

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Prime Minister General Thein Sein on inspection tour of Biluchaung Hydropower Projects

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Feb—Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspected Biluchaung No. 3 Hydropower Project being implemented by Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 on

10 February morning. Accompanied by Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of

Eastern Command Brig-Gen Yar Pyae, ministers, deputy ministers, Chairman of Kayah State PDC Brig-Gen Win Myint, the director-general of the Government Office and departmental

heads, the Prime Minister left Loikaw by helicopter and arrived at Lawpita Village where they were welcomed by departmental officials of Hydropower Generating Enterprise.

Biluchaung No. 2

At the construction site of Biluchaung No. 3 Hydropower Project, the Prime Minister heard reports on implementation of Biluchaung No. 3 Hydropower Project presented by Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min.

The Managing Director of Future Power Co Ltd reported on undertaking of six main tasks of the project, use of heavy machinery and strength of workers.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister gave instructions on implementation of the project meeting the set standard, timely completion of the tasks, supply of heavy machinery to the worksite and attention to be paid to worksite safety.

The Prime Minister viewed the sample stones taken out from the

water intake tunnel by drilling machine displayed near the briefing hall.

At the construction site of the approach tunnel No. 2, the Prime Minister looked into placing of shot concrete at the walls of the tunnel and gave necessary instructions.

Biluchaung No. 3 Hydropower Project site is located at the confluence of Bilu Creek and Pun Creek, 16 miles southeast of Loikaw. It has an RC ogee type diversion weir and the water intake tunnel. On completion, the power plant installed with two 24-megawatt generators will generate 334 million kilowatt hours on average yearly.

Biluchaung No. 3

At Biluchaung No. 2 Hydropower Plant, the Prime Minister and party were welcomed by Managing Director U Kyi Tha of Hydropower Generating Enterprise and staff. (See page 9)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein views sample stones from the water intake tunnel.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein visits control room of Biluchaung No. 2 Hydropower Plant.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 14 February, 2009

Strive for regional and national development maintaining peace and stability

With the participation of the entire national people the government is making all-out efforts for national development. In that regard, it is building a large number of infrastructures to bring about harmonious development in different parts of the states and divisions.

As it is placing emphasis on development of political, economic, education, health and transport sectors, remarkable progress has been made in those spheres. Kayah State is one of the states and divisions that are now enjoying the fruits of development.

In the past, there were over 60,000 paddy sown acreages in Kayah State. Now, there are over 100,000. At present, extended cultivation of summer paddy and edible oil crops such as groundnut, sesame and sunflowers is being carried out in Kayah State in addition to monsoon paddy. As a result, the state is now in a position to enjoy self-sufficiency in rice and edible oil.

In the education sector, Kayah State has seen over 300 basic education schools coupled with higher learning institutions where about 60,000 students are learning.

In the health sector, it has seen six 25-bed township hospitals, eight station hospitals, 27 rural health centres and a 16-bed traditional medicine hospital in addition to the 200-bed general hospital. Moreover, the extended opening of air route, Aungban-Loikaw railroad and motor roads has contributed much to secure and smooth transport. With this, trade and commerce in the region is booming.

Peace and stability is indispensable for development of a region. Only when there are community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order, will the socio-economic status of the region improve.

Such being the case, all the national brethren are to exert concerted efforts for regional and national development while maintaining the already achieved peace and stability based on mutual trust and understanding.

Central Bank Governor attends 44th SEACEN and 28th Board of Governors Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Feb—A delegation led by Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein accompanied by Director Daw Ohmar Sein, attended the 44th South East Asian Central Banks (SEACEN) Governors' Conference and the 28th Board of Governor Meeting which was held at Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia from 6 to 11 February.

On 6 February, the conference and meeting opened at Auditorium in Central Bank of Malaysia. After greeting words of the Governor Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz, Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Dato Sri Mohd Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak opened the conference and meeting.

The delegation left Malaysia after attending the 50th Anniversary of Central Bank of Malaysia, Central Bank Governors' Forum (2009) and the Conference of Central Bank of Malaysia, on 12 February.—MNA

People's Desire

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

Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Cup Bowling Tournament concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Feb—As a gesture of honouring the 62nd Anniversary Union Day, the final matches of the 1st Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Cup Inter-Ministry and Open Men's and Women's Bowling Tournament were held at the bowling hall of Nay Pyi Taw Sports Complex yesterday afternoon.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Mayor Col Thein Nyunt, members of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, members of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, responsible persons of Myanmar Bowling



Federation and guests.

After the final matches, Mayor Col Thein Nyunt and officials awarded prizes to the winners.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Minister Col Thein Nyunt presents prizes to winners of 1st Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Cup Inter-Ministry and Open Men's and Women's Bowling Tournament. —MNA

Two blasts in Kyaukgyi, one mine seized in Kanyuntkwin People urged to cooperate with authorities to expose terrorists

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Feb—An improvised mine in a plastic container planted under a concrete pipe of the drainage on 4th Street of Zay-baing ward in Kanyutkwin, Phyu Township, Bago Division was exposed around 10:30 pm on 8 February after a duty-conscious man's tip-off.

In another incident, two blasts occurred about 10 pm last night in Kyaukgyi, but there were no casualties. A bomb blasted on the temporary wooden bridge linking Kat-kye ward and Kyauk-ein-su village about 10 pm last night which was followed by another blast near the fence of an empty house in Sar-dan village about 10 minutes later, but no casualties were reported in both blasts.

Anti-government organizations and terrorist armed groups are sending bombers to commit destructive acts in the nation and the authorities concerned are making arrangements for exposing those terrorists.

Authorities concerned have urged the people to keep a watchful eye on the terrorists and to expose them who may get in disguise to penetrate the community and public business areas. The people are also urged to come forward with information to the authorities concerned in time if they find suspect ones. Timely information is vital for preventing loss of property and damages.

MNA

Maha Toe Travels & Tours selected for Gold Prize of BID



YANGON, 13 Feb—Maha Toe Travels & Tours Agency won International Arch of Europe Award in the Gold Category in Frankfurt 2009 presented by

Business Initiative Directions (BID) of Spain.

Maha Toe Travels & Tours Agency was voted by Tourism Industry Organizations from Europe and 93 other countries, under the arrangement of BID. As BID have invited Maha Toe Travels & Tours Co., Ltd to receive the award on the 35th prize presenting

ceremony to be held in Frankfurt, Germany, on 23 February, the board of directors of Maha Toe Travels & Tours Co., Ltd is now making arrangements for the ceremony.

For further information of the services of Maha Toe Travels & Tours, contact

Maha Toe Travels & Tours No. 815 corner of Mahabandohla Street and Hledan Street, Lanmadaw Township and No.6/11th Street (Lower Block), Lanmadaw Township, Yangon or (Tels: 227322, 221586 and 221703), Fax: 0951227322; E.mail:mahatoe@myanmar.com.mm.—MNA



Iraqis stand at a spot of a car bombing at Bayaa neighbourhood in Baghdad, Iraq, on 12 Feb, 2009. According to Iraqi military spokesman Maj Gen Qassim al-Moussawi, 10 people were killed and 32 wounded in a single blast Wednesday, which was caused by a bomb hidden in a small truck loaded with fruits and vegetables.—INTERNET

Eight killed by Iraq bomb attack

BAGHDAD, 13 Feb—A suicide bomber detonated an explosive belt packed with nails among Shiite worshippers on Thursday in a holy city south of Baghdad, killing eight pilgrims and wounding more than 50, police and hospital officials said.

It was the second deadly attack on pilgrims in two days, in what appeared to be a Sunni extremist campaign to discredit Iraq's mostly Shiite security forces and rekindle the sectarian conflict that nearly

plunged the country into full-scale civil war two years ago.

The latest attacks, though smaller than those of past years, showed that al-Qaida and other Sunni extremists may have been severely weakened but they have not been defeated. Thursday's blast occurred about 200 yards (meters) from the Imam Hussein shrine in Karbala, the focal point of ceremonies that culminate on Monday and draw hundreds of thousands of worshippers from throughout the

Shiite world.

A police official said the bomber mingled in the crowd before triggering the blast. He said dozens of nails were found at the scene. The official agreed to discuss the attack only if not quoted by name, because he was not supposed to release information to journalists.

An official at the Karbala hospital, also insisting on anonymity for the same reason, said eight people were killed and 52 wounded by the explosion.

Internet

Five children shot in Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 Feb — Australia is investigating an incident involving its troops in southern Afghanistan in which five children are reported to have been killed. An official statement said Australian special forces clearing houses in Uruzgan Province in a hunt for militants, and came under attack.

They fired back at Taliban insurgents, and five children were among the dead. Australia's military has about 1,100 soldiers in Afghanistan, based mainly in Uruzgan Province. The incident took place on Thursday. No Australian soldiers were injured, but a suspected militant was killed. Two other adults and two more children were wounded.—Internet



A resident carries a woman who was wounded in a roadside bomb attack to the hospital in Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, on 12 Feb, 2009. The attack wounded four civilians, police said. INTERNET

Troops throng Afghan capital as US envoy arrives

KABUL, 13 Feb— The new US regional envoy landed in Afghanistan on Thursday to help chart President Barack Obama's strategy for peace in this volatile country, a day after a bold Taliban assault demonstrated the insurgency's ability to wreak havoc even in the tightly guarded capital.

A US Embassy spokesman confirmed Richard Holbrooke's arrival late in the day, but declined to give further details about his location or the schedule for his multi-day visit.

Holbrooke's first visit to

the country comes amid an increasing sense that the security situation is disintegrating in and around Kabul. On Wednesday, Taliban fighters launched one their most audacious attacks on the capital, killing 20 people in a coordinated assault on three government build-ings. Government officials said the mastermind behind the attacks was based in Pakistan, a reminder of the cross-border violence and disputes that have made the battle against the Taliban so difficult.

Internet

Iran building seven more satellites

TEHERAN, 13 Feb— Iran is building seven more satellites, the Telecommunications Minister was quoted as saying on Thursday, less than two weeks after the country sent its first domestically produced satellite into space.

Iran launched a research and telecoms satellite called *Omid* on February 3, a step that worried Western powers who fear the Islamic Republic is seeking to build a nuclear bomb and missile delivery systems.—MNA/Reuters



Hospital staff treat a patient for his wounds after a bombing that killed one pilgrim in Baghdad, Iraq, on 11 Feb, 2009. INTERNET

US soldier dies of non-combat injuries in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 Feb—The US military says an American soldier has died of non-combat injuries in Iraq.

A statement says Spc James M Dorsey, 23, of Beardstown, Ill, was found unresponsive by fellow troops in Baghdad on 8 Feb and attempts to resuscitate him were unsuccessful.

The statement released Wednesday says Dorsey was assigned to 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment.

The death raises to at least 4,244 members of the US military who have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. —Internet

British soldier killed in Iraq

LONDON, 13 Feb—A British soldier died on Thursday in a "shooting incident" in Basra, southern Iraq, announced the British Defence Ministry.

The soldier, from the 1st Battalion, the Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment, died from a gunshot wound at the Contingency Operating Base.

The circumstances of the shooting were still under investigation, the ministry said, but it was understood that nobody else was involved. The victim's family had been informed, it added.

The number of British troops who have died in Iraq since 2003 now stands at 197. There are about 4,000 British soldiers based in Basra Airport.

MNA/Xinhua

Chilean President criticizes anti-Cuban economic embargo

HAVANA, 13 Feb—Visiting Chilean President Michelle Bachelet on Thursday criticized the economic embargo of the United States against Cuba that has continued for nearly 50 years.

“Chile has always been against the embargo and at all the forums we have said so,” Bachelet said at the opening ceremony of the Cuba-Chile Business Seminary.

Bachelet said her country has been against discriminatory practices

in trade and therefore opposes the US embargo on Cuba.

Official Cuban statistics indicate that the embargo has caused losses of more than 93 billion US dollars.

Odalys Seijo, vice president of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce, hailed the sustained growth of economic ties between Havana and Santiago and she affirmed that “the real potentials surpass the current number of changes.”

Also on Thursday, Bachelet along with Cuban Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque visited the memorial of former Chilean president Salvador Allende, who was killed in a 1973 military coup by Augusto Pinochet.

Bachelet made a speech at the university of Havana and attended the opening ceremony of the 18th International Book Fair as well, which this year pays homage to Chile. —Xinhua



The Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Sydney Opera House dominate Sydney's skyline. An Australian navy diver who fought off a shark in a rare attack in Sydney Harbour was in high spirits despite losing a hand and facing the prospect of losing a leg, his family said on Thursday.—INTERNET

Shell considers selling New Zealand businesses

WELLINGTON, 13 Feb—Oil giant Shell was considering selling some of its businesses in New Zealand as it begins a strategic review of its assets in this country.

Shell, which entered in New Zealand nearly a century ago, will move to concentrate on global oil exploration and retailing in high-growth markets.

Rival fuel companies already in New Zealand, other global oil giants or financial institutions could be possible buyers.

Shell's businesses under review include 215 service stations, its shareholding in the Marsden Pt oil refinery, a 36 percent shareholding in construction firm Fulton and Hogan and a 25 percent holding in the operator of Flybuys.—Xinhua



Utility poles block part of an intersection after they were blown over in Oklahoma City, on 10 Feb, 2009. A series of storms, with at least one tornado reported, swept through central Oklahoma on Tuesday afternoon.—INTERNET

S Korea to help Cambodia launch stock market in December

PHNOM PENH, 13 Feb—The Korea Exchange (KRX) and the Cambodian government will sign an official agreement next week to help launch the kingdom's proposed stock exchange market in December, national media said on Friday.

Three state-owned enterprises were likely to be the first to list on the bourse after its expected inauguration, English-language daily newspaper the *Phnom Penh Post* quoted KRX manager Inpyo Lee as saying. Formalizing the arrangement would make legally binding on both parties and move the exchange a step closer to reality, said Lee.—Xinhua

Ukraine bus fire kills seven, injures 16

KIEV, 13 Feb — At least seven people were killed and 16 others injured in a bus fire in the Donetsk region in eastern Ukraine on Thursday, officials said.

“The fire occurred on a public bus at noon in the Slavic region in Donetsk,” Igor Krol, spokesman for the emergencies ministry, said. “A total of 30 passengers were on board. Seven people were killed, 16 injured, and the fate of the other seven passengers remains unclear,” Krol said. He said it took about 20 minutes for rescuers to extinguish the fire.—Xinhua

T-Mobile to invest 180 million euros in Macedonia

TIRANA, 13 Feb — Germany's mobile operator T-Mobile and its landline operator T-Home planned on Thursday to invest 180 million euros (about 231 million US dollars) in Macedonia in the next three years.

Macedonia Telecom's CEO Nikolai Beckers said T-Home's investment plan has already been drawn up, while T-Mobile's plan has entered the final stage of drawing. T-Home's investment strategy includes fiber-to-home project, network upgrading, set-up of auxiliary networks, updates and investment in equipments.

Beckers said landline telephone users are in decline in Macedonia, while the number of Internet and IPTV customers is increasing.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

“Ariane” rocket successfully launches 4 satellites

PARIS, 13 Feb—A European Ariane 5 ECA rocket successfully launched two telecommunications satellites and a pair of military payloads on Thursday evening.

The rocket, carrying the *Hot Bird 10* and *NSS-9* telecommunication satellites, and the *Spirale A* and *Spirale B* spacecraft, lifted off from Europe's Spaceport at Kourou,

French Guiana at 22:09 GMT on Thursday, sending them into orbit.

This is the 187th launch of an Ariane launcher, and the first launch in 2009, following six flights performed by Arianespace in 2008.

Hot Bird 10, built by EADS Astrium, will provide television, radio and interactive services across Europe, North Africa and the Middle East in the next 15 years.

NSS-9, manufactured by the Orbital Sciences Corporation, is designed for a minimum service of 15 years, providing relay services for broadcasters, government users, and carriers across the Pacific region and for the maritime industry. Two small *Spirale* satellites were carried as auxiliary passengers of the heavy-lift vehicle.

Xinhua



Hot air balloons take off during the start of the 14th Philippine International Hot Air Balloon Week at Clark airbase in Pampanga Province, north of Manila, on 12 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



Indian Air Force's Russian-made Sukhoi-30 aircraft lands during the inauguration ceremony of the "Aero India 2009" at Yelahanka air force station on the outskirts of the southern Indian city of Bangalore on 11 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Large number of US weapons given to Afghan Army missing

WASHINGTON, 13 Feb—Some 87,000 pieces of weapons given by the Pentagon to Afghan army and police units are unaccountable, US congressional auditors said in a report on Thursday.

The missing weapons included rifles, pistols, machine guns, grenade launchers, shotguns and mortars, said the report written by the Government Accountability Office, or GAO, the investigations arm of Congress. The weapons are among about 240,000 small arms and other sensitive items, including 2,410 highly prized night vision devices that were given to Afghan security forces being trained by the US military.

The report also said the Pentagon also failed to keep serial numbers or other records on about

135,000 weapons donated by allies and handed over to Afghan security forces.

The US effort to train and equip Afghan security forces so far has cost 16.5 billion US dollars, and will cost another 5.7 billion dollars this year, according to US officials.

The GAO said the security lapses were due to "a lack of clear direction" from the Defence Department "and staffing shortages" at the headquarters of the US Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, which is responsible for training and equipping Afghan security forces.

Internet

Bank inside EU Parliament house robbed

BRUSSELS, 13 Feb—A man barged into a in-house bank in the European Union Parliament complex Thursday afternoon and made off with an undisclosed sum of money despite heavy security.

Witnesses said the man threatened the staff with a gun in a ING business hall in the legislature building, and quickly fled after a terrified assistant handed him the cash. No one was hurt in the robbery.

The sum of the loss was not disclosed.

Police were looking through security video in an effort to identify the unmasked robber Thursday night. As all visitors who try to enter the parliament complex have to undergo strict security procedures, police suspected that the gun the robber showed was a real one.—Internet

An Afghan police man frisks an Afghan man at a checkpoint in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 12 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



Outcome of Gaza truce talks to be announced "soon"

CAIRO, 13 Feb—The result of the Gaza ceasefire talks between Hamas and Israel would be announced in "coming hours," the official MENA news agency reported Thursday, quoting a senior Egyptian source.

The talks between the two sides were "positive," the Egyptian official was quoted as saying, adding that he expected the outcome of the talks to be announced "soon."

Meanwhile, a well-in-

formed Palestinian source also told MENA that "the outcome of the talks would be announced in coming hours."

The source, who took part in Thursday's talks between a Hamas delegation led by its politburo deputy chief Moussa Abu-Marzouk and Egyptian intelligence chief Omar Suleiman, said during the talks, the Hamas delegation presented to Suleiman its latest stance on the ceasefire officially

suggested by Cairo last week. Egypt has proposed an 18-month truce in Gaza and staged opening of the enclave's border crossings, which until now only allow the flow of a trickle of humanitarian aids.

It also suggested that the Palestinian factions revive the long-stalled reconciliation dialogue on 22 Feb, which would facilitate the reconstruction of Gaza, home to some 1.5 million people.

Internet



A staff member of Afghan Justice Ministry holding her kids escapes after suicide bombers attacked the building in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, on 11 Feb, 2009.—XINHUA

US Army drops charges against soldier in killings

FRANKFURT, 13 Feb—The US Army dropped charges of conspiracy to commit premeditated murder against a soldier in the deaths of four bound and blindfolded Iraqis in 2007.

In a brief statement Thursday, the Army said charges against Staff Sgt Jess Cunningham of Bakersfield, California, had been withdrawn and dismissed.

No reason was given and the 7th US Army Joint Multinational Training Command did not elaborate.

A call to Cunningham's lawyer was not immediately returned.

Internet

British travel industry suffers as recession bites

LONDON, 13 Feb—Latest figures released on Thursday show that Britain's travel industry has fallen a victim to the deepening recession with declining overseas visits. The International Passenger Survey, which is the key monitor of international tourism to Britain, indicates that overseas visitors made 32 million visits to Britain last year and spent just over 16.4 billion pounds (23.5 billion US dollars).

This means that before adjusting for inflation, their spending is three percent up on January-December 2007, while the number of visits has fallen by two percent.—Internet

S Korea finds harmful bacteria in French powdered milk product

SEOUL, 13 Feb—South Korean government has found harmful bacteria in a French powdered milk product that can pose health risks to infants, local media reported on Friday. According to South Korea's Yonhap News Agency, South Korea's National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service (NVRQS) discovered traces of the enterobacter sakazaki (E sakazaki) bacteria in a 135 kg package of canned organic infant formula made by Vitagermine SA.

The package imported late last month will likely be destroyed, and the Korea Food and Drug Administration has been notified to check sales of products made by Vitagermine that cleared inspections in the past, Yonhap said.

From December 2007, the French company exported to South Korea a total of eight shipments containing 1,492 kg of canned baby formula. Six of those, totaling 1,222 kg, actually reached the market, according to Yonhap.

Internet

Union Day present to Rakhine State

Kyaw Zan Shwe



Photo shows site chosen for construction of Sai Tin hydropower plant project, which will be able to produce 70 megawatts, in Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State.

Rakhine State is located in the westernmost part of the Union of Myanmar, and is an exit to the sea. In the 18th century, the colonialists invaded Myanmar by force from the sea. The invaders occupied seaside regions such as Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division first. Rakhine State fell under the yoke of colonial rule first, following the First Anglo-Myanmar War in 1824.

According to my grandfather and grandmother, colonialists, after the invasion of Rakhine State, often visited the gathering points of Rakhine youngsters and presented them bottles of alcohol and taught them how to drink it. Later, many youths got addicted to alcohol. Therefore, local people made a demand to close the pubs, and ban them from selling minors alcohol. In the course of its rule over Myanmar including Rakhine State, the colonialists constructed only few roads just needed to levy taxes and transport domestic goods out of the country. They did nothing for development of border areas and the states and divisions. Clicking his tongue, my grandfather told me how covetous the colonialists were in exploiting and taking out natural resources and agricultural produce.

In the post-independence period, multicoloured insurgency reigned supreme the whole Union including Rakhine State. Many of the insurgents were those who turned to the armed struggle line at the instigation of the colonialists. The armed insurgency posed complete disruption to nation-building tasks. Rakhine State withstood a large range of dire straits sparked off by the armed revolts of White Flag and Red Flag communist troops and Mujahid rebellion launched by illegal immigrants. The people were staying in a state of panic due to the armed insurgency that was rife across the Union. In consequence, the nation was well far from development.

After taking up State duties, the Tatmadaw has given priority to the rule of law, community peace, and smooth transport since the late 1988 in its bid to safeguard the Union. In addition, it tried to introduce the market economy in the national interest. The onerous tasks yielded a great blessing to the

national brethren; successful restoration of peace and stability following the cessation of the armed strife. Such fruitful results were a really joyous celebration for the entire people.

Thanks to the peaceful and stable conditions, the whole Union has been making considerable progress. National races in the border areas are enjoying the taste of development and peace, thus amounting to the development gap getting narrow between rural and urban areas. The projects for development of rural areas are very rewarding. The nation's agricultural sector is now on the verge of mechanized farming. Industrial zones have been able to boost production of goods. The education, health and cultural sectors have showed progress.

To my first-hand knowledge, Rakhine State has enjoyed all-round development, putting an end to the conditions in which it lagged behind other regions in development in successive periods. On his tour of Rakhine State, Prime Minister General Thein Sein dropped in Sittway on 24 January 2009, bringing good news to local people.

Rakhine State has an area of over 14,000 square miles and a population of over three million and is constituted with 17 townships of four districts. It is a multiethnic region. It is surrounded by mountain ranges, rivers, creeks, and the sea. So, in the past

Rakhine State was not in a position to deal well with other states and divisions. Despite the long colonization of Rakhine State for 123 years from 1825 to 1948, the colonialists did not pay any attention to regional development.

In the post-independence period, Rakhine State was accessible by sea from Yangon. Due to geographical barriers, it did not get smooth transport. The colonialists stirred up a variety of problems that could lead to secession of the region from the Union by sowing hatred among national brethren and providing fertile soil for illegal immigrants from the neighbouring country. Only with national unity and Union Spirit, could the whole Union regain independence. And due to the sense of Union Spirit and national cohesion, the people have managed to restore independence throughout the history of the nation. In spite of internal and external subversive elements resorting to various means to hinder nation-building tasks, the Union is enjoying peace and rapid development.

As said by the Prime Minister at Sittway Station in Rakhine State on 24 January, Rakhine State is a part of the Union of Myanmar, and is like a mini-union where various national races such as Rakhine, Bamar, Pyu, Kanyan and Thet have been living in harmony for thousands of years. So, the entire local people have to keep a sense of Union Spirit firmly. All the national races of the Union are, in fact, the same, national brethren.

Since the Tamtamdaw's assumption of State's duties, Rakhine State has no longer been an isolated region. With better transport, the region has been able to deal a lot with other parts of the Union. Close relations can fortify mutual amity and understanding and unity between national races.

Now, the roads and bridges the government has constructed for convenience of Rakhine dwellers have become part of the transport network of the Union. It has got many fine roads and bridges that local people had never dreamt about previously.

Yangon-Sittway Highway Project was launched in 1996 and completed in February 2000. Construction of a fine road to Rakhine State is far more difficult than that to any other region. Such a road has to pass through swamp lands, rivers, creeks and mountain ranges. In order to complete Yangon-Sittway Highway Project, 27 above-180-foot and 1067 under-180-foot bridges had to be constructed, spending thousands of millions of kyats.

(See page 7)

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Union Day present to Rakhine State

Kyaw Zan Shwe

(from page 6)

Moreover, Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road had to be built, overcoming a large number of natural barriers in order to link the southern part with the northern part of Rakhine State as well as with Ayeywady and Yangon divisions. Yangon-Kyaukpyu Road has 16 above-180-foot and 879 under-180-foot bridges along it.

The good news Rakhine State residents got from the Prime Minister was that the government had a plan to construct a railroad in the region. I never got any idea that our state would get a railroad. We were informed that the railroad would pass through Sittway, Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw, MraukU, Minbya and An, and then it would link with the railroad on the west bank of the Ayeywady River through An; that the process of importing railtrack for 1000 miles of railroads was in the process; and that the project would come into force as soon as possible.

The people of Rakhine State are very pleased with the news that the ministers who accompanied the Prime Minister on the tour will implement programmes on natural disaster preparedness, information, communication, fishing, and supply of adequate electric power.

Now, our state has seen a lot of basic foundations for its development. And according to the news brought by the Prime Minister, our state has a prosperous future ahead of it. I consider those programmes to be a blessing to Rakhine State to commemorate the 62nd Anniversary Union Day. In other words, I assume it to be a Union Day gift to the entire national brethren of the Union. Now, all the parts of the Union have the future of prosperity with peace and stability, which represents the taste of the Union, independence, and national unity.

Translation: MS

The people of Rakhine State are very pleased with the news that the ministers who accompanied the Prime Minister on the tour will implement programmes on natural disaster preparedness, information, communication, fishing, and supply of adequate electric power.



Wanphaik creek bridge on Taungup-Maei-Kyaukpyu road in Rakhine State helps facilitates transport in the region.

POEM:

Our Union of Myanmar

- * A drop of water
Cannot become river
- * A piece of dust
Cannot create mountain and forest
- * A single race
Cannot form a Union
- * Many drops of water
Can become rivers
- * Many pieces of dust
Can create mountains
- * Unity of national brethren
Such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin
Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan,
Ensures safety
May our Union, our home
Last for thousands of years more

Ko Cho San (Trs)

9th AGM of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation on 21 Feb

YANGON, 13 Feb — The 9th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation will be held at Myanmar Fishery Federation in West Gyogon, Insein Township on 21 and 22 February.

While the AGM is in progress, pets show and competitions will be held in addition to displaying of feedstuff and husbandary medicines at booths and stalls.—MNA

Commander, ministers inspect construction of retaining wall, services of IWT

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Feb — Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspected construction of 120-foot long gravel filled retaining wall being built by Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems for prevention of landslide at Apaukwa Model Village in Kyauktaw Township of



Rakhine State on 8 February. At the office of Inland Water Transport

(Rakhine Branch), Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe heard

reports presented by officials and gave necessary instructions. Next, the

commander and the minister delivered addresses in meeting with service personnel of

Inland Water Transport (Rakhine Branch) and greeted them.

MNA

Investment and human resources play important role...

(from page 16)

Although Kayah State is not far from Toungoo, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Bago and Mandalay Divisions situated in central region of the country, those in Kayah State were facing poor transportation in the past due to mountain barriers.

Under the divide-and-rule policy of colonialists for many years, lack of friendship among national races caused armed conflicts due to racism and regionalism.

the Tatmadaw government.

Tatmadaw government is making endeavours for development of Kayah State fulfilling requirements of transportation, education, health and economic sectors in order not to lag behind other regions while Kayah State is enjoying stability and security.

With regard to the transportation sector, Aungban-Loikaw railroad was constructed in 1993 in addition to existing aviation route and motor roads. As such, the local people in

there are one microwave station and five stations equipped with Internet and e-mail facilities. Moreover, a total of 15 telephone stations, one auto-exchange, seven magneto exchanges and seven rural telephone stations were set up in the state and one satellite communication station was installed with 2,173 telephones. Therefore, better telecommunication facilities can be witnessed in the region.

In the education sector, the number of basic education schools has increased to 388, up from 333. For enabling the local

care services to the local national races, the 150-bed hospital was upgraded to the 200-bed facility in Loikaw with the appointment of specialists. Furthermore, three 16-bed hospitals were also upgraded to the 25-bed facilities assigned with 174 more doctors and nurses. At present, the health care services in Kayah State is keeping abreast of other States and Divisions.

Indeed, it is necessary to have food sufficiency. In the past, Kayah State had over 80,000 acres of arable lands. At present, the state has extended farmlands up to 378,136 acres. Due to growing 61,051 acres of paddy only, the region did not enjoy rice sufficiency in the past. In 2008-2009 financial year, over 9,000 acres of land was put under summer paddy in addition to 101,481 acres of monsoon paddy, and as a result there was an output of over 70

where paddy cannot be grown. As maize yields about 59 baskets per acre, it is necessary to use quality maize strain for meeting the target.

The calculation of economic development is based on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Per Capita Income. For 2008-2009 financial year, Kayah State sets the plan to fetch K 68.2 billion with 7.6 per cent of development rate. From April to December 2008, the state has fetched K 52.2 billion or 76.5 per cent implementation of the plan with 6.8 per cent development rate. Moreover, concerted efforts are to be made for exceeding the target in 2008-2009 as the third year of fourth five-year short term plan.

The per capita income K 270,417 of Kayah State in 2007-2008 fiscal year is fewer than that of other States and Divisions. At the end of third quarter in 2008, PCI of the whole

porting the surplus.

Investment and human resources play an important role in building the industrialized nation. As universities have been opened in the region, outstanding intellectuals and intelligentsia are to be turned out. Faculty members are to train the students to become the outstanding persons equipped with good morality, patriotic spirit and Union Spirit.

Only when peace and tranquillity can prevail, will the region develop. If the region faces unrests and instability, development tasks cannot be undertaken. Taking lessons from over 40-year internal problems instigated by colonialists, all the people are to strive for warding off the terrorists from Kayah State and for restoring peace and stability with full security.

A total of 92.48% of the voters approved the



Prime Minister General Thein Sein delivers an address in meeting with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people at Town Hall in Loikaw. —MNA

Maize is one of the agricultural produce in Kayah State and it can be exported. Therefore, acreage of maize should be extended on the hilly region where paddy cannot be grown. As maize yields about 59 baskets per acre, it is necessary to use quality maize strain for meeting the target.



After gaining independence, armed conflicts among national races continued for 40 or 50 years. In the time of the Tatmadaw Government, many armed groups, except some small ones that are yet to realize the goodwill of the government, had returned to the legal fold one after another taking lessons from over 40- or 50-year internal insurgencies to serve the interest of the State and their regions hand in hand with

Kayah State have easy access to Shan State, Bago and Mandalay Divisions. Along motor roads and the railroad, small and large bridges were built, and the upgrading and maintenance tasks are being undertaken along the Toungoo-Leiktho-Yado-Loikaw Road, the Loikaw-Punchaung-Shadaw Road, the Bawlake-Ywathit-Suppaing Road and the Pasawng-Meisei Road.

In Kayah State,

youths to pursue the higher education in the region, one arts and science university, one University of Computer Studies and one Technological University were opened in Loikaw after designating it as a development region. In the future, Kayah State can turn out intellectuals and intelligentsia as human resources who will participate in the regional development tasks.

With a view to effectively providing health

million baskets of paddy in total in the state. As such, Kayah State enjoys 113.71 per cent rice sufficiency and 128.12 per cent edible oil sufficiency. Although the state has surplus rice and edible oil, it is necessary to pay attention to increasing population yearly.

Maize is one of the agricultural produce in Kayah State and it can be exported. Therefore, acreage of maize should be extended on the hilly region

nation was K 405,000. The State has planned to meet the target of K 600,000 PCI in the entire nation. Therefore, all the national races in the state are to try hard in their works to produce more commodities and products.

To build a modern and developed nation, all the people are to establish the agro-based industrialized country. Moreover, efforts are to be made for boosting the yield of agricultural produce and ex-

Constitution for the future State. In accord with the constitution, the elections will be held in 2010. The destructive elements will be attempting to undermine the election. In conclusion, the Prime Minister urged all the people to join hands with the government for successful holding of the 2010 election as a national duty.

Later, the Prime Minister cordially greeted those present.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein looks into progress of Biluchaung Hydropower Projects.—MNA

Prime Minister General ...
(from page 1)

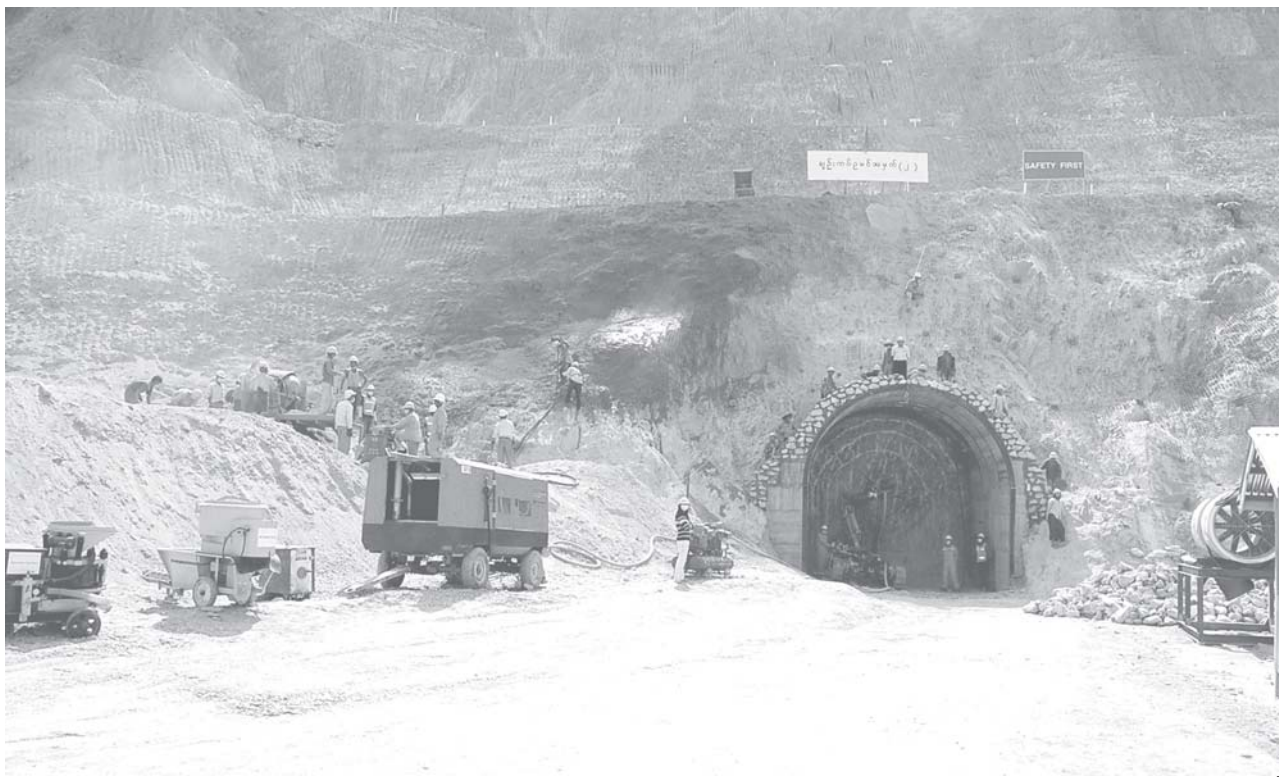
The Prime Minister viewed generating of turbines at the control room.

The Prime Minister and party went back to Loikaw by helicopter. They proceeded to 3rd Mile Pakye Village of Nwalawoe Village-tract in Loikaw Township.

At the house of U Shar Yei, the Prime Minister looked into generating of electricity through biogas, cooking of meals and lighting of fifteen 2-foot fluorescent lamps.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister instructed officials to organize local people to use biogas at all the houses as the local people can use the bio-energy through the waste of animals in cooking meals and using bio-solution as natural fertilizers for uplift of living standard by earning more income, and he added that officials are to provide necessary technology to the local people.—MNA

Construction of approach tunnel No.2 of Biluchaung No. 3 Hydropower Project in progress.—MNA



Lt-Gen Tha Aye visits No. 1 Sittoung Paper Mill

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Feb—Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win met with servicemen of Theinzayet station in Theinzayet village in Kyaikto Township on 8 February.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye presented sports gear and clothing to the servicemen and their families and he visited crop and vegetable plantations grown in the station. He proceeded to eucalyptus nursery plantation in the village. The Forest Department has grown Eucalyptus as the industrial raw material.

He also inspected cultivation of eucalyptus, which is the raw materials for No. 1 Sittoung Paper Mill of the Ministry of Industry-1 and visited the



Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence inspects eucalyptus plantation at Theinzayet village, Kyaikto Township.—MNA

Briquette factory in the mill.

In the paper mill, Lt-Gen Tha Aye held dis-

cussion with the departmental officials of the state.

MNA

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

Concerts to mark Union Day in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Feb—Open-air concerts to mark the 62nd Anniversary Union Day took place at the City Hall here this evening.

Among the audience were the director-general of the Fine Arts Department under the Ministry

of Culture, officials, delegates of states and divisions and service personnel.

The Fine Arts Department and cultural troupes from states and divisions presented dances and songs.

Vocalists entertained

the audience to the accompaniment of the Myanmar Radio modern band, and the Anyeint troupe of the Fine Arts Department, to the accompaniment of Ywasar U San Yin traditional orchestra.

The concerts continue tomorrow.—MNA

DEVELOPMENT OF SHAN STATE IN THE TIME OF TATMADAW GOVERNMENT



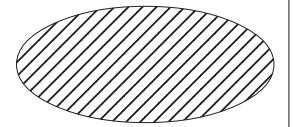
Alternative development reflects prevailing peace and stability in Shan State (East) in the time of Tatmadaw Government.



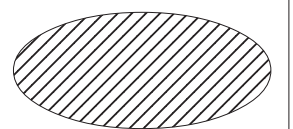
Photo shows prosperous Mongla in the time of Tatmadaw Government.

Sr.	Subject	Unit	1988	2008	Progress
1.	Arable land	acre	1036602	3738259	2701657
2.	Dam	number	383	504	121
3.	River water pumping station	station	-	6	6
4.	Forest reserve	sq-mile	2192.96	9804.82	7611.86
5.	Protected public forest	sq-mile	-	513.70	513.70
6.	Railroad	mile	180.38	507.67	327.29
7.	Road	mile	3596.7	7503.3	3906.6
8.	Over 180 feet long bridge	bridge	28	44	16
9.	Post office	number	88	160	72
10.	Telegraph office	office	31	88	57
11.	Telephone office	office	27	106	79
12.	Microwave station	station	-	44	44
13.	Hydropower plant	plant	1	1945	1944
14.	Private-owned factory	factory	631	3746	3115
15.	Basic education school	number	3652	4883	1231
16.	University/college	number	2	5	3
17.	Technological university	number	-	4	4
18.	University of computer studies	number	-	4	4
19.	Hospital	number	86	138	52

Honouring the 62nd Anniversary Union Day



Main building at Panglong University built in Panglong of Loilem District in Shan State (South).



Russia says NATO has failed to stop Afghan heroin trade

MOSCOW, 13 Feb — Russia on Thursday blamed NATO's failure to stamp out heroin production in Afghanistan for a rise in domestic drugs use. US-led forces entered Afghanistan to chase out Taliban Islamists after the al-Qaeda attacks on the United States in 2001, but NATO members only agreed last year they could carry out direct strikes on drug traffickers.

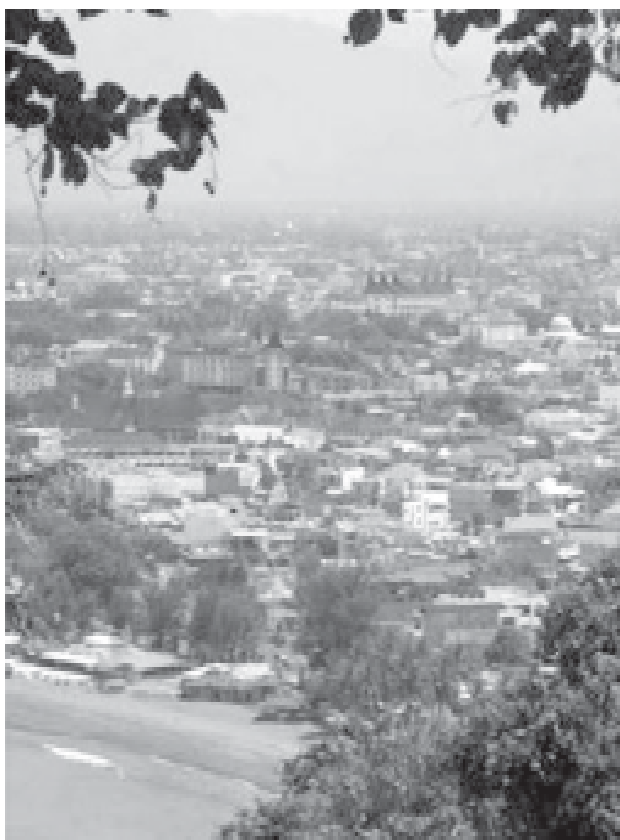
This was too late to prevent drug addiction becoming a serious problem in Russia, Viktor Ivanov, head of Russia's Federal Drug Control Agency, told a news briefing. Afghanistan supplies 90 per cent of the world's heroin. "The growth of narcotics from abroad has continued since the appearance of troops (in Afghanistan) in 2001," Ivanov said. "This organization (NATO) had a remit to combat terrorism and not to combat drugs." — MNA/Reuters

Kidney divorce case gets more complicated

GARDEN CITY, 13 Feb — A New York surgeon suing his estranged wife for the kidney he donated to her admits it was he who turned his divorce case into a media circus, his lawyer said.

The case got even more complex on Wednesday when Richard Batista's lawyer held a news conference to talk about Batista's former fiancée, Newsday reported. Pamela Rathburn-Ray held her own news conference Tuesday to claim that he physically abused her during their engagement 20 years ago.

"It turned out to be a Jerry Springer show," Batista said. Batista, a vascular surgeon at Nassau University Medical Center, denies hitting Pamela Rathburn-Ray. His wife, Dawnell Batista, has requested that Rathburn-Ray testify at their divorce trial. —Internet



An aerial view of Padang city taken from Siti Nurbaya hill in Indonesia's West Sumatra Province on 11 Feb, 2009. —INTERNET

Two politicians killed in N Iraq

MOSUL, 13 Feb—Two Iraqi politicians were shot dead and a third was injured by gunmen in the volatile city of Mosul, a local police source said on Thursday.

"Unknown armed men gunned down Abdul Kareem al-Sharabi, a key figure in the National Dialogue Front, a main Sunni secular political party," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. The attack took place before on Thursday noon near the victim's house in the 17th of July neighbourhood in western Mosul, the source said. —Internet

Plane crashes in US New York State, 49 dead

NEW YORK, 13 Feb— An airliner with 48 people on board crashed into a home in the US State of New York on Thursday evening, with 49 people reported to be killed.

The crash occurred at around 10:20 p.m. Thursday in suburban Buffalo in northern New York State, nearly a seven-hour drive from New York City, as a 50-seat Continental Airlines commuter flight crashed into a house in Clarence Centre, local media reported.

CNN quoted Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as saying that the plane had 48 people on board, and their fate remained unknown. However, The Buffalo News reported on its website that 49 people, including 44 passengers, four crew members and a person on the ground, were killed in the crash.

The Buffalo News quoted "unconfirmed reports from a source at Buffalo Niagara International Airport". There were "multiple fatalities", a local official said in a news briefing broadcast by the local television. The official refused to confirm the report of 49 deaths. — MNA/Xinhua



A Bombardier Dash-8 Q400 is shown on its acceptance flight at Pearson International Airport, Toronto, Ontario. A commuter aircraft similar to the one shown crashed into a home and exploded in Clarence, NY, on Thursday night 12 Feb, 2009. —INTERNET



A fashion car is made with more than 200 kg white Chocolate in two days by two chocolate craftsmen, in East China's Shanghai. The chocolate car was created to celebrate the upcoming Valentine's Day.

Australian man caught with pigeons in trousers

An Australian man was caught with two live pigeons stuffed in his trousers as he got off a flight from the Middle East, authorities said on Tuesday.

Customs officers body-searched the 23-year-old after he was allegedly found with two bird eggs in a vitamin container in his pocket during baggage checks at Melbourne Airport on Sunday.

"The man was taken to a private interview room and Customs and border protection officers found he was wearing tights with a live pigeon concealed in each leg," Customs said.

The man, who had come off a ten-hour flight from Dubai, was also allegedly carrying plant seeds in a money belt and eggplant samples in his bag.

"Wildlife smuggling is not only cruel to the animals involved, it poses a severe risk to the Australian

environment and the health of the Australian community," said Customs wildlife spokesman Richard Janeczko.

The offences carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in jail and a 110,000 dollar fine (70,000 US dollars).

Boy born with 24 fingers and toes

A baby boy has been born in California with 24 fingers and toes.

Medical staff at St Luke's Hospital in San Francisco said that the digits on Kamani Hubbard were so perfectly formed that they do not constitute a deformity or disability.

According to The Daily Telegraph, the baby looked so normal that maternity staff did not even notice the discrepancy.

The boy's father Kris Hubbard eventually spotted the sixth digit on each hand and foot.

Although Polydactylism is not particularly rare, it is extremely uncommon for an extra digit on each hand and foot.

"I was in amazement. It took a little time for me to take it all in," Kris said. "My son has six fingers, then I saw toes and I thought 'This is quite unique'."

He and his wife are yet to make a decision on whether to remove the extra digits.

NEWS ALBUM



SELECTION: SURVIVAL AND REPRODUCTION

Environment cannot support unlimited populations. Because resources are limited, some organisms are better suited to survive than others. Those with more successful at finding food, avoiding predators and will have a better chance to survive, reproduce and pass on their DNA to their offspring. Differences in color, fat, camouflage and some individuals in camouflaging themselves from predators, sharper eyes and claws help an eagle catch its dinner. And higher education improves a male peacock's chances of attracting a mate.

Examples of animal and insect colourings and camouflage are displayed at the "Darwin" exhibition at the Natural History Museum in London in 2008. Charles Darwin, born 200 years ago on Thursday, upended our conception of humanity's place in Nature but also unleashed a pernicious justification of social and racial inequality.



Men carrying their wives rush to the final during a competition to celebrate the valentine's day, which falls, at a shopping mall in Hong Kong, south China.

YANGON GOLF CLUB

100th ANNIVERSARY INVITATION

Yangon Golf Club proudly announces to celebrate centennial anniversary week from 17th February 2009 to 22nd February 2009 as per following programmes.

Tournaments include:

1. All Y.G.C Members for (a) Gold, (b) Silver (c) Bronze (d) Veterans (e) Life Members and (f) Ladies events on February 17,18 & 21.

2. Y.G.C open on 19 & 20 February 2009

(a) Amateurs (H'cap 0-12)

(b) Professionals

There will be prize giving programme and centennial anniversary ceremonial dinner on 22nd February 2009, 17:00 Hours at Yangon Golf Club.

All Y.G.C members and families are cordially invited to the 100th anniversary ceremonial dinner. Prize winners only (regarding NON-MEMBERS) will be allowed to attend the prize distribution & ceremonial dinner.

Enquiry Phone No: 635563/635617/703785

Centennial Anniversary Organizing Committee

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (148)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (148) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.2.2009 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 INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**Octuplets doc treats mom
with quadruplets**

LOS ANGELES, 13 Feb — A California doctor who helped a woman conceive octuplets gave fertility treatment to a 49-year-old woman who is pregnant with quadruplets, medical sources say. The Los Angeles Times reported on Thursday that Dr. Michael Kamrava transferred at least seven embryos made from younger donor eggs to the woman, who is about five months pregnant. Experts say transferring that many embryos raises the odds of a multiple birth and threatens the health of the mother and babies.

The California Medical Board is already investigating the octuplets case, the newspaper reported. "I do think it is concerning, and dangerous, especially to the mother," said a doctor with knowledge of the case. "She is close to 50. When women get to be that age, our fear is the cardiovascular complications, such as stroke or heart attack. That's how serious this is."—*Internet*

**Police find body in car
trunk after chase**

DENVER, 13 Feb—Denver police responding to a report of gunfire found a body in the trunk of a car that sped away as they arrived and then crashed early Thursday after a chase.

Three people were arrested, KWGN-TV reported. Two were still in the car when it hit a guardrail, while the third got out during the chase and tried to escape on foot. Phillip Montano, 21, and Derrick Blake, 32, have been charged with first-degree murder. Angela Sanders, 33, the driver of the Toyota Camry, faces charges as an accessory and eluding police.

Officers responding to the call encountered a "visibly shaken" man who pointed out the house where the gunfire had been heard, said Steve Davis, a police department spokesman. He said the Camry left the scene as the officers approached the house. The dead man, described as young and appearing Hispanic, had not been identified on Thursday night.—*Internet*



Big discounts are offered at a retail outlet as a customer walks out with his purchase in New Delhi, India, on 11 Feb, 2009.

INTERNET

A fan of Australia cheers before the start of the 2010 FIFA World Cup qualification soccer match against Japan in Yokohama, south of Tokyo on 11 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



Silver nanoparticle ink is developed

CHAMPAIGN, 13 Feb — US scientists say they've developed a silver nanoparticle ink that can create flexible, stretchable and spanning micro-electrodes.

University of Illinois Professor Jennifer Lewis and colleagues said such printed microelectrodes can withstand repeated bending and stretching with minimal change in their electrical properties.

"Unlike inkjet or screen printing, our approach enables the

microelectrodes to be printed out-of-plane, allowing them to directly cross pre-existing patterned features through the formation of spanning arches," Lewis said. "Typically, insulating layers or bypass electrode arrays are required in conventional layouts."

When printed, the silver nanoparticles are not yet bonded together, the scientists said. The bonding process occurs when the printed structure is heated to 150 degrees Cel-

sus or higher. During thermal annealing, the nanoparticles fuse into an interconnected structure and, since only modest processing temperatures are required, the printed features are compatible with flexible, organic substrates.

The research that included Bok Yeop Ahn, Eric Duoss and Professors Ralph Nuzzo and John Rogers, appears in the online journal Science Express.

Internet

Giant Mona Lisa goes on display



Pei-Ming has described his work as a 'homage' to Mona Lisa.—INTERNET

PARIS, 13 Feb — A giant, grey version of the Mona Lisa with streaks of paint running down her face has gone on display at the Louvre museum, in Paris. The work, by artist Yan Pei-Ming,

forms the centrepiece of an exhibition entitled The Funeral of Mona Lisa.

It is being displayed in a room next to Leonardo da Vinci's original, as part of the Louvre's efforts to bring modern art face-to-face with old masterpieces. Da Vinci's famous 16th century portrait is the museum's star attraction. Pei-Ming's work consists of five paintings, with the huge grey Mona Lisa in the centre.

It also features a portrait of Pei-Ming's dead father and a self-portrait of Pei-Ming in a deathlike pose.

Internet

A sleeping brain is still hard at work

PHILADELPHIA, 13 Feb — US-led research is providing strong support for the idea that one of the key functions of sleep is the consolidation of memories. University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine researchers say although sleep is thought to facilitate memory and learning, the molecular links between sleep and synaptic plasticity aren't well understood. Ocular dominance plasticity — in which one eye can become dominant if the other eye is blocked — is a classic model of experience-dependent cortical plasticity that allows scientists to follow specific changes in the visual cortex in response to the occlusion of one eye.

"We have shown that ODP is consolidated by sleep," said senior study author Assistant Professor Marcos Frank.

Internet



Police inspect a home where bones were found in the yard after a fire at Kinglake, north east of Melbourne, Australia on 11 Feb, 2009. Residents of towns scorched off the map by Australia's worst-ever wildfires returned to their homes for the first time and found scenes of utter devastation.—INTERNET

US researchers discover metabolite linked to aggressive prostate cancer

WASHINGTON, 13 Feb— Researchers from the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Centre have identified a panel of small molecules, or metabolites, that appear to indicate aggressive prostate cancer. Results of the study will appear in journal Nature on Thursday.

The finding could lead to a simple test that would help doctors determine which prostate cancers are slow-growing and which require immediate, aggressive treatment.

“One of the biggest challenges we face in prostate cancer is determining if the cancer is aggressive. We end up over treating our patients because physicians don’t know which tumors will be slow-growing. With this research, we have identified a potential marker for the aggressive tumors,” says senior study author Arul Chinnaiyan, director of the Michigan Center for Translational Pathology.

The researchers looked at 1,126 metabolites across 262 samples of tissue, blood or urine associated with benign prostate tissue, early stage prostate cancer and advanced, or metastatic, prostate cancer. They mapped the alterations in metabolites and identified about 10 that were present more often in prostate cancer than in the benign cells and were present most often in the advanced cancer samples.

Internet

Gene explosion set humans, great apes apart

WASHINGTON, 13 Feb— An eruption of a poorly understood kind of genetic change set humans apart from great apes, and also sets chimps, gorillas and orangutans apart from monkeys, researchers reported on Wednesday.

Right before the great apes branched off from other apes and monkeys 10 million years ago, their DNA began to make explosive changes — not classic mutations, but another change known as copy number variation, University of Washington geneticist Evan Eichler and colleagues found.

These changes in DNA sequences may help explain what makes humans —and other apes— unique, they report in the journal Nature. “These are really like volcanoes in the genome, blowing out pieces of DNA,” Eichler said in a statement.

Internet



Oracle Racing of the US (right) races against Alinghi Challenge of Switzerland during in the first of three races in the Challengers Final of the Louis Vuitton Pacific Cup Series in Auckland, on 11 February. The winner of the three races will sail against Team New Zealand in the Cup Final.

INTERNET

Surgery makes artificial arms easier to control

CHICAGO, 13 Feb — A new type of surgery may give amputees better control over their artificial arms, allowing them to point a finger, grasp a baseball bat or even give someone a pinch, US researchers said on Tuesday.

The findings represent the latest advances in a surgical technique to use nerves severed by amputation to control artificial limbs. The technique involves reconnecting amputated nerve fibers to muscles in the chest and using electrical impulses from those nerves to operate a special motorized artificial arm.

“Now, instead of saying I want to close my hand, a patient can say, ‘I want to be in a finger-pointing mode and close my hand, or I want to have a fine pinch grasp, or a power grasp like you hold a baseball bat,’” said Dr Todd Kuiken of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, who reported his findings in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Currently, most prosthetic arms are powered by body motion. Motion in the upper shoulder is transferred through a cable to operate the hand, wrist or elbow. But this method only allows people to use one joint at a time and takes a lot of training.

Deopartment head Om Prakash said that the drink is undergoing final laboratory tests and should be on the market by the end of the year.

Internet

Jesse Sullivan, 61, from Dayton, TN, demonstrates advanced, multi-degree control of the JHUAPL Proto 1 arm at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. Sullivan, who lost his arms in an electrical accident in 2001, was the first person to receive the targeted muscle reinnervation (TMR) procedure in 2001.—INTERNET



India creates fizzy drink from cow urine

BEIJING, 13 Feb— An Indian nationalist movement has created a fizzy drink made from cow urine.

The Rashtriya Swamsevak Sangh’s Cow Protection Department has announced that development has almost finished on the beverage, which is called “gau jal”, meaning “cow water”.

“Don’t worry, it won’t smell like urine and will be tasty too,” he told The Times.

“Its (ultimate selling point) will be that it’s going to be very healthy. It won’t be like carbonated drinks and would be devoid of any toxins.”

Internet

Doctors find telltale cells in leukemia patients

BOSTON, 13 Feb — Tell-tale cells may be able to warn people they are at risk of the most common type of leukemia, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, U.S. researchers reported on Wednesday.

They looked at frozen blood samples from 45 people later diagnosed with CLL and found cells called antibody-producing B cells circulating. People who have a certain type of these cells are diagnosed with a condition called monoclonal B-cell lymphocytosis. CLL, which affects about 15,000 Americans each year and kills 4,500, is usually preceded by this condition, said Dr Ola Landgren of the National Cancer Institute in Maryland.—Internet

Nokia to cut production as phone market dives

HELSINKI, 13 Feb — Cellphone maker Nokia said on Wednesday it would cut production at its key Salo plant in Finland as demand for handsets has dropped.

Cellphone sales are set to dive this year, affected by consumers’ reluctance to spend on new gadgets in the midst of the economic recession and large inventories built up by phone sellers at the end of last year. Nokia, which plans to slash annual costs at its key handset unit by more than 700 million euros (\$905 million), said it would continue to seek savings in operational expenses, looking at all areas and activities. At the Salo plant, a cornerstone of the company’s rise to become the world’s top mobile phone maker in 1998, it will temporarily lay off the whole staff of 2,500 on a rotational basis, with between 20 percent and 30 percent of staff idle at a time.—Internet

SPORTS

Hiddink refuses to concede Chelsea trophy hopes



New Chelsea manager Guus Hiddink.

LONDON, 13 Feb — New Chelsea boss Guus Hiddink has refused to raise the white flag on the Londoners' Premier League and Champions League ambitions despite the crisis which has engulfed the club.

The experienced Dutchman, drafted in as a replacement for the sacked Luiz Felipe Scolari by owner Roman Abramovich until the end of season, insists that there are plenty of grounds for optimism.

His conviction's first

test will come on Saturday when Chelsea tackle second-tier Watford for a place in the FA Cup quarter-finals.

"They are in several races - the FA Cup, the Champions League and also the league," Hiddink told Chelsea TV.

"There is a 10-point difference (to league leaders Manchester United) but if you look in the past of this league and other leagues as well, some things can happen during the final stages of the championship.

Hiddink only agreed to take on the job because of his close friendship with Abramovich with the deal also allowing him to remain as Russia coach with whom he is plotting a path to the 2010 World Cup.

Internet

Li heartened by progress despite Paris Open exit

PARIS, 13 Feb — Chinese number one Li Na said she was hoping to put her injury woes behind her after losing 6-0, 3-6, 6-2 to second seed Jelena Jankovic in the second round of the WTA Paris Open on Thursday. Jankovic took the first set in the face of little opposition from her opponent, but Li hit back to win the second set and force a decider.

"At the start of the match, her play seemed so fast. I felt like I had no chance," Li said. "She was hitting the ball so much harder. After the first set I called the coach to the court and I thought, 'okay, I have to focus now'."

The defeat dented Li's 4-0 head-to-head record against Jankovic in hardcourt matches, but the world number 28 was pleased to be competing again after a spate of knee problems that forced her to undergo two operations in 2008.

Internet



China's Na Li returns the ball to her Serbian opponent Jelena Jankovic during their WTA French Open tennis match.—INTERNET

Nadal survives teenage test in Rotterdam

ROTTERDAM, 13 Feb — Rafael Nadal defeated world number 490 Grigor Dimitrov 7-5, 3-6, 6-2 on Thursday to reach the Rotterdam Open quarter-finals, but the Bulgarian teenager demonstrated his exciting potential as a future star.

World number one Nadal had plenty of problems with the 17-year-old junior Wimbledon and US Open winner who broke the newly-crowned Australian Open champion in the eighth game of the second set on his way to levelling the match. But Nadal, who has struggled all week on the ultra-fast court here, quickly recovered his poise to reach the last eight al-



Spanish Rafael Nadal returns a backhand to Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov during the ATP Tennis Tournament in Ahoy Rotterdam.—INTERNET

though Dimitrov twice had chances in the final set to grab a break before running out of steam.

Internet

Serena and Mauresmo cruise, Jankovic toils in Paris

PARIS, 13 Feb — Serena Williams swept into the Paris Open last night with a comfortable 6-1, 6-2 win over Croatia's Karolina Sprem on Thursday, while second seed Jelena Jankovic battled to victory over China's Li Na.

Home favourite Amelie Mauresmo overcame Romania's Monica Niculescu 6-1, 6-2 and third seed Elena Dementi-eva saw off Russian counterpart Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova.

World number one Williams took just under an hour to dispatch Sprem and will meet French qualifier Emilie Loit on Friday for a place in the



US Serena Williams returns a forehand to her Czech opponent Croatian Karolina Sprem during their 17th WTA French Open tennis match on 12 Feb, 2009 in Paris. INTERNET

semi-finals.

"I definitely think I was in control of the match today," Williams said. "(My return) could be better. It's better than it was, but I can work on it as well."—Internet

Beckham would honour Galaxy deal says coach Arena

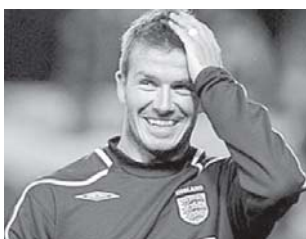
LONDON, 13 Feb — David Beckham would see out his Los Angeles Galaxy contract as opposed to trying to leave should a permanent deal with AC Milan not materialise, Galaxy team boss Bruce Arena said on Thursday.

"David Beckham understands what a contract means, he will honour his contract, whether it's with LA Galaxy or AC Milan," Arena

insisted. The former England captain is gearing up for the big Italian derby against rivals Inter Milan this weekend yet no new deal has yet been signed with AC Milan.

Internet

David Beckham.



James backs Portsmouth's bid for Eriksson

PORTSMOUTH, 13 Feb — Portsmouth goalkeeper David James believes Sven Goran Eriksson is the man to rescue his team from the Premier League relegation battle. James returned to Fratton Park on Thursday after playing in England's friendly defeat in Spain to find his club rudderless following Tony Adams' sacking at the start of this week.

Paul Hart will take charge for Saturday's league clash against Manchester City, but Portsmouth are reported to be keen to lure former England coach Eriksson away from his current job with Mexico. Alan Curbishley, the former Charlton and West Ham boss, and Avram Grant,



Portsmouth goalkeeper David James believes Sven Goran Eriksson, is the man to rescue his team from the Premier League relegation battle.—INTERNET

who spent most of last season in charge at Chelsea, have also been linked with the Portsmouth post.—Internet

Kinnear to have triple heart bypass op

NEWCASTLE, 13 Feb — Newcastle manager Joe Kinnear will undergo a triple heart bypass operation on Friday, the Premier League club confirmed on Thursday. Kinnear's assistants Chris Hughton and Colin Calderwood will continue to look after first-team affairs at St James' Park.

They have been in charge since Kinnear was taken to hospital complaining of pains in his arms ahead of his side's win at West Bromwich Albion last Saturday. After a series of tests it was decided that the 62-year-old needs the operation immediately.

In 1999, Kinnear suf-



Newcastle's English manager Joe Kinnear.

fered a heart attack before a match against Sheffield Wednesday during his time as Wimbledon manager. A club statement said: "Newcastle United can confirm that manager Joe Kinnear will undergo a triple heart bypass operation on Friday.

Internet

Michael Bradley of the US kicks the ball past Pavel Pardo of Mexico to score his second goal during their FIFA World Cup qualifying match at Columbus Crew Stadium in Columbus, Ohio.



Over 300 buildings damaged by strong earthquake in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 13 Feb— Over 300 buildings were seriously damaged and over 3,000 people escaped from their homes after a 7.4 magnitude quake rocked North Sulawesi Province on Thursday morning, according to the Health Ministry. The quake damaged houses, religious centres, school buildings and hospitals, but no report of casualties, head of a crisis centre of the Ministry Rustom Pakaya said. "A total of 278 houses were seriously damaged and 197 others suffered from minor damages, four school buildings were also damaged," he told *Xinhua*. *MNA/Xinhua*

Three Thai police killed in bomb attack in S Thailand

BANGKOK, 13 Feb— Three Thai policemen in Thailand's southernmost province of Pattani were killed on Thursday in a bomb attack while they were returning to their base after escorting teachers to school. The bomb, which was planted on a public road in Nongjik District, was detonated by a mobile phone shortly after 8 am (0100 GMT) as a pickup truck carrying the policemen was passing over, the website by *The Nation* newspaper reported. The three policemen died instantly in the blast and the fourth was listed in a critical condition from his injuries.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Drive with care

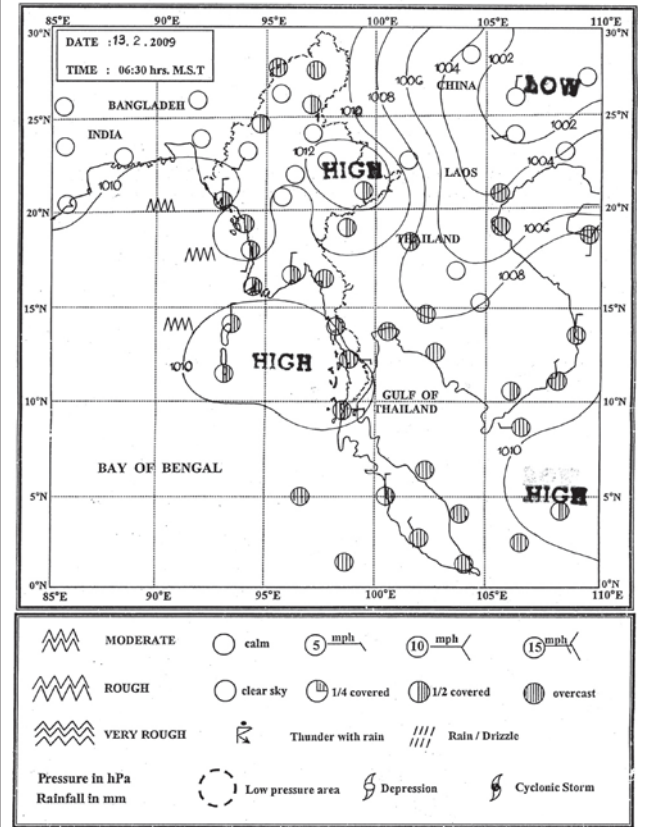
MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (14.2.2009) (Saturday)

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

- Local Transmission**
- Signature Tune
 - Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
 - Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, our Union (Taninthayi Division)
 - Welcome to Shwemyaing (Mawlamying)
 - Beautiful Sculptures for Sale
 - Let's Go and Enjoy Nature's Beauty
 - Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

- Europe/ North America Transmission**
- Signature Tune
 - Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
 - Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, our Union (Sagaing Division)
 - Oboe: Myanma Musical Instrument
 - Building Dams for Posterity of the Nation
 - A Wonderful Trip to Ngwe Hsaung
 - Burtterfly Garden in Yangon
 - Ancient Royal City Innwa and Nanmadaw Mae Nu Brick Monastery
 - Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Inlay, Southern Shan State)
 - Myanmar Modern Song
 - Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, our Union (Taninthayi Division)
 - Welcome to Shwemyaing (Mawlamying)
 - Beautiful Sculptures for Sale
 - Exhibition Centre Introducing Hkakaborazi National Park
 - Dressing Styles of Law-Waw Ladies
 - Mandalay's Grand Walls and Moat..
- Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 13 February, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) below February average temperatures in upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States, (5°C) above February average temperatures in Taninthayi Division and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (1°C), Namhsam (4°C), Pinlaung, Heho and Haka (5°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myitkyina (0.04) inch.

Maximum temperature on 12-2-2009 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 13-2-2009 was 63°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 13-2-2009 was 67%. Total sunshine hours on 12-2-2009 was (9.1) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 13-2-2009 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 (6) mph from Southeast at (21:30) hours MST on 12-2-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 14th February 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Kayin and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 14-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-2-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Weather outlook for second weekend of February 2009: During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Yangon Division and generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.



Saturday, 14 February View on today

- 7:00 am**
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော် ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပိဋိတော်
- 7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am**
5. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

- 8:05 am**
6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am**
7. “လက်တွေ့ပြချင်လို့” (ပြီးငွေစိုး၊ မြက်ကေသီအောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)
- 8:30 am**
8. International news
- 8:40 am**
9. Musical programme
- 11:00 am**
1. Martial song
- 11:05 am**
2. Cute little dancers
- 11:30 am**
3. Round up of the week's TV local news
- 1:00 pm**
4. Yan Can Cook
- 1:20 pm**
5. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အားကိုးချစ်သူ ကျေးတောသူ” (အပိုင်း-၂၂)

- 2:05 pm**
6. ဆန်းကြယ်ထူးခြားပြိုင်ပွဲများ (Telematch)
- 2:45 pm**
7. International news
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm**
2. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:15 pm**
3. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 4:25 pm**
4. Musical programme
- 4:35 pm**
5. ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ (ရူပဗေဒဘာသာရပ်) (အပိုင်း-က)
- 4:55 pm**
6. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 5:00 pm**
7. မြန်မာ့လေ့ရိုးရာလက်တွေ့

- 5:20 pm**
8. Cute little dancers
- 5:45 pm**
9. Musical programme
- 6:00 pm**
10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
12. အလှူရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်
- 6:55 pm**
13. ပုလဲလက်ကျောင်းတော်
- 7:10 pm**
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သစ္စာနှင့်ယဉ်သောမေတ္တာ” (အပိုင်း-၁၉)
- 8:00 pm**
15. News
- 8:05 pm**
16. International news
- 8:15 pm**
17. Weather report
- 8:20 pm**
18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ကြမ္မာမုန်တိုင်း” (အပိုင်း-၁၁)

Investment and human resources play important role in building industrialized nation

Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets departmental officials, members of social organizations, local people in Loikaw

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Feb—Prime Minister General Thein Sein who was in Loikaw of Kayah State met with state/district/township level departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people at the Town Hall in Loikaw on 9 February and gave instructions on regional development.

It was attended by Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Yar Pyae, the ministers, the deputy ministers, Chairman of Kayah State PDC Brig-Gen Win Myint, the director-general of Government Office and departmental heads, departmental officials, members of

social organization and local people.

Chairman of Kayah State PDC Brig-Gen Win Myint reported to the Prime Minister on progress in undertaking agriculture and industrial sectors, education, health, economic and transportation, and Commander Brig-Gen Yar Pyae made a supplementary report.

Regarding the reports, Prime Minister General Thein Sein gave necessary instructions and made an address.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that he was in Kayah State to open a grand university for Kayah State, to fulfil the requirements of the region and to provide necessary assistance for townships of the state by making field trips.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein cordially greets departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people at Town Hall in Loikaw. —MNA

In the education sector, the number of basic education schools has increased to 388, up from 333. For enabling the local youths to pursue the higher education in the region, one arts and science university, one University of Computer Studies and one Technological University were opened in Loikaw after designating it as a development region.

Over 4,500 square miles area of Kayah State is formed with two districts and seven townships that is home to over 300,000 people of various national races.

Kayah State, be-

ing a small area with few population shares common border with a neighbouring country and plays a vital role in maintaining bilateral ties between the two countries.

(See page 8)

Big day for Becks

MILAN, 13 Feb — It is deadline day for AC Milan in their attempts to keep David Beckham in Italy - and the England midfielder remains hopeful a deal can be struck with the Los Angeles Galaxy.

The Rossoneri are keen to retain the 33-year-old's services after



Beckham - future to be decided.

his loan spell from the Galaxy ends on 9 March, and Major League Soccer said earlier this week the two clubs have until today to agree terms if the move is to go ahead.

Beckham spoke about the situation in an interview with Friday's Gazzetta dello Sport, saying: "Milan and Galaxy are negotiating and I hope I can remain in Italy."

"I have already expressed my wish to remain in Milan and now I have to wait."

"Physically, I feel really good, I really like playing for Milan.

Over the last month and a half my physical condition has improved 100%."

"I have nothing against Galaxy, Los Angeles has been a wonderful experience. But at Milan I have found great players who have been of great help to me."

"For the time being things could not be going better."

Last week, the Galaxy rejected Milan's first bid for Beckham, saying the England midfielder would return to Los Angeles as scheduled unless the Italians came up with a higher offer.

Internet

MADRID, 13 Feb — Researchers from the University of Granada, the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and the University of Aveiro (Portugal) have studied for the first time nacre's growing mechanism of gastropods, a first step for the artificial reproduction of this material in laboratories which could make possible its use in biomedicine, with applications such as the regeneration of human bones.

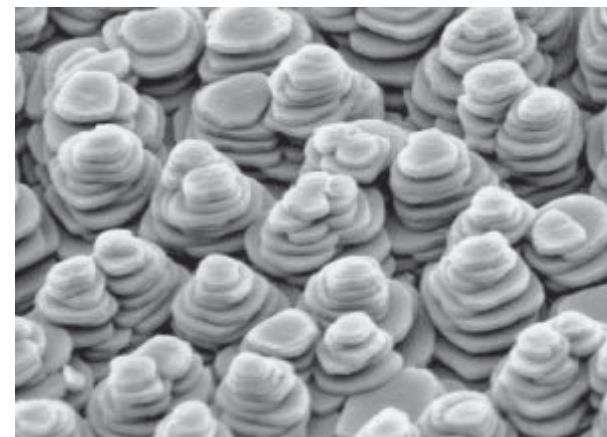
This work has been recently published in the journal PNAS, and its authors are Antonio Checa, Professor of the department of Stratigraphy

Mother-of-pearl from shells could inspire regeneration of human bones

and Paleontology of the University of Granada; Julyan Cartwright, researcher of the Andalusian Institute of Earth Sciences

(CSIC-UGR), and Marc-Georg Willinger (University of Aveiro, Portugal).

Internet



Gastropods' nacre towers.