study showed. The rate is increasing among all Americans and cannot be due to better screening alone, researchers at the Stanford University Medical Center (SUMC) said in the study published in the Jan issue of the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*. The rise in melanoma cases could indicate an epidemic of skin cancer,

### A good first step in China's healthcare reform

BEIJING, 12 Jan — If it works, it should make everyone feel a little better about healthcare — and make healthcare a little more accessible to more people. Patients will no longer have to shell out the 7 to 15 percent extra fees that State-owned hospitals charge on medicines. The Health Ministry's announcement last week is a welcome first step in China's long-delayed healthcare reform.

The new policy, to be adopted on trial basis, is intended to stop hospitals from relying too much on income from medicines. It is estimated that income from the sale of medicines makes up 50 percent of a hospital's revenue on an average.

But the catch is that a doctor's income too is closely tied to the hospital's earnings from medicine sales. No wonder it is common for doctors to

prescribe expensive drugs while cheaper drugs can work just as well or possibly even better.

Part of the deficit caused by reduced income from drug sales will be made up by increased charges on patients for the service that doctors provide. But such expenses will be covered by basic medical insurance. That means those who have such insurance will have cheaper medical bills for seeing their doctors.

What is supposed to make the difference is the move's intention to get rid of the unhealthy tendency of doctors prescribing expensive drugs for their own or their hospital's profits rather than for the rehabilitation of patients.

The government's good intention could be just wishful thinking if no specific measures were taken to break the nexus between representatives of medicine manufacturers and doctors or between hospitals and manufacturers.

*Internet*

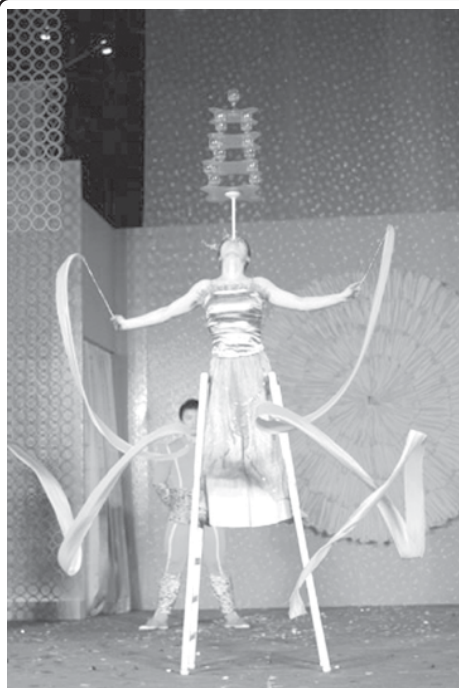
the researchers warned. "Melanoma rates are still going up, especially among older white men," said lead researcher Dr Eleni Linos, from the dermatology department at SUMC.

"This calls for greater awareness for patients, their families and physicians." The researchers based their study on data from the Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) programme to identify new cases of melanoma between 1992 and 2004.

During that period, 70,596 cases of melanoma were diagnosed among non-Hispanic whites in the United States, a 3.1-percent increase a year, the study said.

The increased rate was for all types of melanoma and for all thickness of tumors, said the study.

Moreover, the rate of melanoma doubled in all socioeconomic groups, while deaths from the disease did not increase significantly, according to the study.—*Internet*



*Acrobats from southeast China's Fujian Province perform during the Chinese Culture and Travel exhibition in Singapore, on 2 Jan, 2009. An exhibition introducing Chinese culture, artworks and travel was held at Raffles City Shopping Center in Singapore on Friday.*

*Pedestrians gather around the Honda in America float featuring a replica of Asimo, Honda's humanoid robot, during a Tournament of Rose Parade float display in Pasadena, Calif.*

### SF wants \$75,000 back from tiger attack survivor

Officials want a survivor of a tiger attack at the San Francisco Zoo to reimburse the city more than \$75,000 for his medical treatment and are asking that the money come out of any cash settlement the victim may receive. The city cited regulations that let liens for city-funded medical care be placed against damages recovered in wrongful injury or death cases. The tax department said in a lien filed this week in federal court that Kulbir Dhaliwal has yet to pay for medical treatment provided by the city after the mauling on Christmas Day 2007. Dhaliwal, who was 23 at the time of the attacks, suffered deep cuts and bites and underwent surgery to repair damage to his knees, according to a claim he and his brother filed last spring. The lien does not specify what medical care Dhaliwal received from the city.



### World's oldest woman dies in Portugal aged 115

A Portuguese woman who lived to see five of her great-great grandchildren born and was believed to have been the world's oldest person died at the age of 115, officials said. Maria de Jesus died in an ambulance near the central Portuguese town of Tomar, town council officials said.

She had been listed by the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's oldest person. That title now falls to an American, 114-year-old Gertrude Baines, who lives in a Los Angeles nursing home.

Born 10 Sept, 1893, de Jesus was widowed at 57, outlived three of her six children, had 11 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

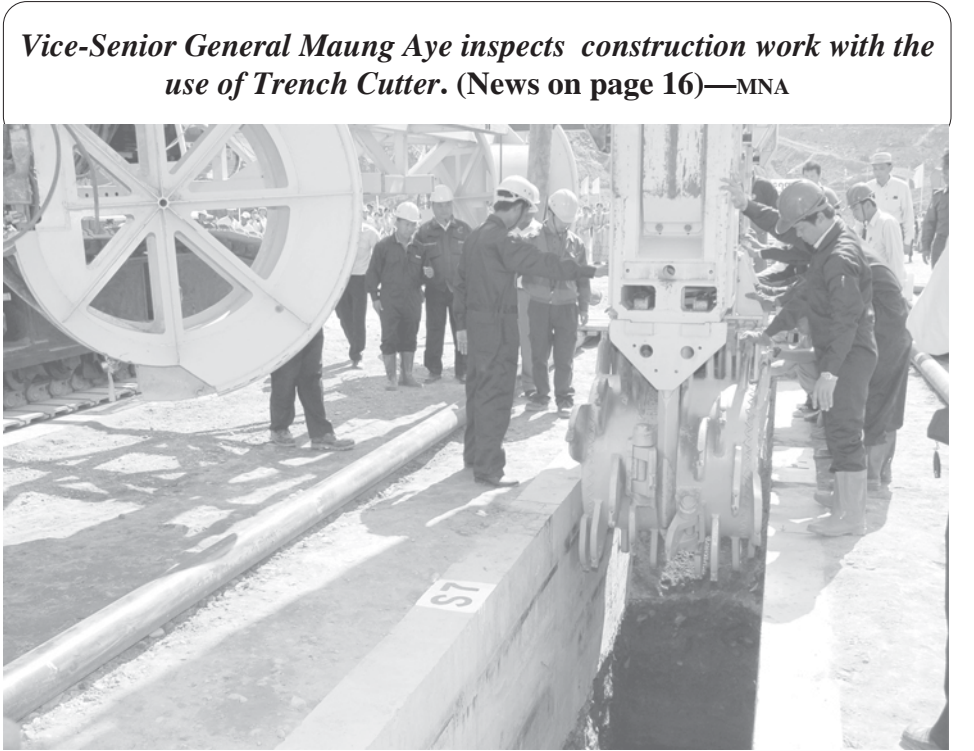
She ate breakfast normally, but then was taken to hospital because of a swelling, her daughter Maria Madalena told state news agency Lusa, without elaborating. De Jesus was 115 years and 114 days old. "I regret the death of this lady, she really was the sweetest person," town councillor Ivo Santos said in Tomar, central Portugal, 135 kilometres (84 miles) north of Lisbon.

There are now only 82 women and nine men verified as being 110 or older, according to gerontologist Dr Stephen Coles of the Gerontology Research Group at the University of California, Los Angeles.



*In this 10 Sept, 2006 file photo Maria de Jesus, is touched by Berenice, her eight month old great-great granddaughter as she celebrated her one hundred and thirteen year birthday in Corujo, Portugal, 150km north of Lisbon. A woman who lived to see five of her great-great grandchildren born and was believed to have been the world's oldest person living, has died in northwest Portugal at the age of 115, officials said on 2 Jan, 2009.*

## NEWS ALBUM



**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects construction work with the use of Trench Cutter. (News on page 16)—MNA**

## Anti-venom vaccine produced from chicken eggs being researched on humans

YANGON, 12 Jan — Myanmar health research conference (2008) was opened at the Medical Research Department on Ziwaka Street, Dagon Township, here this morning with an opening

one of the major problems facing Myanmar and that claims lives of farmers annually. It is common knowledge that anti-venom is produced from equine plasma.

But the production was

minister added.

The anti-venom vaccine produced from chicken eggs is much more potent than that produced from horses' plasma, and it is safer and cost-effective. The vaccine will



**Deputy Health Minister Dr Paing Soe gives a speech at the opening ceremony of Myanmar Health Research Conference 2008.—MNA**

address by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe.

In his address, the deputy minister said the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) started conducting research in 1990 to develop a hepatitis B vaccine and produced a vaccine called plasma derived in 1996. With the directive of the State, the Ministry of Health handed over Hepatitis B Vaccine Factory to Myanma Pharmaceuticals Industries of the Ministry of Industry-1 in August 2006. Besides, he said, research on a kind of traditional medicine had to be done for 20 years and the Health Ministry has handed over seven kinds of research to the Ministry of Industry-1. Snake bite is

not enough for the whole country and it had to be imported at a high cost. So, ways and means had to be sought to produce it domestically. Research on developing anti-venom vaccine has been done for more than 30 years. The research became successful and the vaccine could be produced from goats' plasma and chicken eggs.

The Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) started to conduct research on producing anti-venom vaccine from chicken eggs in 2002. During the last six years, research has been done on animals such as mice, rabbits and monkeys and it produces no side effects. Now research is being conducted on humans, the deputy

be effective to patients with snake bites. However, the stage of consumption cannot come only if the way of production has been known. Step-by-step research needs to be done to produce a safe vaccine. The deputy minister said experts from the department are beginning to conduct research on patients with snake bites. For its brilliant performance, the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) has been regarded as a malaria research and training centre by World Health Organization. Afterwards, the deputy minister and party viewed the boots. The first day session came to an end after 16 papers had been presented to the paper reading session. —MNA

## Prize presentation ceremony of Inter-State/ Division Track and Field events held

YANGON, 12 Jan— A prize presentation ceremony of the 40<sup>th</sup> Inter-State and Division Track and Field events 2009 took place at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) here this morning, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

Also present on the occasion were officials concerned of the Ministry of Sports, the track and field in-charge patrons and

President of Central Working Committee for Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye, the vice-chairman and the executives of MTFF and the athletes.

After the final matches, officials concerned presented prizes to the winners. President of Central Working Committee for Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye presented championship to the

Yangon Division team in women's events, Director General U Thaug Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department presented championship to the Yangon Division team in men's events and Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented Championship Shield and Duplicate Trophy to the Yangon Division team who have got in men's / women's collective championship.

MNA

## Myanmar Senior Cricket team leaves for Thailand



**Myanmar Senior Cricket team seen at Yangon International Airport before their departure for Thailand to take part in ACC Trophy 2009 Cricket Tournament.—MNA**

YANGON, 12 Jan— Myanmar Senior Cricket team left here by air for Thailand on 10 January. The Cricket team will

take part in ACC Trophy 2009 Cricket tournament to be held in Chiang Mai, Thailand from 12 to 21 January. They were seen

off at Yangon International Airport by President of Myanmar Cricket Federation U Nyunt Win and executives.—MNA

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye discusses disaster...

(from page 1)

measures are to be taken for export of quality and standard agricultural produce, he stressed. Only then, the economy of the State will see stability and progress following the economic growth of Rakhine State, he said.

The coordination meeting of Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and departmental personnel then followed. Commander Maj-Gen Thauang Aye reported on matters related to agriculture and utilization of land, extended production of livestock breeding sector, development of education, health, transportation, and upgrading of roads in Rakhine State.

Next, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo explained utilization of cultivated lands, improvement of cultivation capacity, progress of irrigated farming, construction and maintenance of shelters and embankments built against inflow of salt water.

Later, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein gave account of extended breeding of prawns, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein on promotion of border trade, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe on improved transportation facilities, upgrading of airports, and disaster management measures, Minister for Electric Power No.1 Col Zaw Min on construction of Thahtay

creek and An creek hydropower projects, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe on disaster management works. Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence made supplementary reports.

Concerning the reports, the Secretary-1 fulfilled the needs and gave instructions on constant maintenance and upgrading of the roads in Rakhine State for their long-term use, cultivation and production of crops as planned, export of actual surpluses only, measures to be taken for prevention of smuggling and repair and maintenance of shelters to guard against natural disasters. He then stressed the need for civil servants to perform their duties conscientiously with care and goodwill, to organize the public to know the nature of civil duties and to carry out their duties in a correct and fair way. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects works of Thahtay Creek Hydropower project. (News on page 16)—MNA

### Mobilemate Co Ltd to open Mobile Corner

YANGON, 12 Jan — Mobilemate Telecommunications Co Ltd selling GSM, CDMA, TDMA, Handsets and related items will open a new Mobile Corner shop at Capital Hyper Market here on 17 January.

Mobile Corner One Stop Convenience Mobile Shop distributes popular brands in the telephone marketing such as NOKIA, Sony Ericsson, Motorola, LG, Apple, Samsung, HTC and Black Berry as well as GSM, TDMA, CDMA 800MHz Handsets, and CDMA 450 MHz Handset such as Pantech & Curitel and Ubiquam brands as a sole

agent in Myanmar. The company will also distribute Korea made AXESSTEL brand Fixed Wireless phone.

To mark the opening of new shop from 17 to 31 January, buyers will get 5 percent discount purchasing GSM Handset, 10 percent discount buying CDMA 450 MHz Handset and AXESSTEL Fixed Wireless Phone, Nokia Original related item and VIP Care Card. Those visiting during the opening day will be given Ring Tone and Wallpaper as presents.

Mobilemate Co Ltd gives Customers Oriented programme to solve Soft-

ware and Hardware Failure for holding Original Nokia Mobile Phone, getting Mobile General Check Up service for Card Member and Nokia Original Spare parts and Replacement Service.

Mobile Corner new shop will be opened from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. More information is available at No 04-03, Shwehintha tower, 61/2 miles in Hline Township (01-507400, 501062, extension-121), Mobile Corner (One Convenience Mobile Shop) Room-210B, first floor at Capital Hyper Market (01-553138, 553134, extension-210).—MNA

### Commander, ministers meet members of mobile rural development educative body

YANGON, 12 Jan — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye

Myint met members of mobile rural development educative body at the arts hall of Yangon University this morning.

The commander and the ministers spoke on the occasion and they cordially met members of mobile rural development educative

body from the ministries and social organizations.

Members of the body will make field trips to Kyauktan, Twantay, Kawhmu, Kungyangon, Thongwa and Kayan Townships and give lectures on rural development tasks.—MNA

### Pre-primary teachership course opened

YANGON, 12 Jan — Ministry of Education Supervisory Committee for Pre-primary teachership course of Myanmar Education Research Bureau under the

Ministry of Education opened its No. 19 Pre-primary teachership course at the MERB in Kamayut Township today.

On the occasion,

President of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science U Than Oo made a speech. A total of 80 trainees are taking the 20-day course.—MNA

### Symposium on Disaster Preparedness and Management discussed

YANGON, 12 Jan — Symposium on Cyclone Margi's-Health Sector: Disaster Preparedness and Management was held at the library of Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) here today.

Deputy Director-

General (disease control) Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein and Deputy Director-General Dr Kyaw Min presided over the meeting. Director (infectious) Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, Medical Superintendent Daw Nu Nu Tha, Assistant Director

(infection) Dr Tun Tin, Deputy Director (infection) Dr Than Htein Win, In-charge (infection) of WHO Dr Nihal Singh and Health Cluster Coordinator Dr Edwin Salvabor participated in the discussion.—MNA

President of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science U Than Oo speaks at pre-primary teachership course No. 19.

MNA





## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye pays homage to Lawka Nanda Pagoda in Sittway



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San pay homage to Buddha image of Lawka Nanda Pagoda in Sittway.—MNA

YANGON, 12 Jan—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye paid homage to the Lawka Nanda Pagoda in Sittway, Rakhine State, on 9 January.

First, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San and party arrived at the pagoda at 6:45 p.m. They were welcomed there by the chairman and members of the pagoda board of trustees and officials.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife offered flowers and water to the Buddha image. They next paid homage to the Buddha images clockwise. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye made cash donation for the funds of the pagoda through the chairman, who then presented a replica of the pagoda to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye as a token of Dhamma gift.

Later, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party viewed renovation of the pagoda.

MNA



### MMA donates cash and kind to storm victims in Kungyangon

YANGON, 12 Jan—Myanmar Music Asiayon (Central) held a ceremony to donate personal goods and household goods to storm victims of Kungyangon Township at No 2 Basic Education High School in the township yesterday.

MMA presented household goods to 622 households of 12 villages in the township and cash for reconstruction of primary school of Thaunkhon Village. On the occasion, film stars handed over K 6,877,000 donated by 16 Township Music Asiayon Organizing Committees in Yangon.

MNA

### YCESB opens short term course for office work 1/2009

YANGON, 12 Jan—The opening of the short term course for office work 1/2009 of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board took place today at Meeting Hall of the Board, with an address by Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint.

It was also attended by Chairman of YCESB Col Khin Maung Soe and members, chief engineers, general managers, deputy chief engineers, directors, district administrators, departmental heads and the trainees.

MNA

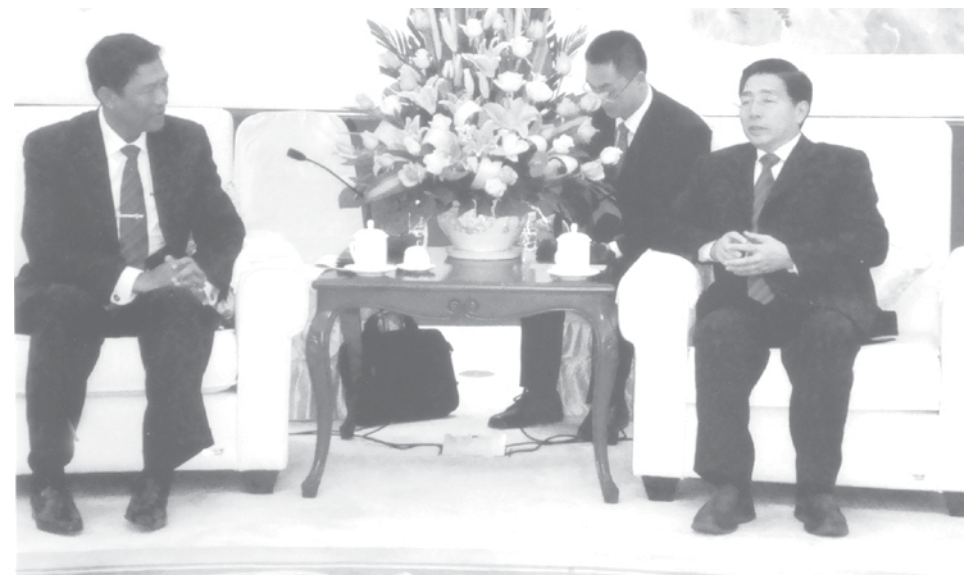
### Deputy FM arrives back from China

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan—Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint arrived back here today after paying a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China at the invitation of Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Myanmar delegation met with the party secretary of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Mr Guo Sheng Kun, at the Lyuan Resort International Convention Centre on 8 January.

On 9 January, the Myanmar delegation met the director-general of the Foreign Affairs Office of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Ms Fan Xiao Li, at her office. The Myanmar delegation called on Mr Huang Fang Fang, Mayor of Nanning, at the city hall.

During the visit,



Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister U Maung Myint receives Mr. Guo Sheng Kun, party secretary of Guanxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of PRC at Lyuan Resort International Convention Center.—MNA

the delegation held cordial discussion on promotion of trade and economic relations, agricultural technology between Myanmar and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on the establishment of Myanmar Consulate General in Nanning and on operation of direct

round-trip flights between Yangon-Mandalay-Nanning.

The other members of the delegation, Director-General of the Planning

and Administrative Department U Tin Soe and Assistant Director U Than Htwe also arrived back with the deputy minister.

MNA

**Donate Blood**

## Special Refresher Course No. 14 for university and college teachers opens

YANGON, 12 Jan — A ceremony to open Special Refresher Course No. 14 for university and college teachers was held at Nawarat Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township here at 9 a.m. today. On behalf of Chair-

opening speech on the occasion.

He said that as the government is striving for all-round development of the nation by laying down development plans, the educated citizens, national human resources, not only need to be bril-

cial objectives laid down in building up a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation, it is believed that teachers from the higher education sector will have their outlook, confidence and efficiency enhanced through experi-

ally-strategic areas and resources of other nations, especially developing ones, and influence them politically, economically and socially.

It is important for global nations to have human resources familiar with modern science and tech-

been built all over the country. And as a result, trainee teachers themselves have had opportunities to constantly learn high technologies and they are in a position to train the younger generation.

Holding the concept that education must not be

events in the history the government is building a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation in accord with the desire of the people and their traditional customs.

He said only when there is peace and tranquility can the national development be made. With this concept, the government built national reconsolidation and carried out all-round development tasks in the country including border areas.

After various kinds of external and internal obstacles and hindrance were overcome due to the consolidated strength of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw and the new State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was unanimously approved.

He said the rest of the seven-step Road Map will be implemented successfully. The new nation can be built in the near future, he said.

He said it is now the important time for the State. It is necessary for the teachers, students and the people to always have the Union spirit, genuine patriotism.

Altogether 333 faculty members are attending the four-week course.

A new nation, the goal of the people, can successfully be built as long as moral concepts of human resources are on the right national path, he said.

Also present were Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, deputy ministers, departmental heads, rector of CICS (Phaunggyi), protectors, head of departments, officials and trainees. — MNA



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein speaks at opening of Special Refresher Course No. 14 for university and college teachers on behalf of the Secretary-1 of the SPDC. — MNA

man of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein delivered an

liant in their fields concerned but also need to be equipped with confidence, conviction and national outlook.

For the successful implementation of the political, economic and so-

ences gained from the training course.

Looking at the world's situation in this 21<sup>st</sup> century, some western neo-colonialist nations are resorting to various ways to exploit geographi-

nology and capable of making innovations so that they can stand perpetually in the world's community with their own strength.

The minister went on to say that the State is speeding up the implementation of the border region development project, five rural development tasks and 24 special development region project. Moreover, roads, bridges and education and health infrastructures have been built across the nation for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the nation. For the national education promotion, education and ICT infrastructures have also

for the education's sake only and it must be for the State, for the nation, as guided by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, all are to try to create an education system that is actually beneficial to the State, the minister noted.

He said the teachers are to constantly study the prospects of the development of the nation in the future and the latest findings of the subjects they taught. He spoke of the need for them to make efforts for development of political, economic and social sectors through studying the international and regional changes.

He said based on the

## Work proficiency course for new staff concluded

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan— The conclusion of work proficiency course for new staff and Government Personnel Management System (GPMS) course of Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise was held at the Ministry of Energy here this afternoon.

On behalf of Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay delivered an ad-

dress.

Present were officials of Energy Planning Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, Myanma Petrochemicals Enterprise and Myanma Petroleum Product Enterprise and new staff.

The deputy minister presented completion certificates to the trainees.

MNA



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay presents completion certificate to a trainee at the conclusion ceremony of work proficiency course for new staff and GPMS. — MNA

## Notice to mariners issued

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan— The Essar E & P South East Asia Limited, joint venture with Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, will conduct drilling of Danatheikdi oil test well at A-2 block of Rakhine offshore with the use of deep driller -2 rig from 20 January to 31 May 2009.

The location of the test well is at North Latitude 19 degrees, 38 minutes, 9.7612 seconds and east Longitude 92 degrees, 50 minutes, 7.8730 seconds.

The Fisheries Department issued an announcement that all vessels large or small are to stay away from four kilometers radius of the area in which the drilling will be conducted. — MNA

## Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing looks into development tasks in Kengtung



*Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence views cultivation of summer paddy at the farm of peasant U Nam Aik in Hokho village in Kengtung.*

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan—Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyo and departmental officials on 9 January

looked into extension of runway of Kengtung Airport being constructed by Airport Construction Project Special Group-I of Public Works.

Next, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing viewed cultivation of summer paddy at the farm of peasant U

Nam Aik in Hokho village in Rumlaw village-tract and presented cash award to female paddy transplinters.

He also looked into development of Kengtung and Naungtung lake which is the pride of Kengtung.

MNA

## Labour Minister inspects Skills Training School and Workers' Hospital

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan—Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi, yesterday, looked into Skills Training School of Ministry of Labour in Sein Pan-2 Industrial Zone in Mandalay.

He viewed the works of qualified trainees of welding course there and met with staff of departments, organizations, and committees under Ministry of Labour and gave instructions. Next, he proceeded to Workers' Hospital in Mandalay and consoled the patients. — MNA



*Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi inspects Skills Training School in Mandalay.*

MNA

## NPED Minister supervises regional development tasks in Twantay



*Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha meets with local people from village-tracts in Twantay Township.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan— Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha met local people of village-tracts in sub BEHS of Khatiya

village in Twantay Township on 9 Jan and explained undertakings of the State for development of rural regions to them.

The minister presented bags of cement for buildings of roads in the villages and repair of Khatiya sub BEHS. He also provided desks for BEHSs in Khatiya, Tuchaunggyi, Myaung-taloak and Layeinsu villages and one set of computer for Khatiya BEHS.

The minister then

looked into Khatiya station Hospital. In the afternoon, the minister met with locals from village-tracts in Bokanpay and explained post-storm rehabilitation tasks to them. He presented computer sets and generator for Kyaungmagyi village BEMS and fulfilled the needs.

On 10 Jan, the minister met with locals from village-tracts in Htingon village and presented desks and one set of computer for

Htaingon village sub BEHS and fulfilled the requirements. In the afternoon, the minister met with locals of village-tracts in Htawtho village and coordinated essentials.

The minister also met with social organizations in Twantay township and explained programmes for rural regions development tasks to be carried out by departments concerned, social organizations, and people in cooperation to them.—MNA

## Ceremony to mark 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MFA to be held

YANGON, 12 Jan—A press conference on holding of ceremony to mark the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Myanmar Floriculturists Association took place at Pyidaungsu Ayeyiknyein hall of the People's Square and People's Park this afternoon.

Chairman of the association Head of Parks and Playgrounds Department of Yangon City Development Committee U Nyunt Pe explained the arrangements.

Officials replied queries raised by the newsmen. The Chairman of the association gave a

closing speech.

The ceremony will be held at the People's Square and People's Park from 7 am to 8 pm from 30 January to 3 February. Further information is available through Phone 099926933, 09801345, 379369 or 667972.

MNA

**Take Fire Preventive Measures**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV XIANG DA VOYNO (9002)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOYNO (9002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2009 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 CHINA  
SHIPPING(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**  
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV BANGKAJA VOYNO (47)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKAJA VOYNO (47) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 WONGSAMUT OCEAN  
SHIPPING CO., LTD**  
Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

**Hyundai wins Car of the Year**

DETROIT, 12 Jan—South Korean automaker Hyundai has been awarded the North American Car of the Year for its Genesis luxury sedan.

The Genesis beat out the Ford Flex crossover and the diesel Volkswagen Jetta TDI for the award, The *New York Times* reported Sunday.

Hyun Soon Lee, Hyundai's vice chairman, said the car "lives up to its name." The Genesis, is Hyundai's first luxury sedan, is the company's first rear-wheel-drive car and is powered by Hyundai's first V-8 engine.

The Ford F-150 was chosen as the North American Truck of the Year. The F-150 beat out the Dodge Ram pickup and Mercedes-Benz ML320 BlueTEC diesel sport utility vehicle for the award.

The F-150 has been the nation's best-selling vehicle for decades, the newspaper noted.

The winners were chosen by a jury of 50 full-time auto journalists.—*Internet*



*Takahari Shibata of Japan's Therapeutic Robots holds two robot seals that are used as simulated pets for seniors in hospitals and nursing homes for rehabilitation and as a substitution for animal therapy, in Las Vegas, on 11 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET*

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV HELMUTH RAMBOW VOYNO (031)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HELMUTH RAMBOW VOYNO (031) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2009 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING  
LINES**  
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV GOLDEN BRIDGE VOYNO (8105)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GOLDEN BRIDGE VOYNO (8105) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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: KOOK YANG SHIPPING CO LTD  
KOREA**  
Phone No: 256924/256914

**TRADE MARK CAUTION**

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**BAUME & MERCIER**  
Reg. No. 5594/1996



Reg. No. 5595/1996

in respect of "Ashtrays, badges, boxes, candlesticks, cases, coffee and tea services, cuff-links, household containers and utensils, powder compacts, salt and sugar containers, table plates, trays for household purposes, all these made of precious metals or coated therewith. Jewellery, precious stones, horological and chronometric instruments".

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

Win Mu Tin  
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L  
for Richemont  
International SA

P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 13 January 2009

**Doctors study damaged brains of athletes**

BOSTON, 12 Jan—A former pro wrestler has joined with doctors in Massachusetts to build a bank of brain tissue from athletes who suffered concussions.

Chris Nowinski, 30, a Harvard-educated sociologist, was named "Newcomer of the Year" in 2001 by World Wrestling Entertainment.

After suffering numerous concussions, however, Nowinski studied long-term ailments such as Alzheimer's disease, depression and so-called "punch-drunk syndrome" that affect many retired boxers and hockey and football players, the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported Sunday.

*Internet*

**Free antibiotics popular with customers**

NEWARK, 12 Jan—Stores in New Jersey offering free antibiotics say they're not concerned the programme could be abused by people who don't need the medication. Stop & Shop, Wegman's and Shoprite stores this month began giving away antibiotics to customers with a prescription, The (Newark, NJ) Star-Ledger reported on Sunday.

"People are coming from everywhere," said Shilvanti Patel, a pharmacist at Stop & Shop. "Even doctors are calling to find out about the programme."

*Internet*

**Flowers banned in Scottish hospitals**

EDINBURGH, 12 Jan—Flowers are being banned from an increasing number of hospitals in Scotland amid fears the traditional get-well gift is a health hazard, officials say. National Health Service officials say the ban makes sense because vase water may harbor dangerous bugs, bouquets can trigger allergies and spilled water can damage equipment, Scotland on Sunday reported.

A spokeswoman for

Shetland Health Board confirmed its policy of allowing flowers in its two hospitals was being reviewed."It is possible there will be a move to restrict all flowers for infection control reasons and for health and safety reasons, given the large amount of electrical equipment positioned around beds," she was quoted as saying. Meanwhile, Liz Moore, healthcare director at NHS Ayrshire and Arran, said flowers were no longer allowed in some wards."This is due to limited space as these areas have lots of high-tech equipment and the potential irritation flowers may cause to patients in respiratory wards," she said.

*Internet*

**KTM rider Jordi Viladoms, of Spain, competes during the 8th stage of the Argentina Dakar Rally 2009 between Valparaiso and La Serena, Chile, on 11 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET**



**Donate Blood**

## Woman posts ad for wedding party

LONDON, 12 Jan — A Ukrainian woman whose family cannot attend her wedding in London has posted an ad for people to sit on her side of the church.

*The Telegraph* on Sunday reported the unnamed woman posted her ad on the classifieds Web site Gumtree.com for 30 people to sit with her.

"I'm having a large mixed wedding of about 150 people. My partner has loads of family around

to invite to the wedding," the ad says. "Unfortunately for me, my family are all in Ukraine so they all can't make it, only my mum and dad will be there."

The woman said in the ad that in addition to volunteer bridesmaids, groomsmen and ushers, she needs "30 decent people" for the church wedding. She promised attendees with free reception tickets.

"This includes free *A bride peers out of a window. A Ukrainian bride whose family and friends cannot make it to her wedding in Britain advertised on Monday for "decent" guests to attend the ceremony in their place. She even needs a bridesmaid.*—INTERNET



meals and dance, it could be just a time for you to relax and have fun," she said. "To get a ticket please send a picture of yourself and tell me a bit about you."

Gumtree trends analyst Trisha Routledge commended the woman's resourcefulness. "It's great to see that they're finding other ways of filling the seats, whilst offering some lucky people the chance to go to a wedding for free — and you never know who you might meet," she said.

Internet



People eat at "Samsung Mobile charging stations" at the 2009 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. A back-to-basics version of the historically glitzy Consumer Electronics Show ended after four days of dealmaking and gadget-hawking.—INTERNET

## Tons of pot seized in Paraguay

ASUNCION, 12 Jan — Two police operations led to the seizure of 2.6 tons of marijuana in southern Paraguay near the Argentine border this weekend, authorities said on Sunday. The National Police said 58 bales of marijuana weighing 1.71 tons were found Saturday hidden in a wooded area near the Parana River and guarded by a 16-year-old boy, the Latin American Herald Tribune reported. The drugs were believed to be bound for Argentina.

A second cache of marijuana weighing just under 1 ton was found when National Police drug enforcement officers stopped a truck at a checkpoint.

The truck driver and the teenage boy apprehended in the first operation were taken to the police station in Natalio, the newspaper said.—INTERNET

## Antlers popular with burglars in Illinois

ST. LOUIS, 12 Jan — Police say burglars in two Illinois counties have added deer and elk antlers to the more common heist of computers, jewelry, televisions and stereos.

In all, 89 racks of antlers have been stolen in residential break-ins since mid-November in Jersey and Macoupin counties just north of St. Louis.

"It appears that some individual or individuals like antlers," said Lt Mike Kostich of the Macoupin County Sheriff's Department.

Rare antlers sell for as much as \$1,000 on eBay, while most racks appear to sell for between \$15 and \$20, Kostich told The St.

Louis (Mo.) Post-Dispatch in a story published Sunday. The stolen antlers could find their way into use as furniture, lamp parts and knife handles, Kostich said.

Internet

## Heart patients in poor areas fare worse

VANCOUVER, 12 Jan — Heart disease patients living in poorer areas of British Columbia are up to twice as likely as patients living in better-off areas to die from chronic diseases.

University of British Columbia researchers said even in a country with universal healthcare services such as Canada a neighbourhood's socioeconomic status can have a dramatic impact on life expectancy for patients with heart disease.

Study co-author Claire Heslop, a medical/doctoral student said researchers studied 485 patients with heart disease over 13 years.

Death rates from different types of diseases were compared to the patients' neighborhood data based on education, median family income and unemployment.

The study, published online in the journal *Public Library of Science ONE*, found that patient death rates from chronic

diseases other than heart disease were more than twice as high in the lowest socioeconomic area than in the highest.

Internet

## World's oldest woman wants her privacy

LOS ANGELES, 12 Jan — Los Angeles resident Gertrude Baines says she is sick of all the attention she has gotten since becoming the world's oldest person at the age of 114. Baines said since 115-year-old Maria de Jesus of Portugal died on 2 Jan giving Baines the world's oldest person title, she has been plagued with non-stop questions from reporters and curious individuals, the *Los Angeles Times* reported Sunday.

Baines, a Western Convalescent Hospital resident, said after four straight days of non-stop visits and questions, she was overwhelmed.

"I just want to go to bed and pull the covers over my head," she said.

Cynthia Thompson, who serves as Baines's caretaker, said most people who first meet the 114-year-old approach her with some misconceptions about how her many

years of life have left her mental and physical acuity."

They expect to find a shriveled up old lady sleeping in her bed," Thompson told the *Times*. "But that's not Ms Baines."

Internet

## At least 11 die in Bolivian truck crash

LA PAZ, 12 Jan — A truck carrying more than 30 people in its cargo area plunged from a bridge into a gorge in

central Bolivia, killing 11 of the passengers, authorities say. Col Guillermo Torrico, deputy commander of the Cochabamba police, said on Bolivision that six others in the truck were injured in the 6:15 pm Friday crash near Tiraque in Cochabamba Province, the *Latin American Herald Tribune* reported on Sunday.

The cause of the accident was under investigation.

Internet



A visitor walks past an exhibition hall at the Fall/Winter 2009 Hong Kong Fashion Week on 12 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET

**Beware of fire**

# SPORTS

## Ferguson savours sweet riposte to Benitez onslaught



*Manchester United's Dutch goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar celebrates after beating Chelsea 3-0 in their English Premier League football match at Old Trafford in Manchester.—INTERNET*

MANCHESTER, 12 Jan—Sir Alex Ferguson will savour the riposte provided by his players to Rafael Benitez's criticism: a 3-0 win over Chelsea that puts Manchester United in the driving seat in the Premier League title battle could scarcely have been more sweetly-timed.

But the Manchester United manager is far too wily an operator to celebrate victory over any adversary prematurely. So it was not entirely surprising that last week's extraordinary outburst from Benitez was treated by Ferguson as if he were discussing the worryingly erratic behaviour of a distant, elderly relative.

Where Liverpool's manager had vented his anger over what he sees as his counterpart's hypocrisy, bullying of officials and serial whingeing, Ferguson restricted his response to an expression of bemusement in a tone that veered towards the pitying.—*Internet*

## Vucinic denies Beckham winning debut as Pato shines



*AC Milan's English midfielder David Beckham*

ROME, 12 Jan—Brazilian teenager Pato and Montenegro forward Mirko Vucinic stole the limelight as David Beckham made his Serie A debut in AC Milan's 2-2 draw at AS Roma's Stadio Olimpico on Sunday night.

Pato scored an early second half brace following Vucinic's first half opener for the hosts but the Montenegrin had the last word with a timely equaliser to deny Beckham a winning start to life in Italy.

Milan stay third, nine points off top, while Roma remain in the bottom half of the

table. Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti sprung a surprise by selecting Beckham in his starting line-up.

The former England captain took a little time to settle before gradually coming into the game and becoming increasingly involved. His first opportunity to shine could have come on five minutes after Milan won a free-kick in a dangerous position but Ronaldinho pulled rank and crashed his effort into the wall.

*Internet*



*Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic (right) and Fernando Verdasco of Spain hold their trophies after Stepanek won the men's final of the Brisbane International, on 11 January. Stepanek won 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.—INTERNET*

## Stepanek upsets Verdasco to claim Brisbane tennis crown

BRISBANE, 12 Jan—The Czech Republic's Radek Stepanek came from a set down to upset second seed Fernando Verdasco 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the final of the Brisbane International tennis tournament.

The high-quality match lasted two and a quarter hours and was a fitting climax to the first tournament played at the new Queensland Tennis Centre.

It was the third match in a row that Stepanek had to recover from a first set deficit to defeat a higher-ranked opponent following three-set wins over Robin Soderling in the quarter-finals and Richard Gasquet in the semis.

As he did against both Soderling and Gasquet, the eighth seeded Stepanek started slowly, dropping his first service game and quickly finding himself 3-0 down.

*Internet*

## Cornet soldiering on to Aussie Open

SYDNEY, 12 Jan—Rising French teenager Alize Cornet added Russian Nadia Petrova to her growing list of top-ranked scalps with a straight sets opening round victory at the Sydney WTA International on Monday.

The 18-year-old put paid to the tournament seventh seed 6-2, 6-4 after overcoming her fear of playing with an inflamed shoulder that has plagued her for the last two months. Nursing an ice pack on her right shoulder, Cornet dis-



*Rising French teenager Alize Cornet, seen here, added Russian Nadia Petrova to her growing list of top-ranked scalps with a straight sets opening round victory at the Sydney.—INTERNET*

counted any fitness concerns ahead of next week's Australian Open in Melbourne.

*Internet*

## Crisis looms for Scolari

MANCHESTER, 12 Jan—Luiz Felipe Scolari is only one defeat away from the first full-blown crisis of his reign at Chelsea — but the Brazilian insists he will not seek be plunging into the transfer market in search of a remedy.



*Luiz Felipe Scolari*

As they surrendered meekly in a 3-0 defeat to Manchester United here on Sunday, the Londoners looked a pale shadow of the side that pushed Sir Alex Ferguson's side to the wire last season.

Devoid of inspiration going forward and calamitously casual in defence, Scolari's class of 2009 suffer even more in comparison with the Chelsea sides that Jose Mourinho — who was in the VIP seats at Old Trafford — led to back-to-back Premier League titles in 2005 and 2006.

*Internet*

## Messi the saviour as Barca survive Osasuna scare

MADRID, 12 Jan—Lionel Messi scored a thunderous 84th-minute winner as leaders Barcelona came back to overcome bottom side Osasuna 3-2 on Sunday and restore their 12-point cushion over second-placed Real Madrid.



*Barcelona's Argentinian forward Lionel Messi (R) fights for the ball with Osasuna's Hungarian midfielder Krisztian Vadocz during their Spanish league football match at the Reyno de Navarra stadium, in Pamplona. Barca won 3-2.—INTERNET*

Osasuna, with just two wins in the whole campaign, looked poised to cause the biggest upset of the season

after goals from Miguel Flano (62 min) and Walter Pandiani (72) had cancelled out Samuel Eto'o's 44th minute opener.

Barca were facing their first defeat since the opening day of the season but Xavi marked his 300th league appearance with an 80th-minute equaliser. Four minutes later, Messi cut inside and fired a ferocious left-footed shot into the corner for his 11th goal of a great season.—*Internet*

## Del Piero, Raul strike blow for soccer senior citizens

PARIS, 12 Jan—European superstars Alessandro Del Piero and Raul struck impressive blows for soccer's senior citizens, proving that a combined age of 65 is no barrier to thriving at the top level. Del Piero's stunning freekick gave Juventus a 1-0 home win over Siena as Claudio Ranieri's side closed the gap at the top of Serie A to four points on leaders Inter Milan.

It was the 34-year-old Italian international's sixth goal of the season direct from a free-kick, his seventh in all and the 162nd of his Serie A career.

"He always manages to

bring something out of the hat," said Ranieri. "When you are having trouble breaking the deadlock, then you need a champion like Del Piero."—*Internet*



*European superstars Alessandro Del Piero, pictured, and Raul struck impressive blows for soccer's senior citizens, proving that a combined age of 65 is no barrier to thriving at the top level.—INTERNET*

## Redknapp slams Spurs after Wigan reverse

WIGAN, 12 Jan—Harry Redknapp questioned the character of his Tottenham Hotspur side after a 1-0 defeat away to Wigan on Sunday left them languishing in the bottom three of the Premier League.

Maynor Figueroa's stoppage-time header, his first goal for Wigan, here at the JJB Stadium denied Spurs a draw as the hosts remained seventh in the table.

Redknapp, who succeeded Juande Ramos as Spurs manager in October from their Premier League rivals and FA Cup holders Portsmouth, said that while the club had plenty of flair the north Londoners' appetite for a relegation scrap was open to question.

*Internet*

### Pakistan border clash 'kills 46'

ISLAMABAD, 12 Jan — Pakistani soldiers repulsed an attack by 600 fighters in a tribal area near the Afghan border, killing at least 40 militants, military officials say.

Six security forces were also killed and seven wounded in the pre-dawn raid in Mohmand, the officials said. Hundreds of insurgent fighters, many from Afghanistan, attacked a military camp and checkpoint near the border.

The officials said that although the main attack was beaten off, there had been a series of skirmishes afterwards. Pakistan has deployed tens of thousands of troops to police its tribal regions, but Western and Afghan officials say that has not deterred militants.

Last week, Afghan President Hamid Karzai said during a visit to Kabul by his Pakistani counterpart Asif Ali Zardari that the two countries had a "new relationship" and determination to defeat terrorism and extremism.

Mr Karzai had previously accused Islamabad of not doing enough to shut down militant "sanctuaries" in the tribal areas and stop insurgents from crossing into Afghanistan.

Pakistan rejected those accusations, pointing to a major offensive against militants in the Bajaur region, which borders Mohmand. The military says more than 1,500 rebels have been killed there since August.

Internet



An Israeli woman suffering from shock is carried at the scene of a rocket attack in the southern city of Beersheba on 11 Jan, 2009.

INTERNET

### Quake-destroyed school begins rebuilding with aid from Air Force

BEIJING, 12 Jan—A middle school damaged in the May 12 earthquake in Shifang City of Sichuan Province in southwest China began reconstruction on Sunday, with assistance from the Chinese Air Force.

Established in 1904, the Yinghua Town Middle School was leveled to ground in the deadly earthquake in Sichuan and some neighbouring provinces, which left more than 80,000 deaths or missing. The school is rebuilt on its original site in Yinghua Town, but will be given a new name of "Yinghua Bayi Middle School". On 1 August, or Bayi, is the founding day of the Chinese Army.

Under the unified arrangement of the central authorities, the Air Force will help rebuild the whole school compound, which covers 17,764 square metres. Facilities include teaching buildings, a cultural hall, a dining hall, dormitories for teachers and students, a comprehensive gymnasium and a basketball playground.—MNA/Xinhua

### Australians 'kill Taliban chief'

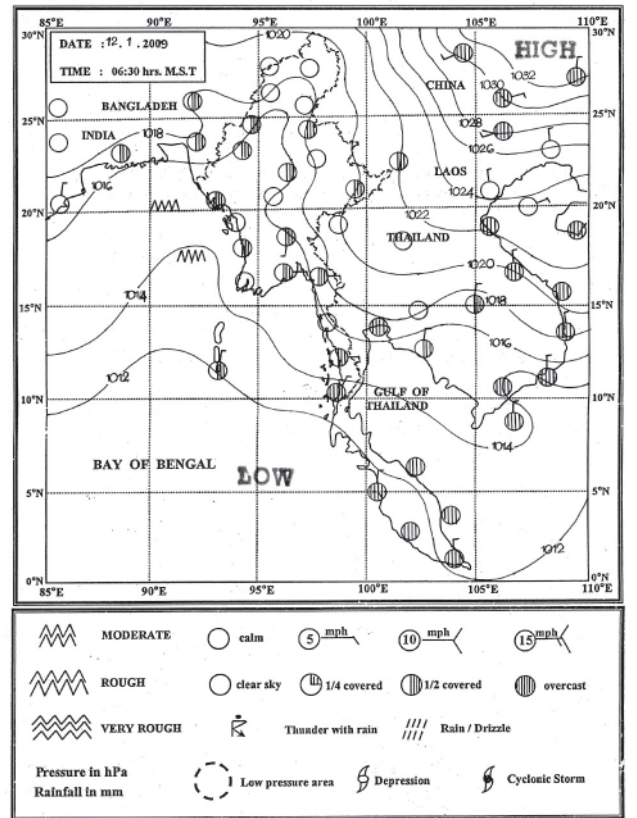
KABUL, 12 Jan—Australian special forces have killed a senior Taliban leader in southern Afghanistan, the Australian Defence Ministry has said.

Mullah Abdul Rasheed was described as a senior Taliban commander responsible for bringing in fighters and potential suicide bombers into Uruzgan Province. He was described as being responsible for the deaths of civilians and members of the coalition. More than 1,000 Australian troops are based in Afghanistan.

"Rasheed was a senior commander in the Baluchi Valley and was believed to be responsible for Taliban operations in the area resulting in the deaths of Coalition Force members and Afghan civilians in recent months," an Australian Defence Ministry statement said. "He had been identified as a primary IED facilitator, responsible for coordinating IED emplacement in Uruzgan province," the statement said.

His death had "disrupted" Taliban operations in the restive province, the ministry said.—Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## WEATHER

Monday, 12 January, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) below January average temperatures in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division, (5°C) below January average temperatures in Mon State and Yangon Division, (8°C) below January average temperatures in Taninthayi Division, (4°C) above January average temperatures in Kayah State and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha and Loilen (0°C) each, Namhsan (3°C) and Pinlaung (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 11-1-2009 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 12-1-2009 was 60°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 12-1-2009 was 60%. Total sunshine hours on 11-1-2009 was (7.6) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 12-1-2009 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 (8) m.p.h from Southeast at (09:30) hours MST on 11-1-2009.

**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 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Shan States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

**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. Seas will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Generally fair weather in the whole country.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 13-1-2009:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-1-2009:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-1-2009:** Generally fair weather.



Tuesday, 13 January  
View on today

- 7:00 am  
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော် ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပိဋိတော်
- 7:25 am  
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am  
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am  
4. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 7:50 am  
5. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
- 8:00 am  
6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am  
7. "မင်းမသိသေးပါဘူးကွာ" (ဇရာ၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ ချစ်ဇရာ၊ ကြူကြူသင်း၊ အေးအေးခိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဆွေဇင်ထိုက်)
- 8:30 am  
8. International news
- 8:45 am  
9. Musical programme
- 4:00 pm  
1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm  
2. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:20 pm  
3. Dance of National Races

- 4:30 pm  
4. Musical programme
- 4:45 pm  
5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - စတုတ္ထနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာ အထူးပြု) (ဥပဒေပညာ)
- 5:00 pm  
6. Songs to uphold national spirit
- 5:10 pm  
7. ရေဘတ်ရေလှောင်တစ်
- 5:25 pm  
8. Song of yesteryear
- 5:35 pm  
9. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ
- 5:45 pm  
10. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:50 pm  
11. Musical programme

- 6:00 pm  
12. Evening news
- 6:30 pm  
13. Weather report
- 6:35 pm  
14. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 6:50 pm  
15. ဆိုလိုက်ကြစို့
- 7:15 pm  
16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နွဲ့ဆိုးဆိုးသူ ကိုယ့်ချစ်သူ" (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 8:00 pm  
17. News
- 18. International news
- 19. Weather report
- 20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မြင့်မြတ်နုလုံးသားပိုင်ရှင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၈)

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye looks into implementation of Thahtay Creek Hydropower Project in Rakhine State



of electricity after construction of electricity supply network system in Rakhine State. The minister said that out of water resources in Rakhine State, 111-megawatt capacity Thahtay Creek

State.

He continued that observation works have been started from April of 2004 for implementation of Thahtay Creek hydropower project, 111 megawatt electricity can

use of Trench Cutter, and insertion of retaining walls into Ngalight, Mong, Thapansaik dams. Concerning the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye stressed the needs and presented

be used for construction of retaining walls.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye looked into placing of Trench Cutter on Guide Wall and earthwork being carried out with the use of



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye looks into earthwork being carried out with the use of Trench Cutter.—MNA*

YANGON, 12 Jan— Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye together with Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers of Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, ministers, deputy ministers and personnel from SPDC office, on 11 January, left An for Thahtay Creek hydropower project situated on Thahtay Creek, 12 miles north-east of Thandwe in helicopters.

They were welcomed there by Deputy minister

for Electric Power No.1 U Myo Myint, Director-General of Hydro electric power Department U Win Kyi and officials. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye looked into works being carried out with heavy machinery from the viewing deck.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Electric Power No.1 Col Zaw Min reported on water resources in Rakhine State from which electric power can be generated, supply

hydropower project and 10-megawatt capacity An Creek hydropower project are under construction and Laymyo hydropower project of 500-megawatt capacity and Saidin hydropower project of 76.5 megawatt capacity are planned to be constructed. Upon completion of those 4 hydropower projects, total capacity of 697.5 megawatt electricity can be generated and supplied to townships in Rakhine

be generated from 3 turbines with 37 megawatt capacity each, 2326 feet long No.1 diversion tunnel, 1875 feet long No.2 diversion tunnel, main dam, spillways, penstocks are core skeletons of the main structure and Bauer Trench Cutter will be used for construction of retaining walls.

Next, deputy minister U Myo Myint explained design of main dam, programmes for construction of retaining walls with the

gifts to foreign technicians assigned duties there. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party took positions at the archway where the ceremony to lay foundation of retaining walls would be held. Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye officially opened the ceremony. Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister Col Zaw Min sprinkled scented water on Trench Cutter to

the machine. He urged all to work hard with goodwill and called for excellent performance. He cordially greeted staff of the project and left.

Thahtay hydropower project, located on Thahtay Creek 12 miles to the north-east of Thandwe in Rakhine State with 111-megawatt capacity hydropower plant can provide 386 million Kwh electricity annually for Rakhine State.

MNA



*Thahtay Creek hydropower project in Rakhine State.—MNA*