



The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to King of Bhutan

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec—On the occasion of the National Day of Bhutan which falls on 17 December 2009, 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 Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, King of Bhutan.—MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Senior General Than Shwe visits Hsinmyarshin Pagoda, Lawkamanaung Shwegugyi Pagoda

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Dec—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe together with Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, accompanied by SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and party, paid homage to Hsinmyarshin Pagoda in Bagan at 10 am yesterday. The Senior General and party offered *soon*, fruits, flowers and water to the Buddha image at Hsinmyarshin Pagoda. (See page 6)

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Yeywa Hydropower Project to generate 3550 million kwh yearly

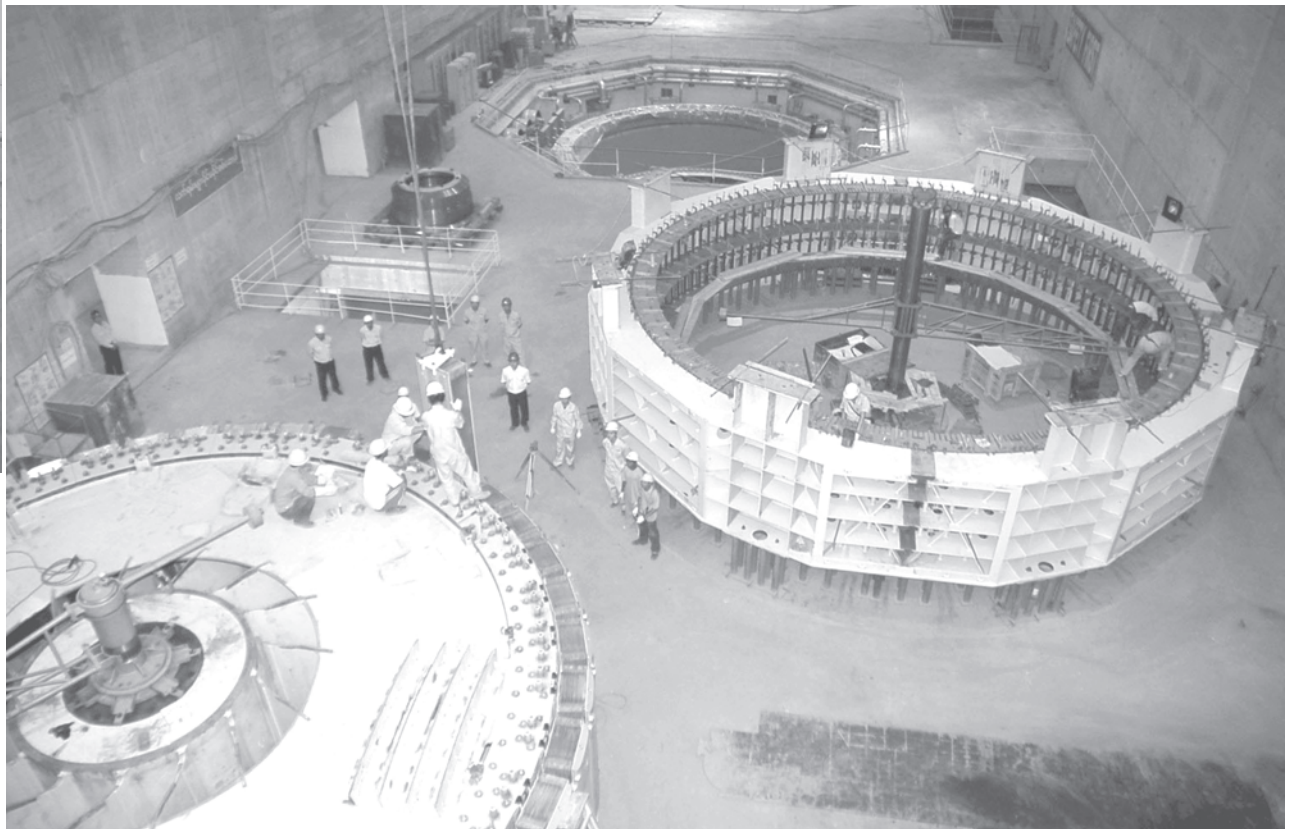


Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects Yeywa Hydropower Project.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Dec—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe yesterday afternoon went on an inspection tour of Yeywa Hydropower Project on Myitnge river, 31 miles southeast of Mandalay, Mandalay Division, being implemented by No 2 Construction Group of the Hydropower Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No 1. (See page 7)

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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

Thursday, 17 December, 2009

Grow more trees in Mt Popa region to keep it always lush and green

It is important to conserve forests as climate and existence of living things as well as streams depend a lot on them and wooded mountains.

Mount Popa region in central Myanmar is an invaluable natural resource for hot and dry upcountry. It is also a major watershed area of the upcountry because most of rivers, streams and creeks flowing through the region originate in the Mount Popa region.

The Head of State toured Mount Popa area in Kyaukpadaung Township on 14 December and inspected the greening of the region, afforestation work and pilot tea plantations there. Then, in his guidance, the Head of State said that it was necessary to realize the value of Mount Popa, to constantly keep it lush and green and to extend the cultivation of perennials, including tea, for generating more income for local people.

Dams already constructed around the Mount Popa region are related to forests in the watershed area of the Mount Popa region. Therefore, it is important to conserve forests. For this purpose, more than 1.3 million of trees, including teak, ironwood, Gmelina arborea, kapok eucalyptus and belleric myrobalan have been grown there up to now. Moreover, perennials such as cashew, taramind, sweet sop and jack fruit have also been cultivated.

The task of greening the Mount Popa region is systematically carried out as it can contribute to favourable climate of the upcountry. Now, perennial fruit trees, tea plants on pilot plots and mixed-crop groundnut plantations are thriving well on the eastern side of Mount Popa.

Forests are important for national economy. Moreover, they can conserve soil and improve the climatic and ecological patterns. Therefore, we would like to call on all those concerned and local people, realizing the value of Mount Popa, to constantly keep its environs lush and green by growing all kinds of trees, including perennial fruit trees.

MCPA to give talks on Global Data Center

YANGON, 16 Dec—Organized by Myanmar Computer Professionals Association, Senior System Engineer U Khin Maung Zaw of Microsoft will give talks on Global Data Center for enabling ICT professionals to know better experience of Software Development of Microsoft Corporation

at room No 205 of Myanmar Info Tech in Hlaing township, here, from 1 pm to 4 pm on 23 December.

Members of MCPA, software developers and IT enthusiasts may attend the talks free of charge. For further information, contact Tel-652276.

MNA

People's Desire

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

Culture Minister inspects maintenance of ancient pagodas in Pyawbwe Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Dec—Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint inspected maintenance of ancient pagodas and stupas being undertaken by the ministry in Pyawbwe Township on 12 December.

In Ywathit Village of Pyawbwe Township, the minister heard reports presented by Deputy Director-General U Sein Win of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library (North) on maintenance of seven ancient pagodas in the village monastery compound. After that, the minister called for annually taking systematic measures on maintenance

of ancient pagodas in line with ancient architecture.

Next, the minister looked into completion of repairing tasks for 54-foot-high pagoda in Linsinkon Village.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint inspects maintenance of ancient pagodas in Ywathit Village, Pyawbwe Township.

MNA

F&R Ministry organizes table-tennis and badminton contests

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Dec—The Inter-Department Table-Tennis and Badminton Contests of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue commenced as the national sports activities at the assembly hall of the ministry and staff quarters of the Internal Revenue

Department, here, on 2 December.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein, directors-general and managing directors of departments and

enterprises under the ministry, coaches, staff and family members watched the sports events.

The athletes competed in the final matches of badminton men's and women's singles and doubles events.

After the

competitions, the minister cordially greeted the athletes and staff members.

The Ministry of Finance and Revenue plans to organize the men's Sepak Takraw and women's volleyball tournaments of the staff in December.—MNA

Blood donation of Myanmar Brewery Ltd

YANGON, 16 Dec—To mark Myanmar Blood Donors Day, the 5th collective blood donation ceremony conducted by the staff families of Myanmar Brewery Ltd took place at Yangon General Hospital yesterday.

First, Managing Director Mr Peter Ong extended greetings. In charge Dr Daw Thida Aung of National Blood Centre spoke words of thanks.

Next, responsible persons of YGH, NBC and Myanmar Brewery Ltd viewed the donation

activities by staff families of Myanmar Brewery Ltd.

Since May 2006, blood donations took place in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions

annually. A total of 889 bottles of blood have been donated till this time. In May 2009 blood donations were held at three places in Yangon

and Mandalay and now it is second time.

Myanmar Brewery Ltd will organize blood donation ceremony two times a year.—MNA



Responsible persons from Yangon General Hospital and National Blood Centre and Mr Peter Ong view donation of blood.—MNA



An Iraqi man walks through debris at the scene of last Tuesday's massive bomb attack near the new Finance Ministry in Baghdad, Iraq, on 14 Dec, 2009.—INTERNET

US soldier killed, Taliban commander nabbed in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 16 Dec — Continued insurgency in Afghanistan claimed the life of one American soldier in south Afghanistan on Tuesday, a Press release of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said.

"An ISAF service member from the United States was killed today in an IED (Improvised Explosive Device) strike in southern Afghanistan," the Press release added.

However, it did not say the exact place of the incident. A joint US and Afghan operation has been

Two British soldiers killed in Afghanistan

LONDON, 16 Dec — Two British soldiers were killed on Tuesday in a suicide bomb blast in Afghanistan, the Ministry of Defence said, taking the total number of deaths this year to 102. The soldiers, both from the 3rd Battalion, The Rifles, died while on patrol near Sangin in the northern part of Helmand Province, where British troops are mainly based, the ministry said.

"It is with great sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm that these two soldiers died near Sangin," the ministry said in a statement.—Internet

going on against Taliban militants in Nawzad District and surrounding areas of Helmand Province over the past two weeks.

The Press release also added that Afghan and the NATO-led troops detained a Taliban commander in the southern Zabul's provincial capital Qalat on Tuesday; but did not give his name.

Furthermore, the Press release added that the

troops killed four militants in Taliban birthplace Kandahar a day earlier on Monday. Taliban militants who have intensified their activities have not made comment. Foreign forces' casualties is on the rise in the war-torn Afghanistan as so far this year more than 360 soldiers with majority of them Americans and Britons have been killed since beginning of this year.

Xinhua

Five killed in suicide bombing

KABUL, 16 Dec — The Afghan Public Health Ministry says five people were killed and 31 others wounded in a suicide car bombing in a heavily guarded neighbourhood in the Afghan capital.

The blast on Tuesday occurred near a hotel favored by Westerners, but it was unclear if the hotel was the target. Afghan President Hamid Karzai said the explosion occurred near the home of his former first vice president, Ahmed Zia Massoud. During a speech at a conference on corruption, Karzai said two of Massoud's guards were among those killed in the explosion.—Internet

People stand outside of the Heetal Hotel, not in photo, after an apparent suicide bomb was detonated in Kabul, Afghanistan on 15 Dec, 2009. INTERNET



Invasion of US and allies kills, injures Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 16 Dec — There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

Casualties of Iraqi people

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 16 December reached 699723 and the total number of serious injured people reached 1263077, according to the news on the Internet.

No.	Subject	Number
1.	Death toll of Iraqi people	699723
2.	The total number of seriously injured people	1263077

Internet



Iraqi policemen inspect burnt vehicles at the site of an explosion near the ministry for emigres and displaced persons in Baghdad. INTERNET

Casualties of Afghan people in invasion of NATO troops led by US

KABUL, 16 Dec — The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

A number of Afghan people are killed and injured due to invasion of the NATO troops led by the US.

Casualties of Afghan people

According to the Internet news, a total of 32392 Afghan people were killed and 38098 injured seriously as from the day when the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 16 December.

No.	Subject	Number
1.	Number of Afghan people killed	32392
2.	Seriously injured Afghan people	38098

Internet

An injured man is carried away from the Heetal Hotel following a suicide bomb blast in Kabul, Afghanistan on 15 Dec, 2009. INTERNET



Top US officer: Taliban harder to defeat

KABUL, 16 Dec — The top US military officer said the Taliban-led insurgency in Afghanistan is harder to defeat now than it was a year ago, and said he will take up concerns about strengthening ties to al-Qaeda with government leaders in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Adm Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff, was touring US bases in eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday. He will also be in Pakistan this week.

"I remain deeply concerned by the growing level of collusion between the Af-

ghan Taliban and al-Qaeda and other extremist groups taking refuge across the border in Pakistan," Mullen said at the start of his visit on Monday. "Getting at this network, which is now more entrenched, will be a far more difficult task than it was just one year ago," Mullen said in the Afghan capital. "As part of this trip, I intend to discuss with Afghan and Pakistani leaders the extent to which we all can better cooperate and coordinate our activities to eliminate the safe havens from which these groups plan and operate."—Internet

US, Russia close to agree on new deal on nuclear weapons reduction

WASHINGTON, 16 Dec—The United States and Russia are very close to hammer out a final deal on the reduction of their nuclear weapon stockpiles, the State Department said on Tuesday.

“I think we are getting very close to an agree-

ment,” State Department spokesman Philip Crowley told reporters at the daily Press briefing.

The United States and Russia are trying to reach a new nuclear arms control treaty to replace the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), which expired on 5 Dec.

US President Barack Obama and his Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev have agreed on an ambitious and aggressive reduction to their nu-

clear arsenals by reaching a new treaty, under which the nuclear warheads each side holds will be reduced to 1,500 to 1,675, while the launchers will be limited to 500 to 1,000.

The two Presidents vowed to work together in the spirit of the START treaty following its expiration, in order to ensure that a new treaty on strategic arms enter into force at the earliest possible date.—*Internet*

Russian nightclub fire death toll hits 148

MOSCOW, 16 Dec—The death toll from a nightclub blaze in Russia's Ural city of Perm 10 days ago has risen to 148, authorities said on Tuesday.

The toll was revised up after one woman died at a hospital in Chelyabinsk while another woman passed away in a Moscow hospital, with 81 still remain hospitalized, theregional branch of the Russian Ministry of Emergency Situations said in a report.

Flames sparked by indoor fireworks swept through the Lame Horse nightclub in the early hours of 5 December. Some 230 party-goers stampeded and choked on smoke as they rushed to flee through the club's single exit.

MNA/Xinhua

Jonasa Rokotuiwasa, right, with daughter Miliana Wati, center, and son Jonasa cross the flooded bridge in Kasavu, Nausori in Fiji, on 15 Dec, 2009 after a cyclone hit the island. Thousands of Fiji villagers fled to shelters as a tropical cyclone battered the South Pacific nation, causing flooding, damaging homes and power lines, and killing three people, officials said Tuesday.—*INTERNET*



S Korea, Japan to hold free trade negotiations next week

SEOUL, 16 Dec—South Korea and Japan will hold the fourth round of their bilateral free trade talks on next week here in Seoul, Seoul's Trade ministry said on Wednesday.

The South Korean side will be composed of some 20 officials from related

ministries, including foreign ministry, knowledge and Economy Ministry, Agriculture Ministry, and Welfare Ministry, the Foreign Ministry said in a press release.

As a result of a summit agreement on resuming working-level free

trade talks between the leaders of South Korea and Japan in April 2008, three rounds of negotiations have been held, with the latest one coming in July 2009.

Originally launched in December 2003, bilateral free trade talks have been continued to November 2004 in six rounds, but the discussions have been stalled for over four years on disputes over opening agriculture and fisheries markets.

Xinhua

Suzuki Motor Corp Chairman and CEO Osamu Suzuki poses next to the company's new "Alto" car during an unveiling in Tokyo on 16 December, 2009.—*INTERNET*



Three dead after tropical cyclone hits Fiji

SUVA, 16 Dec—Thousands of Fiji villagers fled to shelters as a tropical cyclone battered the South Pacific nation, causing flooding, damaging homes and power lines, and killing three people, officials said on Tuesday. Cyclone Mick, Fiji's first this summer season, ripped through the most populated island of Viti Levu on Monday night and is headed toward Tonga, which has been placed on alert.

Fiji's National Disaster Management Office said the death and injury toll was reduced by people heeding the cyclone warning and flocking to emergency shelters ahead of the storm. “People took evasive action ... took the warning seriously and moved to shelters because their homes were not strong enough and also because they feared the flood waters,” the agency's principal officer, Patiliai Dobui, told *The Associated Press*.—*Internet*

Waterfalls claim three students' lives in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 Dec—Three students of Sultan Ahmad Shah Polytechnic in Malaysia drowned at the Sungai Pandan waterfalls in Panching, a small town near Kuantan, State Capital of Pahang State, Malaysia.

The Star, a local daily, reported here on Wednesday that the incident took place at 4.30 pm on Tuesday.

According to the daily, the three victims were holding hands and approaching the pool at the waterfalls when they disappeared into the water suddenly.

Mohd Yusoff, a 41-year-old witness, said that he heard them screaming but he thought that the boys were just enjoying their swim.

Xinhua

Japan enters high-speed train sales race

NAGOYA, 16 Dec—On a desolate stretch of track just before midnight, when all passenger lines have been put to bed, a juiced-up Japanese bullet train goes online and accelerates to over 200 miles per hour. The 700-

ton train, about a quarter of a mile long, whooshes by rice paddies in under five seconds.

There are no locals around to witness the train glide to a stop at a deserted Kyoto Station, but that's not the point. This

is an accelerated sales pitch aimed squarely at the US, where Japan is competing with European train makers for a new high-speed train network that could deliver contracts worth hundreds of billions.—*Internet*



In this 3 Oct, 2008 file photo, shows the head part of a new model of N700 bullet train, or the 'shinkansen,' is transported through a street in Fukuoka, southern Japan, on its way to run between Shin-Osaka, western Japan, and central Kagoshima, southern Japan, starting in spring, 2011.—*INTERNET*

OPEC forecasts world oil demand increase for coming year

VIENNA, 16 Dec—The world oil demand in 2010 would reach 85.13 million barrels per day (mb/d), increasing by 0.82 mb/d, or 0.98 percent compared to this year, according to the forecast made by OPEC in its latest monthly oil market report on Tuesday in Vienna.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has in-

creased the world oil demand by 60,000 barrels a day in the new monthly report in comparison with the monthly report of last month.

While the forecast of world oil demand in 2009 from OPEC remained the same as the previous monthly report, or 84.31 mb/d, which fell by 1.62 percent, or 1.39 mb/d compared to 2008.

The latest report said that the demand for crude oil next year in China, which would be firstly out of economy recession, would grow obviously. It would be expected to increase by 4.5 percent. Besides, the growth rate of oil demand in the Middle East and North America would also reach 3.34 percent and 0.99 percent.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 14 Dec, 2009 shows a new look of the western part of Shanghai Expo site, which is still under construction. —XINHUA



All Items from Xinhua News Agency

OECD accepts Chile as full member

SANTIAGO, 16 Dec—The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on Tuesday accepted Chile as a full member after two years of negotiations, Chilean officials said.

Chile has become the first South American country admitted by the OECD and the second Latin American country after Mexico.

OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría has given Chilean Treasury Minister Andres Velasco the invitation document for Chile to join the organization.

"This is like getting a ticket to the soccer World Cup, where the best 32 teams play. Here we are 30 and with Chile 31, the same number of teams in the World Cup. This country will play equal to equal... because we are well prepared and because we have a good coach (referring to Chilean President Michelle Bachelet)," Velasco said.

President Bachelet celebrated the entry of Chile into the OECD on Tuesday and said "it is a very important achievement that we want to stress with satisfaction and serenity."—Xinhua

Using the built-in stereo Bluetooth on your iPhone and iPod touch, the Bluetooth Music Receiver connects to your home stereo to play music wirelessly.

INTERNET

Health experts investigate outbreak of strange disease in N Uganda

KAMPALA, 16 Dec—Health experts are investigating an outbreak of a strange disease in northern Uganda which makes children nod their heads, a senior health official said here on Tuesday.

Issa Makumbi, the head of disease surveillance in the Health Ministry told Xinhua in an interview that the health teams that were sent to the northern districts of Kitgum and Pader are expected to conclude their investigations this week and release the results next week on the possible cause of the disease.

"We have now tried to do extended investigations where we have called in more experts to go and look at that disease in more detail," he said.—Xinhua

Moscow, 16 Dec—Russia on Tuesday signed a document to build Vietnam's first nuclear power plant, and another deal to deliver Russian-made weaponry to the Southeast Asian country, Russian news agencies reported.

The nuclear energy agreement was endorsed by Sergei Kiriyenko, the head of Russia's state-run nuclear agency Rosatom, and Pham LeThanh, the head of Vietnam's electricity company EVN.

"We are ready to render comprehensive support to

the fulfillment of the Vietnamese atomic energy programme for the period until 2020," Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said after talks with his visiting Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Tan Dung.

Meanwhile, Russia's state-owned arms exporter Rosoboronexport and the Vietnamese Defence Ministry's General Export-Import Company clinched a major arms deal.

"Vietnam has signed with Russia a contract on the delivery of aircraft and related military hardware,"

Dung said after meeting with Putin, without giving further details.

Interfax quoted an unidentified defence industry source as saying that Russian has agreed to supply Vietnam with six Kilo-class diesel-electric submarines, with its total value at about 2 billion US dollars.

Dung arrived here on Monday for a two-day visit. He also met with President Dmitry Medvedev earlier in the day.

Xinhua

Air France's Airbus 380 stuck in New York with "technical problem"

PARIS, 16 Dec—An Air France superjumbo Airbus 380 linking New York and Paris had delayed its return to France due to a "technical problem" with a fuel tank, the company said on Tuesday.

Flight AF007 New York-Paris, with 511 passengers on board, was trapped at New York's JFK airport at 19:10 on Monday local time (0010 GMT Tuesday), French radio RTL said.

The company later confirmed that the plane "was delayed by a technical problem," saying it was a problem with a circuit system which "transfers fuel in one tank to another."

Xinhua

New goat flu outbreaks in Netherlands, six killed

BEIJING, 16 Dec—A new epidemic goat flu (or called Q-fever) has struck the Netherlands since last week.

An estimated 2,300 people have succumbed to Q-fever this year in the country and six have died.

According to Dutch experts, Q-fever is caused by bacteria released when pregnant goats or sheep have spontaneous abortions.

A relative study shows that many animals can carry this kind of bacteria, but contact with infected goats is believed to be the main source of human infections.

The Dutch government said on Thursday it planned to slaughter all pregnant

infected goats, which carry the bacteria in high concentrations. It was not immediately clear how many goats will be killed.

"There's nowhere external to turn to for expert advice, because it's a unique situation," said the government spokesman Thijs van Son. Q-fever infections usually occur in a cluster in one year and then peter out the next. But the Dutch outbreak has been growing and spreading out over agricultural areas for three years despite increasingly strong measures to contain it. "That hasn't happened before," Van Son said, "not in Europe or anywhere else."—Xinhua



The photo taken on 15 Dec, 2009 shows the construction site of the second of the two generating units of the Sanmen nuclear power plant in east China's Zhejiang Province. XINHUA

Senior General Than Shwe visits...

(from page 1)

After donating cash to the funds of the pagoda, the Senior General went round the pagoda.

The Senior General and party left Bagan by helicopter and arrived at

age at the eastern archway of the pagoda and paid homage to the image.

The Senior General and party went round the pagoda.

At the briefing hall,

steel wares, hospital use steel wares, steel pipes, enamel wares, beds for hospitals and various kinds of furniture at the Enamel and Steel Ware Factory (Minsu).

After hearing the reports, the Senior General gave guidance calling for production of household goods and medicines manufactured by the factories in accordance with the demands of the people and distributing of products to the consumer markets.

The Senior General and party viewed medi-

steel and enamel products such as plates, bowls, three-step food carriers, four-step food carriers, cups, curry containers, trays, mugs, pans, choppers, rice-cookers, rice bowls, forks and spoons displayed at the exhibition hall of by Enamel and Steel Ware Factory (Minsu).

Later, the Senior General and party inspected tasks of repair of mould and dies, production of new mould and die designs, kilns and decoration section, enamel section, bleaching section, steel



Buddha Image at Lawkamanaung Shwegugyi Pagoda.—MNA



Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe pays homage to Buddha Image in Hsinmyarshin Pagoda in Bagan.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe inspects Enamel and Steel Ware Factory (Minsu).—MNA

Lawkamanaung Shwegugyi Pagoda near Inyaung Village of Inyaung Village-tract in Kyaukse Township at 11:30 am.

The Head of State and party offered flowers, water, lights and joss sticks to the Buddha im-

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung reported on manufacturing of disposable syringes, injection and ampoules at Pharmaceutical Factory (Inyaung) under the Ministry of Industry-1, and production of kitchen use

cinces produced by Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Inyaung) and

production manufacturing sections and packaging section.—MNA



Enamel and steel products seen at exhibition hall of Enamel and Steel Ware Factory (Minsu).—MNA





Senior General Than Shwe inspecting Yeywa Hydropower Project.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents a fruit basket to technicians taking part in Yeywa Hydropower Project.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe...

(from page 1)

Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann and members of the entourage helicoptered from Minsu village of Kyaukse township at 1:15 pm and landed at Yeywa Hydropower Project at 1:45 pm.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min presented reports to Senior General Than Shwe and entourage that Yeywa Hydropower Project on Myitnge River, being a RCC concrete dam with the length of 2,264 feet and the height of 433 feet was being built; that it was also the major hydropower project of the State; the four 197.5 megawatt turbines have been installed; that No 1 turbine would start gener-

ating power in near future; that construction tasks were being expedited for the remaining three turbines to generate power; that the construction of main dam, water intake structure, spillway and diversion tunnel Nos (1) and (2) have completed; that water is being stored at the dam; that tasks for installation of machines to be used in generating power and construction of drainage and switch yard are in their final stages; and that emphasis is being placed on this project to meet set standards as it is one of the world's largest dams of RCC type.

Thanks to encouragement of the government and concerted efforts of the project workers, the project will complete two years earlier than the scheduled. As it is a



project being implemented through the modern technology, the modern machinery are being installed at the dam to detect the strength, movement of water, water pressure and temperature of the main embankment.

After hearing the reports, the Senior General gave guidance that as the project is in its final stage of installing turbines, it is necessary to place empha-

sis on timely completion of the construction tasks the meeting set standards, and he stressed the need to maintain the dams of the completed hydropower plants for their durability.

The Senior General presented fruit baskets to technicians from abroad and at home.

The Senior General and party viewed scale model of Yeywa

Hydropower Plant.

At the main concrete embankment, the Head of State and party looked into storage of water at the dam, removal of the rock layer from the drain of the plant, construction of the power plant and sub-power stations, intake structure, installation of sluice gate and all other tasks of the project.

At the power plant, the Senior General and

party inspected final installation of the parts at No. 1 generator and installation of parts at No. 2 generator.

After visiting Yeywa Hydropower Plant, the Head of State and party left there by helicopter.

Among four generators of Yeywa Hydropower Project, each is over 1500 tons in weight, and over 100,000 parts are systematically installed at each generator.

The 790 megawatt Yeywa Hydropower Plant will produce 3550 million kwh annually. The generating capacity of Yeywa Hydropower Plant will be 70 per cent of about 5000 million kwh being generated by 15 power plants under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1.

Yeywa RCC Dam is one of the largest RCC dams in the world.

MNA

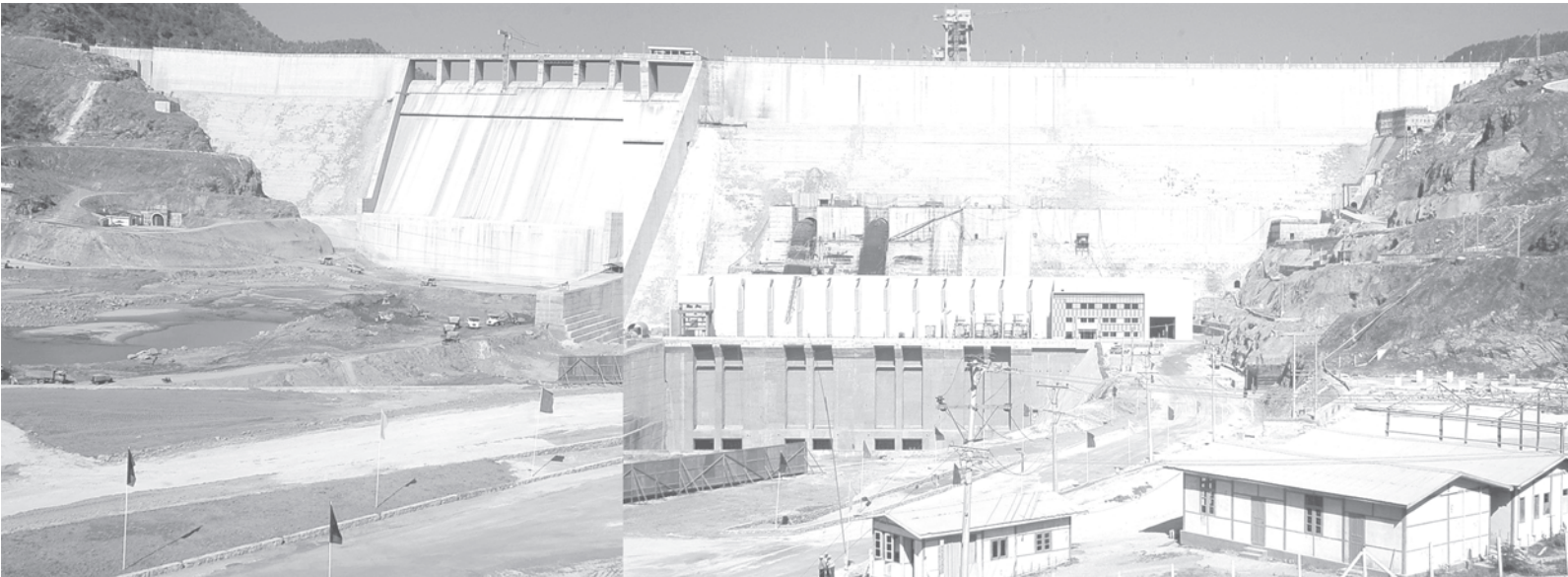


Photo shows Yeywa Hydropower Project, one of the largest dams in RCC list.—MNA

Build new motor roads and railroads to realize lofty aims of the State

Kyaw Ye Min

Regarding recent inspection tours of the Head of State at construction of the Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) and the Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku), I have presented facts in brief about the Ayeyawady River crossing bridges that will guarantee the development of the State and the people in the future. As far as I know, I would like to write progress of motor road and railroad projects concerning the news on inspection tours of the Head of State. It was because facts about the Ayeyawady River crossing bridges are related to the railroad and motor road projects to be presented.

The Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) Project is part of the Katha-Bhamo railroad construction project. The Katha-Bhamo railroad is a new construction project being undertaken in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, and it commenced in May 2007. The land survey and earthworks were being undertaken at the same time. The 26 miles long section of Katha-Bhamo railroad will be in Sagaing Division and the 72 miles long section in Kachin State, and it will be 98 miles in total length. Upon completion, passengers and commodities will be directly transported from Mandalay to Bhamo through the Katha-Bhamo railroad. For the first phase, we saw concerted efforts were being made to open the 16.68 miles long Katha-Moetagi railway section.

The Katha-Bhamo railroad section—the 66-mile section from Katha to Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) and the 32-mile section from Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) to Bhamo—will be 98 miles in total length, and the plans are under way to build 12 railway stations along the railroad. Out of 12 railway stations, Katha railway station, Pawmamyang railway station, Minle railway station and Moetagi railway station have so far been constructed. With regard to construction of small and big bridges, arrangements are being made to build 284 bridges –

191 bridges on the Katha-Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) section and 93 bridges on the Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan)-Bhamo section. So far, a total of 64 small and large bridges have been constructed along the railroad, and the placing of tracks started.

Indeed, the Katha-Bhamo railroad is a new project to link Katha, Shwegu, Mansi and Bhamo townships. It is sure that the railroad would contribute much to better transport and smoother flow of commodities and trade in the region. The betterment in transport and trade will guarantee the uplift of socio-economic status of the local people. In fact, Katha and Bhamo used to be far-flung regions because they had no direct link with arteries. In other words, local people for generations had to struggle hard for their living as their regions were difficult of access. As a result, the living standard of Kachin, Shan and Bamar nationals living in those regions was lower than that of the people living in other regions. **Now, all these difficulties are going to be overcome and all the necessary facilities fulfilled. And socio-economic status of the local people is going to improve with the emergence of new motor roads and railroads together with the new Ayeyawady river-crossing bridge. The government, like good parents with genuine goodwill and loving-kindness, is building development infrastructures wherever necessary across the Union. It is doing so for the long-term interests of the national races, regarding them as its own children.**

The Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) will be part of the Pakokku-Myintcheint-Letpanchepaw-Thitthauk-NyaungU railway. Similarly, the Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) will link the Magway-Taungdwingyi railway section on the east bank of the Ayeyawady river and the Kyangin-Pakokku railway section being constructed on the west bank. Therefore, these bridges will play an important role in beautifying

the future of the respective regions.

The Head of State gave guidance on building the Union railway network linking the states and divisions in the eastern, western, northern and southern parts of the country in order that products and resources of various regions can be speedily transported to the respective markets. In accordance with the guidance, new railroads are being constructed on one hand and the old ones upgraded on the other. In 1988, there were only 2793.86 miles of railways. But now there is a total of 4338.9 miles. The Patheinhintada-Kyangin railway is being extended up to Pakokku. Moreover, preparations are being made to build the Patheinhintada-Nyaungdon-Hlaingthaya railway together with the new Nyaungdon bridge across the Ayeyawady river. Measures are also being taken to construct Pyay-Toungoo railway across the Bago Yoma, Malun-Pahtanago-Thityakauk railway to link Nay Pyi Taw with Patheinhintada railway, Sittway-An-Minbu railway, Katha-Bhamo railway, Mongno-Kengtung railway, Phayangasu-Pyawbwe-Natmauk-Magway railway and Dawei-Myeik railway, totalling over 1200 miles.

When the strategic railways have been built as planned, the Union railway network will emerge, connecting all states and divisions. At present, more than 400 trains of Myanma Railways are transporting over 220,000 passengers daily along the railways all over the country.

Both having a motorway and a railroad each on them, Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) and Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) are linked with the railroad network and the motorway network. Of various transport means, transporting by car plays a great part in the transport sector in Myanmar. So, building roads on a large scale nationwide is on the list of priorities in the nation. With the concept that

(See page 9)



Photo shows Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine).

Build new motor roads and railroads to realize lofty aims of the State

Kyaw Ye Min



Construction of Katha-Bhamo railroad section in Shwegu Township of Kachin State in progress.

(from page 8)

secure and smooth transport effectively helps improve the socio-economic life and friendship among the people, the government had built inter-village roads, rural-urban roads, inter-district roads, and inter-state/division roads, and expressways till they formed a transport network. It also pays serious attention to the upgrading of roads. As a result, the total length of all the roads in the nation is now over 41,700 miles, compared with only over 21,000 miles in 1988. Moreover, it has built more than 39,400 miles of rural roads designed for rural development. To complete those roads and railroads, the government had to build 232 over-180-foot motorway bridges, and 55, railbridges.

In addition, it is implementing highway projects in collaboration with regional countries—Asian highways to be linked with Thailand, Laos, China, India, and Bangladesh; ASEAN highways with ASEAN countries; Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Corridors; BIMSTEC highways; India-Myanmar-Thai Tripartite Highway to be jointly implemented by the three countries; GMS, East-West Economic Corridor Highway; GMS, North-South Economic Corridor Highway; and the highway to be built jointly by India and Myanmar; the highway to pass through the border area near Paletwa; and the project to improve the waterway of Kaladan River.

There are four Asian highways — Nos 1, 2, 3 and 14; and six ASEAN highways. The ASEAN

Highway Network includes Yangon-Phayagyi-Mandalay-Tamu Highway, Phayagyi-Hpa-an-Myawady Highway, Mandalay-Hsipaw-Lashio-Muse Highway, Mandalay-Meiktila-Loilem-Kengtung-Tachilek Highway, Kengtung-Mongla Highway, Thaton-Mawlamyine Highway, Meyik-Dawei-Kawthoung Highway, and Dawei-Hsinbyudaung-Kachanaburi Highway. Asian/ASEAN highways that are linked with Thailand, China and India such as Myawady-Tamu, Tachilek-Meiktila, Kengtung-Mongla, and Mandalay-Muse highways combine with many sites of Union highways in Myanmar.

Furthermore, those international highways meet and part each other in many sites, like a huge network of highways. According to their usefulness, highways are categorized into strategic highway, primary highway, and expressway. Highways linked with foreign countries including Asian/ASEAN highways linked with regional countries will definitely make long-term contribution to Myanmar's trade, transport and relations with regional countries.

In retrospect, British colonialists annexed Myanmar for more than 100 years, but they built only a few infrastructural buildings just for their economic and administration benefits with the ill intention of making national races distance from one another in terms of relations. In consequence, the transport then was very poor. In that regard, a tangible consequence is that the regions with poor transport lagged far

behind other regions in development. That is why the government has been making huge investments in road and bridge projects in a strategic way in order to accelerate the development momentum of the regions, which once lagged behind in development, and to complete a transport network that covers the whole country including hilly regions and border areas.

Here, the government's purpose of building transport facilities is to improve the socio-economic life and the living standard of the people, and to enable the people to travel and transport goods with convenience. From the point of national interest view, the government intends to narrow the development gap between one region and another in all parts, to ensure equitable development of all parts of the Union, and to generate harmony among the people in etiquette, morale and concept.

In conclusion, the government, in compliance with the guidance given by the Head of State with farsightedness, perseverance, genuine goodwill, loving-kindness, and intention for long-term interest, has been boosting cooperation with neighbouring and regional countries, and international friendly countries in various sectors, while working hard to restore stability and peace and ensure the rule of law, and all-round development of the nation, and to improve the education, health, social and economic sectors of the people. Therefore, the hard work the government is exerting to improve the transport sector is an important part of its drive for achieving the lofty aims of the nation.

Translation: NN+TTA+MS

Myanmar win two more gold, four silver and eight bronze in SEA Games

YANGON, 16 Dec—The XXV SEA Games continued for the eighth day in Vientiane of Lao People's Democratic Republic today. Myanmar team won gold in women's compound bow (team) event and so did Hein Latt Zaw of Myanmar in 55-60 kilos Judo event.

Sandi Oo scored silver in women's Wushu (Nanquans) event, Kyaw Oo silver in men's billiard (single) event, Kay Khine Lwin silver in women's 200 meter race, Saw Mai San silver in men's 60-66 kilos Judo event, Eaint Me Me and Thet Thet Naing bronze in women's Wushu (Nanquans) event, Salwee bronze in

men's 40-45 kilos Judo event, Aung Moe bronze in 73-81 kilos Judo event, Kap Cin Pau bronze in 50-55 kilos Judo event, Soe Kyaw bronze in men's Wushu (Nanquans) event, Myanmar archery team two bronze in men's recurve bow (team) and women's recurve bow (team). MNA



Hein Latt Zaw.—SPED



Saw Mai San.—SPED

Medal Standing in XXV SEA Games

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Thailand	61	68	79	208
Vietnam	61	55	47	163
Indonesia	32	37	60	129
Singapore	32	23	33	88
Malaysia	29	36	51	116
Philippines	29	24	41	94
Laos	25	16	40	81
Myanmar	9	16	34	59
Cambodia	3	8	23	34
Brunei	1	1	8	10
Timor Leste	0	0	3	3



Sandi Oo.—SPED

Adobe Systems posts 4Q loss but says demand rising

NEW YORK, 16 Dec—Adobe Systems Inc said on Tuesday that although it booked a loss in the fiscal fourth quarter, consumer demand improved and allowed the maker of Photoshop and Flash software to post an optimistic outlook for the current period.

The recession has dampened demand for Creative Suite 4, the latest version of the software package targeting professional designers

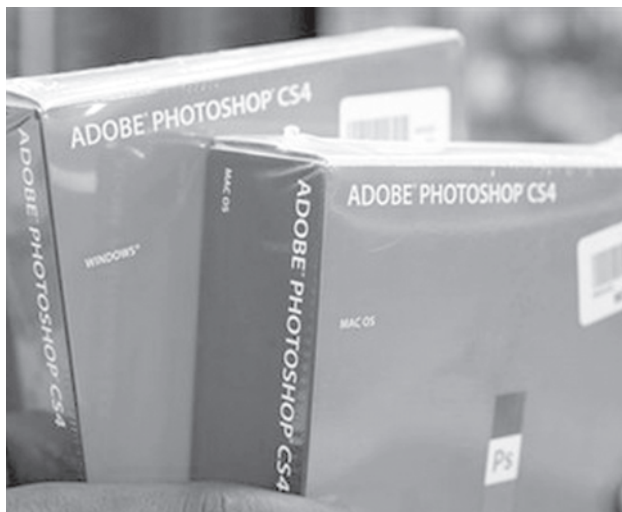
and developers that brings in the bulk of Adobe's revenue. It happened to launch in the fall of 2008, right as the financial meltdown hit.

But the company said on Tuesday it saw demand pick up in the fourth quarter, especially in its final month. Chief Financial Officer Mark Garrett said this November uptick—across many of the company's product lines, mainly in North America and Eu-

rope—was more than what the company had expected. Even so, CS4 will likely end up with sales about 20 percent below its predecessor.

Adobe on Tuesday reported a loss of \$32 million, or 6 cents per share, for the three months that ended 27 Nov, compared with a profit of \$245.9 million, or 46 cents per share, in the same period a year earlier.

Internet



A salesperson holds copies of Adobe Photoshop CS4 for Mac OS and Windows at Micro Centre computer store in Santa Clara, Calif, on 15 Dec, 2009.

INTERNET

Workshop on development of brokerage organized

YANGON, 16 Dec—The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry organized the second workshop on development of brokerage at its tower in Lanmadaw Township on 6 December.

Vice-President U Win Aung of UMFCCI and Managing Director U Kyaw Htoo of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading made speeches.

The resource persons submitted their papers. Next, the resource persons and members of the panel of chairmen U Toe Aung Myint, U Aung Than Oo and U Tun Lwin replied to queries raised by responsible persons from State and Division CCI and brokerages.

CEC member U Sai Ba Nyan explained the accomplishment of the minutes in previous

workshop. Officials discussed opening of brokerages, scheming of rules and regulations and plans for opening more brokerages.

Managing Director U Kyaw Htoo of MAPT, Vice-President U Win Aung and CEC member U Sai Ba Nyan reviewed the discussions. The workshop ended with remarks by the vice-president.

MNA

India's Bharti to buy Bangladesh mobile operator

DHAKA, 16 Dec—Indian telecom giant Bharti Airtel is set to buy a 70-per-cent stake in Bangladesh's fourth largest mobile phone operator Warid from its Abu Dhabi-based owners, regulators said on Wednesday.

The Dhabi Group, which fully owns Warid, has sought approval from the Bangladesh Telecommunications Regulatory Commission for the sale, commission chairman Zia Ahmed told AFP.

The move makes

Bharti the latest foreign firm to make inroads into the Bangladesh mobile phone market, which is one of the country's fastest growing and potentially lucrative sectors. "The Dhabi Group informed us on Sunday that it would sell 70 percent of Warid Telecom shares to Bharti Airtel Ltd. We have sought more papers and the copy of the memorandum of understanding between the two companies," he said.

Ahmed said the com-

pany did not mention how much the stake was valued at but added that Bharti had "initially intended to invest 300 million dollars."

"I am sure the new investment will inject new momentum into our telecoms sector," he said. A spokesman for Warid declined comment on the deal, but an unnamed official from the company told local English language newspaper *The Daily Star* that the deal was worth 900 million dollars.

Internet



An Indian man talks on his mobile phone next to a Bharti Airtel sign in New Delhi in September 2009. Indian telecom giant Bharti Airtel is set to buy a 70-percent stake in Bangladesh's fourth largest mobile phone operator Warid from its Abu Dhabi-based owners, regulators said on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Russia's industrial output rises 1.5 percent in November

MOSCOW, 16 Dec—Russia's industrial output in November increased for the first time since October 2008 at an annual rate of 1.5 percent, the Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat) said on Tuesday.

Industrial output also rose compared to October, by 2 percent, Rosstat said.

The November result beat analysts' prediction that industrial production would fall 2.5 percent from the same month last year, the *Interfax* news

agency reported. Rosstat said agriculture, which gained year-on-year 4.9 percent in November, drove the growth. But the sector slipped 1.8 percent in the first 11 months of this year.

Xinhua

Four bodies found in Mexican border city

TIJUANA, 16 Dec—Authorities found the decapitated bodies of four men on Tuesday in the border city of Tijuana, while a grenade attack on a police station in western Mexico wounded a pregnant woman and her 3-year-old daughter.

Three of the decapitated bodies in Tijuana were inside a house, the Baja California state prosecutor's office said in a statement.

An hour later, police found a fourth decapitated body inside a pickup truck.

The office said the heads were left near the bodies along with messages. It didn't say what the notes said.

Tijuana, which is across the border from San Diego, California, has been wracked by an upsurge in drug cartel violence in recent years.

Prosecutors say 583 people have been killed so far this year in the city.—*Internet*



The screen of a computer showing a choice of Web Browsers can be seen during a press conference at the Residence Palace in Brussels, on Wednesday 16 Dec. 2009. Opera Software announced this Wednesday that Web users are the winners upon the completion of the European Commission's investigation into Microsoft's browser-bundling practices. Microsoft will now offer users of Windows XP, Windows Vista and Windows 7 a screen presenting a choice of Web browsers.

INTERNET

Four family members found dead in upscale Calif home

SAN CLEMENTE, 16 Dec—A Houston-area attorney involved in a bitter custody dispute was found fatally shot along with her two young daughters and mother in an apparent murder-suicide after she was ordered to bring the children to a court hearing, authorities said on Tuesday.

Investigators found 38-year-old Elizabeth Fontaine's body next to those of her mother, 67-year-old Bonnie Hoult, and two children on Monday at an upscale Orange County home. Forensic tests will be needed to determine who pulled the trigger because a handgun was found between the two women, sheriff's spokesman Jim Amorino said. He said investigators spoke to the father, Jason Fontaine, and do not consider him a suspect. The father, who divorced the children's mother, was not at the home, authorities said. A message from *The Associated Press* was left with his attorney.—*Internet*

Ancient wall paintings return to Egypt from France

CAIRO, 16 Dec—An Egyptian airport official says the wall paintings that caused a feud between Egypt and the Louvre Museum have returned home.

Ahmed al-Rawi of the Customs authority said that the ancient artwork arrived to Cairo on a flight from Paris on Tuesday

evening and were handed over to Egyptian antiquities authorities.

Egypt's antiquities chief Zahi Hawass cut ties with the Louvre in October, saying the museum had refused to return the fragments, which he said had been illegally chipped from a 3,200-year-old tomb's walls.

French officials quickly agreed to hand over the fragments following a recommendation by scientific experts.

During a visit to his French counterpart Nicolas Sarkozy this week, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak inspected the pieces before they were handed back.—*Internet*

Quake shakes central Italy; no injuries reported

ROME, 16 Dec—Authorities say a magnitude 4.2 earthquake has shaken the Italian region of Umbria but caused no injuries.

Towns in the Province of Perugia reported buildings lightly damaged by the temblor, monitored by Italy's national institute of geophysics.

Italy's Agriculture Minister said on Tuesday 600 people were evacuated until their homes can be inspected. Mayors of several hamlets ordered schools closed on Wednesday for inspections.

Video of the city of Perugia showed bricks in the street and some dam-

age to walls. The American student Amanda Knox, convicted this month of murdering her British roommate, is in Capanne prison outside Perugia. In April, a quake hit the Abruzzo region in central Italy, killing about 300 and leaving tens of thousands of homeless.

Internet



A jazz musician playing the saxophone. US jazz saxophonist and composer Larry Ochs says he has "seen it all" after a spectator disrupted a concert in Spain by accusing him of not playing jazz — and was backed by a policeman on duty.

US jazz musician hits wrong note in Spain

US jazz saxophonist and composer Larry Ochs says he has "seen it all" after a spectator disrupted a concert in Spain by accusing him of not playing jazz — and was backed by a policeman on duty.

The 60-year-old was performing with his band "Larry Ochs & Drimming Core" in the central town of Sigüenza on Monday when the spectator got up and said they were performing "contemporary music" and not jazz, daily newspaper *El Pais* reported.

A policeman at the scene joined in the ensuing debate and concluded Ochs' performance "was not jazz," it added.

NEWS ALBUM

Stolen Seattle totem pole found near Salem, Ore

Police say an 18-foot-tall totem pole stolen from a West Seattle park has been found about 200 miles away in Oregon.

The *Seattle Times* reports a 69-year-old West Seattle man led investigators to the pole. Police say he apparently had a crew with a crane help move the totem, but it's unclear if the crew knew the man didn't have permission to take the landmark.

The totem pole was noticed missing last week. The Rotary Club of West Seattle donated the pole to the city in 1976 and estimates it would have cost



This image provided by the Seattle Police Department shows the stolen West Seattle totem pole after being recovered. Police say the 18-foot-tall totem pole stolen from a West Seattle park was found about 200 miles away in Oregon. The totem pole was noticed missing last week. The Rotary Club of West Seattle donated the pole to the city in 1976 and estimates it would have cost about \$75,000 to replace.

about \$75,000 to replace.

At the request of Seattle investigators, authorities in Oregon went to an address provided by the 69-year-old man and found the pole on a boat trailer in a Salem-area parking lot.

Seattle police spokesman Mark Jamieson says the pole appears to be undamaged, and detectives are putting together a case to send to the prosecutor's office.

Fla woman accused of hitting man with raw steak

A 53-year-old was arrested after allegedly hitting a man in the head with a raw steak. According to a Marion County Sheriff's Office report, the man told deputies Elsie Egan repeatedly hit him with the uncooked meat and slapped his face after he refused a piece of sliced bread. The man said he wanted a bread roll.

Egan denied hitting the man with the steak but did admit to slapping him, saying she did it "so that he could learn."

The man told deputies that Egan was his live-in girlfriend. He declined medical assistance. Egan was charged with abuse of a disabled adult. According to online records, she has been released on \$2,500 bond and is scheduled to appear in court in January. It's unclear if she has an attorney.

Woman allegedly pours grits on sleeping boyfriend

A 44-year-old woman was booked with second-degree battery after allegedly pouring a pot of boiling grits onto her sleeping boyfriend. St. Charles Parish sheriff's deputies said Carolyn Brown caused second-degree burns on the man's face and arms. The man told deputies that he came home from work on 7 Nov, got into an argument with Brown, told her that he was breaking up with her, then went to bed.

The *Times-Picayune* on reported Brown was arrested Wednesday and booked into the Nelson Coleman Correctional Facility.

It wasn't immediately clear if Brown has an attorney.



Models made of ice of the Brandenburg Gate and dinosaurs, are displayed at an ice sculpture exhibition by Chinese artisans in Berlin. The ice sculpture exhibition will be open to the public from 27 November, 2009 to 22 February, 2010.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV RATHA BHUM VOYNO (504)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV RATHA BHUM VOYNO (504) are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 17.12.2009 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 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 Claim Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA TEGAP VOYNO (485)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOYNO (485) are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 17.12.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 Claim Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**One killed, four injured
in pharmaceutical plant blast**

HEFEI, 16 Dec—At least one person was killed and four were injured after a blast hit a pharmaceutical plant in Anhui Province on Tuesday, the local government said. An oven in a workshop of the Renji Pharmaceutical Plant Co Ltd in Taihe County of Fuyang City exploded at about 5 pm, smashing window glasses.

One worker died in hospital after emergency treatment and four suffered injuries, including one serious, said the county government.

The company is based in an economic development zone adjacent to the No 105 national highway. Police have cordoned off part of the factory area.

The state-owned company, established in 1991, has 180 million yuan (26.4 million US dollars) in registered total assets and more than 600 employees, according to information on the websites.—Xinhua

Boeing's Dreamliner makes maiden flight

EVERETT, 16 Dec—Boeing's new 787 Dreamliner jet took to the skies for the first time on Tuesday, a relief to the US aerospace giant that pins high hope on the new model in its competition with European rival Airbus.

The Dreamliner took off at around 10:30 am local time (1830 GMT) at Paine Field near Boeing's

plant in the western state of Washington, witnessed by some 25,000 people, including Boeing employees, executives of airlines, journalists and members of the public.

The test flight will last about four hours and see the aircraft landing at Seattle's Boeing Field. It is the beginning of a series of necessary tests for the new passenger jet to

obtain certification from the Federal Aviation Administration.

Boeing plans to deliver the first Dreamliner, which features wide use of lightweight new materials and hence more energy efficient, to Japan's All Nippon Airways in late 2010, more than two years behind the schedule.

Xinhua



Boeing employees crowd the tarmac as the company's 787 Dreamliner taxis down the runway before its maiden flight at Paine Field, on 15 Dec, 2009. —XINHUA



Containers are seen at a port of Fuzhou, capital of southeast China's Fujian Province, on 15 Dec, 2009. The throughput of containers in ports of Fujian Province reached 280 million tons from Jan to Nov 2009, with a year-to-year growth of 13%. —XINHUA

Death toll from A/H1N1 flu reaches 64 in Egypt

CAIRO, 16 Dec—Egypt on Tuesday reported three more death cases of A/H1N1 flu, bringing the nationwide death toll to 64, said the Health Ministry in a statement.

A 26-year-old woman died of A/H1N1 virus in Cairo, said Health Ministry spokesman Abdel Rahman Shahine, adding that the woman suffered from severe dyspnea.

Shahine said that another two-year-old child

died of A/H1N1 virus in Assuit, 330 km south of Cairo, adding that he suffered from asthma, pneumonia and dyspnea.

The third case was a 14-year-old handicapped boy in Cairo, said the spokesman, adding that he suffered from fever, pneumonia. Up till now, Egypt has reported more than 4,792 cases of the novel flu in the most populous Arab country, according to the Health Ministry.

Egypt confirmed its first influenza A/H1N1 death case on 19 July. A 28-year-old Egyptian woman, who was back from Saudi Arabia after making Umrah (pilgrimage to Mecca at any time of the year), died of the flu virus.

Egypt reported its first A/H1N1 flu case on 2 June, a 12-year-old Egyptian-American girl coming from the United States via the Netherlands.

Xinhua

Gazprom, PGNiG discuss gas through 2037

MOSCOW, 16 Dec—Russian gas giant Gazprom discussed with its partners at Polish energy company PGNiG increased gas supplies through 2037, executives said in Moscow. Alexander Medvedev, deputy chief at the Russian gas monopoly, welcomed Polish ministers and executives from Poland's state-run oil and gas company PGNiG to discuss natural gas agreements.

Both parties discussed further coordination on a series of protocols on Russian gas supply and transits to Poland signed in 1993. "The said documents outline the framework provisions for entering into contracts on the corporate level," said Medvedev. "We expect them to be endorsed by the governments of both countries any time now." Poland is able to meet 30 percent of its annual gas consumption through domestic reserves. Gazprom in 2008 agreed to deliver nearly 290 billion cubic feet of gas per year.—Internet

EU, Latin American countries end long-running dispute on bananas

GENEVA, 16 Dec—The European Union and Latin American countries on Tuesday reached an agreement to end a 16-year dispute over EU banana imports, which is seen as a boost for the long-stalled Doha Round of global trade negotiations. Under the deal, which was struck by EU and Latin American ambassadors at the WTO headquarters in Geneva, the EU will cut its import tariff on bananas from Latin America from 176 euros per tonne to 114 euros by 2017, according to a EU statement.

In return, Latin American countries will not demand further tariff cuts, and they will also drop several legal cases pending against the EU at the WTO, some of which date back as far as 1993. In a related development, the United States, which had joined Latin American countries in opposing the EU banana import regime, also agreed on Tuesday to settle its related WTO dispute with the EU.

Xinhua



Latin American nations and the European Union on Tuesday struck a historic deal aimed at ending a long-running dispute over banana tariffs, giving a potential boost to global trade talks. XINHUA

H1N1 infants vaccine recalled

ATLANTA, 16 Dec — About 800,000 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine for infants made by Sanofi-Aventis are being recalled, US health officials said on Tuesday.

The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said the shots from the French drug maker may have been slightly under-strength. Most of them are

presumed to have been administered already and parents are not being urged to contact their doctors, *The New York Times* reported.

“We think children who got the vaccine are fully protected, assuming they got the two shots we recommend for that age,” said Dr Anne Schuchat, director of the National Centre for Immunization

and Respiratory Diseases.

The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said the thimerosal-free vaccine, meant for children 6-to-36 months old, was fully potent when released but had dropped 12 percent during follow-up testing, the *Times* reported.

The recall of the prefilled syringes, which were released a month ago, is voluntary. Doctors are being told to return any supplies they have left.—*Internet*

Neuron grafts help rats regain lost memory

BANGALORE, 16 Dec — Scientists in India say an injection of nerve cells into damaged areas of the brains of rats restores the animals' spatial memory and their ability to learn.

Scientists at India's National Institute for Mental Health and Neuro Sciences and the National Centre for Biological Sciences injected a chemical into 48 adult rats that destroyed neurons in the hippocampus, a structure in the brain characterized by the scientists as the seat of learning and memory.

The researchers said they then transplanted hippocampal cells from newborn mice into the hippocampi of half the brain-damaged rats. After two months, the scientists measured the learning and memory of the rats by their performance in two common maze tests. Results showed rats given the transplanted cells fully recovered their capacity to learn and remember. In contrast, the brain-damaged rats not given the transplanted cells failed to recover, and had many problems learning how to navigate the maze.

The scientists said the transplanted cells led to the secretion of growth factors that promoted development of neurons and other cells that give rise to neurons.

The findings appear in the journal *Behavioral Neuroscience*.—*Internet*

Statins tested to treat H1N1 lung distress

SAN ANTONIO, 16 Dec — Researchers at the University of Texas Health Science Centre at San Antonio are studying treating H1N1 caused acute respiratory distress syndrome with statins.

“We are studying patients with H1N1 who are in their 20s and 30s and become severely sick, even to the point of having lungs that are white with inflammation,” lead investigator Dr Antonio Anzueto, a pulmonologist and professor in the Health Science Centre School of Medicine, said in a statement. “Susceptible individuals include women in the last trimester of pregnancy, and men and women with

underlying conditions such as asthma, obesity, diabetes and heart disease.”

Statin drugs are approved for lowering cholesterol for heart disease but are not currently used for acute respiratory distress syndrome.—*Internet*

Americans have more access to cancer drugs

BALTIMORE, 16 Dec — US cancer patients with insurance have access to more drugs than do British patients, but pay out of pocket for some that Brits get free, researcher say.

Study leader Ruth R. Faden, director of The Johns Hopkins Berman Institute for Bioethics in Baltimore, and colleagues compared the costs of 11 high-priced cancer drugs in Britain and America. Seven of the medications are free to all British patients, who pay no out-of-pocket costs.

The other four are not covered in the British National Health Service system because policy-makers have determined the costs are not worth the limited benefits they provide. British patients can pay for these drugs themselves.

Most US patients who have health

insurance have some coverage for all 11 drugs, but the out-of-pocket costs for people on US Medicare range from \$1,200 to \$24,000, and because many cancer patients on Medicare are on more than one drug, their out-of-pocket costs are often much higher, the study said.

Patients with no insurance or limited insurance may have no access to the drugs because the costs exceed \$100,000 annually in some cases, the study said.

For many, certain drugs will only extend life for a few weeks or months, and that time can be marked by severe side effects from the drugs themselves, but choosing which path to pursue at the end of life is an agonizing decision, Faden noted in an article for the December issue of *Milbank Quarterly*.

Internet



A group of swans swim in the Yellow River Marsh near Pinglu county of north China's Shanxi Province on 14 Dec, 2009. Numerous birds of passage overwinter here as the marsh environment has been greatly improved in recent years.—XINHUA



Residents save their belongings as fire razes through food stalls and houses at a slum in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 16 Dec, 2009. The cause of the fire was not immediately known. There were no reports of casualties.—INTERNET

Hormone leptin tied to lower Alzheimer's

BOSTON, 16 Dec — High levels of the hormone leptin have been linked to lower rates of Alzheimer's disease, researchers in Boston have discovered.

The researchers at Boston University say—if confirmed, their findings, which appear in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, could prove important in the hunt for effective prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's, WebMD reported on Tuesday.

Leptin, which is produced by fat cells, is considered critical for regulating hunger and weight. The body of evidence is growing that it also plays a role in brain development and memory.

Research shows leptin reduces concentrations of B-amyloid, the major component of the deposits, or plaques, that occur in the brains of people with Alzheimer's.

The latest study of 785 elderly people found that after 12 years of follow-up, those with the lowest leptin levels were roughly four times more likely than those with the highest levels to develop Alzheimer's disease.

Internet



A tourist boat sails on the Argentino lake past a block of ice that fell from Argentina's Perito Moreno glacier near the city of El Calafate, in the Patagonian Province of Santa Cruz, on 15 December, 2009. Scientists warn that glaciers in the Andes are melting because of the effects of climate change.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Hargreaves still has World Cup shot - Capello



Manchester United midfielder Owen Hargreaves

LONDON, 16 Dec—England manager Fabio Capello is adamant there is still enough time for Manchester United mid-fielder Owen Hargreaves to earn a place in next year's squad for the World Cup in South Africa.

The 28-year-old Hargreaves, who unusually for an England player is at

home with the role of a defensive midfielder, has been out of action for nearly 15 months after undergoing surgery on both knees to cure a tendinitis problem. But the former Bayern Munich player is on the brink of returning to full training and Capello, asked about Hargreaves's possible inclusion in his 23-man World Cup squad, said Tuesday: "Why not? He can because he has time to recover everything. He has to play. Players who do not play will not be with me."

The Italian, speaking at the unveiling of north London club Barnet's new training facilities, added: "I spoke to him two months ago, I met him in Manchester and he was just ready to start training. But now he is not fit.—Internet

Five-star Birmingham keep on climbing

BIRMINGHAM, 16 Dec—A Cameron Jerome double gave Birmingham a 2-1 win over Blackburn as Alec McLeish's side claimed a fifth consecutive win in the Premier League for the first time in the club's history on Tuesday.

Ryan Nelsen ensured a nervy finish for Birmingham but McLeish's men held out for three points that lifted them to sixth place in the table. Blackburn boss Sam Allardyce restored Jason Roberts and Nikola Kalinic to his side at the expense of fellow strikers Franco Di Santo and Benni McCarthy, while El-Hadji Diouf and Morten Gamst Pedersen replaced the injured Vince Grella and David Hoilett.

McLeish kept faith with the side that had beaten West Ham at the weekend, which meant former Scotland captain Barry Ferguson lining up against the club where he suffered a serious knee injury during a previous spell in the English top flight.—Internet



Birmingham City's Cameron Jerome (R) celebrates scoring his second goal with Birmingham City's Barry Ferguson against Blackburn Rovers during a Premier League match at St Andrews in Birmingham. Birmingham won 2-1.—INTERNET

Hefford leads Canada to exhibition win over US

CALGARY, 16 Dec—Jayna Hefford had two goals to help the Canadian women's team beat the United States 6-2 in an exhibition game on Tuesday night.

Caroline Ouellette had a goal and three assists and Meghan Agosta finished with two assists for Canada. Shannon Szabados had 20 saves.

Meghan Duggan and Monique Lamoureux scored for the US, which fell to 0-4 against Canada in a six-game exhibition series between the countries leading up to the Vancouver Olympics. Molly Schaus stopped 24 shots in the loss.

The series concludes with games 30 Dec in St Paul, Minn, and 1 Jan in Ottawa. Lamoureux's power-play tally at 4:44 in the second gave the US a 2-1 lead but that was it for the Americans.

Hefford scored both of her goals to give Canada the lead and Marie-Philip Poulin converted a power-play opportunity late in the second to make it 4-2. Gina Kingsbury and Cherie Piper tacked on goals in the third.—Internet



Manchester United's Michael Owen (2nd L) shields the ball from Wolverhampton Wanderers' Michael Mancienne (2nd R) during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England, on 15 Dec, 2009. Manchester won 3-0.—XINHUA

McCarthy defiant as weakened Wolves lose to United

MANCHESTER, 16 Dec—Wolves manager Mick McCarthy insisted he had no regrets about changing his entire outfield line-up for the 3-0 Premier League loss away to Manchester United here at Old Trafford.

Wolves supporters vented their fury at their manager who changed every player, with the exception of American goalkeeper Marcus Hahnemann, from the side that won impressively at Tottenham at the weekend.

They chanted: "What a waste of money, Where is our first team" and "Forty quid to watch the reserves" as Wolves were easily beaten on Tuesday.

But McCarthy, whose relegation-threatened team have a far more 'winnable' game against Burnley on Sunday, insisted he was obliged to make changes.

"I played the best team available to me tonight; the fittest, best and strongest team I could pick, that hadn't played on Saturday," he said. "That was my best team available because they were all fresh legs.

"I can understand the fans but that is my first team. I've got 21 players to pick from and they are all first team players, they are my first team squad.

"I would hope they understand that because my decisions will be judged on whether we stay in the Premier League.

Internet

Corinthians begin to sell Roberto Carlos jersey

RIO DE JANEIRO, 16 Dec—The Corinthians soccer club began to sell Roberto Carlos' jersey on Tuesday when the left back has signed a two year contract with the Brazilian club.

The star defender, who will be wearing number six, has not yet been officially presented to the media and fans, but the club wasted no time in taking advantage of the holidays to sell merchandise.

The jersey is being sold for roughly 80 US dollars.

Carlos is expected to have an official welcome ceremony on 4 January.

Xinhua

Miller at the double as Rangers go top

DUNDEE, 16 Dec—Kenny Miller struck twice as Rangers returned to the top of the Scottish Premier League with a 3-0 win over Dundee United in a rearranged game at Tannadice on Tuesday.

A sublime strike from DaMarcus Beasley was enough to separate the sides at half-time before Miller scored a second-half double to send Rangers one point clear of rivals Celtic in the race for the championship.

The Old Firm side will feel justice has been served after the original fixture between the pair on 1 November was abandoned at half-time due to a water-logged pitch with Rangers leading 1-0.

"It was one of those days with too many players underperforming and not getting a foothold in the game," Dundee United manager Craig Levein said.

"In my eyes we just didn't perform anywhere the level we can do and this was a wake-up call."

Walter Smith was de-



Kenny Miller

lighted with the win at a venue Rangers have struggled at in recent years.

"It has been a difficult place for us over the last few seasons and tonight I felt we played extremely well and thoroughly deserved the win," the Rangers manager said.

"Dundee United were taking a lot of confidence from the run that they've had and I felt we needed a performance like that tonight."

After a cagey opening ten minutes the first chance of the game fell to Rangers with Nicky Weaver producing a super one-handed save to keep out Beasley's snap shot from 25 yards.

Internet

Klitschko reaches agreement to fight Haye

KIEV, 16 Dec—WBC heavyweight champion Vitali Klitschko has reached a preliminary agreement to fight Britain's WBA champion David Haye, the Ukrainian was quoted as saying on Tuesday.

Klitschko easily retained his WBC world heavyweight title on Saturday, winning a unanimous points decision against American challenger Kevin Johnson.



WBC heavyweight champion boxer Vitali Klitschko of Ukraine reacts after winning against contender Kevin Johnson of the US after their 12-round WBC heavyweight title fight in Bern on 12 Dec, 2009.—INTERNET

Haye won the WBA belt from Russian Nikolai Valuev in November and must next fight the WBA's mandatory challenger John Ruiz before any fight with Klitschko. Media reports said the Ruiz fight could be in March or April.

"In the near future I plan to fight Haye and take the title," Ukrainian daily Fakty quoted Klitschko as saying.

"The preliminary agreement has already been reached."

Haye said last month he was hoping for a "mega-showdown" with the Ukrainian.

Former WBA champion Valuev said he was also looking to fight Klitschko.

Internet

Microsoft browser pledge ends EU dispute

BRUSSELS, 16 Dec— EU regulators accepted a pledge by Microsoft to allow rival Internet browsers on its systems, ending a long antitrust dispute with the US software maker.

Competition Commissioner Neelie Kroes said millions of European consumers would benefit by being able to choose their browser and the decision would encourage web companies to innovate.

Microsoft will allow users to select from among 12 browsers including its own Internet Explorer, Mozilla's Firefox, Apple's Safari and Google's Chrome on more than 100 million PCs from mid-March.

The decision averted another penalty for Microsoft which has been fined 1.68 billion euros (\$2.44 billion) by the European Commission for previous infringements of anti-competition rules.

The European Union executive said Microsoft's legally binding pledge addressed its concerns that the company may have breached EU antitrust rules by bundling its Internet Explorer web browser with its dominant Windows operating system.

Microsoft will also give computer makers the option to turn off Internet Explorer or install a rival browser, the Commission said.—*Internet*



Workers paint the exterior of an unfinished supermarket building in Nanjing, Jiangsu province on 14 December 2009.

INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (17-12-2009) (Thursday)

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

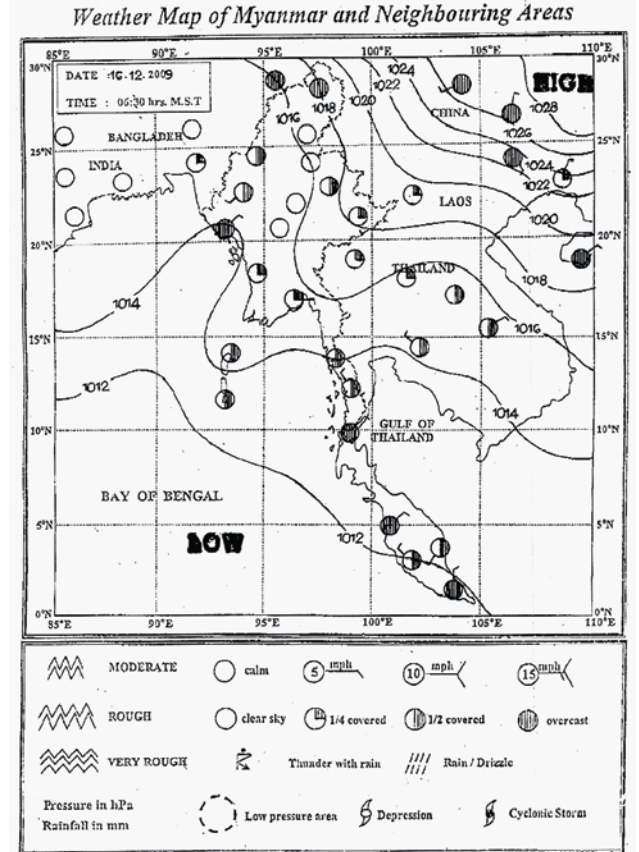
Local Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Travelogue "Hpa-an"
- * Lumber Buffaloes
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Across The Sea"
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Scuba Diving Adventurer
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Travelogue "Hpa-an"
- * Lumber Buffaloes
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Across The Sea"
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Scuba Diving Adventure
- * Poem Garden "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"
- * Floating Village Mingalar Garden Resort
- * Myanmar Orchestra, A Blend of Arts!
- * Nandawun (Book Shop)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm



WEATHER

Wednesday, 16th December, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, isolated light rain has been in Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (6°C) below December average temperatures in Northern Shan State, (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Kachin, Mon States and Taninthayi Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (0°C), Pinlaung (2°C), Lashio (3°C), Namsam, Heho and Haka (4°C) each and Mogok (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 15-12-2009 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 16-12-2009 was 58°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 16-12-2009 was 72%. Total sun shine hours on 16-12-2009 was (9.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 16-12-2009 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 South at (16:30) hours MST on 15-12-2009.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs M.S.T today, the tropical depression over the Southwest Bay is almost stationary and is centered at about (80) miles East-Southeast of Nagapattinam, India. It is forecast to move Northwest wards slow. Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 17th December 2009: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. 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 slight decrease of night temperatures in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 17-12-2009: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-12-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-12-2009: Fair weather.

Myanmar



Thursday, 17 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

(စောမင်းနောင်၊စိုင်းညိုမင်း၊ တေးရေး-ဗိုလ်ကလေး တင့်အောင်)

7:50 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am

6. Dance of Variety

8:20 am

8. "အဆုံးအဖြတ်"

8:40 am

9. International News

8:45 am

10. Musical Programme

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:10 pm

2. Songs of National Races

4:20 pm

3. "နမ္မတီးတံတား (ကံလှ)"

4:30 pm

4. Cute Little Dancers

4:40 pm

5. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား

ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ

4:50 pm

6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:00 pm

7. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာ ရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ်(ရှုပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရှုပဗေဒ)

5:10 pm

8. Songs For Uphold National Spirit

5:20 pm

9. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

5:30 pm

10. Musical Programme

5:45 pm

11. မြန်မာ့အလှူဖြာဝေ ကိုကိုးကျွန်းရေမြေ

6:00 pm

12. Evening News

6:15 pm

13. Weather Report

6:20 pm

14. ပျော်ရွှင်စေသောနေ့ရက်များ

"ကျွန်ုပ်နှင့်ရေအေးအေး နှစ်ခွက်"

(မိုးမိုးသူရလင်း၊စာကလေး၊ သင်္ဃာရေးဆရာကြီး)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်ကျော်သူရ)

6:35 pm

15. ထူးဆန်းထွေလာများကို သိပ္ပံဖြင့်ချဉ်းကပ်ခြင်း

7:00 pm

16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာလောင်းရိပ်" (အပိုင်း- ၂၁)

8:00 pm

17. News

18. International News

19. Weather Report

20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာလမ်းဆုံ" (အပိုင်း- ၈၃)ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း

21. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ ချစ်တေးသံသာ" (အပိုင်း-၄)

- ★ 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

Scientists decode memory-forming brain cell conversations

LONDON, 16 Dec—The conversations neurons have as they form and recall memories have been decoded by Medical College of Georgia

scientists. The breakthrough in recognizing in real time the formation and recollection of a memory opens the door to objective, thorough memory

studies and eventually better therapies, said Dr. Joe Tsien, neuroscientist and co-director of MCG's Brain & Behavior Discovery Institute. He is corresponding author on the study published on 16 Dec, in *PLoS ONE*.

"It's a beginning, a first glimpse of a memory," Dr. Tsien said. "For the first time it gives us the ability to look at the brain dynamic and tell what kind of memory is formed, what are the components of the memory and how the memory is retrieved at the network level." The finding could

help pinpoint at what stage memory formation is flawed and whether drugs are improving it.

For their studies, MCG scientists combined new technology and computational methods with century-old Pavlovian conditioning.

In the memory center of the brain, they used 128 electrodes capable of monitoring a handful of neurons each to simultaneously record the conversations of 200 to 300 neurons as mice learned to associate a certain tone with a mild foot shock 20 seconds later.

Internet



Artist's rendering of neurons.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi pays respects to elderly NLD leaders

YANGON, 16 Dec—In accordance with the request she made to the Head of State, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met elderly leaders of the National League for Democracy — Chairman U Aung Shwe, Secretary U Lwin and CEC Member U Lun Tin — from 11 am to 11.45 am at Seinle Kantha Guesthouse here today and paid respects to them.—MNA

Storm News

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Dec—According to the observations at 5.30 pm MST today, the tropical storm over southwest Bay of Bengal became to abate and turned into low pressure area.

MNA

INSIDE

Build new motor roads and railroads to realize lofty aims of the State

As a result, the total length of all the roads in the nation is now over 41,700 miles, compared with only over 21,000 miles in 1988. Moreover, the government has built more than 39,400 miles of rural roads designed for rural development. To complete those roads and railroads, it had to build 232 over-180-foot motorway bridges, and 55 railroad bridges.

PAGES 8+9

KYAW YE MIN

Significant night temperatures

(16-12-2009)

Loilem	(0°C)
Pinlaung	(2°C)
Lashio	(3°C)
Namhsan, Heho and Haka	(4°C)
Mogok	(5°C)