

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Tuesday, 17 February, 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

Industrial training school to be built in Pakokku

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Feb—Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein arrived at the site of industrial training school project (Pakokku) in Magway Division on 14 February.

Officials reported on the site chosen for construction of three workshops and classrooms and supply of water and electricity. The minister fulfilled the requirements and visited the sites.

On 15 February, the minister cordially met families of staff of Machine and Machine Tools Factory (Myaing) and inspected machine shop, mould and die making shop, assembly-1 and 2,



Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein looks into Machine and Machine Tools Factory (Myaing).—MNA

sheet metal and painting shop, heat treatment shop, foundry shop and pattern

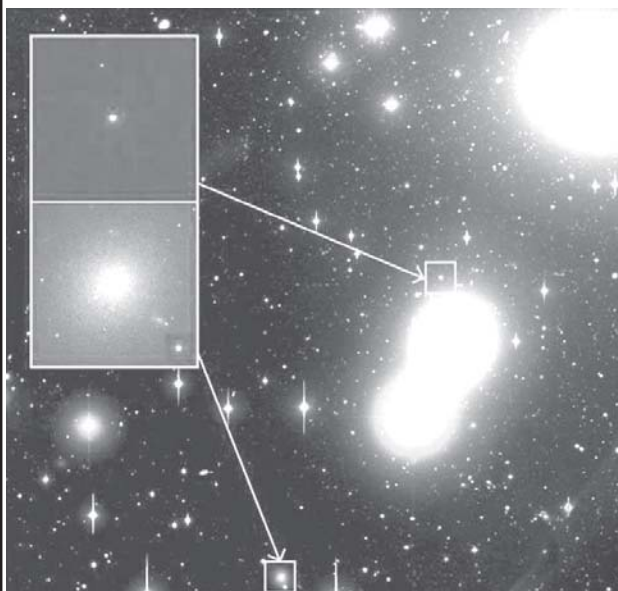
making shop. The minister met service personnel and gave instructions on

good workmanship, innovations and reviews on products.—MNA

Objectives of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

1. To work hard together with the people to accomplish the State's seven-step Road Map in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation
2. To uphold Our Three Main National Causes as the national policy at risk to life
3. To crush, in cooperation with the people, internal and external subversive elements that are disrupting stability, peace and development of the nation
4. To build a strong and patriotic modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation

Stars packed together in early Universe a million times more closely



The background image was taken by Dr Michael Hilker of the University of Bonn using the 2.5-metre Du Pont telescope, part of the Las Campanas Observatory in Chile. The two boxes show close-ups of two UCD galaxies in the Hilker image.—INTERNET

BONN, 16 Feb — In our Galaxy, we are used to the idea that even the nearest stars are light years away from the Sun. But a team of scientists led by Professor Pavel Kroupa of the University of Bonn think things were very different in the early Universe.

In particular, Ultra Compact Dwarf galaxies (UCDs), a recently discovered class of object, may have had stars packed together a million times more closely than in the solar neighbourhood, according to calculations made by team member and PhD student Joerg Dabringhausen and pre-

sented in a paper in Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.

UCDs were discovered in 1999. Although they are still enormous by everyday standards, at about 60 light years across, they are less than 1/1000th the diameter of our own Galaxy, the Milky Way. (In more familiar units, a light year is about 10 million million km).

Astronomers believe that UCDs were created when more normal galaxies collided in the early Universe. But oddly, UCDs clearly have more mass than the light from the stars they contain would imply.

Internet

Myanmar and Thai industrialists to meet

YANGON, 16 Feb—The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Thai Industrialists Group are meeting according to their respective industries at the office of UMFCCI on 19 February.

A total of 71 Thai entrepreneurs from 43 companies dealing in consumer product industries such as electric and electronics, farming equipment, pharmaceuticals, healthcare products and cosmetics, cleaning materials, packaging materials, gifts and fancy, stationery, sports equipment, handbags, foot ware and leather products, nylon string and plumbing materials will discuss on trade opportunities with their sample products. It is also arranged for Myanmar entrepreneurs to be able to introduce their export items, if any.

Interested entrepreneurs are to directly contact UMFCCI.

For further information, contact IR Department of UMFCCI or dial 214344-9 Ext: 203.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 17 February, 2009

Strive together with officials concerned for prevention of avian diseases

The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries has issued notifications on poultry diseases as there was a change in the weather.

The outbreak of poultry diseases including newcastle, bronchitis, cholera and avian flu are quite common in winter. And there can be complications in outbreaks and diagnostic symptoms and mortality rates among those diseases.

In the winter, migratory birds often carry virus that causes such avian diseases and infect chickens, birds and ducks.

There was a complication among cholera and other avian diseases at some poultry farms in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township in the second week of December 2008, in Pyay, Amarapura and Maha Aungmyay Townships in January and February in 2009.

The reason is that those poultry farms received no further vaccines and the potency of vaccines given ran out. Being a highly contagious disease, newcastle disease caused a large number of poultry deaths. As preventive measures, steps are to be taken for banning all the affected poultry from reaching consumers, culling them and disinfecting the poultry farms.

In the meantime, for bio-security, proper poultry farms are to be built in breeding zones while separating poultry and ducks from other animals so that diseases cannot easily spread. Moreover, items used in poultry farm, vehicles and packaging materials are to be properly disinfected.

People are to come forward with information on unusual death of chickens and birds to the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and local livestock breeding federations.

All in all, the entire people are urged to strictly follow the notifications on poultry diseases issued by the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, and only then, will the prevention of avian diseases be possible and effective.

Myanmar delegation seen at Yangon International Airport before its departure for Thailand to take part in 1st Asia-Pacific Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR).

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

Mandalay Mayor visits Yedaguntaung integrated farm



Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han looks into fish breeding ponds of No. 1 Integrated Farm in Yedaguntaung in Patheingyi Township.—NLM

MANDALAY, 16 Feb—Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and party inspected No. 1 Integrated Farm in Yedaguntaung in Patheingyi Township on 29 January.

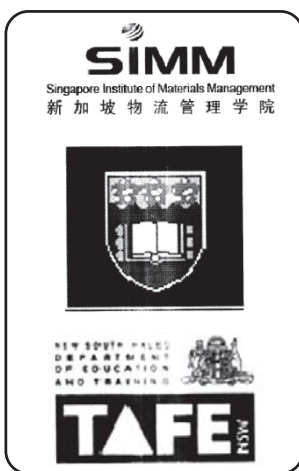
At the Integrated Farm, the mayor and party visited fish, chicken, duck, goose, rabbit and turkey

farms and he fulfilled the requirements of the farm.

Next, he visited milch cow farm and called for seasonal vegetables to be grown in the vacant land. The mayor inspected thriving tapioca and kanyut (asparagus) plantations.

NLM

STI Education to conduct Australia, Singapore 'educational discussions'



YANGON, 16 Feb—STI Education will conduct educational discussions of University of Wollongong (UOW), University of Western Sydney (UWS), TAFE NSW, Singapore Institute of Materials Management (SIMM) and Hospitality Business School Singapore (HBS) at Park Royal and Traders Hotels here on 21 and 22 February.

The educational discussions will be organized by Australian Education Consultant Ms Jean Braid, SIMM Director Mr Roger Lee, HBS Director Mr Joshua Tan and Consultants of STI.

Degrees in Medicine,

Surgery, Pharmacy, Nursing, Engineering, Aviation, Maritime, Laboratory Technology, Engineering, IT, Commerce, Accounting and Ph.D of UWS and UOW will be discussed.

Students can learn diploma courses on Accounting & Business, IT, Building, Construction, Engineering, Children's Services, Commercial Cookery, Hospitality & Tourism, Dental Technology, Nursing, Aged Care, Design, Fine Arts, Fashion, Hair Dressing Beauty, Maritime, Aviation, Music, Media and other subjects at TAFE.

Singapore Institute of Materials Management Director Mr Roger Lee explained Degree in Commerce, Diploma, Advanced Diploma in Supply Chain / Logistics Management of Curtin Technology University, Mr Joshua Tan of Hospitality Business School Diploma in Hospitality and Tourism Management,

Those interested can contact STI Education at Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township, No. 377 on Shwebontha Street (upper) in Pabedan Township and dial 507151, 507152, 507046, 507048, 250056, 700273.—MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 16 Feb — A Myanmar delegation comprising U Myat Thu Win, Chairman of Shwe Min Tha Foundation (Myanmar) and Secretary

U Ngwe Ya today left here for Thailand to attend 1st Asia-Pacific Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) to be held in Thailand from 18 to 20

February.

At the meeting, they will discuss services for disabled persons in villages being carried out by Shwe Min Tha Foundation.—MNA

Bomb attacks wound five people in N Iraq

MOSUL, 16 Feb—Five people, including a Sunni Arab politician, were wounded by bomb attacks in the city of Mosul on Sunday, a local police source said. Talab Muhsin, a member of al-Hadbaa, a mainly Sunni Arab party, was wounded when an explosive charge planted in his car detonated in the afternoon, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Muhsin is the second politician from the al-Hadbaa list who survived assassination attack in this month.

The politician ran in the al-Hadbaa list in last month's provincial elections in Nineveh Province. The list won almost half votes cast.

Earlier in the month, Akram Khalaf was seriously wounded when gunmen opened fire on him at the commercial area of Sarej Khana in central Mosul.

In a separate incident, three people were wounded when a gunman hurled a hand grenade on a police patrol in central Mosul, the source said.

Internet

Iraqi civilian killed, eight injured in Baghdad bombings

BAGHDAD, 16 Feb—A civilian was killed and eight others injured in two bomb explosions in Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source said.

A roadside bomb, hidden in a busy popular market in Baghdad's eastern neighbourhood of Sadr City, detonated on Sunday morning, killing one civilian and wounding six others, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The blast damaged a nearby minibus, several shops and stalls, the source said.

In a separate incident, another roadside bomb went off in front of a house in Jamilah neighbourhood, adjacent to the Shiite sprawling neighborhood of Sadr City, wounding two people and caused damages to the house, the source added.

The attacks came a day before the climax of the ritual of Arbaeen, as hundreds of thousands of Shiite pilgrims are to observe the ceremony in the holy city of Karbala, some 110 km southwest of Baghdad.—*Internet*

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,245

WASHINGTON, 16 Feb—As of Sunday, 15 Feb, 2009, at least 4,245 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

Roadside bomb wounds two Afghan police, three civilians

KABUL, 16 Feb—Two police officers and three civilians were wounded as a roadside bomb struck their vehicle in Afghanistan's southern Kandahar Province on Sunday, provincial police chief said.

"The incident occurred at 8:30 am local time (0400 GMT) in front of police headquarters, as a result five persons including two police were injured," Matiullah Qati told *Xinhua*.

Earlier, he told reporters that the police arrested three Taleban militants, foiling their conspiracy to storm a government building in the city as they did in Kabul last Wednesday which left 20 people dead.—*Internet*

The interior of a damaged bus inspected after a bomb attack in Baghdad's Sadr city on 15 Feb, 2009.

INTERNET

Fifteen bodies in two mass graves found in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Feb—Iraq discovered two mass graves containing a total of 15 decomposed bodies in areas north and northeast of Baghdad, security sources said on Sunday.

The remains of about 10 bodies, believed to date back about two years ago, were found on Saturday in

the area of Taji, some 30 km north of Baghdad, army spokes-man Major General Mohammed al-Askari said in a statement released on Sunday.

Askari blamed al-Qaida militant group for the killing as the area was under the control of the group two years ago.

Separately, a police source in Diyala province said the police forces uncovered five decomposed bodies of male civilians, apparently executed about a year and a half ago, near a village some 30 km east of the provincial capital city of Baquba.—*MNA/Xinhua*



Karim Jabr, 80, lies in a hospital bed flanked by his sons after he was wounded in a road side bomb blast in the Shiite neighbourhood of Sadr City, in Baghdad, Iraq, on 15, Feb, 2009.

INTERNET

US soldier dies in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Feb—A US soldier has died as a result of a non-combat related incident in Iraq, the US military said on Sunday. A military statement said a soldier assigned to Multi National Division - Baghdad (MND-Baghdad) was killed on Saturday without saying how or where exactly the incident occurred.

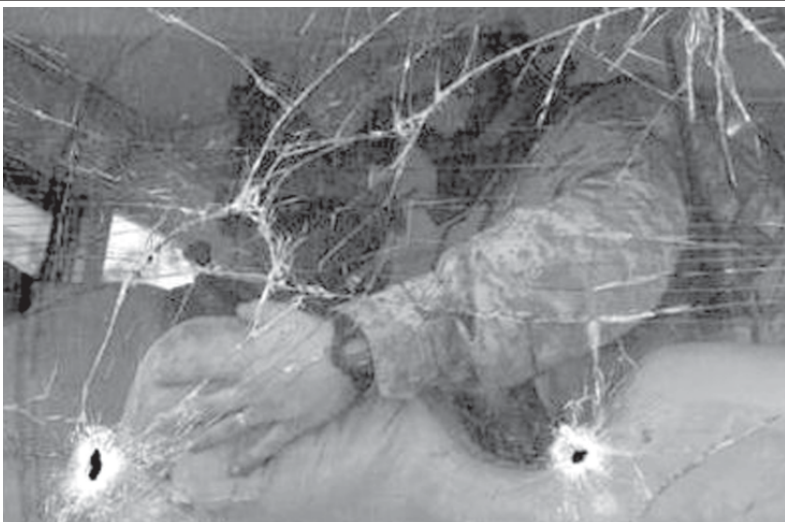
MND-Baghdad is also known as Task Force Baghdad, whose major area of responsibility is the city of Baghdad. The name of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement said, adding that the incident is under investigation.

MNA/Xinhua

Worst attacks by female suicide bombers in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Feb — A look at some of the deadliest attacks by female suicide bombers in Iraq since the 2003 US-led invasion:

- 13 Feb, 2009: A bomber attacks a tent filled with women and children resting from a pilgrimage to Karbala, killing 40 people and wounding 60 others.
- 4 Jan, 2009: A suicide bomber dressed in women's clothing and hiding among Iranian pilgrims kills more than three dozen people and wounds at least 72 outside a mosque in Baghdad's Shiite neighborhood of Kazimiyah. It remains unclear whether the bomber was in fact a woman.
- 8 Oct, 2008: A suicide bomber blows herself up near government offices in Baqouba, northeast of the capital, killing 11 people and wounding 19.
- 15 Sept, 2008: A woman blows herself up among a group of police officers in Balad Ruz, 45 miles northeast of Baghdad, killing at least 22 people and wounding 33.
- 14 Aug, 2008: A bomber strikes Shiite pilgrims in Iskandariyah, 20 miles south of the capital, killing at least 18 people and wounding 75.
- 28 July, 2008: Female suicide bombers attack a Shiite pilgrimage in Baghdad and a Kurdish protest rally in northern Iraq, killing at least 57 people and wounding nearly 300.
- 22 June, 2008: A bomber strikes outside a government complex in Baqouba. At least 15 people are killed and more than 40 are wounded.
- 1 May, 2008: A bomber imitating pregnancy detonates the first bomb in a double suicide attack that kills at least 36 people during a wedding procession in Balad Ruz. At least 65 people are wounded.
- 17 March, 2008: A bomber attacks a group of Shiite worshippers near a mosque in Karbala, killing at least 49 people and wounding 73.—*Internet*



British, French nuclear subs crash in Atlantic

LONDON, 16 Feb —A British and a French submarine, both of them nuclear-powered and carrying nuclear weapons, collided in the Atlantic Ocean earlier this month, the *Sun* newspaper reported on Monday.

The tabloid said HMS Vanguard and France's Le Triomphant were both damaged in the incident, but there were no reports of damage to the nuclear sections of either vessel.

The British sub has now been towed to Faslane in Scotland for repair.

Both vessels — between them carrying about 250 sailors — were reportedly submerged and on separate missions when they crashed on 3 or 4 February.

The Ministry of Defence refuses to comment on submarine oper-

ations but a spokesman said: "We can confirm that the UK's deterrent capability has remained unaffected at all times and there has been no compromise to nuclear safety."

HMS Vanguard, launched in 1992, is a Vanguard class SSBN (Ship Submersible Ballistic Nuclear) vessel, one of four such submarines tasked with maintaining the country's independent

nuclear deterrent.

The vessel has 16 missile tubes capable of firing the Trident II D5 missile. Each missile can deliver up to 12 warheads.

Triomphant, launched in 1994, is one of four Triomphant Class submarines serving with the French Navy.

It carries 16 M51 SLBM missiles and forms part of France's nuclear deterrent force.

Internet



File picture shows the French submarine Triomphant which reportedly collided earlier this month with a British submarine in the Atlantic.—INTERNET



The crew leaves the Ukrainian ship the MV Faina at the port of Mombasa on 12 Feb, 2009. The crew of a Ukrainian ship captured by Somali pirates were welcomed home as heroes on Friday after their 19-week ordeal as Russia's navy seized 10 more men in patrols off the Horn of Africa.

INTERNET

US military ship collides with Japanese boat near naval base

TOKYO, 16 Feb — A US military ship had a minor collision with a small boat Sunday near the US naval base in Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture of east Japan, local media reported.

The military ship, believed to be the 9,217-ton Aegis destroyer Lassen, hit the 14-ton boat, which was at anchor carrying four men fishing. No one was injured in the accident which occurred at 12:25 pm, *Kyodo* news quoted Coast Guard officials as saying.

None of the four men fell off the boat after the collision and the US military ship entered the port afterward, the officials said.—MNA/Xinhua

Chavez wins vote to scrap term limits in Venezuela

CARACAS, 16 Feb— President Hugo Chavez won a referendum to eliminate term limits Sunday and vowed to remain in power for at least another decade to complete his socialist revolution. Opponents accepted defeat but said Chavez is becoming a dictator.

Fireworks exploded in the sky and caravans of supporters celebrated in the streets, waving red flags and honking horns. Thousands of people gathered outside



Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez gestures as he leaves the polling station after voting on a constitutional amendment referendum in Caracas, 15 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Miraflores Palace, where the former paratroop commander appeared on a balcony to sing the national anthem and address the crowd.

"Those who voted 'yes' today voted for socialism, for revolution," Chavez said.

He called the victory — which allows all public officials to run for re-election indefinitely — a mandate to speed his transformation of Venezuela into a socialist state.

Internet

Man shot dead by LA police with Taser gun

LOS ANGELES, 16 Feb— A man died on Saturday after being shot by police with a Taser gun, becoming the latest victim of Taser guns, authorities said on Sunday.

Police used a Taser gun in an alleged attempt to subdue the victim, Los Angeles coroner's investigator Kelly Yagerlener said.

The man was declared dead at a hospital, but his name was not immediately released, Yager-

lener said.

The victim reportedly went into cardiac arrest after being shot late on Saturday, said police, who described the man as possibly being under the influence of PCP (pentachlorophenol).

Witnesses at the scene said the man had been running around a Los Angeles neighbourhood naked.

A Taser is an electroshock weapon that uses electrical current to disrupt voluntary control

of muscles. Tasers were introduced as less-lethal weapons to be used by police to subdue fleeing, belligerent, or potentially dangerous subjects, often when what they consider to be a more lethal weapon would have otherwise been used. The use of Tasers has become controversial following instances of Taser use which have resulted in serious injury and deaths.

MNA/Xinhua

The remains of Russian tanks on the outskirts of Kabul. Afghanistan has been ravaged by war including the 1980s Soviet occupation. Russia marked on Sunday the 20th anniversary of the Soviet pullout of the bloody war.—INTERNET



US uses unmanned drones to hunt Somali pirates

ABOARD THE USS MAHAN, 16 Feb—American warships off the lawless Somali coast are using unmanned drones to hunt pirates threatening one of the world's most important shipping lanes.

Sailors aboard the *USS Mahan* told *The Associated Press* they have been using the spy flights daily to spot potential pirate mother ships.

For years, the US has used drones to track potential terrorists among Somalia's warlords, but the Navy said more and more of the planes are now being used to fight piracy. The drones can fly more than 3,000 feet (915 meters) above sea level and relay pictures detailed enough to recognize the flags flown on fishing boats that Somalis use to avoid detection.—Internet

Investors still highly interested in Cambodia

SIEM REAP, 16 Feb—Investors still remain highly interested in putting their money into Cambodia, despite of the global economic downturn, the Economic Conferences here on Monday quoted financial experts as saying.

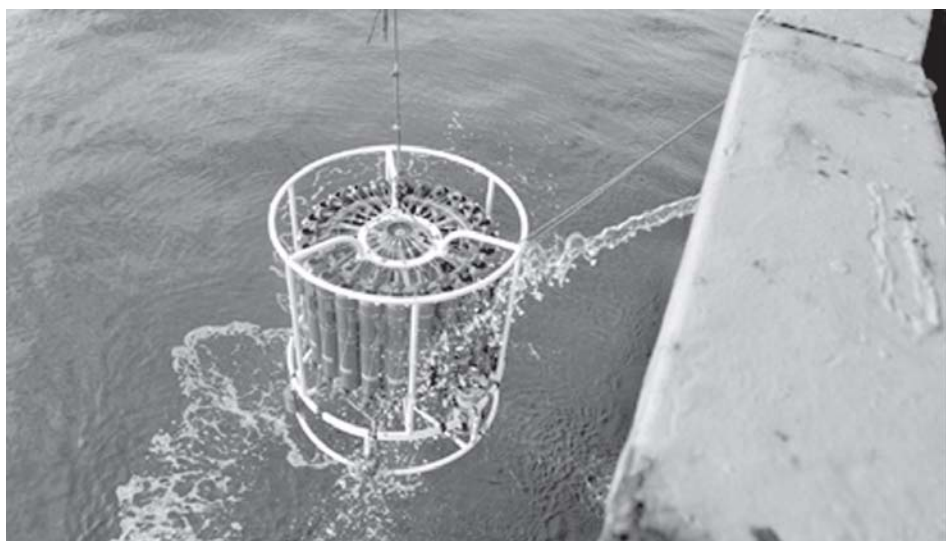
“Although the global crisis has undoubtedly had an impact on direct foreign investment, this is expected to be only temporary, as regional investors are still showing strong interest and the en-

try cost and risk is comparatively less than for other developing markets,” said Im Channy, president and CEO of the ACLEDA Bank, a leading sponsor of the one-day Business Roundtable, which was opened here on Monday by the Economists Conferences to discuss ways for the kingdom to secure sustainable economic development. “The National Bank (of Cambodia) took robust measures in 2008 to squeeze credit when infla-

tion was running high, but have been equally quick to relax them this year when the economy started to slow down,” he added.

Brett Sciaroni, senior partner of the Sciaroni and Associates, another leading sponsor of the Business Roundtable, also said that “there is still considerable interest in investment in Cambodia, despite the economic troubles that are evident in more advanced economies.”

Xinhua



Members of the Chinese expedition team work on China's Antarctic ice breaker Snow Dragon on the Antarctica, on 15 Feb, 2009.

XINHUA

Seven people killed in restaurant shooting in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 16 Feb—At least seven people were killed and five others were injured in a restaurant shooting in the western state of Jalisco, authorities said on Sunday.

Director of Public Security of the municipality of Hostotipaquillo Lucio Rossales said an armed group on Saturday broke into a just opened restaurant and opened fire to the owners and workers of the restaurant.

At least 150 high power Ak-47 and AR-15 rifle bullets shells were found on the site.

Five men and two women died. Among the injured were three minors of 14, 11 and three years old.—Xinhua

Helicopter crash kills 14 in Chile

SANTIAGO, 16 Feb—A helicopter carrying firefighters crashed in southern Chile on Sunday, killing all 14 people on board, local media reported.

The helicopter, which retrieved 12 firefighters from a forest fire site, hit a hillside some 165 miles (270 kilometers) south of Santiago.

The cause of crash is under investigation.

Xinhua

Jordan calls for “early” int’l action to revive Palestinian-Israeli peace talks

AMMAN, 16 Feb—Jordan's King Abdullah II Sunday called for an “early” international action to revive the peace talks between the Palestinians and Israelis, according to the Royal Hashemite Court.

The king made the call when meeting with a visiting British parliamentary delegation.

King Abdullah stressed the urgency of such action, saying that there could be no peace and stability in the region unless an independent Palestinian state is established on the Palestinian soil within the two-state solution and in accordance with international resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative, said the royal court in a statement.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency



Guangdong Opera actor Wen Ruqing (R) and actress Li Jiayi perform at the theater of the State University of Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, on 14 Feb, 2009.—XINHUA

Hong Kong, APEC sign MoU on trade facilitation

SINGAPORE, 16 Feb—China's Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) on Monday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in bid to boost trade by cutting business transaction costs.

Under the MoU, Hong Kong will donate 200,000 US dollars in funds to the APEC Secretariat, in order to develop a methodology

to be used to measure the outcome of its Trade Facilitation Action Plan, which calls for an additional 5 percent reduction in business transaction costs by all economies by 2010, on top of the 5 percent reduction achieved over the period from 2002 to 2006.

“In the face of the current challenges in the global economy, it is all the

more important to continue to streamline processes and reduce trade transaction costs,” says Joseph Lai, the APEC Senior Official of Hong Kong at the signing ceremony, “We hope that our contribution will support initiatives that lead us closer to the shared vision of free trade.”

Xinhua



Two red deer are seen on a snow-covered pasture at the foot of Tianshan Mountain in Hami, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 14 Feb, 2009.—XINHUA

AU chief strongly urges Madagascan stakeholders to keep calm

ADDIS ABABA, 16 Feb—Due to possible events that could unfold on Monday in Madagascar, the chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Jean Ping, on Sunday evening strongly urged Madagascan stakeholders to keep calm.

In a statement from the AU headquarters, Ping said he remained concerned by statements made recently by some stakeholders regarding possible events that could unfold on Monday.

On Saturday, Madagascan opposition leader Andry Rajoelina said at a gathering that his ministers would take over their responsibilities starting on Monday.

Masimana Manantsoa, internal minister of the transitional government appointed by Rajoelina, said that each of the ministers appointed by Rajoelina would join his ministry starting from Monday.

Xinhua

Oil steady amid OPEC talks of more output cuts

SINGAPORE, 16 Feb—Oil prices stayed above \$37 a barrel on Monday in Asia as OPEC members talked up more production cuts over the weekend amid weakening global demand for crude.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery fell 6 cents to \$37.45 a barrel by midday in Singapore on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose \$3.53 on Friday to settle at \$37.51.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has implemented most of the 4.2 million barrels a day of output reductions announced since September, but the cuts have been overwhelmed by a collapse in crude demand amid the global slowdown.

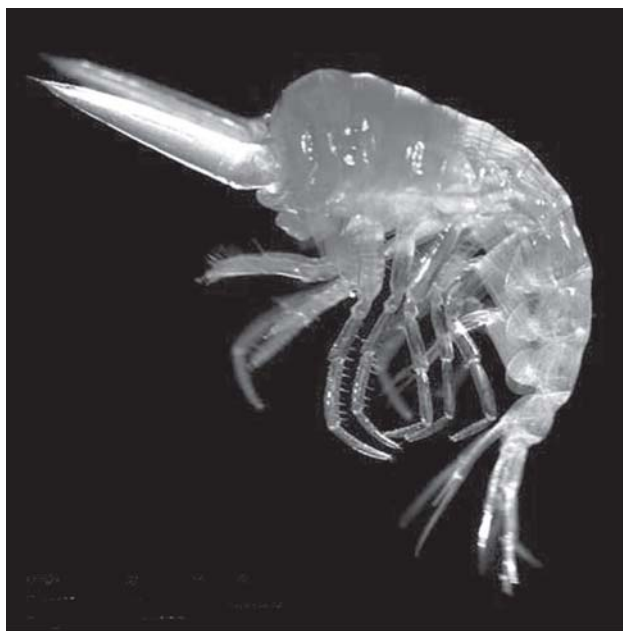
On Sunday, Mohammed Saleh al-Sada, Qatar's minister of state for energy and industry affairs, said OPEC is ready to cut output further when it meets next month. Al-Sada said a reasonable price for oil would be \$70 a barrel.—*Internet*

Regional Taliban commander killed in airstrike

KABUL, 16 Feb—Forces with the US-backed coalition killed a regional Taliban commander and eight others in an airstrike in western Afghanistan, the US said on Monday.

The Sunday night attack destroyed the building housing Ghulam Dastagir and eight other militants in the village of Darya-ye-Morghab, near the Turkmenistan border, the US military said in a statement.

Dastagir oversaw all of western Badghis Province for the Taliban. He was responsible for a surge in violence in the province in recent months, including a November attack on an Afghan army convoy that killed 13 soldiers, the statement said.—*Internet*



The Mimonectes sphaericus, an amphipod crustacean living upon jellyfish and their kin in both the Arctic and Antarctic, is seen in this undated handout. The large sword-like antennae only occur in males. At least 235 types of cold-loving creatures thrive in both Arctic and Antarctic seas, puzzling scientists about how they got to both ends of the earth, a study showed on 15 Feb, 2009.

INTERNET

Iran, Russia to boost military cooperation

TEHERAN, 16 Feb—Iran's Defence Minister Brigadier General Mostafa Mohammad Najjar said that Iran and Russia are to boost military cooperation, the semi-official Fars news agency reported on Sunday.

"Teheran and Moscow are to review ways to enhance military cooperation during an upcoming visit to Russia by Iranian defence minister," Fars said.

Najjar is scheduled to travel to Moscow on Monday to discuss military and technical cooperation and review implementation of agreements inked by the two countries, according to Iran's defence ministry.

He is also slated to pay

a visit to Russian defence industries.

In December, Deputy Director of the Russian Federal Organization for Military and Technical Cooperation Alexander Foumin said that his country intended to expand joint cooperation with Iran, which would have a positive impact on stability in the Middle East region. Such a cooperation has raised concerns about the rising military capabilities of Iran, as the Western observers has elaborated.

However, earlier this month, Iranian ambassador to Russia Seyed Mahmoud Reza Sajjadi played down such concerns.

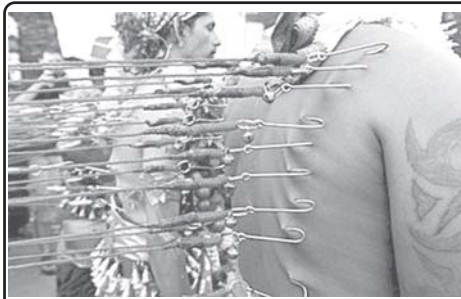
"Probably, there will be some changes, but generally the scale of this cooperation is not that large as (the media) allege," Sajjadi told a news conference in Moscow, adding that "We think that Iran-Russia military-technical cooperation is slightly exaggerated." —*Internet*

Japan economy shrinks at fastest rate in 35 years

TOKYO, 16 Feb—Japan's economy contracted at the fastest pace in 35 years in the fourth quarter as a collapse in export demand drained life from the world's second-biggest economy. Japan's gross domestic product, or the total value of the nation's goods and services, dropped at an annual pace of 12.7 percent in the October-December period, the government said on Monday.

That's the steepest drop for Japan since the oil shock of 1974 and far outpaces declines of 3.8 percent in the US and 1.2 percent in the euro zone. A survey of economists by *Kyodo* news agency had projected an 11.6 percent contraction.

Japan now faces "the worst economic crisis in the postwar era," said Economy Minister Kaoru Yosano, according to *Kyodo*.—*Internet*



A group of Hindu devotees, restrained with hooks pierced through their backs, make their way towards the Batu Caves temple during Thaipusam in Kuala Lumpur.

Man lets boy drive for a 'bonding moment'

Police arrested a 34-year-old man they said let his 8-year-old son drive a van just before midnight on Sunday. A Bradenton police report said the boy hit a two trees and nearly hit two pedestrians in a parking lot when his father let him drive.

The father told police that he had taken Xanax, used to treat anxiety and panic attacks, and was "feeling woozy and didn't want to drive." He said he that he thought letting his son drive would be a "bonding moment." The boy told police his father took "liquid medicine in order to feel better," pointing to an empty whiskey bottle in the vehicle. The man faces charges of child abuse and permitting an unlicensed driver to drive. He remained in jail on Wednesday on a \$10,120 bond.

Siblings allegedly forge document to skip school

A brother and sister who allegedly forged a court document to get out of school now have a court date for real. Woonsocket police officials told *The Providence Journal* the siblings sneaked a genuine Family Court document with a date to appear in court from a relative, scanned the letter and forged the name of a clinical case

manager.

Police said the brother, a 16-year-old Woonsocket High School student, used the forgery to get out of school once in November.

His 17-year-old sister, a pupil at the Woonsocket Area Career and Technical Center, allegedly used the letter three times in January.

Police arrested the siblings Wednesday, charging the brother with one count of forgery and the sister with three counts. They're expected in Family Court next week.

Cops arrest man who sought help removing handcuffs

A Massachusetts man who walked into a police station and asked for help removing a pair of handcuffs dangling from one wrist ended up wearing another pair instead.

Barnstable, Mass, police Sgt Sean Sweeney said 21-year-old Allahmanjad (el-ah-MAN'-a-jahd) Barbel showed up Tuesday claiming he couldn't get off the cuffs his sister slipped on him at a child's birthday party.

Police ran Barbel's name through the state warrant system and discovered he had outstanding warrants on charges of driving with a suspended license, leaving the scene of an accident, threatening to commit a crime and making annoying phone calls.

NZ dog awarded posthumous honour

A dog which died protecting a group of children from two pitbull terriers in New Zealand has been given the highest honour for animals. George, a Jack Russell from Manaia, in Taranaki on New Zealand's North Island, fended off the two dogs, allowing the children to escape. But he was badly hurt in the April 2007 incident and had to be put down.

His owner, Alan Gay, was presented with the PDSA gold medal by New Zealand's Governor-General Anand Satyanand. Mr Gay paid tribute to his pet. "He was a brilliant little dog, intelligent. You couldn't insult him. I'd call him 'dipstick' and he wouldn't have anything to do with me," he told TVNZ.

NEWS ALBUM



A woman play Hula Hoop while others pose in different gestures on the floating bamboo sticks on Huaxi River in Guiyang, capital of south-west China's Guizhou Province.



George was hailed as a "brilliant little dog" by his owner.

We should not continue to allow decadent satellite programmes

Kyaw Ye Min

I happened to visit a rural village on my way a few days ago. Today, villages in Myanmar have many fine houses. I was pleased to witness the people's living conditions improving. I also saw a video lounge by the centre of the village. I think each rural village should have at least a facility like a video lounge for their recreation and relaxation after the all-day work.

The village has about over 80 houses. Going around the village, I noticed that it had not only many large houses but also about 10 satellite receivers. The video lounge was found equipped with a satellite receiver. That was a sign of the village's economic growth. Now, the people can well afford a satellite receiver.

Then, a thought struck my head regarding satellite receivers.

Our country has issued laws and regulations on radio, TV, video and satellite dishes. Radio, TV, video and satellite dishes have mushroomed throughout the nation, but not every owner pays annual fees. I am sure the majority of the owners fail to honour the law by having their electronics without licences.

Such a small village has about 10 satellite receivers, so, no wonder satellite receivers are abundant in urban areas. So, the number of TV and satellite receivers of the whole country must be very great. Today, a satellite receiver is well affordable, so the people watch satellite programmes without taking anything serious. **Satellite programmes are said to be all designed for entertainment, but I do not think many of the programmes are suitable to the people.**

It is the public knowledge in our country that the Myanmar Radio and TV airs broadcasts with three objectives: to educate, to inform and to entertain the public, and so does Myawady Broadcasting Station. In the process, they have to censor the programmes and get rid of the scenes that may hurt the public's morale and morality. However, the programmes that are directly received through the satellite receivers contain news stories that are against the government's policy as well as the scenes that may hurt national culture, customs; and traditions, and characters of the people. If the government disregards and ignores that point, I would say those who will face evil consequences of that are the nation and the people.

As far as I am concerned, only a low number of countries bestow their people with the freedom of satellite programmes. **Almost all the countries enforce restrictions like media control in that regard. The reasons to take media control are various, but the purposes of the governments are the same: to protect the interests of the people and the nation concerned. Every country has to censor the scenes that are detrimental to their national interests. The People's Republic of China, for instance, prohibits its ordinary people from watching satellite**

programmes, in general. It takes media control by designating Cable TV, Pay TV, and Free to Air for public entertainment. Here, diplomatic corps, international level hotels, and the residential areas for foreigners are privileged, and they have to pay fees for specific channels and kinds under the law.

Similarly, Singapore exercises a policy on media to restrict the people to watch satellite programmes. In the country, the people have access to only Cable TV, Pay TV and Air Channel, and it grants licence to diplomat corps, international level hotels, and foreign language schools and universities to use satellite receivers. In addition, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, India and the Republic of Korea take media control measures with their own ways. Surely, they do not allow their people to use eight-foot satellite dishes, but Myanmar citizens can use them freely.

In some countries, the government and private companies jointly control their media. Furthermore, many countries not only restrict the rights to watch satellite programmes but also control import and distribution of satellite receivers and accessories under the law.

In Myanmar, many people have illegally imported, traded, distributed and used satellite receivers and accessories for more than a decade. Taking good advantage of the circumstances in which the government does not enforce the laws strictly for the convenience of the people, such people have done so for a long time. So, the nation must have lost many taxes, licence fees, and annual fees to some extent. I think necessary laws should have been enforced on registration of satellite receivers and license fees.

The people, hotels and motels can use satellite receivers with licence, but a disheartening point is that the government has not been able to designate respective channels yet, so the people can watch all the satellite programmes indiscriminately. That means the people spend much money on improper, fabricated and decadent programmes. Superficially, that case does not seem serious, but that is like an open sore that may grow to the mallow. Therefore, such a terrible sore is to be cured duly.

Anyhow, no one can deny that both eight-foot and two-foot satellite receivers are common in our country. An eight-foot satellite receiver holds over 170 channels. Many of those channels can demoralize the people, hurt the nationalistic spirit and patriotic spirit, and arouse emotional feelings. From the national interest point of view, I would say that should have been remedied.

Now, many countries are planning to launch Pay TV and Free to Air Channel for public entertainment in order to restrict access to satellite receivers. Many countries including the United States have Cable TV, Pay TV and Free to Air. Thailand, Malaysia, India, Laos and Indonesia also have such programmes. In some of those countries, Direct to Home (DTH) is practised to

restrict use of satellite receivers, and satellite programmers are censored for the public entertainment. For example, such companies as UBC of Thailand, ASTRO of Malaysia and ABS-CBN of the Philippines provide services through DTH system.

Myanmar has seen MRTV-4, a Pay TV. MRTV and MWD, Free to Air types, educate, entertain and inform the people proportionately. MRTV-4 is designed to present a variety of programmes on education, business, culture, entertainment and international news stories that do not demoralize the people. It is important that they some way contribute towards development of human resources.

So far, MRTV-4 use DVB-T system to air broadcasts, and 24 townships of states and divisions have got stations to receive its programmes. They are Yangon, Sagaing, Monywa, PyinOoLwin, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Meiktila, Bago, Toungoo, Nyaunglebin, Pyay, Minhla, Kyaunggon, Patheingyi, Minbu, Dawei, Kengtung, Taunggyi, Lashio, Mawlamyine, Myawady, Sittway, Loikaw, Myitkyina and Haka. Six other townships: Thandwe, An, Pakokku, Myeik, Hpa-an and Muse will get similar stations by the last week of February 2009. And it is on target that nine other townships—Kalay, Labutta, Bogale, Kawthoung, Tachilek, Kyaukse, Bhamo, Namma and Pha-kant will get stations by May 2009. So, it is apparent that MRTV-4 is working hard to cover the whole country.

That is part of its drive to provide the public with moral programmes. It is also trying to get the people pay taxes fully to the government. MRTV-4 is expected to cover whole country in the near future. It broadcasts over 20 channels. So, I would say now **MRTV-4 is ready for those who are claiming that they will not be able to stay in touch with what is going on in the world if they do not have access to satellite programmes.**

In reality, satellite programmes are particularly designed to wield influence, making use of media and arts. Today, certain countries are brazenly interfering in the internal affairs of their targeted countries by inciting political problems, instigating mass demonstrations, and demoralizing the characters and undermining nationalistic sense of the people through decadent programmes. Accordingly, many countries are taking action to prohibit and control such broadcasts with the bounden duty to protect the national interests.

Literacy, arts, culture, nationalistic fervour and national character of every nation and people have had their specific values for long. Surely, those values of a country are not identical to that of any other country. I believe that those values of our country are better than that of any other country. Therefore, I would like to remind with national sense and national awareness that it is time the people protected our country's literacy, arts, culture, nationalistic spirit and national character from dangers posed by alien media.

The people should not be too naive to encourage such decadent media. I do not think it is wise if they do not take that point seriously but continue to encourage such decadent programmes. Therefore, I would say the entire people should quit such a bad habit, regarding decadent satellite programmes as they really are.

Translation: MS

Certain countries are brazenly interfering in the internal affairs of their targeted countries by inciting political problems, instigating mass demonstrations, and demoralizing the characters and undermining nationalistic sense of the people through decadent programmes.

Commander, ministers meet village people in Minbya

NAY PYI TAW, 16 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 met village people from three villages in Minbya Township on 8 February. Minister U Aung Thaung presented K 500,000 for

renovation of rural dispensary and 538 dozens of exercise books for students, Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe medicines and clothing and newspapers, journals and magazines for rural libraries and the commander exercise books.

The following day, Minister U Aung Thaung inspected Win Thuza warehouse and shop in Sittway.—MNA



A workshop co-sponsored by Jakarta-based ASEAN Foundation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in progress at Royal Kumudra Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone.—MNA

Workshop on understanding of projects for development of human resources

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Feb—A workshop co-sponsored by Jakarta-based ASEAN Foundation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at Royal Kumudra Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone this morning.

Director-General U Than Tun of ASEAN Affairs Department spoke on the occasion.

Ms Renelle Ivy Adan and Mr Ade Cadyadi of ASEAN Foundation and Director-General U Than Tun discussed understanding of projects for development of human resources, proposal of the projects and provision of assistance to the those projects. Officials replied to the queries of the participants.—MNA

57th National Championship Inter-ministry Track and Field held

YANGON, 16 Feb — Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman's Trophy the 57th National Championship Inter-ministry Track and Field was held at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna yesterday.

Sport teams of the ministries took place and the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Defence handed over the championship shields to officials.

General Secretary of MOC Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik spoke on the occasion and formally opened the competition.

The events will continue to 17 February.—MNA

Medical students target aphids with insecticide safe for humans

SAINT PAUL, 16 Feb—Medical scientists in Minnesota are focusing their expertise on a pest that destroys soybeans. The goal of the Minnesota Partnership team is to develop an insecticide that is safe for humans but will kill the soybean aphid, a bug that's been ravaging Minnesota crops. Their findings appear in the journal Public Library of Science -- PLoS One.

"We've shown in the laboratory that we're 99 percent effective in inhibiting a key enzyme in two aphids, one that damages soybeans," says Stephen Brimijoin, Ph.D., a Mayo Clinic researcher on the team. "This means we should be able to stop the insect without harming other animals or humans because the target we're hitting is selective to the aphid."

Dr. Brimijoin collected soybean aphids from



Soybean aphids (*Aphis glycines*).

demonstration plots at the University of Minnesota Extension facility in Rochester and isolated the key enzyme in the aphids, while Yuan-Ping Pang, Ph.D., Mayo Clinic co-investigator, characterized the molecular structures of the target area.

Internet

White-nose kills hundreds of bats

SCIENCE DAILY, 16 Feb — Several hundred little brown bats are dead from White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) in Lackawanna County, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission is looking to residents for help uncovering other sites where this deadly disorder may have surfaced. Game Commission biologists had been uncovering signs of what appeared to be an impending WNS outbreak in Pennsylvania since last spring. Over the past two years, the disorder has killed more than 90

percent of some wintering bat colonies where it first surfaced in New York and spread through New England. Its confirmation in Pennsylvania and New Jersey came in the past two weeks, but Pennsylvania had a surprisingly unique distinction among the states where WNS has been documented; Pennsylvania bats were not leaving their wintering quarters – caves and mines – and weren't dying. Unfortunately, that no longer can be said.

Last week, bats were found dead outside of an abandoned mine near Carbondale by a citizen who later reported the findings to the agency. Game Commission Wildlife Conservation Officer Chris Skipper visited the site immediately and confirmed the findings. Bats were dead on the ground; flying from the mine; dropping from the sky. Then on Groundhog Day, agency biologist Greg Turner found bats flying from another Lackawanna County mine near Throop. They shouldn't have been emerging for another six weeks.

"Roughly 50 percent of the bats in the mine near Carbondale displayed the characteristic white fungus," said Kevin Wenner, an agency biologist stationed at the agency's Northeast Region office in Dallas. "Bats have been and are staging close to the entrance of the mine; some dying in the mine while others were flying around and dying outside on top of the snow."

Internet



Early Riser-Game Commission Biologist Greg Turner checks dead bats outside an abandoned mine near Carbondale.

7th AGM of Kyaukse Association (Yangon) 21 Feb

YANGON, 16 Feb—Kyaukse Association (Yangon) will hold its 7th annual general meeting at its Dhamayon at the corner of West Shwegondiang Street and New Yedashe Street in Bahan Township at 9 a.m. on 21 February.

Invitation cards attached with annual reports have already been sent, and members are to attend the meeting without fail. Those who are not members but born in Kyaukse District may attend the meeting.

Dial 01 552736 for further detail.—MNA



U Aye Lwin, U Aye Tun and U Aung Kyi Soe, CEC members of Myanmar Industrialists Association leave for Thailand to attend Workshop on Special Economic Zone Development for CLMV Countries in Bangkok from 16 to 20 February.—NLM

Annex of BEMS under construction in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township



Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo inspects the construction of the new school building in Nyaunglunt village BEMS.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Feb — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo inspected construction of annex of basic education middle school in Nyaunglunt Village in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township on 15 February.

The annex is under construction with the contribution of the

Ministry of Home Affairs. The minister met with the headmaster and teachers.

The minister inspected repair of Larban Bridge in Telmyint Village Tract and donated 200 sacks of cement.

He met with village people from seven villages and asked them about their economic, social,

education and health matters.

The minister went to the integrated farm of U Cho Te of Khitaye Village and inspected cultivation of summer paddy, mushroom, raising of cattle and production of biogas from the waste of animals.

MNA

Homage paid to old teachers in Mandalay



The 8th respect-paying ceremony to old teachers of No.19 BEHS (Pwagon) in progress.—NLM

MANDALAY, 12 Feb — The 8th respect-paying ceremony to old teachers of No.19 Basic Education High School (Pwagon) was held at Yanpyay Thatshay Dhammayon of Chanthakyi Pagoda at the corner of 91 street and 25 street, Mandalay on 12 February. The old students paid respects to 22 old teachers and presented K 60,000 each and medicines. On behalf of all older

teachers, Sayagyi U Yar Paing (Yan Myo Lon) and Sayamagyi Daw Thi Thi Swe gave counsel.

Next, treasurer U Ko Ko Naing (Swan-ar Saw Mill) reported on financial statement and the old student U Myint Win, an assistant education officer of Aungmyethazan Township, spoke words of thanks.

NLM

Minister inspects regional development tasks in Taungtha Township

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Feb— Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaug met with people of Kyepinte, Nagavo, Taunglulin, Khozin, Kywetalin, Enginetha and TaungUzalote Villages at Kywetalin village-tract and inspected Kyauktalon supporting dam in Taungtha Township

yesterday.

Afterwards, the minister also met with the people of Thabutpinte, Yonetaw, Ohtaung, Kywetut, Myinchangon, Thepingon, Thangon and Sonlon villages at Thabutpinte village-tract and inspected completion of hydro power station, generation of hydro

electric power and irrigation.

The minister looked into completion of the construction of Teyar Basic Education Pre-Primary School and natural waste storages to generate power with the use of natural waste biogas and engine rooms at Kyaukka Villagel.—MNA

Education Services of SHINE Universal Services Co. Ltd

YANGON, 16 Feb— SHINE Universal Services Co. Ltd is an education services centre, contributing as a gateway for Myanmar students to be convenient in their pursuit of education in Singapore.

It is also providing consultantancy services for Myanmar students in seeking knowledge in their interested fields.

It has elapsed over 20 years since SAA was founded by Institute of Certified Public

Accountants of Singapore (ICPAS) in Singapore since 1985. SAA is recognized as Singapore Quality Class (SQC) presented by Private Education Organization (PEOs) and Case Trust for Education Accreditation by The Consumer Association of Singapore.

SHINE Universal Services will provide Yangon-Singapore air ticket and medical check-up for students who register in February for

CAT program to be opened in March. On 1 March, Daw Cho Cho Win of Nanyang Institute of Management will give talks on subjects available in NIM in an education seminar at SHINE Universal Services.

Those interested may enroll now as the seminar has limited seats and for further information, contact SHINE Universal Services Co Ltd No.38, 40 Bo Yar Nyunt Street Dagon Township—Ph:393041.—MNA

Workshop on “Creative Responses to the Global Economic Crisis” held

YANGON, 16 Feb— CEO Magazine of Today Publishing House organized workshop “Creative Responses to the Global Economic Crisis” of the Myanmar Executive Forum at the Park Royal Yangon Hotel

on 11 February.

Dr. Aung Thet Tun played the leading role in the discussions.

Present on the occasion were CEOs and executives from Myanmar economic enterprises.

The workshop was

sponsored by Citymart Supermarket. The workshop, the first movement of Myanmar Executive Forum, was designed to help Myanmar entrepreneurs work out present economic crisis.

MNA

Ancient geologic escape hatches mistaken for tube worms

CALGARY, 16 Feb — Tubeworms have been around for millions of

years and the fossil record is rich with their distinctive imprints. But a discovery made by U of C scientists found that what previous researchers had labeled as tubeworms in a formation near Denver, Colorado, are actually 70 million-year-old escape hatches for methane.



Federico Krause points to one of the tubeworms that he believes is actually an escape hatch for methane.

Tubeworms, or siboglinids, look like long lipstick tubes and have been observed in warm and cold environments on the ocean floor, as well as in whale carcasses and decomposing organic-rich cargoes in sunken ships.

Ecosystems teeming with tubeworm colonies were discovered at hydrothermal vents in the Galapagos Ridge in 1977 and at cold seeps at the base of the Florida Escarpment in 1984. As a result of these modern sightings, a number of fossil examples of tubeworms were subsequently identified in the rock record. One of these localities, found south of Denver, Colorado, was recently re-examined by U of C scientists.

Internet

Sittway Airport runway project to be completed by 30 May 2009

Article, photos: Singu Soe Win

(from page 16)

The Directorate of Military Engineers began the installation of light units on 2 February 2008, and now it has completed cent per cent: 58 runway edges lights, 36 runway threshold identification lights, 24 precision approach path indicator lights, 33 pairs of taxiway lights, a pair of beacon lights, five wing indicator lights, 24 approach lights and four flash lights.

Junior Engineer (2) U Thant Zaw Oo said that Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaug Aye, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, and officials of the Civil Aviation Department had made an inspection tour of the project.

I noticed a modern tar mixer, seven trucks and road rollers were operating at full capacity, and tar, gneiss stones, and construction materials were stockpiled in an organized way. The project is due to be completed by 30 May 2009. After the project is completed, Fokker 27 and F 28 aircraft can use it safely. And after the runway is extended into a 2500 feet long one, the airport can cope with B 737-200 and A-300 aircraft. So, the project will make a remarkable contribution towards the development of Rakhine State.

Translation: MS



Workers resurfacing the runway.

The tar mixer in operation.



The tarring of the runway in progress.



New cancer research tool

REGINA, 16 Feb — University of Saskatchewan scientists have developed a new tool that enables scientists to analyze the function of a crucial set of proteins in

animals—a finding that could lead to a host of better drugs for and deeper insights into the workings of cancer.

Developed by a team at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO), the tool is described in a Jan. 20th article in the prestigious journal Science Signaling. The technology is expected to be rapidly adopted by scientists in a wide range of disciplines and will likely replace the “mouse model” for some types of research.

“This technology is very simple, relatively in-

expensive, and can be adopted in any lab,” said project leader Scott Napper. “Scientists can customize it to look at whatever cell function they want to analyze.”

The new tool—called a species-specific peptide array—involves the use of a glass slide with segments of protein molecules affixed to it.

It will help scientists analyze kinases, key regulatory molecules in cells. While only a small percentage of human genes code for protein kinases, mutations in many of these genes are at the root of many human diseases.

Internet

Violent computer games have role in fire safety

LONDON, 16 Feb — The software code underlying violent computer games can be used to train people in fire safety, new academic research has found.

Commercial games such as Doom 3 and Half Life 2 can be used to build virtual worlds to train people in fire evacuation procedures by applying the games' underlying software code, according to the Durham University researchers.

A 3D model of a real world building and three fire evacuation scenarios were programmed in three weeks by a single devel-

oper complete with smoke and fire. The Durham experts say this is significantly quicker and more cost-effective than using traditional virtual reality toolkits or writing the code from scratch.

The use of virtual real-

ity toolkits often requires more advanced programming skills and integration of different components to build a 3D model making it a lengthier and more expensive process, say the scientists.

Internet



Ryan Arsenault and Scott Napper.



Image from the video game.

Two Indians selected as among world top billionaires

NEW DELHI, 16 Feb—The US money magazine *Forbes* has selected Indian-born steel tycoon Lakshmi Mittal and Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani as being among the 20 most powerful billionaires in the world, said the semi-official *Press Trust of India* on Sunday.

In a report datelined from New York, the news agency quoted *Forbes* as saying that as “they possess not only the riches but also economic dominance as well as political clout”. “(They) have tremendous sway over the world’s markets, workers—and, in some cases, armies,” *Forbes* was quoted as saying.

Bor Lakshmi Mittal controls the world’s largest steel firm, ArcelorMittal. He has been ranked third on the *Forbes* most powerful rich guys’ list “despite his fortune falling 24.5 billion US dollars between March and November 2008”, said the report. Ambani, head of Reliance Industries, India’s largest company by market cap, was ranked seventh on the list, said the report.

“(The company) produces oil, gas, petrochemicals and textiles. Personally funding construction of a 27-storey home in Mumbai that could cost two billion US dollars,” *Forbes* was quoted as saying.—MNA/Xinhua



Artists perform during the rehearsal for ‘Varekai’, the latest touring production of Cirque du Soleil, in Berlin on 4 June, 2008. The show runs from 5 June to 13 July in the German capital.—INTERNET

First carbon-free polar station opens in Antarctica

PRINCESS ELISABETH BASE (Antarctica), 16 Feb—The world’s first zero-emission polar research station opened in Antarctica on Sunday and was welcomed by scientists as proof that alternative energy is viable even in the coldest regions.

Pioneers of Belgium’s Princess Elisabeth station in East Antarctica said if a station could rely on wind and solar power in Antarctica—mostly a vast, icy emptiness—it would undercut arguments by sceptics that green power is not reliable.

“If we can build such a station in Antarctica we can do that elsewhere in our society. We have the capacity, the technology, the knowledge to change our world,” Alain Hubert, the station’s project director, told *Reuters* at the inauguration ceremony.

Global warming, spurred by greenhouse gas emissions, has prompted governments to look for alternative energy sources. And renewable energies are gaining a foothold in Antarctica, despite problems in designing installations to survive bone-chilling cold and winter darkness.

Wind and even solar power are catching on—solar panels on the Antarctic Peninsula can collect as much energy in a year as many places in Europe. Thomas Leysen, chairman of Belgium’s Umicore, a leading manufacturer of catalysts for cars who attended the ceremony, said it made good business sense for companies to help protect the environment.—MNA/Reuters



The floats of King and Queen Carnival parade during the 125th edition of the carnival in Nice on 15 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Nine killed in road accident in the N-E Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 16 Feb—At least nine people died and other 24 were injured on Sunday when a passenger bus collided against a trailer truck in the northeastern state of Baja California. The Federal Police of Highways and Bridges said the accident occurred at 05:30 local time (1130 GMT) on Sunday near the Ejido Cuernavaca. The crash happened when the driver of the passenger bus, tried to surpass a trailer truck loaded with vegetables at a road cross. According to police authorities, the bus was speeding before colliding with the truck entering the left side of the road cross. The injured were taken to hospitals in the city of Mexicali, capital of the state of Baja California.—MNA/Xinhua

DPRK warns US to drop hostile policy

PYONGYANG, 16 Feb—The United States was to blame for the tension on the Korean Peninsula and would provoke punishing action from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), the official *Korean Central News Agency* (KCNA) cited an government spokesman as saying Sunday.

US moves to set up a “combined air-force command” with South Korea and refresh its military operation plan against the DPRK “fully represent the scheme of US war hawks to stifle the DPRK militarily and permanently occupy South Korea”, a spokesman for the Korean National Peace Committee said.—MNA/Xinhua



Chinese job hunters fill in application forms at a job fair for university graduates in rural Beijing on 16 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET



The picture represents the Beijing Xinhua Bookstore, but to be more specific it’s a structure outside China’s bookstore which contains one of the biggest collection of books.—INTERNET

Helicopter crash in Chile forest fire region, kills 13

SANTIAGO, 16 Feb—Thirteen people, including a dozen firefighters, were killed on Sunday when their helicopter crashed in a region of south-central Chile that is grappling with a rash of forest fires, regional authorities said.

The helicopter, which belongs to forestry company Celco, a unit of conglomerate Copec, crashed in the Maule region around 185 miles (300 kilometres) south of the capital, Santiago.

“They are 12 firefighters and the pilot,” Angelica Saez, Governor of the province of Cauquenes, told local television, revising the death toll down from the 14 she reported earlier. “They belong to the company Celco Constitucion.”

She said the firefighters were aged 18 to 30. “They are youths who work during the season to try and pull together money to study. These are difficult times,” she added. A fireman who went to the scene said he and his team found two corpses around 50 yards (metres) away from the wreckage. Parts of the helicopter were still burning.

Chile’s National Forestry Corp. (CONAF) said the ill-fated team had been heading to put out a fire at a eucalyptus plantation when the helicopter crashed.

A regional national emergency official said there was a dense mist in the area and a light rain at the time of the crash.—MNA/Reuters

Powerful quake jolts northern Japan

TOKYO, 16 Feb—A powerful earthquake of 6.0 magnitude hit northern Japan on Sunday evening, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The quake happened at 6:24 pm local time, with the epicentre about 40 kilometres under the sea off Iwate Prefecture, at 40.3 degrees north Latitude and 142.5 degrees east Longitude. No tsunami warning has been issued and there was no immediate report of deaths or injuries.

The agency said the quake was most strongly felt in the southeastern part of Aomori Prefecture, where intensity 4 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 was registered.

The quake was also felt in Iwate’s neighbouring prefectures of Miyagi, Tochigi and Yamagata.—MNA/Xinhua

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 Ph: 723043
 (For. British American Tobacco Ltd, U.K.)
 Dated. 17 February, 2009.

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 Win Mu Tin
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 P. O. Box 60, Yangon
 Dated: 17 February 2009

**Drive
 with
 care**

INVITATION TO TENDER
TENDER NO (1) (ES) A.M.D (2009-2010)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, for the supply of the following store (in Myanmar Kyats.)

Sr.No	Description	Quantity
(1)	Tyre & Tube Sets	(1)Lots, (5)Items
(2)	Assorted Taper Roller & Ball Bearing	(1)Lots, (55)Items
(3)	Implement Disc, 12-V Battery & Paints	(3)Lots, (8)Items
(4)	Plunger & Barrel, Delivery Valve and Nozzle Tips	(1)Lots, (7)Items
(5)	Tractor Spares (Zwe, 5911, 6711, 7011, 7045 John Deere-2300)	(2)Lots, (124)Items
(6)	Tractor Spares (SH-50, SH-654, TN-800)	(3)Lots, (80)Items
(7)	Tractor Spares (8011, Massey Ferguson 275, John Deere-2800)	(3)Lots, (137)Items

2. Tender Closing Date 31st March 2009, 12:00 hrs
 3. Tender documents are available at Equipment & Stores Branch of Agricultural Mechanization Department (Head Office), AMD Bayintnaung Road, Insein Township, Yangon, during office hours from (18-3-2009). Only Tenders purchased from AMD will be accepted.
 4. For more details, Contact; 01-682209, 01-682593

Director General
 Agricultural Mechanization Department

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



Myanmar

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is seeking applications from dynamic and highly motivated Myanmar nationals for the following vacancy (re-advertisement) with UNDP Yangon.

Detailed terms of reference are available at the bulletin board at No. 6, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon.

Finance Analyst - (ICS-8)

Requirements: Masters Degree or equivalent in Business Administration, Finance, Public Administration, Economics, or related field. Minimum 2 years of relevant experience at the national or international level in providing management, advisory services, and/or managing staff and operational systems. Experiences in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc.) and advanced knowledge of spreadsheets and database packages, experiences in handling web-based management systems knowledge of ATLAS an asset. Prior experience with UNDP projects or UN organizations or INGO will be an asset. Team-building, analytical, facilitation, communication and decision-making skills will be an advantage. Fluency in English language, both written and spoken absolute requirement.

Candidates should clearly indicate the Post Title in their applications, and should submit them together with complete bio-data stating personal details, academic qualification, work experience and a recent passport sized photograph. Applications should be addressed to **Deputy Country Director (Operations) Attention: Human Resources Unit, No. 6, Natmauk Road, UNDP, Yangon.**

Only those candidates in whose qualifications and experience the Organization has further interest will be contacted for subsequent interview(s).

Those who applied for the post earlier need not apply.

"UNDP practice relating to recruitment prohibits hiring of persons currently engaged by Government services or who left Government service during the past 6 months."

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer.

UNDP regrets its inability to reply individually or attend to telephone queries on the advertised posts.

Closing Date: 27 February 2009 (COB)

Cambodia's ATM networks grow despite crisis

PHNOM PENH, 17 Feb—Despite concerns over the impact of the global credit crunch on local financial institutions, Cambodian banks are expanding their network of ATMs to provide customers with easier access to their money, national media reported Monday.

In Channy, president and chief executive of ACLEDA Bank, told the *Phnom Penh Post* that the growth of ATMs has boomed in the last few years as living conditions improve and greater progress is made in modernizing the kingdom's bank sector.

"In 2007, (we) had 20 ATMs. Now, we have 60 ATMs with plans to reach 100 by the end of this year," In Channy said.

"Our ATMs have been installed in all parts of Cambodia," he said.—*Internet*

"Corrigendum"

The correct trademark logo in the Cautionary Notice published on the 21 January, 2009 for two trademarks of Bosch Corporation should be as follows:-



Tin Ohnmar Tun
 Advocate for Mark-i Inc.

**Donate
 Blood**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV XIANG DA VOY NO (9006)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOY NO (9006) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.2.2009 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 CHINA
 SHIPPING(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
 Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BUNGA MAS-11 VOY NO (808)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BUNGA MAS-11 VOY NO (808) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.2.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
 MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
 AGENT FOR: M/S MAXICON CONTAINER
 LINES
 Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV OEL EXCELLENCE VOY NO (246N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OEL EXCELLENCE VOY NO (246N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.2.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
 MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
 AGENT FOR: M/S BLPL LOGISTICS PTE LTD
 Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Amid nurse shortage, hospitals focus on retention

MIAMI, 16 Feb—Newly minted nurse Katie O'Bryan was determined to stay at her first job at least a year, even if she did leave the hospital every day wanting to quit.

She lasted nine months. The stress of trying to keep her patients from getting much worse as they waited, sometimes for 12 hours, in an overwhelmed Dallas emergency room was just too much. The breaking point came after paramedics brought in a child who'd had seizures. She was told he was stable and to check him in a few minutes, but O'Bryan decided not to wait. She found he had stopped breathing and was turning blue.—*Internet*

Microsoft to open own retail stores



Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer introduces the Windows 7 operating system at CES. The software giant is planning to open its own retail stores.

INTERNET

SEATTLE, 16 Feb—Microsoft plans to open its own stores despite the economic downturn that has left many retailers struggling.

The company hired David Porter, a 25-year veteran of Wal-Mart Stores, as its corporate

vice president of retail stores. Porter was head of worldwide product distribution at DreamWorks Animation SKG since 2007. Porter, who is set to start work this week, is charged with improving the PC-buying experience. The company said

his first task will be to set the timing, locations and design of Microsoft-branded retail stores, which will sell computers installed with Microsoft software as well as other company products.

Microsoft has been working to revive the image of its ubiquitous Windows operating system, starting with a US\$300 million advertising campaign that began last year.

Vista, the most recent version of the software, was widely criticised for being slow, requiring new and pricier hardware, and not working with devices like printers and scanners. Vista has also been the subject of a series of snarky television ads from Apple.—*Internet*

China's Harbin starts car control policy to ease traffic for Winter Universiade

BEIJING, 16 Feb—The Chinese northern city of Harbin started on Sunday a half-month-long control of vehicle use to ensure smoother traffic for the 24th Winter Universiade set to open on 18 Feb.

According to a traffic control regulation running from 15 Feb to 1 March, vehicles with even and odd plate number run on alternate days in 19 major lanes of the city, to improve air quality and ease traffic pressure.

Meanwhile, 47 downtown streets are dedicated as special lanes for the Winter Universiade and only open to vehicles

servicing the events.

However, city buses, taxis and those vehicles used for the Games were free of the rule.

The 24th Winter Universiade, which will be held from 18-28 Feb, is a high level international sports event held in China after the Beijing Olympics. So far, over 3,800 athletes from 44 countries and regions have confirmed to attend the Games.

Harbin's preparation for the Winter Uni-

versade is in full swing.

According to Guo Mingyu, deputy secretary-general of the Organizing Committee, the budget for the facilities of upcoming Winter Universiade is about 2.6 billion yuan (US\$370 million).

Ministries of the central government, relevant departments in Heilongjiang Province and the Harbin municipal government have co-invested in the Games.

Internet

Remains of boar-croc found

WELLINGTON, 16 Feb—Imagine meeting a crocodile with huge tusks like those of a wild boar. Palaeontologist Paul Sereno did meet one, or at least the remains of the ancient creature, and he gave a crowd of excited youngsters a first public glimpse yesterday.

Sereno calls it boar-croc for its looks, since he hasn't yet published an article on it with a scientific name in the official literature. The University of Chicago researcher found the skull in the Sahara Desert, which many thousands of years ago was moist and supported all sorts of animals. Boar-croc doesn't fit in any known order. It has a crocodile-like snout, but adds horns and three sets of canine teeth like those of a wild pig adapted for eating meat.—*Internet*

Killer flu could hit NZ this winter

WELLINGTON, 16 Feb—Health authorities are warning New Zealand could be hit this winter by a virulent "Brisbane strain" of flu which killed six children in Australia last year.

Furthermore, New Zealanders could prove more vulnerable to the virus this year due to low immunisation rates and several mild flu seasons. Virologist Lance Jennings told the New Zealand Doctor magazine the country was due for a serious influenza season after a lull lasting several years.

The last serious season — in 2005 — saw three children die from an in-

fluenza "B" strain. National Influenza Strategy Group chair Anne-Marie Frost said this year's vaccine included three strains. One, dubbed the "Brisbane strain" had killed six children in Australia last winter.

Internet

Decoys drive cancer cells to suicide

PARIS, 16 Feb—French specialists overnight unveiled a new weapon against cancer — a molecular "decoy" that mimics DNA damage and prompts cancerous cells to kill themselves.

The research, published in a US journal, Clinical Cancer Research, opens up fresh avenues for attacking tumours that are resistant to conventional therapy, they said. Chemotherapy and radiotherapy aim at inflicting sufficient damage to a cancer cell to unleash a process of programmed cell death, also called apoptosis.

But sometimes the onslaught does not cause enough damage to activate the apoptosis trigger, and surviving cancer cells are able to repair

themselves. A team led by Marie Dutreix of the Curie Institute in Paris, developed tiny fragments of DNA that mimic the two broken ends of the double-helix genetic code.

The trick prompts these holdout cells into believing they are far more damaged than they really are, and commit suicide. The tricksters — appropriately called "Dbaits" — have been successfully tested on mice, Ms Dutreix said.

By injecting lab rodents with Dbaita a few hours before radiotherapy, the team were able to wipe out 75-100 per cent of cancer cells on lab rodents, compared with 30-50 per cent using only radiotherapy, and there was no collateral damage to healthy tissue.—*Internet*

Twenty jailed in Internet gambling case

SHANGHAI, 16 Feb—A Chinese court has jailed 20 people in what is thought to be the country's biggest online gambling case, state media reported.

The Shanghai Putuo District People's Court sentenced ringleader Qian Baochun, 41, overnight to six years and ordered him to pay a fine of five million yuan (\$1.13 million) for establishing gambling websites, the *Xinhua* news agency said.

Nineteen other men were handed prison terms ranging from one to five years and fines of 20,000 yuan to one million yuan (\$4430 to \$222,000), according to the report. "This is possibly the country's biggest online gambling case," court spokesman Zhang Minxian said. The gang started business during the 2006 World Cup in Germany, *Xinhua* said. The court heard Qian and two others opened accounts on overseas gambling websites and began to develop a network of agents and gamblers, earning 1.6 million yuan (\$355,000) from wagers, the report said.—*Internet*

Gaza population "rising rapidly"

GAZA CITY, 16 Feb—The population of the Gaza Strip increased by almost 40% between 1997 and 2007, according to the results of a Palestinian census.

The survey, taken before Israel's recent offensive, showed the territory has a population of 1.4 million people.

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics estimated the annual growth rate at 3.3% and said the population would double in 21 years at that rate. The UN estimates the world's current average population growth at 1.17%. In a statement, the West Bank-based bureau said: "Assuming a stable growth during the coming years, the Gaza Strip population will multiply [double] in 21 years." There were mixed findings in the census for

the people of Gaza.

The overwhelming majority of people in the territory (67.9%) continue to be UN-registered refugees. The figure was only slightly lower (65.1%) in 1997. However, education and literacy showed signs of improvement.

The rate of people over the age of 10 unable to read fell from 11.3% in 1997 to 5.5% in 2007, as the proportion of those receiving school education rose from 62.8% to 70.6%. Preliminary results from the census were released in February 2008.

According to those figures, the combined population of Gaza and the West Bank including east Jerusalem is 3.8 million. The statistics bureau has not yet released final results on the West Bank or east Jerusalem.

Internet

Texas debris may be from crashed satellites

DALLAS, 16 Feb—The Federal Aviation Administration has received numerous reports of falling debris across Texas, which could be related to a recent satellite collision.

Some of the callers around midmorning on Sunday reported what looked like a fireball in the sky. FAA spokesman Roland Herwig said officials suspect the debris could be related to the collision, but he said that had not been confirmed. The FAA notified pilots on Saturday to be aware of possible debris after a collision last Tuesday between US and Russian communication satellites. The chief of Russia's Mission Control says clouds of debris from the collision will circle Earth and threaten numerous satellites.—*Internet*

SPORTS



Andy Murray shows the trophy after beating Rafael Nadal (R) of Spain in the final of the World Indoor Tennis Tournament in Rotterdam on 15 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Murray upsets Nadal in Rotterdam final

ROTTERDAM, 16 Feb—Andy Murray upset world number one Rafael Nadal 6-3 4-6 6-0 in a disappointing World Indoor Tournament final marred by injuries on Sunday.

Murray was less troubled by his ankle problem than Nadal was by his right knee problem after he had a medical time-out three games into the second set. Both players then dropped serve four times in a row, handing the set to Nadal who could not put any power into his service but refused to give up.

"Thought the first set was very good, I played well and saw nothing on Nadal's movement" Murray told reporters. "But after his time out he wasn't running anymore and just hitting the ball hard from the baseline." "It was disappointing as it wasn't particular entertaining at the end."—Internet

Hiddink to retire after 2010 World Cup

LONDON, 16 Feb—Russia and Chelsea coach Guus Hiddink has said he plans to retire from football after the 2010 World Cup. The 62-year-old Dutchman will manage Premier League Chelsea until the end of the season after taking over last week from the sacked Luiz Felipe Scolari.

"I think I will quit in the summer of 2010 after the World Cup," Hiddink told the Sunday Mirror. "From then on I am just going to ride around on my Harley-Davidson and I will be more of an am-

bassador for Nike."

"And I'll take care, privately, of my own project for the poor in Tanzania," he added.—Internet



Beckham says it would be difficult to return to Galaxy

MILAN, 16 Feb—David Beckham said on Sunday it would be difficult for him to return to Los Angeles Galaxy if his permanent move to AC Milan does not materialise. The England midfielder, on a two-month loan at Milan, wants to stay in Italy but Galaxy said on Friday that he must go back to Los Angeles after a Major League Soccer deadline to complete the transfer passed.

"I've said I want to stay here and if I do go back then it will be a bit difficult



David Beckham

but we'll have to wait and see what happens," Beckham told reporters after his side's 2-1 defeat by Inter Milan.

Milan have said they still hope to sign the 33-year-old full-time irrespective of the MLS deadline.

Internet

Man City's interest in Terry was rejected

LONDON, 16 Feb—Chelsea said on Sunday that Manchester City had made an enquiry about buying John Terry last year but the Londoners made it clear that their captain was not leaving Stamford Bridge.

"We made it very clear that John was not for sale. We did not entertain any further conversation on the subject and nor will we in the future," chief executive Peter Kenyon told www.chelseafc.com in a statement released in the wake of media speculation over a possible move for the defender.

"John is our captain and the captain of England. He is part of the heart and soul of Chelsea."

Terry said: "Chelsea told me what had happened with the enquiry as a courtesy. I was very happy with their reaction as mine would have been the same.

"I have always said that I want to end my career at the club which I love and we all see no reason why that cannot happen."—Internet



Chelsea's John Terry

Lyon move four points clear with Le Havre win

PARIS, 16 Feb—Olympique Lyon tightened their grip at the top of Ligue 1 with a 3-1 home victory over bottom club Le Havre on Sunday.

Seven-times cham-

pions Lyon are on 49 points after 24 matches and lead second-placed Paris St Germain by four points after the capital side beat St Etienne 2-1 on Saturday.

Lyon got off to a sluggish start at Gerland stadium but Brazilian midfielder Ederson broke the deadlock when he flicked the ball past Le Havre keeper Christophe Revault in the 34th minute.

Ivory Coast striker Abdul Kader Keita made it two with a cool finish a minutes before halftime and despite having defender John Mensah sent off in the 70th for a second bookable offence, Juninho made it three 16 minutes from the end with a 35-metre free kick.

Internet

Celtic stay ahead after goalless Old Firm derby

LONDON, 16 Feb—Celtic and Rangers ground out a dull goalless draw in the Scottish Premier League at Parkhead on Sunday to leave Celtic still two points clear at the top.

In a game of few clear chances, Celtic's Scott McDonald missed the best after 15 minutes when he failed to connect with a cross by debutant Willo Flood from point-blank range.

Internet

Man United and Everton into FA Cup quarters

LONDON, 16 Feb—Manchester United crushed Derby County 4-1 away while Everton beat Aston Villa 3-1 at Goodison Park on Sunday to reach the quarter-finals of the FA Cup.

United, winners of the competition a record 11 times, will visit either Swansea City or Fulham in the last eight, while Everton will be at home to West Ham United or Middlesbrough. Chelsea, the only other team definitely through after beating Watford 3-1 on Saturday, will visit either Blackburn Rovers or Coventry City. Four fifth-round games ended in draws on Saturday while Arsenal and Cardiff play their fourth-round replay on Monday night.

Everton are in the quarter-finals for the first time in eight years and the first time in the career of David Moyes either as a player or manager: "It's been a long time coming but you don't get anything for reaching quarter-finals," the Everton boss told Setanta TV. "We were struggling for players today, I was a bit worried, but they played tremendously well and earned their rewards."—Internet



Manchester United's Danny Welbeck (L) scores past Derby County's Stephen Bywater during their FA Cup fifth round soccer match at Pride Park in Derby, on 15 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Hamburg beat Arminia Bielefeld 2-0 to go third

BERLIN, 16 Feb—Hamburg SV moved up to third place in the Bundesliga on Sunday after beating lowly Arminia Bielefeld 2-0 with a goal in each half.

Bielefeld keeper Dennis Eilhoff completely misjudged Piotr Trochowski's free kick and palmed the ball into his own goal for the 32nd minute opener while Peruvian Paolo Guerrero bagged the second with a well-struck left-foot effort in the 60th.

Bielefeld squandered a chance to level in the 55th when Artur Wichniarek had a penalty saved. Hertha Berlin beat champions Bayern Munich 2-1 on Saturday to return to the top of the table for the first time in more than two years.—Internet

Raul sets record as Real hammer Sporting 4-0

MADRID, 16 Feb—Striker Raul set a club scoring record as Real Madrid swept aside Sporting Gijon 4-0 away on Sunday to cut Barcelona's lead at the top of the Primera Liga to 10 points.

The leaders were held 2-2 away to Real

Betis on Saturday, and the champions took full advantage as Raul scored twice and Klaas Jan Huntelaar and Marcelo added one apiece to make short work of their hosts. Raul's goals made him Real's all-time top scorer, surpassing Alfredo di Stefano's tally by two to move on to 309 goals for the nine-times European champions. Real's eighth consecutive victory put them on 50 points from 23 matches.

"We are closer (to Barcelona) because we have hauled back two points but it is still very difficult. It is out of our hands and we have to wait and see what happens," Real coach Juande Ramos said.—Internet





Tibetan artists in traditional costumes stage Tibetan dance during a rehearsal for the grand party scheduled to open on 24 Feb to celebrate the upcoming Tibetan New Year, the year of Ox, in Lhasa, capital of southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, on 14 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

British economy to shrink by 3.3% in 2009

LONDON, 16 Feb—Britain will fall into a deeper economic recession than previously thought, the Confederation of British Industry said on Monday, as tight credit conditions and a global downturn weigh down on companies.

And the weak pound will provide little impetus because the severity of the downturn in Britain's overseas markets will depress demand even as goods become cheaper to import. The CBI reckons the UK economy will shrink by 3.3 per cent this year, almost twice as bad as its last estimate in November for a contraction of 1.7 per cent. It estimates the economy will not grow at all in 2010.

The lobby group says a lack of credit has made conditions worse for companies and it called on the government to speed up measures aimed at getting credit flowing again. "How the forecast really pans out depends critically on how credit flows to the corporate sector can be resolved," said CBI chief economic adviser Ian McCafferty. "This is an essential precondition to a recovery."

The global financial crisis has caused wholesale money markets to freeze up, forcing banks to clamp down on lending to businesses and consumers.

MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (17.2.2009) (Tuesday)

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

Local Transmission

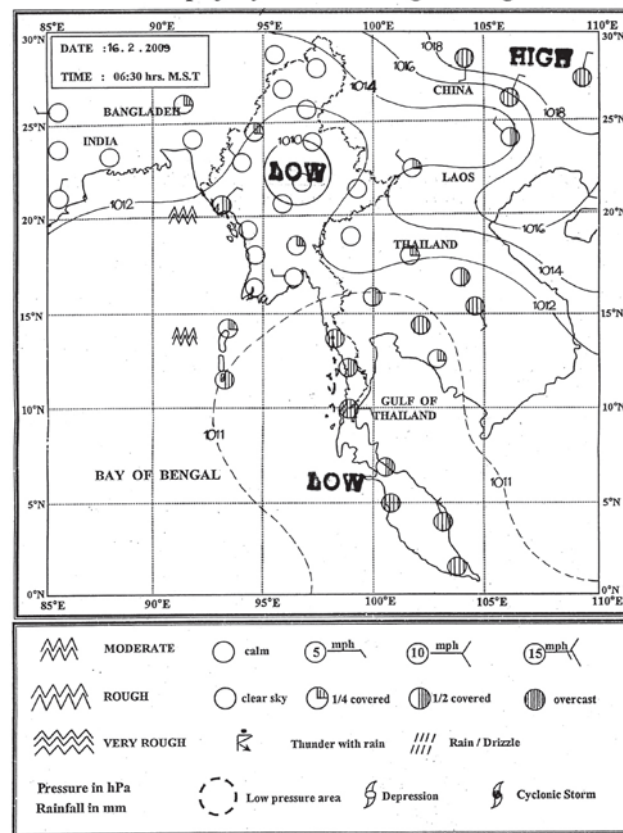
- Signature Tune
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, our Union (Mandalay Division)
- Arrogant Mosaic
- The Fascinating Oceanography of Myanmar
- Sights to see in Pyin-Oo-Lwin
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- Signature Tune
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, our Union (Mangway Division)
- Lucky Bamboo
- Rope painting
- Myanmar Traditional Marionette Theatre (Part-III)
- Kambozathadi: Palace of Conquerors
- National Herbal Park (Part-I)
- Wood Finishing Industry
- Myanmar Modern Song
- Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, our Union (Mandalay Division)
- Arrogant Mosaic
- The Fascinating Oceanography of Myanmar
- Sights to see in Pyin-Oo-Lwin
- Copies that will never lose (Sand Painting)
- National Herbal Park (Part-II)
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 16 February, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Chin State, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) above February average temperatures in upper Sagaing Division and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (1°C), Haka (2°C) and Namhsam (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 15-2-2009 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 16-2-2009 was 63°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 16-2-2009 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 15-2-2009 was (8.1) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 16-2-2009 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 (4) mph from South at (18:30) hours MST on 15-2-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17th February 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Kayin and Mon States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

State of the sea: Seas will be 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 17-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-2-2009: Generally fair weather.



Tuesday, 17 February
View on today

- 7:00 am**
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 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. အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:05 am**
6. Musical programme
- 8:20 am**
7. အကဖြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am**
8. International news
- 8:40 am**
9. လူကူးမျဉ်းကျားမှကူးမယ်
- 8:40 am**
10. Song of yesteryear
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm**
2. အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:20 pm**
3. Dance of national races
- 4:35 pm**
4. Musical programme
- 4:50 pm**
5. ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ

- ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ (သမိုင်းဘာသာရပ်)
- 5:15 pm**
6. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 5:20 pm**
7. ကြားညှပ်သီးနှံဖရဲ
- 5:30 pm**
8. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 5:45 pm**
9. "မေတ္တာရေအမြင်တင်သည့်ရွှေကြာ" (ထွန်းထွန်း (examplez), မြတ်ကောသီအောင်၊ နိုးပြည့်သင်္ဃေ [ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး(ပဲရစ်)])
- 6:00 pm**
10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
11. Weather report

- 6:35 pm**
12. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 6:55 pm**
13. ဆိုလိုက်ကြရီ
- 7:20 pm**
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နွဲ့ဆိုးဆိုးသူကိုယ့်ချစ်သူ" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)
- 8:00 pm**
15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မြင့်မြတ်နှလုံးသားပိုင်ရှင်" (အပိုင်း-၂၈)
- 19. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမှမေတ္တာ ဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်

Sittway Airport runway project to be completed by 30 May 2009

Article, photos: Singu Soe Win

Recently, I made a trip to Sittway in Rakhine State to cover news about the First Floriculture Contest, the photo contest, and the opening ceremony of the exhibition to mark the 62nd Anniversary Union Day.

While the airplane was about to touch the ground, I had a good view over the airport, and noticed that half part of the runway along it was black and the other half part, white with heavy machinery and trucks at work. For the time being, the Sittway Airport is serviceable only three days a week as its runway is being upgraded.

The following day, I studied the project site under the arrangements of Deputy Director of Rakhine State

General Administration Department U Kyaw Myint. Senior Engineer U Tin Maung Thein and Junior Engineer (2) U Thant Zaw Oo conducted me round the site.

In the World War II, Sittway Airport used to be a military airfield. The International Aeradio Limited (I.A.L) Co handed over the transport facility to the Civil Aviation Department on 24 July 1947. In 1960, the runway was upgraded to a 6000' x 150' tarred one.

The airport building was upgraded from a 120 long and 60 feet wide one to a 220 feet long and 60 feet wide one with a lounge and a special lounge for VIPs, and was launched on 22 March 2002.

Sittway Airport has a 6000' x 150' runway, a 600'

x 300' apron and a 525' x 75' taxiway. The runway can withstand 7300 pounds and cope with F-28 Fokker airplane.

The surfaces of the runway, apron and taxiway deteriorated due to wear and tear. So, the Civil Aviation Department under the Ministry of Transport launched the project for upgrading the airport facilities on 1 December 2006, and skilled workers are working hard day in, day out under the close supervision of the engineers of the department to complete the project on schedule. So far, the project has been completed by 85 per cent.

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Road rollers at work to resurface the apron.

INSIDE

Satellite programmes are particularly designed to wield influence, making use of media and arts.

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ARTICLE

Myanmar Calender Meeting held

YANGON, 16 Feb—The 58th Myanmar Calender Meeting was held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street here today.

Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Saddiyaca of Myanmar Calender Advisory Board addressed and Director-Gen-

eral U Yan Naing Oo of Myanmar Fine Arts Department made a speech. Next, experts discussed their respective sectors.

The meeting continues until 27 February.

MNA

Infant power mobility on display

NEWARK, 16 Feb — Children with mobility issues, like cerebral palsy and spina bifida, can't explore the world like other babies, because they can't crawl or walk. Infant development



Andrew takes his power chair for a spin.

emerges from the thousands of daily discoveries experienced by babies as they move and explore their worlds.

Mobility-deprived kids start exploring when they can operate a traditional power wheelchair, typically at age 3 or often older.

Research done by University of Delaware researchers is turning that on its head and could potentially change the way these children's brains develop.

Physical therapy professor Cole Galloway and mechanical engineering professor Sunil Agrawal

have developed tiny power chairs babies as young as 6 months can operate using a joystick.

Now, they've paired with Permobil, a national producer of power chairs, and outfitted a chair for toddlers.

Galloway will be showcasing this research February 10 in Las Vegas at the American Physical Therapy Association's Combined Sections Meeting.

A 17-month-old boy, Andrew, who's been driving the robots for more than a year, will be on hand to demonstrate the technology. —Internet

Adriano backs referee

MILAN, 16 Feb — Inter Milan striker Adriano is convinced referee Roberto Rosetti was right to allow his opening goal in the 2-1 derby win over AC Milan on Sunday night.

The Brazilian headed Maicon's inviting 29th-minute cross into the net via a deflection off his arm with the Rossoneri appealing in vain for handball.

Adriano insisted the contact with his arm was unintentional although that view was not shared by opposition boss Carlo Ancelotti.

"It was involuntary," said Adriano.

"I didn't want to touch the ball with my arm. I wanted to nod the ball in and my hand remained in a normal position.

"I think everyone has seen that this was the

case."

The burly South American praised Inter coach Jose Mourinho after the game, even though the pair have had a strained relationship this season.—Internet



Adriano - scored the opener.