



The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Messages of felicitations exchanged between Heads of State, Heads of Government and Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the two countries on the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—On the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia, the following messages of felicitations were exchanged between the Heads of State, Heads of Government and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the two countries.

Message from His Excellency Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar to His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia.

On this auspicious occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the

Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia, it gives me great pleasure in extending to you my warmest congratulations and best wishes to the government and people of the Republic of Indonesia.

Sharing similar historical background and common aspirations, our two countries are bound by strong ties of friendship and cooperation that date back to the time of

our struggle for independence. I am pleased to recall that our relations became stronger with enhanced cooperation as we shared the common vision of upholding the principle of independent and neutral foreign policy which complimented our two countries as the founding members of the Bandung conference that gave birth to the non-aligned movement. (See page 8)

Senior General Than Shwe visits Hsandawshin Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Dec—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe this morning visited the Hsandawshin Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township, Mon State, and of-

ferred gold foils to it.

Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by SPDC Member General Thura Shwe Mann, SPDC Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military of-

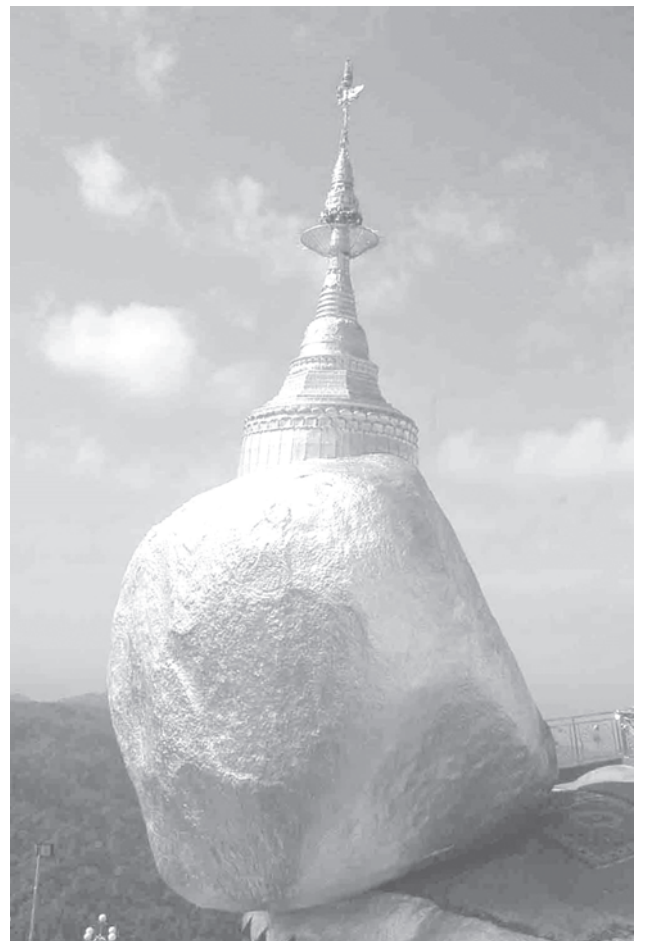
ficers from the Ministry of Defence, the chairman of Mon State PDC commander of South-East Command, ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads, arrived at the pagoda by helicopter at 11:20 am.

There, they received a warm welcome from

Brig-Gen Tauk Tun of local station, departmental officials and members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Senior General Than Shwe and entourage cordially greeted the visitors along the stairway to the pagoda.

(See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe offers flowers, water and light to Hsandawshin Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda.—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

Sunday, 27 December, 2009

Cooperate in safeguarding independence and sovereignty

There have been advancements in medical science and military science with the changes of eras and systems. Nuclear, chemical and biological weapons have been produced by combination of military sciences.

There were times when those weapons were used in some regions although the international community is making efforts to control and restrict them, as the attacks with such kinds of dangerous weapons could have serious consequences causing social sufferings for successive generations of mankind.

Only when Tatmadaw physicians seek ways and means in advance to know the dangerous consequences of these nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, will they be able to protect the nation in times of emergency.

They are required to pursue further studies on a sustainable basis not only of the ever progressing medical science but also other related military science.

If each and every Tatmadawman becomes smart enough to live with health knowledge and consciousness in line with the motto "Prevention is better than cure", losses caused by diseases could be prevented.

Military physicians are to protect all the Tatmadaw members discharging national defence duties so that they can be physically fit and free of disease to serve the country.

Tatmadawmen are applying their profession with innovative and creative ways in the interests of the nation and the Tatmadaw through exchange of knowledge and experiences gained in their practical life among themselves.

All in all, military physicians need not only to continuously learn advancing medical science but also to protect and safeguard the nation's independence and sovereignty in cooperation with Tatmadawmen and the people.

December Mass Walk (4th Week) held

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Dec—Under the aegis of Ministry of Sports, December Mass Walk (Fourth Week) of 2009 was held here this morning, participated by personnel, and staff of ministries, and their families, students of Basic Education High Schools and local people.

They walked from Myoma Market along Pyinmana Taungnyo road to Gem Museum on Yaza Thingaha Street through Thabyaygon roundabout and did physical exercises at the front of the museum in happiness.

A total of 6,000 persons took part in the mass walk who were served with snacks and drinks by Ministry of Sports, Amaya Hotel, Yadana Theinga Hotel, Tawwin Nay Pyi Taw Hotel and Mount Pleasant Hotel.—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

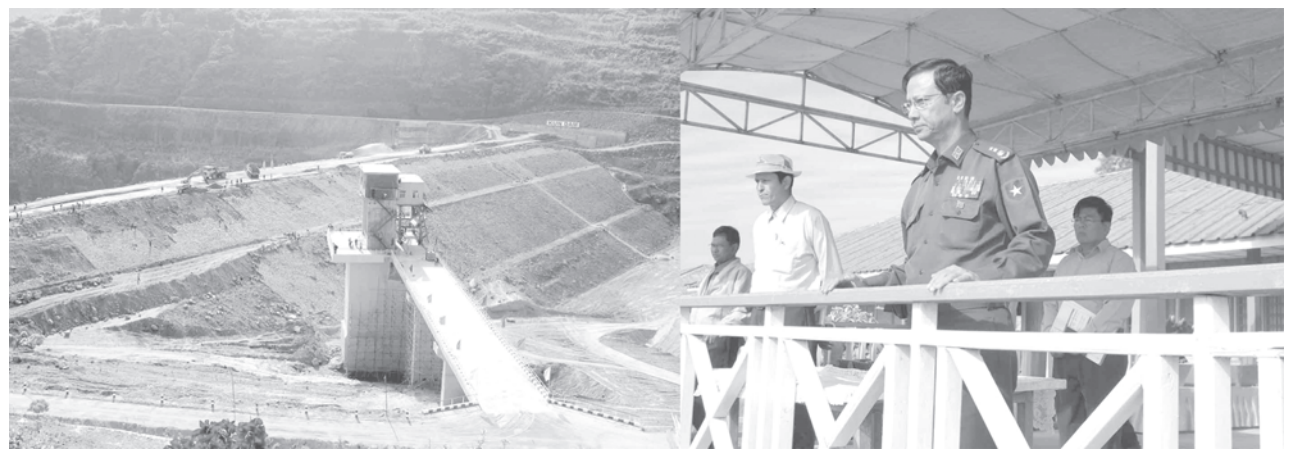
December Mass Walk of Yangon Division held

YANGON, 26 Dec—December Mass Walk of Yangon Division was held at gathering point of Myoma ground in Dagon Township in Yangon West District here this morning. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win

Myint and Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, senior military officers, division level officials, students, members of social organizations and local people took part in the mass walk and did physical exercise at the People's Square.

MNA

Electric Power No. 1 Minister inspects dam projects



Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min inspects construction work of Kunchaung Dam Project.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Dec—Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min, on 24 December, inspected Kunchaung Dam Project and gave necessary

instructions.

The project being implemented by Construction No. 3 is located about nine miles to the south-west of Pyu in

Toungoo District. The minister also inspected Shwegyin Dam Project near Kyauknagar village, about six miles to the north-east of Shwegyin in Bago

Division. The minister heard reports on progress of work and called personnel concerned for timely completion of the project.—MNA

"Thank you Party" of PTT Lubricants held



Managing Director U Aung Naing Tun of Tunn Star Co Ltd extends greetings.—MNA

YANGON, 26 Dec—The PTT Public Co Ltd (Thailand) and Tunn Star Co Ltd, sole distributor in Myanmar, co-organized "Thank you Party" for 2009 PTT Lubricants and best dealer awarding ceremony in conjunction with get-together at the Pool Garden of Chatrium Hotel, here, on 20 December.

Managing Director U Aung Naing Tun of Tunn Star Co Ltd and Executive Vice President Mr Sarun Rangkarisi of PTT Public Co Ltd (Thailand) Commercial & International Marketing extended greetings. Chairman U Tun Lwin and MD U Aung Naing Tun of Tunn Star Co Ltd and Mr Sarun Rangkarisi presented Top

10 Dealer awards to sale agents before hosting dinner to those present.

PTT, the biggest petrochemical company in Thailand, has been manufacturing PTT Lubricants which holds market share No. 1. Although it has been distributed in Myanmar only about two years, the PTT now can achieve fame as it fulfills quality

products for the customers' satisfaction in short time.

The PTT brand of Tunn Star Co Ltd has been distributing various lubricant used for engine, factory and vehicle. For more information, contact Tunn Star Co Ltd (Ph: 01-294701, 294702, 294704, 298103 and 298124).

MNA

Russia-US ties still not easy

Moscow, 26 Dec — Relations between Russia and the United States have not become easier since US President Barack Obama came into office, but the two countries have had more and better exchanges, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Friday.

“Saying that it has become easier for us to work in this area (Russia-US relations) since President Obama came to power

would simplify the situation seriously. However, the amount of work has increased and its quality has changed,” Lavrov said in an interview with the *Interfax* news agency.

He said the two countries are now busy clearing up the problems that were amassed under the former US administration and have strained bilateral ties.

“In fact, we are at the beginning of a process

aimed at bringing our relations back to normal, which would also reflect our shared responsibility for the fate of the world,” he said.

In a separate interview with Russian news channel Vesti 24 on Friday, Lavrov admitted that Moscow and Washington remain at odds over Georgia, a former Soviet republic that has allied itself with the United States.

Xinhua



This picture shows Northwest Airlines Flight 253 on the runway after arriving at Detroit Metropolitan Airport from Amsterdam on Friday, 25 Dec, 2009. A passenger aboard the plane set off firecrackers on Friday, causing a commotion and some minor injuries, a Delta official said.—XINHUA

Man ignites small explosive device on US jetliner in suspected terrorism attempt

WASHINGTON, 26 Dec — A man suspected of extremist affiliation ignited on Friday a small explosive device on a Northwest Airlines flight bound to Detroit, an incident the White House considers to be a “terrorism attempt,” officials said.

US congressman Peter King, a ranking member of the House Homeland Security Committee said the suspect is a 23-year-old Nigerian, who ignited the device prior to the plane’s landing in Detroit, Michigan.

CNN quoted an administration official as saying that the White House is considering the incident as a “terrorism attempt” and a federal bulletin said the suspect has extremist affiliation.

The suspect, who suffered second-degree burns, were immediately subdued and was put under custody at a hospital.

All 278 passengers on the *Airbus A330* wide-body jet, which landed at 11:53 am (1653 GMT) local time, have since deplaned at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport, Delta Airlines spokesperson Susan Elliott said.—*Xinhua*

Truck crashes at Ohio nativity scene, killing man

ASHTABULA, 26 Dec — A retired fire chief performing in a live nativity scene outside a northeast Ohio church assisted injured spectators after a pickup truck crashed into the small audience, killing one person. Former Ashtabula Fire Chief Norman Jepson, dressed as one of the Three Wise Men, said he checked the injured and called for help. Several ambulances responded.

As many as six people may have been injured in the Wednesday night accident outside Trinity Presbyterian Church, said Ronald Kaydo, a police sergeant in Ashtabula, a city of about 21,000 residents on Lake Erie’s coastline.

Jepson said a car struck a pickup truck and the truck crashed into people watching the performance, pinning a 57-year-old man against a utility pole. That man died later at a hospital in Cleveland, about an hour southwest of Ashtabula.

Internet

In this 22 Dec, 2009 file photo show Mexican journalist Alberto Velazquez, of the *Expresiones de Tulum* newspaper, is transported to a hospital after being shot in Tulum, Mexico, before dying shortly after. Velazquez’s killing has brought the number of journalist’s deaths in Mexico to 12 this year.

INTERNET



Journalist killed in Mexico, 12th case in 2009

MEXICO CITY, 26 Dec — A journalist was gunned down this week as he left a holiday party in the Mexican Caribbean resort town of Tulum, human rights officials and an international media group said on Friday, bringing to 12 the number of reporters killed this year in the country. Alberto Velazquez of the newspaper *Expresiones de Tulum* was killed on Tuesday.

Velazquez had written articles critical of local officials, and his paper had received threats, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. In a statement, the group quoted colleagues as saying Velazquez was shot by a gunman on a motorcycle, and they believed it was related to his reporting.

Velazquez founded the paper in June and worked as a lawyer, according to the Civic Association of Journalists of the Riviera Maya, a local Press group. It said that Velazquez, as he was dying, reportedly accused allies of the mayor of Tulum of being responsible for his death.—*Internet*

Six Shiites killed by roadside bomb

BAGHDAD, 26 Dec — A roadside bomb killed six Shiite pilgrims on Friday during a procession, the latest violence targeting the group during observances of a religious holiday, officials said.

The deaths followed heightened tensions in a northern Iraqi town after troops were deployed following a scuffle between Christians and Shiites over holiday decorations. Observances of the ten-day Shiite festival of Ashoura, which ends on 27 Dec, coincided on Friday with Christian celebrations of Christmas.

The government has been trying to assure people it can protect both Shiites and Christians during the two holidays. During Ashoura, hundreds of thousands of pilgrims converge on the holy city of Karbala.—*Internet*



Xinhua
In this image made available by NATO on 18 Dec, 2009, Marines from the Standing NATO Maritime Group one (SNMG1) flagship, the Portuguese Navy frigate NRP.—INTERNET

Year after warships come, piracy up

NAIROBI, 26 Dec — A helicopter fired warning shots toward a suspected pirate skiff, where six Somali men sat among assault rifles, grappling hooks and an aluminum ladder. But before it could be boarded by sailors from a nearby warship, the men threw all the gear overboard.

With little evidence to convict them, the would-be pirates were let go, along with their boat and enough fuel to get to Somalia. Nothing was done to prevent the men from rearming and trying again.

The high-seas encounter last week illustrates how the multinational naval force deployed a year ago to try to stem piracy has had limited success. Experts say the attacks won’t stop unless pirate havens inside Somalia are eliminated.

Xinhua



A 2.5-metre-long Tanghulu, a Chinese traditional snack made of sugarcoated haws and other fruit on a stick, made of 88 haws is sold at auction during a traditional snack festival held in Jilin, northeast China's Jilin Province, on 24 Dec, 2009.—XINHUA

Jordan sees rise in hybrid vehicle imports

AMMAN, 26 Dec—Indigenous demand for hybrid automobiles is increasing in Jordan.

The Jordan Times Online reported on Wednesday that Jordanian Customs Department statistics reveal that 4,796 hybrid cars have been cleared from the free zone since the beginning of 2009, with 859, or 18 percent of the total number, entering the market since the beginning of December.

Government authorities believe the surge in imports might be motivated by concerns that the vehicles might soon be subjected to increased tariffs and have stated publicly that there are currently no plans to levy more fees on hybrid automobiles.—Xinhua

Toyota eyes 7.5 million global output for '10

TOKYO, 26 Dec—Toyota Motor Corp expects a 17 percent increase in its 2010 global production, excluding units Daihatsu and Hino Motors, from this year to about 7.5 million units, Japanese media reported on Saturday.

The move comes as recovery signs of the economy emerge in Japan, the United States and Europe.

The figure is at a level similar to Toyota's output in 2005 and represents a decline of one million units from 2007, the Nikkei reported, adding the actual number for 2010 could top the projection because it does not take into account the impact from the government extending subsidies for environmentally friendly vehicles.

A Toyota spokesman said the company had informed its suppliers of its plans for production for next year, but the figure was still a rough estimate.

He added that Toyota would announce a finalized forecast as soon as it was compiled, most likely in January.—Internet



The new Toyota FJ Cruiser 2010 is on display during the Dubai Motor Show on 15 Dec, 2009.—INTERNET

China revises up 2008 economic growth

BEIJING, 26 Dec—China announced on Friday that the country's economy grew by 9.6 percent in 2008, up from a previously announced figure of nine percent.

The latest national economic census found the economy was worth 31.4 trillion yuan in 2008, head of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Ma Jiantang said at a briefing, or around 4.6 billion dollars based on the current exchange rate.

That meant growth was 0.6 percentage points higher than the nine percent announced in January, Peng Zhilong, director-general of the NBS' department of national accounts, said at the same news conference.

The Chinese economy, now the world's third largest, enjoyed a double-digit increase for five years from 2003 before slowing down last year due to the impact of the global financial crisis.

Government officials have said the nation aims to achieve eight percent growth in 2010, a target set each year since 2005 and always exceeded, as Beijing maintains pro-growth policies to fight the global downturn.

Internet

Nepal feels tumbling flow of tourists during Christmas

KATHMANDU, 26 Dec—Nepal being recognized as one of the world's best tourist destinations, witnessed tumbling flow of tourists during the cheerful occasion of Christmas this year.

The most diligent tourist belt in capital Kathmandu, Thamel felt a declining number of foreigners celebrating Christmas compared to last year despite delightful preparations.

Even though Thamel

remained crowded by hoards of domestic as well as foreign guests during Christmas and New Year, yet the number was disappointing this year compared to last year's Christmas celebration.

"There was no presence of guests as we were hoping to drop in at our corner," said Kumar Gurung, owner of The Funky Buddha Garden Restaurant in Thamel bemoaning at the presence of foreign guests during Christmas Eve.

"The flow of tourists

had declined by 90 percent on Christmas Eve compared to last year," Gurung told Xinhua on Friday, adding that he has no hope of more tourists coming to Thamel for New Year celebration too.

According to him, one of the reasons behind flip-flop of tourists flow in Thamel during this year's Christmas is the three-day general strike called on by the Trade Union Association of Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) (UCPN-M) on 20-22 Dec.—Xinhua

Wuhan Iron and Steel to expand output by 24% next year

BEIJING, 26 Dec—Wuhan Iron and Steel Group (Wugang), China's third-largest steel maker, plans to increase production by 24 percent next year as demand recovers amid the reviving economy, China Daily reported on Saturday citing the company's statement.

Wugang expected to produce 37.9 million tonnes of crude steel next year, up from a forecasted 30.5 million tonnes this year, and it raised revenue expectation by 11 percent to 150 billion yuan (22 billion US dollars) in 2010, according to the statement.

China's 4-trillion yuan stimulus package has helped domestic steel makers return to profit in May after seven straight months of losses because of the glo-

bal economic crisis.

Steel consumption might rise by 10 percent next year due to a stronger demand boosted by a 28-percent increase in assets investment in 2010, Yu Liangui, a senior analyst from Mysteel, was quoted as saying.

"The government's plan to restrict entry for small steel makers gives ample room for large steel mills to expand production," according to Yu.

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology earlier this month said it would be mandatory for steel mills to have at least 1 million tonnes of capacity, a move that could squeeze small steel mills out of the market and speed up the pace of industry consolidation.—Internet

Pedestrians pass a highrise building being constructed in Beijing on 16 Dec, 2009. China said it would curb "overly fast" real estate price rises that have raised fears of a property market bubble with more low-income housing, redeveloping slums and halting "speculative" buying.—INTERNET



Bangladesh sees global recognition as big achievement from Copenhagen Climate summit

DHAKA, 26 Dec—The Copenhagen summit comes as a boon for Bangladesh as the world community recognized its vulnerability to the man-made disasters, said chairperson of the South Asian country's All Party Parliamentary Group on Climate Change and Environment on Friday.

Chairperson of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Climate Change Saber Hossain Chowdhury told *Xinhua* on Fri-

day in an exclusive interview, "The world realizes the dangers that faced Bangladesh."

"Copenhagen did not give us everything that we wanted but we've seen the summit as a beginning of a process rather than the culmination of a process," he said. Chowdhury, who led an All Party Parliamentary Group to the summit as part of Bangladesh's official delegation, said the country is one of the most badly affected

nations because for "us" climate change is not just a risk in future but it is a present day reality.

"I think what we were looking at the summit was first adaptation. Bangladesh wanted to have assurance of sufficient funding because if there is one metre rise in sea level that is going to displace about 30 million people permanently in the country," said the ruling party Bangladesh Awami League lawmaker.—*Xinhua*

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Sino-European cultural exchanges enhanced in 2009

BRUSSELS, 26 Dec—Taking strength from their political and economic ties, cultural exchanges between China and Europe were greatly enhanced in 2009, which analysts said should promote understanding and trust between the two sides.

At two main cultural events in Europe, China was chosen as the guest of honour this year, namely the Europolia China art festival in Belgium and the Frankfurt Book Fair in Germany.

The ongoing Europolia China art festival, which opened on 8 Oct, will last until 14 Feb, 2010. About 50 exhibitions and 450 art shows will be staged in more than 70 cities in Belgium and four neighbouring countries of the Netherlands, France, Luxembourg and Germany.

The exhibitions and performances highlight four main themes: Immortal China, Contemporary China, Colourful China, and China and the World, which aim to give European audience a full picture of China's traditional and contemporary arts.—*Xinhua*

Deer stand together in snow covered woods, Thursday, Dec. 24, 2009, in Des Moines, Iowa.

INTERNET

Photo taken in Shanghai on 25 Dec, 2009 shows the interior of the Expo Centre. The Expo Centre, also the first permanent exhibition pavilion with core facilities, were completed on Friday. During the Expo in 2010, the centre will assume functions such as the World Expo operation and command centre, ceremony conference centre, news release centre and forum centre. —XINHUA



Singapore continues to see low birth rate

SINGAPORE, 26 Dec—Singapore registered 32,630 new-born babies in the first 10 months of this year, local media reported on Friday.

According to local TV broadcaster Channel NewsAsia, the figure is far short of the 50,000 needed to replace the population each year. For the whole of 2008, 39,826 babies were born in Singapore.

The broadcaster said that some sociologists argue that one important reason for this lack of improvement in birth rate is the state of the economy.

"A lot of family planning decision is being made based on the economy, like whether a person can keep their job, maintain their job.

Their salary over the couple of years would be a main determinant," Chang Yau Hoon, from the School of Social Sciences at the Singapore Management University, was quoted as saying.

Singapore's total fertility rate declined to 1.28 births per female in 2008. The country's total population was 4.99 million at the end of June 2009.

Xinhua

A car runs past Shuangqiao toll gate of the Zhoushan Sea-crossing Bridge in Zhoushan, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 26 Dec, 2009. Costing 13.1 billion RMB yuan (1.9 billion US dollars), the 46.5-kilometre Zhoushan Sea-crossing Bridge, so far the longest of its kind in the country, has been completed after 10 years of construction since Sept, 1999. The sea-crossing bridge linking Zhoushan City, China's only city of more than 1,000 islands, went into trial operation on Friday. —XINHUA



Sweden finances Tanzania's rural solar power transformation

DAR ES SALAAM, 26 Dec—Tanzania has received over three billion Tanzanian shillings (about 2.2 million US dollars) from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency to implement rural solar power project in the eastern African country, the local media reported on Friday.

After the inauguration of the project, Tanzania Assistant Commissioner of Energy and Minerals Hosea Mbise said that the project was aimed to remove impediments in the development of solar power sector in Tanzania as it is geared at ensuring that rural-based communities in Tanzania are supplied with reliable power. Mbise named other impediments as high installation charges of the solar power facilities as well as low level of awareness amongst the people.

Limited numbers of technicians in solar power equipment installation and low participation of the private businesses in the investment were among of the major challenges facing the sector.

"This project is very important for people living in rural areas," Mbise said.—*Xinhua*

Capacity of China's 1st massive wind power base hits 2 GW

YUMEN, 26 Dec—The installed capacity of China's first massive wind power base in northwestern Gansu Province reached two gigawatts, local authorities said on Friday. The Jiuquan wind power base achieved the landmark capacity as China Datang Corporation, one of China's power giants, installed a 200-megawatt wind power unit in Yumen City under the jurisdiction of Jiuquan City, said Wu Shengxue, deputy head of Jiuquan's Reform and Development Commission.—*Xinhua*



Photo taken on 25 Dec, shows workers of China Datang Corporation install a 200-megawatt wind power unit in Yumen City in northwestern China's Gansu Province. The installed capacity of China's first massive wind power base in northwestern Gansu Province reached two gigawatts, local authorities said on Friday. —XINHUA

Toyota to recall 43,000 cars in China

TOKYO, 26 Dec — Japan's Toyota Motor Corp is recalling about 43,000 cars in China due to a defect that may cause engine oil to leak, a company spokesman said on Friday.

The recall affects four models, the Lexus ES 350, the Lexus RX 350, the Highlander sports utility vehicle and the Previa minivan, said the spokesman, Yuta Kaga.

It comes just months after Toyota announced its biggest ever recall in China, affecting about 688,000 vehicles, due to a defect in the electric window system.

Toyota's reputation for quality has been dented recently by a series of recalls or safety issues, including a fatal accident in California involving an accelerator pedal that jammed under the floor mat.—Internet

Salvation Army major shot in front of three children

LITTLE ROCK, 26 Dec — A Salvation Army worker was shot and killed Christmas Eve in front of his three young children during an attempted robbery outside the charity's community centre in North Little Rock, a Salvation Army official said on Friday.

North Little Rock police said they were looking for the two men who accosted Salvation Army Maj Philip Wise outside the community centre about 4:15 pm on Thursday. No arrests have been made.

The two men fled on foot into a nearby housing development, police Sgt.

Terry Kuykendall said on Friday. Police don't know whether Wise, who was active in the community, knew his attackers, he said.

Wise, 40, had gone to the community centre with his children to pick up his wife — also a Salvation Army major — to drive to his mother's home in West Virginia, said Maj Harvey Johnson, area commander of the Salvation Army. As Wise neared the side door, two men approached. Both men were carrying hand guns, police said. One demanded money and shot Wise, Pulaski County Coroner Garland Camper told the

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. Wise's wife, Cindy, was inside the center and called 911.—Internet

Computers monitored in Chinese Internet cafes for crackdown on illegal online games

BEIJING, 26 Dec — China has put more than 4.65 million computers in over 81,000 Internet cafes across the country under watch to crack down on illegal online games, according to Minister of Culture Cai Wu.

In an interview with Xinhua, Cai said the ministry has closed 219 illegal Internet games with lewd, pornographic and violent contents, and has blocked the access to illegal games and relevant websites for more than 87 million times since the beginning of this year.

China launched a series of nationwide campaigns to crack down on the spread of lewd and pornographic contents through the Internet and mobile phones in 2009

In the latest development, the Ministry of Public Security said on Thursday that the ministry has closed down more than 2,300 WAP websites accessible by mobile phones, and arrested 34 people for running those websites.

Xinhua

No guide lights when jet overshot runway

KINGSTON, 26 Dec — Offshore lights that guide pilots into Jamaica's main airport had been knocked out for more than a month when an American Airlines jet landed in driving rain and overshot the runway, injuring most of the 154 people on board, officials said on Friday.

An underwater electrical fault in November disrupted the 1,300-foot (400-metre) stretch of white lights on a sandbar stretching into the Caribbean Sea, according to Norman Manley Interna-

tional Airport operations director Stanley Smith. Pilots have been regularly advised about the outage, and the runway itself was fully lit, he said.

"The airport has been fully operational since

(the outage) ... so we wouldn't presume that would be a cause. But clearly the investigation is still preliminary," airport vice president Mark Williams told *The Associated Press*.—Internet

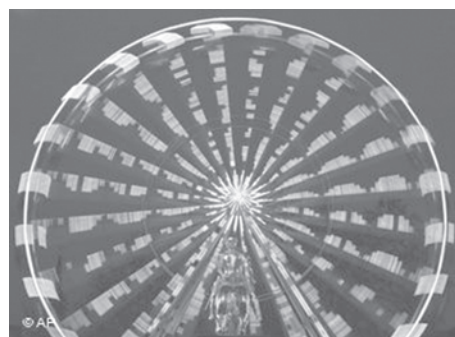


Workers and police investigators sift through debris surrounding the cracked fuselage of American Airlines flight AA331 which crash landed overnight on a flight from Miami to Jamaica, just beyond the runway of Norman Manley International Airport, in Kingston Jamaica, on Wednesday, 23 Dec, 2009.

INTERNET



Manga might have not become popular until recently, but printing has long been an art form in Japan. A new exhibit at the Grassi Museum in Leipzig shows a wide range of Asian artworks, including this drawing from the 1700s.



The "Golden Rider," one of Dresden's most famous landmarks is framed against the backdrop of a ferris wheel at a brightly-lit Christmas market in the eastern German city. The gold-plated equestrian statue is a monument to King August the Strong who was the elector of Saxony.

Dab hand makes breathtaking, amazing paper sculpture

Artist Peter Callesen proves he is a cut above the rest with these dainty models made using glue, a scalpel and just one sheet of A4 paper.

Peter, 41, cuts intricate patterns from a white sheet of paper and uses the cut-out to fold breathtaking designs such as skeletons, insects and buildings. The precision work transforms a piece of paper worth only a few pence into a piece of art that sells for 2,800 pounds (4,474.68 US dollars).

Each model takes up to two weeks to sketch, cut and fold.

If Peter makes a wrong cut or realises he is unable to achieve the fold he wanted he has to rethink his design and start the painstaking work again.

Peter likes his models to tell a story and believes transforming a flat piece of paper into a three-dimension model is a "magical process".

Others again are turning the inside out, or letting the front and the back of the paper meet - dealing with impossibility, illusions, and reflections.

Peter, from Copenhagen, Denmark, likes to use A4 paper in his work because people use it widely in the home and office and can easily relate to it.

Peter has held a number of exhibitions around the world including London, New York and Seoul.

He is represented by the Perry Rubenstein Gallery in New York, United

States, and the Helene Nyborg Contemporary in Copenhagen, Denmark. (1 pound = 1.5981 US dollars)



The artwork of paper sculpture artist Peter Callesen in 2006: *The Short Distance Between Time and Shadow (Detail)*.

NEWS ALBUM



These pelicans have had enough of Stuttgart's below zero temperatures. To keep them comfortable, caretakers at the Wilhelma zoo and park carried them to their winter quarters. The birds can't really complain. Due to safety concerns, their sharp beaks are held closed during the move.

Language no longer lost in translation

Joe McDevitt bought two study aids before leaving London to learn Chinese in Beijing — a soft-cover Chinese-English dictionary and an iPod touch.



A man illustrates how an iPhone program helps him learn Chinese.

The 27-year-old Briton says he has hardly cracked open the dictionary after the first week but uses digital language-learning applications about 50 times a day.

"Without it, I think I'd just be constantly frustrated and that would affect my

progress, because I'd be disheartened," he said.

McDevitt is among a growing number of foreigners downloading applications from the Apple Store to improve their Chinese. To them, dictionary and flashcard programmes like FlashPro, Qingwen Chinese Dictionary and

KTdict C-E have become indispensable.

The Londoner, who worked as a writer and editor for an Asian news website before coming to China, said his iPod touch has made his three months' study at Beijing Language and Culture University more productive.

Turkmenistan and Iran deepen ties

ASHGABAT, 26 Dec—An Iranian governmental delegation is in Turkmenistan for discussions on expanding cooperation on transportation issues.

Turkmenistan.ru informatsionnoe agentsvo reported on Wednesday that according to Iran's Deputy Envoy to Turkmenistan Zolfaqr Amirshahi, Iranian Deputy Road and Transportation Minister Shahriar Afandizadeh is heading a delegation of experts and officials from the Iranian Ministry of Road and Transportation for discussions pertaining to bilateral transport issues of interest.

Amirshahi's entourage is scheduled to meet with Turkmenistan's Deputy Chair-

man of the Cabinet for Construction Deryageldi Orazov. High-priority topics for discussion include determining ways to resolve border problems as well as transportation and Customs issues along with exploring ways to expand cooperation between Iran's Terminal Office and the Turkmen government. Amirshahi's visit precedes the imminent arrival in Turkmenistan of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who will inaugurate a new Turkmenistan-Iran natural gas pipeline designed to supplement the existing Korpezhe-Kurt Kui pipeline, which transports 8.4 billion cubic metres of Turkmen gas to Iran.—INTERNET



Eurostar has rejected claims it breached safety rules when evacuating passengers from cross-Channel trains that broke down last weekend, as a row erupted with Eurotunnel over the controversy.—INTERNET

Eurostar hits back over 'safety' lapse claims

LONDON, 26 Dec—Eurostar rejected on Saturday claims it breached safety rules when evacuating passengers from cross-Channel trains that broke down last weekend, as a row erupted with Eurotunnel over the controversy.

Eurotunnel on Friday accused Eurostar staff of failing to follow safety rules when removing people from the high-speed trains that broke down in the tunnel between Britain and France, sparking passenger confusion and anger. But Eurostar hit back on Saturday, saying passenger safety was not compromised "at any time," adding that an independent review into the 18 December incident would "establish the truth once and for all."

"Whilst the circumstances in the trains delayed in the tunnel were obviously uncomfortable and distressing, passengers' safety was not compromised at any time," it said in a statement.

"We are concerned that Eurotunnel has misunderstood the nature of the independent review which has the backing of both the British and French governments ... and will establish the truth once and for all," it said.

INTERNET



Villagers look at the carcass of a whale on Las Penitas Beach at Nicaragua's Pacific coast, about 125 km (78 miles) west from the capital, Managua on 25 Dec, 2009. The 12-metre-long carcass was washed ashore on Thursday.—INTERNET

Body of missing Maryland girl found in woods

SALISBURY, 26 Dec—The body of a Maryland girl who authorities say was abducted by a registered sex offender was found on Friday in a wooded area near the Delaware state line after thousands of volunteers spent Christmas searching for her. Wicomico County Sheriff Mike Lewis said the body of 11-year-old Sarah H Foxwell was discovered about 4 pm. He offered few other details. Thomas J Leggs Jr, 30, was arrested on Wednesday and charged in her kidnapping.

Wicomico County State's Attorney Davis R Ruark said authorities remain focused on Leggs as they investigate the killing.

"There's no indication of involvement of any other individuals at this point," he told *The Associated Press*.

Leggs is a former boyfriend of the girl's aunt, who is her legal guardian. A public defender representing him has not returned a phone call. Lewis said the body was found in the northern part of the county, in the area where authorities had been focusing their search.

"This is not the way we wanted to find our young lady on Christmas, but at the very least we've given closure to the family," Ruark said at the news conference.

Lewis said Sarah was last seen Tuesday night at her home on Maryland's Eastern Shore. A relative discovered she was missing early Wednesday while checking on Sarah and her 6-year-old sister. A charging document says Leggs was the last person seen with Sarah.—INTERNET

Two people are taken from a Metrolink train to waiting ambulances after the commuter train collided with two cars in Los Angeles on 23 Dec, 2009. The train collided with the vehicles that had been hurled onto the tracks after one of the cars had been struck from behind by the other vehicle. Six people, including an infant, were injured, two of them critically.—INTERNET



British parents admit raiding children's piggy banks

LONDON, 26 Dec—One fifth of parents in recession-hit Britain admit they have dipped into their children's savings accounts to make ends meet, a survey for a financial services company said on Friday.

About 22 percent of parents said they had been forced to raid their children's savings, with many needing extra cash to pay bills and unexpected car repairs, the survey for Engage Mutual Assurance said.

Just under half of parents said they borrowed between 200 and 500 pounds, according to the survey by OnePoll.

Most parents in Britain, which is still in recession after being hit hard by the global economic crisis, took the money only when there was no alternative.

Eight out of 10 said they saw it as a loan, to be repaid when possible.

Nevertheless, 30 percent admitted they felt guilty about borrowing the cash from their children and 27 percent said they felt sad that their financial situation had become so dire.—INTERNET

Huge US storm puts the freeze on Christmas

CHICAGO, 26 Dec—A fierce Christmas blizzard forced scores of US churches to cancel services on Friday as snow and freezing rain brought a holiday headache to millions across a huge swath of the country. At least 24 deaths were attributed to the nasty storm system that blanketed the central United States beginning on Wednesday, closing several interstate highways, stranding thousands of motorists in whiteout conditions and coating roads with a glaze of ice during one of the busiest travel periods of the year.

Hundreds of flights were cancelled on Thursday and Friday at airports from Minneapolis to Dallas.

The storm, the second brutal winter blast to sock much of the United States in the past week, was not expected to clear before Saturday.—INTERNET



One fifth of parents in recession-hit Britain admit they have dipped into their children's savings accounts to make ends meet, a survey for a financial services company said on Friday.—INTERNET

Senior General Than Shwe visits...

(from page 1)

The Senior General offered flowers, water and lights to the pagoda in the prayer hall and paid reverence to the pagoda.

He made cash donations to the funds of the Pagoda through the sec-

retary and members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees, who then presented a certificate of honour and a religious gift to him.

The Senior General signed the visitors' book and offered gold foils to the pagoda, and

so did his entourage members.

Senior General Than Shwe gave the officials guidance on arrangements for the convenience of the pilgrims, and left the pagoda in the afternoon.

MNA

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe cordially converses with pilgrims. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe offering gold foils to Hsandawshin Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda. MNA



Messages of felicitations exchanged...

(from page 1)

In light of these close traditional ties between our two countries, I would like to reaffirm the commitment of the government of the Union of Myanmar to further maintain and enhance the existing friendship and cooperation with the Republic of Indonesia for the mutual benefits of our peoples.

Message from His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia to His Excellency Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar.

I am greatly pleased to convey to you my warmest greetings and best wishes on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia.

For six decades now, the friendship and cooperation between our countries have been growing from strength to strength, a fact highlighted by Prime Minister General Thein Sein's visit to Indonesia in March this year.

May I take this opportunity to assure you that we in Indonesia will always support the efforts of the Government of Myanmar to promote national peace and security and to preserve the national unity and territorial integrity of Myanmar.

Moreover, along with the rest of ASEAN, we would like to see Myanmar realize its Roadmap to Democracy in an inclusive, sustainable and credible

way.

In this regard, I hope that we could continue our correspondence to further strengthen our mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

Message from His Excellency Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar to His Excellency Dr Boediono, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia.

On behalf of the government and people of the Union of Myanmar, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations and best wishes to Your Excellency on this auspicious occasion of the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia. As we passed sixty years of diplomatic ties, the traditional bond of friendship between our two countries have flourished significantly, on the basis of the five principles of peaceful co-existence.

As the world becomes increasingly interdependent, Myanmar is fully committed to join hands with friendly countries in facing the global challenges. I am fully confident that our friendship and cooperation nurtured during these years will contribute significantly to overcome these challenges. In this light, I would like to reaffirm the commitment of the government of the Union of Myanmar in promoting the existing ties of friendship and understanding with the Republic of Indonesia.

Message from His Excellency Dr Boediono, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia to His Excellency Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar.

It gives me great pleasure to extend to you my warmest greetings and best wishes on the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia.

I am very much pleased that for sixty years now, the friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between our countries have been strengthening. I am confident that in the years ahead we will continue to work together for the benefit of our peoples and thereby contribute to the peace, security and prosperity of the ASEAN region and beyond.

May I also take this opportunity to affirm Indonesia's commitment to support the efforts of your Government to sustain internal peace and security as well as to preserve the national unity and territorial integrity of Myanmar. It is our fervent hope that your Government will be able to implement its Road Map to Democracy in an inclusive, sustainable and credible way.

Message from His Excellency General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar to His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia.

I have the great pleasure to extend my warm felicitations and best wishes to Your Excellency on this auspicious occasion of the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the

(See page 9)

Myanmar required to produce growing number of ...

(from page 16)

In response, the Senior General gave guidance saying that the new factory is to meet the set designs, to boost production of goods and quality products, and to produce other rubber items.

He said that No (1) Tyre and Rubber Products Factory (Thaton), the old factory, can no longer meet initial designs and its production rate is on the decline; that those responsible are to upgrade the old factory to a modern one by replacing old machines with new ones and installing modern machines to promote the operation capacity, after checking the production processes of the factory; and that it is required not only to build new factories but also to renovate and upgrade the old ones.

He added that only then will it be possible for the old and new factories to satisfy the tyre demand of the nation; and that the rubber factories are also to produce other types of household and industrial items.

The commander reported on rubber farms established in Mon and Kayin States up to 2009-2010; programmes to extend rubber farming yearly; and a rise in rubber output.

The Senior General in response to the reports said that Mon State and Kayin State have made progress in farming rubber and they have vast stretches of fallow lands to grow rubber on them; that therefore, rubber is to be grown on an extensive scale in cooperation with local people, after finding out as to how much area is available for extended growing of rub-



Senior General Than Shwe inspects No. 2 Tyre and Rubber Products Factory (Bilin) of Ministry of Industry-2.—MNA

ber and how the rubber sown acreage will be extended in the long-term.

He called for collection of high-yield rubber strains, and giving encouragement to production of finished furniture from old rubber trees.

Next, he presented baskets of fruit to the project director and the chief engineer of China CAMC Engineering Co



Senior General Than Shwe inspects No. 2 Tyre and Rubber Products Factory (Bilin) of Ministry of Industry-2.—MNA

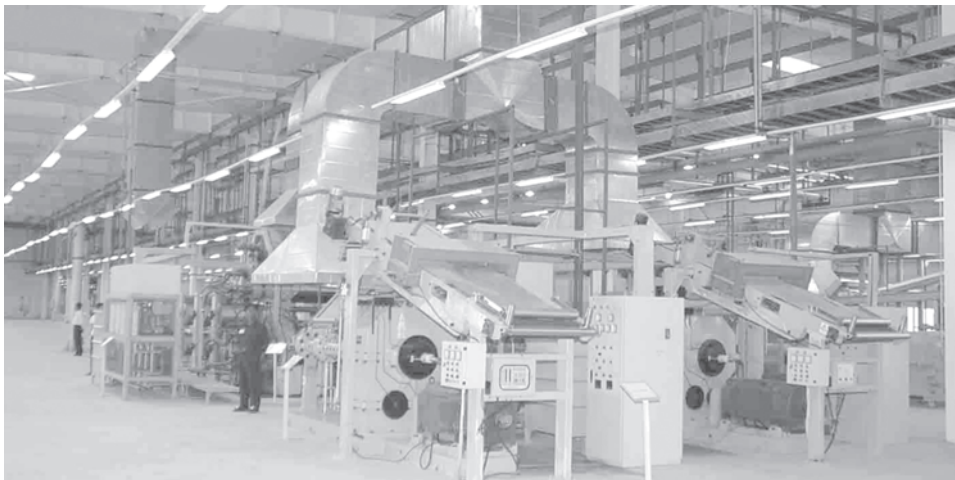
Ltd that are engaged in the factory project.

The Head of State inspected progress in installing machines in the Mixing Department and Radial Tyre Workshop in the manufacturing building. Minister Vice-Admiral Soe

Thein conducted the Senior General round the factory, reporting on progress in installing machines for production of raw tyre in the first and second steps, machines for production of finished items, X-Ray Tester and Uniformity &

Balancing Tester for control of quality of produced tyres, use and difference of old Bias tyre and new Radial tyre in quality.

No (2) Tyre and Rubber Product Factory (Bilin) is near Mile Post (See page 10)



Messages of felicitations exchanged...

(from page 8)

Republic of Indonesia. The diplomatic relations that we have nurtured for sixty years have born fruits of mutual goodwill understanding and cooperation.

I am pleased to note that the common aspirations and close cooperation between the two countries have marked the history of our diplomatic relations.

We hope that the occasion of the 60th anniversary will serve as a valuable opportunity to further expand the existing close and friendly relations between our two countries. I am fully confident that these traditional ties of friendship will continue to contribute beyond our bilateral relations, and also to the peace, stability and prosperity of the region.

Message from His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia to His Excellency General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar.

On the occasion of the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia, I am pleased and honoured to convey to you my warmest greetings and best wishes.

The friendship and cooperation between Indonesia and Myanmar, which have been growing steadily

over the years, reached a high point during Your Excellency's visit to Indonesia in March this year. Let us therefore build on the success of your visit to further enhance our close relations and mutually beneficial cooperation.

By working closely together on a bilateral basis as well as within the framework of ASEAN, the United Nations and other multilateral forums, Myanmar and Indonesia will be contributing significantly to regional and global peace, security and prosperity.

At the same time, we encourage and support every effort of Myanmar to realize its Road Map to Democracy in an inclusive, sustainable and credible way.

Message from His Excellency U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar to His Excellency Dr R M Marty M Natalegawa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.

I wish to extend my warmest felicitations and best wishes to you on this auspicious occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia.

Six decades ago, we started a new chapter of friendship. During these years, our successive leaders

have maintained our friendly and cordial relations based on the mutual understanding and close cooperation.

This auspicious occasion has placed another important milestone in the history of our bilateral relations. It is my firm belief that this memorable event would contribute greatly to the further strengthening of the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples.

I look forward to working closely with you in bilateral, regional and international contexts.

Message from His Excellency Dr. R.M Marty M. Natalegawa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia to His Excellency U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar.

It gives me pleasure to convey to you my warmest congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of the diplomatic relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia.

Let me take this opportunity to affirm my sincere commitment to further strengthening our close friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation. Together we can build on the achievements of Prime Minister General Thein Sein's visit to Indonesia in March this year.—MNA

Myanmar required to produce growing number of ...

(from page 9)

No (122) of Yangon-Mawlamyine Road in Bilin Township, Mon State. The factory project was launched in September 2008. So far, construction of the main factory building, installation of machines and engineering works have been completed cent per cent. Now, preparations are under way for trial run.

According to the production capacity, the factory can produce 300,000 units of 11 types of tyres a year.

The two factories will be able to boost production of tyres year by year, so they will contribute towards production of import substitute items.

Senior General Than Shwe and entourage arrived at Thaton by helicopter. They were welcomed there by Brig-Gen Tun Tun Tu of local station, senior military officers, and service personnel.

On arrival at the briefing hall of the University of Computer Studies (Thaton) Project of the Ministry of Science and Technology in Thaton, they were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe, heads of department, the principal, and officials.

Minister for Science and Technology U Thuang reported on the historical background and location of the university, number of the students in the present academic year, strength of the appointed staff members and faculty members, number of the students and teachers of the universities for computer studies under

the ministry, and technological universities, colleges, and government technical high schools.

In response, the Head of State gave guidance saying that computer science is of crucial importance in developed countries, so the nation is required to produce a growing number of computer professionals in order to catch up with developed countries.

Computer universities and colleges are therefore established in strategic regions, he noted.

From the view desk of the briefing hall, the Senior General inspected progress in constructing the main building of University of Computer Studies (Thaton), and cordially greeted the faculty members.

Senior General Than Shwe and entourage inspected progress of Thaton in a motorcade and left the town by helicopter in the evening.—MNA

Missionary Training School, Zabuthiri Beikman opened

YANGON, 26 Dec—A ceremony to open the Missionary Training School of Border Areas and Hilly Regions Sasana Nuggaha Association and the Zabuthiri Beikman of International Theravada Buddhism Research Dhammathabin was held at the archway of the Beikman in Ward 8 of Mayangon Township this morning.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and Chairman of the Construction Committee Pro-Rector (Admin) of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Dr Myint Kyi formally opened Zabuthiri Beikman.

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung unveiled the

bronze plaque and sprinkled scented water on it together with Minister Col Thein Nyunt, the deputy minister, the vice-mayor and officials.

A ceremony to mark the opening ceremony of the buildings followed on the first floor of the Beikman.

Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Pyay Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Kundalajoti administered



the Five Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas. Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Dec—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo received Member of the House of Councillors of Japan Mr

Hideo Watanabe and party at Irrigation Department in Yankin Township, Yangon yesterday.

The two sides held discussion about

investment in agricultural sector, and matters relating to cooperation in technology and boosting of agricultural produce. Also present at the call

were Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Maj-Gen Thein Tun, heads of enterprises under the ministry.—MNA

A & I Minister receives Member of House of Councillors of Japan



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo receives Mr Hideo Watanabe, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan and party.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung presses button to unveil the bronze plaque.

MNA



Maung supplicated on the religious affairs.

The ministers, the deputy minister and the

vice-mayor offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Secretary of SSMNC Nyaungdon Sayadaw

Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Osadha-

bhivamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

MNA

Respect-paying of Taunggyi College (1961-74) alumni held



Old students paying respects to old faculty members.

MNA

YANGON, 26 Dec—The 11th Respect-paying ceremony of Taunggyi College (1961-74) alumni was held at YMCA hall in Botahtaung Township here today.

The old students paid respects to 75 year old faculty members. On behalf of the old faculty members, Sayamagyi Daw Saw Kyaing and Sayagyi U Sai Tun Aung spoke words of advice. The old students read out financial reports and spoke words of thanks.—MNA

Ten killed, two injured in coach accident in NW Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 Dec—Ten passengers died while two others were injured in a coach accident at midnight on Saturday in Malaysia's northwest city of Ipoh, Malaysian national media *Bernama* reported on Saturday.

The report said that a double-decker express coach skidded and hit a road divider at one o'clock in the morning at 272.8 km North-South Highway, the main road linking northern and southern ends of the Peninsular Malaysia.

No more information is unveiled by now.

Xinhua

Fuel spill at same Alaska reef as Exxon Valdez

LOS ANGELES, 26 Dec—A tugboat struck the same reef as the *Exxon Valdez* tanker 20 years ago, spilling diesel into Alaska's Prince William Sound and creating a three-mile-long slick, the US Coast Guard said on Friday.

An unknown quantity of the fuel leaked from the *Pathfinder* tug after it ran aground Wednesday on Bligh Reef. The boat's owners were pumping the remaining diesel from the original 33,500 gallons (127,000 litres) in its tanks.

Flyovers by a *C-130* cargo plane and helicopters revealed "a light grey or silver diesel sheen spanning an area approxi-

mately three miles (five kilometres) long and 30 yards (metres) wide approximately one mile east of Glacier Island," the Coast Guard said on its website.

The tug had been scouting shipping lanes for ice when it struck the same rock that did for the *Exxon Valdez* on 24 March, 1989, spilling 11 million gallons of crude into the sea in the worst US oil disaster.

Wednesday's accident was nothing like on the same scale and the Coast Guard said the slick was "rapidly dissipating" and not expected to hit the shoreline of Glacier Island for some time.

Internet

A member of Venezuela's Maritime Rescue and Aid service looks out of a MI 17 helicopter during the rescue mission of the crew of the Greek bulk carrier "Aegean Wind" at 33 nautical miles (61 km) northeast of the Venezuelan Caribbean island of La Blanquilla on 25 Dec, 2009. —INTERNET



File photo shows emergency service personnel among the victims of a fatal bus accident in Malaysia. Ten people have been killed and two others injured in a bus crash on a major highway in the country early Saturday, police have said. —INTERNET



Workers scrub large rocks on the oil-covered beach of Naked Island on Prince Williams Sound in 1989. The US Coast Guard said a tugboat struck the same reef as the Exxon Valdez tanker 20 years ago, spilling diesel into Alaska's Prince William Sound and creating a three-mile-long slick. —INTERNET



Radical Yemeni cleric believed unhurt in airstrike

SAN'A, 26 Dec—A US-born radical cleric is alive and well following reports he may have been killed in a Yemeni airstrike against suspected al-Qaeda hideouts, friends and relatives said on Friday.

The government said it targeted a meeting of high-level al-Qaeda operatives in Thursday's airstrike in the remote Shabwa region. It claimed at least 30 militants were killed, possibly including Anwar al-Awlaki, a radical cleric who has been

linked to the shooter in last month's attack at the Fort Hood military base in the US. On Friday, a friend of the cleric, Abu Bakr al-Awlaki, told *The Associated Press* he was not among those killed. He refused to say if the cleric was attending the meeting. Abu Bakr al-Awlaki was in Shabwa and in contact with the gunmen in control of the area following the strike. He is not related to the cleric, but the two are from the same tribe and



Map locates Shabwa Province, where Yemeni forces struck a series of suspected al-Qaeda hideouts on Thursday. —INTERNET

carry the same last name.

Thursday's airstrikes were the second in a week against al-Qaeda and were carried out with US and Saudi intelligence help. The newly aggressive Yemeni campaign, backed by American aid,

reflects Washington's fears that the terror network could turn this fragmented, unstable nation into an Afghanistan-like refuge in a highly strategic location on the border with oil-rich Saudi Arabia. —Internet

Ship fire kills nine off Venezuela

CARACAS, 26 Dec—Nine sailors were killed and five were burned in a Christmas Day blaze aboard a Greek freighter in waters off a Venezuelan Caribbean island, the official Venezuelan news agency *ABN* reported on Friday.

It quoted Admiral Carlos Maximo Aniasi, commander of Venezuela's Navy, as saying the blaze broke out in an engine room of the "*Aegean Wind*" before dawn and spread upward on the vessel which was carrying iron ore from Brazil to Houston and had a 24-strong crew.

"Nine bodies were found in different compartments of the Greek ship," the admiral said. The bodies belonged to nine sailors reported missing earlier in the day on the ship 33 nautical miles northeast of the island of La Blanquilla, Aniasi said. The Navy's communications office declined comment on the *ABN* report.

Two Philippine nationals suffered third-degree burns on their face and hands and three Greek crew mates had less severe burns, said Rafael Lugo, the national commander of Venezuela's Maritime Rescue and Aid service.

Ten surviving crew members, including a woman, were on the deck, Lugo said. —Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SINAR BIMA VOYNO (049)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOYNO (049) are hereby notified that the vessels will be arriving on 27.12.2009 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.

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Iran, Afghanistan to bolster cooperation against drug trafficking

TEHERAN, 26 Dec — Iran and Afghanistan underlined the necessity to bolster their cooperation against drug trafficking, the semi-official *Fars* news agency reported on Thursday.

The agreements were reached at a meeting in Teheran on Wednesday between Iran's Prosecutor General Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Ejei and an Afghan judiciary delegation

headed by the country's anti-drug prosecutor, the report said.

During the meeting, the two sides stressed the need for bilateral judicial contacts and the importance to cooperate against illicit drugs, said the report.

According to *Fars*, Iran alone makes 85 percent of the world's total opium seizures.

Xinhua



A entertainer dressed in a hula outfit dances during the half time show of the Hawaii Bowl NCAA college football game between Nevada and SMU, on 24 Dec, 2009, in Honolulu.

INTERNET

Netanyahu asks Livni to join Israeli government

JERUSALEM, 26 Dec—Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has again asked moderate opposition leader Tzipi Livni to join his government.

The *Haaretz* newspaper reports on Friday that if Livni refuses, Netanyahu will try to fragment her Kadima Party and absorb some of its lawmakers into his Likud Party.

Livni says she won't be part of a manoeuvre to split Kadima. But she says if Netanyahu's offer is serious, then she wants to explore how far he is willing to go in negotiations with the Palestinians. Livni refused to join his hardline coalition when he formed it in March, but he has since made some overtures toward the Palestinians.

The two met on Thursday, amid reports Netanyahu was encouraging some Kadima lawmakers to bolt. Kadima was formed by former Prime Minister Ariel Sharon after he left Likud. Its parliamentary lineup includes many Likud defectors.—*Internet*

Mine explosion claims two lives in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 Dec—Two civilians were killed as a mine planted by militants struck a civilian car in Paktika Province east of Afghanistan on Thursday, a Press release of Interior Ministry said.

"The gruesome incident occurred at 06:55 am local time outside Paktika's provincial capital Sharana, leaving two civilians dead," the Press release added.

This is the second bomb attack in a single day on Thursday.

Xinhua



Drivers try to navigate through heavy snow in Alexandria, Virginia. A deadly winter storm snarled holiday travel across the central United States on Thursday as freezing rain and heavy snow caused traffic chaos and grounded hundreds of flights.—INTERNET

Texas population grows fastest in latest US census

HOUSTON, 26 Dec—The population of Texas grew fastest in the United States over a one-year period beginning last July, surging by some 478,000 people to a population of about 24.8 million, latest Census Bureau estimates show.

California was second with 381,000 thousand new additions, followed by North Carolina at 134,000, Georgia with 131,000 and Florida with 114,000, according to figures released on Wednesday by the Bureau.

California remains the most populous state, with 37 million people, followed by Texas, New York, Florida and Illinois. Census figures show the US population has topped 308 million.

Texas' late addition of jobs helped it to win out over Florida in terms of population growth.

Prior to the recession, Florida was expected to be the biggest population gainer, but Texas' late addition of jobs helped it pull ahead.

Between July 2005 and July 2009, Texas added 648,600 non-farm jobs, according to the

Bureau of Labour Statistics, while the collapse of the construction industry cut jobs in Florida. More recently, as people cut back on travel due to the recession, Florida's service industry has lost jobs as well.

Xinhua

Workers create a bamboo grove at the Shanghai Wildlife Park in Pudong New Area on Thursday, in preparation for the arrival of 10 pandas from southwestern China's Sichuan Province to celebrate the 2010 World Expo. —XINHUA



In this photo taken on 23 Dec, 2009, customers use computers at an Internet cafe in Hefei, in central China's Anhui Province. China has issued new regulations that expand its Internet controls by tightening procedures for domain name registration.—INTERNET

Russian Air Force to get new An-140 plane next year

MOSCOW, 26 Dec—Russian Air Force will have a new *An-140-100* aircraft by the end of 2010, said the Defence Ministry on Thursday. A contract for the manufacture of one *An-140-100* has been signed between Russia's Air Force and the Samara-based aircraft-building plant Aviakor, said Vladimir Drik, a ministry spokesman for Air Force Affairs. "It is expected that the new plane will be delivered and handed over to the customer in the fourth quarter of 2010. It will be used for special purpose missions, such as air-lifting of personnel in rigorous Arctic conditions," the spokesman told the *Itar-Tass* news agency.—*Xinhua*



An Air India plane taxis at Mumbai Airport, in September 2009. India's airline passenger market could emerge as the world's fastest growing, an aviation consultancy said, as it forecast the nation's private carriers would return to profit next year.—INTERNET

Gunmen kill Israeli in West Bank shooting attack

JERUSALEM, 26 Dec — Gunmen killed an Israeli man in a shooting attack in the West Bank on Thursday as local attention was focused on Christmas celebrations in nearby Bethlehem. A Palestinian group took responsibility for the killing.

The man, a resident of a Jewish settlement nearby, was in his 40s and was a father of seven, said Col Avi Gil, the Israeli military commander in the area. Gil said the military had lifted restrictions on Palestinian movement in the area and that the perpetrators of the attack took advantage of that. Shooting attacks were once commonplace on routes around the West Bank but have now become rare. Thursday's incident was one of only a handful to take place this year.

Internet



A Palestinian boy stands guard by potable water containers in the northern Gaza Strip on 24 Dec, 2009. On 27 December marks one year since the start of a three-week offensive Israel launched in Gaza during which more than 1,400 Palestinians and 13 Israelis were killed.—INTERNET

Woman charged with dumping newborn

STANTION, 26 Dec — A young Southern California woman was charged on Thursday with dumping a newborn whose body was found in a Dumpster next to a Mexican restaurant.

Police said the suspect is 19 and an Anaheim, Calif, resident but did not release her name, *The Los Angeles Times* reported.

Jim Amormino, a

spokesman for the Orange County Sheriff's Department, said she was under guard at a hospital.

She went there on Wednesday, denying she had just delivered a child, but doctors reported to police they believed she had.

Sheriff's deputies found the body at 7 pm on Wednesday in Stanton.

Investigators believe

Ultra Small Data Centre ver 2 with iPhones and Android phone. It provides power supply to smart phones. This rack case is prototype.

INTERNET

Chinese painting and calligraphy draw Indians in big way

NEW DELHI, 26 Dec — A beautiful exhibition of Chinese calligraphy and ink and wash paintings has been drawing Indians since it was inaugurated here in New Delhi on Wednesday, as a precursor to a series of cultural activities that will mark the 60th year of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and China next year.

Around 30 Chinese artists, including Ding

Guanjia, Song Shiming, Yang Jichuan, Lu Xianning, Wang Shimin, Yu Shui, Le geye, Huang Wenqi, He Chanbo, Han Shuli, Ba Ma Zha Xi, Jia Qiuyu and Yang Zhu, are participating in the exhibition, to be on upto the end of the month in New Delhi.

"This kind of an exhibition will really go a great way to strengthen the cultural relations between the two countries.

More and more such people-to-people contacts will further the overall bilateral relations," Zhang Yan, Chinese Ambassador to India, said here.

Xinhua

Ship museum to follow in Expo's wake

BEIJING, 26 Dec — Shanghai's century-old Jiangnan Shipyard will turn its pavilion at the World Expo 2010 into the city's largest ship museum when the Expo ends, top officials of the shipyard said. A former welding workshop will form the basis of the 7,000-square-metre pavilion built on the shipyard's original site along the Huangpu River. The yard has since moved to Changxing Island.

More than 2,000 old machines and ships dating from 1920s will be shown for the first time in the new museum, which will exhibit many "cultural relics" found during the shipyard's move in 2008. These include the earliest cutting machines and some parts of the "Dongfeng Ship," China's first 10,000-ton cargo ship built in 1965, said Gong Hanming, Party chief of the shipyard. The shipyard will renovate the pavilion after the Expo and open the museum in 2011, Gong said.

Xinhua

Cambodia to host kite festival

PHNOM PENH, 26 Dec — Cambodia is planned to host an international kite festival early next month to show the world of its culture, tradition and the unique kite, according to an official on Friday.

Sim Sarak, director general of Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts said that an international kite festival will be held in Koh Kong Province on 6-7 Jan.

Koh Kong Province is located about 270 km southwest of Phnom Penh

and is bordering with Trat Province of Thailand.

He said the participating countries to the event will include China, Sweden, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Japan.

Sim Sarak said Cambodian people are proud of its traditional kite, known as "Kleng Ek" which means a kite with both unique sound and

musical instrument.

He said Cambodian "Kleng Ek" has long tradition of existence, but was once gone out during Democratic Kampuchea in late 1970s—and is now totally survived and gained reputation.

Kite festival was first organized in 1994 and it has ever since organized on yearly basis.

Xinhua



The tug Pathfinder is surrounded by a spill containment boom on 24 Dec, 2009, in Prince William Sound, Alaska. The Pathfinder, a 136-foot tug scouting for ice along Prince William Sound's oil shipping lanes near Valdez, Alaska, grounded on Bligh Reef on Wednesday. A Coast Guard helicopter stirs the water at left, and a Coast Guard airplane flies by.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Algeria block Bougherra's Old Firm hope

ALGIERS, 26 Dec—Scottish Premier League leaders Glasgow Rangers were dealt a blow on Friday when their Algerian international defender Madjid Bougherra was banned from facing bitter rivals Celtic on 3 January.

The Algerian football federation announced that any of its England and Scotland-based players, due to take part in the 2010 African Nations Cup, can only fulfil their club commitments until December 30. Bougherra can play for Rangers on Sunday against Hibernian, but not against Celtic on 3 January despite pressure from Gers boss Walter Smith.

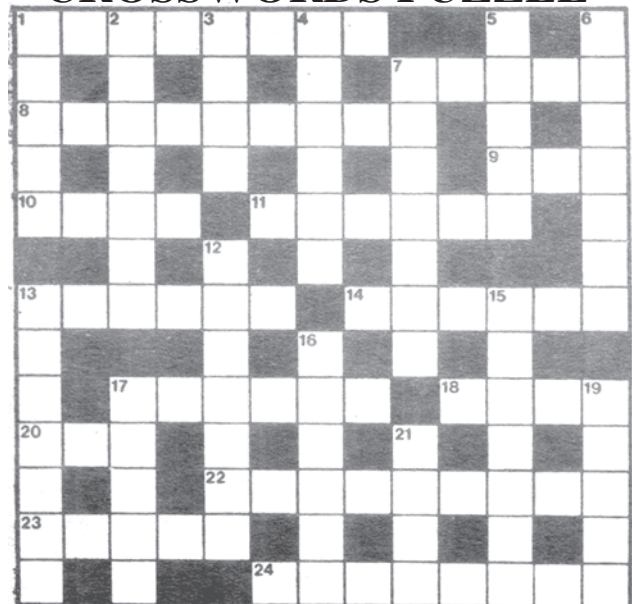
Algeria, who have also qualified for the World Cup, will take part in the African Nations Cup from 10-31 January in Angola, with the some of the squad due to assemble in the south of France for a training camp from Saturday. "A training session will also take place from 1-7 January which all players are expected to attend," said a federation source.—*Internet*

Man City open Sampdoria talks for Pazzini

MANCHESTER, 26 Dec—Manchester City have opened talks with Sampdoria for striker Giampaolo Pazzini. The *Sun* says the Italians have already KO'd moves from Manchester United and Chelsea but mega-rich City will not take no for an answer. New boss Roberto Mancini has handed City's owners a list of targets - and 25-year-old Pazzini is on it.

Mancini faces a battle to get his man as the striker only joined Samp in January from Spain's Fiorentina. But Pazzini has been a revelation since his switch to Serie A, where he has averaged a goal every two games.—*Internet*

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Firing
- 7 Pause
- 8 Docker
- 9 Opening
- 10 Tidy
- 11 Gratify
- 13 Somewhat
- 14 Warden
- 17 Dream
- 18 Space
- 20 Employment
- 22 Annoying
- 23 Unaccompanied
- 24 Acknowledged

DOWN

- 1 Girl's name
- 2 Ham
- 3 Be abundant
- 4 Blockhead
- 5 Brink
- 6 Captain
- 7 Scolded
- 12 Thoughtful
- 13 Career soldier
- 15 Scottish mayor
- 16 Wheedled
- 17 Poison
- 19 Was 12
- 21 Needle-case

Beasley sings praises of Rangers teammates

GLASGOW, 26 Dec—American winger DaMarcus Beasley, whose dramatic return to form has been key to Rangers' assault on the Scottish Premier League, said he owes it all to his teammates. Beasley has



American winger DaMarcus Beasley

started the last four matches, scoring in wins over Dundee United and Motherwell, but he has been keen to pay tribute to team-mates Kenny Miller and Kris Boyd.

"Kenny and Boyd are scoring goals and they are two of the best players in the country," Beasley said. "When they hit form and their confidence is high then we are going to be a good team going forward." Beasley also pinpointed midfielder Steven Davis as the real unsung hero of the Ibrox team.

Internet

Liverpool boss Benitez denies Spain row over Torres surgery

LONDON, 26 Dec—Liverpool boss Rafa Benitez insists there's no row with the Spanish FA over Fernando Torres' need for groin surgery. Benitez dismissed suggestions his native country was putting pressure on the club to ensure their star striker would be 100 per cent for the World Cup.

Benitez said: "Torres' condition is improving all the time and he could manage a full Christmas programme.

"In training this week he was fine. We've been patient with him and it is working. It has not been a straightforward thing to deal with. Sometimes he can play and, after the game, you never know how he will react." "We don't know if his next game will be easy or difficult for him. There has not been any contact with Spain. None. They know we will do what is best for the player. "At this moment, he will carry on training and working with the physios every day. That is the correct treatment. We knew we had to manage this problem during the whole season, so sometimes he is good after the treatment and sometimes not."—*Internet*

Sunderland seek to end long losing streak

SUNDERLAND, 26 Dec—Sunderland manager Steve Bruce issued a Christmas Day message ahead of Everton's visit on Saturday, telling his players to change their mentality as he seeks to find a way out of a depressing slump. Everton visit the Stadium of Light with Bruce fully aware Arsenal are the only side the Black Cats have beaten in their last nine Premier League games. Sunderland are only five points better off than Bolton, who lurk with games in hand inside the relegation zone.

Poor team performances at Wigan and Fulham have not helped, but mistakes contributed



Sunderland manager Steve Bruce

to a home draw with Portsmouth and defeats by Aston Villa and City. Bruce said on Friday: "The biggest thing is the mentality here. The club has been in the bottom five for two years practically, so the mentality is that it's acceptable.

Internet

Celtic desperate to play down Old Firm clash

GLASGOW, 26 Dec—Spain midfielder Marc Crosas has told his Celtic team-mates to concentrate on their upcoming game against Hamilton and put the New Year Old Firm derby to the back of their minds. The Hoops face rivals Rangers on 3 January but have games against Billy Reid's side on Saturday and Kilmarnock to contend with first.

Celtic slipped four points behind Rangers in the race for the Scottish Premier League title with a 2-1 defeat at Hearts last weekend. Crosas has warned his colleagues not to be so focused on the Old Firm clash in case they slip up again and find



Celtic's Japanese player Koki Mizuno is seen during a recent match in west London, England.—*INTERNET*

themselves further behind. But the former Barcelona star insists that no matter what happens over the festive period, these games will not determine who is going to win the league.—*Internet*

Hammer time for Zola

LONDON, 26 Dec—Gianfranco Zola has urged West Ham to spark a New Year revival by handing Portsmouth another Christmas stuffing. Twelve months ago, West Ham gave Pompey a 4-1 Boxing Day hiding at Fratton Park. The result proved to be the turning point in a troubled season and the Hammers went on to finish ninth in the Barclays Premier League.

Zola is desperate for a repeat performance tomorrow when Portsmouth, the only team below West Ham on the table, arrives at Upton Park once again. "I remember last year, that game was fantastic. It was amazing," said Zola. "We knew we were playing very well even before but we just couldn't get it going. We used to get one good result and then a defeat."

"It was that game against Portsmouth and then the other one against Stoke City. Two games in a row, they were massive wins." "After that we were comfortable, we looked confident and I'm looking for the same thing." "We had so many problems last year, but we never stopped trying."

Internet

Wolfsburg considering hiring Germany defender Friedrich

WOLFSBURG, 26 Dec—German champions VfL Wolfsburg are considering signing international defender Arne Friedrich German media have reported. Wolfsburg, who have already been knocked out of the Champions League and are only eighth in the Bundesliga, are said to have made an offer of 8 million euros (11.5 million dollars) for Friedrich, whose contract with Hertha Berlin still runs until 2012 and has an option for a further year.

New Wolfsburg manager Dieter Hoeness, who recently left Hertha after 13 years and is to start with the champions on 15 January did not want to confirm or deny that his new club is interested in Friedrich.

Friedrich's agent Joerg Neubauer, however, confirmed Wolfsburg's interest in Friedrich, but said that the defender was not trying to force a move. "The first step is that the two clubs need to come to an agreement," he said.

Internet

Indonesian govt to purchase land for infrastructure developers

JAKARTA, 26 Dec — The Indonesian government is to buy land on behalf of developers, allowing them to circumvent the torturous process of acquiring land, an effort to smooth the progress of infrastructure development, a paper said here on Saturday.

“Land will be acquired by the government once someone has won a tender. The winner will just need to repay the money spent by the government,” Public Works Minister Djoko Kirmanto quoted by the Jakarta globe as saying.

Officials will revise a presidential decree issued in 2005 that regulates partnerships between the private sector and the government in infrastructure-development projects before year end.

Current regulations require private businesses to acquire the land for infrastructure projects. The government merely provides a guarantee to pay back the money if the project fails.—Internet



Models display a concept car at the World Trade Center in Taipei of southeast China's Taiwan 25 Dec.2009. The 2010 Taipei Auto Show kicked off here on Friday with hundreds of new cars on show. Novel electric-powered and low fuel consuming vehicles became the mainstream of the auto show.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (27-12-2009) (Sunday)

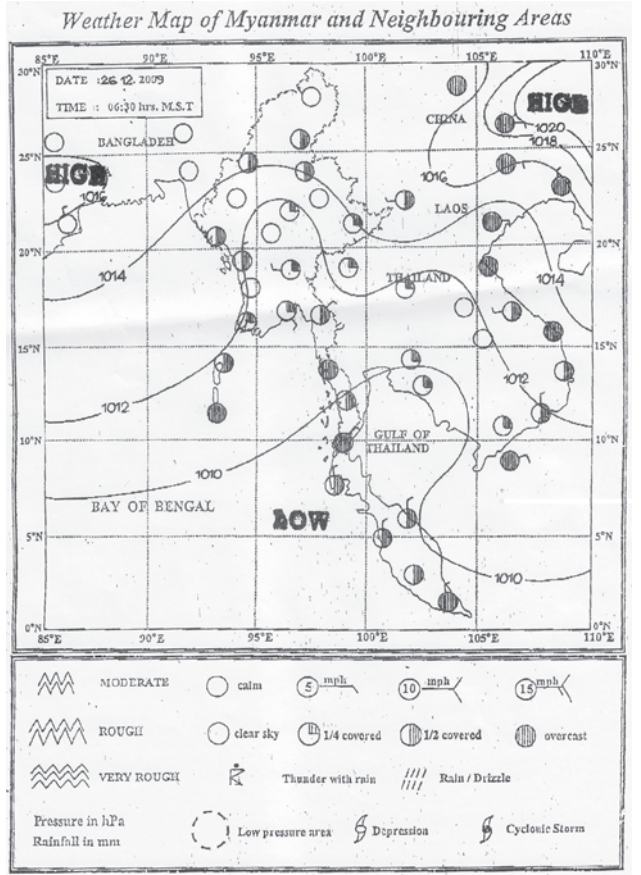
Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am)MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm)MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am)MST

Local Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Let's Decorate with Enchanting Toys!
- * Mythun (Counterpart of Cattle)
- * Kayah Traditional Museum
- * Versatile Toddy Palms
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Endless Wonders.....(Htukkant Thein Temple)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
 - * Let's Decorate with Enchanting Toys!
 - * Mythun (Counterpart of Cattle)
 - * Kayah Traditional Museum
 - * Culture Stage
 - * Versatile Toddy Palms
 - * Myanmar Modern Song
 - * Endless Wonders.....(Htukkant Thein Temple)
 - * Myanmar Modern Song
 - * Mantain Marine Resources for Development of Fish and Meat Sector
 - * Ancient Artifacts Showroom
 - * Culture Stage
 - * Home For The Aged (Hsin Shwe Li)
 - * Myanmar Modern Song
 - * The Beauty and Lifestyle of Taung Yoe Tribe
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm



WEATHER

Saturday, 26th 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, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Kachin and Rakhine States, (5°C) to (6°C) below December average temperatures in Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (8°C) below December average temperatures in Chin State, (3°C) above December average temperatures in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-4°C), Namhsam and Ann (2°C) each, Mogok (3°C), Machanbaw, Heho and Katha (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 25-12-2009 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 26-12-2009 was 59°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 26-12-2009 was 61%. Total sun shine hours on 25-12-2009 was (9.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 26-12-2009 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 South at (18:30) hours MST on 25-12-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 27th December 2009: Weather will be generally fair in the whole country.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 27-12-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-12-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-12-2009: Partly cloudy.



Sunday, 27 December View on today

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>7:00 am
1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်</p> <p>7:10 am
2. မြတ်ဂုဏ်တော်သခင် (သန်းမြတ်စိုးတေးရေး-မောင်မောင်လတ်)</p> <p>7:25 am
3. To Be Healthy Exercise</p> <p>7:30 am
4. Morning News</p> | <p>7:40 am
5. Nice & Sweet Song</p> <p>7:55 am
6. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ဖြာ မင်္ဂလာ</p> <p>8:10 am
7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:20 am
8. Musical Programme</p> <p>8:30 am
9. International News</p> <p>8:35 am
10. Crossroads Cafe (Episode -18) (Opportunity knocks)</p> <p>11:00 am
1. Martial Song</p> <p>11:10 am
2. Musical Programme</p> <p>11:25 am
3. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News</p> <p>11:35 am
4. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ဟာသကမ္ဘာ” (အပိုင်း-၅၈)</p> |
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- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>12:35 pm
6. Golf Magazine (TV)</p> <p>12:50 pm
7. မြန်မာ့ဗီဒီယိုဇာတ်လမ်း “နိုးထခွင့်” (နေထက်လင်း၊ ခိုင်သင်းကြည်၊ဘုန်းလှ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဇော်ထွန်း)</p> <p>2:35 pm
8. International News</p> <p>3:45 pm
1. Myanmar National League MNL Cup (2009) ဇေယျာရွှေမြေ FC အသင်းနှင့် ဥသာယူနိုက်တက် FC အသင်း)</p> <p>5:45 pm
2. Musical Programme</p> <p>6:00 pm
3. Evening News</p> <p>6:15 pm
4. Weather Report</p> <p>6:20 pm
5. တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ “ရုပ်ရှင်မေမေ” (ကျော်ကျော်ပိုင်မျိုး၊ အေသင်ချိုအောင်)</p> | <p>ဒေါ်ခင်ခင်ကြီး၊ဝါဝါအောင်၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဘုန်းမျိုးကျော်)</p> <p>6:45 pm
6. ဖန်ခါးမြေမှရထားလမ်းသစ်</p> <p>7:00 pm
7. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မိုးမြေချစ်သူ” (အပိုင်း-၃၃)</p> <p>8:00 pm
8. News</p> <p>9. International News</p> <p>10. Weather Report</p> <p>11. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် “ဒိုင်နိုဆော့မိသားစုစွန့်စားခန်း” (အပိုင်း-၇၂)</p> <p>12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “နွေဦးကဗျာချစ်သံသာ” (အပိုင်း-၂၄)</p> <p>13. ရုပ်သံကြယ်ပွင့်များ</p> |
|--|---|

- ★ 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

Myanmar required to produce growing number of computer professionals to catch up with developed countries

Senior General Than Shwe on inspection tour of Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Dec—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected development undertakings in Mon State this morning.

The Senior General, accompanied by SPDC Member General Thura Shwe Mann, SPDC Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers from the Ministry of

Defence, ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads, left Yangon by helicopter and arrived at No (2) Tyre and Rubber Products Factory (Bilin) under the Ministry of Industry-2 in Bilin Township, Thaton District, this morning. They were welcomed there by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win, Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, and departmental heads, and officials at district and township levels.

Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein reported on the purpose and historical background of the factory, facts about the project, work progress, requirements for natural gas, hydropower, water and raw materials from local and foreign markets, arrangements for productivity, annually boosting production of tyre by the ministry, import of tyre, maintenance of rubber farms and extensive farming of rubber by the ministry, and output of raw rubber.

(See page 9)



Senior General Than Shwe inspecting construction of University of Computer Studies (Thaton).—MNA