



# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

## Senior General Than Shwe inspects progress of Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan)



NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the SPDC General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, military command commanders, ministers, senior military officers and officials, left PyinOoLwin by helicopter at 9.30 am today.

They arrived at the construction site of Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) Project being implemented near Sinkhan Village of Bhamo Township, Bhamo Dis-

*Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe views construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan).—MNA*



trict of Kachin State.

The Senior General and party were welcomed by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Soe Win, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and officials.

At the observation tower of the briefing hall, the Senior General and party looked into the construction work of the bridge project.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint presented a report

to Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and party. The minister reported that in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, construction of the two-lane-motorway-cum-railroad bridge, upstream the second defile of Ayeyawady River near Sinkhan Village of Bhamo Township in Kachin State, commenced in May 2009. On completion, commodities from various regions of the country can speedily flow to Bhamo by car and by train through Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan), he said. In addition, the bridge will (See page 8)

### 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



# PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 14 December, 2009

## BIMSTEC countries to boost trade, investment

The opening ceremony of the 12th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting, in which Myanmar took chairmanship, was held at Shwe Nan Daw Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 December, which was attended by foreign affairs ministers and high-ranking officials from BIMSTEC members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein in his speech said, "Promotion of trade and investment among member states will bring about the prosperity and development of the whole region. In this regard, we heartily welcome the efforts to realize the BIMSTEC Free Trade Agreement and would like to urge the member countries to work hard to this end."

BIMSTEC is a crucial link between the nations of South Asia and Southeast Asia and is a region with many natural complementarities. Its bounds run deep in time, strengthened by strong economic, cultural and civilization links.

The BIMSTEC was established in 1997 with high aspirations. The cooperation has gained momentum despite the relatively young age of the organization. It is heartening to note that some important agreements were finalized last year: BIMSTEC Convention on Combating International Terrorism, Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Drug Trafficking, Memorandum of Association among the BIMSTEC Member Countries for Establishment of BIMSTEC Energy Centre, Memorandum of Association among the BIMSTEC Member Countries Concerning Establishment of a BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate and Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of the BIMSTEC Cultural Industries Commissions and Cultural Industries Observatory.

At the 12th meeting, foreign affairs ministers of the member countries signed BIMSTEC Convention on Combating International Terrorism, Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Drug Trafficking.

With a combined population of over 1.3 billion people, the BIMSTEC region has abundant natural and human resources. Therefore, member countries should scale up mutual understanding, cooperation, trade and investment in order to generate economic growth and a better future of the whole region.



## 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

## Chairman of CSSTB attends ASEAN Regional Conference on Civil Service Innovations

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Dec —A Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Kyaw Thu attended ASEAN Regional Conference on Civil Service Innovations: Best Practices in Public Service Delivery in Mandaluyong City, the Republic of the Philippines from 8 to 10 December, at the invitation of the Commissioner of the Philippine Civil Service Commission.

The opening ceremony of the conference was held at EDSA Shangri-la Hotel in Mandaluyong City at 9 a.m. on 8 December, with a keynote speech of Acting Chairman of the Civil Service Commission of the Republic of the Philippines.

The ceremony was attended by the Heads of ASEAN Civil Service Organizations and repre-



CSSTB Chairman U Kyaw Thu together with Heads and representatives of Civil Service Organizations from Cambodia, Laos and the Philippines have photo taken at ASEAN Regional Conference on Civil Service Innovations.—CSSTB

sentatives from Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar, officials of the Filipino Civil Service Commission and guests.

Papers related to the best practices and innovations on good governance and public service deliv-

ery management were read out and discussed by the representatives of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and the Philippines at the conference.

On 9 December, the Myanmar delegation attended briefing on local gov-

ernance made by Honourable Mayor Maria Lourdes Carlos-Fernando in Marikina City. The Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of CSSTB U Kyaw Thu arrived back here by air at Yangon via Bangkok yesterday.—MNA

## Winners of Pyinnya Tazaung Literary Contest (2009) announced

YANGON, 12 Dec —Winners of Basic Education teachers and students in Pyinnya Tazaung Literary Contest (2009) in respective subjects were announced today.

Nay Myint Htay (U Saw Htay) of Mandalay Division won first prize,

Zaw Zaw (U Than Zaw Oo) of Chin State second and Maung Nyein Hla (Pakokku) (U Khin Soe) of Magway Division third in English - Myanmar Translation Contest.

Maung Min Thein (Thayet) (U Myint Thein) of Magway Division won first prize, Zun Hnin Pwint (Daw Hnin Yu Hlaing) of Magway Division second, Ma Swe (Education) (Daw Khin Swe Win) of Bago Division (West) third, Daw Mai Hla Min, Htwe (Education) (Daw Htwe Htwe Than) and Daw Cho Cho Sein the consolation prizes in Pyinnya Tazaung Magazine Reading Skill Contest.

Soe Moe (Myaungmya) (U Sa Soe Myint) of Ayeyawady Division won first prize, Daw Khin Ohn Myint of Yangon Division second and Mya Thway Yi (Daw Nan Mya Tin) of

Kachin State third in Article Contest.

Maung Thu Wai (U Thet Lin Aung) of Chin State won first prize, Kanbalu Khin Maung Swe (U Khin Maung Swe) of Sagaing Division second and Nyunt Win (Education, Natalin) (U Nyunt Win) of Bago Division (West) third in four-syllables Myanmar Poem Contest.

Kyanikan (Yekyun) (U Kyaw Kyaw Aung) of Rakhine State won first prize, Maung Nay Chi (Pyay) (U Maung Myint) of Bago Division (West) second and Myat Soe Nyi Nyi Latt (Phaungpyin) (Daw Myat Hnin Soe) of Sagaing Division third in Pyinnya Tazaung U Than Nyunt Literary Award Novella Contest.

Kaukhet (Ingapura) (U Ngwe Thein) of Ayeyawady Division won first prize, April Yu Naing

(Shwedaung) (Daw Khin Yu Naing) of Bago Division (West) second and Shwe Yin Hnit (Myotha) (Daw Khin Than Lwin) of Madalay Division third in one-page Short Story Contest.

Ma The Thinza Oo of Ayeyawady Division won first prize, Ma Poe Wady Ingyin of Ayeyawady Division second and Maung Kaung San of Yangon Division won third in Essay Contest.

The winners, except consolation prize winners, have been informed to attend the prize presentation ceremony to be held at the hall of Yankin Education Collage on 26 December and the rehearsal and meeting on 25 December without fail. They are urged to submit two licence sized photos and curriculum vitae.

MNA

**Police Inspector Myo Nyunt gave educative talks on traffic rules enforcement and crime reduction at Dhamayon in Pylonchantha Ward, Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay Division on 21 November.**

NLM

## US, Russia talks on cyberspace security

WASHINGTON, 13 Dec — The United States has begun talks with Russia and a UN arms control committee about strengthening Internet security and limiting military use of cyberspace, *The New York Times* reported.

Citing officials familiar with the talks, the newspaper said US and Russian officials have different interpretations of the talks, but the mere fact that the Washington is participating represents a significant policy shift after years of rejecting Russia's overtures.

Officials argue the administration of President Barack Obama realized that more nations were developing cyberweapons and that a new approach was needed to blunt an international

arms race, the report said.

Viktor Sokolov, deputy director of the Institute of Information Security in Moscow, said the Russian view was that the US position on Internet security had shifted perceptibly in recent months, according to the paper.

Sokolov characterized this new round of discussions as the opening of negotiations between Russia and the United States on a possible disarmament treaty for cyberspace, something Russia has long sought but the United States has resisted, the report said. "The talks took place in a good atmosphere," *The Times* quoted him as saying. "And they agreed to continue this process. There are positive movements."—*Internet*

## NATO, Afghan forces kill five militants in east

KABUL, 13 Dec — Afghan and international troops killed five militants on Sunday in a strike on a Taliban operative involved in bomb-making in eastern Laghman Province, the military coalition said.

The troops were targeting a compound in Alingar District where their sources reported militant activity, the coalition said in a statement.

As the forces approached the area, several militants threatened them with guns. The NATO and Afghan forces shot at the militants, killing five, the coalition said. They searched the compound and detained one other militant.

*Xinhua*

## Pre-mature explosion kills three militants in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 Dec — Three Taliban militants were killed as their mine exploded prematurely in Helmand Province south of Afghanistan, a local official said on Saturday.

"Three rebels were busy in planting a mine on a road in Gereshk District on Friday evening to target security forces but their mine exploded killing all the trio on the spot," governor of Gereshk district Abdul Ahad Khan told *Xinhua*.

*Xinhua*

*Two of the Norwegian shipping company's cruise ships, the M/S Nordnorge, left, and M/S Nordkapp in Paradise Bay in the Antarctica. In 2007, M/S Nordkapp, with nearly 300 passengers on board, ran aground in the Antarctic and damaged its hull before getting free of rocks.—INTERNET*



## Antarctic nations plan tough new shipping controls

WELLINGTON, 13 Dec — Countries that manage Antarctica plan tough new controls on ships visiting the southern oceans and the fuels they use to reduce the threat of human and environmental disasters as tourist numbers rise, officials said on Saturday.

The new code will reduce the number of ships carrying tourists into the region by requiring that all vessels have hulls strengthened to withstand sea ice. Officials and ship operators said a ban on heavy fuel oil will effectively shut out big cruise ships.

Experts from among the 47 signatory nations to the Antarctic Treaty — the world's main tool for

managing the continent — and the International Maritime Organization discussed plans to impose a mandatory Polar Code to control all shipping in the region at a meeting in the New Zealand capital, Wellington.—*Internet*

*Five people were killed and seven others injured in attacks in the provinces of Kirkuk in northern Iraq and Diyala in northeast of Baghdad, the police said. — XINHUA*



## Five Iraqis killed in violence in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 Dec — Five people were killed and seven others injured in attacks in the provinces of Kirkuk in northern Iraq and Diyala in northeast of Baghdad, the police said.

Three policemen were killed and three others injured when a roadside bomb went off near their vehicle in the al-Khadraa District in southern the city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of Baghdad, a local police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Iraqi security forces cordoned off the scene and searched the area looking for attackers and for more possible roadside bombs, the source said.

In Diyala, a farmer was killed and two others were injured when unknown gunmen opened fire on them at a ranch near the town of Khalis, some 70 km northeast of Baghdad, an anonymous provincial police source told *Xinhua*.

In separate incident, a woman was shot dead at another ranch near the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, the source said, adding that Iraqi security forces sealed off the scene and detained an armed suspect.—*Xinhua*

## 90 vehicles trapped as Calif faces rain, snow, mud

LOS ANGELES, 13 Dec — A winter storm hit California with rain and snow on Saturday and sent mudslides down hillsides denuded by fall wildfires onto highways, stranding 90 vehicles just

north of Los Angeles.

A 12-mile stretch of the Angeles Crest Highway was shut down as dozens of firefighters tried to clear the scene, said county fire Capt Frank Reynoso. No injuries were reported.

Seventy of the vehicles had been freed on Saturday night, but another 20 would be forced to remain overnight, authorities said. About 50 of the stranded motorists gathered at Newcomb's Ranch Restaurant off the highway.

"Everybody was just looking to get down off the mountain," restaurant manager Mike Noxin told the *Los Angeles Times*.

*Internet*

*Big Tujunga Canyon in Los Angeles is closed due to risk of rock and mud slides on 12 Dec, 2009. Authorities say as many as 90 vehicles were stranded after mud and debris flowed down the hillside along a 12-mile stretch of Angeles Crest Highway in Southern California.*

*INTERNET*



## China cracks EU roadworks market via Poland

WARSAW, 13 Dec—China has cracked the European Union's road construction market by winning its first contracts in 2004 bloc entrant Poland to build two stretches of highway.

By 2012, just in time for Poland's run as co-host of the European football championships, China Overseas Engineering Group Company (COVEC) is set to complete just over 49 kilome-

tres (30 miles) of the A2 highway linking Warsaw and Berlin.

COVEC's bid for a section of highway between the Polish and German capitals beat out several European competitors.

"This is the first roadworks infrastructure tender won by a Chinese company in Poland," Marcin Hadaj, spokesman for Poland's state GDDKiA roads and highways company, told AFP.

Experts from Europe's construction and public works lobby told AFP the deal is unprecedented in the 27-nation EU.

Polish authorities, meanwhile, have hailed the arrival of the Chinese.

"The presence of Chinese companies has a positive effect on the bid levels in public tenders," said Stanislaw Lesniewski, an official at Poland's infrastructure ministry.—Internet



Construction works are seen on the A2 highway connecting Warsaw with Berlin. China has cracked the European Union's road construction market by winning its first contracts with Poland with a significant bid for a highway development project and experts from Europe's infrastructure lobby have said the deal is unprecedented in the 27-nation economic bloc.—INTERNET

### Top British banker admits 'mistakes' on bonuses

LONDON, 13 Dec—A top British banker said "mistakes were made" within the industry as bank employees racked up huge bonuses, in an interview with *The Sunday Telegraph* newspaper.

Bob Diamond, the president of British banking group Barclays, said banks had done a "pretty poor job" of handling the bonus process, adding that his company would be deferring up to 60 percent of payouts — more than double the usual level.

It comes after Britain announced on Wednesday it was slapping a one-off 50-percent tax rate on bonuses above 25,000 pounds (27,600 euros or 40,700 dollars) amid public fury at 70 percent government-owned Royal Bank of Scotland awarding some 1.5 billion pounds in bonuses for senior staff.

Internet

**A worker installs falsework at the construction site of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sewage Disposal Plant in Xining, northwest China's Qinghai Province, on 11 Dec, 2009. The total investment of the construction project of Xining 3<sup>rd</sup> Sewage Disposal Plant is 216 million RMB yuan. The plant, which is built by the side of Huangshui River, will go into operation in June 2010 and is expected to improve the water quality of Huangshui River.—XINHUA**



Visitors take a closer look at the Polo during the inauguration of the Volkswagen India Plant in Chakan, 160 kms (100 miles) cc southeast of Mumbai, in March 2009. Volkswagen, Europe's biggest carmaker, has begun production of its popular mass-market Polo hatchback in India and said it aimed to grab up to 10 percent of the rapidly growing market.—INTERNET

### Google hints at making mobile telephone

SAN FRANCISCO, 13 Dec—The Internet on Saturday buzzed with renewed rumors of Google making its own smartphone, after the Internet powerhouse said it is internally dabbling with a mobile device.

Google workers are trying out a device that "combines innovative hardware from a partner with software that runs on Android to experiment with new mobile features and capabilities," vice president of product management Mario Queiroz said in a blog post.

Google is seeking feedback in a process it refers to as "dogfooding" in which innovations are tested internally before being offered to the public on the basis that employees should be willing to "eat our own dogfood."

The Android-based mobile devices are being shared with Google workers worldwide, according to Queiroz.—Internet

### VW starts producing first made-in-India Polo

NEW DELHI, 13 Dec—Volkswagen, Europe's biggest carmaker, began production of its popular mass-market Polo hatchback in India on Saturday and said it aimed to grab up to 10 percent of the fast-growing automobile market.

The German company, which is jostling to overtake world leader Toyota, rolled out Volkswagen's first locally manufactured Polo from its plant in Pune in western India, giving it a niche in the country's crucial small car segment.

Volkswagen Group said it hopes to capture up to a tenth of the Indian car market in the next four to six years as part of a strategy to boost sales in emerging countries to counter anaemic growth in saturated Western markets.

The company, which entered India in 2001,

now holds 1.5 percent of the Indian market, company spokesman Kurt Rippholz told AFP.

The start of Polo's production in India "marks a milestone in our journey together into a successful future for the Volkswagen Group in India", Jochem Heizmann, a member of the company's management board, said in a statement.

India, where new car sales soared 61 percent year-on-year in November, holds "enormous potential" for Volkswagen, he added.

The Pune plant, which has the capacity to produce 110,000 cars annually, is a key plank in Volkswagen's India strategy. The firm has invested 850 million dollars in the plant, its biggest investment so far in India.

The Indian price for the Polo has not yet been announced.—Internet

### GCC leaders to meet next week amid economic crisis

CAIRO, 13 Dec—Leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are set to convene in Kuwait City next week amid economic crisis that left one of its prominent hubs in deep debt.

The leaders are expected to discuss a wide range of issues at the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> GCC summit that will kick off on Monday, with Dubai debt crisis likely topping the agenda.

The emirate, once dubbed "the Singapore of the Middle East," announced on 25 Nov that it had to request to halt payment of its 59-billion-dollar debt for at least six months, raising fears of the impacts of the halt on other Gulf countries.

Experts expected a tangible drop in profits of several banks in the region due to high provisions against exposure to Dubai debt, warning that

a severe crisis is likely to hit the Gulf financial system.

In response, the summit will review studies prepared by the consultative body of the GCC Supreme Council on the international financial crisis and its potential impacts on the Gulf states as well as a number of recommendations, which aimed to mitigate the negative repercussions of the global meltdown.—Xinhua



People visit an exhibition of the achievements of the Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) over the past decade, at the Capital Museum in Beijing, on 12 Dec, 2009. The exhibition opened to the public from Saturday.—XINHUA

## China, Kazakhstan pledge to strengthen strategic partnership

ASTANA, 13 Dec—Chinese President Hu Jintao and Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev on Saturday pledged to advance their countries' strategic partnership.

During a meeting with Nazarbayev, Hu put forward a five-point proposal for the development of bilateral relations between China and Kazakhstan.

Firstly, China and Kazakhstan should strengthen their political mutual trust by maintain-

ing the momentum of frequent high-level contact and expanding cooperation and exchanges between parliaments and government departments, Hu said.

The Chinese President said the two sides should strengthen mutual support on major issues concerning each other's core interests so as to enhance mutual understanding and trust.

Hu said he has ac-

cepted an invitation by Nazarbayev to visit Kazakhstan next year, adding that he also invited Nazarbayev to visit China at a convenient time in the near future.

Secondly, Hu said the two countries should deepen their cooperation in the energy sector, and earnestly implement the operation and maintenance of the China-Kazakhstan natural gas pipeline.—Xinhua



Chinese President Hu Jintao (L) and Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev (R) attend the completion ceremony of the Kazakhstan-China natural gas pipeline in Astana on 12 Dec, 2009.—XINHUA

## Egypt agrees to host new round of Palestinian talks

GAZA, 13 Dec—Egypt has agreed to host another round of talks between rival Palestinian factions ahead of declaring a national reconciliation, a Palestinian official said on Saturday. Eyad al-Sarraj, a member of Palestinian independents' delegation to Cairo dialogue, said Egypt has agreed to invite Hamas movement and President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah party to talk.

Egypt's intelligence chief Omar Suleiman "had told us that he would invite Hamas, Fatah and leaders of factions to an urgent meeting to discuss the understandings our delegations have reached," al-Sarraj said in a statement. In September, Egypt presented a reconciliation proposal to the Palestinian factions, but Hamas refused to accept the initiative.—Xinhua

## Indonesian President leaves for Europe

JAKARTA, 13 Dec—Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Sunday left for four countries in Europe for an eight-day working visit, the national news agency Antara reported here.

The president departed from Halim Perdanakusuma International Airport at 0810 local time (0100 GMT).

He is scheduled to visit Belgium, France and Germany and to attend the United Nations' Summit on Climate Change in Denmark's Copenhagen.

According to the presidential spokesperson Dino Patti Djalal, the president was accompanied by several ministers and governors.

"The governors' presence in the delegation is to show the world that Indonesia is serious in conserving forests to reduce global warming in regions," said Dino.

Xinhua



People visit the international winter fair of tropical agriculture products in Haikou, south China's Hainan Province, on 12 Dec, 2009. The fair which opened on Friday attracted experts and merchants from 17 countries and regions to attend.—XINHUA

## Nepal, China to promote friendship exchange

KATHMANDU, 13 Dec—With the purpose of promoting friendship exchanges, Nepal and China have agreed to boost up friendly exchange programmes in people-to-people level.

World Culture Net (WCN)-Nepali Centre for International Exchange signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Chinese People's Association for Friend-

ship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) on Friday to promote friendly exchanges between Nepal and China.

A 45-member Chinese delegation led by Jing Dunquan, Vice President of CPAFFC was visiting Nepal.

Wang Xiuyun, Director General of CPAFFC, and Deepak Sarkar, President of WCN, signed the MoU to promote Nepal-

China friendship relations with the help of various friendly exchange programs in cultural aspect.

Xinhua

**Environmental protection volunteers collect plastic bottles for recycling at a local citizen's house in Jinzhou City, northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 12 Dec, 2009.—XINHUA**



## All Items from Xinhua News Agency

## 22 people burnt to death in auto crash in west Nigeria

LAGOS, 13 Dec—Twenty-two people died in a motor accident on the Maya-Iseyin road in west Nigeria's Oyo State, the Tribune newspaper reported on Sunday.

The accident, involving a Cabster truck and an 18-passenger bus, occurred around 10:30 am on Saturday at the Adiekola-Maya end of the road, when the two vehicles were involved in a head-on collision, leaving all passengers burnt to death.

Those believed to be in the bus were friends and associates of the former secretary to the Oyo State government, Sharafadeen Alli, all going to attend a function with him at the Oke-Ogun area of the state.

Alli was seen at the scene, with his associates lamenting the tragic incident.—Xinhua

## Third Air France black box search in Feb

RIO DE JANEIRO, 13 Dec — A new, three-month hunt for the black boxes of a crashed Air France jetliner will begin in February, the head of France's accident investigation agency told relatives of crash victims on Saturday.

Jean-Paul Troadec, director of France's Bureau of Investigations and Analysis, said that locating the cockpit audio and data recorders is key to finding the causes of the 1 June crash that killed all 228 on board.

The briefing by Troadec relieved some tension among Brazilian family members who have said they are not receiving enough information about the investigation. But there were still complaints about how it is being carried out.

"They continue with their palliative

talk," said Nelson Marinho, who lost a son on the flight and is president of an association of Brazilian victims' family members. "They say they're going to start the search again. Why did they stop in the first place if it is so important?"

The second and most recent search for the black boxes ended in August.

Maarten Van Sluys, also with the Brazilian family members' association, said a renewed effort to find the recorders is welcome, "but we cannot forget there are still 178 bodies — among them Nelson's son — that are at the bottom of the sea."

"We have expectations of recovering these remains and giving them a dignified burial," he said.

Internet



The recovered tailfin of the Air France A330 aircraft lost in midflight over the Atlantic ocean is unloaded from Brazilian Navy frigate *Constituicao* at Recife's harbor in June 2009. The search for the black boxes from an Air France airliner crash off Brazil six months ago will resume in early February, the head of the French office investigating the accident said here on Saturday.—INTERNET

## Himalayas threatened by climate change

COPENHAGEN, 13 Dec — Extreme weather events caused by climate change are threatening hundreds of millions of people living in the Himalayan region, the United Nations said.

Droughts and catastrophic floods are destroying crops, depleting water supplies and killing livestock throughout the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region, said the report released on Friday. Researchers spread throughout China, Pakistan, India and Nepal to collect data for the report, released at the start of the summit in Copenhagen, Denmark, called to negotiate a new global climate treaty.—Internet



Visitors watch some car models displayed at the final of the Hangzhou creative car models contest held in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang province on 11 Dec, 2009. — XINHUA

## Seven crew missing after ship capsizes off Lebanon

JERUSALEM, 13 Dec — Five crew were rescued from a cargo ship that capsized some 80 km (50 miles) off the Lebanese coast, but seven more were still missing, the Israeli army and the UN peacekeeping force in Lebanon said on Saturday. Spokesman Neeraj Singh of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) said in a statement the force received a distress call from the *Sala II* late Friday night but UN vessels that rushed to the scene found the ship had already sunk.

Singh identified the ship as a Togolese-flagged cargo vessel carrying 12 sailors. An Israeli military source said the ship was Turkish and bound for Israel.—Internet

## 10-foot gator caught on Fla doorstep

A Florida alligator trapper said he captured a 10-foot gator that planted itself on a home's doorstep and refused to leave.

Charles Carpenter said he was called to remove the large reptile from the Palm Harbor home Wednesday night and he found the gator was "quite a talker," cable-based Bay News 9, St Petersburg, Fla, reported.

"Normally they're not quite that loud," Carpenter said of the gator's constant growls.

Carpenter said the alligator struggled with him and resisted being tied

up, but the confrontation ended when the trapper managed to tape the reptile's jaws shut. The trapper, who is contracted through the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, said the gator was classified as a nuisance animal and will be destroyed.

## Falling leaves bedevil NYC subways

New York City straphangers have been told of another reason for delayed subway trains — fallen leaves and the "slippery residue" produced when they're crushed.

James Leopard, general manager for the B and Q lines, which operate partly above ground in Brooklyn, told *The New York Times* he decided to post 500 signs last week warning riders of potential delays. The signs are to be taken down next week.

Graeme Berlyn, the EH Harriman professor of forest management and tree physiology at Yale University, said trees like oaks and maples have leaves coated with epicuticular wax. When leaves get on the tracks and are crushed beneath train wheels, the wax mixes with the leaf remains to create the "slippery residue" noted in Leopard's signs.

Some riders appeared dubious. "Delays because of leaves? That's amazing," said Kate Jassin, a graduate student waiting for a shuttle train in Brooklyn.



Villagers make a big reed boat in a village beside Titicaca Lake, Bolivia. Local people around Titicaca Lake, praised as the headstream of , preserve the tradition of making reed boat nowadays.

## Urine samples stolen from health building

Authorities in Utah said a burglar made off with 17 urine samples from the Bear River Health Department in Logan.

Police Lt Rod Peterson said someone broke a glass panel to enter the building Sunday night or early Monday morning and broke a lock to the room where the urine samples were being stored, *The (Logan) Herald Journal* reported Thursday.

Health department spokeswoman Jill Parker said security camera footage of the break-in was turned over to police. She said no items were missing other than the urine samples and no major damage was done to the building.

"I've worked for the health department for 13 years and I don't recall a burglary ever taking place here," Parker said. "It's under investigation right now."

## Japan city girls hit rice paddies, in style

Tokyo's most fashionable city girls have ventured into unfamiliar territory, crouching in muddy rice paddies to help make Japan's dying farms cool again — and now they can do it in style.

Shiho Fujita, a 24-year-old model, has led a group of kawaii (cute) 'gal farmers' to do their bit to revitalise rural Japan, where many farms have closed as their owners have aged and their children have run off to the cities.

Her biggest problem so far: she didn't like the clothes.

"Since there are no farm clothes I like, I have come up with the idea of designing cute ones myself," Fujita said.

Her new overalls, targeting girls in their 20s, are made from stretch denim to be comfortable in the field and, crucially, have pockets for their target group's key accessories, a mobile phone and an iPod.



Photo taken shows a colourful frog at peace waterfall park, Costa Rica.



An American alligator at the Royal Palm area of the Everglades National Park, as the park celebrates its 60th birthday this week as Deputy Secretary Lynn Scarlett, of the Department of the Interior attends the celebration, in Florida City, Florida on 8 December 2007.

**NEWS ALBUM**

## Government in pursuit of short- and long-term plans in higher and basic education sectors for further development of human resources

### Special Refresher Course No (36) for Basic Education Teachers concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—The Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) held the conclusion of Special Refresher Course No (36) for Basic Education Teachers at Yadana Hall in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, yesterday morning.

On behalf of Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung delivered a speech, saying that the government is now in pursuit of short- and long-term plans in higher and basic education sectors for further development of human resources to maintain the development momentum that covers the whole Union.


In this regard, it is needed to harmoniously combine measures for

promotion of education up to the international level, ensuring every citizen is well-educated, and constant production of intellectuals and intelligentsia. Regarding the drive for promotion of national education, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on improving the professional skills of teachers; upgrading curriculums and syllabuses to the international level; efficient use of teaching aids; enforcement of rules and regulations; improvement of the people's sense of patriotism and Union Spirit; teaching all prescribed syllabuses; ensuring every student well learns all the lessons; and supervision to be provided by officials at all levels to find out whether all syllabuses are taught and whether students really learn the lessons.

In conclusion, he called for working hard,

mobilizing the participation of students' parents and the people for realization of the plans in the basic education sector; ensuring that the basic education sector contributes to the projects underway for development of regions concerned; and continuously nurturing the youth into highly-educated human resources with good morale and self-discipline.

Minister U Thaung presented Best Cadet awards to U Aung Hsan Win (JAT) from Basic Education High School in Hnawgan Village, Mahlaing Township, Mandalay division and Daw Htet Htet Naing (PAT) from BEMS branch of No (15) Defence Industry in Aunglan Township, Magway Division; awards for outstanding diligence to U Htwe Ko (JAT) from BEHS in Hsimikhon Village, Myingyan Township, Mandalay Division, Daw San San



### 33<sup>rd</sup> Blood Donors' Day

Great thanks to-

**Generosity and respectable characters of yours.  
You make the difference between life and death.**

**On behalf of those whose lives have been saved by yours.**

**National Blood Centre  
Department of Health  
Ministry of Health**

(JAT) from No (3) BEHS in Shwebo, Sagaing Division, and Daw Thein Htay (PAT) from BEPS in Kuthinayon Village, Aunglan Township, Magway Division; model hostel awards to hostel No (7) of men's company No (1), and hostel No (8) of women's company No (5); and certificates to the trainees through their leaders.

The minister cordially greeted the trainees.

Altogether 224 male and 1084 female trainees numbering 1308 from the states and divisions in upper Myanmar completed the course.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Minister for

Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Tin Tun Aung, members of the Civil

Service Selection and Training Board, departmental heads, deans and faculty members of CICS and trainees.—MNA



**Minister U Thaung presents award to U Htwe Ko (JAT).—MNA**

## Bala Min Htin Bridge provides access to every corner of country

**Byline: Aye Thanda Thein and Mya Kay Khaing Soe; Photo: Myanma Alin**

In its bid to forge national reconsolidation, the government has been constructing roads and

bridges to improve the socio-economic status of local people in border areas.

The roads and bridges have emerged in the form of a network the length and breath of the nation.

Bala Min Htin bridge was inaugurated on 14 November 1998. Due to the bridge, People from

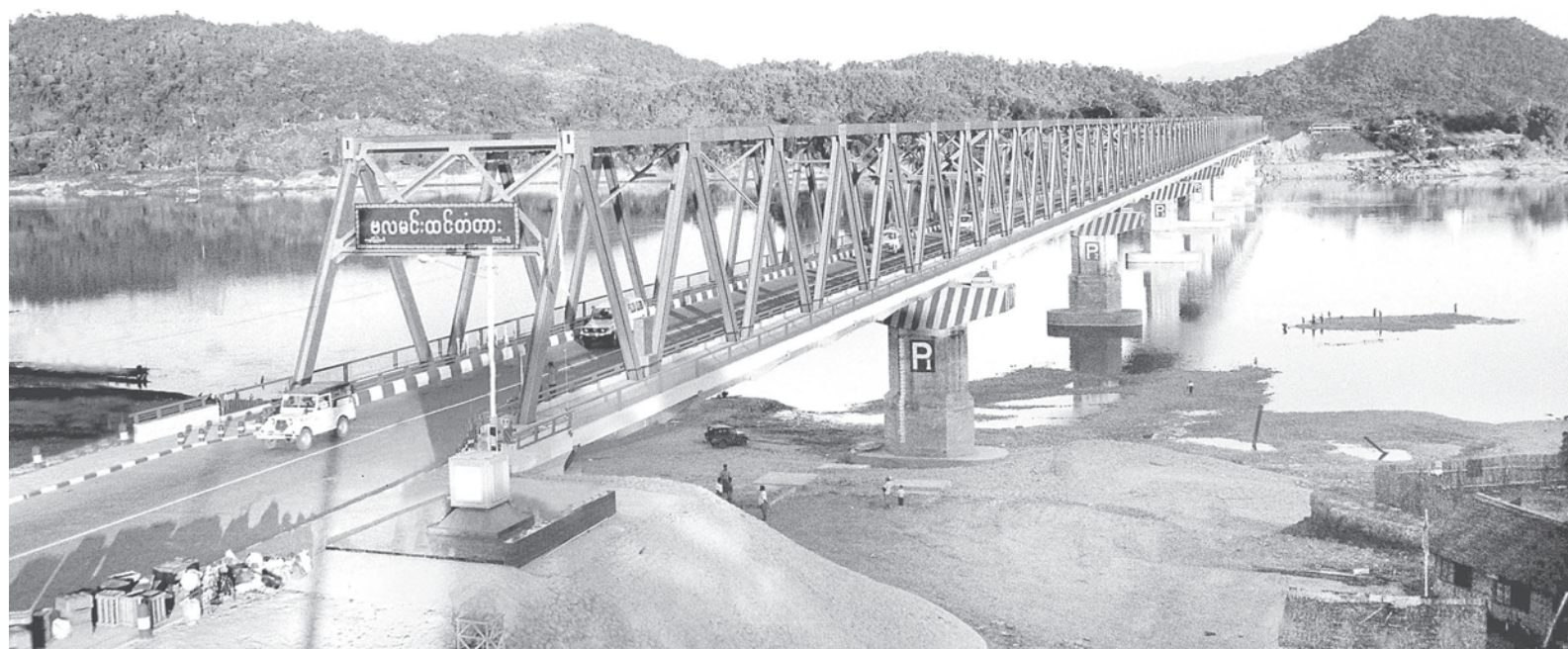
Myitkyina on the west bank of Ayeyawady River and Waingmaw on the east bank of Ayeyawady

River can easily communicate each other.

The bridge is 2687.63 feet long. Its upper structure is of steel girder type and its lower structure RC type.

In the past, people had to rely solely on waterways to cross Ayeyawady River and the region lagged behind in the development. With the advent of the bridge, local people can now go from one place to another at any time. And they are enjoying the fruitful results of development in economic, education, health, communication and social sectors all the more.

**Translation: MT  
Myanma Alin (8-12-09)**



**Photo shows Bala Min Htin Bridge.**



**Senior General Than Shwe views the map showing location of Katha-Bhamo railroad and Sinkhan Bridge.**  
MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe...

(from page 1)  
contribute to the bilateral trade between Myanmar and the People's Republic of China through the border trade entrance, and the local people will enjoy fruits of better transportation, he added. Next, the minister reported on matters related to the project, progress of construction work and building of bored piles.

**of reinforced concrete steel frame type.**

The bridge will have 28 feet wide motorway flanked by three feet wide pedestrian way on either side. The railroad will be constructed in the 14 feet wide area. The bridge will have 47 feet high clearance. It can withstand 75-ton loads.

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min submitted a re-

sion and the 72 miles section in Kachin State, totaling 98 miles. On completion, commodities will be transported from Mandalay to Bhamo through the railroad. The minister also reported on construction of 16.68 miles long Katha-Moetagi section which will be opened for the first phase, progress of earthworks, building of small and big bridges,

along the railroad, Katha, Pawmamyang, Minle and Moetagi railway stations have been built.

**Plans are under way to build 191 small and big bridges on Katha-Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) railroad section and 93 bridges on Sinkhan-Bhamo railroad section totalling 284. Of them, a total of 64 small and big bridges have been so far built along the railroad. In addition, laying rails is in progress.**

eral on upgrading of 66 KV Kyaukphahto-Shwegu-Bhamo power grid, installing of 132 KV Tapein(1)-Bhamo power grid and constructing of main sub-power stations.

The Senior General gave guidance, saying that personnel concerned are to work in collaboration for parallel completion of bridge and railroad; that Mandalay-Tagoung-Bhamo motorway had been constructed and Katha-Bhamo railroad and Ayeyawady bridge (Sinkhan) were under construction for Katha and Bhamo which had long stood as secluded regions, being located much far away from strategic roads.

The betterment in motorways, railways, water ways, airways and modern transportation links further facilitates transport between one region and another, thus leading to more frequent contacts among national brethren and swifter commodity flow. The regions may become more developed in consequence.

The Senior General

Shan, Bamar nationals residing in the region will improve; that infrastructural buildings were being built across the Union, looking forward to seeing future prospects of national brethren.

**He said it was of great importance for personnel concerned to pay serious attention to construction work they were responsible for and to carry out assigned duties based on Union Spirit and goodwill, upholding the firm spirit that the gaps between national brethren must be narrowed as much as possible, regions across the country must see equitable growth rapidly and national solidarity must be further strengthened.**

The Senior General urged the personnel concerned to make efforts for completion of Sinkhan bridge project in parallel with other bridge projects across Ayeyawady river namely Malun bridge, Pakokku bridge and Nyaungdon bridge, saying that the future prospects of the nation will be brighter along with extensive construction of transport infrastructure.

Next, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe viewed the location of Katha-Bhamo railroad and Sinkhan bridge on the map and gave necessary instructions.

The Senior General then heard reports on condition of the defile of Ayeyawady river downstream the bridge presented by ministers and commanders concerned.

Senior General Than Shwe and party left Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) construction site for Katha by helicopter and arrived there at 1.35 pm.

Senior General Than Shwe and party inspected construction of retaining wall along Katha port, construction of new Katha railway station, and progress of Katha in a motorcade.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and party left Katha by helicopter.

MNA



**Senior General Than Shwe giving guidance to officials at briefing hall of Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) construction project.—MNA**

**Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) will have the 3215 feet long main bridge, the 710 feet long approach bridge on Katha bank and the 770 feet long approach bridge on Bhamo bank, totaling 4695 feet. The railroad bridge will be 5510 feet long including 2295 feet long approach railroads. The bridge is**

port on implementation of Katha-Bhamo railroad project.

He reported that in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, the land survey and earthworks for implementation of Katha-Bhamo railroad started in May 2007. The 26 miles section of the railroad is located in Sagaing Divi-

placing of rails and construction of railway station yards.

Katha-Bhamo railroad will be 98 miles long. The railroad section from Katha to Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) will be 66 miles long and another railroad section from the bridge to Bhamo will be 32 miles long. Out of 12 railway stations to be built

Katha-Bhamo railroad will link Katha, Shwegu, Mansi and Bhamo townships, and the railroad will contribute to better transportation and trade for uplift of socio-economic status of local people.

Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported to the Senior Gen-

said that growing number of motorways and railroads and implementation of hydropower projects in the northern part of the country which was like a far-flung area due to poor transportation may drive the region into rapid growth; that consequently, living standard of national brethren such as Kachin,





**Prime Minister General Thein Sein taking part in Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Golf Tournament.**

MNA

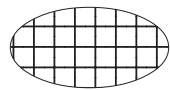
## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends Defence Services ...

(from page 16)

Maj-Gen Wai Lwin gave the most per, most birdie and most eagle awards to the respective winners, prizes to hole-in-one scorers and best golfers in the

single's handicap and scratch events at the respective golf courses, longest drive and nearest pin awards to the respective winners, the most improved player awards

to the winners in the singles' handicap and scratch events and the most improved team award in the team handicap event to North-East Command team.—MNA

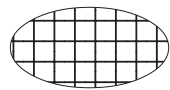


**Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung tees off in Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Golf Tournament.**

MNA



**Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung presents trophy to Office of Commander-in-Chief (Air) in team scratch event.—MNA**



**Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung presents trophy to Central-Command team in team handicap event.**

MNA

## Cash donated to Yangon General Hospital

YANGON, 13 Dec—The first cash donation ceremony for radio machine to Yangon General Hospital was held at the hospital this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Com-

mand Maj-Gen Win Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, departmental officials, the medical superintendent, and well-wishers.

The commander inspected the radio ma-

chines. He addressed the ceremony, and accepted the cash donations from the well-wishers.

The mayor handed over the cash donated by YCDC, to the hospital through the deputy minister.

A responsible person spoke words of thanks.—MNA

## Concluding ceremony of traffic rule enforcement course No. 3/2009

YANGON, 12 Dec—The concluding ceremony of traffic rule enforcement course No. 3/2009 conducted by Yangon Division Cordless Traffic Po-

lice Force of Myanmar Police Force was held at Thiri Myaing car training school in Dagon Myothit (North) here yesterday.

It was attended by

head of Yangon Southern District Police Lt-Col Maung Maung.

A total of 63 trainees attended four-week course.—MNA

## Deputy Secretary-General of UN arrives

YANGON, 13 Dec—Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Executive Secretary-General of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific Region Dr Noeleen Heyzer and party

arrived here by air this evening.

They will attend the second meeting on cooperation for development to be held jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the UNESCAP.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by departmental heads and officials from the ministry, Resident Coordinator of UN Agencies Mr Bishow B Parajuli and officials.

MNA

## Donate Blood

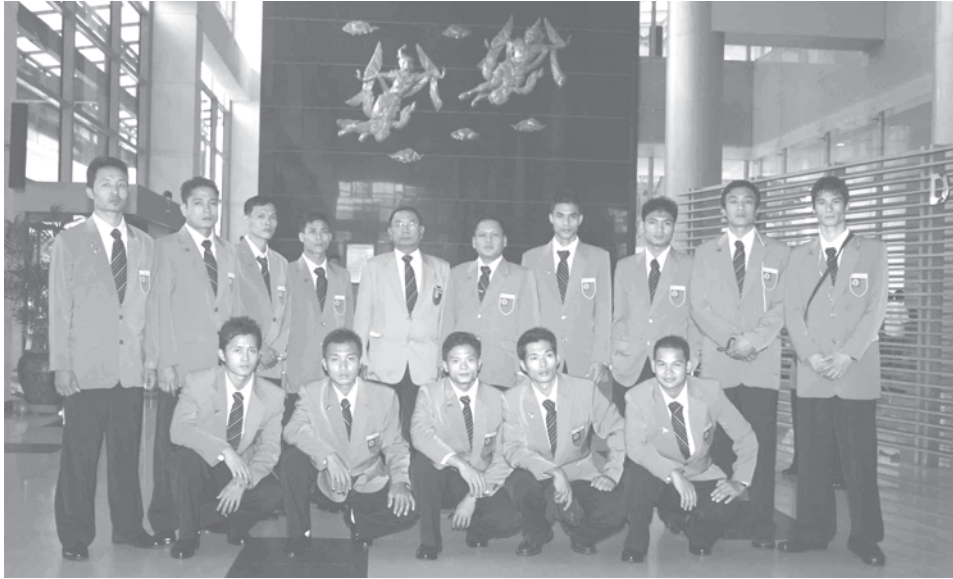


## Myanmar win more gold, silver, bronze

YANGON, 13 Dec—In the XXV SEA Games, Zay Zay Latt and Aung Khaing representing Myanmar won gold in the women's weightlifting (above 69 Kilos) event and in 5000 meter race event respectively. Shwe Lin Htut won silver at 85 kilos

weightlifting event and Sandi Oo, Ein Mi Mi and Thet Thet Naing, in Women's Wushu event. Myanmar Sepak Takraw team secured bronze, Htet Aung in boxing contest (48 kilos light flyweight), Aung Ko Ko (75 kilos middle-

weight), Nain Htaung Taung in (Mway) traditional boxing event (48-51 kilos flyweight) and Than Oo (54-57 featherweight) event. In today's events, Myanmar won two gold, two silver and five bronze.—MNA



**Bronze medal winner Myanmar Sepak Takraw team.**  
SPED



**Zay Zay Latt with gold medal.**  
SPED

## Arsenal pile pressure on Liverpool

LIVERPOOL, 13 Dec— Arsenal moved back into third in the English Premier League table and dented Liverpool's already faltering hopes of a top four finish by coming from behind to win 2-1 at Anfield here Sunday. Victory left the Gunners three points behind second-placed champions Manchester United and six adrift of leaders Chelsea but with a game in hand over the top two. Dutch striker Dirk Kuyt put Liverpool, already out of this season's Champions League, in front

four minutes before half-time after Arsenal keeper Manuel Almunia flapped at a free-kick. But five minutes after the break the visitors were level when, after a series of deflections, Liverpool defender Glen Johnson put through his own net. And just before the hour mark Russia international Andrey Arshavin completed Arsenal's fightback with a superbly taken, powerful, shot from just inside the box that gave Liverpool goalkeeper

Pepe Reina no chance. Arsenal, who started the weekend in third place, kicked off in fourth after Aston Villa's 1-0 win away to champions Manchester United on Saturday. This defeat meant Liverpool had won just three of their last 15 matches in all competitions and left them in seventh place, five points adrift of fourth-placed Villa and a top four finish that would secure Champions League football next season. *Internet*



**Aung Khaing accepting gold medal.**  
SPED

## Medal Standing in XXV SEA Games

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Thailand	29	39	40	108
Vietnam	25	23	27	75
Singapore	23	12	24	59
Malaysia	20	22	27	69
Indonesia	16	18	27	61
Philippines	12	16	19	47
Laos	11	4	20	35
Myanmar	6	8	22	36
Cambodia	2	4	9	15
Brunei	1	1	5	7
Timor Lest	0	0	3	3



**Sandi Oo.**  
SPED



**Ein Mi Mi.**  
SPED



**Thet Thet Naing.**  
SPED



**Aung Ko Ko.**  
SPED



**Than Oo.**  
SPED



**Nain Htaung Taung.**  
SPED



**Htet Aung.**  
SPED

**Arsenal's French defender William Gallas (L) vies with Liverpool's English midfielder Steven Gerrard during their English Premiership football match at Anfield, Liverpool.**  
INTERNET



## Sperm whale pod beached on Italian shore; five die

ROME, 13 Dec — A pod of sperm whales beached on Italy's southern coast and at least five died in what experts said Saturday was a rare and puzzling mass beaching for such a large species.

Nine whales measuring up to 40 feet (12 meters) in length were stranded on Thursday on a beach in Puglia, the heel of boot-shaped Italy.

Only two managed to swim back to deeper waters and at least five were dead by Saturday, said Nicola Zizzo, one of the

veterinarians caring for the animals. He said officials were considering euthanizing the last two whales still trapped in high waves just off the beach.

The rough seas were making it difficult to understand even how many whales were still alive, with other experts telling Italian media that only one was breathing.

The sperm whale is the largest of all toothed whales and is considered a vulnerable species.

While similar mass

beachings are more common in the oceans, they are extremely rare in the Mediterranean, occurring once every 150-200 years said Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara, a marine biologist and head of a conservation group.

Speaking to Italy's Sky TV, he said the incident may have been caused by noise from military exercises or surveys for underwater mineral deposits that can confuse whales and interfere with their communication.

Internet



*In this photo taken, on 11 Dec, 2009, a man looks at a stranded whale on the shore of Foce Di Varano, southern Italy. A herd of sperm whales has washed ashore on Italy's southern coast, killing at least five animals in what experts say is a rare and puzzling mass beaching for such a large species. Nine whales measuring up to 40 feet (12 meters) in length were stranded on Thursday on a beach in Puglia, the heel of boot-shaped Italy.—INTERNET*

## China, Arab countries seek to forge "Media Silk Road"

BEIJING, 13 Dec — "The visit to China left me such a remarkable memory, and I will tell my friends about China's progress when back home," a senior Egyptian press official said on Saturday when wrapping up a tour to China.

Sarwat Mekky, secretary-general of the Egyptian Radio and Television Union, headed a delegation of press officials and directors of media organizations from 14 Arab countries. He told *Xinhua* the delegates hoped to reinforce media cooperation with China.

The delegation, consisting of nearly 30 members from countries including Bahrain, Egypt, Lebanon, Qatar and Syria, ended the week-long China tour on Saturday after visiting Shanghai and Beijing.

The Arab countries hoped to establish relevant mechanism of press cooperation with China, so as to create a Silk Road between the two sides' media organizations, Hassan Falha, general director of Lebanon's Information Ministry said at a seminar Monday with Chinese representatives.

Samir Barhoum, editor-in-chief of *The Jordan Times*, said he needed to understand more about China as its

progress was "beyond his expectation".

Once a foreign reporter to many western countries, Barhoum said the majority of the Arab people didn't know much about China whereas they were familiar with the scenes of skyscrapers and busy traffic in western countries thanks to the Hollywood blockbusters.—*Xinhua*



*In this undated file photo, Mount Hood is shown as the sun sets in Portland, Ore. Crews on Saturday found the body of a climber missing on Oregon's Mount Hood but two others were still missing nearly two days after the three set out to climb the west side of the 11,000-foot peak, a sheriff's spokesman said.—INTERNET*

## Body found on Mount Hood; two climbers still missing

PORTLAND, 13 Dec — Crews on Saturday found the body of a climber missing on Oregon's Mount Hood but two others were still missing more than a day after the three set out to climb the

west side of the 11,000-foot peak, a sheriff's spokesman said.

Jim Strovink, Clackamas County sheriff's spokesman, identified the climber who died as 26-year-old Luke T Gullberg, of Des Moines, Wash.

The remaining climbers still missing were identified as Anthony Vietti, 24, of Longview, Wash, and Katti Nolan, 29, of Portland. All three climbers have been described as experienced and well-equipped.

A search was set to

resume at dawn for Vietti and Nolan.

"This is still a rescue operation," Strovink said, adding that family members had been notified and some had joined rescue crews.

Strovink said Gullberg's body was transported off the mountain by rescue crews and a forensic examination was planned by the Clackamas County medical examiner. No details were released on how he died or about the remaining climbers on the mountain.—*Internet*

## Two dead, 31 escape as militants rescue leader from Philippine jail

MANILA, 13 Dec — Armed men stormed a provincial jail in southern Philippines early on Sunday, freeing 31 inmates includ-

ing a militant group leader charged over beheading 14 Marines, and two were killed in the escape-and-chase clash, police said.

Around 30 armed men attacked the Basilan provincial jail in Isabela city at 1:45 am (1745 GMT), tore down the jail's gates to free detainees. Jail guards exchanged fire with militants but failed to block them from fleeing. One jail guard and a militant were killed in the ten-minute clash, local police said. Checkpoints were set up in Basilan following the jail break. Among those escaped was Dan Laksaw, alias Hai Hassan Asnawi, of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) based in Basilan, police said.—*Xinhua*

## Amazon projects undercut Brazil's new green path

PORTO VELHO, 13 Dec — Straddling one the Amazon's main tributaries and flanked by dense jungle, a construction pit the size of a small town bustles with bulldozers and nearly 10,000 workers blasting huge slabs of rock off the river bank.

While blue-and-yellow macaws fly overhead, a network of pipes fed by a constant flow of trucks pours enough concrete to build 37 football stadiums.

The \$7.7 billion Santo Antonio dam on the Madeira river is part of Brazil's largest concerted development plan for the Amazon since the country's government cut highways through the rain forest to settle the vast region during its two-decade reign starting in 1964.

In the coming years, dams, roads, gas pipelines, and power grids worth more than \$30 billion will be built to tap the region's vast raw materials, and transport its agricultural products in coming years.

Internet



*A seedling pokes through the ground in an area of the Amazon jungle that was deforested for an illegal settlement, near Manaus on 11 December, 2009.—INTERNET*

**Bank Holiday**

All Banks will be closed on 16<sup>th</sup> December (Wednesday) 2009, Kayin New Year Day and 25<sup>th</sup> December (Friday) 2009, Christmas Day being Public holidays under the Negotiable Instrument Act. Central Bank of Myanmar

**Schumacher to sign with Mercedes**

BERLIN, 13 Dec—Seven-time Formula One champion Michael Schumacher will come out of retirement to drive for Mercedes next year, German daily *Bild* reported on Saturday.

The newspaper says the two parties have agreed to a one-year contract and will announce the deal next week.

Mercedes said that “there is always speculation as long as one seat in our team is not taken.”

Schumacher’s spokeswoman, Sabine Kehm, declined to comment on the report.

The 41-year-old Schumacher retired in 2006 after winning a record number of F1 titles. He abandoned plans for a temporary comeback with Ferrari this year due to a neck injury in a motorcycle crash.

*Xinhua*

**Gibraltar wins Miss World 2009**

JOHANNESBURG, 13 Dec—Gibraltar’s Kaiane Aldorino claimed the title of Miss World 2009 on Saturday, defeating 111 other hopefuls at a glittering ceremony in South Africa.

“Thank you South Africa, this is the most wonderful moment of my life,” said a tearful Aldorino, whose website describes her as a 22-year-old human resources clerk who loves dancing and spending time with loved ones.

Confetti rained down the stage as Aldorino, representing a British territory at the western end of the Mediterranean Sea with a population of less than 30,000, accepted the crown.

Mexico’s Perla Beltran came second, with South African entry Tatum Keshwar taking third place.

The African-themed gala event at a Johannesburg convention centre attracted a multi-national crowd, waving country flags and cheering wildly for their favourite contestants.

Miss India, Pooja Chopra, a hot favourite with the crowd, got eliminated in the top 16, after winning the “beauty with a purpose” title for her charity work.

“The build up to this event has been phenomenal, the girls have had a time of their lives in South Africa,” said Chinese television presenter Angela Chow, who hosted the show.—*Internet*

*Newly crowned Miss World Kaiane Aldorino of Gibraltar poses with second princess, Miss South Africa Tatum Keshwar (R) and Miss Mexico Perla Beltran, who was crowned first princess, during the Miss World finals in Midrand, outside Johannesburg, on 12 Dec, 2009.—XINHUA*

**China’s crude steel output, consumption to hit record high in 2009**

SHANGHAI, 13 Dec—Boosted by the government’s economic stimulus package, both crude steel output and consumption in China were expected to hit a record high in 2009, said Qi Xiangdong, vice secretary-general of China Iron and Steel Association (CISA).

The CISA estimated both the country’s production volume and apparent consumption of crude steel would exceed 565 million tonnes this year, while the actual consumption might top 500 million tonnes.

Daily crude steel output topped 1.66 million tonnes in October, up 42.4 percent year on year, which means annual production may reach 600 million tonnes a year at this rate, Qi said at a forum on the steel market held here recently.

The government’s economic stimulus package has helped domestic steel industry counter the impact of shrinking global demand, he said.

China produced 500 million tonnes of crude steel last year, accounting for 38 percent of the world’s total.

*Xinhua*

**Palestinians argue on first contest to choose Miss Palestine**

RAMALLAH, 13 Dec—The declaration of a commercial Palestinian company on Saturday to organize the first-ever contest to choose Miss Palestine aroused a large argument among the conservative Palestinians who considered the contest a contradiction with Islamic traditions.

A private Ramallah-based commercial company called “Trip Fashion” announced on Saturday that it intends to organize soon the first-ever contest to choose Miss Palestine under the title “Miss Palestine 2009” in the Palestinian territories.

Salwa Yousef, director of Trip Fashion, told *Xinhua* that the competition had already started, adding that on 26 Dec will be the date for choosing the competing winner who will be

called Miss Palestine. She said her company has received the applications of around 200 competitors, adding that only 58 girls were chosen. “32 girls are from the West Bank and 26 others are Arab residents in Israel (Israeli-Palestinians girls),” Yousef said, adding that it was difficult for Gaza Strip girls to participate due to the siege.

*Xinhua*

*Xinhua*

*Xinhua*

**Controversial penalty gives Barca derby win**

MADRID, 13 Dec—A highly questionable penalty in the 38<sup>th</sup> minute allowed FC Barcelona to beat neighbours Espanyol in the Barcelona derby and maintain its lead at the top of Spain’s LaLiga.

Referee Iturralde Gonzalez decided that Xabi Hernandez’s fall in the Espanyol area was a penalty and Zlatan Ibrahimovich made no mistake from the penalty spot as the game looked to be going into the break with the scores level. Television replays showed that there had been minimal, if any contact with Espanyol defender Baena, before Xabi went down and that Iturralde probably got the decision wrong.

Until the decision Espanyol had been withstanding the attacks of the league leaders.

Barcelona had begun strongly, but after both Thierry Henry and Pedro Rodriguez had missed chances, the visitors from across town tightened up defence in spite of Barca’s dominant possession. Barcelona was missing the magic of Leo Messi, who was sidelined with a twisted ankle. Both sides were clearly fired up with Espanyol needing points to stop a slide down towards the relegation zone.—*Xinhua*

**Real Madrid battles to win in Valencia**

MADRID, 13 Dec—Two goals from Gonzalo Higuain and a header from substitute Eziquiel Garay gave Real Madrid a hard-fought win in Valencia’s Mestalla Stadium.

Real Madrid’s triumph has all the more value as it was achieved without either of their summer signings Cristiano Ronaldo and Kaka. Ronaldo was suspended, while Kaka is struggling with a groin injury. The first half began as a tense affair with both sides taking precautions in defence and midfield, but began to open up as the half progressed.

Madrid was close to opening the scoring in the

44<sup>th</sup> minute when Sergio Ramos headed against the post and Higuain failed to make contact with the rebound.

In the following move Pepe had to be carried off the pitch after a bad collision with Valencia striker David Villa. The Madrid defender looked to have damaged his knee and was replaced by Eziquiel Garay.

Madrid opened the scoring after 54 minutes after a brilliant piece of work from Karim Benzema. The Frenchman beat Valencia right back Bruno and crossed for Higuain to head home.

The provoked an immediate response from Va-

lencia and David Navarro should have scored from a corner, but the defender headed over from close range.

Villa didn’t miss however, after 60 minutes. The top scorer in Spain headed home a cross for the left to net his 12<sup>th</sup> goal of the season.—*Xinhua*



*Real Madrid’s Gonzalo Higuain (L) shoots to score past Valencia’s David Albelda during their Spanish first division soccer match at the Mestalla Stadium in Valencia on 12 Dec, 2009.—XINHUA*



Students of Xingan Experimental Elementary School are given a lesson of paper-cutting by their teacher Xu Ping (C) in Xingan County, east China's Jiangxi Province, on 11 Dec, 2009. For the purpose of protecting folk arts, the government of Xingan County has set up local folk art courses such as paper-cutting, dragon lantern dance, bridal sedan chair dance and so on in the art lessons and physical education of local middle schools and elementary schools. — XINHUA

## Expert warns against ingesting bisphenol A

WASHINGTON, 13 Dec — Children, infants and pregnant women should avoid ingesting bisphenol A, says a US official leading a study of the chemical used in some plastics.

National Toxicology Programme Director Linda Birnbaum said studies indicate the ingestion of BPA, which is used in food packaging containers, could have a negative effect on human health, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* reported on Friday.

"There are plenty of reasonable alternatives," said Birnbaum, who is also the director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

The US Food and Drug Administration deemed BPA safe in all uses in August 2008, but an agency advisory board learned certain studies were ignored by FDA scientists.

Those studies determined BPA can potentially cause harm, the *Journal Sentinel* reported.

Birnbaum told the *Journal Sentinel* more precise measures are needed to accurately gauge the risks associated with BPA.

"We're not asking the right questions," she said. "We have to look more broadly."—*Internet*

## Poor kids given more antipsychotics

WASHINGTON, 13 Dec — Poor US children covered by Medicaid are prescribed powerful antipsychotic drugs more often than those under private healthcare, a study indicates.

Federally financed drug research performed by researchers from Rutgers and Columbia universities indicated the Medicaid children were prescribed such drugs at four times the rate of children whose parents have private insurance, *The New York Times* reported on Saturday.

The newspaper said the study also found Medicaid children are more likely to get the anti-psychotics for less severe conditions than their wealthier counterparts.

The results came as a pediatric advisory committee to the Food and Drug Administration met this week to examine the risks posed by the drugs, which have serious side effects such as causing drastic weight gain and metabolic changes that can cause lifelong physical problems, the *Times* said.—*Internet*

## Gene action may lead to diabetes prevention, cure

LOS ANGELES, 13 Dec — A gene commonly studied by cancer researchers may provide answers to ways of fighting diabetes, a new study shows.

The gene, known in the science world as PFKFB3, is a regulator for metabolism, which plays a vital role in the development of diabetes, according to the study appearing in the *Dec Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

The gene has been linked to the metabolic inflammation that leads to diabetes.

Understanding how the gene works means scientists may be closer to finding ways to prevent or cure diabetes, said the study conducted by researchers at Texas AgriLife Research.

"Because we understand the mechanism, or how the gene works, we believe a focus on nutrition will find the way to both prevent and reverse diabetes," said Dr Chaodong Wu, AgriLife Research nutrition and food scientist who authored the paper with the University of Minnesota's Dr Yuqing Hou.

Wu said the research team will collaborate with nutritionists to identify what changes or supplements in a diet will activate the gene to prevent or stop the progression of diabetes.

He believes nutritionists working with the biological chemists can help develop food consumption plans that either prevent people from developing metabolic inflammation or cause existing conditions to retreat.

*Xinhua*

## A/H1N1 kills 17 in Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 Dec — The A/H1N1 flu has claimed the lives of 17 persons so far in Afghanistan, a press release of Public Health Ministry issued here on Saturday said.

"The seventieth person has fallen victim to A/H1N1 in Afghanistan," the Press release added.

So far, according to the Press release, 853 individuals including 813 men and 40 women have been affected by the disease in the war-torn Afghanistan.

However, it did not specify how many of those affected by the virus are Afghans and how many are foreigners.

The disease detected couple of months ago, according to the latest report of the Public Health Ministry, has claimed the lives of 17 people across the country while authorities have been trying to check the new epidemic in the economically impoverished country.

*Xinhua*



Caro, 16, plays a video game with a friend in Cali on 10 Dec, 2009. Caro, who weighs 162 kg (357 lbs) due to health problems from an unknown disease, is seeking medical help to bring his weight down.

*XINHUA*

## Bird-shaped restaurant headed for auction

JOHNSON CREEK, 13 Dec — The owners of a bird-shaped Wisconsin supper club featuring petrified wood on the walls said the property is headed for auction.

The owners of Johnson Creek's Gobbler Supper Club, which in recent years has been a Mexican restaurant and briefly a restaurant called The New Gobbler in 1997, said the 40-year-old building will be auctioned with its contents on Saturday, the *Wisconsin State Journal* reported on Friday. The three current owners said they hope the building, which features a rotating bar and more than 200

leather lounge chairs, will not be demolished.

"It is a landmark, and we'd hate to see the landmark go away but we may not have any choice," part owner Marvin Havill said. "We just can't keep holding on to it. We're going to be losing a lot of money selling it, but it's time."

The reserve price for the property, which was appraised at \$1.8 million by the village this year, has not been disclosed by auctioneer Ray Miller.

"There's been a tremendous amount of interest in it. It's definitely prime real estate," Miller said.—*Internet*



# SPORTS

## Five star Bayern and Schalke boost German title hopes

BERLIN, 13 Dec—Bayern Munich and Schalke moved firmly into the German title race on Saturday with impressive away victories.

Bayern produced a 5-1 romp at struggling Bochum while Schalke



won 2-0 at fellow title hopefuls Werder Bremen to edge the Bavarians into third spot. Bayern's win, coming hot on the heels of a four-goal Champions League success at Juventus, gave them 30 points from 16 games, two adrift of leaders Bayer Leverkusen, who just preserved their unbeaten league record this season with a 2-2 draw on Friday at tailenders Hertha Berlin. With a week to go until the winter break Louis van Gaal's men are finally firing on all cylinders just six weeks after they languished in eighth place, eight points off the summit. A win over Mainz next week and the four-times European champions could just go into the Christmas break top of the heap.—Internet

Bayern Munich's midfielder Martin Demichelis (R) and Bochum's Roman Prokoph fight for the ball during the German first division Bundesliga football match in the western German city of Bochum. Bayern Munich went provisionally second in the German Bundesliga on Saturday after a 5-1 romp at struggling Bochum.—INTERNET

## Downbeat Juve crash again

ROME, 13 Dec—Dumped out of the Champions League in midweek, Juventus saw their Serie A title hopes suffer a hammer blow on Saturday as they slumped to a 3-1 defeat at Bari to miss a chance to go second. Ciro Ferrara's side looked every bit a side suffering a Euro hangover as they struggled to find any



Juventus defender Nicola Legrottaglie (R) fights for the ball against Bari's forward Giuseppe Greco during their Italian Serie A football match at Bari's stadium. Juventus saw their Serie A title hopes suffer a hammer blow Saturday as they slumped to a 3-1 defeat at Bari to miss a chance to go second.—INTERNET

rhythm on a heavy pitch and after just seven minutes the zebras were behind, Riccardo Meggiorini slamming home after eluding a curiously sluggish backline. After 23 minutes it was all square as French veteran David Trezeguet levelled from close range after Diego's effort was half scrambled clear by keeper Jean-Francois Gillet. But World Cup-winning defender Fabio Cannavaro then clumsily fouled Paulo Vitor Barreto and he dusted himself off to strike his penalty past keeper Gianluigi Buffon to send the home fans at the Stadio San Nicola wild. Internet

## Marseille on Bordeaux's shoulder

PARIS, 13 Dec—Marseille, whose last league title came 18 seasons ago, Saturday moved second in the French table on Saturday, three points behind Bordeaux, as second half goals from Gabriel Heinze and a penalty from Taye Taiwo saw off struggling Boulogne.

The win took Marseille onto 28 points from 15 games - though Bordeaux will look to pull further clear on Sunday when they face fellow Champions League qualifiers Lyon away.

After struggling to break down well-drilled rivals in the opening period at an impatient Stade Velodrome, Marseille finally made the breakthrough when former Manchester United defender Heinze converted a near-post corner from Benoit Cheyrou three minutes after the interval.

And the southerners made the game safe on 54 minutes when Damien Marcq fouled Argentine striker Lucho in the box to enable Nigerian Taiwo to convert the resulting spotkick.

Boulogne ended the encounter a man down after Olubayo Adefemi was dismissed three minutes from time for an overly hefty tackle on Marseille midfield maestro Hatem Ben Arfa.—Internet

## Ancelotti not concerned by Chelsea slump

LONDON, 13 Dec—Carlo Ancelotti insisted Chelsea's Premier League title challenge remains in robust health ahead of the busy festive period despite their sloppy 3-3 draw with Everton.

The west Londoners' aura of invincibility has taken a severe bruising in recent weeks, with the club knocked out

of the League Cup by Blackburn, beaten by Manchester City in the league and held to a home draw in their final Champions League group game by Apoel Nicosia.

The blip became a fully fledged slump on Saturday, when Chelsea leaked three goals from set-pieces in drawing at home to a struggling Everton and their defence once again failed to impress.

Goalkeeper Peter Cech endured another tortuous afternoon, conceding an own goal early on and then finding himself stranded for Everton's last equaliser midway through the second half, while none of Chelsea's usually assured back four appeared entirely at ease.—Internet



Chelsea's midfielder Joe Cole (R) is chased by Everton's Diniyar Bilyaletdinov (L) and Marouane Fellaini (C) during their English Premier League football match at Stamford Bridge, London. The match ended in a 3-3 draw.—INTERNET

## Allenby wins Australian PGA

COOLUM, 13 Dec—Robert Allenby won his fourth Australian PGA title for his second victory in two weeks, closing with a 5-under 66 on Sunday to beat fellow Australians John Senden and Scott

Strange by four strokes.

Allenby, the Nedbank Challenge winner last week in South Africa, won the Australian PGA for the first time since 2005, when he swept all three tournaments in the so-called Australian Triple Crown—the PGA, Open and Masters. The 38-year-old Allenby, who only entered the tournament on a sponsor invite three weeks ago after Vijay Singh withdrew because of a knee injury, finished with a 14-under 270 total on the Hyatt Regency resort course. Senden closed with a 67, and Strange shot a 69. "There were a lot of great players behind me, and I never knew what they were going to do," Allenby said as he walked up the 18th fairway with the victory secured. Internet



Ukrainian WBC world heavyweight champion Vitali Klitschko (R) fights with US challenger Kevin Johnson during their boxing game in Bern. Klitschko easily defended on Saturday his World Boxing Council heavyweight title against Johnson.—INTERNET

## Klitschko beats Johnson to defend heavyweight title

BERN, 13 Dec—Ukraine's Vitali Klitschko easily defended on Saturday his World Boxing Council heavyweight title against American challenger Kevin Johnson. The 38-year-old Ukrainian won with an unanimous decision after dominating all 12 rounds of the fight.

Although Johnson taunted Klitschko at times and managed to hurt the Ukrainian's right eye during the fourth round, he was parrying blows during most of the fight.—Internet

## Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

1	T	U	R	N	E	R		4	R	O	U	N	D			
	A		O	X			7	S		A		N	E			
8	V	I	S	I	T		9	P	A	I	N	T	E	R		
	E	E	E	E				A		N		I	I			
10	R	E	T	I	R	E	D				11	T	E	N	D	
	N		T		N			12	E	F		13	T		E	
			14	V	E	G	A			15	E	D	G	E		
17	P				18	L	O	W		19	A		A		20	E
21	R	O	S	E				23	H	O	R	I	Z	O	N	
	E		T		24	F	E				D		E		T	
25	C	U	R	T	A	I	L			26	R	U	L	E	R	
	I		A		M		K				O		L		A	
27	S	T	Y	L	E			28	U	P	K	E	E	P		

## O'Neill plays down Villa's Old Trafford victory

MANCHESTER, 13 Dec—Martin O'Neill refused to get carried away after his Aston Villa side beat champions Manchester United 1-0 here on Saturday - the Midlands club's first win at Old Trafford in 26 years.

Gabriel Agbonlahor's 21st minute header - his fourth goal against United in as many seasons - saw Villa go third in the English Premier League.

Victory meant Villa had now defeated three of the so-called 'Big Four' - United, Liverpool and Chelsea - already this season. "I am quite sure people will try and make those connections, I am just delighted to have won it," said Villa manager O'Neill when asked about his team's aspirations in the light of this victory.—Internet



Manchester United's defender Wes Brown (R) clashes with Aston Villa's midfielder James Milner during the English Premier League football match at Old Trafford in Manchester. Manchester United suffered a shock 1-0 loss at home to Aston Villa.—INTERNET

## Environment ministers try to unlock climate deal

COPENHAGEN, 13 Dec—Environment ministers tried to overcome rifts between rich and developing nations in Copenhagen on Sunday just days before a deadline for reaching a global pact on tackling climate change.

Yvo de Boer, head of the UN Climate Change Secretariat, highlighting a spat between top greenhouse gas emitters China and the United States, said he hoped all nations would seek to raise their offers in the talks.

“China is calling on the United States to do more. The United States is calling on China to

do more. I hope that in the coming days everyone will call on everyone to do more,” he said.

The ministers were holding informal talks during a one-day break in the 7-18 December meeting involving 190 nations, which will culminate in a summit of world leaders on Thursday and Friday including US President Barack Obama.

“There are still many challenges. There are still many unsolved problems,” Danish Minister Connie Hedegaard told reporters. “But as ministers start to arrive there is also the political will.”—Internet



Dogs run with the owners during the CACIB International Dog Show held in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 12 Dec 2009.—INTERNET

### MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (14-12-2009) (Monday)

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

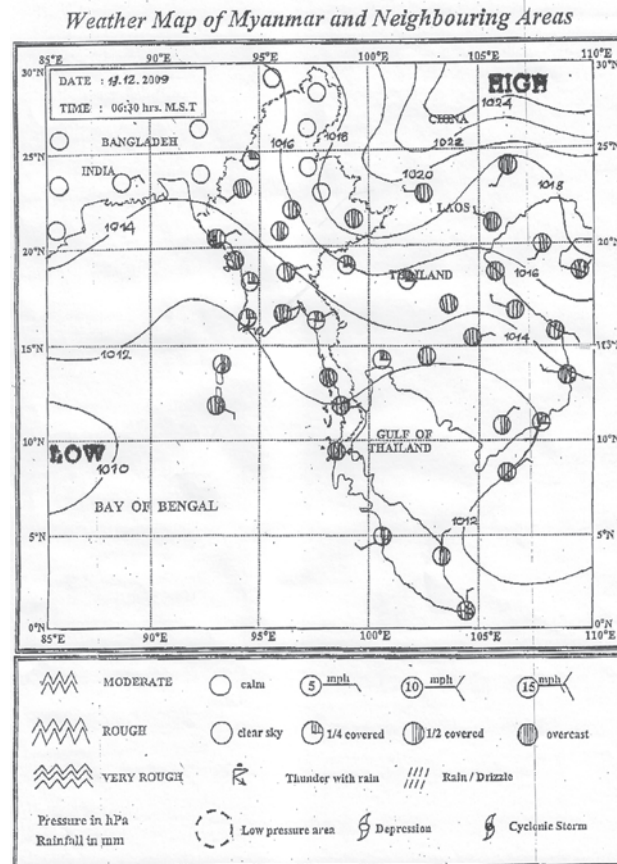
#### Local Transmission

- \* Signature Tune
- \* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- \* A Leisure Day in Ngapali
- \* Myanma Paintings: The Icons of Myanma Sentiment (Part-2)
- \* Significant Inlay Novitiation Ceremony
- \* Myanmar Modern Song
- \* A Day in Yangon (Myanmar's Shwedagon)
- \* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

#### Europe/ North America Transmission

- \* Signature Tune
- \* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- \* A Leisure Day in Ngapali
- \* Myanma Paintings: The Icons of Myanma Sentiment (Part-2)
- \* Significant Inlay Novitiation Ceremony
- \* A Day in Yangon (Myanmar's Shwedagon)
- \* Myanmar Modern Song
- \* Survey of Hu Koung Valley Tiger (Part-2)
- \* Formation of Sand Stupa in Unity
- \* Shwe Bo's glazed pots
- \* A Pilgrimage to Dhammayangyi
- \* Flying Over Mrauk-Oo
- \* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm



## WEATHER

Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2009

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in the whole country. Night temperatures were (5°C) below December average temperatures in Shan and Chin States, upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) above December average temperatures in Mon State and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-1°C), Loilem (1°C), Namsam and Pinlaung (4°C) each, Lashio (5°C), Heho, Mindat, Katha and An (6°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 12-12-2009 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 13-12-2009 was 59°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 13-12-2009 was 66%. Total sun shine hours on 12-12-2009 was (9.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 13-12-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.69) inches at Mingaladon, (122.09) inches at Kaba-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southeast at (16:30) hours MST on 12-12-2009.

**Bay inference:** According to the observations at (12:30) hrs M.S.T today, the cyclonic storm “Ward” over the Southwest Bay is centered at about (180) miles East of Jaffna (Srilanka). It is forecast to continuation to move West direction cross the Coast of Srilanka during next (24) hours. Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009:** Light rain are likely to be isolated in Rakhine States, Lower Sagaing, Magway, Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**State of the sea:** Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of isolated light rain in the Lower Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 14-12-2009:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-12-2009:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-12-2009:** Partly cloudy.

## Myanmar



Monday, 14 December  
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning News

7:40 am

4. အောင်တော်မူ (စောမင်းနောင်စိုင်းညိုမင်း၊ တေးရေး-ဗိုလ်ကလေး တင့်အောင်)

7:50 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am

6. Cute Little Dancers

8:20 am

7. “မြောင်းမြမြို့ရဲ့ကျက်သရေ ဆောင်ကြီးတံတားကအလှ ရုတ်ဆောင်”

8:30 am

8. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:40 am

9. International News

8:45 am

10. Musical Programme

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:10 pm

2. Dance Of National Races

4:15 pm

3. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

4:25 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာ ရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ်(ပြည်သူ့ရေးရာ အထူးပြု) (ပြည်သူ့ရေးရာ)

4:35 pm

5. Songs For Uphold National Spirit

4:40 pm

6. Dance Variety

4:45 pm

7. “မီးမီးရဲ့ဆုံးဖြတ်ချက်”

4:55 pm

8. သွေးလှူရှင်များနေ့တေးများ

5:00 pm

9. ဝါသီးကရွှေသီးဖြစ်ပြီ” (ဖြိုးငွေစိုးကောင်းခန့်၊ ပပဝင်းခင်ခိုင်ငြိမ်းငြိမ်းစံ)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဒေါက်တာ တင်အောင်ရွှေ(သုတေသီ))

5:35 pm

10. စုပါတေးသံရောင်ရွေးချယ်ပွဲ

6:00 pm

11. Evening News

6:15 pm

12. Weather Report

6:20 pm

13. Sing & Enjoy

7:00 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “အဆိပ်သင့်တဲ့အချစ်” (အပိုင်း-၁၆)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International News

17. Weather Report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ဆူးလွှမ်းသောချစ်နှင်းဆီ” (အပိုင်း-၇)

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

- ★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
- ★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
- ★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

### People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

- VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
- RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
- Do not allow ourselves to be swayed
- By broadcasts designed to cause troubles

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Golf Tournament 2009

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—The Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy

and Air) Golf Tournament 2009 commenced at Nay Pyi Taw Golf Course and Yepyar Golf Course, here, yesterday

morning, attended 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.

Also present on the occasion were Prime Minister General Thein Sein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, ministers, the Auditor-General, senior military officers, members of the organizing committee for the tournament and golfers from 14 teams.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung teed off the tracer ball to open the tournament.

The golfers from 14 teams took part in the first round of the tournament.

The second round of the golf tournament took place at the same golf

courses this morning, and all the events ended in the evening.

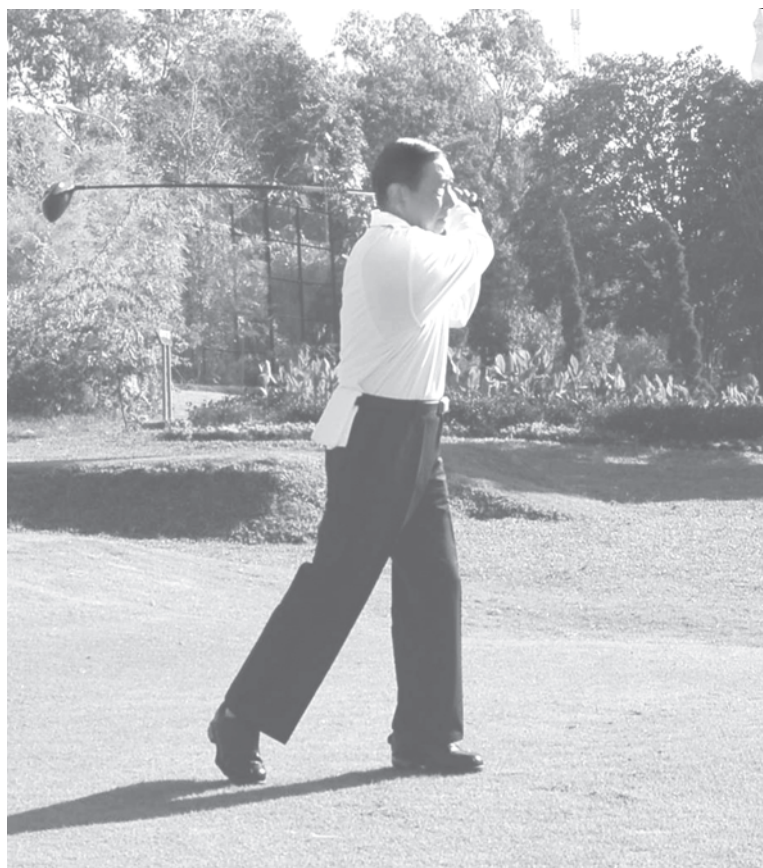
At 6 pm, the prize presentation ceremony followed at Nay Pyi Taw Golf Course.

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung presented the first prize to Central Command team with 522 strokes, the second to Eastern Command team with 565 and the third to Yangon Command team with 576 in the team handicap event; and the first prize to the

Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) with 664 strokes, the second to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) with 666 and the third to North-West Command team with 722 in the team scratch event.

Lt-Gen Maung Shein of the Ministry of Defence awarded the first, second and third prize winners in the individual handicap and scratch events.

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command (See page 9)



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye takes part in Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Golf Tournament 2009.*

MNA

### Significant night temperatures

(13-12-2009)

Haka	(-1°C)
Loilem	(1°C)
Namsan, Pinlaung	(4°C)
Lashio	(5°C)
Heho, Mindat and An	(6°C)