

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye received the goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda at Bayintnaung Yeiktha here at 6 pm yesterday.

Also present on the occasion together with Vice-Senior General Maung Aye were Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-

Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Brig-Gen Maung Maung Ohn of the Ministry of Defence and Myanmar Military Attaché to Thailand Col Win Maung and together with Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda were Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag and Defence Attaché and Army Attaché Colonel Ekachai Harnpoonvittaya.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greets Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives visiting Thai goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 19 February, 2009

Nurture youths with high efficiency in national and regional interest

Development of a nation and its people depends on intellectuals and good morale, diligence and hard work of the individuals. Therefore the government is trying to turn out qualified human resources creating opportunities on education and health and better environment in the country.

Nowadays learning opportunities are available in rural and urban areas as the government has built educational infrastructures and modern communication networks. Higher education is now at hand for local people for there are arts and science universities, technological universities and universities of computer studies in 24-special development regions.

At a time when the government is building a new nation based on education, teachers' qualifications, teaching bent, goodwill and diligence mainly contribute towards the efforts to turn out human resource. They are to train their students constantly not only to have technology and skills but also to gain thinking power and knowledge.

It is necessary for the teachers to nurture the students to become brilliant youths with good morale and high national conviction and concept who would like to serve the interest of Myanmar society.

The teachers on their part are to participate in community welfare services such as socio-economic tasks, environmental conservation and natural disaster preparedness tasks while teaching their students higher education in the respective regions they are in.

Therefore it is the duty of teachers to nurture younger generation in accord with objective of the national education promotion programme in order to turn out human resources that possess mental prowess.

Myanmar: Cyclone Nargis Partnership Meeting held

YANGON, 18 Feb — Preparedness Central Committee in storm-hit regions and active participation of Myanmar Red Cross Society in health care services and rehabilitation works.

Next, MRCS President Prof. Dr. Tha Hla Shwe, Mr. Alan Harold Bradbury of IFRC Regional Office, Head of Delegation Mr. Bernd Schell of IFRC Myanmar Delegation, Head of Delegation Mr.

Georges Paclisanu of ICRC and Regional Organizational Delegate Mr. Malcolm John Mckinlay of IFRC Regional Office spoke on the occasion.

Then the MRCS President and executives, officials of IFRC and representatives of INGOs held discussions on rehabilitation tasks.

The meeting will continue tomorrow.

Director-General U Than Oo of Relief and Resettlement Department and Chairman of the Committee Dato' Muhammad Hatta Bin Ab-Aziz of Malaysia gave speeches.

The participants of the meeting discussed prevention and preparedness against natural disasters in ASEAN region, national level management for relief, resettlement and rehabilitation for natural

disasters and regional cooperation matters. Next, the chairman of the committee of Malaysia handed over duties and functions of the chairman to Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were delegates of

Meetings for management of natural disasters held

YANGON, 18 Feb — The ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management and the 3rd Senior Officials' Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management+3 at Thingaha Hotel, here, this morning.

ASEAN countries, responsible persons of ASEAN Secretariat, the UNHCR and other organizations. The meetings will continue up to 20 February.

Also present at the meeting were delegates of

(Thuwunna) of Ministry of Construction here yesterday. Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein made an opening speech on the occasion. Altogether 35 trainees attended the five-week course.

Also present at the meeting were delegates of

Housing Management Course and Storekeeper Grade-III Course concludes

YANGON, 18 Feb — A ceremony to conclude Housing Management Course and Storekeeper (Grade-3) Course, conducted by Public Works and Department of Human Settlements and Housing Development, was held at the central training school

(Thuwunna) of Ministry of Construction here yesterday. Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein made an opening speech on the occasion. Altogether 35 trainees attended the five-week course.

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

Thai delegation leaves Yangon



Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda and party view white elephants at White Elephant Garden.—MNA

YANGON, 18 Feb — The goodwill Thai delegation led by General Anupong Paojinda, Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army, arrived here from Nay Pyi Taw by special flight today.

The delegation, accompanied by Brig-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag and Thai Defence Attaché and Army Attaché Colonel Ekachai Harnpoonvittaya, was welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, military officers and officials concerned at the Yangon International Airport.

The delegation paid homage to Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image on Mindamma

Hill in Insein Township and viewed white elephants at White Elephant Garden.

The delegation also visited Shwedagon Pagoda and Thira Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda.

Later, the delegation left Yangon by special flight in the evening. They were seen off by the commander, military officers and officials concerned at the Yangon International Airport.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army was here at the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye.

MNA



Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping (L Front) is greeted by Venezuelan Vice President Ramon Carrizales (R Front) upon his arrival in Caracas, capital of Venezuela, on 17 Feb, 2009. Xi Jinping arrived in Caracas on 17 Feb for an official visit to Venezuela. —INTERNET

Obama orders 17,000 US troops to Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 18 Feb— President Barack Obama, in his first major military decision, has ordered 17,000 more US troops to Afghanistan to tackle worsening insurgent violence, the White House said on Tuesday.

"This increase is necessary to stabilize a deteriorating situation in Afghanistan, which has not received the strategic attention, direction and resources it urgently

requires," Obama said in a written statement.

As a presidential candidate, Obama promised to focus more attention on the war in Afghanistan, where violence has risen dramatically in the past two years as Taliban militants and other insurgents have gained strength.

"The decision was communicated to the Pentagon yesterday. The orders were signed today," White House spokesman

Robert Gibbs told reporters travelling with Obama in Denver. The 17,000 troops include an Army brigade equipped with Stryker armoured vehicles, a Marine expeditionary brigade and support personnel, officials said. The forces are part of an anticipated US troop build-up that could expand the US military presence in Afghanistan to 60,000 troops, from a current 38,000, in coming months.

MNA/Reuters

Eight British men tried for alleged airline bomb plot

LONDON, 18 Feb—Eight British Muslims plotted to kill thousands of civilians by blowing up at least seven trans-Atlantic passenger planes in mid-air with home-made liquid bombs disguised as soft drinks, a prosecutor said at their trial Tuesday.

Lawyer Peter Wright said the men planned to smuggle the bomb ingredients aboard jets bound from Britain to North America disguised as "soft-drinks bottles, batteries and other innocuous items" carried in hand luggage.

"They were to be detonated in-flight by suicide bombers," including sev-

eral of the accused, said Wright as he opened the case against the defendants.

Eight men aged between 22 and 30 deny conspiracy to murder. But Wright said the defendants were close to carrying out their plan when they were arrested in August 2006.

The arrests led to huge travel chaos, as hundreds of flights were grounded and thousands of people had their trips disrupted. They also triggered massive changes to airport security — including restrictions on carrying liquids on planes — that persist to this day.

Internet

Italy to increase troops in Afghanistan

ROME, 18 Feb—Italy is to increase its troops in Afghanistan in response to a call from the United States, Italian Defence Minister Ignazio La Russa said after meeting with US House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi on Tuesday.

La Russa said the number of Italian troops in Afghanistan was already being raised from some 2,300 to 2,800, and the government "might consider" asking the parliament for more reinforcements to help safeguard the Afghan elections in August.

He did not specify what that "hypothetical"

number might be. La Russa echoed other ministers in noting that Italy was the third-biggest contributor to the NATO mission and called on other European Union countries to shoulder more of the burden.

Last week Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini said troops would go up to 2,800 and their deployment would be more flexible.

He said it was time for other major European countries to "play their part."

Stressing the need for a political solution alongside military action, Frattini underscored the importance of a conference on Afghanistan featuring all the regional players, which Italy has called as Group of Eight president. —Internet

Israel considering prisoner release for soldier

JERUSALEM, 18 Feb— Israel's Security Cabinet will consider a possible prisoner exchange with Hamas, freeing hundreds of Palestinian prisoners for a soldier captured in June 2007, an Israeli official said on Tuesday.

The top-level meeting is set for Wednesday, said government spokesman Mark Regev. He said a decision also was expected on terms of a long-term truce in Gaza after Israel's bruising offensive there last month.

On Tuesday, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert repeated his new condition that the soldier, Sgt Gilad Schalit, must be freed.

"We will negotiate his release first, and only then will we be willing to discuss things like the

Gaza crossings and rebuilding the (Gaza) Strip," Olmert said during a tour of Jerusalem. Israel and Egypt clamped a blockade on Gaza after Hamas overran the crowded sliver of territory in 2007, allowing in only humanitarian supplies.

In Damascus, exiled Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal complained about Olmert's new condition.

"There can be no truce unless the (Gaza) blockade is lifted and the crossings are opened. The truce issue should not be linked to the issue of prisoner Schalit," Mashaal told reporters in Damascus after meeting with Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa. —Internet

Some protests set for Clinton's Indonesian visit

JAKARTA, 18 Feb—Small-scale protests were expected in Indonesia on Wednesday ahead of a visit by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to the world's most populous Muslim nation and Southeast Asia's biggest economy.

But the visit is generally expected to go smoothly given relatively good government-to-government relations and many Indonesians' view of Clinton's boss President Barack Obama as something of a favorite son. Clinton is due to arrive in the Indonesian capital from Japan on Wednesday afternoon on the second leg of an Asian tour also taking in South Korea and China.

The US Secretary of State called on Tuesday for coordinated action to revive the global economy at a news conference with Japanese Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone.

Internet

Sudan criticizes US on Darfur

UNITED NATIONS, 18 Feb—Sudan's ambassador to the United Nations criticized the United States Tuesday for supporting possible prosecution of the country's president, even as the government takes a step toward peace in Darfur.

Ambassador Abdalmahmood Abdalhaleem Mohamed said it was "ironic" that the United States, which refused to become a party to the International Criminal Court, is now supporting its possible prosecution of Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir on genocide charges.

Mohamed spoke after Sudan's government and Darfur's most powerful rebel group agreed on Tuesday to launch negotiations on ending the six-year war in Darfur. The Sudanese government is hoping that by showing seriousness about peace, it can avert prosecution of al-Bashir by the Hague-based court on accusations he orchestrated atrocities against Darfur's ethnic Africans.

Internet



The Ocean Nova, a Bahamas flagged cruiser with 104 people aboard which conducted a tour of Antarctica, is seen stranded near an Argentine base in Antarctica on 17 Feb, 2009. —INTERNET

Chinese President's Africa tour gives fresh impetus to traditional friendship

BEIJING, 18 Feb— After a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia beginning 10 Feb, Chinese President Hu Jintao started an Africa tour aimed at enhancing China's friendship with developing countries in the region.

The trip, which took Hu to Mali, Senegal, Tanzania and Mauritius from 12 to 17 Feb, has given new impetus to the traditional friendship between China and Africa.

The time-honored

friendship between China and Africa can be traced back to as early as the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), when Chinese navigator Zheng He traveled to the African continent during his seven epic voyages.

In the 1960s, when most African countries launched a wave of independence struggles, late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai had also visited Africa to express his country's staunch support

for its African brothers.

The fates of the Chinese and African peoples are closely interrelated as they share a similar history and similar developmental tasks, and the two sides have carried out various forms of cooperation based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit.

"Every time I come, it's like coming back home," Hu said while delivering a key speech in the Tanzanian capital of Dar es Salaam on Monday.—Xinhua



Chinese PLA soldiers and officers for the new batch of peace-keeping mission to Lebanon bid farewell to fellow comrades, on the plane gangway at the international airport of Kunming, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 16 Feb, 2009. —XINHUA

California to halt 275 state-funded public projects due to budget crisis

LOS ANGELES, 18 Feb — Due to a budget crisis, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger is prepared to announce a halt to 275 state-funded public works projects still in operation, it was reported on Tuesday.

The projects, which cost 3.8 billion dollars, include upgrades to 18 bridges and roads in Los Angeles County to protect them from collapsing in earthquakes, the *Los Angeles Times* said.

Earlier, the governor had suspended a series of other public projects because the state was running out of cash.

In addition to shutting down public works projects, Schwarzenegger is about to lay off 10,000 government workers, the

paper said.

A spokesman for Schwarzenegger confirmed that layoff notices would go out on Tuesday. —Xinhua

Israeli strikes Gaza targets

GAZA, 18 Feb — Israel launched air attacks against some Gaza targets on Wednesday, local residents said.

One of the targets in the southern Gaza Strip, was alleged to be the tunnels run under the Egyptian border.

Israeli military confirmed that aircraft had hit targets in Gaza but had no further details. —Xinhua

Hong Kong issues alert on French infant formula suspected with harmful bacteria

HONG KONG, 18 Feb— The Center for Food Safety of Hong Kong issued an alert here on Tuesday, advising people not to consume certain batches of an infant formula manufactured by Vitagermine in France, due to their suspected contamination with *Enterobacter sakazakii*.

The product is called Babynat Organic Infant Milk. The manufacturer is recalling the product as the Republic of Korea authorities have found traces of the bacteria in the product.

The Center for Food Safety of Hong Kong said the affected product has been imported into Hong Kong. Investigations are underway.

Enterobacter sakazakii

can be found in the environment, but it generally causes disease only in people with weakened immune systems. It can cause invasive infection such as bacteria in blood or meningitis.—Xinhua

Green tech may help Silicon Valley beat economic downturn

SAN FRANCISCO, 18 Feb —Mortgage crisis and global recession have finally caught up to Silicon Valley, the world's leading high-tech hub, but

clean technology may help the region rebound from the economic downturn, said a new report released on Tuesday.

The annual report, 2009 Silicon Valley Index, was published by Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network and Silicon Valley Community Foundation, two prominent local organizations.

Until the last quarter of 2008, Silicon Valley seemed to be weathering the global financial crisis and economic recession better than the United States as a whole, but after November, the region has witnessed spike in job losses and significant drop in commercial property markets.—Xinhua

Air strikes kill five militants in W Afghanistan

KABUL, 18 Feb —Air raids against rebels' hideout in west Afghanistan claimed the lives of five armed militants and wounded 18 others including women and children, a district chief said on Tuesday.

"These raids carried out against Ghulam Yahya Khan, a rebel commander, in Karizmir village of Gazara district Monday night, killing five armed men and injuring 18 civilians including five women and five children," Alim Khan the district chief of Gazara told *Xinhua*.

No military officials were immediately available to make comment on the subject.

Precision air strikes against Taleban hideout in the northwest Badghis Province a day earlier on Sunday left a key Taleban commander Mullah Dastgir and nine of his men dead.—Xinhua

Brazil to expel 98 foreign NGOs operating in the country

RIO DE JANEIRO, 18 Feb —Ninety-eight foreign Non Governmental Organizations (NGO) that failed to register with the Justice Ministry, will be forbidden from operating in Brazil, government authorities said on Tuesday.

There are 170 NGOs operating in the country but only 72 have completed the mandatory registration ahead of a 2 Feb deadline.

The measure, carried out under a ministry decree issued last year, was aimed at avoiding bio-piracy, illegal exploitation of natural resources and violation of Brazil's sovereignty, especially in the Amazon Rainforest region. The government was afraid of the influence of economic and religious foreign groups in the area.

The low registration figures have confirmed the government's suspi-

cion that many foreign NGOs operate in the country "in an obscure way," said National Justice Secretary Romeu Tuma Jr None of the registered NGOs operates in Brazil's northern region, where the Amazon Rainforest is located.

About 36.5 percent of them operate in Sao Paulo, 20 percent in Rio, and 43.5 percent in the southern and midwestern regions.—Xinhua



A bird flu patient surnamed Shu presents flowers to medical workers as she is leaving the Xiangya Hospital affiliated to Zhongnan University in Changsha, central China's Hunan Province, on 17 Feb, 2009. —XINHUA

Guatemala apologizes to Cuba for Bay of Pigs

HAVANA, 18 Feb—Guatemalan President Alvaro Colom apologized to Cuba on Tuesday for his country's having allowed the CIA to train exiles in the Central American country for the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion.

"Today I want to ask Cuba's forgiveness for having offered our country, our territory, to prepare an invasion of Cuba," Colom said during a speech at the Uni-

versity of Havana. "It wasn't us, but it was our territory."

He added that he wished to apologize "as president and head of state, and as commander in chief of the Guatemalan army."

About 1,500 Cuban exiles trained under CIA guidance in Guatemala before invading the island beginning 17 April, 1961, in an unsuccessful bid to overthrow Fidel Castro's communist gov-

ernment.

The invasion ended after less than three days, with about 100 invaders killed and more than 1,000 captured by Cuban forces.

Colom, whose government is considered center-leftist, said he was asking Cuba's forgiveness as "a sign of solidarity and that times are changing," and to "re-affirm my idea that Latin America is changing."—*Internet*

GM seeks up to \$30 in aid, to cut 47,000 jobs

DETROIT, 18 Feb—General Motors Corp, presenting a dire outlook for the future, said Tuesday it may need \$30 billion in total government financing to weather the economic downturn and would cut 47,000 jobs worldwide and shutter five more US factories in a massive restructuring plan.

The automaker is already surviving on \$13.4 billion in federal loans

and said in a plan submitted to the Treasury Department that it would seek an additional \$16.6 billion if economic conditions worsen, but it could achieve profitability in two years and fully repay its loans by 2017.

The US automaker presented its turnaround plan to the Obama administration as it worked to win concessions from the United Auto Workers union and bondholders to dramatically resize the

company.

The UAW said it reached a tentative deal with GM, Chrysler LLC and Ford Motor Co on contract changes but discussions were still under way about how the companies would fund union-run trust funds that will take over the companies' retiree health care obligations starting next year.

GM said it was making progress but had not yet achieved all the concessions from union workers, debt holders, dealers and suppliers that the Bush administration sought in the loan terms provided last December.

—*Internet*

US general wants troop cut plans in Europe dropped

WASHINGTON, 18 Feb—The US Army's commander in Europe said on Tuesday plans to cut the number of American troops on the continent should be scrapped because the current force size was needed to conduct training exercises with allies.

General Carter Ham, the head of US Army Europe, said two brigades based in Germany should remain there rather than move to the United States in 2012 and 2013 as planned. That would keep about 42,000 US soldiers based in Europe.

Ham said he had recommended the change of plans to General John Craddock, the head of US European Command and NATO's Supreme Allied Commander. Any decision to cancel the move would ultimately come from the Pentagon.

—*Internet*

Oil stays below \$35 after big drop overnight

SINGAPORE, 18 Feb—Oil prices languished below \$35 a barrel on Wednesday in Asia as further signs the US recession is deepening spurred investor concern over crude demand.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery fell 13 cents to \$34.80 a barrel by midday in Singapore on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract on Tuesday fell \$2.58 to \$34.93.

Investors are doubting whether a \$787 billion stimulus bill, signed Tuesday by President Barack Obama, will be enough to jolt the US out of its worst recession in decades.

General Motors Corp and Chrysler LLC asked the government Tuesday for an additional \$14 billion in aid. GM presented a survival plan that also calls for cutting a total of 47,000 jobs globally and Chrysler said it will cut 3,000 more jobs.—*Internet*

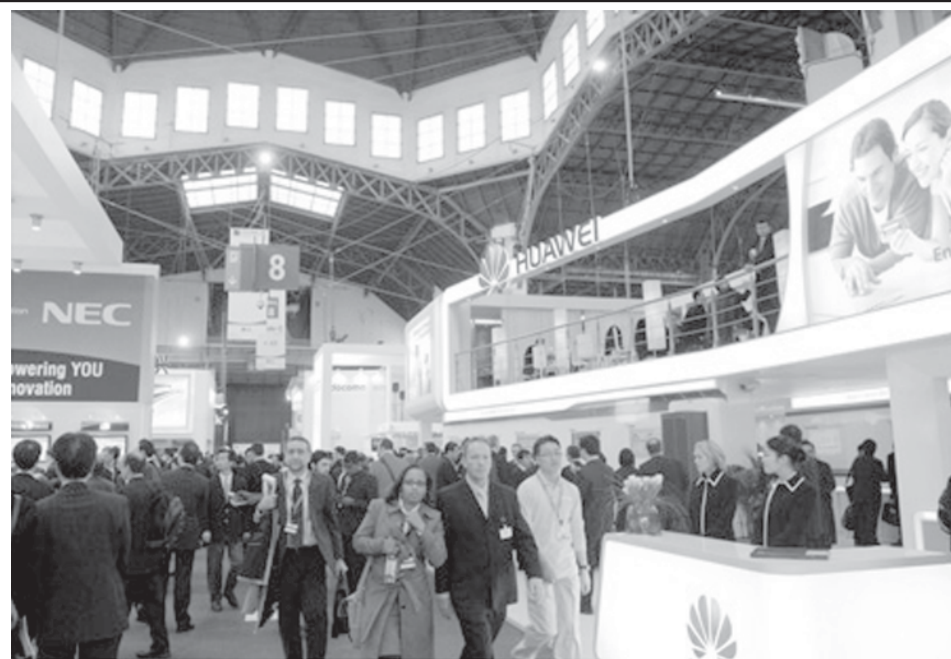
Cholera kills more than 3,600 in Zimbabwe

GENEVA, 18 Feb—Zimbabwe's cholera outbreak has killed 3,688 people and infected 77,650 since August, the latest data released by the World Health Organization showed Tuesday.

The regular update from the WHO and Zimbabwe's Health Ministry was dated 16 February. Last Thursday, the official death toll stood at 3,525, with 73,585 cases recorded since the outbreak began in August 2008.

The charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF) said on Tuesday that Zimbabwe's health system was in a state of collapse and resembled that of a country at war.

Most recently the uncontrolled outbreak has been thriving in the southern African country's impoverished, undernourished and neglected rural areas, according to international health workers.—*Internet*



People visit an exhibition during the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Spain, on 16 Feb, 2009.

—*INTERNET*

Rising floods spread to second Australian state

SYDNEY, 18 Feb—Authorities put helicopters on standby for emergencies on Tuesday as they evacuated residents from homes north of Sydney inundated by floodwaters, while wildfires continued blazing in the country's drought-parched south.

Australia's populous east coast has been beset by weather extremes of fiery drought and torrential rains that scientists argue are being exacerbated by climate change.

The Bourke region of New South Wales state's northwest was declared a natural disaster area Tuesday after 20 homes and several government buildings were flooded, State Emergency Service spokesman Phil Campbell said.

High water also isolated about 5,000 people in towns, villages and farms across the state's north, he said.

—*Internet*

Drought might have collapsed Cambodian Angkor city

BANGKOK, 18 Feb—The collapse of Cambodia's great ancient city of Angkor may have been due to a massive drought nearly 600 years ago — not just rival Siamese forces and widespread deforestation as previously suspected, a researcher said.

Brendan M Buckley said Tuesday that bands from tree rings that he and his colleagues examined show that Southeast Asia was hit by a severe and prolonged drought from 1415 until 1439, coinciding with the period during which many archeologists believe Angkor collapsed.—*Internet*

TV reporter dead in 25-storey fall from E China tower

WENZHOU, 18 Feb—The TV reporter, who fell from the roof of a 25-storey building Tuesday as he was shooting in east China's Zhejiang Province Tuesday, died Wednesday morning, according to a local TV official.

Bao Cunliang, 38, a Wenzhou TV Station reporter, died at 2:10 am at the Wenzhou Hospital of Integrated Chinese and Western Medicines. He fell off the station's building at 8:45 am on Tuesday, said Dong Jinghai, news director of the city-level TV station.

Bao was shooting streets in the rain by himself, but the view was obstructed by the wall surrounding the roof. Bao stood on the wall which was more than one meter high and only 20 cm wide, Dong said.—*Internet*

Oil slick drifting to Irish coast

LONDON, 18 Feb — A large fuel oil slick thought to have leaked into the Celtic Sea during a Russian refuelling incident is heading to the coasts of Ireland and Wales. The UK coastguard estimates up to 1,000 tonnes may be on the water, but Russia denies the spill is on that scale.

Irish coastguards said the spill, 50 miles (80km) off of west Cork, covered 2.8 miles by 3.1 miles around a Russian aircraft carrier and a tanker. It was first spotted by aerial pol-

lution surveillance on 14 February.

Samples from the spill have been taken for analysis, the Irish coastguard said, and the Russian Embassy has been asked by the Irish government to supply data about oil on its ships.

Aerial monitoring was still being carried out by Irish and British maritime agencies, reports said. The Russian navy said it was carrying out an internal investigation, but could not confirm how the oil came to surround its vessels or

whether its refuelling operations had caused the spill.

There are two refuelling tankers, one aircraft carrier, one Russian tug, a Russian destroyer, a British destroyer and an Irish naval vessel in the area. The Irish coastguard said the slick was breaking up and was spreading over a larger area and moving eastwards about 30 to 40 miles off the coast.—*Internet*

The majority of the oil is expected to remain on the surface, it said in a statement.—*Internet*

China approves support plan for electronics and information industry

BEIJING, 18 Feb.—China approved Wednesday a support plan for the country's electronics and information industry.

The government will boost innovation, increase financial input and promote the use of information technologies in various fields in the next three years, according to an executive meeting of

the State Council, or the Cabinet. The meeting was chaired by Premier Wen Jiabao.

Attendees at the meeting agreed that the central government's policy to boost domestic demand must be implemented in a bid to offset weakening global demand.

Investment will focus

on boosting the progress of the 3G (third-generation) mobile communication services and promoting the use of digital TVs.

Efforts will be made towards developing national science and technology projects and towards improving public technological service platforms.—*Internet*

Unexploded bombs go missing in Gaza Strip

JERUSALEM, 18 Feb — Unexploded bombs dropped on the Gaza Strip during the Israeli offensive have disappeared from a storage site in the Palestinian territory, a UN spokesman said on Tuesday.

Israel said it suspected

Hamas, the Islamist group which controls Gaza, took them. Three 2,000 pound bombs (about 1 tonne) and eight 500 pound bombs (about 250 kg) that had been collected by international bomb disposal experts were taken from a Hamas police post in Gaza City.

It was not known where they were and the United Nations was trying to find them, UN spokesman Richard Miron said. "It's clearly extremely dangerous and needs to be disposed of in a safe manner," he said. A

Hamas police official declined to comment. The Islamist Hamas faction took control of the Gaza Strip from Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah faction in a takeover in 2007 after winning elections.

During its 22-day offensive against Gaza militants that ended on 18 January, Israel launched thousands of rockets, bombs and shells from the ground, air and sea on Gaza. Some 1,300 Palestinians and 14 Israelis died during the fighting.

Internet

Chemicals in produce linked to river

ATHENS, 18 Feb — Toxic chemicals dumped in a river in central Greece have contaminated vegetables sold in Athens, scientists at Athens University warn. Scientists found high levels of nickel in onions grown near the Asopos River, while carrots contained large amounts of both nickel and chromium, Kathimerini reported.

The Asopos also is a major source of drinking water in Athens. Last month, Stavros Dinas, the European environmental commissioner, chastised the Greek government for failing to stop chemical dumping in the river.

Internet



In this file photo, Palestinians move the unexploded warhead of an Israeli missile in Gaza City.—INTERNET

NEWS ALBUM



There was no escaping the snow for hundreds of German motorists who were forced to spend the night in their cars on a highway in southern Germany. The storm dumped of 20 centimeters (eight inches) of snow on the roadway. Police got traffic moving again the next morning and commended drivers for their patience in waiting out the storm.

Photo shows the calf born with a white heart-shaped pattern on his forehead at the Yamakun farm in Fujisawa, Kanagawa Prefecture of Japan. Born on 25 Jan, the calf has been named "Heart" by the owner of the farm, considering the Valentine's Day approaches.



Wind leads police to marijuana-growing operation

Mother Nature helped police uncover a home marijuana-growing operation. Police said a gust of wind set off a security alarm at a home in western St Joseph County on Tuesday, prompting Indiana State Police Trooper Mick Dockery to investigate.

Dockery found the back door of the home open. Inside the home, his police dog indicated the presence of drugs. Police found 19 marijuana plants and 40 grams of processed marijuana.

No arrests have been made, but St Joseph County prosecutors are reviewing possible charges against the homeowners.

Woman's record-length fingernails broken in crash

A Salt Lake City woman who was in the Guinness Book of World Records for her long fingernails has had them broken off in a car accident.

Lee Redmond sustained serious but non-life threatening injuries in the accident.

Redmond was the current Guinness record holder, with nails that hadn't been cut since 1979. Her nails measured a total of more than 28 feet long in 2008, with the longest nail on her right thumb at 2 feet, 11 inches, according to the Guinness Website.

Salt Lake County Sheriff's Lt Don Hutson said she was ejected from an SUV in the crash and taken to the hospital in serious condition. Redmond has been featured on TV in episodes of "Guinness Book of World Records" and "Ripley's Believe It or Not."



Lee Redmond shows off her fingernails, which are about 30 inches long, in Salt Lake City. Redmond's fingernails were broken off in a traffic accident. Her injuries were serious but not life threatening, according to Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office.

Man sentenced for planting syringe in potato chips

A 35-year-old man was sentenced to five years of probation for planting a syringe in a bag of potato chips. The man pleaded guilty in November to tampering with a consumer product. A federal judge ordered him not to contact Frito-Lay Corp during his probation.

The man originally told the company last year that he noticed a funny taste while eating chips and found a syringe in the bag. Food and Drug Administration investigators later determined he and a friend had conspired to extort money from Frito-Lay by planting the syringe, which his friend had used to inject crack cocaine.

In fear lest they will be further away from the goal (1)

Kyaw Ye Min

Really, we the people are pleased with the thought that we will have to wait just one year to 2010. Our thought is that next year, our country will see multiparty democracy general elections to which the entire people are looking forward, thereafter there will emerge people's representatives. Then, there will be hluttaws (parliament) in accordance with the State Constitution. By then, our country will be able to set its foot in democracy we have been waiting for ages.

In spite of the people awaiting with much expectation, anti-government groups are getting louder in their protest at democratic transition. I think **they even cannot stand the thought that they are going to face the public decisions in 2010.**

NLD issued the so-called special announcement 1/01/09 on 4 January. According to the resolutions passed at the CEC meeting held on 1 January 2009, NLD and seven other parties demanded that all the political prisoners including Daw Suu Kyi be released unconditionally as soon as possible. Shortly after that, they issued announcement 2/01/09 urging the people to support their announcement 1/01/09. They have been opposing and having a go at the government in their own party's interest. But, I noticed that they have come to deceive the people into supporting them.

I have no idea about the directives and arrangements of the NLD CEC, but I noticed that the woman secretary of Meiktila District NLD in an interview by the BBC said, "We are now collecting the signatures to comply with the directive of the headquarters." It was merely an attempt to revive the Signature Campaign launched by Min Ko Naing and group. In their bid to attract public support for their party's announcement, they tried to mislead the people into misunderstanding the government, pointing out the shortage of electric power and water supply, instead of following an honest way.

The woman said, "We local people of Meiktila demand, putting our signatures at the end of the letter that we should be provided with enough electricity and safe water, the most fundamental requirements. In this case, we have written that we suggest that the government should do something to supply electricity and safe water for us, and we put our signatures at the end of the letter." It is vividly clear that there is not even a grain of truth in what she said. They are used to telling lies, exaggerating the situations and making a mountain out of a molehill. Their demand carries their implicit hopes that after the demand more people may come to support them, and a large number of people may sign the letter, and one day they may organize the people into a mass demonstration they target.

Regarding the party, at the press conference of National Unity Party to mark the 62nd Union Day, Joint-General Secretary U Khin Maung Gyi disclosed his views that a powerful party was taking direct organizing measures to attract the public support by issuing a variety of public requests; that in 2009, they had plotted many conspiracies to incite riots; that they were organizing the people both directly and indirectly; that they had many

clandestine schemes to hinder the nation and the people from carrying out the tasks to restore peace and stability and achieve economic and social development; and that in that regard, certain countries were trying to interfere in the affairs, and aiding and abetting the party.

He said that he had learnt that the party had split into two factions: the one that wants to work in a moderate, fair way and prioritize national interest, and the other with left-wing attitude. The latter was arousing emotional feelings of the people to take to the streets and create riots if there was a mass protest in the nation in 2009; that the countries concerned were providing funds and other aids for the party; and that parties should give priority to national interests, rather than that of their own.

He added that the people were upset because the party was playing a political game without claiming whether it would stand for election or not; that the people would make decisions in the elections; that if it dealt a serious blow to the elections, that would be against the public desire; and that if they wanted to do as said by Communists to demolish first, then build a new one, that would also get the people upset.

In my opinion, there was no exaggeration in his words. And he is the joint-general secretary of a prestigious party, so he did not use any harsh words in his speech. Frankly speaking, there were many points about NLD he did not mention. Now, the people have realized the attitude of the party. Some persist in cheering the party due to personality cult and party attachment, whereas so many people no longer support the party because they have understood well the party's innate nature.

NLD will not hesitate even at the slight degree to do everything evil to come to power. What is always on its mind is 'power'. If necessary, it is very ready to deceive the people who will decide on its future. It harshly criticized the National Convention in which more than 1000 delegates of the people held discussions actively to adopt principles. It also shows disregard to the public decisions, saying it does not accept or recognize the State Constitution that has been approved with the support of 92.48 per cent of the voters, and it will have to re-write and amend the constitution. In addition, it said that it took no interest in the 2010 elections. Playing a game for political gains, it said that it would not stand, then it said it would stand for election. Then, it said that it would have to consider whether it would stand for election or not.

Again, it is persuading the people to provide it with their signatures in its demand for release of political prisoners. The people are not interested at all in mass riots, demonstrations and political campaigns. If it keeps on doing the something, NLD will lose all the support of the people.

VOA said that a Signature Campaign was in progress at NLD Headquarters for release of political prisoners; and that among those who had put their signatures were some diplomats from the embassies of the US, UK, France, Germany and Italy to Myanmar. However it is,

today's people will not get involved in the campaign. The incidents are still fresh in their minds that the nation faced instability due to some persons who had been caught in its snare of instigation and incitement. The people have realized that they have to prevent their children and relatives from getting involved in such pointless incidents.

Meiktila NLD is attempting to make small matters grow into riots. In fact, there is no particular weakness of the ruling government it can point out, so it is trying to provoke public outrage through the issues of shortage of electricity and water supply. However, the government has never ignored supply of water and electricity to the people. Present projects are tangible evidences in that regard. The people have understood and accepted it. So, I would like to present some projects with exact data and figures for the knowledge of all anti-government groups including Meiktila NLD.

Regarding irrigation water supply, our country has placed emphasis on irrigation water necessary for boosting cultivation capacity and ensuring cultivation of crops all-year round. Up to January 2009, the number of irrigation facilities rose to 356 from 138 in 1988, accounting for progress of 218. The new facilities benefit 2.78 million acres (1.13 million hectares) of farmlands.

And during the same period, the number of river water pumping stations has surged to 322 from only 4. They irrigate 500,000 acres (2.02 million hectares) of farmlands. Furthermore, the government has sunk 4893 tube-wells and 2973 hand pumps, totaling 7876. The facilities benefit 96,000 acres (38851 hectares) of farmlands.

In some dam projects, irrigation systems are ongoing. So, the government is working hard to complete them by this financial year to benefit 0.189 million acres (0.0765 million hectares) of arable lands. Simultaneously, it is speeding up construction of river water pumping stations and underground water tapping stations. Therefore, farmers will be able to grow more acres of lands and boost per acre yield of their crops. About 1.8 times of the turnover of agricultural produce is on target for 2008-2009 with the aim of increasing the per capita income of rural people.

In Mandalay Division alone, during the period between 1988 and today, the government has constructed 52 irrigation facilities that add to the total number to 113. Moreover, seven dams are under construction and 10 more projects are due to be implemented soon. Meiktila has got several new large dams such as Nyaunggon, Letkhokpin, and Shanmange.

Apart from them, the government is implementing an underground water tapping project in Meiktila District, an arid region, in case it may have its crops unsuccessful due to climate changes. The feasibility study proved possible to tap underground water on a large scale in Meiktila and Thazi townships. So, the project will soon be put into action. The two townships have deposits of 70,000 acre feet of water and 800 tube-wells will be sunk at an estimated cost of 271.26 million kyats. And the project will be able to benefit some 11,000 acres of farmlands. It will ensure safety of irrigation supply, will supply irrigation water when the regions' rainwater is less than usual, and will benefit the region's greening programme. These are the projects the government is implementing for adequate supply of water.

(To be continued)
Translation: MS

Up to January 2009, the number of irrigation facilities rose to 356 from 138 in 1988, accounting for progress of 218. The new facilities benefit 2.78 million acres (1.13 million hectares) of farmlands.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosts dinner in honour of Thai delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb —Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosted a dinner in honour of visiting Thai delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda at Bayintnaung Yeiktha here yesterday evening.

It was also attended by Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Lt-Gen Tha Aye and Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hosts dinner in honour of visiting Thai delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Commander

Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Foreign Affairs UNyan Win, senior military officers, Myanmar Military Attaché to Thailand Col Win Maung, Thai Ambassador to

Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag, Thai Defence Attaché and Army Attaché Colonel Ekachai Harnpoonvittaya and officials.

Before and during the

dinner, artistes entertained those present with songs to the accompaniment of Myanmar Athan Modern Music Band.

After the dinner, Vice-Senior General Maung

Aye and General Anupong Paojinda exchanged gifts.

Next, Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda cordially greeted the artistes. —MNA

Cash and construction materials for development of An Township

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb —Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe met with townsenders, departmental personnel and members of social organizations from villages in An Township on 15 February.

Next, the minister presented K 500,000 for Tattaung Station Hospital, K 500,000 each for Tattaung village-tract

Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association, 70 bags of cement and 100 CISheets for repair of Tattaung No. 2 Basic Education Primary School and 70 bags of cement, medicines, clothes, school text books and publications for Tattaung Post-Primary School to responsible persons and

cordially greeted local people.

At Kankyun village of Kyaukmyaung village-tract, the minister explained Government's efforts on development of Rakhine State and rural development tasks to be undertaken with momentum in meeting with local people, townsenders and members of social organizations.



Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe presents medicine for Tattaung Station Hospital through responsible person.—MNA

Minister for Industry-2 meets KOICA



Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein meets Mr Cho Kwang Geol of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and party.

MNA

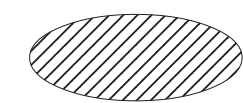
Next, the minister presented construction materials to be used in repairing schools in villages and regional development works, cash assistance for Kyaukmyaung village-tract WAO and MCWA, medicines, exercise books and clothes for local people and magazines and journals for village libraries. Then the minister visited Kankyun village.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb—Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein met the delegation led by Mr Cho Kwang Geol of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and party at the Ministry here at 10 am yesterday.

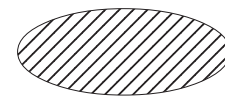
At the call, both sides discussed the matters related to the installation of machinery parts sent by the Republic of Korea and handing over of documents related to Mechanical Training School (Thagara), jointly being implemented by Ministry of Industry-2 and (KOICA).

MNA



President Daw Khin Khin Win of MAAF makes concluding speech at AGM of MAAF.

MNA



Annual General Meeting of MAAF concludes successfully

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb — Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation continued its second-day programmes at the City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

It was attended by President of MAAF Daw Khin Khin Win, Vice-President Daw Khin The Htay, CEC members, intelligentsia and intellectuals, patrons of State and Division Women's Affairs Organizations, chairpersons, secretaries and representatives.

Vice-President Daw Khin The Htay presided over the morning session.

Chairpersons of Magway and Mandalay Divisions and Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions submitted their respective reports. The meeting chairperson discussed matters related to the reports.

Next, the meeting discussed undertakings of State and Division WAOs for development in women's affairs and life safety affairs in 2008 and implementation of micro-credit scheme. The meeting chairpersons gave necessary instructions.

The afternoon session was presided over by

President Daw Khin Khin Win. Patrons of Shan State (North) and Ayeyawady Division WAOs submitted reports on respective sectors to the meeting. The meeting chairpersons presented K 1 million micro-credit scheme to patrons of State and Division WAOs.

General Secretary Dr Daw Myint Kyi of MAAF announced 11 future tasks, nine objectives and 6 decisions adopted by the Annual General Meeting of MAAF.

In the afternoon, the meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the president.—MNA

Blood donated to mark 62nd Anniversary Union Day

YANGON, 18 Feb — Under the leadership of Mawlamyine Township supervisory committee for blood donors, a collective blood donation ceremony was held at Blood Bank of General Hospital in Mawlamyine on 13 February in

commemoration of the 62nd Anniversary Union Day. It was attended by Chairman of the supervisory committee Dr Toe Toe Aung, secretary U Kyaw Myint, treasurer U Lwin Moe, officials of the blood bank of the hospital and faculty

members of Mawlamyine Education College. Blood donors donated 20 packets of blood.

So far, over 900 packets of blood have been donated to the blood bank of the hospital under the supervision of the committee.—MNA

Wooden bridge opened in Taungtha

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb — In honour of the 62nd Anniversary Union Day, a wooden bridge "Shwe Taungtha" was opened in Taungtha Township on 12 February.

The bridge is 295 feet long and 5 feet wide and 7 feet high. It was built on self-reliance basis by the workers of Taungtha Vest Factory.

Chairman of

Myingyan District Peace and Development Council U Hla Moe and Factory Manager U Saw Lin formally opened the bridge.

MNA

Myanmar Dictionary 2nd edition in circulation

YANGON, 18 Feb — The 2nd edition of Myanmar Dictionary published by Department of Myanmar Language Commission comes out today.

The 2nd edition

comes 18 years after the appearance of the first Myanmar dictionary.

The mini dictionary comprising five volumes was published in 1980. Based on the five volumes, the first edition of

Myanmar Dictionary was published in 1991.

The new dictionary includes 18,000 words, technical terms, pictures and numbers in measurement. A compact disc of Myanmar Dictionary is also attached with the dictionary.

The 2nd edition costs K 7000 and available at Department of Myanmar Language Commission, bookstores in Yangon and Mandalay and super markets. Those living in Yangon municipal area may contact Ph 391186 to buy the dictionary.

Other dictionaries published by Department of Myanmar Language Commission are available at the department, No 27, Pyay Road, 6 1/2 mile, Yangon. — MNA

MPS to hold annual meeting in March

YANGON, 18 Feb — Myanmar Photographic Society will hold its annual general meeting for 2008-09 in March.

All the association members are to take part

in the discussions to reorganize the association. Association members from States and Divisions are to contact the association at No. 27-29, 35th Street (Lower) in

Kyauktada Township, Tel: 01-373167 or through State and Division Information and Public Relations Departments.

MNA

PSB Academy to provide scholarships, stipends

YANGON, 18 Feb — PSB Academy is the greatest education provider, joining hands with famous Universities around the world and some 50,000 students of the region and 30 countries learn at the PSB yearly.

PSB Academy will provide scholarships and stipends to students interested in the economic subject in California State University Long Beach-USA (CSULB) and students must learn three and a half academic year.

50 stipends each worth 10,000 Singapore dollar and 30-scholarship each worth 20,000 Singapore dollar will be provided to students of Myanmar.

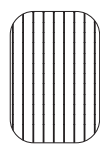
The special education meeting for the scholarship presenting programme will be held at Traders Hotel from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm and 5 pm to 6 pm on 21 February.

Students can enrol for the scholarship test at the meeting, and they are sitting

the test in Bagan and Toungoo halls at the hotels on 22 February. Graduate and undergraduate students can take the test. If not chosen for the scholarship, they can apply the stipend to attend the CSULB Programme.

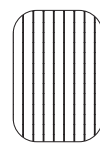
For more information, contact Overseas Education Channel (AT & S Co Ltd) Building-5, No-4, Myanmar Info-tech in Hline Township and dial 652288, 652320 and 652258.

MNA



Cover of 2nd edition of Myanmar Dictionary.

MNA



Information Minister drives stakes for self-reliant village libraries in Sittway Township

Local people urged to strive for development of their libraries

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended a ceremony to drive stakes for construction of self-reliant library and to present cash and kind to local people in Kywite Village in Sittway Township on 15 February.

It was also attended by Vice-Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Col Soe Lwin of Sittway Station, officials of the Ministry of Information, departmental officials, social organization mem-

bers and local people of six villages totalling over 1,400.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Col Soe Lwin, Managing Director U Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise and Acting Director-General U Ye Htut of Information and Public Relations Department drove stakes at the designated places and sprinkled scented water on them.

In meeting with local people, the minister heard reports on regional development tasks presented by officials and attended

to the needs.

Next, the minister handed over K 3 million donated by the Union Solidarity and Development Association to the funds for construction of Kywite Village Library. Moreover, the minister donated K 400,000 each to the funds of basic education schools and rural development tasks in five villages, and books, clothes and personal goods to the local people.

Col Soe Lwin also handed over K 500,000 donated by Rakhine State

development tasks in six villages, books, clothes and personal goods to libraries and local people.

Col Soe Lwin also presented K 500,000 donated by Rakhine State PDC to purchase of furniture for Kuntaung Village Library.

In meeting with local people, the minister said that the government is speeding up undertaking of regional development in Rakhine State. In February 2009, the Ministry of Information is gathering momentum on construction of new TV

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



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan makes a speech in meeting with local people of six villages in Kywite Village in Sittway Township.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan drives stake for construction of Kuntaung Village self-reliant library in Ponnagyun Township.—MNA

PDC for purchasing furniture for Kywite Village Library.

In Ponnagyun Township, the minister attended the stake driving ceremony for construction of Kuntaung Village self-reliant library. The minister, Col Soe Lwin, Managing Director U Soe Win and Acting Director-General U Ye Htut drove the stakes at the designated places.

Next, the minister met over 1,300 local people from 12 villages and heard reports on regional development presented by local authorities.

The minister presented K 3 million donated by USDA for construction of Kuntanug Village Self-reliant Library, K 300,000 each to the funds of basic education schools and rural

retransmission station and installation of machinery for enabling the local people to enjoy various kinds of TV channels of their choice. Moreover, the FM radio system is being implemented to disseminate news and entertainment to the people in the state as soon as possible, he said.

He continued that he was pleased with active participation of local people in education and health sectors, and he promised to fulfill the requirements.

He said that all the people have high talent and efficiency and they can stand shoulder to shoulder with people of other countries. To uplift the efficiency, all the people have to read. As such, the ministry establishes self-reliant libraries in the villages.

While reading various books, local people are to strive for development of their libraries. Moreover, the people are

urged to actively take part in the realization of the seven-step Road Map of the State in their respective sectors.—MNA

Modern Survey Course concludes

YANGON, 18 Feb—The Advanced and Modern Survey Course No. 11, conducted by Settlement and Land Records Department, concluded at the Central Land Record Development Training School in Taikkyi Township on 15 February.

Director-General U Win Kyi of SLRD delivered a speech and presented prizes to the outstanding trainees. Principal U Than gave completion certificates to the trainees.

Altogether 90 trainees attended the course that lasted five and a half months.—MNA

Tobacco Kills

Communication sector develops in Mon State with facilities of telephones, Internet, e-mail

Article: *Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)*; Photos: *Hla Moe (MNA)*

During our recent trip to Mon State, we witnessed the unprecedented progress of communications sector.

In the past, Mon State had been equipped with auto-exchanges and magneto exchanges. From 1988 to date, Mon State has been gaining development momentum with communication facilities such as mobile radio stations called GMS stations, CDMA-450 MHZ stations, e-mail, Internet, ADSL, local ground satellite communication stations, local satellite communication channels and public call offices (PCO).

To observe the development tasks in communication sector of the state, we, the news crew

He continued to say, "In the past, all the villages in the state faced hardships in the communication sector. At present, most of villages are convenient in the communicative measures. Up to the end of 2008, Mon State had been facilitated with 32 telephone offices, three GSM stations, five CDMA-450 stations, nine microwave stations, 35 e-mail and Internet (ADSL) stations, 42 local ground satellite communication stations, 168 satellite communication channels and one Public Access Centre. In the whole state, there are 12,758 telephones, 2,649 GSM telephones, 4,084 CDMA-450 MHZs and 219 telephones including auto-mobile use CDMA-450

lines in Theinzayat of Kyaikto Township. Moreover, one 750-line CDMA-450 MHZ radio station is under construction in Anin of Thanbyuzayat Township. At 2,400-line Mawlamyine Auto-exchange, Analog system of the exchange is being displaced with digital facility."

We had an opportunity to visit the GSM mobile radio station in Mawlamyine and an auto-exchange under construction at the industrial zone.

Assistant Manager Daw Khin Soe Soe Aye of Mon State Communication Station (Post Office) of MPT explained, "There are 64 post offices in Mon State. Post offices in Mawlamyine, Thaton,



Control room of communication station in Mon State.

of the Kyemon Daily had an interview with Mon State Manager U Myo Swe of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications.

Frankly, Mon State Manager U Myo Swe explained, "In line with the motto of the ministry "Information Technology for All", we are undertaking development of communication sector in Mon State under the leadership of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and Mon State Peace and Development Council."

MHZ telephones, auto-telephones, MPT satellite terminal telephones, rural use CDMA-450 MHZ telephones and PCO telephones.

With regard to progress of projects being implemented in the state, he further explained, "An Auto-exchange is being built with 600 lines in Mawlamyine Industrial Zone (Ngantae), two exchanges with 500 lines each in Paung and Mottama, another one exchange with 200 lines in Zingyaik of Paung Township and next one with 400

Mudon, Thanbyuzayat, Ye, Kyaikto, Bilin, Taungsun, Mottama and Paung are giving the expedite postal service. Likewise, post offices in Mawlamyine, Chaungzon, Thaton, Ye and Kyaikto are giving the expedite MO service. Moreover, arrangements are being made to give the expedite MO service at the offices in Mudon, Kyaikkhami and Thanbyuzayat."

Assistant Manager Daw Myat Zarni Kyaw of Mon State Communication Station (Telegram)



A station indicates improvement of communication sector in Mon State.

of MPT said, "Mon State has 19 telegraph offices. Of them, five offices are running its functions with computerized telegraphic facilities and another six offices are giving services with facsimile facility to the customers. On 1 February 2009, Kyaikkhami telegraphic office commences the computerized fax system. At Mudon Post Office/Telegraph Office, the computerized facsimile facility is being provided to the customers. The plans are under way to open e-Telegram service offices in Kyaikto and Theinseik."

While the post and telegraph works are developing with momentum, the telephone communication facility is also gaining development momentum.

At the villages with

poor transportation, the local people can use CDMA-450 MHZ telephones to overcome the hardships. Thanks to automobile use CDMA-450 MHZ telephones, travelers can receive the information about arrival, departure and schedules of travel in time. Furthermore, local fishing entrepreneurs and fishermen can apply the communication equipment to know

the weather, production, changes of prices, arrival, departure and other works. Internet cafés and GSM mobiles are serving the users with convenient communication facilities.

In Mon State, unprecedented development can be seen in the communication sector.

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 15-2-2009



Mon State Manager U Myo Swe of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications.

TRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE

Ardath Tobacco Company Limited, a company organized under the laws of England and Wales, carrying on business, through its licensees and affiliates, as Tobacco Manufacturers and Merchants, having its principal office at Globe House, 4 Temple Place, London WC2R 2PG, United Kingdom is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trademarks:-

Gold Pearl

Reg. No. 4/4704/2008

Platinum Pearl

Reg. No. 4/4705/2008

Epsilon⁵

Reg. No. 4/4706/2008

Mandarin Pearl

Reg. No. 4/4707/2008

Used in respect of :- Cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco products, smokers' articles, lighters, matches.

Any unauthorized use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above marks will be dealt with according to law.

Tin Ohmmar Tun

B.A (LAW) LL.B, LL.M (U.K)

P.O.Box. 109,

Ph: 723043

(For. British American

Tobacco Ltd, U.K.)

Dated. 19 February, 2009.

Japan wants national ID cards for aliens

TOKYO, 18 Feb—Japan plans to issue national residence cards to foreigners living in the country to make staying illegally more difficult.

A revision of the Immigration Control and Registration law has been drafted, *The Yomiuri Shimbun* reported. The government plans to submit it for a vote during the current session of the Diet, Japan's parliament. The law would abolish municipal registration cards, substituting ones issued by the Justice Department. People caught forging or changing the new cards would face prosecution and prison terms. Resident aliens would also be required to report any changes of address, job or school to the Immigration Bureau instead of to municipal governments.

Internet

TRADE MARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our clients, Intel Corporation (a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, United States of America) having its principal office at 2200 Mission College Boulevard, Santa Clara, California 95052-8119, United State of America, are the owners and sole proprietors of the following trademark:

PENTIUM

Reg. No. 4/7360/08

To be used in connection with computer; computer hardware, computer firm ware; semiconductors; microprocessors; integrated circuits; microcomputers; computer chipsets; computer networking hardware; computer peripherals and electronic apparatus for use with computers; video apparatus; computer software programs; telecommunications apparatus and instruments; apparatus and equipment for use in video - conferencing, teleconferencing, document exchange and editing; parts and fittings, and testing for apparatus for all the aforesaid goods in Class 9. Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademarks or other infringement whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

Soe Win Advocate #0502 Level 5 Sakura Tower Ph: 255055 ForHiborne,Hawkin & Co.

The Aptera 2e electric car is launched in Carlsbad, California. The egg-shaped two-seater vehicle is likened to a space-age car from futuristic 1960s cartoon "The Jetsons". — INTERNET

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Notice is hereby given that **Molson Canada 2005** of 33 Carlingview Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M9W 5E4, Canada is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark -

BLACK LABEL

(Reg. No. IV/4678/2000)

The said trademark is used in respect of the description of goods following, that is to say-

"Beer, ale, lager, porter, and stout"

All ownership rights of the above trademark have been transferred to **Molson Canada 2005** by means of the Deed of Assignment dated 7th February 2005 between **Molson Canada** and **Molson Canada 2005**; and the Declaration of Assignment in Myanmar by Myanmar Reg. No. IV/2152/2008.

Any imitation or fraudulent use of the said trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Htain Lin Oo (LL.B) Advocate **MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM** for **DePENNING & DePENNING** Patent and Trade Mark Agents 10, Government Place East **Kolkata** 700 069 e-mail: depdep@vsnl.net Intellectual Property House 31 South Bank Road **Chennai**- 600 028 Alaknanda Building 16 Nepean Sea Road **Mumbai**- 400 036 MA-99 Mousari Road DLF Phase-III **National Capital Region**122002 e-mail: dandi@vsnl.com India. 19 February 2009

Drive with care



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(Reg. No. IV/4679/2000)

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"Beer"

All ownership rights of the above trademark have been transferred to **Molson Canada 2005** by means of the Deed of Assignment dated 7th February 2005 between **Molson Canada** and **Molson Canada 2005**; and the Declaration of Assignment in Myanmar by Myanmar Reg. No. IV/2153/2008.

Any imitation or fraudulent use of the said trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Htain Lin Oo (LL.B) Advocate **MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM** for **DePENNING & DePENNING** Patent and Trade Mark Agents 10, Government Place East **Kolkata** 700 069 e-mail: depdep@vsnl.net Intellectual Property House 31 South Bank Road **Chennai**- 600 028 Alaknanda Building 16 Nepean Sea Road **Mumbai**- 400 036 MA-99 Mousari Road DLF Phase-III **National Capital Region**122002 e-mail: dandi@vsnl.com India. 19 February 2009

Green vehicles subsidized in Chinese cities

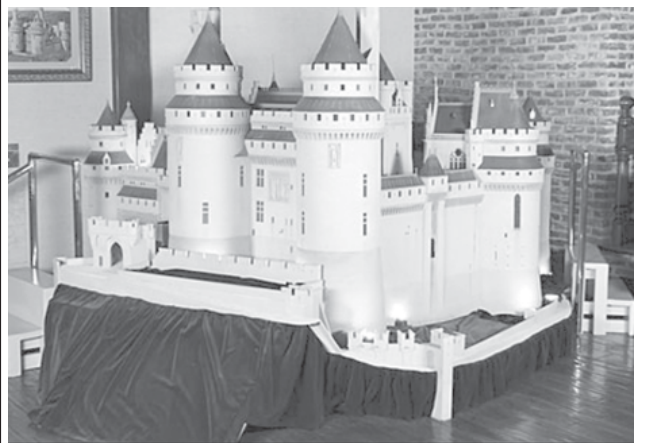
BEIJING, 18 Feb—The Chinese government has launched a pilot programme to subsidize energy-efficient and new-energy vehicles in the public transport sector in 13 cities, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) said on Tuesday in a statement.

The ministry said the subsidies would mainly go to 10-meter-long, or above, buses.

The statement was a supplement to an earlier joint statement by the MOF and the Ministry of Science and Technology in January, which said the central government would offer a one-off subsidy for the purchase of mixed-power, electric and fuel-cell vehicles.

The MOF said on Tuesday that mixed-power passenger cars would be given subsidies up to 420,000 yuan (61,435 US dollars) each, and electric and fuel-cell vehicles would get subsidies of 500,000 yuan and 600,000 yuan each, respectively.

Internet



Model of Disney's Sleeping Beauty castle seen in an auction.

INTERNET

Mobiles to have same charging socket by 2012

BARCELONA, 18 Feb—Key mobile phone industry players have agreed to fit phones with the same power socket by 2012, industry group GSMA said on Tuesday. It said handsets would have a micro USB interface, already used to transfer pictures from digital cameras to a computer.

The initial group of companies that have signed for the change include Nokia, LG, Motorola, Samsung and Sony Ericsson. Operators such as AT&T, Orange, Telefonica, T-Mobile and Vodafone are also part of the initiative.

The GSMA said that eventually it expected mobile phones to ship without a charging plug and cable because everybody would have one. This should also lead to less waste and could yield energy savings because the agreement calls for chargers to meet efficiency targets, the group said.

Internet

French 'spider-man' scales Hong Kong skyscraper in latest stunt

HONG KONG, 18 Feb — A French daredevil scaled a 73-story Hong Kong skyscraper barehanded Tuesday, his latest attempt to draw attention to global warming by climbing up the world's tallest buildings.

Alain Robert, dubbed the French spider-man, has scaled dozens of tall structures without ropes or harnesses, including the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the Empire State Building in New York and Malaysia's Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur. It took Robert about 40 minutes Tuesday to scramble up the downtown Cheung Kong Center — the flagship building of Hong Kong's richest man, Li Ka-shing. Upon reaching the top of the 885.83-foot building, Robert waved to a crowd of spectators on the ground below.—Internet



Alain Robert, a French urban climber who calls himself 'Spider-man,' scrambles up Cheung Kong Center in Hong Kong. INTERNET

China plans to launch 3rd ocean survey satellite in 2010

BEIJING, 18 Feb—China plans to launch a third ocean survey satellite in 2010 to upgrade its capacity for maritime weather forecasting and disaster relief, according to a report in the *Science and Technology Daily* on Wednesday.

The newspaper is an official publication of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

The satellite, Haiyang-2A, an ocean dynamic environmental satellite, will be used to monitor ocean wind fields, sea levels and temperatures, Jiang Xingwei, an official with

the National Marine Environment Forecast Center, was quoted as saying.

China plans to have a system consisting of ocean color remote sensing satellites, ocean dynamic environment satellites and ocean surveillance satellites.

The colour remote sensing satellites (Haiyang-1 series) use infrared remote sensing technology to monitor ocean pollution and topography in shallow waters. The dynamic environment satellites (Haiyang-2 series) use microwave remote sensing technology to monitor

ocean wind fields and ocean surface temperatures.

The ocean surveillance satellites (Haiyang-3 series) will have the combined features of the previous two series.

China started to develop ocean dynamic environment satellite in 2007, the newspaper said.

China launched its first ocean survey satellite, Haiyang-1A, in May 2002. In April 2007, the second ocean survey satellite, Haiyang-1B, was launched. Both were ocean colour remote sensing satellites. —*Internet*

Chipmakers pin hopes on mobiles

BARCELONA, 18 Feb—Global chipmakers, battling slower technology demand, are betting size matters as they pin their hopes for future growth on small and easy to carry mobile devices such as netbooks and smartphones. Global shipments of personal computer processors fell more than 11 percent in the fourth quarter but netbook sales are expected to more than double this year to about 35 million units, according to analysts.

Intel, the world's biggest chipmaker, expects to sell at least 50 percent more of its Atom chips for netbooks and other mobile Internet devices this year than it did in 2008, Anand Chandrasekher,



A visitor takes a picture of the LG KM900 Arena phone at the GSMA Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on 17 Feb, 2009. The GSMA represents the interests of the worldwide mobile communications industry. —*INTERNET*

head of Intel's ultra-mobility group, said on Tuesday at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona. Intel's revenues from Atom chips, which cater for a new and fast-growing market, rose

50 percent to \$300 million (211 million pounds) in the fourth quarter. Overall company sales fell 23 percent to \$82 billion as the chip industry struggles through the downturn. —*Internet*

Pet chimpanzee shot after mauling US woman



A chimpanzee mauled a woman's face. —*INTERNET*

STAMFORD, 18 Feb—A 175-pound pet chimpanzee has been shot dead by police after it mauled a woman in the US. The victim, said to be in her 50s, suffered serious facial injuries and was taken to hospital in Stamford, Connecticut. Stamford police Lieutenant

Richard Conklin told reporters the woman, who was visiting a friend, was attacked for no apparent reason when she got out of her car. Sandra Herold, the owner of the 15-year-old chimp called Travis, wrestled with the animal as he mauled her friend, then ran inside her house to raise the alarm.

"She retrieved a large butcher knife and stabbed her long-time pet numerous times in an effort to save her friend, who was really being brutally attacked," Lt Conklin said. The victim suffered "a tremendous loss of blood", he added. The ape had started roaming around the vicinity when emergency crews arrived. —*Internet*

Boy's body found in crocodile



Crocodiles in Australia can be destroyed if they are a threat to humans. —*INTERNET*

CAMBERRA, 18 Feb—The remains of a five-year-old Australian boy have been found in the stomach of a crocodile, police say. Jeremy Doble was last seen on 8 February playing near his

family's home beside a flooded mangrove swamp in northern Queensland.

Police now say he was attacked and eaten by a 14ft (4.3m) crocodile who was then trapped in a floodplain river. The announcement came after police examined the crocodile, using non-lethal surgical procedure.

"The family have requested that media respect their privacy at this time," police said in a statement.

Queensland officials say the animal will now be sent to a crocodile farm or zoo. The victim's parents have reportedly asked authorities not to kill the crocodile. —*Internet*

Study raises hopes of anthrax vaccine pill

LONDON, 18 Feb—An oral vaccine packed into bacteria found in dairy products like milk and cheese protected mice from the anthrax bacteria, suggesting a pill could replace injections for humans, researchers said on Monday.

"Normally, you can't eat vaccines because the digestive process in the stomach destroys them, so vaccines are administered by needle," Todd Klaenhammer, a researcher at North Carolina State University in the United States who co-led the study, said in a statement. "Using 'food grade' lactic acid bacteria as a vehicle provides a

safe way of getting the vaccine into the small intestine without losing any of the drug's efficacy," he said.

The study, which included scientists from the US Army Medical Research of Infectious Diseases, was published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Anthrax is a fairly common bacteria whose spores can be used as a biological weapon. Usually it causes an easily treated skin lesion. But if inhaled, it can take hold quickly and by the time a person starts showing symptoms, it is usually too late for successful treatment with antibiotics.

Earlier this month, Human Genome Sciences Inc said it would provide an initial 20,000 doses of ABthrax, which fights anthrax infection, to the US government. US based Emergent BioSolutions also produces a vaccine.

—*Internet*

Vietnam, Laos boost sports cooperation

HANOI, 18 Feb—Vietnam and Laos signed four components as part of their 2007-2009 sports cooperation agreement here, the *Vietnam News Agency* reported Tuesday.

Under the deals, inked

by Vietnamese Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism Hoang Tuan Anh and President of the Lao National Sports Committee Phouthong Seng Akhom, the two sides will exchange experts and officials

to learn each other's sports management and development experiences.

Vietnam will continue to assist Laos in building its National Sports Training Centre and send coaches to the neighbouring country to train athletes in several sports events in preparation for the upcoming 25th Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games). The two sides will jointly organize training courses for referees, coaches and athletes as well as encourage the business cooperation in providing equipment.

—*MNA/Xinhua*

Thailand's rice exports in January falls 37.74% year-on-year

BANGKOK, 18 Feb—Thailand's rice exports in January this year fell 37.74 per cent year-on-year in terms of volume, the Commerce Ministry said on Tuesday.

In January, Thailand—the world's largest rice

exporter—shipped only 628,792 tons of rice, valued at 331 million US dollars, compared with 1.01 million tons worth of 421 million US dollars a year ago, the website by *Thai News Agency* quoted Foreign Trade Department

director-general Apiradi Tantraporn as saying. However, the Commerce Ministry is still confident that the country's exports for calendar 2009 would meet the target of 8.5-9.5 million tons, the website said. —*MNA/Xinhua*

SPORTS

Real's Robben has old scores to settle with Liverpool



MADRID, 18 Feb—Real Madrid winger Arjen Robben said on Tuesday he had some old scores to settle with Liverpool when they meet in the Champions League first knockout round next week. "I want

to beat Liverpool because I've lost against them twice in the semi-finals," Robben told Radio Marca. "Also Reina saved a penalty of mine and I would like to take another and score this time."

Robben was at Chelsea when Liverpool beat them on the way to the European Cup final in 2005 and 2007. Two years ago, the match went to penalties after the tie ended 1-1 on aggregate, and Reina saved from Robben and Geremi as Liverpool took the shootout 4-1 at Anfield.

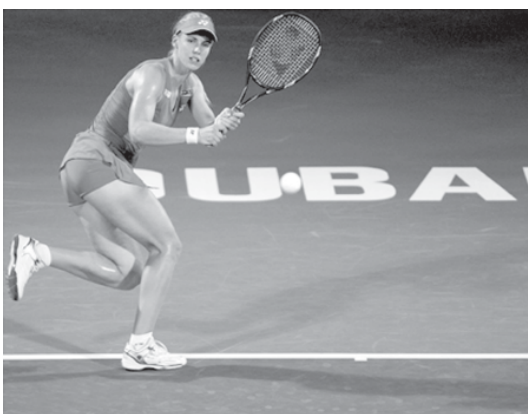
Internet

Serra upsets ailing Soderling at Memphis

MEMPHIS, 18 Feb—Frenchman Florent Serra withstood 20 aces to upset fourth seeded and two-times finalist Robin Soderling of Sweden 6-4 6-7 6-2 in the opening round of the Memphis Championships on Tuesday. "It's a good victory indoors, (against) one of the best players on indoor courts," Serra told reporters. "I'm very happy because it's an important tournament here. I have to continue to play like this and play relaxed."

Soderling played with an ailing back and needed a trainer before the start of the third set. The timeout helped Serra calm himself after the second set loss. "It was a very difficult first-round match for me," Serra said. "He served very, very strong. But I hit the ball very well."

Internet



Elena Dementieva of Russia returns the ball to Sybille Bammer of Austria during their match on the third day of the WTA Dubai Tennis Championships on 17 Feb, 2009.

INTERNET

Eduardo's dream return comes at right time for Arsenal

LONDON, 18 Feb—Eduardo's dream return to the Arsenal first team after his horrific leg break has given manager Arsene Wenger new attacking options as he seeks to lift their Premier League campaign. The Brazilian-born Croatia striker scored twice in Monday's 4-0 victory over Cardiff City in the FA Cup fourth round, marking his first match for the club in almost a year in style.

"It was the best day of my life because it proved I can play again," local media quoted Eduardo as saying. "It was a special moment to score and very emotional. I had tears in my eyes. I celebrated by kissing my wedding ring because my wife, Andreja, daughter Lorena and family supported me right through it."

Wenger, whose side are fifth in the league, 12 points behind leaders Manchester United, said Eduardo's return gave him new possibilities as they try to close the gap in the league and progress in the Champions League and FA Cup. "We'll know at the end of the season how important it (his comeback) is, but I'm very happy to have him back," said the Frenchman. "He can play as a striker, on the flank, behind the striker, up front on his own. That is important for us."—Internet

Beckham decision could come Friday

MILAN, 18 Feb—David Beckham's future could be decided on Friday, AC Milan chief executive Adriano Galliani said on Tuesday.

"There is still a bit of distance but Friday could be the decisive day for Beckham," Galliani told reporters as



An airport employee and a news photographer take a picture of David Beckham after AC Milan's team arrived at the airport in the northern German town of Bremen on 17 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Milan flew out for Wednesday's UEFA Cup clash at Werder Bremen. "The wish of the player is to stay, we will see how the situation evolves." The midfielder, on a two-month loan at Milan from Los Angeles Galaxy, wants to remain in Italy permanently after impressive performances in Serie A helped him win back a place in the England squad.

Galaxy said Friday he must go back to Los Angeles on March 9 after a Major League Soccer deadline to complete the transfer passed. However, Milan are still confident of reaching a deal when talks resume towards the end of the week.

Various figures have been bandied about in the media after Milan's opening offer of five million euros (4.4 million pounds) was turned down. Some reports have said Galaxy want about 12 million while Milan are only willing to go to eight or even 10.—Internet

Milan's Nesta to undergo further back surgery

MILAN, 18 Feb—Injury-plagued AC Milan defender Alessandro Nesta will undergo another back operation on Tuesday to try to save his career.

The former Italy international, 32, has not played this season having managed 29 league games last term and just 14 the season before with continuing niggles. AC Milan announces that Alessandro Nesta will go under the knife



tomorrow morning, the Serie A club said in a statement on Monday.

Milan had hoped a rehabilitation stint in the United States had cured his back problems but he broke down again last week. David Beckham, who limped out of Sunday's 2-1 defeat by Inter Milan with a calf injury, has been named in the squad for Wednesday's UEFA Cup last 32 first leg at Werder Bremen but Kaka is again out with a foot problem.

Internet



Arsenal's Eduardo (hidden) heads his goal past Cardiff City goalkeeper Tom Heaton (C) during their FA Cup fourth round replay soccer match at the Emirates Stadium in London on 16 Feb, 2009.—INTERNET

Juve interested in Sampdoria playmaker Cassano

MILAN, 18 Feb—Juventus are interested in Sampdoria's influential playmaker Antonio Cassano, who was again instrumental in Sunday's 1-1 draw between the sides.

"He is a boy who is becoming a man. He is exciting and a good player," Juve president Giovanni Cobolli Gigli told Radio

Anch'io. "Cassano is a name which we are considering."

Internet



Hiddink could turn to Chelsea's youngsters

LONDON, 18 Feb—Chelsea coach Guus Hiddink said he could turn to promising young players to get the London club's Premier League title challenge back on track. Hiddink, who transformed a drab Russia team into an exciting one that reached the Euro 2008 semi-finals by bringing in inexperienced young players, hinted he could draw on that successful tactic during his temporary spell at Stamford Bridge. "Even if you are a big club ... you will always create some space for youngsters," he told Sky Sports News.

"There are always promising youngsters and that's why we have to keep an eye on them. If they have the quality to come in, we don't hesitate to (bring them in)." Hiddink, appointed to manage the London club until the end of the season after last week's sacking of Luiz Felipe Scolari, watched his reserves beat Portsmouth reserves 6-0 on Monday in the company of club owner Roman Abramovich.—Internet

Adriano escapes punishment for derby handball goal

MILAN, 18 Feb—Inter Milan striker Adriano has escaped a possible two-game ban after scoring the opener with his arm in Sunday's 2-1 win over AC Milan. There was insufficient proof that the Brazilian had deliberately intended to commit a handball, the Italian league's disciplinary unit said in a statement on Tuesday after reviewing video evidence.

The ball came off his head and then hit his arm before flying into the net in the 28th minute following Maicon's cross. A similar incident happened in October when Fiorentina's Alberto Gilardino was banned for two games after it was decided he had deliberately used an arm to score in a 3-1 win at Palermo. Sunday's tight win moved Inter nine points clear at the top of Serie A and left third-placed Milan 11 adrift and virtually out of the title race. Inter President Massimo Moratti has said the champions would have won anyway despite the handball but Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti said the incident had been crucial.—Internet

In memoriam Family shares merits gained Lt-Gen Tin Oo

In memory of benefactor Phay Phay Gyi Lt-Gen Tin Oo who suddenly left us eight years ago, we family members have made donations and offered 'soon' and provisions to members of the Sangha today on 19-2-2009. We family members share with you the merits gained.

Wife Daw Khin Than Nwe

Sons and daughters—

- Major Maung Maung Kyaw (Retd) (BSI) + Cho Leh Oo
- Phyu Phyu Tin Oo
- Dr Myat Noe + Yin Mar Oo
- Zaw Tun Oo + Khin Thida
- Nay Tun Oo

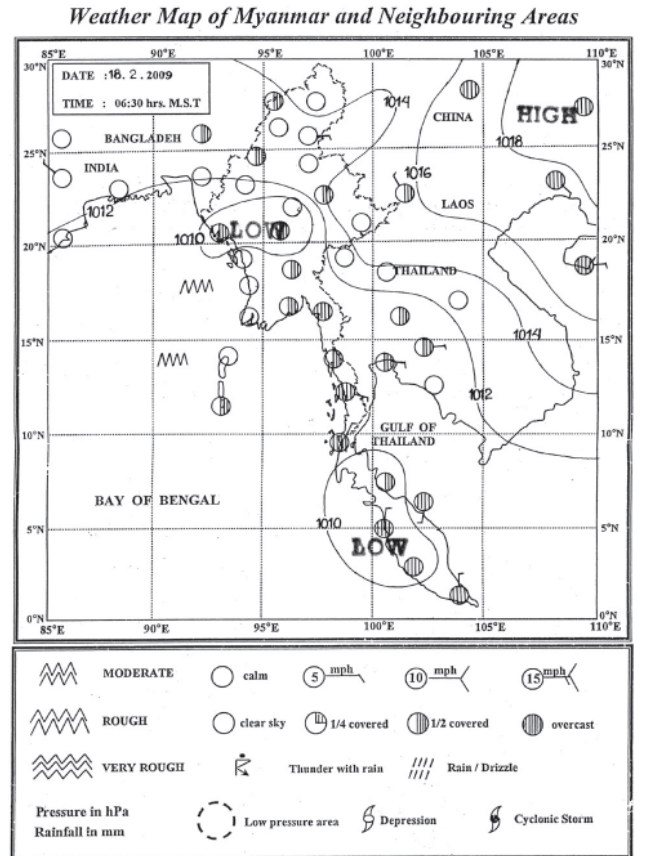
Grandchildren—

- Hein Htet, Yin Myat Noe, Phu Ngon Kyaw, Thant Thi Han Zaw (Po Thila)

60 Afghan Taleban fighters lay down arms

KABUL, 18 Feb—Sixty Taleban militants have laid down their arms and resumed their normal life, an official Mohammad Akram said Tuesday. "Due to the efforts of the Commission for Strengthening Peace (CSP), these brothers laid down their arms in Wardak Province and vowed to support peace and reconciliation in the country," Akram told journalists at a ceremony held to welcome the former Taleban fighters.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Wednesday, 18 February, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Mon States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (6°C) below February average temperatures in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Loilem (3°C) and Namhsam (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 17-2-2009 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 18-2-2009 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 18-2-2009 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 17-2-2009 was (7.8) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 18-2-2009 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 (5) mph from Northeast at (16:30) hours MST on 17-2-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 19th February 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Mon States and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 19-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 19-2-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 19-2-2009: Generally fair weather.

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (19.2.2009) (Thursday)

| 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 (Ayeyawady Division)
- The Famous Floating Market
- Precious Myanmar Lacquerware
- The Wonderful Peikchin Ravine
- The Artworks of Bagan Gift Centre
- 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 (Yangon Division)
- Beautiful Embossed Bark Painting
- One Day Trip to Sanka Village
- Sea Turtles Conservation
- Myanmar Mart
- Central Glass Pavilion
- Golden Plum Job of Central Myanmar
- Myanmar Modern Song
- Hundred Fruits from a Common Stem, Our Union (Ayeyawady Division)
- The Famous Floating Market
- The Wonderful Peikchin Ravine
- The Artworks of Bagan Gift Centre
- Myanmar Traditional Musical Instruments (Percussion Instruments) (Drum)
- Travel and Description (Yangon to Thanlyin-Kyauk Tan)
- Mularsheedi we Love!
- Smogless sky, Enchanting smiles
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm



**Thursday, 19 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. Dance Variety

- 8:00 am**
- 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am**
- 7. “ချောင်းကမ်းဘေးကရွာကလေး” (ကြို့ကို၊ ထင်ပေါ်၊ နွဲ့နွဲ့စန်း၊ မြင့်မြင့်ခိုင်၊ သဇင်) [ဒါရိုက်တာ-မြင့်စိုး(ဝ/သ)]
- 8:15 am**
- 8. Musical programme
- 8:25 am**
- 9. ဖြူးချောင်းရေလှောင်တံခွန်စံနိန်း
- 8:30 am**
- 10. International news
- 8:45 am**
- 11. Musical programme
- 4:00 pm**
- 1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm**
- 2. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 4:20 pm**
- 3. Dance of national races
- 4:25 pm**
- 4. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက် ထုတ်ကုန်များ
- 4:35 pm**
- 5. ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ (ဘောဂဗေဒဘာသာရပ်)
- 5:05 pm**
- 6. Songs to Uphold National Spirit
- 5:10 pm**
- 7. Cute little dancers
- 5:20 pm**
- 8. “စွမ်းအားစုံညီကြက်ခြေနီ”
- 5:40 pm**
- 9. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 6:00 pm**
- 10. Evening news

- 6:30 pm**
- 11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
- 12. ပျော်ရွှင်စေသောနေ့ရက်များ “လက်ဖဝါးမှာစာရေးပါ” (အပိုင်း-၁) (စိုးရန်အောင်၊ ဇော်ဇော်အောင်၊ ရဲမွန်၊ သဒ္ဒါထက်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဂွမ်းပုံ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်ကျော်သူရ)
- 6:55 pm**
- 13. ထူးဆန်းထွေလာများကိုသိပ္ပံဖြင့် ချဉ်းကပ်ခြင်း
- 7:10 pm**
- 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ကုန်သွယ်မှုနံတိုင်း” (အပိုင်း-၅၃)
- 8:00 pm**
- 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မေတ္တာလမ်းဆုံ” (အပိုင်း-၁)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sees off Thai delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb —The Thai delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda who was on a visit in Nay Pyi Taw at the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye left here for Yangon by special flight at 9.50 a.m. today.

Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda and party arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport from Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone in a motorcade and Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development

Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party welcomed them.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented documentary photo album of the goodwill visit to the Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army.

Thai delegation left here for Yangon. They were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Minis-

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sees off Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents photo album to Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Anupong Paojinda.—MNA

Mountaineering experiences recounted

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb —A ceremony to recount experiences of climbing Mt. Khawnuthon was held at Golden Jubilee Hall of University of Veterinary Science in Yezin, Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana on 16 February with an address by Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein.

The students recounted the experiences of mountaineering and Rector of the University Dr Myint Thein spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Fish resource conservation discussed

YANGON, 18 Feb —Mawlamyine District Fisheries Department and District Fish Resource Conservation Group jointly held the talks on conservation of fish resource at Thepon Jetty near Attaran Hotel in Mandalay Ward of Mawlamyine on 10 February.

Leader of the group U Maung Soe and Head of District Fisheries Department U Thet Oo gave talks on conservation of fish resource and functions of Fisheries Department, and presented educational pamphlets to those present.—MNA

try of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air)

Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command

Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and officials.—MNA

INSIDE

In fear lest they will be further away from the goal (1)

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ARTICLE

Kaka wants Beckham stay

MILAN, 18 Feb — AC Milan star Kaka has urged the club to push through a deal to keep David Beckham at the San Siro.

Beckham is currently on loan at the Serie A giants but is due to return to parent club Los Angeles Galaxy on 9th March.

Milan have so failed to agree a deal to sign Beckham with the MLS club expecting the midfielder to report back to America next month.

Beckham remains hopeful a deal can be thrashed out and Kaka believes the former Manchester United and Real Madrid man has estab-

lished himself as a key member of the Milan side.

Kaka admits the initial move for Beckham may have been motivated for marketing, but he insists the player has won everyone over at Milan.

“Maybe it was a marketing move at first,” Kaka told *SportTV*. “But today the truth is that he is fundamental. He is a player that in the last games was very decisive, with passes and goals.”

Internet



Kaka - impressed by Beckham.