

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XVI, Number 285

3rd Waxing of Tabodwe 1370 ME

Wednesday, 28 January, 2009

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

It is very important for national people to forge Union Spirit wherever they live

Prime Minister General Thein Sein facilitates Rakhine State development

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office and departmental heads, left Yangon on 24

officials, townsenders and ward administrative bodies at the hall of Sittway Station and discussed regional development and natural disaster preparedness.

Present were Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Commander

Maj-Gen Thaug Aye, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office and departmental heads.

The commander reported on the area of Rakhine State, use of land resources, conditions of marine resources, output

of monsoon paddy, cultivation of summer paddy, sufficiency of rice and edible oil, cultivation of cold season crops and new item pepper, efforts for target output of ten major crops, cultivation of oil palm, rubber and physic nut, river water pumping projects, breeding of prawn, measures taken for development of education, health and transport and arrangements for disaster preparedness.

In his speech the Prime Minister said Rakhine State with a population of over three million has an area of over 14,000 square miles and it consists of four

districts and 17 townships.

According to geographical conditions, mountains, rivers and creeks and the sea are natural barriers to Rakhine State and therefore there were difficulties to go to other regions of the country and to deal with national people.

During the colonial period, the imperialists practised the divide and rule policy. As a result, there were some doubts among national people causing racism such as Rakhine race or Bamar race, he said.

In fact, Rakhine State

is a part of the Union of Myanmar and it is a small union where various national races such as Rakhine, Bamar, Pyu, Kanyan, Thet, etc. have been living in unity since time immemorial. Rakhine national is also a Myanmar national living in Myanmar and thus it cannot discriminate Rakhine from Myanmar. It is very important for them to forge the Union Spirit wherever they live. All the national people with the same mind live in the same country and they must be in oneness, he said.

(See page 8)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein meeting with departmental officials, townsenders and local people in Sittway.—MNA

Rakhine State is a part of the Union of Myanmar and it is a small union where various national races have been living in unity since time immemorial.

January. They arrived in Sittway at 10:15 a.m.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party were welcomed at the airport by Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaug Aye, Col Soe Lwin of Sittway Station, local authorities and officials.

The Prime Minister met officials of state, district and township level



PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 28 January, 2009

Boost production of freshwater and sea fish and prawn

Today, deep-sea fishing has become dominant in supply of food for world people. Now, the world is not able to boost production of marine products, so it pays more attention to breeding of freshwater and sea fish and prawn on an extensive scale.

In Asia, herbivorous fish species such as carp and Hamilton's carp; carnivorous fish species such as sea perch, river catfish and catfish, omnivorous fish species such as Tilapia, yellow Hamilton's carp and Ngakhounma (*Barbus spp*), and freshwater and sea prawn, crab and mussels are widely bred.

With an area of over 200,000 acres of fish farms, Myanmar is trying to boost production of fish through advanced methods and export the surplus. In farming fish, emphasis is to be put on keeping fish ponds clean, quality control of feedstuff, and production of pedigree fish species.

In raising prawns, shrimps should be fast-growing species ones without diseases from the sea and freshwater lakes.

Myanmar has bred freshwater prawns for ages. Now, it also breeds tiger prawn and Vannamei. Freshwater prawns are in high demand at home and abroad. Last year, the nation exported over 20,000 tons of freshwater and sea prawns, and over 10,000 tons of crabs.

Freshwater prawns have ready markets and are in demand. So, national entrepreneurs should choose pedigree species of fish and prawns, use and relay advanced livestock methods, and participate in projects for extensive breeding of prawns for greater progress of the nation's fish and prawn breeding industry.



Dr Aung Zeya Myint of Mt Alvernia Hospital, Singapore, (Capt Daw Mar Mar Wai) and family present medicines worth K 1.3 million to U Htun Aye, Secretary of U Hla Tun Hospice (Cancer) Foundation. Dr Aung Zeya Myint and family donated the medicines to U Hla Tun Hospice (Cancer) Foundation at No. 2 Highway Road, East Dagon Township recently.—NLM

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

PBANRDA Minister attends opening of training courses, new tarred roads



Minister Col Thein Nyunt visits vocational training course No. 1 in Mawlamyinegyun Township.—PBANRDA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, attended the opening ceremony of Basic Vocational Training Special Course No. 1 yesterday.

Conducted by the Education and Training Department under the Ministry, the course was opened at Maw Ayeya Hall in Mawlamyinegyun yesterday morning.

On the occasion, the minister gave a speech on the object of opening the course, curriculums, providing of teaching-aids and accommodation and food.

He accepted K 10 million donated by Siri Suddhama Manijotadara U Maung Hla and wife Suddhama Theingi Daw Shwe Sein and family for offering gold foils to Nay Pyi Taw Uppatasanti Pagoda before he viewed teaching and learning process of the course.

A total of 60 trainees are taking the 12-week course.

Then, Minister Col Thein Nyunt attended the

ceremony to open new Bo Ottama Road in the town built by the township development committee in 2008-09. The minister inspected the 1780 feet long and 12 feet wide marble road, which was opened as a gesture of hailing the 62nd Union Day.

Next, after attending the opening ceremony of a similar course at Labutta, he inspected the learning of trainees.

A total of 60 trainees from storm-stricken regions are taking the 12-week course. According to the guidance given by the Head of State on his tour of storm-hit regions in Ayeyawady Division on 27-30 December, 2008, a plan is underway to open 12-week basic vocational training courses conducted by Education and Training Department of the Ministry of PBANRDA in Pyapon, Bogale, Mawlamyinegyun and Labutta Townships.

Next, the minister attended the opening of new Sein Yatu, Phaya, Awba, Myotpat and Lanmadaw tarred roads in Labutta Township as a gesture of hailing the 62nd anniversary Union Day. —MNA

Book stall with point of sale system opens

YANGON, 27 Jan—A new book stall of Nagar Book Centre, with point of sale system was opened at the stall at No 187, 29th street and 83rd X 84th street in Mandalay on 24 January.

A number of books and reference books are available at the book stall. Books are labeled prices. U Tun Shwe and Daw Khin Mar Oo are running Nagar Publishing House. For further information, please dial (Tel-02-35267 and 02-39869) (Mandalay) and (Te-01-



Staff of Nagar Book Centre pose for photos during opening ceremony of the book center.

708020 and 09-5102042 and 09-8033501) (Yangon).—MNA

MNA

Iraqi prime minister expects faster US pullout

BAGHDAD, 27 Jan—Iraq's prime minister said Monday he believes the US will withdraw its troops more quickly than the three-year timeline set down in a US-Iraq security agreement. The US, meanwhile, suffered its biggest single loss of life in months when two helicopters crashed, killing four service members.

An agreement negotiated under former President George W Bush's administration called for US combat troops to withdraw from Baghdad and other cities by the end of June, with all American forces out of the country by the end of 2011.

President Barack Obama cam-

paigned on a promise to remove all combat troops within 16 months and has asked the Pentagon to plan for "a responsible military drawdown from Iraq."

With planning under way, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki told a political rally south of Baghdad that he believes the end of the US mission "will be brought forward" and that Iraq must bolster its own forces to meet the challenge after the Americans leave.

The Shiite-led government pushed for a faster US pullout during last year's negotiations on the security agreement, overcoming longtime Bush administration opposition to a fixed withdrawal schedule.—Internet



Iraqi police search a man at a vehicle checkpoint in the Shiite stronghold of Sadr City in Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Gunshots fired near US Embassy

SAN'A, 27 Jan—Gunmen in a car exchanged fire Monday with police at a checkpoint near the US Embassy in Yemen's capital, hours after the embassy received threats of a possible attack, Yemeni and American officials said.

No one was injured and the two gunmen fled the scene, said a Yemen Interior Ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not permitted to have his name made public. He said three suspects in the area were detained.

It was not clear who was behind the shooting, but al-Qaeda has for years maintained a strong presence in the country, the ancestral homeland terror network founder Osama bin Laden.

In recent years, Yemen has cooperated with the US in fighting terrorism, but its government has struggled to confront Islamic extremists in parts of the impoverished country in the southwestern corner of the Arabian Peninsula.

Yemen has also been the site of numerous high-profile, al-Qaeda-linked attacks, including the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in the Gulf of Aden, which killed 17 American sailors.—Internet

Four US soldiers killed in two aircraft crash in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 27 Jan—Two US aircraft crashed in northern Iraq early on Monday, killing four soldiers, the US military said.

"Four coalition forces members were killed when two aircraft went down in northern Iraq at approximately 2:15 am (2315 GMT Sunday)," a military statement said. The cause of the incident is unknown and is under investigation, the statement said, adding that the incident "does not appear to be by enemy action."

The names of the deceased are being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it said.—Internet

Israeli soldier killed along Gaza border

JERUSALEM, 27 Jan—An Israeli soldier was killed and another seriously wounded in an attack at the border with the Gaza Strip, an Israeli source said Tuesday morning.

The source said the incident happened when anti-tank missiles were fired at Israel Defence Forces (IDF) soldiers near the Kissufim border cross-

ing into the middle part of the Hamas-ruled enclave.

An IDF spokesman told *Xinhua* that he could not confirm the report, but an investigation is underway.

If confirmed, it would be the first death on the Israeli side since the Jewish state and the Islamist group staged their ceasefire on 18 Jan following Israel's three-week massive offensive on Gaza that killed over 1,400 Palestinians.—Internet

Senior Iraqi official escapes roadside bomb attack

BAGHDAD, 27 Jan—Police and hospital officials say a senior Iraqi official has escaped a roadside bomb attack but three of his guards were wounded.

The officials say Tuesday's blast struck the convoy carrying the director-general of the customs agency in central Baghdad. They say police Maj Gen Ahmed al-Attiyah was on his way to work and wasn't harmed. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to release the information.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the attack, but it comes as tensions are high ahead of Saturday's provincial elections.—Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,236

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan—As of Monday, 26 Jan, 2009, at least 4,236 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,406 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The British military has reported 178 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.—Internet



A policeman looks at the wreckage of a bicycle after a bomb attack in Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, on 26 Jan, 2009. A bomber detonated an explosive device strapped to a bicycle near an office of the Sunni Arab Islamic Party in Baquba, police said. Five civilians were wounded in the blast and the attacker was shot dead by police as he fled the scene.—INTERNET



A policeman stands guard near the wreckage of a vehicle used in a suicide car bomb attack in Gaema, 30 km (20 miles) northwest of Baghdad, recently. INTERNET

If no Palestine, Israel sees 'catastrophe'

NEW YORK, 27 Jan—Former President Jimmy Carter said Monday that Israel will face a "catastrophe" unless it revives the Mideast peace process and establishes an independent Palestinian state.

In an interview with *The Associated Press*, he said Arabs will outnumber Jews in the Holy Land in the foreseeable future.

"If we look toward a one-state solution, which seems to be the trend — I hope not inexorable — it would be a catastrophe for Israel, because there would be only three options in that case," Carter said.

One would be to expel large numbers of Palestinians, which he said would amount to "ethnic cleansing." The second would be to deprive the Palestinians of equal voting rights, which he said would amount to "apartheid."—Internet



Indian soldiers ride motorcycles during India's Republic Day parade in New Delhi, capital of India, on 26 Jan, 2009. India celebrated its 60th Republic Day on Monday with a grand military parade in New Delhi.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

ECLA urges effective fiscal policy to stabilize Latin American economy

SANTIAGO, 27 Jan — The Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) of the United Nations on Monday called for more effective fiscal policies to stabilize the economic situation in the region.

The on-going global economic crisis “will decelerate economic growth of the region and possibly develop into a fiscal crisis in Latin American and the Caribbean,” ECLA executive secretary Alicia Barcena said.

Dropping prices for raw material could lead to the loss of 7 to 8 percentage points of the gross domestic product (GDP) between 2007 and 2009 for some countries in this region, Barcena said in a seminar in Santiago on regional fiscal policy.

Barcena said that international financial institutions must work out better mechanisms to support the emerging countries amid the crisis.

She suggested a series of measures to boost development, including efforts to cut consumption taxes, promote private investment and to ensure incomes for the most vulnerable groups.

Xinhua

Raul Castro to visit Russia

MOSCOW, 27 Jan— Cuban leader Raul Castro will pay a visit to Moscow from 28 Jan to 4 Feb, the Kremlin said on Monday.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Igor Sechin said Castro's visit was a “historical” one as both Russia and Cuba had changed a lot over the years.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev visited Cuba last November where he met with Raul Castro and his brother Fidel Castro and pledged to further political and economic ties with the traditional partner in the Caribbean Sea.—Xinhua

Powerful bombs rock Rajbiraj in eastern Nepal

KATHMANDU, 27 Jan— Three powerful bombs went off in a series at Rajbiraj, the headquarters of Saptari district in eastern Nepal on Monday evening, local media reported on Tuesday. According to eKantipur.com, a bomb, the first one in the series, went off at around 6:25 pm (1240 GMT). After three minutes of the first blast, another explosion occurred at an elec-

trical shop and subsequently the third blast rocked at the backyard of the district, some 190 km east of Kathmandu.

One girl, 12, who was injured after being hit by splinters of the blast at the electrical shop, has been undergoing treatment at a local hospital, the Siraha District Police Office informed.

Police estimated that property worth 400,000



People check out a display of iMac computers during the MacWorld Conference on 6 Jan, 2009 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, California. As Macintosh computers turn 25 years old with renewed vigor, Peter Friess professes a faith in Apple dating back to when founder Steve Jobs handed him one of the early machines in a German museum.—XINHUA

World's environment ministers to meet in Kenya

NAIROBI, 27 Jan — More than 1,000 environment ministers from across the world are set to meet in Kenya next month for the UN Environment Programme (UNEP)'s Governing Council meeting.

A statement from the Nairobi-based UN environment agency said the 16-20 Feb meeting will also discuss climate change and the ongoing

talks towards a new international agreement in Copenhagen in December 2009.

Issues on the table include the green economy and green growth and mercury, among other. The ministers will discuss policy options for an international response to

global mercury pollution and the food crisis.

The ministers will also discuss Olympic Games and the environment, and an overview of the key environmental issues of the day including ecosystem management, resource efficiency and environmental governance.—Xinhua



This undated handout picture from Alfred Wegener Institute shows German research and supply vessel Polarstern having docked on the sea ice to unload at the Atka-Bay in the Antarctica.—XINHUA

Chinese Premier's Europe tour underscores China's confidence

BEIJING, 27 Jan— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao's Europe tour will showcase the country's confidence in maintaining stable but relatively fast economic growth and in its efforts to overcome the global financial crisis together with the international community.

Wen's visit, which begins later in the day, will

also demonstrate China's confidence in developing its comprehensive strategic partnership with European countries.

The Chinese Premier's visit, which is hailed as a “tour of confidence” that comes at the beginning of 2009, will take him to Switzerland, Germany, the European Union (EU) headquarters, Spain and

Britain. He will also attend an annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

The forum will focus on the world's future development in the aftermath of the global financial crisis, as the economic turmoil has started to bite the emerging markets and affect real economy.

Xinhua

Home Depot to lay off

7,000 jobs

LOS ANGELES, 27 Jan — The Home Depot, the world's largest home improvement retailer, on Monday announced its plans to lay off about 7,000 employees, or about 2 percent of its workforce.

The retailer said it will also shutter 34 Expo centers, five YardBirds stores, two Design Center stores and its bath remodeling business known as HD Bath over the next two months.

The Home Depot's business has not performed well financially as the demand for big-ticket design and decor projects has declined amid the downturn in the economy, the announcement said.

The Atlanta-based company also announced that it is initiating a salary freeze for all of its executives.

Xinhua



Ng Chee Leong, member of the Singapore team, prepares a dessert during the World Pastry Cup in Lyon, central France, on 25 Jan, 2009. Twenty two countries are participating in the contest, as part of the Sirha, the International Hotel Catering and Food trade Exhibition.—INTERNET

Ferries, decorated for the occasion, race on Sydney Harbour as part of Australia Day celebrations on 26 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

Gitmo prisoner releases not fail safe

SAN JUAN, 27 Jan — The re-emergence of two former Guantanamo Bay prisoners as al-Qaeda terrorists in the past week won't likely change US policy on transfers to Saudi Arabia, the Pentagon said on Monday.

More than 100 Saudis have been repatriated from the US military's prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to Saudi Arabia, where the government puts them through a rehabilitation program designed to encourage them to abandon Islamic extremism and reintegrate into civilian life.

The online boasts by two of these men that they have joined al-Qaeda in Yemen underscore that the Saudi system isn't fail safe, the Pentagon said. A US counterterrorism official in Washington confirmed the men had been Guantanamo detainees. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to disclose that fact on the record.

Another two or three Saudis who had been transferred from Guantanamo cannot be located by the Saudi government, said Christopher

Boucek, a researcher at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Navy Cmdr Jeffrey Gordon, a Pentagon spokesman, said the US sees the Saudi programme as admirable.

"The best you can do is work with partner nations in the international community to ensure that they take the steps to mitigate the threat ex-detainees pose," he said. "There are never any absolute guarantees. There's an inherent risk in all detainee transfers and releases from Guantanamo."

Internet

Texas Instruments profit falls, to cut 12 pct jobs

NEW YORK, 27 Jan — Texas Instruments (TXN.N) posted a smaller-than-expected drop in quarterly profit, but said it may post a loss in the current quarter and announced a 12 percent cut in jobs, as demand for cell phone chips fell.

But shares of the maker of wireless and analog chips rose 5 percent in after-hours trading on Monday as analysts said the better-than-expected fourth quarter and the cost-cutting measures meant TI could be positioned for growth when demand recovers.

"The hope is that we'll start to find the bottom at these levels. That, along with expense reductions, will create a greater flow through to the bottom line when revenue starts to recover," said Collins Stewart analyst Ashok Kumar.

TI said it was cutting its workforce by 3,400 to reduce costs, which American Technology Research analyst Doug Freeman said would "signal a recovery in earnings even if demand levels don't improve." The company warned that it still had tough times ahead, forecasting a possible loss for the first quarter, when utilization of its factories was expected to fall below 35 percent from 48 percent in the fourth quarter. It said it expected to idle many factories for several weeks in March.

Chief Financial Officer Kevin March told Reuters in an interview that the company had no sense of how soon demand would recover as virtually all its customers in all regions and product segments were cutting orders.—*Internet*



Oil hovers above \$46 as OPEC cuts, demand weighed

BANGKOK, 27 Jan — Oil prices hovered just above \$46 a barrel Tuesday in Asia as traders weighed waning demand and OPEC's compliance with production cuts.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery was up 48 cents at \$46.21 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Merchantile Exchange by late morning in Bangkok. The contract fell 74 cents overnight to settle at \$45.73.

"Traders are hoarding oil now in the hope of a recovery in the price in perhaps one month's time if OPEC has complied with production cuts," said Mark Pervan, senior commodity strategist with ANZ Bank in Melbourne.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has announced 4.2 million barrels a day in production cuts since September in an attempt to stabilize oil prices,

which have fallen almost 70 percent since peaking at nearly \$150 a barrel in July.

There has been skepticism OPEC member nations will comply with the promised cuts and doubts that the cuts, even if fully implemented, are big enough to offset the collapse in demand for crude. OPEC controls about 40 percent of world crude supplies.

Internet

China's oil product use up 12% in 2008

BEIJING, 27 Jan — China's oil product consumption rose 11.9 percent last year to 215 million tonnes, the China Petroleum and Chemical Association said on Tuesday.

The growth rate was 5 percentage points higher than in 2007.

China used 365 million tonnes of crude oil last year, up 5.8 percent. The growth rate was 1.5 percentage points below the 2007 level.

According to Zhu Fang, deputy head of the association's information and market department, refined oil product consumption grew faster than that of crude oil because imports rose in the second and third quarters. Data from the association show that last year, China imported 14.71 million tonnes of oil products, including gasoline, diesel oil and kerosene, up 107.4 percent.

Zhu said during the first half of 2008, global oil prices soared while domestic prices were capped at a low level. In response, local refineries cut or halted production to minimize losses.

That decision led to tight supplies of refined products in China and increased imports, Zhu said.—*Internet*

Honda cuts output further in North America, Japan

TOKYO, 27 Jan — Honda Motor Co (7267.T), Japan's second-biggest carmaker, announced further production cuts in North America and Japan, as the industry struggles with weak demand in a brutal economic downturn.

The company said it will slash production by an extra 29,000 units in North America and by a further 21,000 units in Japan. Automakers globally are reeling from a sharp downturn in demand due to a global recession and tight credit, and are under pressure to put off big investments and expansion plans to weather the storm.

Honda's North American output will total 1.26 million units in the year to March, down 14 percent from its original plan made in April, and Japan output will be 1.15 million units, down 12 percent from its initial target, Honda said in a statement.

Honda's North America and Japan production volume this fiscal year will be 12 percent below the year-ago level.

However, the Nikkei business daily said Honda will boost production capacity in China, where it expected strong demand for its fuel-efficient vehicles.

Internet



Honda cars are parked in rows at docks, in Southampton, southern England on 22 Jan, 2009. British car output fell at its sharpest pace in almost 20 years in December, with production barely half that of 12 months earlier as the economic slowdown sapped consumer demand, an industry body said.—INTERNET

A young boy holds a chicken at an outdoor market in the city of Kaili in China's southwest Guizhou Province. The World Health Organization has said there is no evidence of a bird flu epidemic in China after a fifth person died of the disease this month, but urged caution in the Lunar New Year holiday.—INTERNET



NZ man's MP3 player holds US military files

WELLINGTON, 27 Jan—A New Zealand man who bought an MP3 player from a thrift shop in Oklahoma found it held 60 US military files, including names and telephone numbers for American soldiers, a media report said on Tuesday.

TV One News said the 60 files contained personal details of US soldiers, including some who had served in Afghanistan and Iraq. A New Zealand security expert said the information should not be in the public domain, but that it did not appear likely to affect US national security.

The US Embassy declined to comment on the incident. Similar breaches occurred in Afghanistan in 2006, when US investigators reportedly bought back stolen flash drives

that contained sensitive military data from shops outside a main US base in the Afghan city of Bagram.

Chris Ogle, 29, from the northern New Zealand city of Whangarei, said he bought the music player at a thrift shop in Oklahoma, and that he found the files when he linked the \$18 device to his computer, TV One News reported.

Internet

Five killed in S Philippines flash floods

COTABATO, 27 Jan — Continuous torrential rain starting from Monday night has left five people dead in southern Philippines, an official said on Tuesday.

The bodies of three of the five people were recovered Tuesday morning by local rescuers in the township of President Roxas in

North Cotabato province, said Jesus Sacdalan, governor of the province.

"A family of four was sleeping inside their house along riverside when they were swept away by the strong flash floods," Sacdalan told *Xinhua*.

The official said a search and rescue opera-

tion is on for the two other missing victims.

Early this month, as many as 20 people have been killed and over 300,000 others affected by heavy rains that have caused flooding in some Philippine regions. Most of the fatalities died of drowning and landslides.

Internet

65 hospitalized for toxic fumes at French church

PHALEMPIN, 27 Jan— Sixty-five people were hospitalized for carbon monoxide poisoning after breathing toxic fumes at a church concert near the northern French city of Lille, officials said.

Among those hospitalized were 16 children including choir singers, a regional administration official said. No one was in serious condition. Most of those hospitalized suffered from headaches and vomiting.

Emergency services were called to the scene when a couple members of the audience became ill, and after determining there were very elevated carbon monoxide levels in the air, evacuated the 250 people from the church in the town of Phalempin.

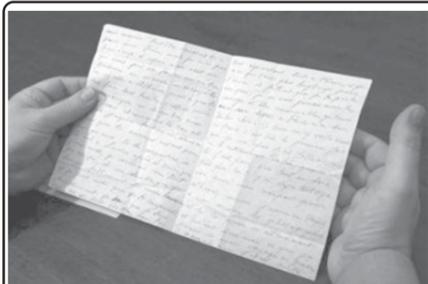
"People were immediately directed towards a reception room where they underwent medical exams on a case-by-case basis," said the chief of staff for the regional prefecture, Gisele Rossat-Mignod.—*Internet*

Argentine president declares farm emergency

BUENOS AIRES, 27 Jan—Argentina's president declared an agricultural emergency Monday in the nation's breadbasket provinces, responding to a key demand by powerful farm organizations amid the worst drought in decades.

Cristina Fernandez told political and business leaders in a televised press conference that the decree will exempt thousands of farmers from paying various taxes for one year to help them confront what analysts estimate will be \$5 billion in losses this year.

Argentina's farming provinces, including Buenos Aires, Santa Fe, Entre Rios, Cordoba, La Pampa, Chaco and Santiago del Estero, have been hit by the worst drought since at least 1971, according to the National Weather Service.—*Internet*



Collector and auctioneer Petros Vergos holds a love letter that was sent by French chanteuse Edith Piaf to a Greek actor more than half a century ago, before goes on the auction block in Athens. Piaf, the legendary singer, who died prematurely of cancer in 1963, wrote the letter to upcoming Greek hearthrob Dimitris Horn in 1946, the year she recorded La Vie en Rose and only two days after meeting him at a performance in Athens. The letter, a telegram and the program of the performance the singer held in Athens will be auctioned at the starting price of 1,000 euros.



NEWS ALBUM

Pink locks get Michigan girl locked out of school

Eleven-year-old Natasha Rzanca has been out of Sawyer Elementary School for more than a week. The fifth-grader from the school in the Upper Peninsula community of Gwinn isn't sick and says she hasn't been suspended. The cause of her absence? She has pink hair.

WLUC-TV reported Natasha said she always wanted pink hair and her mother didn't mind. But she said school administrators' reaction has been less enthusiastic: They told her to leave and return when her care is back to a "normal color."

Superintendent Michael Maino declined to comment about the case but says the guidelines are clear for the elementary school.

Natasha said she has been doing school work at home and will dye her back to brown if it's the only way to return.

A cargo ship plows through sizable ice chunks on the Moselle River in western Germany. "Ortelius" is committed to getting the goods there, no matter what the weather.

Soccer club mistakenly mourns 'death' of ex-player

An English amateur soccer team mourning the death of one of its greatest players discovered an important error in the tributes by the club and local press to the 86-year-old man — he's still alive.

Tommy Farrer had the rare distinction of reading his own obituary as a former "legend" with northern amateur side Bishop Auckland FC.

The mistake came to light when an official of the club, which held a solemn minute of silence before a match last week, called Farrer's wife to offer

condolences. A surprised Gladys Farrer said her husband had indeed departed — but only for a few minutes to buy a newspaper and would be back soon if the official wanted to talk to him.

Farrer, a former England amateur who played in three Wembley finals, said in Friday editions of the Northern Echo: "We are not upset, but we did think it was a bit of a joke at first."

Farrer said he wants to play down the mistake, saying it was time to "let it die."

Neb woman claims she found Needle in pork roast

A York woman is suing a grocer alleging she was injured after biting into a pork roast that she said contained part of a hypodermic needle. Birdie Farr said she bought the roast from a Bag 'N Save store in York in April 2007. She sued the grocer in York County District Court, filing in October. She seeks \$11,500 for medical expenses plus legal costs. Bag 'N Save denies responsibility, saying it never altered the meat, short of dividing it into individual packages.

The grocer said that if what Farr alleges occurred, the originator of the meat, Farmland Foods, is responsible.

Bag 'N Save wants the case dismissed. A phone message left with Farmland Foods representatives was not immediately returned on Friday.



A team of Italian and Ecuadoran researchers have discovered a unique species of pink land iguanas living on the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, the scientist who wrote the report told AFP on Monday. The first pink iguanas were discovered in 1986, and after years of DNA analysis scientists concluded that it was a unique species different from other land iguanas. These pink land iguanas photos were released recently by the Galapagos National Park in Ecuador.

Villages in Ayeyawady Division make good progress

Article: *Mongyai Ngwe Tun*; Photos: *Myanma Alin*



Clean and tidy Pyinsalu People's Hospital seen at the corner of Kumudra Street.

(from page 16)

The Kyetshar River was calm without waves. After a two-hour run, I saw Kyetshar Model Village. Most of the buildings were seen with the roofs of new corrugated iron sheets. On arrival at the village, I witnessed the development of the village built possessing characteristics of a model village. I noticed that the present improvements of the village were greater than that of the past.

In the past when I visited, Kyetshar Village was facilitated with single road and a few number of large houses. Most of houses were built with the walls of bamboo mat and thatch roofs. At present, all the houses were constructed with post shoes, CI sheets and sawn timber.

The local people use fly-proof latrines at every house. The road of the village was decorated

with shady and windbreak trees and in all the compounds of the houses there were vegetable patches. The houses on the village plan were constructed by TZTM Company. In addition, many food stalls and consumer goods shops were opened in the village. Most of personal goods were available at the village, and the prices of fish and prawn were much cheap.

When I strolled along the village road, I saw the self-reliant village library. Under the supervision of a librarian, the local people read various kinds of publications and books with keen interest. Some villagers borrowed the books.

On 9 January morning, I left for Pyinsalu from Kyonmange by boat. After a five-hour drive, we arrived at Pyinsalu. The town was beautiful with the scenic beauty of sea in the background.

My memory for the last visit to the town was not clear. However, the scenes of the town changed totally. There were new buildings in the town.

Pyinsalu was formed with three wards and 16 village-tracts. Road directions were put up at the corners of the roads. The houses of the people were built by Max Myanmar Company. We saw departmental buildings in Pyinsalu. On arrival at Pyinsalu People's Hospital, we witnessed the patients receiving medical treatments. While in the town, we saw Alin-ein self-reliant library.

Pyinsalu is adjacent to the sea. Roads in the town are straight. All the houses have vegetable patches for family consumption and for earning extra income.

Located in a seaside area, the local people are engaged in fishery business. Before our arrival at

the town, we saw fishing boats in the river. At present, Pyinsalu is under construction to possess the town characteristics. Development of the region is gaining momentum.

At 1 p.m., we proceeded to Polaung from Pyinsalu by boat. On the way, we saw Thitpok Model Village. After spending about two hours, we arrived at Polaung Model Village. The village is close to the sea. The scenes of the village had changed. There was no house built with the walls of bamboo mat and thatch roofs in the village. The narrow village roads had been broadened. The village is being decorated with shady trees, flowery plants and windbreak trees.

The whole area of Polaung Village was neat and tidy. The scenic beauty of the village was like a painting. All the houses in

the village were built by Wah Wah Win Company. The houses with fences and the straight roads were built after proper planning.

Moreover, road directions were up up on all roads. Vegetable patches and flowery plants were being nurtured at all the houses for earning surplus income of the families.

The local people thanked the government for reestablishment of their living standard had been uplifted.

In my mind, I compared the situations of the village in the pre-Nargis period and that of the storm-hit village. After the storm, the rehabilitation and reconstruction tasks were undertaken in the village with might and main under the leadership of the government. The village gained the greater development. As part of efforts to possess the model vil-

lage characteristics, Polaung Village was established organizing the houses that had scattered in the region. New roads and residences were rebuilt. Water supply tasks were undertaken. The new location for the residents was chosen and fly-proof latrines were constructed. Moreover, hillocks and cyclone shelters were built as preparedness measures in the event of the natural disasters. The village has developed with various kinds of food stalls. Ten kinds of vegetable patches at the houses earn surplus income for the families.

On 10 January, I left Polaung Model Village. By recounting my experiences, I present the progress of model villages to the esteemed readers.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin: 24-1-2009



A straight road in Kyetshar Model Village of Mawlamyinegyun Township.



Min Naing (Srixon) tees off during the second round event.—MGF

IBTC Open Golf Championship continues



YANGON, 27 Jan—The third round of IBTC Open Golf Championship, which was organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, Myanmar PGA and International Bev-

erage Trading Co Ltd, continued at Ayethaya Golf Resort in Taunggyi of Shan State (South) yesterday morning.

After the second round, Min Naing (Srixon) and Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon) led the tournament with 143 strokes each in the professional golfers level, Myint Thuang (Srixon), second with 144 strokes, Naing Naing Lin (Srixon), Kyaw Thiha (KM Golf Centre)

and Than Naing (Srixon), third with 150 strokes each and Myo Khine, fourth with 151 strokes. Myint Ko led the tournament with 154 strokes in the men's amateur level, Bo Bo, second with 155 strokes, Thura Kyaw, third with 157 strokes and Nay Bala Win Myint, fourth with 158 strokes.

The main sponsor is International Beverage Trading Co Ltd and co-

sponsors, KBZ Bank Ltd, Air Bagan Ltd, Hotel Yangon, Ruby Dragon (Jade & Gems) Co Ltd, Srixon, MGW Construction Ltd, Myanmar Red Star International Co Ltd, KM Golf Centre, ACCEL International Co Ltd (Canon), Alpine Purified Drinking Water, MY Associates Co Ltd (Patronas), Tiger Head Cement, LifeLine Co Ltd (DHEA Plus) and Eden Group Co Ltd.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min presents report.

MNA



Minister Col Zaw Min presents report.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint presents report. —MNA

It is very important for national people...

(from page 1)

The Tatmadaw government gave special attention to the development of Rakhine State although the successive governments were not able to carry out the development tasks effectively, he said.

Construction of Yangon-Sittway Road started in 1996 and completed in February 2000. The project was carried out for ensuring better transport between Rakhine State and other regions. The previous successive governments never dreamt of implementing such project. Despite marshes and a lot of rivers, creeks and mountains, the government had to construct the road with much difficulty spending a large sum of money. On the 27 road bridges which are 180 feet and above long and 1,067 bridges which are under 180 feet were built, he

added.

Moreover, Yangon-Kyaukphyu Road was built braving various difficulties with the use of geo-textile for linking the south and north of Rakhine State and

cilities as Rakhine State gets a lot of rain. However, the government will upgrade the roads to all-weather ones, he said.

The Prime Minister expressed his delight saying that railroads will be

supply of electricity, he said. He continued to say that plans are under way to construct a hydropower plant in southern Rakhine State, which, on completion, will be able to generate

ously, it was not possible to construct a hydropower plant due to scarcity of water in summer. A hydropower plant will soon be built and operated by storing rainwater and water from the Sai Tin Creek into a supporting lake, and on completion it will be able to produce 236 million kilowatt hours a year. The generated electricity will be provided to Sittway, Buthidaung, Maungtau, Kyauktaw, MraukU and Minbya. The minister for Electric Power (1) is a member of his entourage, and the project will be launched soon, he said.

Now, the whole world is facing natural disasters such as strong

natural disaster preparedness work in 14 storm-hit townships: seven each in Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions. The work showed great success in a short time due to the hard work the government, the people and the Tatmadaw had exerted in collaboration.

Rakhine State has a coastline stretching 360 miles along the Bay of Bengal, so it can face a storm at any time. Accordingly, preparedness work is to be done through projects ahead of the rainy season to avert such painful experiences faced by Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions in the storm 'Nargis'.

Requirements for development of Rakhine State are advanced communications, smooth transport and sufficient supply of electricity.

Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions. On the road, 16 bridges which are 180 feet and above long and 879 bridges which are under 180 feet were built at a cost of huge sum of money.

Despite difficulties, the Tatmadaw government implemented these projects to have cordial relations among the national races and to make progress in the region, he said.

He said there are some damages to the fa-

built from Sittway-Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw, MraukU and Minbya to An in Rakhine State soon and then it leads to the railroads in the west bank of Ayeyawady River. The Minister for Rail Transportation will inspect ground conditions and the government began to purchase 1,000 miles of rails from abroad.

Requirements for development of Rakhine State are advanced communications, smooth transport and sufficient

417 million kilowatt hours a year.

He also said that, Sai Tin hydropower plant will soon be built for supply of electricity not only for southern part but also for northern part of Rakhine State. Previ-

Now, the whole world is facing natural disasters such as strong earthquakes, huge tidal waves triggered by tsunamis, and strong winds due to climate changes.

earthquakes, huge tidal waves triggered by tsunamis, and strong winds due to climate changes. The cyclone 'Nargis' that hit hard Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions on 2 and 3 May caused a massive loss of lives of humans and farm animals, houses, schools, hospitals, health care centres, monasteries and pagodas. The government spent huge labour and funds on rescue and reconstruction tasks, restoration of businesses, and

Communication systems have been installed along the coast for issuing early storm warnings. High-raised roads are to be built near the villages to be able to take shelter in the face of a storm. Villages concerned have to practise drills of getting onto nearby hillocks and heights. Mangrove forests are to be planted in order to prevent strong winds and tidal waves.

Moreover, houses and buildings should be (See page 9)



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung presents report. —MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein presents report.—MNA

It is very important for national people...

(from page 8)
robust enough to have resistance to storm winds and tidal waves. Local people can lead a

power at power plants at full capacity, to search resources to generate hydel power and to timely complete the current

ported on implementation of tasks for the power grid network system in the country, and measures for linking the network with

plied with sufficient electricity, the minister said.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan reported on efforts for development of human resources through

plans by replacing old machines with new ones for radio broadcasting, measures taken to receive FM radio waves so that residents in Rakhine coastal region can listen to weather reports, establishment of self-reliant libraries in villages in Rakhine State establishment of the sub-printing house in Sittway arrangements to be made for distribution of quality newspapers.

Afterwards, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe reported on smooth transportation sector provided by Myanmar Airways, Inland Water Transport and Myanmar Port Authority, upgrading of Sittway An,

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein reported on measures for sustainable development of the fishery sector which plays a critical role in the economy of Rakhine State, for safety of fishing vessels and ships, preventive measures against the bird flu, generating electricity with the use of bio gas at homes and assistance to poultry farming sector in Rakhine State.

According to the report of Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw to the Prime Minister, there are 82 post offices and 27 telegraph offices in Rakhine State. In an attempt to build a



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents report. —MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe presents report. MNA

secure life by saving the money they have earned, and building substantial houses. Taking things serious and learning lessons from the untold miseries that took place in Ayeyawady and Yangon divisions, the people have to take great care in their activities to be able to avert avoidable losses.

Afterwards, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min reported on measures being taken for implementation of the National Railway Network in accord with the guidance given by the Head of State, for preparation for construction of Minbu-Padan-An railroad and Minbu-An-Sittway railroad. Minbu-An-Sittway railroad is divided into four sections — Sittway (Minchaung)-Ponnagyun section (26 miles), Ponnagyun-Kyauktaw section (34 miles), Kyauktaw-MraukU section (23 miles) and MraukU-Minbya section (16 miles) totalling 99 miles.

Afterwards, Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min reported on measures being taken in accordance with the ministry's three objectives — To generate

projects. Thahtaychaung hydel power project and An Chaung hydel power project are under construction in Rakhine State to supply power to the state and Sai Tin Hydel Power Plant project is also under construction in Buthidaung Township. The minister said upon completion, the three hydel power plants will supply electricity to Rakhine State sufficiently.

Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint re-

Rakhine, Kachin, Chin and Shan (East) states and Taninthayi division. On completion of Thahtaychaung hydel power plant and An chang hydel power plant, Rakhine State will be sup-

media including TV, radio, self-reliant libraries and newspapers, plans for upgrading the machines of Myanmar Radio and Television, measures taken to receive MRTV-4 channel in Sittway,

Kyaukpyu and Thandwe airports and measures for disaster preparedness.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on measures taken for conservation of mangrove forest and forestation.

communication network, auto telephone lines, mobile telephone lines and CDMA 450 system have been established in Rakhine State. He stressed the need for maintenance of fibre cable line in the state.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun reported on matters related to collection of tax and injecting fund to development projects.

After hearing reports, Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended to the needs and called for cooperation of the people with the government in implementing the development tasks as the government alone cannot carry out national development tasks. He also stressed the need for cultivating the Union Spirit and for making efforts with added momentum for timely completion of the projects.—MNA

Communication systems have been installed along the coast for issuing early storm warnings. Highly-raised roads are to be built near the villages to be able to take shelter in the face of a storm. Villages concerned have to make drill practice of getting onto nearby hillocks and heights. Mangrove forests are to be planted in order to prevent strong winds and tidal waves.

Sai Tin hydropower plant will soon be built for supply of electricity not only for southern part but also northern part of Rakhine State.



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw presents report. MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun presents report. MNA

Minister inspects Automobile Factory No. 2 (Htonebo)

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan — Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein inspected Automobile Factory No. 2 in Htonebo on 24 January.

During the tour of inspection, the minister inspected production of parts of vehicles, installation of the spot welding machine and frames.

The minister also visited the assembly line. The minister stressed the need for controlling the quality of double cab and improvement of workmanship. He also gave instructions on boosting production of vehicles. Regarding the manufacturing of Mazda Jeep, he also urged officials concerned to provide quality Mazda Jeep at reasonable price to people.

Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein also inspected construction of the painting boot, production of battery and waste water treatment plant construction site. He urged officials concerned to take measures for work-site safety and prevention of pollution.—MNA



Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein inspects assembly line at Automobile Factory No. 2 (Htonebo).—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi delivers address at coordination meeting on holding the 27th ASEAN Energy Ministers' Meeting.

MNA



Prize presentation ceremony held at Kamayut township No. 2 BEHS

YANGON, 27 Jan—The prize presentation ceremony for 2008-2009 Academic Year of Kamayut Township No. 2 Basic Education High School under No. 3 Basic Education Department of the Ministry of Education was held at the school on 24 January.

Schoolhead Daw May Hla Yi, Deputy Director-General U Myo Myint

of No. 3 BED and patron Dr Yin Tun of Parent-Teacher Association made speeches on the occasion. Next, the deputy director-general presented gifts to the schoolhead.

Afterwards, the schoolhead and officials presented prizes to outstanding students in the central level English and Math Skill contest and others.—MNA



A respect paying ceremony of post-graduate students of Yangon Institute of Economics in progress. —NLM

Work coord meeting to hold ASEAN Energy Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings held

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan—A work coordination meeting for holding the 27th ASEAN Energy Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings and ASEAN Energy Economic Exhibition and Paper Reading Session, which will be hosted by Myanmar, was held at Yadana Hall of the Ministry of Energy, here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry, management com-

mittee members, members of sub-committees, officials and oil companies and guests.

First, the minister made an opening speech on the occasion and the deputy minister made clarification on conditions of holding sub-committee meetings. Next, Director-General U Soe Aung of Energy Planning Department explained discussions on ASEAN energy centre.

Next, plans were discussed and the minister and the deputy minister fulfilled the requirements. Afterwards, the meeting ended with the concluding remarks of the minister.—MNA

Post-graduate students (YIE) pay respects

YANGON, 27 Jan—Respect paying ceremony of students of DBS, Dip.DS, DFac, DMAC, HDBS and HDAS course for 2008-2009 Academic Year, conducted by Human Resource Development Department of Yangon Institute of Economics, was held at Lecture hall of Yangon Institute of Economics (Hline Campus) on 16 January.

Rector Professor Dr Kan Zaw of YIE and courses In-charge Dr Daw San Kyi gave counsel. Afterwards, a trainee spoke words of thanks.

The students paid respects to Rector Professor Dr Kan Zaw, Pro-rector U Kyaw Min Tun, registrars, course in-charges and course instructors and presented gifts to them.

MNA

New Zealand reptile becomes new father at 111

WELLINGTON (New Zealand), 27 Jan—A captive reptile in New Zealand has unexpectedly become a father at the ripe old age of 111 after receiving treatment for a cancer that made him hostile toward prospective mates.

The centenarian tuatara, named Henry, was thought well past the mating game until he was caught canoodling with a female named Mildred last March—a consummation that resulted in 11 babies being hatched on Monday.

Tuatara are indigenous New Zealand creatures that resemble lizards but descend from a distinct lineage of reptile that walked the earth with the dinosaurs 225 million years ago, zoologists say.

An endangered species, the hatchlings born at the Southland Museum and Art Gallery will provide a

badly needed boost to the tuatara's genetic diversity, said the gallery's tuatara curator, Lindsay Hazley.

Henry was at least 70 years old when he arrived at the museum, "a grumpy old man" who attacked other reptiles, including females, until a cancerous tumor was removed from his genitals in 2002, said Hazley.

"I went off the idea he was good for breeding," Hazley told The Associated Press, but once the tumor was removed, "he was no longer aggressive."

Tuatara are estimated to number about 50,000, most of them living in predator-free sanctuaries, including offshore islands.

A male tuatara takes 70 years to fully mature but reaches sexual maturity about age 20.

Internet



An adult tuatara basking on a tree stump at the Karori Sanctuary near Wellington, New Zealand.—INTERNET

Obama begins reversing Bush climate policies

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan—US President Barack Obama began reversing the climate policies of the Bush administration on Monday, clearing the way for new rules to force auto makers to produce more fuel-efficient and less polluting cars.

The President told the US Environmental Protection Agency to reconsider immediately a request by California to impose its own strict limits on vehicle carbon dioxide emissions, blamed for contributing to global

warming.

Obama, a Democrat, took over from former president George W Bush last Tuesday. Bush's Republican administration had denied the request, prompting California and other states to sue.

"The federal government must work with, not against, states to reduce greenhouse gas emissions," Obama said at the White House, taking a stab at his predecessor's policies. "The days of Washington dragging its

heels are over. My administration will not deny facts, we will be guided by them. We cannot afford to pass the buck ... onto the states."

Obama's directive, which is likely to result in a formal change in the coming months, could prompt as many as 18 states to follow California's lead by putting into effect tailpipe emissions standards that are tougher than federal requirements.

The president also directed the Department of Transportation to move forward with setting tighter fuel efficiency standards for automobiles starting with model year 2011, giving manufacturers 18 months to prepare.—MNA/Reuters



Chinese burn joss-sticks as they offer prayers at a temple during the first day of Chinese Lunar New Year in Beijing.—INTERNET

UN chief calls for end to hostilities in Darfur

UNITED NATIONS, 27 Jan—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon Monday strongly condemned the hostilities between the Sudanese Armed Forces and rebels in north Darfur, and called on all parties to immediately stop the ongoing fighting.

"The Secretary-General strongly condemns the hostilities, which have taken place today between a rebel movement and the Sudanese Armed Forces on the outskirts of El Fasher, in north Darfur,"

the UN spokesperson, Michele Montas, said in a statement issued here Monday.

"The Secretary-General deplores these continued military action which continues to put civilian lives at risk and to jeopardize the political process," the statement said. "The Secretary-General calls on all parties to immediately cease ongoing hostilities to abide by their obligations under international law," the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

Eight babies born to stunned California parents

BELLFLOWER (Calif), 27 Jan—Eight babies born to a mother in Southern California — only the second live-born set of octuplets in the world — were in stable condition and breathing on their own, doctors said Tuesday.

Dr. Mandhir Gupta, a neonatologist at Kaiser Permanente Bellflower Medical Center, told ABC television that the babies "are doing actually very, very well."

Two of the newborns were initially put on ventilators, but their breathing tubes have been removed.

"Only three babies need some sort of oxygen through the nose right now but they are breathing on

their own," Gupta said on "Good Morning America."

The six boys and two girls were born Monday, weighing between 1 pound, 8 ounces (0.67 kilograms) and 3 pounds, 4 ounces (1.47 kilograms).

The mother's identity has not been released.

The world's first live octuplets were born in March 1967 in Mexico City, but all died within 14 hours, according to Encyclopedia Britannica.

Internet

A partial solar eclipse viewed from Manila harbor in the Philippines.—INTERNET



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RUKUN VOYNO (469)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RUKUN VOYNO (469) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.1.2009 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

Yamaha says it is to recall 53,814 bikes

TOKYO, 27 Jan— Japan's Yamaha Motor Co said on Tuesday it will recall 53,814 motorcycles to replace a defect in rear-wheel shock absorbers that caused slight injuries to one rider.

The TW200E models were manufactured between 1987 and 2001 and all sold in Japan, the motorcycle firm said in a statement.

The recall followed six reports of problems with the joint part due to a lack of tenacity, the statement said. The problem could result in a breakdown of the part and a loss of stability.

One rider was slightly injured when a TW200E motorcycle with the defect scraped a guardrail, a Yamaha spokesman said.—*Internet*

TRADE MARK CAUTION
HISAMITSU PHARMACEUTICAL CO., INC., a Japanese corporation of 408, Tashiro Daikancho, Tosu, Saga, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

PAIN PATCH

Reg. No. 1800/1998

in respect of "Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations; dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for destroying vermin; fungicides; herbicides".

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

Win Mu Tin

M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.

for HISAMITSU PHARMACEUTICAL CO., INC.

P. O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 28 January 2009

**Drive
with
care**

Life is tweet: first bird had hearing like an emu's



PARIS, 27 Jan— Archaeopteryx, the first known bird, had a hearing range similar to the modern-day emu's, according to a new study that boosts the avian claims of this descendant of the dinosaurs.

About the size and shape of a European magpie, Archaeopteryx lithographica appeared on the scene around 150 million years ago, in the Jurassic era.

The first fossil was unearthed in Bavaria, southern Germany, in 1861, and

so far eight specimens have come to light.

Scientists at the Natural History Museum in London used a computed tomography (CT) scanner to make a 3-D picture of the inner ear of Archaeopteryx, modern birds and reptiles.

Their area of interest was the cochlear duct — the bony part of the inner ear that houses the sensory tissue. The size of this duct is a good indicator of an animal's hearing range.

According to their calculations, Archaeopteryx had an average hearing range of approximately 2,000 hertz.

"This means it had similar hearing to modern emus, which have some of the most limited hearing ranges of modern birds," said palaeontologist Paul Barrett.

By comparison, the human voice is general in the range of 80 to 1,100 Hz, and good human hearing runs from around 20 to 20,000 Hz.

Internet

Twin to Milky Way's black hole found

MADRID, 27 Jan—A sharp-eyed instrument on the Very Large Telescope has given astronomers a peek at the heart of a nearby galaxy, revealing a host of young, massive and dusty stellar nurseries and a possible twin of our own Milky Way's supermassive black hole.

The galaxy, dubbed NGC 253, is one of the brightest and dustiest spiral galaxies in the sky. It is also known as the Sculptor Galaxy, because it is located in the Sculptor constellation.

The Sculptor Galaxy is a starburst galaxy, so-called because of very intense star formation there.

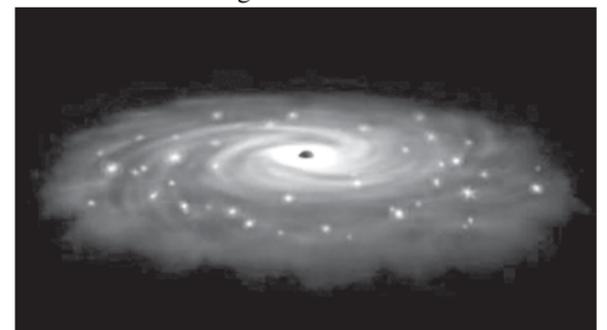
Astronomers from the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias in Spain used

NACO, an adaptive optics instrument on the European Southern Observatory's *Very Large Telescope* (located in Atacama desert in northern Chile), to study NGC 253 in finer detail in the near-infrared.

Adaptive optics corrects for the blurring ef-

fect that Earth's atmosphere can have on images taken by ground-based telescopes. Sensors and deformable mirrors correct distortions of incoming light, producing images as clear as if the telescope were in space.

Internet



The ring of stars circling Sagittarius A, the Milky Way's central black hole, shows a combination of infrared and X-ray observations indicating that a surplus of massive stars has formed from a large disk of gas around the black hole in this artist's concept released on 30 Oct, 2005.—INTERNET*

Health info technology saves lives, costs

CHICAGO, 27 Jan—Hospitals in Texas that used computers to keep track of patient records and manage care had lower rates of deaths, complications and costs, US researchers said on Monday, offering a strong argument for hos-

pitals to go "paperless."

They said patients treated in hospitals that ranked highest in use of health information technology to manage patient records and physician notes were 15 percent less likely to die compared

with patients in hospitals that ranked lower.

"If these results were to hold for all hospitals in the United States, computerizing notes and records might have the potential to save 100,000 lives annually," Dr Neil Poe of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, who worked on the study, said in a statement.

The study, published in the Archives of Internal Medicine, lends fresh evidence that information technology can improve health quality and cut costs by reducing errors.

Internet



A monitor is seen in the control room of a hospital in a file photo.—INTERNET

UK's Thames Water fined for river pollution

LONDON, 27 Jan— Thames Water was fined 125,000 pounds on Monday after it admitted it had killed thousands of fish after carelessly releasing harmful pollutants into a river, the Environment Agency said.

Britain's largest water company had pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to allowing a large amount of industrial strength chlorine to spill into the River Wandle from its sewerage treatment works near Mitcham in south London in 2007.

In all, a 5-kilometre stretch of the river was polluted killing the majority of fish that were present. The Environment Agency said it took its officials, helped by local anglers, three days to remove two tonnes of dead fish from the river which had turned a milky colour and bleached much of the green vegetation that grows along the channel bed.—*MNA/Reuters*

Pirates kill Greek sailor, rob crew off Cameroon

YAOUNDE, 27 Jan—A Greek sailor was shot dead by pirates off the coast of Cameroon at the weekend, the state radio broadcaster said on Monday, the latest in a series of attacks on shipping in African waters.

Around 30 armed pirates travelling in three boats seized one Greek vessel on Saturday in the Atlantic off Kribi, south of the main port city Douala, and were taking it towards international waters when a sister ship gave chase.

"The pirates then opened fire on the second vessel, climbed into the cabin and shot the captain ... three times in the neck," the radio report said.

Shipping lanes off both the east and west coasts of Africa have become increasingly dangerous in recent months. The Greek Merchant Marine Ministry identified the victim as Theodoros Mastaloudis.

"A Greek sailor was killed on Saturday evening, when two fishing ships were attacked by pirates off Douala, in Cameroon. No one else was injured," said a ministry official who declined to be named.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Obama faces tough choice on Cape Cod wind farm

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan— President Barack Obama's enthusiasm for alternative energy is being buffeted by two political forces on opposite sides of plans to build the nation's first offshore wind farm off Cape Cod.

A leading foe of the \$1 billion project is Sen Edward Kennedy, D-Mass, an early and influential backer of Obama's presidential bid. A strong proponent is Massachusetts Gov Deval Patrick, a close friend of Obama and a source for some of his best campaign speech lines.

The plan to erect 130 giant turbines across 25 miles of federal waters in Nantucket Sound poses an early test of the president's energy policy, on stark display Monday with Obama's order to re-examine whether California and other states should be allowed to have tougher auto emission standards to combat a build up of greenhouse gases and his directive for the government to get moving on new fuel-efficiency guidelines for the auto industry.

In the final days of George W Bush's tenure,

the Minerals Management Service issued a report saying the wind farm project poses no major environmental problems, clearing the way for the Obama administration to make a final decision on whether to issue a lease for the project. Reviews by the Federal Aviation Administration and the Interior Department's inspector general are still pending.—Internet



File photo shows a wind turbine stands generating power next to the Hull, Mass, High School in the shadow of Boston.—INTERNET

TB, substance abuse closely linked in US

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan—About a fifth of people with tuberculosis in the United States report abusing drugs or alcohol, and the figure is even higher when only US-born patients are included, government researchers said on Monday.

The substance abusers were more contagious than others with the disease and remained contagious longer, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention researchers wrote in the journal Archives of Internal Medicine.

About a third of people worldwide are infected with the bacterium that causes TB. Only a small percentage of people ever develop the disease.

But the effect of substance abuse on the body may raise the chances that the latent infection turns into active disease, and substance abusers may be less likely to be screened for TB, the researchers said.

The researchers tracked 153,268 people with TB in the United States from 1997 to 2006, accounting for nearly everyone age 15 and older with the disease during that span.

Overall, 19 percent of them reported that they abused drugs and/or alcohol, according to the study. Among the 76,816 US-born people with TB, 29 percent reported substance abuse.

Internet



Fossils are displayed at the Obispado museum in Monterrey, northern Mexico, on 21 Jan, 2009. The National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) has finished the identification process of some 400 fossils seized from a store in 2006, in what anthropologists say is the most important paleontological retrieval in the country due to the quantity and variety amassed.—INTERNET



A super lantern of Shenzhou VII manned spacecraft, among some other 50 lantern complexes, reflects dazzling illumination in the 13th Dalian Spring Lantern Fair with Firecrackers and Fireworks, opened on the very first day of the Spring Festival, at the Labor Park in Dalian, northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 26 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

Astronauts lose alarming amounts of hipbone strength

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan— Astronauts spending months in space lose significant bone strength, putting them increasingly at risk of fractures later in life, according to a study by the University of California (UC) in Irvine.

UC Irvine and UC San Francisco led the study evaluating one female and 12 male astronauts who spent four to six months in the International Space Station and found that, on average, astronauts' hipbone strength decreased 14 percent.

Three astronauts experienced losses of 20 percent to 30 percent, rates comparable to those seen in older women with osteoporosis.

The results have alarmed researchers because they reveal a greater rate of bone deterioration than previously measured using less powerful technolo-

gies.

"If preventive measures are not taken, some of our astronauts may be at increased risk for age-related fractures decades after their missions," said study leader Joyce Keyak, UC Irvine orthopedic surgery and biomedical engineering professor.

For as long as there have been astronauts, researchers have studied why the microgravitational environment of space makes bones more fragile. While previous studies looked at bone mineral density, this study is the first to specifically evaluate bone strength.

Keyak and her colleagues used a novel computer program she developed over the past 20 years to identify hipbone fracture risk in people with osteoporosis.

Internet

New "test tube" technique offers pregnancy hopes

LONDON, 27 Jan—A British team has for the first time successfully used a new "test tube" fertilization technique that better predicts which of a woman's eggs will most likely result in pregnancy, a top fertility expert said on Monday.

The treatment combines currently used prenatal screening with a new computer programme that can scan the eggs for flaws in chromosomes that may lead to miscarriage. The first patient, a 41-year-old British woman who failed 13 rounds of fertility treatment, is now pregnant, the researchers said.

The ultimate goal is

more pregnancies and fewer multiple births and miscarriages, added Simon Fishel, managing director of CAREfertility, the clinic that developed the technique.

"We are going to go slowly with the technology because we don't want to raise hopes," Fishel told a news conference. "The Holy Grail is to achieve one pregnancy with one embryo."

More than 3.5 million babies have been born worldwide using assisted reproductive technology since 25 July, 1978, when two British doctors delivered the world's first testtube baby, Louise Brown.—Internet

Aspirin may prevent liver damage

WASHINGTON, 27 Jan—Simple aspirin may prevent liver dam-

age to millions of people suffering from the side effects of common drugs, alcohol abuse, and obesity-related liver disease, a new Yale University study suggests.

The study published on Monday in the Journal of Clinical Investigation found aspirin reduced mortality caused by an overdose of acetaminophen, best known by the brand name Tylenol.

It further showed that a class of molecules known as TLR antagonists, which block receptors known to activate inflammation, have a similar effect as aspirin, the paper said.

Internet

SPORTS

Mikel faces dring-drive charge

London, 27 Jan—Chelsea and Nigeria's John Obi Mikel has been charged with drinking and driving, police confirmed Monday.

The 21-year-old was stopped by police at 5.30am (0530GMT) on Saturday, after being seen driving his Range Rover "erratically" near his club's ground in London's Fulham Road.

Mikel was not a member of the Chelsea team which beat Ipswich 3-1 at home in the FA Cup fourth round later Saturday.

He is due to appear at West London Magistrates' Court on 3 April.—*Internet*



Chelsea and Nigeria's John Obi Mikel, seen here on 17 Jan, 2009, has been charged with drinking and driving, police confirmed Monday.
INTERNET

Cudicini keen to earn his Spurs

LONDON, 27 Jan—Carlo Cudicini is eager to revive his football career after moving across London on Monday to join Tottenham Hotspur from Premier League rivals Chelsea on a free transfer.

The 35-year-old Italian goalkeeper will provide competition for the error prone Heurelho Gomes.

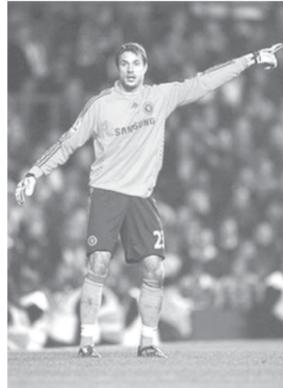
Cudicini, who had been at Stamford Bridge since 1999 and was Chelsea's first-choice goalkeeper until Petr Cech joined the west London club in 2004, told Spurs TV Online: "I met Heurelho Gomes and Ben (Alnwick) so it will be fantastic to work with them and we'll try to push each other.

"I think it will be a fair competition and that is good for the team.

"At this moment the team is not in the best position but it doesn't matter - I'm here to bring some experience and try

to push this club forward."

Brazilian Gomes is currently struggling with injury and Cudicini could make his debut in Tuesday's match against Stoke - one of five clubs along with Spurs struggling at the foot of the table on 16 points. But Cudicini insisted he'd no regrets about arriving at a team struggling to avoid relegation from one still in contention for the title.—*Internet*



Chelsea's Italian goalkeeper Carlo Cudicini is pictured during their Carling Cup fourth round match against Burnley at Stamford Bridge, west London.—INTERNET

Ronaldinho back for Brazil in Italy friendly

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 Jan—Former European footballer of the year Ronaldinho was on Monday recalled to Brazil's squad by coach Carlos Dunga for a friendly international against Italy in London next month.

The 28-year-old striker, also the FIFA World Player of the Year in both 2004 and 2005, is part of a Europe-based squad also including his AC Milan teammates, midfielder Kaka, striker Alexandre Pato and keeper Thiago Silva. Manchester City's Robinho and Inter Milan's Adriano are also in the squad, adding to Dunga's attacking options for the fixture at Arsenal's Emirates stadium on 10 February.

Dunga called up 25-year-old Fiorentina midfielder Felipe Melo for the first time after praising the player in recent performances.

Manchester United midfielder Anderson was also on Dunga's list al-



Former European footballer of the year Ronaldinho, seen here on 21 January, 2009, was on Monday recalled to Brazil's squad by coach Carlos Dunga for a friendly international against Italy in London next month.—INTERNET

though just three days ago it was announced he would be out for three weeks with an ankle injury after being stretchered off in the League Cup semi-final win over Derby on 20 January.

Brazil squad for friendly against Italy on 10 February. Keepers: Julio Cesar (Inter Milan/ITA), Doni (AS Roma/ITA).—*Internet*

McCulloch banking on League Cup lift

GLASGOW, 27 Jan—Lee McCulloch believes Rangers can regain the feel good factor by clinching a place in the Scottish League Cup Final.

The midfielder was a surprise pick in last weekend's goalless draw against Aberdeen - his first start since September - which left Rangers four points behind leaders and arch Glasgow rivals Celtic at the top of the Scottish Premier League.

But McCulloch reckons Tuesday's League Cup semi-final against top-flight strugglers Falkirk here at Hampden Park can provide some cheer for disgruntled supporters who have voiced their concern over the running of the club.—*Internet*



Lee McCulloch, seen here in 2007, believes Rangers can regain the feel good factor by clinching a place in the Scottish League Cup Final.—INTERNET

2010 World Cup 'will leave legacy of pride in Africa'

JOHANNESBURG, 27 Jan—The 2010 World Cup to be hosted by South Africa will leave the legacy of secu-

rity in the country and of pride on the continent, FIFA president Sepp Blatter said on Monday.



Labourers work at the site of Nelspruit's new football stadium, set to be one of the ten stadia across South Africa used during the 2010 World Cup, on 19 January. The 2010 World Cup to be hosted by South Africa will leave the legacy of security in the country and of pride on the continent, FIFA president Sepp Blatter said on Monday.—INTERNET

"There will be a double legacy. There will be the one in South Africa. There will be extremely tight security. We hope that this security will be maintained after the World Cup in order to ensure that we have left a legacy," he said in an interview to mark 500 days to go to the event.

"The other legacy is for the whole of Africa. We want them to be proud and be able to say "we Africans have organised the world's most important sporting event: the FIFA World Cup," Blatter said in the exclusive interview to *FIFA.com*, copies of which were released here.—*Internet*

Qatar announces candidacy for 2018 football World Cup

DOHA, 27 Jan—Qatar on Monday announced its intention to bid to host the football World Cup in 2018 and, should that fail, the 2022 edition of football's global showpiece event.

"I can confirm that the Qatar football federation has today sent a letter to FIFA in which it officially declared its candidacy for the 2018 and 2022 World Cups," federation secretary general Saud al-Muhanadi told AFP.

FIFA started reception of bids for the right to host the 2018 and 2022 World Cups earlier this month. All the interested national federations will have to make their bids before 2 February, 2009. Among other countries who have officially bid are England, Spain and Portugal in a joint bid, and Belgium and the Netherlands, also in a joint bid.—*Internet*

Roddick into tennis semis as ill Djokovic withdraws

MELBOURNE, 27 Jan—American Andy Roddick powered into the Australian Open semi-finals on Tuesday when defending champion Novak Djokovic pulled out ill trailing 7-6 (7/3), 4-6, 2-6, 1-2.

The Serbian world number three broke through for his first Grand Slam win on this day last



American Andy Roddick, seen here, powered into the Australian Open semi-finals on Tuesday when defending champion Novak Djokovic pulled out ill trailing 7-6 (7/3), 4-6, 2-6, 1-2.—INTERNET

year, but he looked a forlorn figure as he conceded to Roddick after becoming more and more distressed on a scorching hot day.

Roddick, who has now reached the semi-finals in Melbourne four times, was playing high class tennis when Djokovic withdrew and may well have progressed regardless.

But he said he still had a hollow feeling.

"I feel for Novak because he worked so hard to win the title and for him not to get a fair chance to defend it, it's too bad," Roddick said.

There was no indication that Djokovic had any problems over the early stages and he looked firmly in control as he took a tight first set.

He continued to show no signs of illness as he and Roddick slugged out the second set, however, he appeared to begin to try and shorten the points as the set wore on.—*Internet*



The gentle falls of the Petrohué River frame the graceful slopes of Osorno Volcano, part of the Andes Mountain. The scene is but one memorable view within Chile's Vicente Perez Rosales National Park.—INTERNET

US wants direct talks with Iran on atom work

UNITED NATIONS, 27 Jan—The US Ambassador to the United Nations said on Monday the new US Administration would make Iran's nuclear programme a top diplomatic priority and would pursue direct talks with Teheran. "We remain deeply concerned about the threat that Iran's nuclear programme poses to the region, indeed to the United States and to the entire international community," Ambassador Susan Rice told reporters after 45 minutes of closed-door discussions with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

"We look forward to engaging in vigorous diplomacy that includes direct diplomacy with Iran," she said, in comments that were among the clearest indications that President Barack Obama wants to try a new approach in dealing with Iran. The administration of former US president George W Bush was pushing for a fourth round of UN sanctions against Iran for refusing to suspend its uranium enrichment programme. But the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and Germany—known as the "P5+1"—had put discussions on next steps with Iran on hold until the administration of Barack Obama was in office, council diplomats have said.—MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (28.1.2009) (Wednesday)

Transmission Times

- Local Transmission - (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
- Abroad Transmission (Europe) - (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
- Abroad Transmission (North America) - (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

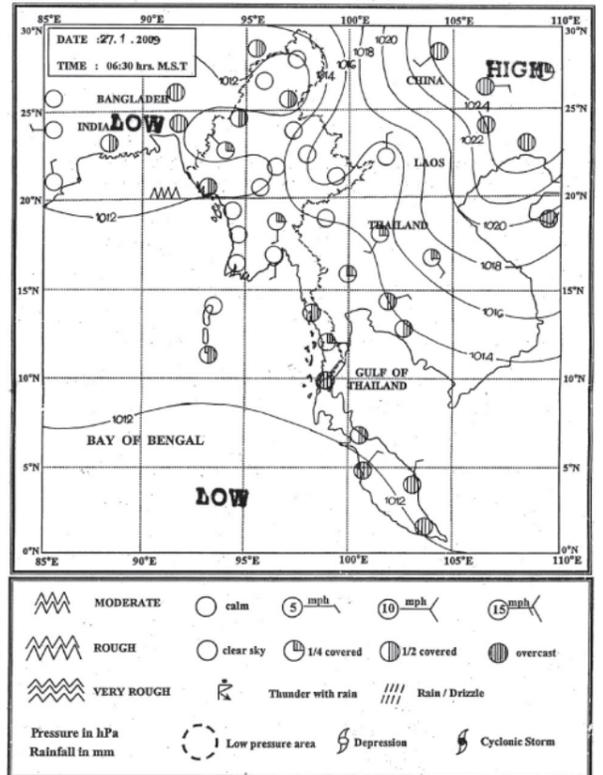
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Myanmar's Hardy Raftsmen At Work
- * Myanmar Traditional Food "Pone Ye Gyi"
- * Making of Traditional Lacquerware
- * Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-IV)
- * Beach Souvenir Sea Shell Decorations
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Abroad Transmissions

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * PaO Nationals Traditional Long Drum
- * Myanmar Footwear and Bags
- * Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-III)
- * High Income Cauliflower
- * Mosaic Painting of Myanmar
- * Banana
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Making of Traditional Lacquerware
- * Ayeyawady Dolphin Expedition (Part-IV)
- * Beach Souvenir Sea Shell Decorations
- * The Heritage of Kyin (or) Wrestling
- * Myanma Marionette A Laudable Myanma Marionette (Part-I)
- * Extravagant Evidences of Myanmar Culture (Part-II)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 27 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, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Chin State and Taninthayi Division, (6°C) above January average temperatures in Kachin State and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (0°C) and Namhsam (2°C).

Maximum temperature on 26-1-2009 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 27-1-2009 was 60°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 27-1-2009 was 86%. Total sunshine hours on 26-1-2009 was (7.4) hrs approx. Rainfall on 27-1-2009 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) mph from Northwest at (16:30) hours MST on 26-1-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 28th January 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 28-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-1-2009: Generally fair weather.



Wednesday, 28 January
View on today

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

- 7:55 am
5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:05 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am
7. Musical programme
- 8:30 am
8. International news
- 8:45 am
9. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm
2. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:20 pm
3. Classical song
- 4:30 pm
4. Dance of national races

- 4:40 pm
5. Musical programme
- 4:50 pm
6. "အမျိုးနှင့်မျိုး"
[နေမျိုးအောင်၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ ဧရာ၊ ဝင်းနိုင် (အနုပညာ)]
(ဒေါ်ရီကတော-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)
- 5:00 pm
7. ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာဘာသာရပ်) (အငြိမ်း-ခ)
- 5:30 pm
8. Songs to uphold national spirit
- 5:40 pm
9. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်
- 5:50 pm
10. ရွှေဖွယ်စုံလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

- 6:00 pm
11. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
12. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
13. မြန်မာ့လေ့ရှိရာလက်ရာ
- 6:50 pm
14. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်
- 7:20 pm
15. ရာသီလွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်
- 8:00 pm
16. News
- 17. International news
- 18. Weather report
- 19. (၁၆) ကြိမ်မြောက်မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲဆုရအစီအစဉ် (ကွက်စီပြိုင်ပွဲ) (ပထမဆု) စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်း

Thai delegation concludes goodwill visit

YANGON, 27 Jan—The Thai goodwill delegation led by Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Songkitti Jaggabatara and wife on a visit to Myanmar at the invitation of 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 left Nay Pyi Taw by air and arrived in here at 4.20 p.m. yesterday.

They were accompanied by Director of the Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Brig-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag and officials.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and wife, senior military officers and officials.

General Songkitti Jaggabatara and wife and delegation members paid homage to the Shwedagon Pagoda.

They left here by air at 6.30 p.m. They were seen off at the airport by Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint and wife, senior military officers and officials.—MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint greets Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Songkitti Jaggabatara at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Villages in Ayeyawady Division make good progress



Gangaw Street and a row of houses in Polaung Model Village of Mawlamyinegyun Township.

Article: *Mongyai Ngwe Tun*;
Photos: *Myanma Alin*

On 8 January, I made a trip to Kyetshar Model Village, Pyinsalu and Polaung Model Village of Mawlamyinegyun Township in Ayeyawady Division. It was because I wanted to go there to observe the development of storm-hit regions on TV and in the newspapers I had read frequently.

Indeed, I had toured these villages three years ago when I visited my relatives at seaside area of Ayeyawady Division.

After the cyclonic storm Nargis, these villages were damaged. However, the local people overcame the difficulties with diligence and perseverance.

In the morning of 8 January, I left Mawlamyinegyun by boat. After visiting Kyetshar Model Village on a day trip, I would proceed to Kyonmange.

(See page 7)



Botox injection. Botox belongs to a class of drugs called botulinum toxins, which derive from the bacterium *Clostridium botulinum*. Women in the a new study equated beauty to wealth and an affluent lifestyle.

Makeover shows correspond with increased body anxiety

SCIENCE DAILY, 26 Jan — “The Swan.” “I Want a Famous Face.” “Dr. 90210.” “Extreme Makeover.” “Nip/Tuck.” The list goes on. These are a few of the TV shows that have examined, and promoted, the benefits of plastic surgery in recent years. University of Southern California professor Julie Albright believes the shows are driving women to go under the knife to conform to a heightened definition of beauty, one that is increasingly difficult to attain. According to the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery.

The number of 18-year-olds who underwent breast-implant surgery nearly tripled from 2002 to 2003, there has been a 444% increase in plastic surgery since 1997, over 90% of all plastic surgery is performed on women, americans spent approximately \$12.4 billion on cosmetic procedures in 2006.

“The practice now has incredible visibility, which has led to incredible acceptance, which has led to incredible pressure for women to improve their appearance,” Albright believes.—Internet

Earthquake report

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Jan— A moderate earthquake of intensity (5.9) Richter Scale with its epicenter about (1200) miles South of Kaba-Aye Seismology observatory outside of Myanmar (Indonesia) was recorded at (02) hrs (03) min (09) sec M.S.T on 27th January 2009.

MNA