

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Bulgarian President

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Georgi Parvanov, President of the Republic of Bulgaria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Bulgaria, which falls on 3 March, 2009.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein felicitates Bulgarian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March — General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Sergei Stanishev, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Bulgaria, which falls on 3 March, 2009.—MNA

Service personnel have to put public interests in the fore, Secretary-1 says

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



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivers a speech in meeting with district/township level service personnel from Kyaukme.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo had a meeting with district and township level service personnel from Kyaukme at Kyaukme, Shan State (North) yesterday afternoon.

Chairman of Kyaukme District PDCU Khin Maung Lay reported on education, health, social and economic conditions of the district; Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, on self-reliant hydropower stations, achievement of food sufficiency, and progress in reclaiming highlands; Minister for Electric Power No. (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, on increase in electric power supply with the completion of Shweli Hydropower Project, and ongoing projects; Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, on construction of more hospitals and dispensaries and appointment of health staff to expedite community health care, and

requirement of massive participation to make progress in health care; and Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, on education promotion plans to be implemented with the participation of teachers, parents and students.

The Secretary-1 in his address said that the purpose of his tour is to fulfil requirements for development of the district in the education, health, economic and transport sectors. He quoted the reports of officials concerned as saying that Kyaukme District achieved 130 per cent in rice sufficiency, 123 per cent in edible oil, and over 300,000 kyats in per capita income (2007-2008).

He added that the Head of State has given guidance on the need for every region to try to achieve food security, and is fulfilling the requirements. He said that they have learnt lessons that local people face food shortage in times of natural disasters and interruption

of transport, adding that he wanted local people realize why they are urged to pay serious attention to local food sufficiency.

Now, per capita income of 600,000 is on target, he said, instructing officials concerned to contribute towards the drive as Kyaukme District has got basic foundations for development.

The government is pursuing the goal of ensuring equitable development of all states and divisions. If local people work hard, each of them and the region will enjoy greater development in proportion to the efforts they have exerted, he noted. On the tour, he will drop in Namhsan and fulfil requirements for regional development including the upgrading of Namhsan Hospital to a 50-bed facility. Moreover, arrangements will be in force to upgrade Kyaukme-Hsipaw-Namhsan-Panton Road to an all-weather one, he said.

(See page 8)

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 4 March, 2009

ASEAN countries to boost economic cooperation

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein attended the 14th ASEAN Summit and related meetings held in Hua Hin, Thailand, on 28 February and 1 March at the invitation of his Thai counterpart Mr Abhisit Vejjajiva.

At the 14th ASEAN Summit Retreat, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries held discussions on implementation of ASEAN Charter, exchange of views on regional and international issues, global financial crisis, disaster management, food and energy security, and regional and international situations.

Then, they signed the Declaration on Roadmap for ASEAN Community. After the 14th ASEAN Summit Retreat, the foreign affairs ministers of ASEAN countries signed the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement. At the working dinner for ASEAN Economic Ministers, the economic ministers inked ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement, ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement, protocol to implement the 7th Package of Commitments under ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services, and 3 programmes for mutual recognition of ASEAN Quality.

ASEAN is now trying hard to boost regional economic cooperation as part of the drive for establishing ASEAN economic community by 2015. Being rich in natural resources and human resources, ASEAN region has economic opportunities and attracts the attention of investors.

Now, ASEAN members have endorsed the Declaration on Roadmap for ASEAN Community. When ASEAN Community comes into existence, the peoples of ASEAN members will be able to enjoy progress in the fields of peace, stability, prosperity, social affairs and culture.

ASEAN countries can enjoy greater regional development in the near future if they keep on boosting trade and investment and cooperation in the economic sector in accordance with the fine tradition of their unity.

Peoples' 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

Construction of Orthopaedic Hospital (Mandalay) inspected



Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence inspects Orthopaedic Hospital (Mandalay).

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March—Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and officials, on 24 February met with officers and other ranks of Mandalay Station at Yanaungmyin Hall and departmental officials, rectors, principals and

members of social organizations at the meeting hall of the Division PDC Office.

After that, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint inspected newly built five-storey Mandalay General Hospital on 30th Street and progress in construction of Orthopaedic Hospital (Mandalay) near the Institute of Nursing on 62th Street. Next, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence and party looked into tarring of 35th Street, renovation of Shwetachung Drain and tarring of 87th and 41st Streets on self-reliant basis and left for Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Saya U Maung Maung Ti (Maths) presents prizes to distinction winners

YANGON, 2 March—Prizes were presented to mathematics distinction winners to mark the 35th Anniversary of

Teaching Career of Saya U Maung Maung Ti (Maths) at a ceremony held at Than Lwin Hall of Maha Thanti Thukha Monastery in Natchaung Ward, Tamway Township here this afternoon.

It was attended by Rector Dr Soe Yin (Retd) of Yangon University and wife, Professor Dr Daw Khin Win Kyi (Retd) of Yangon Institute of Education, Pro-rector U Tin Latt (Retd) of Dagon University, Professor U Thein Myint (Retd), Associate Professor Dr Daw Khin Tint (Retd) and teachers, CEC member of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hein Latt and those from journalistic world, maths

Foreign Minister felicitates Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ivailo Kalfin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Bulgaria, which falls on 3 March, 2009.—MNA

distinction winners and their parents.

Pro-rector U Tin Latt (Retd) and Professor U Thein Myint (Retd) made speeches.

Next, Saya U Maung Maung Ti (Maths) presented prizes to six distinction winners Maung Phyto Min Han and Maung Myat Phyto Aung and 40

distinction winners in maths in 2008 matriculation exam. After that, he presented gifts to senior teachers who were present on the occasion.

Saya U Maung Maung Ti (Maths) has been opening special maths classes at No. 284 on Banya Dala Street, Tamway Township.—MNA



Pro-rector U Tin Latt (Retd) makes speech at the ceremony to mark the 35th Anniversary of Teaching Career of Saya U Maung Maung Ti (Maths).—MNA

US Justice Department say CIA destroys almost 100 interrogation videos

WASHINGTON, 3 March—The US Justice Department issued documents on Monday showing that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has destroyed almost 100 interrogation videos recorded during the former Bush administration.

The CIA can now identify the number of videotapes that were destroyed," Acting US Attorney Lev Dassin wrote in a letter dated 2 March to New

York Judge Alvin Hellerstein. "Ninety-two videotapes were destroyed."

The letter was submitted at the request of the New York judge who is handling a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and seeking more details of interrogation programs under Bush's government.

"The large number of videotapes destroyed confirms that the agency en-

gaged in a systematic attempt to hide evidence of its illegal interrogations and to evade the court's order," ACLU attorney Amrit Singh said in a statement, adding that CIA should be held accountable for holding back the information for so long.

The newly-released number was far more than the number that was previously acknowledged by CIA.

Internet

NATO may ask China for support in Afghanistan

BRUSSELS, 3 March—NATO may ask China to provide support for the war effort in Afghanistan, including possibly opening a supply link for alliance forces, a senior US official said Monday.

The subject is still under consideration and no decision has been reached on whether to approach Beijing, the official said on condition of anonymity given the sensitivity of the issue. He spoke ahead of a meeting of NATO foreign

ministers on Thursday in Brussels, which will include Hillary Rodham Clinton in her first European trip as US secretary of state.

One way Beijing could help would be to open an alternate logistics route through western China into Afghanistan, the US official said in Brussels.

China shares a 76-kilometer- (50-mile)-long border with Afghanistan in the Wakhan Corridor, a thin sparsely populated strip of

Afghan territory separating Pakistan and Tajikistan. The 2,000-year-old-caravan route — once used by Marco Polo — is now a dirt road that crosses some of the world's most mountainous regions.

Until now, China — which also has faced problems with Islamic militants in its western regions — has generally been supportive of the Afghan government and the US-led allied war effort.

Internet

US Army Staff Sergeant Earl Granville, 25, who lost his left leg a year ago, close to the Afghan-Pakistan border, is seen at Walter Reed Army Medical Centre in Washington. INTERNET



US soldier killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 March — An American soldier died Monday from injuries he received while on patrol in the north of Baghdad, the US military said in a statement.

The name of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement said, adding that the incident is under investigation.—Internet

Bicycle bomb kills three and wounds 20 in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 March—Three people were killed and 20 others wounded in a bicycle bomb near a Shiite mosque northeast of Baghdad, a police source said.

A bomb set in a bicycle exploded on Monday afternoon near a Shiite mosque in Khalisin of Diyala province, killing three civilians and wounding 20 others, most of them are children and women, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Eleven of the wounded were seriously injured and transferred to local hospital for treatment, the source added. Diyala province is considered one of the most dangerous places in Iraq, where al-Qaida and various insurgent groups still manage to launch attacks despite a general decrease in violence levels in the country.—Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,254

WASHINGTON, 3 March—As of Monday, 2 March, 2009, at least 4,254 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,417 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.—Internet

Afghan civilians could bear brunt of increased war

KABUL, 3 March—Afghan civilians will bear the brunt of an escalation in the Afghan war this year as thousands more US troops deploy unless more is done by NATO forces and Taliban militants to protect them, a top Red Cross official said Monday.

Civilian casualties in Afghanistan are "significantly higher" today than a year ago, and an intensification of the conflict this year could mean that consequences for many more Afghans will be "dire in the extreme," said Pierre Krahenbuhl, the director of operations for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

"The daily lives of people living in areas where the fighting is taking place are being disrupted, be it because of airstrikes, night raids, suicide attacks, the use of IEDs, or because of intimidation and the population being pressurized or co-opted by the different parties to this conflict," he said.

The UN last month said 2,118 civilians died in the Afghan conflict in 2008, a 40 percent jump over 2007. The world body said insurgent attacks caused 55 percent of those deaths, while US, NATO or government forces caused 39 percent of the deaths. The remaining 6 percent were caused in crossfire.

The NATO-led force said Monday that an operation in Helmand province on 23 Feb killed eight civilians. A joint NATO-Afghan investigation found that militants used civilian houses and religious facilities for "terrorist activities" in Sangin district when they ambushed a NATO patrol, a statement said.—Internet

New US envoy on North Korea heads to region

BEIJING, 3 March—The Obama Administration's new chief emissary on North Korea, Stephen Bosworth, is scheduled to arrive in China on Tuesday for initial discussions on how to coax a wary Pyongyang toward fresh nuclear disarmament steps.

Beijing will be Bosworth's first stop on his first visit to the region since he was nominated last month for the job of overseeing protracted nuclear negotiations with North Korea, which the United States fears is also preparing a missile launch.

Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt, also in Beijing, said Chinese officials also worried about a possible North Korean

missile launch.

"They (the Chinese) are obviously concerned with the risk of raising tensions," Bildt said of North Korea's moves.

But no breakthroughs are expected on Bosworth's first visit.

Internet



Afghan soldiers inspect the site of a suicide car bomb attack in Nangarhar province on 1 March, 2009. INTERNET



A US Coast Guard helicopter crew member (R) reaches out to pull a man, identified by the Coast Guard as Nick Schuyler, from a transport basket into the helicopter after the man was rescued from the waters of the Gulf of Mexico, off the coast of St Petersburg, Florida on 2 March, 2009.—XINHUA

Chinese doctors urged to stub out killer habit of smoking

BEIJING, 3 March — China's Health Minister Chen Zhu on Sunday urged health and medical workers to quit smoking and set a good example for people to follow, on Tuesday's *China Daily* reported.

"Medical workers and those who take the decisions regarding people's health should take the lead to quit smoking and completely ban indoor smoking to set a good example for their patients and others who look up to them," the minister said as he launched a campaign to discourage smoking among medical staff.

About 56.8 percent of male doctors in the country smoke.

It is the highest rate in

the world, according to the China Preventive Medicine Association (CPMA).

Despite finding success in holding a "smoke-free" Olympics last year, the country

continues to face difficulties getting its citizens to give up the killer habit due to lack of relevant legislations, policy implementation and awareness campaigns, Chen said.—Xinhua

Indonesia opens tsunami museum in Aceh

BANDA ACEH, 3 March —Indonesia has opened a tsunami museum in Aceh province to remember the severity impact of the catastrophe in 2004 that killed more than 230,000 people in Asia and most of them in the province.

The museum displayed the pictures of victims and huge damages in coastal areas of the province in northern tip of Sumatra island when a tsunami triggered by strong quakes devastated the areas on 24 Dec five years ago.

"The museum has been opened in Telang Padang district," head of Aceh Development Planning Rahman Lubis told Xinhua.

The four-level building also exhibits stories of survivors and an electronic simulation of tidal waves, said Lubis.—Xinhua

Shenzhen to build four to five satellites every year

BEIJING, 3 March — The aerospace industry is expected to one day become the new growth engine of Shenzhen's economy with the establishment of a satellite manufacturing company on Sunday.

Upon completion, Shenzhen Aerospace Spacesat Co Ltd is expected to develop six to eight types of satellites and produce four to five satellites every year. The satellites will be used for global navigation, tele-communications, remote

sensing and space exploration.

The enterprise was jointly founded by China Spacesat Co Ltd, Harbin Institute of Technology and Shenzhen Aerospace Science and Technology Research Institute. It will be part of a research, development and manufacturing base for the aerospace industry in Shenzhen, company officials said Sunday.

A research institute subordinate to China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp, the main contractor for the Chinese space programs, will also move into the base in Shenzhen. On Sunday, national and city government officials broke ground for the Satellite Building, an infrastructure project at the base in the Shenzhen Hi-Tech Industrial Park.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Australia expected to send more troops to Afghanistan

CANBERRA, 3 March — Australian Foreign Minister Stephen Smith said on Tuesday he would not be surprised if the US requests Australia to deploy more troops to Afghanistan.

"It will, of course, be

of no surprise if we do," Smith told Sky News.

The subject of Afghanistan is likely to come up when Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and US President Barack Obama meet in Washington on 24 March.

"There is an overarching review, known as the Riedel Review, which the international community is contributing to, including, importantly, Afghanistan and also Pakistan," Smith said.

The US administration had made it clear early this month that it saw the need for additional troop contributions from coalition nations.

Australia has 1,100 troops in Afghanistan, which is the largest contribution of non-NATO nations.—Xinhua

Canada's eastern provinces hit by snow, freezing rain

OTTAWA, 3 March —Freezing rain and snow shut down schools and cut power supplies to thousands of households in Canada's Atlantic provinces, local media reported. The province of Nova Scotia was pounded by bursts of freezing rain throughout Monday, with Environment Canada predicting that 25 millimeters or more of rain would fall on the province by Tuesday morning.

The freezing rain closed schools province-wide, and the ice that built up on trees was blamed for causing power outages to more than 2,000 houses.

The rain with snowmelt could result in local flood, authorities warned.—Xinhua

Chinese Navy fleet warns of danger in Gulf of Aden

GULF OF ADEN, 3 March—The commander of the Chinese naval fleet that is patrolling in the Gulf of Aden on Monday warned that piracy remains a problem in the gulf and urged passing ships to be on guard.

Rear Admiral Du Jingchen said that despite recent successes in thwarting pirate raids, the Gulf of Aden is still not yet safe for commercial vessels.

In the past week alone, more than 100 raids by suspicious small ships occurred in the gulf.

The Chinese cargo ship Yandanghai was attacked 25 Feb by pirates in the gulf and two of its crewmembers were slightly injured. The Chinese fleet escorted the cargo ship to safe waters and helped treat the injured crewmembers after a Danish ship chased off the pirates.

The fleet also rescued an Italian merchant ship from approaching pirates in the sea off Somalia last Thursday.

Xinhua

Vehicles park on a parking lot at LaGuardia Airport in New York, the United States, on 2 March, 2009. A massive snowstorm ravaged the eastern United States early Monday, snapping power lines, closing schools and snarling the morning commute amid freezing temperatures.—XINHUA



One job to be lost every 25 seconds in next three months in Britain

LONDON, 3 March—About 320,000 jobs look set to be lost in the next three months as the recession hits home in Britain, equating to a job lost every 25 seconds, experts warned.

If the cull continued at the same rate for the rest of the year unemployment would hit 3.06 million when job losses are seen in all sectors of business, from services to manu-

facturing, and among both large and small firms, business adviser BDO Stoy Hayward predicted.

“Businesses are taking swift and decisive action to tackle the challenges of the recession,” its report said.

The jobless total in Britain now stands at 1.97 million. In a glimmer of hope, the report indicates its optimism index, which predicts business confidence for the next two

quarters rose slightly in February compared with January.

Meanwhile, the Engineering Employers’ Federation (EEF) warned more than 140,000 manufacturing posts would be lost this year.

The EEF predicted the sector would shrink by 8.6 percent this year, the worst decline since the recession of the 1980s.

Internet

One-third of Americans losing sleep over economy

WASHINGTON, 3 March—One-third of Americans are losing sleep over the state of the US economy and other personal financial concerns, a new poll says.

The poll, released Monday by the National Sleep Foundation (NSF), suggests that inadequate sleep is associated with unhealthy lifestyles and negatively impacts health and safety.

The number of people reporting sleep problems has increased 13 percent since 2001. In the past eight years, the number of Americans who sleep less than six hours a night jumped from 13 percent to 20 percent, and those who reported sleeping eight hours or more dropped from 38 percent to 28 percent. “It’s easy to understand why so many people are concerned over the economy and jobs, but sacrificing sleep is the wrong solution,”

said David Cloud, chief executive officer of the Washington-based foundation.

“Sleep is essential for productivity and alertness and is a vital sign for one’s overall health,” he added.

About 40 percent of Americans agree that sleep is as important as diet and exercise to overall health and well-being; yet, only 32 percent of Americans who report sleep problems discuss them with their doctor.

Internet

People of the Bouyei ethnic group play the trombone in the rape field on the opening ceremony of “Golden Sea and Snow Mountains” tourist promoting campaign held in Guiding, a county of southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 1 March, 2009. —

INTERNET



Former Iranian president promises help for Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 March—One of Iran’s most powerful political and religious figures — former President Hashemi Rafsanjani — promised Monday to assist in Iraq’s reconstruction after nearly six years of war that has involved Shiite militias with suspected links to Teheran.

“We hope the era of conflict and hardships for Iraq is coming to an end,” Rafsanjani told reporters in his first visit to Iraq since Iran’s 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Iran, a predominantly Shiite country, has close ties with Iraq’s Shiite-led government and seeks to expand its commercial links as Iraq looks ahead to projects to rebuild roads and core services such as electrical networks and sewers.

Internet

Global PC shipments to suffer sharpest decline in 2009

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 March—Economic downturn will drag global personal computer (PC) shipments to its steepest decline in 2009, market research company Gartner predicted on Monday. PC shipments are expected to decline 11.9 percent from last year to 257 million units in 2009, Gartner said.

The industry previously experienced its worst decline in 2001 when PC shipments contracted 3.2 percent.

“The PC industry is facing extraordinary conditions as the global economy continues to weaken, users stretch PC lifetimes and PC suppliers grow increasingly cautious,” George Shiffler, research director at Gartner, said in a statement.

Internet

Gazans want open borders, not handouts

RAFAN, 3 March—As top diplomats pledged billions of dollars for war-ravaged Gaza on Monday, ordinary people here — from merchants to housewives — said they’d rather have open borders than handouts.

Even some tunnel smugglers who profit from Gaza’s blockaded borders say they’d rather import legally through open crossings than risk Israeli bombing raids and shaft collapses.

“I want a cease-fire and open borders. Crossings are better than tunnels,” said 22-year-old smuggler Abu Mahmoud, leaning over a shaft as workers tried to clear a 300-foot stretch of tunnel that had collapsed under an Israeli airstrike.—Internet



Former Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani and Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, left, inspect the honor guard in Baghdad, Iraq, on 2 March, 2009. INTERNET

Girls of the Hani ethnic group sing songs during the “China Honghe terrace culture tourism festival” in Yuanyang County, southwest China’s Yunnan Province, on 1 March, 2009. INTERNET



Fla county may declare itself disaster area

PORT ST LUCIE, 3 March —Just five years ago, Port St Lucie was America's fastest-growing large city. Then the foreclosure crisis slammed it like a hurricane.

Today it sits in one of the hardest-hit counties in the nation. Thousands of houses are empty or unfinished. Neighborhoods are littered with for-sale and foreclosure signs and overgrown, neglected yards. Break-ins are on

the rise.

But one politician believes he has a unique solution: Declare St Lucie County a disaster area as if it had been hit by, well, a hurricane.

"This is a manmade disaster," County Commissioner Doug Coward acknowledged. But he said that is why "we've got to do something. Clearly, the economic crisis of the country far exceeds the ability of local

governments to solve it, but we're trying to be a part of the solution."

The declaration would allow the county to suspend the usual bidding process for shovel-ready projects so that local contractors would get the jobs. It would also enable government officials to use some of the money in a \$17.5 million county fund usually reserved for natural disasters.

Internet



A Palestinian is seen inside a smuggling tunnel, that runs under the border between Egypt and Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip, on 1 March, 2009.—INTERNET

Mexico increases airport security after robberies

MEXICO CITY, 3 March —More than 800 federal and local police have been assigned to improve security in and around Mexico City's international airport after a series of armed robberies against travelers who exchanged money there, authorities announced on Monday.

Mexico City Attorney General Miguel Mancera said 460 additional city police officers have been assigned to patrol the areas surrounding the airport.

Federal police have added 350 new agents to the airport since December, said Federal Police



Members of a newly-assigned police force, aimed at providing more security to Mexico City's international airport, line up during a presentation ceremony in Mexico City, on 2 March, 2009.

INTERNET

Commissioner Rodrigo Esparza.

At least 18 people have been robbed recently outside the airport. They ap-

parently were followed after doing business at the currency exchanges inside, according to city prosecutors.—Internet

Distracted kindergarteners turn to gambling

TORONTO, 3 March—Children rated as impulsive by their kindergarten teachers appear more likely to begin gambling behaviours like playing cards or placing bets before they hit middle school, Canadian researchers said on Monday.

The study in the Archives of Paediatrics & Adolescent Medicine is the first to show gambling among children this young, said Linda Pagani, who led the study at Sainte-Justine University Hospital Research Centre and the Universite de Montreal.

"The question has always been, 'What comes before adolescent gambling?'" Pagani said in a telephone interview.—Internet

NEWS ALBUM



Two hostesses look at a light-installation at the booth of IBM at the CeBIT in Hanover, northern Germany, on 2 March, 2009. Some 4,300 exhibitors will present their latest developments on the world's biggest IT fair from on 3 March to 8 March, 2009.

Anger really can kill you: study

Anger and other strong emotions can trigger potentially deadly heart rhythms in certain vulnerable people, US researchers said on Monday.

Previous studies have shown that earthquakes, war or even the loss of a World Cup Soccer match can increase rates of death from sudden cardiac arrest, in which the heart stops circulating blood.

"It's definitely been shown in all different ways that when you put a whole population under a stressor that sudden death will increase," said Dr Rachel Lampert of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, whose study appears in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

Taxi runs over crocodile in Aussie town

A taxi driver ran over and killed a crocodile in the central business district of an Australian town on Wednesday, police said.

When the driver reported the accident, "police thought he may have been a bit strange or under the influence of liquor or something but it was all above board," said Inspector Ray Pringle.

The taxi collided with the one metre (three foot) croc while driving in Mount Isa, Pringle said.

"Sure enough when they went down, there was this freshwater croc," he told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

"It was quite severely injured and they looked at opportunities to save its life but the injuries were so bad it passed away."



The new cruise ship AIDAAluna started its trip from the shipyard to the ocean with what will likely be one of its closest passages on the narrow Ems River. The 252-meter (827-foot) long ship will make its first voyage in the North Sea then go back to the docks for a final check.

French Spider-Man' scales Hong Kong skyscraper

"French Spider-Man" Alain Robert scaled one of Hong Kong's tallest skyscrapers on Tuesday, in what he said was an effort to highlight global warming.

Robert, famous for climbing the world's tallest buildings without safety equipment, was arrested by police after a 40-minute ascent of the 62-storey Cheung Kong Centre, according to an AFP photographer.

The Frenchman unfurled a bright yellow banner as he climbed, advertising a website, onehundredmonths.org, which is counting down "the number of months left to save the planet from global warming."

Children in single-parent households, step families benefit from time with grandparents: study

Spending time with a grandparent is linked with better social skills and fewer behavior problems among adolescents, especially those living in single-parent or stepfamily households, according to a new study available here on Monday.

This study, appearing in the February Journal of Family Psychology, published by the American Psychological Association, found that children and adolescents whose parents have separated or divorced see their grandparents as confidants and sources of comfort.



Some of the stranded pilot whales on a King Island beach are seen in this handout obtained on 2 March, 2009. Rescuers were trying on Monday to save dozens of pilot whales after almost 200 beached themselves on an island near Australia's southern state of Tasmania, with many already dead.

Hsinthay Dam irrigating 10,000 acres of summer paddy yearly

Article: *Myint Maung Soe*; Photos: *Hla Shwe (Ketumati)*



“Hsinthay Dam can irrigate 10,000 acres of summer paddy yearly.”

U Khin Maung San, Staff Officer, Irrigation Department

(from page 16)

Under the arrangements of Staff Officer U Soe Myint of Irrigation Department, the news team recently visited

irrigating the farmlands in Gwaygyi, Shwemyo, Wegyi, Pazunseik, Khitaye, Letha, Nan-aw and Phyokkhwe village-tracts. Some villages are

After visiting Alekyun Village, we started to climb a hill. It was one of the hills of the middle mountain range. It was estimated that the hilltop may be at an altitude of 2,000 feet. From

they could be preserved. At Hsinthay Dam, Staff Officer U Khin Maung San explained, “Hsinthay Dam was built between Central Mountain Range and Shan Mountain Range in im-

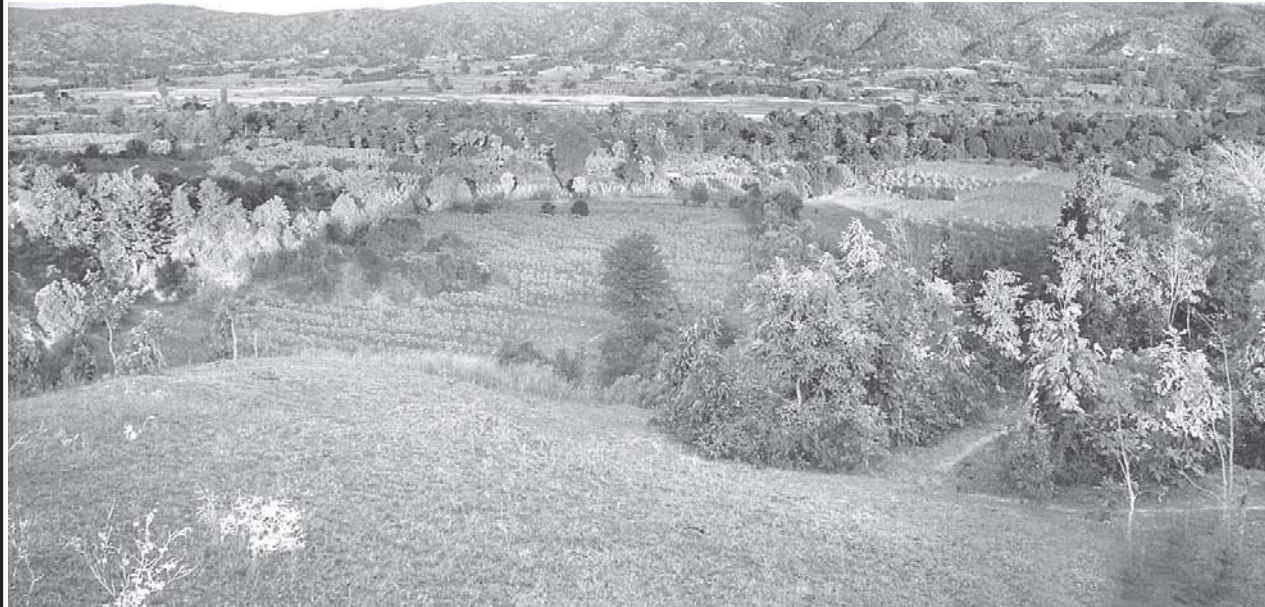
plementing Sittoung Valley Plan. The government had inaugurated Kintha, Mone, Paunglaung, Pathi and Yenwe dams in addition to Hsinthay Dam. The latter was opened in 1999-2000 and is irrigating

square miles of water at the highest level. The facility has one 500 feet long reinforced concrete type conduit and one 110 feet wide spillway.

At present, the government has undertaken



Hsinthay Dam.



Forests and plantations seen near Hsinthay Dam of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township.

Hsinthay Dam located 16 miles north of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon.

We, members of the news team, together with Staff Officer U Khin Maung San of Irrigation Department went to the dam by motorcycle through a hill.

After passing through Dahatgon Village, we saw a reinforced concrete type diversion weir. Hsinthay Diversion Weir has a 29-mile-long right canal and a 12-mile-long left canal. Tributary canals from the two main canals are supplying water to the farmlands. The right canal that flows towards south is ir-

making preparations for cultivation of summer paddy with the use of irrigation facility and some have already grown summer paddy.

The left main canal flows to the north and supplying water to the cultivable lands in Myaukmyaik, Inbin, Gyokon, Magyikon, Naungthinkha, Byaikin and Kyetthunkhin village-tracts.

The news team left the diversion weir and passed through Myaukmyaik and Alekyun villages. In the recent cultivation season, those villages had put the lands under Ngwechi-6 staple cotton.

the hilltop, we witnessed the panoramic views such as farmlands, hills and forests and the water body of Hsinthay Dam. We saw a signboard of caution that it was a restricted area. At a time when Forest Department is carrying out establishment of forests along the hillside of the mountain range, the tending of cattle, the setting fire to bushes and the cutting of wood are prohibited in the region. Therefore, we saw teak and valuable hardwood trees with the thickness of human calf or arm along the hillside. In coming 14 to 15 years, these trees would cover the region if

32,400 acres of farmlands. Thanks to Hsinthay Dam, the water can be supplied to 15,000 acres of monsoon paddy and 10,000 acres of summer paddy.”

The earthen embankment of the dam is 1,350 feet long and 109 feet high. It has 308 square miles of watershed area. A total of 110,000 acre feet of water flows into the dam yearly. The dam can store 143,890 acre feet of water at the full brim and 17,303 acre feet of water at the lowest level. The dam has 12.9

supply of water, construction of dams, implementation of river water pumping projects and building of dikes for uplifting the livelihood of the rural people. Hsinthay Dam is one of 218 dams built in the time of Tatmadaw Government. Thanks to construction of Hsinthay Dam, the rural people are enjoying the fruits of agriculture sector based on irrigation facilities.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
24-2-2009



Vehicles with loads of cauliflowers on Yangon-Mandalay Highway near Thahtaygon Village of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township.

Service personnel have to...

(from page 1)

He pointed out that service personnel have to put in the fore public interests, to carry out community welfare service, to show good moral conduct to win public trust and reliance, and to avert acts that can burden the public.

In some cases, he said that those responsible incidentally burden local

people due to the former's excessive goodwill and sense of duty, so service personnel are to avert such an unnecessary matter.

In conclusion, he called on service personnel to organize local people to be able to mobilize their

participation in and comprehension of the tasks.

Also present on the occasion was Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence.

After the meeting, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted the attendees.

MNA

SPDC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo converses with district/ township level service personnel from Kyaukme.—MNA



Local people come to enjoy entertainments at the ceremony.—MNA



Spectators enjoying an Academy Award Winning film shown by Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise.—MNA

Festivities continue for third day

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March—To mark the ceremony to fix Shwehtidaw (Umbrella) and Seinbudaw (Diamond bud) atop Uppatasanti Pagoda and to consecrate the pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw, entertainments were performed for the third day in the field near the pagoda yesterday.

Among over 10,000 spectators enjoying

'Mandalay Nan Anyeint' were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and Director-General of the Fine Arts Department U Yan Naing Oo.

Local people were also entertained with two Academy Award Winning films shown by Mawgon Film Enterprise

of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise.

Arrangements as fixing places for vehicles were made for the spectators to keep their numerous vehicles.

As for the fourth day, apart from two other Academy Award Winning films, local people will be entertained by Mandalay Nan Anyeint.

MNA

Military Band Competition goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March — The 17th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition continued today in Nay Pyi Taw attended by Chairman of leading committee for organizing the military band competition Joint Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, members of the committee, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, members of the panel of judges and servicemen.

The military band representing No.88 LID, the band representing Northern Command, the band representing Eastern Command, the band representing Southern Command, the band representing Eastern Command and the band representing South-East Command took part in the competition.

MNA

Ba Gyan & Brothers showcase automobile spare parts

YANGON, 2 March—Ba Gyan & Brothers Co Ltd organized a ceremony to open a new automobile spare parts showroom at No. 198-A in Bo Myat Tun Street in Botahtaung Township, here, this morning, attended by MD of Ba Gyan & Brothers Co Ltd U Aye Win (a) U Ba Gyan, personnel, sales agents and guests.

First, U Sae Yuu, U Aung Soe of Ba Gyan & Brothers Co Ltd and U Ga Pu (Shwe Myaing Paints Shop) cut a ribbon to open the showroom. U Hla Shwe

then unveiled the signboard of the showroom.

Automobile spare parts for Japan made automobiles such as Toyota,

Nissan, Mitsubishi, Honda, Mazda and Isuzu brands and lubricants are available at the showroom.

Sales represen-

tatives and consumers may contact the showroom at the above-mentioned address; Ph:291996, 098640784.—MNA



U Sae Yuu, U Aung Soe of Ba Gyan & Brothers Co Ltd and U Ga Pu (Shwe Myaing Paints Shop) cut a ribbon to open the showroom.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo pays homage to the Buddha Image at Bawgyo Muhtaw Pagoda in Hsipaw.—MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo...

(from page 16)

The Secretary-1 offered flowers, water and lights to a Buddha Image being kept at the Pagoda and gold foils to four Buddha Images.

Next, the Secretary-1 inspected progress in renovation of religious building in the compound of the Pagoda and signed visitors' book.

The Secretary-1 presented cash donation for the Pagoda to the members of the board of trustees who presented a Picture of the Pagoda to the Secretary-1 as Dhamma gift.

At the office of the board of trustees of the Pagoda, the Secretary-1 and party presented robes and offertories to members of the Sangha led by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nanda Siri of Mya Shwegu Monastery.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party visited 100-bed People's Hospital in Hsipaw where Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Yi Yi Htwe and officials conducted them round labor room, operation theater, X-ray room, dental and oral department, patient wards and hospital buildings.

Then the Secretary-1 met with doctors and nurses at the training hall of the hospital.

After hearing reports on providing medical treatment and requirements of the hospital presented by the medical superintendent, the Secretary-1 attended to the needs for extended construction of buildings for the 100-bed hospital through master plan. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut made supplementary reports in the meeting.

Next, the Secretary-1, the commander, Minister



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo meets with doctors and nurses at 100-bed People's Hospital in Hsipaw.— MNA

Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Chairman U Tun Myint Naing of Asia World Co Ltd presented cash for the funds of medicine.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing presented medical equipment and disposable syringe to the medical superintendent.

At Hsipaw Township Basic Education High School, the Secretary-1 and party inspected school buildings.

Then the Secretary-1 met with teachers and members of the board of trustees of the school at Mya Nyila hall of the school.

Headmistress Daw Than Myint Htay presented reports on academic matters and pass rate of the school in matriculation examination and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min made a supplementary report.

The Secretary-1 fulfilled the requirements on construction of water tank and toilets for the school and urged teachers to try to get qualified for their respective subjects with effective use of laboratory equipments and teaching aids including computers. The Secretary-1 and party arrived back Kyaukme in the evening.—MNA

Tiptop engine oil and lubricants launched

YANGON, 3 March—A ceremony to launch Tiptop engine oil and lubricants imported from the United Arab Emirates was held at Sky Bistro in Sakura Tower here today.

Executive Director U Kyaw Tun of Lucky Choice Co Ltd, a sole agent of Tiptop engine oil and lubricants, extended greeting to the guests and sales agents. Retired Assistant Director U Win Maung of Myanma Petro-

leum Product Enterprise explained the engine oil and lubricants.

The lubricants including engine oil, gear oil, brake fluid, grease and hydraulic fluid are available at No 31-B, Naungyoe Road, Tetlan

Executive Director U Kyaw Tun of Lucky Choice Co Ltd introducing Tiptop engine oil and lubricants.

MNA

Housing Estate, Bayintnaung, Mayangon Township dialing 686066, 686064 or 095183122 and

No Sa-37, Kyweseakan 6th Street, Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay, (Ph: 70412 or 096804150.—MNA



YIT civil engineering students to pay respects on 25, 26 April

YANGON, 3 March—Old students of Yangon Institute of Technology, majoring in civil engineering in (1981-85), will hold their respect paying ceremony on 25 and 26 April. For more information, contact Ko Myo Win (Ph-01-502534, 535894), Ma Tin Moe Myint (Ph-067-409410, 420092), Ko Saw Htway Zaw (Ph-095009356), Ko Kyaw Min (Ph-095017678, 098730798), Ma Mi Mi Chan (Ph-01-564167), Ma Myint Myint Yi (Ph-095102454), Ko Win Oo (Ph-0920 04787), Ko Yi Win (Ph-095119754), Ko Moe Aung (Ph-0920 16444), Ko Win Maw Htay (Ph-0953 41076), Ma Khin San Thwin (Ph-0951 61971) and Ma Toe Toe Maw (Ph-01-577553).

MNA

Aid for development of Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw Townships provided

YANGON, 3 March – Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt met with townselders, members of social organizations, officials and local people at the town hall in Ponnagyun on 1 March.

The commander and Minister Col Thein Nyunt delivered addresses.

Next, the commander presented two firefighting machines and pipes worth K 2.4 million to be used in fire preventive measures



Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister Col Thein Nyunt attend the opening of Thayat Tabin-Mintha Taung gravel road in Kyauktaw Township.—MNA

in the township, Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, a Ayeya (1) power tiller worth K 2.7 million and 100 chopping hoes and Minister Col Thein Nyunt, K 7.63 million for

upgrading of Thaya road in the township, K 6.694 million for construction of Zediyin-Natseik road, a roller worth K 12.5 million and a crusher worth K 2.3 million to officials.

The commander and the ministers cordially greeted local people.

In the evening, the commander and Minister Col Thein Nyunt attended the opening ceremony of

Thayat Tabin-Mintha Taung gravel road in Kyauktaw Township to honour the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

Next, the

commander and the minister met with local people of Thayat Tabin, Kyauktalon and Mintha Taung village-tracts at Pauktaw village.

MNA

Prizes presented to winners of Chess Championships

YANGON, 3 March— The prize distribution ceremony of the 35th Chess Championship (men) and the 11th Chess Championship (women) for 2009 took place at Aung San Stadium here at 1 pm yesterday.

Member of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Deputy

Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and officials presented prizes to the winners.

After that, General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik presented

the championship shield to Zaw Oo (Defence) who stood first in the Chess Championship (men) while Leading Patron of Myanmar Chess Federation Daw Mu Mu Win presented the championship shield to May Hsu Lwin who came in first in the Chess Championship (women). — MNA

Financial Rules Special Course No (20) for PBANRDA Ministry staff

YANGON, 3 March – Principal U Win Aung of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon) of the Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs made an address at the opening ceremony of

Financial Rules Special Course No(20)at the central training school of the department in Dagon Myothit (North) here this morning.

Also present were officials of the departments under the ministry, instructors of Auditor-General Office, guests and trainees.

The principal inspected hostel, learning theater and mess at the school. A total of 60 trainees from Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department, Development Affairs Department and Education and Training Department are attending the five-week course.

MNA

Physical fitness improves spatial memory

SCIENCE DAILY, 3 March — When it comes to the hippocampus, a brain structure vital to certain types of memory, size matters.

Numerous studies have shown that bigger is usually better. Now researchers have found that elderly adults who are more physically fit tend to have bigger

hippocampi and better spatial memory than those who are less fit.

The study, in the journal Hippocampus, shows that hippocampus size in physically fit adults accounts for about 40 percent of their advantage in spatial memory.

The hippocampus, a curved structure deep inside the medial temporal

lobe of the brain, is essential to memory formation. Remove it – as was done in the well-known case of surgical patient Henry Gustav Molaison – and a person's ability to store most new experiences in memory is destroyed.

The hippocampus also is a key player in spatial navigation and other types of relational memory.

Certain activities are believed to modify hippocampus size in humans. For example, a study of London taxi drivers found that the posterior portion of the hippocampus was larger in experienced taxi drivers than in other subjects. —Internet



Active senior couple running in the woods.



Principal U Win Aung of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon) speaks at the opening ceremony of Financial Rules Special Course No. (20).— MNA

Special programme of POLICE BEUNIQUE and PUPA SUMMER PARADE SALE

YANGON, 3 March—A special programme of POLICE BEUNIQUE and PUPA SUMMER PARADE SALE will be launched from 1 to 10 March 2009.

Under the special programme, anyone who buys any item will be

offered 10 per cent discount, and if he buys one item he will get one item (selected item) free as a special chance.

The special programmes are to be launched at His and Her International Counter, Police Beunique Counter and Pupa Counter (Yangon).—MNA



The new iChange of Swiss car maker Rinspeed is displayed during the first media day of the 79th Geneva Car Show at the Palexpo in Geneva on 3 March, 2009.—INTERNET

Russia wants US to limit nuclear deliver vehicles

Moscow, 3 March—Russia wants the United States to agree to limits on all types of nuclear weapons delivery vehicles in a new arms reduction pact that will replace START I, Russia's Foreign Minister was quoted as saying on Monday.

Moscow and Washington are discussing ways to replace the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START I) which will expire in December this year.

Russia would like to "preserve limits not only on warheads ... but also limits on all types of delivery vehicles", the RIA news agency quoted Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov as saying in

Madrid.

Lavrov was quoted as saying the previous US Administration of president George W. Bush had tried to move away from limits on nuclear weapons delivery vehicles.

He said Russia was against automatically extending the START I treaty past its expiry date and he would discuss the ideas with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in Geneva this week.

The START I treaty was signed on July 31, 1991 by US president George Bush and Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev, five months before the fall of the Soviet Union.—MNA/Reuters

ICRC says more must be done to protect Afghan civilians

KABUL, 3 March—All sides in the war in Afghanistan must do much more to protect civilians who will face the brunt of any increase in violence with the arrival of thousands of new troops, a top Red Cross official said on Monday.

Ordinary Afghans were now more at risk from the fighting than at any other time since the start of the war in 2001, said Pierre Kraehenbuehl, director of operations for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Kraehenbuehl told a news conference unless much more was done by the different parties to the conflict to respect their obligations under international humanitarian law "the ICRC seriously fears that the Afghan population will bear the brunt of the announced and potential escalation".

Violence in Afghanistan surged last year with some 5,000 people killed, including more than 2,100 civilians, a 40-per-cent increase on the previous year, the United Nations says.

President Barack Obama has ordered 17,000 additional US troops to Afghanistan to bolster some 70,000 foreign troops, including 38,000 US soldiers already in the country fighting a resurgent Taliban.

MNA/Reuters

FAO reports about 24,000 fishermen die at sea annually

ROME, 3 March—Some 24,000 fishermen die at sea each year, making fishing probably the most dangerous occupation in the world, the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said in a report released on Monday.

The figure is "unacceptable", said the FAO in its annual report on the State of Fisheries and Aquaculture calling on nations to adopt its 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The Code provides a necessary framework to ensure sustainable fishing and if implemented could help save lives, it said.

"Human behaviour or error is estimated to be responsible for 80 per cent of accidents in the fishing industry," said the report. "Safety at sea is a serious problem in both developing and developed countries."

"The main cause of accidents and loss of life in the fishing industry is not only poorly designed, constructed or equipped vessels, but inappropriate human behaviour, sometimes compounded by error, negligence or ignorance," the report said.

MNA/Xinhua



21 hurt as Spanish ski lifts plunge to ground

MADRID, 3 March—Several skilifts plunged to the ground in the Spanish ski resort of Sierra Nevada on Monday, injuring 21 people, a Spanish Government spokeswoman said.

The lifts fell after a vibrating cable jerked screws out of one of the lift's pillars at the ski station in the southern Spanish region of Andalusia, the spokeswoman for the national government's office in the nearby city of Granada said.

Two of the injured were taken to hospital with rib injuries but the others were less badly hurt and were attended at the ski station's medical centre.

Another 35-40 people had to be rescued after they got stuck on lifts which did not fall but ground to a

halt, the spokeswoman said.

Newspaper *El Mundo* reported on its website that the skiers fell from heights of up to eight metres (26 feet).

MNA/Reuters

Pupils learn the knowledge of ear care in a class at Daminghu Primary School in Jinan, east China's Shandong Province, on 2 March, 2009, a day before the Ear Care Day. Lots of activities were held all over the nation around the 10th National Ear Care Day of China, with the theme of "Use the Acousticon Correctly".—INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

Libya okays pact with Italy to boost investment

TRIPOLI, 3 March—Libya's Congress ratified on Monday an accord with Italy freeing up five billion US dollars compensation for Italy's colonial-cramisdeeds and boosting investments which have already seen Libya buy into Italian banking and energy. Its pariah status lifted, Libya has become a strategic investor in Italy, using its energy wealth to buy into Unicredit bank and oil company Eni and planning a joint fund with Mediobanea to invest in Italian companies. As a sign of Tripoli's growing importance to Italy, Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi flew to Libya on Monday to address the General People's Congress, its equivalent of a Parliament.

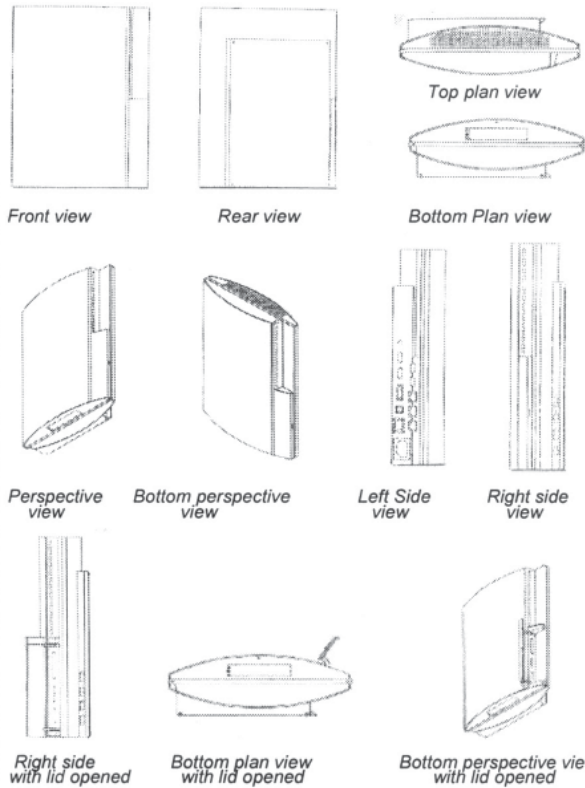


A balloon in the shape of Smurf is displayed during the Balloon Day Parade in Brussels, capital of Belgium, on 28 Feb. 2009. Gigantic helium balloons mainly featuring comic strip characters paraded in central Brussels Saturday, marking the beginning of the Brussels 2009 BD Comics Strip year.—INTERNET



INDUSTRIAL DESIGN CAUTIONARY NOTICE

Sony Computer Entertainment Inc., a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 2-6-21, Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062, Japan, is the owner and proprietor of the following Industrial Design (in 11 different views) with respect to the product of "ARITHMETIC AND CONTROL UNIT" of which Myanmar Registration No. is 4/9096/2005:



Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or implied imitation of the said Industrial Design shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
 For Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.,
 C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.
 Unit 701/702 Traders Hotel
 Yangon, Union of Myanmar

Dated 4 March 2009

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI MAJESTIC VOYNO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI MAJESTIC VOYNO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.3.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S GATI COAST TO COAST
 Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SUPA BHUM VOYNO (128N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUPA BHUM VOYNO (128N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.3.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Vietnamese proposal to help garment sector

HANOI, 3 March—Vietnam's Ministry of Industry and Trade made a three-point proposal to help the country's garment and textile sector to survive in the context of difficulties caused by the global economic down-turn, the local newspaper Liberty Saigon reported on Tuesday. First, the ministry

asked the government to grant one percent of the sector's total export revenue as subsidy to local garment and textile exporters to maintain their production.

The ministry suggested the government earmark 1.1 to 1.4 million US dollars for the country's garment and textile association to organize trade promotion activities in foreign markets such as Africa, Japan, East Europe and South America.

In the first two months this year, Vietnam's garment export turnover went down 12 percent over the same period last year to fetch 1.15 billion US dollars. —Internet

Toyota financial unit asks to borrow public money

TOKYO, 3 March—Toyota Motor Corp's financial unit said Tuesday that it had asked for an emergency loan from a state-backed lender to ride out the financial crisis, with reports putting the sum at two billion dollars.

Toyota Financial Services, which provides loans to car buyers, is in consultations with the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) but the size of the loan has not yet been decided, company official Mio Sugito told AFP.

"The move is aimed at diversifying our financial resources as the international financial market is getting tighter, especially in the United States," Sugito said.

The Nikkei business daily and the Jiji Press news agency reported that Toyota's wholly-owned financial subsidiary is asking for about 200 billion yen (two billion dollars), without citing sources.

If the loan is realised, it will be JBIC's first to a Japanese automaker under a new government scheme, the reports said. JBIC's main role is to invest in projects in developing countries, but the government in December decided as an emergency measure to allow the bank to lend to Japanese companies operating in developed countries. —Internet



Photo taken on 2 March, 2009, shows the coal dock of the Caofeidian industrial zone in Tangshan, north China's Hebei Province. Caofeidian, an island-turned 50-sq km development zone in the Bohai Bay, has developed a port handling capacity of 100 million tons per year, with the establishment of an ore dock, a crude oil dock and a coal dock.—XINHUA

Australia's economy to reach lowest in eight years

SYDNEY, 3 March—Australian Treasurer Wayne Swan said on Tuesday the nation's economic growth figures for the December quarter would have the first negative result for gross domestic product in eight years. The financial crisis occurring elsewhere in the world will have an "obvious" impact on the national accounts, Swan told a press conference in Sydney.

According to Swan, the government's stimulus package will improve the economy in long term.

"As I said on a number of occasions, things will get worse before they will get better," Swan said.—Internet

US Navy hands over nine suspected pirates to Somalia

MOGADISHU, 3 March—The US Navy handed over nine suspected pirates to authorities in northern Somalia after determining there was not enough evidence to put them on trial, an American said Monday.

Lt Nate Christensen of the Bahrain-based US 5th Fleet said the men had been detained on 12 Feb after being found in the vicinity of an Indian merchant ship that pirates had unsuccessfully attacked off the lawless Somali coast.

"The US Navy evaluated the situation and determined there was insufficient evidence to support their prosecution" by the US, Christensen said.

Mohamed Siad Jaqanaf, deputy police chief of Somalia's semiautonomous region of Puntland, also reported the handover. He did not give any details on what would happen to the men. The waters off the Horn of Africa nation have been plagued by pirate attacks the past few years.

More than 100 ships were attacked last year, around half of them successfully. Countries as diverse as Russia, India, America and France have sent warships to patrol Somali waters following the spate of hijackings.—Internet



Somali pirates captured in the Gulf of Aden are presented to the Puntland marine forces in the northern port town of Bosasso, on 2 March, 2009. XINHUA



Low levels of vitamin B12 may increase risk for defects

WASHINGTON, 3 March — Children born to women who have low blood levels of vitamin B12 shortly before and after conception may have an increased risk of a neural tube defect, a new study says.

Women with the lowest B12 levels had five times the risk of having a child with a neural tube defect compared to women with the highest B12 levels. Women who consume little or no meat or animal based foods were the most likely to have low B12 levels, according to the joint study by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), Trinity College Dublin, and the Health Research Board of Ireland.

"Vitamin B12 is essential for the functioning of the nervous system and for the production of red blood cells," said Duane Alexander, director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD).

Researchers have known that taking another nutrient, folic acid, during the weeks before and after conception can greatly reduce a woman's chances of having a child with a neural tube defect. Folic acid, which is the synthetic form of vitamin B. Neural tube defects, is a class of birth defects affecting the brain and spinal cord.

In the United States, cereal grains are fortified with folic acid to reduce

the occurrence of neural tube defects in the US population.

Ireland has a high rate of neural tube defects, and NIH scientists have frequently collaborated with Irish researchers to gain insight into the causes of this group of disorders.

"The results of this study suggest that women with low levels of B12 not only may risk health problems of their own, but also may increase the chance that their children may be born with a serious birth defect." Alexander said.—Internet



The photo taken on 2 March, 2009 shows a matrix of solar panels in Hefei Solar PV Power Plant, in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province. The Solar PV Plant built by Hefei Sunshine Power was combined to the state power grid 1 March with a total installation capacity of 500 kilowatts and annual capacity of 600,000 kilowatt-hours.—XINHUA

Researchers identify gene involved in pancreatic cancer

WASHINGTON, 3 March —Researchers from the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center have identified a gene that is overexpressed in 90 percent of pancreatic cancers, the most deadly type of cancer. Results of the study appear in the March issue of Cancer Cell.

Expression of the gene, Ataxia Telangiectasia Group D Complementing gene (ATDC), is on average 20 times higher in pancreatic cancer cells than in cells from a normal pancreas. What's more, the gene appears to make pancreatic cancer cells resistant to current therapies.

"One of the challenges in pancreatic cancer is that it is biologically aggressive and it does not respond well to chemotherapy or radiation. We found that ATDC not only causes the cancer cells to grow faster and be more aggressive, but it also makes the cancer cells particularly resistant to chemotherapy and radiation.—Internet



New South Wales and Victorian volunteer firefighters take a break during operations to extinguish smouldering embers left after wildfire burnt through the Lysterfield State Park east of Melbourne.—INTERNET

Explorers begin epic Arctic trek



The team will be trekking for up to 12 hours a day for 100 days.—INTERNET

LONDON, 2 March — A British team has begun a gruelling trek to the North Pole to discover how quickly the Arctic sea-ice is melting.

Renowned Arctic

explorer Pen Hadow and two companions were dropped onto the ice by plane 800km (500 miles) off the northern coast of Canada on Saturday. During their 1,000km

journey they plan to take measurements of the thickness of the ice. It will be the most detailed survey of its kind this season, and should be completed in late May.

At the rear of one sledge is a mobile radar unit which will constantly measure the thickness of the ice. Satellites have shown how the area of Arctic sea-ice has been shrinking in recent years, but this expedition should give scientists a better idea of how thin the ice is becoming.

Internet

Watchdog says few Israelis safe from chemical hit

JERUSALEM, 3 March — A parliamentary panel said Monday that most Israelis have no protection against chemical weapons attack and harshly criticized defense officials for what it called a "continuing mess" in failing to replace stockpiles of worn and obsolete gas mask and antidote kits.

The annual report of the State Comptroller's Committee said a 2004 Cabinet decision to collect kits previously distributed to the public and to store and maintain them centrally was never properly followed through.

"The low incidence of functioning protection kits will not allow the provision of protection to most of the citizens of Israel in the event that the country is attacked," it said. The kits — containing gas masks, filters, syringes with an antidote for nerve gas and powder for neutralizing chemicals — were originally distributed in 1990, ahead of the first Gulf War. Although Israel did not fight in the US-led war, Iraq fired 39 Scud missiles at Israel.

Internet

Broccoli may help prevent respiratory conditions like asthma

WASHINGTON, 3 March — Here's another reason to eat your broccoli:

researchers from University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) report that a naturally occurring compound found in broccoli and other cruciferous vegetables may help protect against respiratory inflammation that causes conditions like asthma, allergic rhinitis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Published in the March edition of the journal *Clinical Immunology*, the research shows that sulforaphane, a chemical in broccoli, triggers an increase of antioxidant enzymes in the human air way, which offer protection against the onslaught of free radicals that people breathe in

every day in polluted air, pollen, diesel exhaust and tobacco smoke.

A supercharged form of oxygen, free radicals can cause oxidative tissue damage, which leads to inflammation and respiratory conditions like asthma. "This is one of the first studies showing that broccoli sprouts--a readily available food source -- offered potent biologic effects in stimulating an antioxidant response in humans," said Marc Riedl, the study's principal investigator and an assistant professor of clinical immunology and allergy at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

Internet



SPORTS

Italy throws hat into the ring to host Euro 2016



The president of Italian football federation Giancarlo Abete, seen here in 2008, announced that Italy was throwing hat into the ring to host Euro 2016.—INTERNET

ROME, 3 March—Italy are to bid to host the Euro 2016 finals the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) announced on Monday despite losing out to host the 2012 edition to Poland and Ukraine.

Giancarlo Abete, president of FIGC, made the announcement following a board meeting and added they would be sending a letter to UEFA later in the

week confirming the bid. Candidates for the first Euro to involve 24 teams have until March 9 to inform UEFA that they want to bid - the vote by the UEFA Executive Committee as to who hosts the championships will be taken on May 27, 2010.

UEFA has insisted that the host country has nine stadia.

Opposing Italy for the moment are France, who hosted it in 1984, and a joint bid by Norway and Sweden.

INTERNET

Inter and Juve face Cup distraction



Juventus' Claudio Marchisio (right) celebrates with Alex del Piero after scoring during a recent Serie A match in Turin.—INTERNET

ROME, 3 March—Italy's top two sides will switch off from their Serie A and Champions League challenges in midweek to try to take a step closer to a Coppa Italia final appearance.

Champions and league leaders Inter Milan, runners-up in this competition the last two seasons, host Sampdoria on Wednesday in what will be a very tricky tie. Just a week later they face a trip to Manchester United for the second leg of their Champions League second round clash.

That is a match they are desperate to win and this cup encounter, the first of two legs that are bizarrely spread out by seven weeks, will be seen more as a distraction than an opportunity.

Coach Jose Mourinho is almost certain to ring the changes with more than just reserve goalkeeper Francesco Toldo getting a rare start.

For Sampdoria this competition represents their only realistic hope of qualifying for European football next season and as they are comfortably clear of the relegation zone, they are sure to give this their full attention — something teams rarely do in the much-maligned Italian Cup.—INTERNET

Austria part company with veteran coach Bruckner

VIENNA, 3 March—Karel Bruckner has left his position as coach of the Austrian national team, the Austrian football federation (OFB) announced on Monday.

In an official statement, the OFB said that a mutual decision had been taken by Bruckner and the OFB following a telephone interview between the Czech coach and newly-appointed OFB president Leo Windtner. Windtner, disappointed by Austria's stuttering World Cup 2010 qualifying campaign, hinted before he assumed his new role on Saturday that he was prepared to part company with Bruckner, 68, if he was not convinced by his plans for the national side.—INTERNET

Charlton says Man United clean sweep unlikely



Sir Bobby Charlton, seen here in 2007

MANCHESTER, 3 March—Sir Bobby Charlton insists it is unlikely Manchester United will be able to carry out an unprecedented clean sweep of five trophies this season.

United's League Cup final victory over Tottenham on Sunday secured a second major trophy for Sir Alex Ferguson's team following their Club World Cup

success in December.

The reigning European champions are also firmly on course to win the Premier League after opening up a seven point lead over Chelsea and Liverpool.

They are also in the FA Cup quarter-finals - where they face Fulham on Saturday - and the last 16 of the Champions League, with a second leg clash against Inter Milan looming next week.—INTERNET

Beckham deal could delay Milan departure until July

LOS ANGELES, 3 March—English midfielder David Beckham would complete the Italian season with AC Milan and return to the Los Angeles Galaxy in mid-July under a deal in the works, according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

Terms of the loan extension were not reported, but the deal was said to be worth millions of dollars to Major League Soccer and the Galaxy, which would lose star ticket seller Beckham for 17 of 30 regular-season games this year.

Beckham has reportedly agreed to the deal, which would allow him to stay with AC Milan until the end of the Serie A campaign, and the plan was expected to be finalized by the end of the week.

Beckham, 33, has been so successful while on loan to AC Milan - scoring two goals - that the club wants him to stay at the San Siro through the end of the season. His loan is set to expire in one week.—INTERNET



AC Milan want to extend the loan period for former England captain David Beckham, seen here on 1 March, from Los Angeles Galaxy till the end of the season, according to the Italian club's vice-president Adriano Galliani.

INTERNET

Nakamura uncertain over Celtic future

GLASGOW, 3 March—Shunsuke Nakamura admits he could still stay at Celtic but the Japan midfielder won't decide his future until the club's bid for a fourth successive Scottish Premier League title is settled.

Nakamura scored a hat-trick in Saturday's 7-0 win over St Mirren to move Celtic level on points behind leaders Rangers and narrow the goal difference gap between the Glasgow rivals. It was an influential display that underlined why Celtic boss Gordon Strachan is keen to persuade Nakamura to sign a

new contract with the Scottish champions.

Nakamura is believed to be considering a return to Japan but he hinted it was possible he could remain in Scotland.—INTERNET



Shunsuke Nakamura

Italian clubs tackle an inconvenient truth

ROME, 3 March—World champions they may be, but Italy is feeling a chill in its domestic game as the country's glamour clubs suffer a potentially devastating slump.

Last week's European action brought home a very uncomfortable truth that the Italians, considered the continental driving force in the 1990s, are no longer sitting at the head of the table.

In three clashes against English opposition, Italy's three Champions League representatives failed to score a goal, suffered two defeats and only some profligate Manchester United finishing, coupled with heroic goalkeeping from Julio Cesar, allowed Inter Milan to buck the losing trend.

To make matters even worse, three of Italy's four UEFA Cup sides went crashing out with AC Milan, Fiorentina and Sampdoria eliminated, leaving only northern side Udinese to progress to the last 16.

If Udinese fail to get past holders Zenit St Petersburg in the next round, Italy could well find itself without a single team in the quarter-finals of either European competition.

It's a far cry from the glory days of the 1990s.

First, the Spanish and now the dominant English, thanks to the mega-rich Premier League, have streaked past.—INTERNET

Serena beats Venus to capture inaugural King Cup event

NEW YORK, 3 March—Reigning US and Australian Open champion Serena Williams defeated elder sister Venus Williams 6-4, 6-3 in the final of the made-for-television Billie Jean King Cup one-day tennis event.

Serena Williams won 5-of-14 break point chances over the reigning Wimbledon champion to capture the 400,000-dollar top prize in the four-woman event at Madison Square Garden.

"It was really intense," Serena Williams said. "She never gives up. That's what's so hard about playing her. She hits so hard and she runs down everything. That is what's so frustrating about her."—INTERNET



Serena Williams accepts the Billie Jean King Cup from the tennis legend herself after defeating sister Venus in the final of the BNP Paribas Showdown for the Billie Jean Cup at Madison Square Garden, on 2 March, in New York. Serena won 6-4, 6-3.—INTERNET



A Koala nicknamed Sam, saved from the bushfires in Gippsland, is cared at the Mountain Ash Wildlife Center in Rawson, 100 miles east of Melbourne, Australia, where workers were scrambling to salve the wounds of possums, kangaroos and lizards.—INTERNET

51 food samples in HK fail safety tests

HONG KONG, 3 March—The Centre for Food Safety of Hong Kong announced Monday that it tested 4,600 food samples in January and found 51 to be unsatisfactory. Apart from the four unsatisfactory samples of Lunar New Year food earlier, a pickled plum and a red date sample were found to contain preservative sulphur dioxide exceeding the legal limit, the centre said in a statement.

Apart from the unsatisfactory samples of 20 fresh beef and one preserved Chinese sausage earlier, 15 fresh beef samples were found to contain sulphur dioxide. Two samples of smoked pork sausage and one sample of pork loin ham were found to contain the preservative sorbic acid.

A sample of chilled orange roughly fillet was found to contain mercury exceeding the legal limit. A sample of slipper lobster had cadmium exceeding the legal limit. The centre said most of the exceedances or breaches are not serious and will not pose immediate health risks. It has traced the sources of the food in question, stopped their sale and issued warning letters.

MNA/Xinhua

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (4.3.2009) (Wednesday)

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

Local Transmission

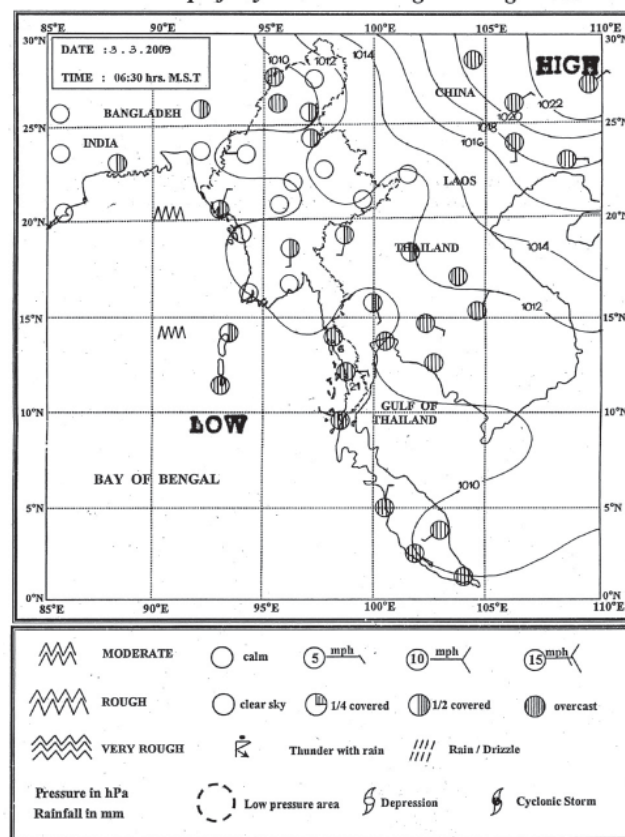
- Signature Tune
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- The Ancient City Mrauk U
- Myanmar Art of Marionettes
- Boost Production of Mills and Factories
- Let's keep fit by exercising
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- Signature Tune
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- Myanma Lacquerware
- From Yangon to the Peak of Mt. Victoria
- Exquisite Silver Jewellery
- Ayeyawady Second Defile
- Exploit Marine Resources most efficiently
- Planetary Posts! What do they serve?
- Myanmar Modern Song
- The Ancient City Mrauk U
- Myanmar Art of Marionettes
- National Races Village (Kachin, Kayah, Kayin)
- Boost Production of Mills and Factories
- Let's keep fit by exercising
- Travel and Description (Mandalay to Lashio)
- "Myanma Marionette" A Laudable Myanmar Marionette (Part-1)
- Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 3 March, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been scattered in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine States, Yangon Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) below March average temperatures in Kachin States, (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperatures in Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and about March average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant Day temperatures were Chauk and Aunglan (40°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (0.83) inch and Dawei (0.24) inch.

Maximum temperature on 2-3-2009 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 3-3-2009 was 67°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 3-3-2009 was 77%. Total sunshine hours on 2-3-2009 was (8.7) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 3-3-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 2-3-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 4th March 2009: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Shan, Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated light rain or thundershower in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-3-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-3-2009: Generally fair weather.



Wednesday, 4 March 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
- 7:55 am**
5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

- 8:15 am**
6. “ကျော်သွားမှာလား...ဖော်စားမှာလား” (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ဂုလဲဝင်း၊ သက်မွန်မြင့်၊ ဟောမန်အောင်အောင်၊ မယ်လိုဗီ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အကယ်ဒမီ မလိခစိုးထိုက်အောင်)
- 8:20 am**
7. (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 8:30 am**
8. International news
- 8:45 am**
9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm**
2. Dance of national races
- 4:25 pm**
3. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက် ထုတ်ကုန်များ

- 4:35 pm**
4. Classical song
- 4:45 pm**
5. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုတေး သီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ
- 4:55 pm**
6. ၂၀၀၉ခုနှစ်၊တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်စာမေးပွဲ ဘာသာရပ်ဆိုင်ရာသင်ခန်းစာ (ဘောဂဗေဒဘာသာရပ်)
- 5:30 pm**
7. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 5:40 pm**
8. ရူဖွယ်စုံလင်အဆိယံအစီအစဉ်
- 5:50 pm**
9. (၆၄)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 6:00 pm**
10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
11. Weather report

- 6:35 pm**
12. မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ
- 6:50 pm**
13. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်
- 7:00 pm**
14. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်
- 7:25 pm**
15. ရာသီလွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်
- 8:00 pm**
16. News
- 17. International news
- 18. Weather report
- 19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မြူးရိုးဝေဝေချစ်သက်သေ” (အပိုင်း-၁)
- 20. မြန်မာ့ဒီဇိုင်းဇာတ်လမ်း “လွန်လွန်းတယ်” (လူမင်း၊ ဇော်ဦး၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်ဗေဒါ)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects regional development tasks in Kyaukme, Hsipaw Townships



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects renovation of religious building in the compound of Historic Bawgyo Muhtaw Pagoda.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo accompanied by Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Electric Power No.2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min and departmental officials left Nay Pyi Taw for Kyaukme in Shan State (North) by helicopter yesterday morning. The Secretary-1 and party were welcomed in

Kyaukme by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and officials. At Yan Aung Myin Pariyatti Monastery in Ward-2 in Kyaukme, the Secretary-1 and party received the Five Precepts from Chairman of Kyaukme Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Tejinda. Next, the Secretary-1 and wife offered robes and provisions to 18 members of Sangha led by the chairman Sayadaw in memory of late Presiding Nayaka

Sayadaw of Yan Aung Myin Pariyatti Monastery Secretary Sayadaw of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vilasa who passed away on 19 February. Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party proceeded to Historic Bawgyo Muhtaw Pagoda in Bawgyo village in Hsipaw Township in a motorcade where they were welcomed by the chairman of board of trustees of the Pagoda and members. (See page 9)

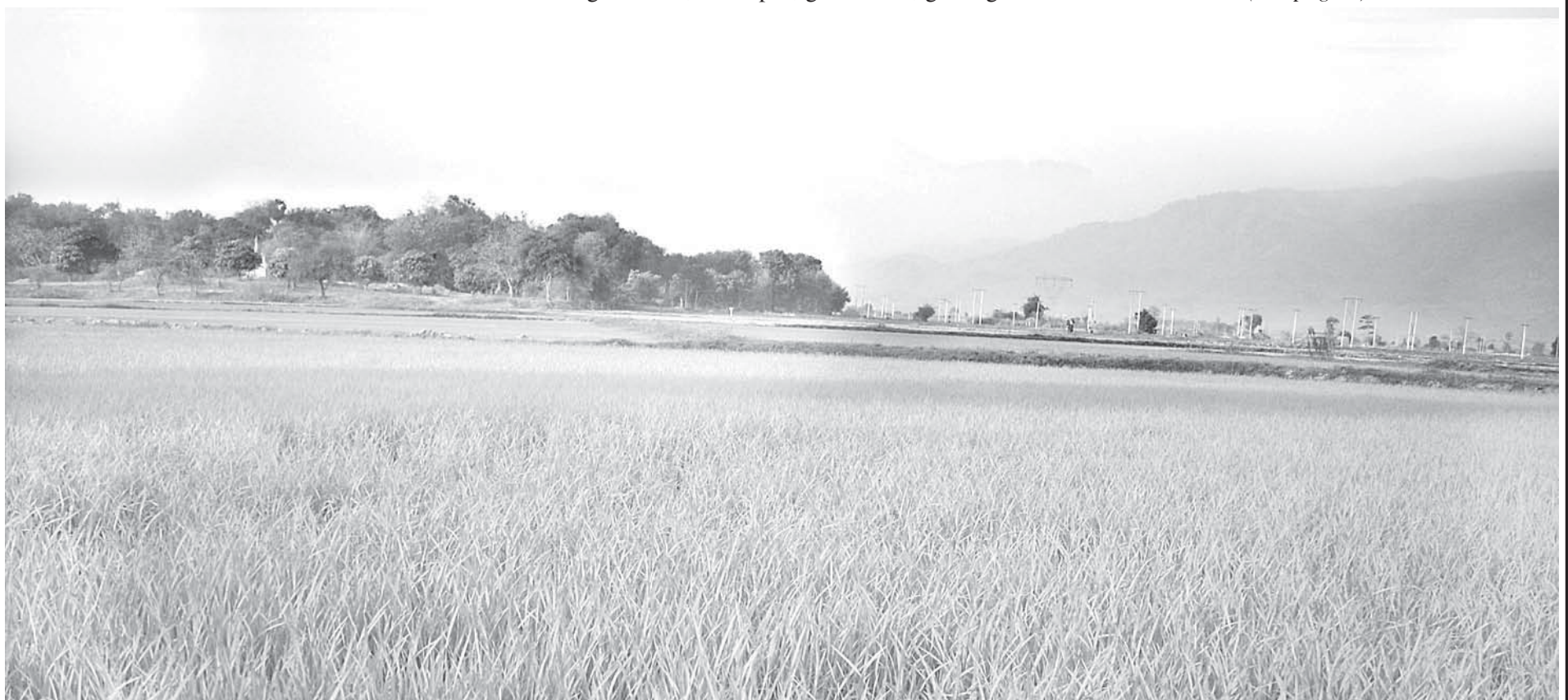
Hsinthay Dam irrigating 10,000 acres of summer paddy yearly

Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Hla Shwe (Ketumati)

Thanks to construction of Hsinthay Dam, villages of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township are enjoying fruits of irrigation facilities in the agriculture sector all the year round. Local people can grow

sugarcane, maize, sesame and cotton in addition to monsoon paddy in the rainy season. They can grasp the opportunity to put the lands under groundnut, chick pea, green bean, green gram

and sunflower in the cold season. Moreover, the rural people can earn income by growing water-melon, onion, potato and cauliflower. (See page 7)



Thriving summer paddy field irrigated by Hsinthay Dam near Khitaye Village in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township.

