



The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Strength, improvement of capabilities, modernization of Myanmar Tatmadaw rely on patriotism, abilities, diligence of new generation technicians

Collaboration of three main factors, namely, the State, the People and the Tatmadaw, can overcome all obstacles and achieve the destiny

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec—The following is a translation of the full text of speech delivered by Senior General Than Shwe, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, at the Graduation Parade of the 12th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy today:

Today is the Graduation Day of 12th Intake of Defence Services

Technological Academy that will reinforce the engineering sector of our

Tatmadaw. I would like to address you who are going to be commis-

sioned as young engineering officers in the Tatmadaw.

At one time, our country lost her sovereignty and was colonized over one hundred years as we lacked a modern Tatmadaw. In fact, our country had been familiar with modern industrial technologies since the late Kongbaung Era. At that time, we were able to forge favourable conditions to build a modern Tatmadaw. These plans, however, did not bear fruits due to various circumstances and the country later suffered under colonialism. Despite the fact that our national brethren sustained strong morale, they had to take a step back because of the wide gap in the levels of armaments and technology. Having learnt lessons from such bitter historical experiences, we are now striving to build a strong, efficient, modern and patriotic Tatmadaw. Our Tatmadaw is fully imbued with the patriotic spirit. Technicians and intellectuals, like you, must contribute your efforts towards building a stronger, abler and more modern Tatmadaw, bearing in mind the motto: "Engineering prowess for Military Might". The meaning of strength embraces both physical and mental strengths. The role of the

engineering technicians is pivotal to reinforce physical strengths including ammunition, artillery, machinery and other military equipments. I would therefore like to urge you to pursue your studies on ever-changing military science without being limited to your knowledge on what you attained from the Institute. As physical strength progresses, mental strength, confidence and courage will improve accordingly. It is the human nature. In this connection, you must bear in mind that you would serve as the vital human resources in building a strong Tatmadaw.

(See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe addresses Graduation Parade of 12th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy.—MNA



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

Friday, 18 December, 2009

Yeywa Hydropower Project to be completed on schedule

Electric power supply is an important part in projects for boosting economic growth and productivity, and improving the social sector in a nation. Myanmar has been implementing hydropower projects to boost production of electric power, making effective use of natural water sources such as rivers and creeks.

In particular, the government constructs hydropower stations across the regions with abundant water resources such as large basins of the Ayeyawady, Chindwin, Sittoung, and Thanlwin rivers, and small basins in other regions. Ongoing hydropower projects include Yeywa, Kunchaung, Pyuchaung, Khabaung, Yenwe, Shwegyin, Shweli, and Kengtaung.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe toured Yeywa Hydropower Project on the Myitnge River in Mandalay Division on 15 December, and inspected the storage of water, progress in building hydropower stations, sub-power stations and intake structure, and progress in installing the sluice gate.

After inspecting the whole Yeywa Hydropower Project, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying that the installation of generators in the project was in the final stage, so responsible persons were urged to try to complete all stages on schedule meeting the standards, and to maintain the newly-constructed hydropower stations for their durability.

On completion, Yeywa Hydropower Dam will be of reinforced concrete type with 2264 feet in length and 433 feet in height, and will be able to generate hydropower. So, it will be one of the giant hydropower stations in the nation. Now, four 197.5-megawatt turbines are being installed in the project. Turbine No (1) will start to generate hydropower very soon.

So far, construction of the main dam, intake structure, and spillway has been completed cent per cent. And the sluice gates of the diversion tunnels have been closed to store water. Those responsible should, therefore, continue to work diligently for ensuring all stages of the project completed on schedule according to set standards and boosting generation of hydropower in order to improve the socio-economic life of the people.

8th Myanmar ICT Week Exhibition on 26-30 Dec

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec—Organized by Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and participated by more than 50 companies from home and abroad, the 8th Myanmar ICT Week Exhibition will be held at Yadanarpon Cyber Hall of Yadanarpon

Teleport at Pyin-Oo-Lwin, Mandalay Division from 26 to 30 December.

As an ICT knowledge programme, IT experts will give talks at ICT seminar and workshop. The exhibition also includes CEO interview and ICT Gadget Show.

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

Building handed over to Thingangyun Tsp BEMS-1

YANGON, 16 Dec—The two-storey building built with the donations by Singaporean Red Cross Society and Man Fut Tong social organization was handed over to No (1) Basic Education Middle School in Ngamoeyek Ward, Thingangyun Township, Yangon East District, this morning. The ceremony was attended by Lt-Gen

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec—The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Col Aye Ko of the Ministry of Defence as Director-General of the Cooperative Department under the Ministry of Cooperatives on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.—MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects new school building of BEMS-1 of Thingangyun Township.—MNA

Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, the director-general of No (3) Basic Education Department, the president of the Singaporean Red Cross Society, the chairman of Man Fut Tong social organization and officials formally opened the facility. Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence sprinkled scented water on it.

The commander and the mayor addressed the ceremony to hand over the new building.

The president of the Singaporean Red Cross Society and the chairman of Man Fut Tong social organization handed over the related documents to the director-general.

The president of the Singaporean Red Cross Society explained the purpose of the donation, and together with the chairman of Man Fut Tong social organization, he donated desks and benches to the school through the headmistress.

A student's parent expressed thanks for the donation.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected the building, and classrooms. The commander, the mayor and well-wishers also donated stationery to the students.—MNA

Agreement to care HIV patients for five more years inked

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Dec—The signing ceremony for extensive five years project to care HIV positive patients with the sponsorship of Moattama Gas Transportation Company-MGTC of Myanma Offshore Yadana Project was held at Royal Kumudra Hotel here yesterday afternoon.

Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay extended greetings at the ceremony. Then, Operator in-charge of MGTC General Manager of Total Exploration and Production Myanmar (TEPM) Mr Nicolas Terraz and in-charge of The International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union)



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay extends greeting at signing ceremony for extensive five-year project to care HIV positive patients.—MNA

Dr Philippe Clevenbergh signed the agreement.

The ceremony was attended by officials from the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Health, responsible persons from MGTC group, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, Total Exploration and

Production Myanmar, PTTEP Company UNOCAL Company and The International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union).

The care service was launched since 2004 in cooperation with Health Department and The

Union. In the first five-year project till 2009, total amount of fund used was USD 2.2 million. It was agreed to supply USD 4.4 million to HIV affected patients in coming extensive five years from 2010 to 2014.

MNA

Small island states call for internationally binding outcomes to counter climate change

COPENHAGEN, 17 Dec — Small island states have urged internationally and legally binding outcomes that would commit all UN Climate Change Conference participants to action. “Our job here today is to ensure that the two tracks which we embarked upon in Bali — one under the Kyoto Protocol and the other under the Convention (United

Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) — are each brought to its separate but complementary conclusion,” Prime Minister of Grenada Tillman Thomas said on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States at the high-level segment of the conference here on Wednesday.

Millions of people should have the assurance that their homes, their livelihoods, their communities and their countries will not be swept away in the king wave of climate change,

Thomas said.

He stressed that all developed and developing countries should take strong measures to achieve emissions reduction goals in accord with the principle of common but differentiated responsibility.

Long-term temperature increases should be restricted to well below 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and emission reductions should be in excess of 45 percent compared to 1990 levels by 2020, Thomas added.

Xinhua

About 20% Americans without health care insurance since January 2008

WASHINGTON, 17 Dec — About 60 million Americans, or nearly 20 percent of the total population, went without health insurance at some point since January 2008, said a report released on Wednesday.

According to the report by the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, about 58.4 million Americans lacked coverage at some point since January 2008, and 31.9 million did not have insurance for more than a year, two-thirds of whom were unemployed working-age adults.

The report also found that groups that are most likely to lack health coverage were Hispanics, men and young adults aged 18 to 24.—Xinhua



An Italian firefighter looks at damaged buildings in Spina, near Perugia, central Italy, after residents were evacuated on 16 Dec, 2009. Authorities said 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.—INTERNET

US to expand eyes in the sky over Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 17 Dec — The US military is adding more drones and expanding its video surveillance in the skies over Afghanistan to meet the needs of American forces as 30,000 more troops head into the war zone, a top Air Force general said on Wednesday.

The bolstered eyes in the sky will come from a mix of manned and unmanned aircraft and added technology that allows each MQ-9 Reaper drone to collect 10 video transmissions and beam them back to 10 different users on the ground, Air Force Lt Gen David Deptula, deputy chief of staff for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, told reporters.

Deptula's comments came as Defence Secretary Robert Gates continues to Press the Air Force to find ways to more rapidly provide better intelligence to the US and its allies in Afghanistan. The first troop units of the surge ordered by President Barack Obama have begun to arrive in Afghanistan, a Pentagon official said on Wednesday, adding to the 68,000 US forces already deployed to counter emboldened insurgents.—Internet



A man inspects a fully electronic motorcycle on display in the city center of Copenhagen on 16 Dec, 2009. The largest and most important UN climate change conference is underway in Copenhagen, aiming to secure an agreement on how to protect the world from calamitous global warming.—INTERNET

German parliament starts investigating Afghan airstrike

BERLIN, 17 Dec — German Parliament on Wednesday began to investigate the Afghan airstrike, which killed 142 people in Kunduz in early September.

The airstrike has caused a major political

fallout in Germany, which led to the resignations of former Defence Minister Franz Josef Jung and former army chief Wolfgang Schneiderhan.

The current Defence Minister Karl Theodor zu Guttenberg was also

asked to resign as “telling untruth” in this issue. The 34-member permanent defence committee from German Parliament has set up a special panel to investigate the whole airstrike and the chain of political events afterward.

The committee will request about 93 witnesses, including German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Xinhua

Bomb kills four Afghan police in western province

KABUL, 17 Dec — A roadside bomb killed four police officers in western Afghanistan and two soldiers died in separate militant attacks, the latest against the country's struggling security forces, officials said on Wednesday.

The attacks follow deadly Taleban ambushes on checkpoints in the north and south of the country on Monday that killed 16 national police — underscoring the threat faced by Afghan forces seen as pivotal to plans for an eventual withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan.—Internet

S Korea reports world's 1st Tamiflu-resistant death case

SEOUL, 17 Dec — A South Korean infant, whose body showed no response to anti-viral drug Tamiflu, died of pneumonia and respiratory failure on Thursday, the country's health authorities said, which local media say is the first such case in the world.

The one-year-old girl, who was suffering nervous-system disorders, was hospitalized for high fever and coughs last month, but her conditions continued to deteriorate despite taking Tamiflu, or double doses of it in her final days, according to Ministry of Health, Welfare and Family Affairs. Health authorities last week confirmed the virus resistant to Tamiflu was found in the infant's body.—Xinhua



The photo taken on 15 Dec, 2009 shows the vehicle flow on the West Second Loop Road in Beijing. According to Beijing Traffic Administration, the number of motor vehicles in Beijing mounted to 3.991 million up to 13 Dec, and is expected to exceed 4 million in a few days. — XINHUA



WIND Mobile cell phones are displayed at a retail store before the official launch of WIND Mobile, a new cellular service for the Canadian market, in Toronto, on 16 December, 2009. Upstart cellular phone company Globalive Wireless said on Monday it will offer its Wind Mobile cellular phone service at a number of Blockbuster Video stores in Canada. Globalive spent C\$442 million (\$415.9 million) to buy wireless spectrum in an auction held by the government last year to boost competition in the market.—XINHUA

Paraguay-Brazil energy treaty going nowhere fast

ASUNCION, 17 Dec— It's been nearly five months since the Presidents of Brazil and Paraguay agreed on a breakthrough deal to triple Paraguay's income from the world's second-largest hydroelectric dam, but the money won't be flowing anytime soon.

The treaty would increase Paraguay's income from energy generated by the Itaipu dam on the shared Parana River to \$360 million, money that Paraguay's President Fernando Lugo wants to spend on agrarian reform to benefit 300,000 landless peasant families.

It also calls for Brazil to invest in high-capacity power lines across Paraguay, creating an energy grid that could help one of South America's poorest countries reshape its agricultural economy.

The treaty, signed by

Lugo and Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva on 25 July, was quickly approved by Paraguay's Congress, but lawmakers in Brazil have yet to move the plan out of the first of four committees due to consider it — partly because what Brazil mostly gets from the deal is good relations

with its poorer neighbour. "It is controversial. It's not a simple matter, because it carries more benefits for Paraguay than Brazil," Brazilian Rep Severiano Alves, a member of the Lower House's foreign relations committee, told *The Associated Press*.—Internet



The Itaipu dam, the world's second-largest hydroelectric power producer, is seen in the Parana River along the border of Brazil, right, with Paraguay, left, on 15 Dec, 2009. The 25-year-old dam provides about 20 percent of Brazil's electricity, and was the largest producer of electricity in the world until China's Three Gorges dam recently surpassed it.—INTERNET

US trade deficit rises to 108 billion dollars in third quarter

WASHINGTON, 17 Dec—The US trade deficit rose 10.3 percent to 108 billion dollars in the third quarter, the Commerce Department reported on Wednesday.

The third-quarter figure, which rose from a downwardly revised 98 billion dollars in the second quarter, matched economists' forecasts.

The 108 billion dollar deficit equaled about 3 percent of the overall economy, up from 2.8 percent in the second quarter.

US exports and imports both rose in the quarter, a sign economists believe that the US economy was beginning to recover from the most serious recession since the Great Depression in 1930s.

Xinhua

Lee Kuan Yew suggests strategy for India to grow beyond current rate of growth

NEW DELHI, 17 Dec— Lee Kuan Yew, Minister Mentor of the Singapore, has suggested a four-pronged strategy for India to grow beyond the current 8 to 9 percent rate of economic growth, according to local media on Wednesday.

"India needs to first of all, cut down on red tapeism; second, provide greater incentives for the private sector; third, address the challenge of infrastructure shortage; and finally, liberalize foreign direct investment norms in the country," Lee said in an interview here with local media.

He said greater liberalization in Foreign Direct Investment norms would allow India to shift its people out of agriculture into the industrial sector, which is essential for poverty reduction.

On infrastructure, he said, greater connectedness among Indian cities would be essential for economic development of the country.

Xinhua

United Nations Secretary General's message on International Migration Day 18 December 2009

Migration touches upon every country, either as a place of origin, transit or destination, or as a combination of these. In 2009, an estimated 200 million people, or 3 per cent of the world's population, lived outside the country of their birth.

Migration can be a positive and empowering experience for migrants themselves, and for both the home and host societies. But for too many migrants, the reality is discrimination, exploitation and abuse. They are frequent targets of hate speech, harassment and violence. They are unfairly blamed for crime and economic difficulties, and are subjected to widespread discrimination.

The global economic and financial crisis has exacerbated the vulnerability of migrants. Many countries have tightened restrictions on migration and adopted stronger measures to combat irregular migration. Such measures can increase the risk of exploitation and abuse. They may also reinforce the impression that migrants are partly to blame for the effects of the crisis, fuelling anti-immigrant and xenophobic attitudes.

Yet, even in places where unemployment is high, there is often a demand for foreign workers in particular sectors, where they provide the skills needed to propel economic growth. Far from causing the crisis, migration is, in fact, part of the long-term solution.

At the international level, the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families is a comprehensive framework for the protection of migrants' rights. I urge all Member States who have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so.

On this tenth International Migrants Day, I encourage Governments to protect the human rights of migrants, to put human rights at the heart of migration policy, and to raise awareness of the positive contributions migrants make to the economic, social and cultural lives of their host countries.—UNIC

New York transit authority approves drastic service cuts

NEW YORK, 17 Dec— New York's Metropolitan Transportation Authority on Wednesday approved drastic service cuts as part of its new budget that must close a nearly \$400 million deficit.

The service cuts would include closing two subway lines, cutting station agents, slashing weekend and overnight service, and forcing pupils to pay for their travel to school, but MTA Chairman Jay Walder, at a webcast board meeting, promised to review the cuts over the next few weeks to see if their impact can be lessened.

"There won't be an answer that will take the pain away," Walder told reporters. "We may be

able to do it a little better."

There is still a risk that subway, bus and commuter rail fares and tolls on bridges and tunnels will have to be raised this year if revenues again fall short, Walder said. Fares and tolls are currently scheduled to rise in 2011

and 2013. The deficit-plagued MTA, the largest US mass transit agency with about 10 million daily riders, had dodged the service cuts in the spring after a state bailout, but the state rescue unexpectedly fell short, causing a late-year deficit.—Internet



A train conductor leans out his window as a subway car starts down the tracks in New York, on 25 March, 2009.—INTERNET



The photo taken on 16 Dec, 2009 shows the UAE Pavilion in the Pudong Park of Shanghai World Expo. The ceremony for celebration of completion of base building of the Pavilion of the United Arab Emirates was held in Shanghai on Wednesday. Shaping like rolling sand hills, the UAE Pavilion covers an area of 6000 square metres.—XINHUA

S Korea reports 11 deaths, 20 injuries in car accident in Gyeongju

SEOUL, 17 Dec—South Korea on Wednesday reported 14 deaths and 17 injuries in a bus crash near the nation's southern city of Gyeongju. According to police, the tourist bus, which was carrying 31 passengers, fell 20 metres off a hill at local time 05:40 pm as it was back on its way from a nearby hot spring.

As all of the victims were senior citizens, who were members of a local welfare centre, and the injuries are in serious conditions, more deaths from the crash are expected, local *Yonhap* news agency quoted the police as saying.

Xinhua

Rescue workers survey the crash site after a bus fell from a road in Gyeongju, about 370 km (230 miles) southeast of Seoul, on 16 Dec, 2009. —XINHUA



Thick fog strands 8,000 flight passengers in SW China

CHENGDU, 17 Dec—A thick fog delayed about 100 flights and left more than 8,000 passengers stranded at an airport in southwest China's Sichuan Province on Thursday.

"The heavy fog had blanketed the airport from about 5 am to 9 pm, which reduced the visibility to only 200 metres," said Lu Junming, of the Shuangliu International Airport in Chengdu, capital of Sichuan.

"We have to close the airport for more than four hours," he said. All the flights scheduled at the airport for Thursday would be delayed for at least four hours, he said.

The airport authorities had distributed food and water to the stranded passengers, he added.

In addition, the dense fog led to a temporary shutdown of five expressways near Chengdu.—Xinhua

Bushfire threatens homes in N western Sydney

SYDNEY, 17 Dec—Homes are under threat from a fast-moving bushfire on Sydney's northwestern outskirts that broke out on Thursday.

The Rural Fire Service (RFS) said the fire in the northwestern suburbs of Sydney at London derry broke out early in the morning but the situation worsened dramatically about 2.30 pm (AEDT).

About 200 fire-fighters and five aircraft, including an air crane, were now at the scene battling against the combination of extreme heat, dry conditions and strong winds. "Homes are coming under threat as we speak, so fire-fighters are working very closely with residents in that area," RFS spokeswoman Rebel Talbert said.

"We are just advising people that it is moving very quickly and they need to activate their bushfire survival plan now and work with fire-fighters on the ground."—Xinhua

US FTC sues Intel for market monopoly

WASHINGTON, 17 Dec—The US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) on Wednesday sued Intel Corp, the world's leading computer chip maker, charging that the company has illegally used its dominant market position for a decade to stifle competition and strengthen its monopoly.

In its complaint, the FTC alleges that Intel has waged a systematic campaign to shut out rivals' competing microchips by cutting off their access to the marketplace.

In the process, Intel

deprived consumers of choice and innovation in the microchips that comprise the computers' central processing unit, or CPU. These chips are critical components that often are referred to as the "brains" of a computer.

According to the FTC complaint, Intel's anti-competitive tactics were designed to put the brakes on superior competitive products that threatened its monopoly in the CPU microchip market.

Over the last decade, this strategy has succeeded in maintaining the

Intel monopoly at the expense of consumers, who have been denied access to potentially superior, non-Intel CPU chips and lower prices, the FTC complaint states.

"Intel has engaged in a deliberate campaign to hamstring competitive threats to its monopoly," said Richard A. Feinstein, director of the FTC's Bureau of Competition. "It's been running roughshod over the principles of fair play and the laws protecting competition on the merits.

Xinhua



British unemployment rate up to 7.9%

LONDON, 17 Dec—The unemployment rate in Britain increased to 7.9 percent in the three months to October 2009, the highest level since November 1996, the British Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported on Wednesday.

The jobless rate was up slightly from 7.8 percent in the three months to September but remained at same level of 7.9 percent in the previous three months from May to July. Comparing with the same three months in 2008, the British unemployment rate in the three months to October was up by 1.9 percentage points.

The report showed that the total number of unemployed people in Britain was 2.49 million in the three months to October 2009, up by 21,000 from the three months to July 2009 and by 608,000 from a year earlier.—Xinhua

A Palestinian man carries freshly picked strawberries in his farm in the village of Beit Lahia, northern Gaza Strip, on 16 Dec, 2009. Israel's siege on Gaza blocked the way to export and costed a huge lost to local strawberry farmers.

XINHUA

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Bollywood begins to eye Nepal again

KATHMANDU, 17 Dec—Nepal's film industry began to be talked about in the neighbouring countries in the 90s of the last century when Nepali model and actress Manisha Koirala joined Bollywood, India's Hindi film industry.

The versatile actress carved out a niche for herself with a variety of roles and awards.

Now, nearly 20 years later, she is poised to return to the Nepali film industry in her own country,

triggering fresh interest in Nepal and the Nepal film industry.

A former politician, Durga Pokhrel, is producing a new film on the political developments in Nepal.

Titled "Rajniti" (Politics), it is being directed by Nepali director Dipendra Kumar Khanal.

The feature film, according to Khanal, will see Manisha Koiralalplaying the lead role against another Nepali superstar, ac-

tor Rajesh Hamal.

Close on the heels of the news of Manisha's return to the Nepali film industry, now another Bollywood actor has also announced his intention to make a Nepali film as well as act in it.

Bollywood actor Rahul Roy became a teen heartthrob in India, also in the 90s of the last century, when he made his debut in a musical love story, Aashiqui.

Xinhua

Mexican Navy kills top cartel kingpin in shootout

CUERNAVACA, 17 Dec—Two hundred sailors raided an upscale apartment complex and killed one of Mexico's top kingpins in a two-hour gunbattle on Wednesday, one of the biggest victories yet in President Felipe Calderon's drug war.

Arturo Beltran Leyva, the "boss of bosses," and three members of his car-

tel were slain in the shootout in Cuernavaca, just south of Mexico City, according to a Navy statement. A fifth cartel member committed suicide during the shootout.

Cartel gunmen hurled grenades that injured three sailors, the Navy said. The *Associated Press* reporter at the scene heard at least 10 explosions.

During the gunbattle, sailors went door-to-door to evacuate residents of the apartment complex to the gym, according to a woman who said she was speaking by cellphone to her husband inside. She would not give her name out of fear for her safety.

Internet

Two injured in media helicopter crash in Montreal

OTTAWA, 17 Dec—Two people were injured on Wednesday when a helicopter used by a television network crashed in the Canadian city of Montreal, reports reaching here said.

The chopper went down in a vacant lot near a service road on Montreal's Bonaventure Expressway, just west of the Victoria Bridge, in the city's south end, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) reported.

The helicopter, used by Quebec television network TVA for traffic reporting, was making an emergency landing. A journalist on board was trapped inside the wreckage for nearly an hour before firefighters were able to free him and send him to hospital.

The pilot was also taken to hospital with undisclosed injuries. The crash prompted transport officials to close the westbound lanes of the Bonaventure Expressway.—*Xinhua*



Ye Xiuhua uses methane to cook at home in Lantang Village of Longyou County, Quzhou City, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 16 Dec, 2009. As a clean energy resource, methane is now widely used in the villagers' daily life in Lantang Village.

Quzhou City has built methane projects with a total volume of 1.5 million cubic metres, which can produce 62.66 million tons of methane per year. By using methane, the city can reduce 80,000 tons of carbon emission per year.—XINHUA

India's first commercial solar power plant

NEW DELHI, 17 Dec—India inaugurated Azure Power's 2-megawatt photovoltaic plant in the state of Punjab, the first privately owned, utility-scale power plant on the Asian subcontinent.

Built under a 30-year power purchase agreement with the Punjab State Electricity Board, the plant will help power 4,000 rural homes for 20,000 people.

Farooq Abdullah, Minister of New and Renewable Energy, said the plant showcases India's pledge to generate 20,000 megawatts from solar power by 2022 under the country's national solar mission.

Azure Power is India's first independent power producer in solar energy. It built the plant, situated

on 13 acres of farmland in the village of Awan, in a record six months.

Inderpreet Wadhwa founded Azure Power two years ago after a 15-year career in the United States that most recently included software giant Oracle Corp.

The 37-year-old native of Amritsar city in Punjab said he wanted to return home and do something for rural areas in India, where millions of people don't have reliable electricity.

Internet

Mudslide traps five miners in central China

CHANGSHA, 17 Dec—Five miners have been trapped underground by mudslide in Chenzhou city of central China's Hunan Province, rescuers said on Thursday morning.

More than 100 rescuers have rushed to the Manaoshan mine to rescue the miners, who were said to be trapped in a mining tunnel 10 metres underground. The accident happened at around 12:00 am.

Xinhua

Endangered 'pets' seized from Malaysian apartment

A Malaysian woman has been arrested for keeping endangered animals including a leopard cat, a honey bear and a slow loris as pets in her apartment, reports said on Tuesday.

"The case is only the tip of the iceberg. We believe many people out there are keeping wild animals as pets in their homes," wildlife and national parks official Khairi Ahmad said, according to the *Star* newspaper.

"This is not the way to love wildlife. They belong in the wild," he said, adding that mother bears were usually killed in order to snatch a cub for sale.

The animals were seized on 4 December at the condominium

apartment where they were kept in cages. Authorities are now seeking a male relative of the arrested woman who said he was the owner of the animals.

Khairi said the animals would either be handed to the Malacca Zoo or released back into the wild.

"Secret agent" busted in late night car chase

German police arrested a man who claimed to be a "secret agent" after a high speed chase in pursuit of a car with a blue flashing light on its roof.

Police in the southern city of Fuerth caught up with the man after he raced past them, ignored signals to pull over, and ran a red light as they gave chase.

Smelling strongly of alcohol, the 44-year-old whispered only that he was "one of them," on a secret mission and belonged to the Federal Crime Office—a body similar to the FBI—local police said.

A check revealed he had no such credentials.

"After matters were taken care of, the would be 'Mr Bond' was again released," police said in a statement on Thursday.

A local police spokesman said the man in reality had "a normal job" and declined to explain his nighttime sortie.

He faces charges for a variety of driving offences.



Chefs and culinary students display 5,000 cheese-inspired dishes in an attempt to set a new world record at a coliseum in Manila on 14 December, 2009. The event aimed to beat the Guinness World Record of "The most number of dishes on display, in a single day" of 4,668 set by India in 2007.

Coffee tax collection costs dwarf revenue

Germany spent more than 30 times as much collecting taxes on coffee beans ordered online from abroad than it received in the tax revenues, the accounting office said on Tuesday.

Some 4,000 Germans who bought coffee over the Internet from other EU countries but failed to pay the coffee tax have been charged between a few cents to 10 euros (\$14.81) in taxes and fees, said Dieter Engels, head of Germany's Federal Accounting Office.

Tax collectors ended up with just 25,000 euros, way below the 800,000 euros in the costs of staff charged with collecting the payments, Engels said.

Reality TV stars charged over rat-eating episode

Australian police have charged two stars of British reality TV show "I'm a Celebrity ... Get Me Out of Here" with animal cruelty after an RSPCA complaint over an episode that involved killing and cooking a rat.

Italian chef Gino D'Acampo and British actor Stuart Manning were charged at the weekend in relation to the British TV show that was filmed in northern New South Wales in Australia.

A police spokeswoman said sealed court attendance notices were delivered to the two men, aged 30 and 33, as they were about to leave Australia for England.

She said they were charged with animal cruelty for acts in connection to

the programme after complaints from the RSPCA, but did not give names or other details. The two men are scheduled to appear in court on 3 February.

"The killing of a rat for a performance is not acceptable. The concern is this was done purely for the cameras," David O'Shannessy of the New South Wales RSPCA told the BBC.

TV network ITV was not immediately available for comment.

"I'm A Celebrity ... Get Me Out Of Here," which is now in its ninth series, pits contestants against each other in a knock-out contest which involves a series of scary and stomach-churning tasks in a remote setting.



Leopard cats in an Indian zoo in 2003. A Malaysian woman has been arrested for keeping endangered animals including a leopard cat, a honey bear and a slow loris as pets in her apartment, reports said.

NEWS ALBUM

Second Development Partnership Roundtable and Development Forum held

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec—Jointly organized by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Second Development Partnership Roundtable and Development Forum on economic policies for growth and poverty reduction: lessons from the region and beyond was held at the hall of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation here on 15 December.

enhancing Myanmar's rural economy was held at 9 am.

UN Under Secretary General and UN Executive Secretary of UNESCAP Dr Noeleen Heyzer delivered an opening speech.

Economist Professor Dr Joseph Stiglitz of Columbia University discussed the elements of economic policies for rural development, followed by presentation of papers by resource persons.

Afterwards, Secretary of the Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences U Tin

Htut Oo and Visiting Research Fellow of National University of Australia Dr Ikuko Okamoto also read out the papers on the same topic. The experts and attendees held discussion.

The roundtable came to an end with the closing remarks of UN Under Secretary General and UN Executive Secretary of UNESCAP Dr Noeleen Heyzer and Professor Dr Joseph Stiglitz.

Development Forum on policies for enhancing rural livelihoods - effecting change in Myanmar's rural economy was held at 3 pm.

and trade imbalances, this agenda still stands at the core of national development activities. Realizing the importance of these issues faced by its people, the Government of Myanmar has set up three National Committees. These are Natural Disaster Preparedness Central Committee headed by Honorable Prime Minister, Rural Development Support Committee and National Committee for Food Security chaired by myself and composed of other Ministers, Deputy Ministers of relevant ministries.

its sustainable uses are the main necessity. Myanmar has heavily invested and constructed 228 irrigation dams, 322 river water-pumping projects, constructing and repairing small irrigation tanks throughout the dryzone, enhancing underground water utilization through more than 7000 tube wells. In addition to promoting access to irrigation water for increasing crop production, rural electrification is also being promoted by installation of mini-hydropower along canal drop structures of

development perspective to address the needs of the most vulnerable. We cannot afford to be complacent. Thus, the tasks for agriculture and rural development must be implemented through mass movement.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thurein Zaw explained facts regarding national development policies and millennium goals.

UN Under Secretary General Dr Noeleen Heyzer held discussions about supplying to the region to catch effective and sustainable

Roundtable on



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo gives speech at forum on policies for enhancing rural livelihoods - effecting change in Myanmar's rural economy.—MNA

Journalism Course (3/2009) concludes

YANGON, 17 Dec—The concluding ceremony of Journalist Course (3/2009) and refresher course 2009 conducted by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association was held at the Central Hotel here yesterday.

Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise and Chairman of Training Supervisory Committee Vice-Chairman of MWJA U Tin Kha (Tetkhatho Tin Kha) extended greetings.

Chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) and CEC members of MWJA gave away completion certificates, no absent prize, outstanding

trainee prize, newspaper of the trainee prize.

A total of four groups of 45 trainees, who attended the journalism course (3/2009), published the newspapers naming Pyaye Tagon, Thadin Kaungkin, Pyaythu Athan and Myanma Shaesaung. The first prize went to Thadin Kaungkin newspaper, the second to Myanma Shaesaung, the third to Pyaye Tagon and the fourth and the best display prizes to Pyaythu Athan.

In 2009, MWJA opened three journalism courses and a refresher course which were attended by journalists at home and abroad.—MNA

Speaking at the forum, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo said that it is clear that stability, peace, and development are inseparable for all of us. Therefore, it is a basic policy setting for Myanmar.

Thus, agricultural development means rural development that could reflect to contribute toward enhancing sustainable livelihoods. It has been the main agenda for the various governments throughout the history of Myanmar. Myanmar in today's globalized world with emerging issues of environmental degradation, disaster bound climate changes, and economic recession,

Since food security and rural livelihoods contribute to the income of the rural people, increasing agricultural productivity is the core policy for Myanmar. In order to increase agricultural productivity, promoting access to irrigation water and

irrigation networks. On the other hand, regarding access to irrigation water, Myanmar is proactive rather than reactive to adapting climate change and mitigating its effects.

The Government of Myanmar is adopting a holistic approach informed by human

development in cooperation with ESCAP and Myanmar; Honorable Professor Dr Stiglitz, on international participation in fighting against poverty. The forum concluded thanks to active participation of the attendees.

MNA



Educative talks on preservation of Myanmar traditional culture in progress at No (4) BEHS in Aungmyaythazan Township of Mandalay on 27 November, and Chairperson of Mandalay District Women's Affairs Supervisory Committee Daw Win Shwe made a speech on the occasion.—MNA

Strength, improvement of capabilities...



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe taking the salute of the cadet companies.—MNA

Tatmadawman could fulfill the Five Basic Qualities such as strength of mind, discipline, loyalty,

technologies as well as military science up to the infantry platoon commander level at the Academy. Later on in your career,

you will have to attend the Platoon Commander Course, the Company Commander Course, the Battalion

not only yourself but also your fellow members under your command to accomplish three abilities such as military capability,



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe meets with three outstanding cadets and their parents at the hall of DSTA.—MNA

Commanding Officers Course and the Military Staff College. When required, you must be ready to serve in infantry units in the battle field. There have been precedents in the history of the Tatmadaw where in the units from the Engineering Corps defeated the enemies alone without the infantry support. In order to fulfill the duties assigned to you, it is imperative that you constantly study not only technical subjects but

organizing capability and administrative capability through your leadership skills. A leader must mobilize the mind and capabilities of fellow members to achieve desired goals. As young leaders, you could win respect, mutual trust from fellow members only through cooperating with comradeship and dedication. With impartial management and strong organizational skills, you will be able to accomplish the tasks assigned to you. As you are engineering tech-

(from page 1)

Even though the modernized arms are invented with the emerging new technologies, the main cause of all is human being. If you lack a strong state of mind, you would easily be influenced by others despite your strong physical strength. As such, in building a strong Tatmadaw, you must increase your physical

strength with the knowledge and expertises you learnt and strengthen your state of mind as well. As the very foundation of our Tatmadaw was based on patriotism, the traditions of sacrificing for our country and our nationalities are the basic cornerstone of mental strength. We could build a strong Tatmadaw, in addition to such fine traditions, if each

alty, unity and three capabilities.

As you are about to be commissioned as engineering officers, you are technicians as well as Tatmadaw members. Thus, you are going to serve the main duties of the Tatmadaw which are to safeguard the State and provide security. You have been given training in engineering and related



Dignitaries at the graduation ceremony of 12th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy.—MNA

also military science. As we, Tatmadawmen, uphold the four loyalties, we have never been hesitant to sacrifice our life, our sweat, and our blood for the State and the citizenry. You must preserve these fine traditions even at the expense of your lives. You must as well strive to achieve the ten strength of Tatmadaw such as loyalty, obedience, valour and military discipline.

As young leaders, you must guide and train

nicians, you must also guide your fellow technical members in the fields of technology. You must therefore learn continuously with a view to contributing new inventions and attaining trust and respect from fellow members and thus become technicians to be relied upon by the Tatmadaw.

As the new technologies have been emerging unprecedentedly, the nature and contexts of modern wars have also (See page 9)



Senior General Than Shwe presents Best Engineer Cadet Award to Cadet Myo Thu Aung.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents Excellent Award in Training to Cadet Wunna Moe. MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents Excellent Award in Studies to Cadet Myo Min Maung. MNA

Strength, improvement of capabilities...

(from page 8)

changed. With the use of modern and sophisticated ammunitions in today's wars, there are also changes in the military tactics. In previous wars enormous manpower and ammunitions were used. In today's warfare armies are fighting with advanced weaponry with pin-point accuracy based on precise figures. The new era of defeating enemies has emerged with targeted attacks on critical locations with the least casualties. You must therefore learn the advanced military strategies and try to accommodate with the prevailing situations. I would like to categorically say that the strength, improvement of capabilities and modernization of Myanmar Tatmadaw rely on the patriotism, abilities and diligence of the new generation technicians like you.

The development of every state depends on the



Distinguished guests at graduation parade of 12th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy.—MNA



enhancement of three main factors, namely, political, economic and defence. Among those three factors, enhancement of economic power would contribute toward political stability and defence capabilities. Our nation has therefore been striving to further enhance power by laying down the economic objectives and implementing them with strenuous efforts. As our

nation has endowed with abundant natural resources, both above and under ground and water, they are indeed prerequisites for the development of our nation. Efforts are thus being made to effectively explore and utilize them in order to enhance economic strength of our state. In so doing, it is more prompt and progressive if we could explore them with available technolo-

gies and our own national technicians and without depending on others. Therefore, you must strive yourselves to become technicians to whom our Tatmadaw and our nation could count on.

As we review the current state of global nations, it is obvious that the competitive and innovation era of the advanced science and technology has come into reality. The technically developed nations can further enhance economic power and thus enable them to build strong and advanced Tatmadaw. In other words, the advancement of technology could contribute toward the enhancement of economic power and at the same time strengthen the defence capabilities. **The enhancement of economic power by utilizing natural resources could not last long as those resources are to be exhausted in some time. It would be durable and enduring only if it is based on science and technology and human capacity.** As you all are aware, we have therefore laid down the projects to improve educational capabilities throughout the nation. I would like to urge you that as our nation once lacked behind in the advancement of technology due to colonial legacy, you should strive your utmost to bring forth our nation to become a modernized one.

(See page 10)

Strength, improvement of capabilities...

(from page 9)

Being Tatmadawmen, you are going to serve in various parts of the Union of Myanmar and work hand-in-hand with the national brethren for the development of the respective regions. Those regions, which lagged behind for many eras, have now been implementing development activities as a result of peace and stability they are enjoying. We have accomplished national unity and thus contributed to this achievements today based on our bitter lessons from the past. To maintain the sovereignty of our nation, which has over a hundred national groups, national unity is utmost necessary. It is imperative that in order to achieve national unity, all

nationalities should have *genuine patriotic spirit* or *Union Spirit*. Therefore, you have to strive for promoting and strengthening national solidarity among the nationalities of the respective regions wherever you are posted. You also need to participate in and contribute to the development works of those regions. If you follow the moral duties and the do's and don'ts of a soldier, you can attain trust of the people and thus resolve any difficulties together with the people. You should also bear in mind that the collaboration of three main factors, namely, the State, the People and the Tatmadaw, can overcome all obstacles and achieve the destiny.

In conclusion, I would like to ask you that:

- Being Tatmadawmen, you must constantly pursue your studies and be ready to safeguard the State which is the main duty of the Tatmadaw;
- You must contribute toward building a modern Tatmadaw utilizing your technical expertise and knowledge;
- You must strive to become reliable technicians who will be shouldering the tasks of building a modern and developed nation; and
- You must strengthen the Union spirit among the national brethren of the regions you are assigned to, with a view to perpetuating the sovereignty of the State.

MNA

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services...

(from page 16)

Maj-Gen Thein Htay of the Ministry of Defence, Directors Maj-Gen Mya Win, Brig-Gen Hla Myint, Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt, Brig-Gen Than Soe, Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Col Hla Myint, Maj-Gen Than Aung, Maj-Gen Than Htay, Maj-Gen Sein Lin, Maj-Gen Aye Myint, Maj-Gen Hlaing Myint and senior military officers, Commander of PyinOoLwin Station Brig-Gen Zeyar Aung, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, departmental officials, Commandant

of DSTA Brig-Gen Hsan Oo and officials, parents and relatives of the cadets and guests.

At the ceremony, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe took the salute of the cadet companies.

Next, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services inspected the cadet companies.

Afterwards, the cadet companies marched past the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior

General Than Shwe presented the Best Engineer Cadet Award to Cadet Myo Thu Aung, the Excellent Award in Training to Cadet Wunna Moe and Excellent Award in Studies to Cadet Myo Min Maung.

Next, the Senior General delivered an address.

After taking the salute of the cadet companies, the Senior General left the parade ground. After the parade, the Senior General met three outstanding cadets and their parents at the main hall of the DSTA and spoke words of encouragement to them.

MNA

Transport Minister arrives back from Vietnam

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec—Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe attended the 15th ASEAN Transport Ministerial Meeting, the 8th ASEAN-China Transport Ministerial Meeting, the 7th ASEAN-Japan Transport Ministerial Meeting, and 1st ASEAN-Korea Transport Ministerial Meeting in Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 10 and 11 December.

Present on the occasions were transport ministers from 10 ASEAN countries and dialogue partners: China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, and officials from ASEAN Secretariat.

Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung opened the 15th ASEAN Transport Ministerial Meeting by delivering a speech at Sheraton Hanoi Hotel in Hanoi on 10 December. The meeting focused on improvement of infrastructural buildings in the transport sector, boosting regional cooperation, road safety, curbing air pollution, and boosting cooperation in the transport sector between ASEAN and dialogue partner countries.

The minister signed Protocol to Implement the Sixth package of commitments on air transport under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services; and high-ranking transport officials, Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation Relating to Marine Casualty and Marine Incident Safety Investigations.

Terms of Reference for the Multi-Sector Road Safety Special Working Group; Implementation Work Programme for the Strategic Plan for ASEAN-China Transport Cooperation, ASEAN-Japan Action Plan on Environment Implementation in the Transport Sector, and Work Plan for 2009-2010; Framework of Transport Cooperation between Transport Authorities of the Association of the South East Asian Nations and the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea were approved.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe ratified the Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of interstate Transport, and Rules on Dues and Fees for Commercial Vessels Navigating on the Lancang-Mekong River.

The Myanmar delegation led by Director-



General U Win Pe of the Transport Department attended the 28th ASEAN Transport Ministerial Meeting, and the Transport Ministerial Meeting.

The Myanmar delegation led by Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe arrived back by air in Myanmar on 12 December.—MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe attending 15th ASEAN Transport Ministerial Meeting, 8th ASEAN-China Transport Ministerial Meeting, 7th ASEAN-Japan Transport Ministerial Meeting, and 1st ASEAN-Korea Transport Ministerial Meeting.—TRANSPORT

Stakes driven for construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku)

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint on 15 December turned on the bored pile driving machine at the ceremony to drive stakes for construction of RP-2 bored pile at Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) on the bank of Letpanchayapaw and PR-31 bored pile at Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) on the bank of Pakokku.

On arrival at Daungny Creek Bridge near Dawnnayaung Village in Magway Division, the minister heard a report by in-charge of bridge construction project deputy superintending engineer on work progress. The minister called for worksite

safety, meeting the standards for construction materials and completion of work on schedule.

Upon completion, the RC type bridge over Daungny Creek on Yangon-Pyay-Magway-Yenangyoung-Meiktila-Mandalay Union Highway is 1785 feet long and 28 feet wide. It can withstand 60 tons of loads.

On arrival at the Ayeyawady bridge (Malun) construction site. The minister heard the report on work progress by in-charge of project superintending engineer, and he inspected the Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) construction site and alignment of the bridge chosen.—MNA

Myanmar win one more gold, five silver and four bronze in SEA Games

YANGON, 17 Dec— In the XXV SEA Games, Zin Lin Aung won gold in (81-90) kilos Judo event, Naing Naing Win silver in 1500 meters women's race event, Kay Khine Lwin silver in 400 meters women's race event, Tin Lin Aung silver in 65 kilos Wushu (Sanshou) event,

Thanda Win silver in (63-70) kilos Judo event, Pyae Phyo Hein silver in 60 kilos light flyweight boxing event, Aye Aye Aung bronze in (53-63) kilos Judo event, Khin Myo

Thu bronze in 78 kilos Judo event, Selected Myanmar team bronze in women's football tournament. **MNA**



Tin Lin Aung.—SPED



Thanda Win.—SPED

Medal Standing in XXV SEA Games

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Thailand	84	80	95	259
Vietnam	81	71	57	209
Indonesia	43	53	73	169
Malaysia	40	40	59	139
Philippines	37	34	47	118
Singapore	33	30	34	97
Laos	32	25	49	106
Myanmar	10	22	37	69
Cambodia	3	10	25	38
Brunei	1	1	8	10
Timor Leste	0	0	3	3



Zin Lin Aung.—SPED

Talks on Search Engine technology to be given

YANGON, 17 Dec— Organized by Myanmar Computer Professionals Association, team leader Dr Choochart Haruechaiyasak of NECTEC gave talks on Search Engine technology and demonstrate on Word Segmentation and Opinion Mining at the

room No. 205 in Myanmar Info Tech in Hline Township from 2 to 5 pm today.

The course for search engine technology will be held from 9 am to 5 pm tomorrow. Those wishing to attend the course are to register in advance. Of them, suitable ones will

be chosen by the MCPA and are allowed to attend the course free of charge.

Any enthusiasts may attend and discuss National Language Processing and Search Engine free of charge. For further information dial 652276. **MNA**



A Russian Topol-M intercontinental ballistic missile parades through Red Square in Moscow. Russia has accused the United States of slowing down talks to agree a new nuclear weapons disarmament treaty, after officials admitted the two sides could no longer sign the accord this year. **INTERNET**

Art instructor exhibits 50 W/C works

YANGON, 17 Dec— Artist Ko Maung Kyaw Than, an instructor of the State School of Fine Arts Institute of Yangon under the Ministry of Culture will exhibit his water colour works at Azada Gallery on 34th Street here tomorrow.

The 54-year old artist's second solo exhibi-



Two paintings displayed at the exhibition.



tion is a collection of his nearly 50 water colour outdoor paintings.

The exhibition continues till 22 December 2009. **NLM**

Little Nyonya to visit Myanmar

NAYPYI TAW, 17 Dec—The TV series entitled "The Little Nyonya" the Myanmar Radio and Television is presenting from 7 am to 8 am on the weekend has become popular among the Myanmar TV lovers.

World Wide Wealth Pte Ltd of Singapore is in a talk with a Myanmar company to present a Singaporean TV series "Together" following the TV series "The Little Nyonya".

TV series "Together" stars Yelt-hlyan

(Jeanette Aw) and Yamamoto Yusuki (Dai Yang Tian), who play their roles in "The Little Nyonya". Under the arrangements of the Singaporean company to advertise TV series "Together", Jeanette Aw and Dai Yang Tian will pay a visit to Myanmar in mid February 2010. World Wide Wealth Pte Ltd is making preparations for Singaporean TV series and media to gain a foothold in Myanmar.—**MNA**

KNU bomb attack kills 7, injures 11 in Papun Investigation under way to expose bomber

NAYPYI TAW, 17 Dec—A time bomb went off at a row of shops in front of No (2) Basic Education High School in Ward (2), Papun, Kayin State, yesterday evening, leaving seven innocent civilians dead, and 10 men and one woman, injured. The time bomb exploded at 9:10 pm while the temporary bazaar with food stalls, garment shops, and shops of toys and dolls was being held to mark Kayin New Year in the ground. The incident cost the lives of U Sai Thet Naing, 51; U Aung Zaw Aye, 36; U Khin Maung Htwe, 32; U Win Cho, 31; U San Win, 40; Maung Nyein, 26; and a Kayin national, around 50 (under identification).

The 11 injured victims are now in Papun Township People's Hospital. Local authorities, officials and members of social organizations are providing

aid for them. The explosion left a one-inch deep and nine-inch diameter crater. Several five-millimeter steel balls were found in bamboo trunks at the shop. Investigation was made into the case to expose the offender. Now, it is exposed that the offender is from the KNU terrorists insurgent group that is active in the area between Papun and the border.

Insurgents plant and detonate bombs on roads and bridges and in busy places and festivities in towns and villages to create public panic. Authorities concerned today urged the people to remain vigilant against terrorists in disguise, and to inform officials in time if someone or something is found suspicious. **MNA**

Educative talks of MDA on 20 Dec

YANGON, 17 Dec— Under the programme of sustainable learning for medical education, Myanmar Dental Association will organize educative talks at Traders

Hotel, here from 9 am to 12 noon on 20 December. Dr Aung Myint (8th Batch) will give talks on Step-By-Step Clinical Guide for Perfect Porcelain Veneers and Dr Aye Min

(9th Batch) on Detection and Treatment of Longitudinal Tooth Fractures (Cracks). Any interested persons may attend the talks. **MNA**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV GATI PRIDE VOYNO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI PRIDE VOYNO () are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 18.12.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 GATI COAST TO COAST
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797**

Mined gold totals 163,000 tonnes worldwide

SHANGHAI, 17 Dec—All the gold mined so far totalled 163,000 tonnes across the world, an official with the World Gold Council (WGC) said here on Wednesday. Albert LH Cheng, managing director of WGC's far east area, said in a lecture about this year's gold market that 83,600 tonnes of the total amount had been used in making jewellery, while individual investment activities accounted for 27,300 tonnes.

Gold reserves held by countries occupied 28,700 tonnes and 19,700 tonnes went to industrial production or other uses, he cited statistics from WGC as saying.

An estimated of 26,000 tonnes of gold deposit remained undeveloped, and the resource will run out for 10 years based on the current mining speed, he said.

Xinhua



A macaque monkey swims in Hainan, S China, on 16 Dec, 2009.
XINHUA

Kids not sleeping may need doctor

HERSHEY, 17 Dec—US researchers have linked insomnia symptoms in school children with medical complaints.

Researchers at the Pennsylvania State College of Medicine in Hershey said they have linked insomnia and medical complaints in children ages 5-12.

"The first and most important step in children with medical complaints and sleep disturbances would be an evaluation for underlying medical disorders and providing treatment," lead study author Dr Ravi Singareddy said in a statement.

"If the associated sleep disturbances do not improve despite improvement in medical complaints the disturbances should be further assessed and treated."

Singareddy and colleagues studied 700 children and found 19 percent of the children had difficulties falling asleep or staying asleep.

Internet

MYANMAR IVANHOE COPPER COMPANY LIMITED(TENDER NOTICE) TENDER. IFB No. 44/Local/2009

Supply of Hire 2 unit of Excavator Service, Electrical Items, Tyre & Tube and General (18 lots) are invited from Local Suppliers by FEC Currency.

CLOSING DATE will be on 5th January 2010 at 12:00 hr.

Tender documents are available at the following addresses:

70 (I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, 6 ½ Miles, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Myanmar

Tel: (95) 1 514194 to 7 ; Fax: (95) 1 514208; email: miccl@miccl.com.mm

Site: Tel: (95) 71 22225/6; Fax: (95) 71 22522; email : supply@miccl.com.mm

Sealed Bids are to be reached the above offices on or before the closing date.

Queries can be done between 10am to 4pm at Supply Department; Tel: (95) 71 22225/6; email : supply@miccl.com.mm before the Tender Closing Date.

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Sanofi-Aventis (formerly Sanofi-Synthelabo), a company incorporated in France, of 174, avenue de France, 75013 Paris, France, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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Reg. No. 4945/2004

in respect of "Class 5: Pharmaceutical preparations".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Sanofi-Aventis
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 18 December 2009

Malaysian marine police seize 62 pangolins

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 Dec— Malaysian marine police said on Thursday they had seized 62 pangolins, destined for cooking pots and medicine shops overseas, in a two-week operation. Police in southern Johor state seized 31 live pangolins — also known as scaly anteaters — packed in blue sacks in the living room of a house and found another 31 frozen creatures in a freezer, marine police official Mohammad Naser Marzuke said.

"Following two weeks of monitoring, we trailed six suspects who were travelling in two cars and who then unloaded the live pangolins in the house," Mohammad Naser told AFP.

"However, by the time we reached them, their lookouts had alerted the group and they all fled, abandoning the cars and the pangolins," he said, adding that police were still on the lookout for the group.

"We have handed the

pangolins over to the wildlife authorities as we continue our investigations."

Indigenous to the jungles of Indonesia and parts of Malaysia as well as southern Thailand, pan-

golins are considered a delicacy in China but are classified as a protected species under the UN's Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.—Internet



A Malaysian pangolin (Manis javanica), also known as a scaly anteater, climbing a tree. Malaysian marine police said on Thursday they had seized 62 pangolins, destined for cooking pots and medicine shops overseas, in a two-week operation.—INTERNET

S Korea develops human-powered aircraft

SEOUL, 17 Dec—The South Korean Air Force announced on Thursday that it has successfully developed a human-powered aircraft (HPA) that can fly by direct human energy, local media Yonhap reported.

In two separate preliminary flight tests held last September at the Air Force Academy in central South Korea, the "Sky Runner," which has a wingspan of 30m but only weighs 40kg, succeeded in flying 150 metres and 100 metres.

"The flying distance was short but can be improved through systematic pilot training," Lt Col Choi Seong-ok, who is in charge of the HPA development, was quoted as saying by Yonhap.

Xinhua

The Bombay Stock Exchange building during a special trading session in Mumbai in October 2009. India's two main stock exchanges announced late on Wednesday an extension of daily trading starting on Friday, to boost volumes and the size of the market.—INTERNET





A worker welds next to a gas pipeline at a construction site of West-to-East Gas Transportation Project in Suizhou, Hubei Province December 16, 2009. PetroChina completed the capacity expansion project of the West-to-East natural gas pipeline on 14 December, the China Petroleum Daily reported on Thursday.—INTERNET

New “super-Earth” with water, air discovered

BEIJING, 17 Dec — Astronomers have discovered a new “super-Earth” with water and probably significant atmosphere, orbiting a red dwarf star on our cosmic doorstep, according to media reports on Thursday.

An international team led by Harvard astronomer David Charbonneau reported that they had discovered the planet, dubbed GJ 1214b, composed mostly of water.

Will this planet be another place that holds life other than our own?

The answer is: it may be too hot to sustain life with around 190 degrees C on the ocean surface.

But the discovery still gives much hope of finding a planet that something could live on as its atmosphere makes the pressure a lot higher than on Earth and increases the odds of liquid water.

“This probably is not habitable, but it didn’t miss the habitable zone by that much,” said Charbonneau.

The exoplanet is only 2.7 times the size of

Earth and 6.6 times as massive, which makes it a “super-Earth.” A “super-Earth” is defined as an exoplanet with a mass of five to ten Earths.

Of over 400 exoplanets found over the past 15 years, only one other super-Earth has been confirmed and some candidates announced, while others we know of are many times bigger and are often referred to as “hot Jupiters” (many orbit very close to their host stars, getting roasted).

Xinhua

Global first entire cancer gene maps produced

BEIJING, 17 Dec — The global first entire cancer gene maps, which contain all the change in cells of two deadly cancers, have been produced under international cooperation, according to the *Nature* journal as quoted by media reports on Thursday.

This marks a “transforming moment” in the medical understanding of the disease, said the researchers. The maps by international scientists and Britain’s Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute are the first comprehensive descriptions of tumour cell mutations and lay bare all

the genetic changes behind melanoma skin cancer and lung cancer.

“What we are seeing today is going to transform the way that we see cancer,” Mike Stratton of the Sanger Institute’s cancer genome project told a briefing in London. “We have never seen cancer revealed in this form before.”

Through sequencing all the DNA from both tumour tissue and normal tissue from a melanoma patient and a lung cancer patient using a technology called massively parallel sequencing, and then

comparing the cancer sequences with the healthy ones, the scientists were able to pick up all the changes specific to cancer.

The lung tumour carried more than 23,000 mutations and the melanoma had more than 33,000.—Xinhua

Mars orbiter resumes science operations

PASADENA, 17 Dec — NASA says its Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter’s six science instruments resumed operations Wednesday after being suspended since an 26 Aug computer reset.

Scientists at the space agency’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena,

Calif, which manages the mission, said they are now receiving new science data. “It’s good to have the instruments back on,” said Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Mission Manager Dan Johnston. “This has been a long stand-down. Now we’re ready to resume our

science and relay mission.” NASA said its engineers have not identified a root cause for the four reset events that have occurred this year, but the team has added protections for the spacecraft and expects to obtain more diagnostic information in the event of another reset.

“The orbiter’s six instruments will continue examining the atmosphere, surface and subsurface of Mars, including areas of interest as potential landing sites for future missions,” said JPL’s Rich Zurek, Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter project scientist.

Internet

Coffee, tea linked to lower diabetes risk

SYDNEY, 17 Dec — Drinking coffee — even decaf — and tea regularly may help reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes, Australian researchers say.

Rachel Huxley of The George Institute for International Health at the University of Sydney and colleagues identified 18 studies involving 457,922 participants and assessing the association between coffee consumption and diabetes risk published between 1966-2009.

When the authors combined and analyzed the data, they found each additional cup of coffee consumed in a day was associated with a 7 percent reduction in the excess risk of diabetes. Individuals who drank three to four cups per day had an approximately 25 percent lower risk than those who drank between zero and two cups per day, the study said. In the studies that assessed decaffeinated coffee consumption, those who drank more than three to four cups per day had about a one-third lower risk of diabetes than those who drank none.

Those who drank more than three to four cups of tea had a one-fifth lower risk than those who drank no tea.

Internet



Jerusalem catwalk: Models showcase clothes by Palestinian designers during a fashion show in Jerusalem. —XINHUA

NASA’s Hubble telescope finds smallest Kuiper Belt Object ever seen

WASHINGTON, 17 Dec — NASA’s Hubble Space Telescope has discovered the smallest object ever seen in visible light in the Kuiper Belt, a vast ring of icy debris that is encircling the outer rim of the solar system just beyond Neptune, NASA said Wednesday. The object found by Hubble is only 3,200 feet across and a

whopping 4.2 billion miles away.

The smallest Kuiper Belt Object (KBO) seen previously in reflected light is roughly 30 miles across, or 50 times larger. This is the first observational evidence for a population of comet-sized bodies in the Kuiper Belt that are being ground down through collisions.

Xinhua

A snow sculptor works on snow carvings at the Jiangxindao Snow Castle in Mudanjiang City of northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, on 16 Dec, 2009. Covering an area of 63, 000 square meters, the Mudanjiang Snow Castle with the theme of “Fairy Tales in the Snow World” will open to the public on 18 Dec. —XINHUA



SPORTS

Gunners progress stalled by battling Burnley

BURNLEY, 17 Dec—A penalty from Graham Alexander for Burnley was enough to cancel out Cesc Fabregas's early strike in a 1-1 stalemate on Wednesday which hammers a huge dent in Arsenal's Premier League title hopes.

Alexander somehow managed to haul Burnley level and earn them a deserved point from this compelling contest, which Arsenal had threatened to dominate and could have run away with before half time.

Fabregas scored his 10th goal of the season to put Arsenal in firm control as Arsene Wenger's side went in search of their third straight victory in the Premier League.

The Spanish maestro rewarded some sublime play from the visitors with a clinical strike in the seventh minute to leave Burnley on the back foot

and in danger of getting a drubbing.

Yet Owen Coyle's team have more character than most and managed to level the scores in the 27th minute when Thomas Vermaelen conceded a penalty for a crude challenge on Andre Bikey, which Alexander duly converted to make it 14 from 14 successful spot kicks during his Burnley career.—*Internet*



Arsenal's Croatian forward Eduardo controls the ball during the English Premier League football match against Burnley at Turf Moor, Burnley. The match ended in a 1-1 draw.

INTERNET

Reds back on winning track

LIVERPOOL, 17 Dec—Fernando Torres climbed off the bench to score as Liverpool returned to winning ways with a 2-1 success over Wigan at Anfield on Wednesday.

Torres's 11th goal of the season proved decisive as Charles N'Zogbia scored a stoppage time goal for Wigan after David Ngog had given Rafa Benitez's side an early lead.

It ensured Liverpool's tribute to former manager and club legend Bill Shankly ended on a winning note.

Shankly took charge of his first game at Anfield on December 19 1959 and the club paid tribute to him by inviting players who served under the three-times title winning manager.

This fixture had generated as much interest in Spain as it had in England as it pitted Spaniards Benitez and Martinez against one another in the

dug out. Martinez, who at 36 is the youngest manager in the Premier League, has made a solid start in his first six months in charge of Wigan. He was looking to add Liverpool to an impressive list of scalps which includes Chelsea and Aston Villa.

Yet Wigan's defensive record away from home is one of the worst in the league, Martinez's side conceding 15 times in the previous three matches on the road.

Internet



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard (R) challenges Wigan's Mohamed Diame during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield in Liverpool on 16 December, 2009.

INTERNET

Inter reach quarters after Livorno win

ROME, 17 Dec—Inter Milan eased into the Coppa Italia quarter-finals with a controlled and disciplined 1-0 win against Livorno at the San Siro on Wednesday.

Wesley Sneijder's free-kick on the hour mark settled the affair in front of hordes of empty seats.

The hosts deserved their victory having dominated throughout and twice hit the woodwork in the first period.

Inter coach Jose Mourinho resisted the temptation to make too



Inter Milan's Dutch midfielder Wesley Sneijder celebrates after scoring against Livorno at San Siro Stadium in Milan.

INTERNET

many changes for a match his side were always likely to win, although he did hand a debut to right-back Giulio Danilo from the club's youth team.

Internet

Spurs claim bragging rights over City

LONDON, 17 Dec—Tottenham maintained the pressure on the top four as two goals from Niko Kranjcar and Jermain Defoe's 13th league goal of the season completed a comfortable 3-0 victory over Manchester City.

But City manager Mark Hughes was left facing growing problems after his side failed to improve on a run that has now brought just one win in ten league games.

While Spurs sit fifth, just two points behind fourth-placed Aston Villa, City have slumped to eighth, a further four points adrift of the Champions League places.

Internet



Tottenham Hotspur's English striker Jermain Defoe (L) vies with Manchester City's Ivory Coast defender Kolo Toure (R) during their English Premier League football match against Manchester City at White Hart Lane, London.

INTERNET

Jussie sends Bordeaux clear but OM lurk

PARIS, 17 Dec—A second-half strike by Brazilian midfielder Jussie earned French league leaders Bordeaux a 1-0 win at Montpellier on Wednesday that increased their lead at the summit to six points.

Marseille were indebted to 18-year-old debutant Jordan Ayew for earning a 2-1 comeback win at Lorient that lifted them up to second, while Lyon bounced back from their defeat at home to Bordeaux on Sunday by winning 2-0 at home to second-bottom Boulogne to go fourth.

Montpellier enjoyed the best of the game's early exchanges at their Stade de la Mosson home



Bordeaux's midfielder Jussie (C) vies with Montpellier's defender Geoffrey Dernis (L) and Joris Marveaux during their French L1 football match in Montpellier, southern France. Bordeaux won 1-0 with a goal by Jussie.

but Yoann Gourcuff missed a golden opportunity to put the visitors in front when he placed a weak 30th-minute penalty into the arms of Geoffrey Jourden after a handball in the hosts' penalty area.—*Internet*

Fulham advance into knockout stage of Europa League

LONDON, 17 Dec—Fulham managed to advance into the Europa League last 32 after Bobby Zamora's double earned the Premier League side a 3-2 win at FC Basel on Wednesday.

Fulham shrugged off the falling snow to record a memorable victory over the Swiss and become the third English club to make it into the knockout stages, joining Everton and Liverpool.—*Xinhua*



Fulham's Bobby Zamora (right) beats Basel's David Angel Abraham to score his team's second goal during their UEFA Europa League, Group E match in Basel.

XINHUA

Lampard penalty gives Chelsea victory

LONDON, 17 Dec—Frank Lampard scored the decisive goal from penalty to restore Chelsea's three-point lead in the Premier League with a 2-1 home win against bottom club Portsmouth on Wednesday.

Champions Manchester United had pulled level on points on Tuesday after beating a second-string Wolverhampton Wanderers 3-0 in manager Alex Ferguson's 900th league game in charge.—*Xinhua*



Chelsea's Frank Lampard (C) celebrates with team mates after scoring against Portsmouth during their English Premier League soccer match at Stamford Bridge in London on 16 December, 2009.

XINHUA

Barcelona defeats Atlante to reach final of World Club Championship

MADRID, 17 Dec—European Champions FC Barcelona defeated Mexican side Atlante in the semi-final of the World Club Championship to assure a place in the final of the competition on Wednesday.

Barcelona had to come back from conceding a shock early goal to the Mexicans to avoid a shock and the Spanish outfit will now face the Argentinean team Estudiantes in Saturday's final in Abu Dhabi.

Guillermo Rojas opened the scoring in the third minute with a freak goal.

Atlante took a foul from deep in its own penalty area. There should have been no problem, but the Barcelona defense totally misjudged the ball and goalkeeper Victor Valdes mistimed a run off his line to leave Rojas with a simple tap in.—*Xinhua*



Barcelona's Lionel Messi (3rd L) celebrates his goal with teammate Carles Puyol (R) during their FIFA Club World Cup semi-final soccer match against Atlante at Zayed Sports City stadium in Abu Dhabi on 16 December, 2009.—XINHUA

Iran test-fires missile amid nuclear tension

TEHERAN, 17 Dec — Iran successfully test-fired a long-range, improved *Sejil 2* missile on Wednesday, state television reported in an announcement likely to add to tension with the West.

A1 Alam, Iran's Arabic-language satellite television, said the *Sejil* missile had a longer range than the *Shahab* missile, which Iranian officials in the past have said can reach targets up to 2,000 kilometres (1,250 miles)

away. That would put Israel and US bases in the Gulf within reach.

The missile test coincides with increased tension over Iran's nuclear programme, which the West fears is aimed at making bombs. Iran denies the charge.

Neither Israel nor the United States have ruled out military action if diplomacy fails to resolve the dispute. Iran has vowed to retaliate for any attack.—MNA/Reuters



Jordanian actress Saba Mubarak receives an award from Sheikh Majed (L), the son of the Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, during the Closing Night and Award Ceremony of the Dubai International Film Festival (DIFF) in Dubai on 16 December 2009.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (18-12-2009) (Friday)

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

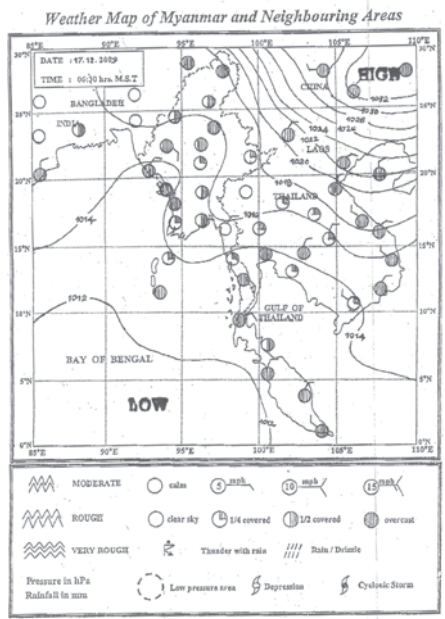
Local Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Weaving Industry of Lotus Cloths
- * BIMSTEC Countries to boost trade, investment
- * Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Inlay, Shwe Nyaung)
- * Culture Stage
- * A Day in A Farmer's life
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Weaving Industry of Lotus Cloths
- * BIMSTEC Countries to boost trade, investment
- * Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Inlay, Shwe Nyaung)
- * Culture Stage
- * A Day in A Farmer's life
- * Treasure Trove of Myanmar Art and Handicrafts
- * Bamboo-tube Sticky Rice
- * Poem Garden "The Moon"
- * Myanmar Indigenous Ornamental Fish (Part-1)
- * National Dance
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Learning Opportunities for Disabled Persons
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm



WEATHER

Thursday, 17th December, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Mon States, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Shan State, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Kachin and Mon States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Loilem (0°C), Pinlaung (2°C), Namsam (4C), Lashio, Heho and Haka (5°C) each, Mogok and Ann (6°C) each. Maximum temperature on 15-12-2009 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 16-12-2009 was 58°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 16-12-2009 was 64%. Total sun shine hours on 15-12-2009 was (9.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 17-12-2009 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 (4) mph from Northeast at (17:30) hours MST on 16-12-2009.

Bay inference: According to the observations at yesterday's midnight, the low pressure area over Southwest Bay has become unimportant. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 18th December 2009: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing and Mandalay 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 increase of night temperatures in Upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 18-12-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-12-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18-12-2009: Partly cloudy.



Friday, 18 December
View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am
 2. မြတ်ဂုဏ်တော်သခင် (သန်းမြတ်စိုး၊ တေးရေး-မောင်မောင်လတ်)
- 7:25 am
 3. To Be Healthy Exercise

- 7:30 am
 4. Morning News
- 7:40 am
 5. Nice & Sweet Song
- 7:55am
 6. အတပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:05 am
 7. The Mirror Image Of The Musical Oldies
- 8:20 am
 8. "ကျွန်းမာသန်ထွား ဉာဏ်မြင့်မား"
- 8:40 am
 9. International News
- 8:45 am
 10. Musical Programme
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial Song
 2. Songs of National Races
- 4:20 pm
 3. Musical Programme

- 4:30 pm
 4. မြန်မာစာမြန်မာစာကား
- 4:40 pm
 5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာ ရှေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ်(စီးပွားရေးပညာ၊ မြည်သူ့ရေးရာအထူးပြုများ) (စီးပွားရေးပညာ)
- 4:55 pm
 6. Songs For Uphold National Spirit
- 5:00 pm
 7. သက်တံရောင်သံပိုင်
- 5:15 pm
 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:20 pm
 9. Songs Of Yester Years
- 5:35 pm
 10. ပဉ္စလက်ကျောင်းတော်
- 6:00 pm
 11. Evening News

- 6:15 pm
 12. Weather Report
- 6:20 pm
 13. "ဝါသီးကရွှေသီးမြစ်ဖြူ" (ဖြိုးငွေစိုး၊ တောင်ခန့်၊ ဝဝဝင်းခင်၊ ခိုင်ငြိမ်း၊ ငြိမ်းမဲ) (ဒဂုံရိတ်တာ-ဒေါက်တာ-တင်အောင်ရွှေ (သုတေသီ))
- 7:00 pm
 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာလောင်းရိပ်" (အပိုင်း- ၂၂)
- 8:00 pm
 15. News
 16. International News
 17. Weather Report
 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကိုယ်ရံတော်" (အပိုင်း-၁)
 19. သီချင်းချစ်သူ (ရွှင်စုန်း)

- ★ 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

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivers address at graduation parade of 12th Intake of DSTA

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the graduation parade of the 12th Intake of the Defence Services Technological Academy at the parade ground of the DSTA in PyinOoLwin at 8.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, SPDC Secretary-1 Quartermaster-General General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief

(Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Tha Aye and Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Defence Services Inspector-General Lt-Gen Thein Htaik, Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Lt-Gen Soe Maung, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win, Chief of Defence Services Inspection and Auditor-General (Army, Navy and Air) Lt-Gen Maung Shein, Commander of North-East Command

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe, Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Ministers U Aung Thaung, Maj-Gen Soe Naing, U Thaung, Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Col Zaw Min, Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Dr. Kyaw Myint, Dr. Chan Nyein and Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win and Maj-Gen Thoe Htein, (See page 10)



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects cadet companies.—MNA

Storm News

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Dec— Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced today that according to the observations at yesterday's midnight, the low pressure area occurred over the Southwest of Bay of Bengal become unimportant.

MNA

Significant night temperatures

(17-12-2009)

Loilem	(0°C)
Pinlaung	(2°C)
Namhsan	(4°C)
Lashio, Heho and Haka	(5°C)
Mogok and An	(6°C)