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## Four political objectives

- \* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- \* National reconsolidation
- \* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- \* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

## Four economic objectives

- \* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- \* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- \* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- \* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

## Four social objectives

- \* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- \* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- \* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- \* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

## Choose publications capable of equipping the people with right thoughts while striving for national development through literary might

### Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends 4th Tun Foundation (2009) Literary Award presentation ceremony

YANGON, 24 Jan—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence this morning attended the 4th Tun Foundation (2009) Literary Award presentation ceremony at the building of Myanmar Banks Association

in Yankin Township. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe stressed the need to choose publications capable of equipping the people with right thoughts in line with the policy of the State while

striving for national development through the literary might, and to continue endeavouring for the emergence of more libraries.

(See page 8)



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence addresses the 4th Tun Foundation Literary Award presentation ceremony.—MNA

## Kantdaunt Dam facilitating agricultural development

Article: Kyemon

Thanks to the emergence of Kantdaunt Dam, farmlands in Pale Township, Sagaing Division are now enjoying adequate supply of irrigation water, taking full advantages of conduit of the facility.

Not only summer paddy but Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton is thriving in Pale Township with the advent of the irrigation facility. Farmers in Pale Township had to grow only monsoon paddy in the past. At present, they are able to grow summer paddy in addition to monsoon paddy and to engage extensively in double and mixed cropping. Meanwhile, their socio-economic status has improved year by year as they are in a position to grow Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton.

Translation: HKA  
(Kyemon:24-1-2010)



Kantdaunt Dam.

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 25 January, 2010

### Entire people responsible for environmental conservation

Forests are interrelated to climate patterns. A region much of it is covered in thick forests enjoys temperate climate.

Owing to the process of afforestation, Popa in central Myanmar that used to be almost barren mountain has been like an oasis in the arid zone with lush and green woodlands. So, the climate pattern of the regions around it is getting temperate.

So far, the government has constructed many dams and lakes in those regions as part of the drive for environmental conservation, and not only the areas around Mt. Popa but also the whole central Myanmar have turned lush and green with plantations of landscaping plants and trees, as a result.

Today, the world has come under grave threat of environmental deterioration due to various reasons. Greenhouse gases especially carbon dioxide cause depletion of the ozone layer and deforestation, thus triggering climate changes, melting ice masses in the poles, and harming the ecosystem.

With the aim of conserving the environment, Myanmar has been taking all possible measures such as establishment of national sanctuaries and plantations in states and divisions, formation of forest reserves and protected forests, growing trees as mass activities in the rainy season, conservation of watershed areas, and adoption of plans to replace the slash and burn farming.

Now, plantations are being set up on an extensive scale in the arid regions in central Myanmar for regional greening. Up to 2008-2009, about 300,000 acres of lands had been put under plantations.

So, the people are under a responsibility to continue to do their bit in environmental conservation tasks in cooperation with the government for the sake of future generations.

### Air Bagan Myanmar Masters 2010 golf tourney to be held



YANGON, 24 Jan—The Air Bagan Myanmar Masters 2010 golf tourney will be held at Punhlaing Golf Club here from 28 to 31 January.

Being the first match of Asian Development Tour, the professional golf tourney is made up of golfers from 29 countries. The Asian Tour is launched with the aim of turning out golfers in the region into highly qualified ones and of promoting the standard of

## 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

### Lt-Gen Tha Aye looks into developments in Momeik



Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspects Myogyi multi-purpose dam project near Myogyi village in Ywangan Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan—Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Soe Win, met service personnel and their families and gave gifts to them at Momeik station hall on 21 January.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye and party inspected development in the town. In meeting with departmental officials at Momeik town hall, he discussed regional development works.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye then visited 25-bed Momeik hospital. At the project briefing hall, Lt-Gen Tha Aye heard reports on upgrading presented by officials Mandalay-Bhamo Road and gave instructions on the requirements.

Having heard the reports presented by officials of Thabeikkyin Township's Public Works, Lt-Gen Tha Aye gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks to meet the set standards and

inspected round the construction site.

On 22 January, Lt-Gen Tha Aye and party looked into water supply and demonstration on farm implements in Singaing Township.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye oversaw water supply to outlet channels at Sunye river water pumping station.

At the briefing hall of Dokhtawady (Shwe Hlan Bo) hydropower pumping project, officials reported to Lt-Gen Tha Aye on accomplishment of the project tasks. Lt-Gen Tha Aye gave instructions on requirements of the project.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Myogyi multi-purpose dam project, he inspected progress in constructing the embankment, spillway and tunnel.

Having inspected road works between mile post Nos 50/0 and 50/1 of No 2 inter-to-district road of Mandalay Division in a motorcade, Lt-Gen Tha Aye looked into maintenance of Kinta dam approach road in Myitha Township.—MNA

### UP 2 Industry Co Ltd introduces electric elevators



Managing Director U Khin Maung Myint extends greetings at the signing ceremony and new product introduction of UP 2 Industry Co Ltd.—MNA

YANGON, 24 Jan—UP 2 Industry Co Ltd introduced its new products and services and signed a joint-professional golfers in Asia.

Altogether about 100 golfers will participate in the tour in which US\$ 75,000 will be presented as prizes. The Title Sponsor of the tour is Air Bagan Ltd and the Presenting Sponsor is International Beverages Trading Co Ltd with the support of Max Myanmar, Punhlaing Golf Club, Hotel Yangon, MGF and MPGA.—MGF

venture contract with FUJI ELEVATOR of JS Young Tech Co Ltd at Traders Hotel here this afternoon.

UP 2 Industry Co Ltd introduced Korea-made electric elevators that can function with minimum power consumption. The electric elevators provided with one year warranty and free service are available at UP 2 Industry Co Ltd at No. 168/C, Dhammazedi Road, Bahan Township, here, Ph: 95-1505056, 505057 and 524412, E-mail: up2.industrial@gami.com.

MNA



## Biden says US Govt to appeal dismissal of Blackwater case

BAGHDAD, 24 Jan — The US government will appeal the dismissal of Blackwater case as demanded by the Iraqi government, US Vice President Joe Biden said in Baghdad on Saturday.

Biden expressed his personal regret for what Blackwater guards committed in 2007, saying the

*Chinese Navy soldiers check a doubtful yacht in the Gulf of Aden, on 22 Jan, 2010. The frigate is on an escort mission as part of a Chinese naval flotilla.*

XINHUA

United States insists to put anyone who committed crimes against Iraqi people under questioning, said a statement issued late Saturday by the office of Iraqi President Jalal Talabani after a meeting between them.

Blackwater, now called Xe Services, was a private security contractor hired to protect US State Department personnel in Iraq. It was accused by the Iraqi government of using excessive force in Baghdad streets.

On 16 Sept, 2007, Blackwater guards

opened fire with automatic weapons and grenade launchers on unarmed Iraqi civilians in Baghdad after a car bomb exploded.

The US government had accused its five guards of causing the deaths of unarmed civilians. However, Ricardo Urbina, a US federal judge, dismissed the charges against the five at the end of last year, claiming incriminating statements were used by federal prosecutors in the case.

Xinhua



*The Soufriere Hills volcano erupts in the Caribbean island of Montserrat, on 23 Jan, 2010.—INTERNET*

## Afghan Taliban expanding attacks from south to north

KABUL, 24 Jan — Taliban militants, in an attempt to exert pressure on the Afghan government and to engage security forces across the country, are expanding their attacks from south to relatively

peaceful northern provinces.

In the latest development, Taliban militants attacked security forces in Kunduz Province on Saturday, an official said.

"The militants attacked

a convoy of army and police in Dashti Archi District this morning and the troops returned fire killing four militants," army spokesman in the province Lal Mohammad Ahmadzai told *Xinhua*. He did not say if there were any casualties on the troops.

On Friday night, militants attacked a police checkpoint in Burka District of the neighboring Baghlan Province injuring a police officer, spokesman for police in the province Jawed Basharat said on Saturday.—*Xinhua*

## Expert lawyers to declare Iraq war illegal

LONDON, 24 Jan — Two former government lawyers involved in the preparations for Britain's invasion of Iraq will testify at a public inquiry this week that the March 2003 conflict was illegal, reports said Sunday.

Their evidence will kick-start what was already expected to be an explosive few days at the Chilcot inquiry into the war, thanks to the appearance on Friday of former Prime Minister Tony Blair, who led Britain into the conflict.

Michael Wood, the top legal advisor to the Foreign Office at the time, and his then deputy Elizabeth Wilmschurst, who quit her job in protest at the invasion, are both due to give evidence Tuesday.

According to The Independent on Sunday, Wilmschurst will reveal infighting between officials and ministers over the legality of deposing Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein without explicit United Nations support.—*Internet*

*Firefighters try to extinguish a burning oil tanker truck on the outskirts of Peshawar, city of northwest Pakistan, on 23 Jan, 2010. An oil tanker truck of NATO was attacked by unidentified militants on Saturday. — XINHUA*



## Taliban commander killed, two injured in clash in N Afghanistan

BAGHLAN, 24 Jan — One Taliban militant was killed and two others sustained injuries as they came in contact with police in Baghlan Province, north of Afghanistan, an official said on Saturday.

"A gun battle erupted in Burka district on Friday night," provincial police spokesman Ahmad Jawed Basharat told *Xinhua*. "As a result, a Taliban group commander Mullah Dur Murad was killed and two of his men were injured."

A police officer was also wounded in the gun battle which lasted for a while, he added.

Xinhua

## Two US troops killed by roadside bomb in Afghanistan

KABUL, 24 Jan — A roadside bomb killed two US service members in southern Afghanistan on Saturday as the country's top NATO commander acknowledged an increased risk to foreign troops will accompany an influx of reinforcements aimed at routing the Taliban.

The deaths brought to at least 22 the number of American service members killed so far this month — compared with only 14 for the whole of January last year. A mild winter has brought no respite to the fighting, which traditionally drops off during the cold months.

Xinhua

## NATO tanker attacked in northwest Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 24 Jan — Unknown militants ambushed one NATO tanker in the outskirts Peshawar, the capital of North West Frontier Province, local officials said on Saturday.

Local officials said the militants ordered the driver and his assistant to get down and set the tanker on fire.

Militants frequently attacked oil tankers and trucks bringing goods from Pakistan's port city of Karachi for forces battling Taliban in Afghanistan. It was reported that around 80 percent of the NATO and United States-led forces supplies are transported through the neighbouring country.—*Xinhua*

## Russia to establish special economic zones in North Caucasus

Moscow, 24 Jan — Russia would establish special economic zones in the North Caucasus as a top priority, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on Saturday. There were five tasks that needed to be undertaken to boost the federal district's social and economic development, Putin told a conference in the regional capital of Pyatigorsk.

The district should map out a comprehensive development strategy and

every region in the district should make concrete plans in accordance with the strategy, he said.

Every region should set up special economic zones and improve the environment for investment, he continued. Other tasks included the drafting of a special investment plan, the improvement of people's quality of life and the overhauling of government agencies, he added.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev decided

on Tuesday to establish the eighth Federal District of Russia in North Caucasus, with Alexander Khloponin, former governor of the Krasnoyarsk region, appointed as Deputy Prime Minister and his special envoy to the turbulent region.

The North Caucasus Federal District includes Dagestan, Ingushetia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachayev-Cherkessia, North Ossetia-Alania, Chechnya, and the Stavropol region.—Xinhua



People enter a job centre in Bromley, in southeast England. An end to Britain's longest recession on record will likely be confirmed this week but recovery for the debt-ridden nation — facing an election this year — will be far from smooth, economists warned.—INTERNET

## China's major shipbuilder CSIC posts 18.5% increase in profit in 2009

BEIJING, 24 Jan — One of China's two leading State-owned shipbuilders, China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation (CSIC), said on Sunday that its profit in 2009 jumped 18.5 percent to 7.39 billion yuan (1.1 billion US dollars).

The Beijing-based conglomerate, which consists nearly 50 industrial subsidiaries and about 30 R&D institutes in northern China, also said its operating income rose 17 percent in 2009 to 120.9 billion yuan.

General manager Li Changyin said the CSIC had overcome the impact of the global financial crisis, which crippled the global sea-based trade and brought down ship orders.—Xinhua

## Nokia hopes to navigate way to higher sales

BEIJING, 24 Jan — Finnish mobile phone maker Nokia's move to provide a free navigation service in China is expected to boost the sale of navigation cellphones in the country, experts said.

That may also help Nokia maintain its dominant position in the country as users turn to CDMA and TD-SCDMA handsets, a market in which the Finnish firm does not have a significant presence.

Nokia Oyj, the world's biggest maker of mobile phones, said on Thursday that the company would offer the free navigation service on its Ovi Maps application in 74 countries and regions.

The company said about 20 million Nokia handset users could use the service right now, and it expects to sell 80 million navigation smartphone handsets globally in the

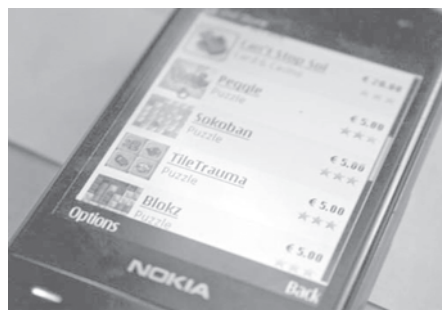


Photo shows a test version of Nokia's new Ovi Store is seen in a picture taken in Helsinki.

XINHUA

next 18 months.

David Tang, vice-chairman of Nokia China, said he expected the launch of the new service to significantly boost the company's smartphone sales in China.

"We have seen great interest from Chinese users in the navigation service," he said, adding that the country is Nokia's largest single market for smartphones.

According to figures from research firm GFK, shipments of navigation cellphones reached about 13 million last year in China, up from around 5 million in 2008. That accounted for about 7 percent of the country's total cellphone market.—Xinhua

## Britain to exit recession, but faces bleak recovery

LONDON, 24 Jan — An end to Britain's longest recession on record will likely be confirmed this week but recovery for the debt-ridden nation — facing an election this year — will be far from smooth, economists warned.

The Office for National Statistics will on Tuesday publish data expected to reveal that Britain exited recession in the fourth quarter of 2009, analysts have widely forecast.

A return to growth between October and December last year after six quarters of negative output will see Britain following all other major economies out of recession. Economists predict growth of 0.4 percent in the fourth quarter.

However, the future for the British and wider global economy is far from rosy, with the IMF and the United Nations recently warning of a possible renewed or "double-dip recession" this year.

Those worries have been heightened in Europe, where several nations — notably Greece and Portugal — are struggling to cope with soaring public debt.

"It's definitely worth pointing out that, even if we do exit recession, the hard work will only just be beginning," said Colin Ellis, an economist at Daiwa Capital Markets Europe.—Internet

## Nigeria considers ships to supply crude to refineries

LAGOS, 24 Jan — Nigeria said on Saturday it was considering plans to use light vessels to supply crude oil to its dormant refineries after years of attacks on pipelines by armed militants in southern Niger Delta.

"We are considering the use of smaller vessels as alternative to supply crude to the refineries," Reginald Stanley, the head of the state-run agency managing the nation's crude oil and petrol pipelines said in a radio programme.

Stanley, managing director of the Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC) said the nation's two key refineries in Warri (south) and Kaduna (north) had remained "idle" since the trunk supplying them crude was attacked by militants

in May last year.

The two refineries accounted for about half of the nation's total refining capacity of 445,000 barrels per day.

He said that PPMC engineers have in the past two years repaired more than 500 leaks — mostly caused by militants — on two southern oil trunklines.

"The refineries are ready to run but they have no crude supplies and that is why they remain idle," said Stanley.

"If the pipelines were not tampered with, then the refineries will be working. It is a matter of pipeline vandalism," a spokesman of the state-run Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Levi Ajuonuma, also said on the same radio phone-in programme.

Internet



A woman is seen walking near a gas flare fire near the Niger Delta port city of Warri in 2007.—INTERNET



## Russia confirms to continue arms talks with US in February

Moscow, 24 Jan—The Russian Defence Ministry confirmed on Saturday Russia and the United States would continue nuclear disarmament talks in Geneva in February.

The Russian chief of staff, Gen Nikolai Makarov, and the chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm Mike Mullen, met in Moscow on Friday to discuss "the drafting of a new nuclear arms reduction treaty and

major fields of bilateral co-operation in 2010," a defence ministry spokesman said.

They agreed "to continue the dialogue at the level of experts during the next round of negotiations in Geneva slated for February and to prepare the signing of the treaty," the spokesman said.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Friday the two countries would resume their arms

talks "at the start of February."

Russia and the United States have been working on a successor to the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START-1) that expired on 5 Dec 2009.

The START-1, signed in 1991 between the Soviet Union and the United States, obliged both sides to reduce the number of their nuclear warheads to 6,000 and delivery vehicles to 1,600.—Xinhua



*A baby Kirk's Dik Dik antelope is fed milk in the office of Chester Zoo's curator of mammals Tim Rowlands, northern England, on 22 January, 2010. The antelope is being hand reared at the zoo after being rejected by its mother during the recent cold weather.—INTERNET*



*A helicopter rescues trapped people in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 23 Jan, 2010. Two Chinese military helicopters on Saturday delivered 10 rescuers to Altay in blizzard-hit Xinjiang to search for the missing people. The 14 people trapped in blizzard-hit areas of Xinjiang had been rescued by the military and sent to hospital for treatment.—XINHUA*

## UN to set new centres in Yemen to host Somali refugees

SANAA, 24 Jan—The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) said on Saturday it will establish new reception centres in Yemen to help the country accommodate the increasing number of Somali refugees there, state-run *Saba* news agency reported.

During a meeting

with Yemeni Minister of Interior Mutahar al-Masri, UNHCR representative in Yemen Claire Bourgeois said the new centres in addition to the existing three will help the country count the incoming refugees.

She added that the international organization intends to double its efforts in supporting refugees in Yemen.

gees in Yemen.

Last week, the national committee for Refugees Affairs in Yemen (NCRA) gave the unregistered refugees two-month grace period to get registered, warning that it will take legal procedures against unregistered refugees after the mentioned date.

Xinhua

## All Items from Xinhua News Agency

## Bodies of 20 Saudi soldiers found on Saudi-Yemeni border

RIYADH, 24 Jan—Saudi Arabia's assistant defence minister said on Saturday that Saudi forces found on its border with Yemen bodies of 20 out of the 26 Saudi soldiers reported missing during war against Houthi rebels, the Dubai-based al-Arabiya TV channel reported on its website.

Khaled bin Sultan said the 20 bodies were found in the border region near Dokhan mountain, while the other six soldiers were remain missing, the report said.

Saudi troops have been fighting Houthi rebels since last November after a group of the rebels, in a cross-border attack, killed a Saudi soldier and injured 11 others.

During war against Houthi rebels, Saudi

forces faced high level trained persons with advanced weapons, said the report. Saudi army stressed its operations were conducted within Saudi territories, but the rebels say Saudi fighters had bombed sites in Yemeni territories.

Yemeni officials, for their part, denied that Saudi army targeted posts of Houthi rebels within Yemen.—Xinhua



*Graphic locates Dokhan mountain, Saudi Arabia, where Saudi Arabian troops recovered the remains of their fallen troops after clearing the area of Yemeni rebels.—XINHUA*

## Germany to keep all its nuclear power stations operating

BERLIN, 24 Jan—Germany will keep all its 17 nuclear power stations operating, including two which were planned to close down after negotiation between government and utility companies, reported by local magazine *Der Spiegel* on Saturday.

The German government and executives responsible for nuclear power at Germany's top four energy utility companies began their negotiations on a possible extension of the lifespans of the country's nuclear power stations on Thursday, reported by *Der Spiegel*.

Xinhua

## Two people die in plane crash in US state of Illinois

CHICAGO, 24 Jan—Two people were killed on Saturday night when a small plane crashed into a home in a subdivision near Waubesa Community College in the far west suburb of Sugar Grove, about 100 kilometers west of Chicago.

According to local police, the two fatalities were both in the plane. The plane was en route from Aurora city to the Denver area in the Illinois State.

The crash occurred about 5 kilometres north of the Aurora Airport, about 80 kilometres west of Chicago. The residence hit by the plane is a large home in which there were four people. However, no one was hurt.—Xinhua

## Light aircraft crashes in Sarawak State, East Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 24 Jan—A light aircraft crashed in the Simunjan Jungle of Sarawak State in East Malaysia here on Sunday. *Bernama*, Malaysia's national news agency, reported here on Sunday that two people were believed to be on board of the aircraft when the incident took place on Sunday morning.

The agency said Sarawak Police Commissioner Mohamad Salleh confirmed the incident.

However, Mohamad Salleh said that he had yet to get a full report on the incident. Meanwhile, a spokesman of Hornbill Skyways Sdn Bhd told *Bernama* that the company had been notified of the incident but added that the aircraft did not belong to the company.

Xinhua

## Shooting near Freeport mine in Indonesia wounds seven

JAKARTA, 24 Jan — Indonesian police say gunmen have attacked a convoy of buses near the world's largest gold mine in Papua, wounding seven people including one foreigner.

Papua police spokesman Col Agus Rianto said the convoy was attacked Sunday morning as it traveled from the Grasberg mine to the town of Timika.

He said those wounded included one foreigner, four policemen, another

worker and a child.

A spokesman in Indonesia for Freeport, the mine operator, confirmed the attack but refused to give further details pending verification.

Rianto said the foreigner and two policemen were evacuated to Jakarta for treatment. The mine has been repeatedly targeted with arson, roadside bombs and blockades since production began in the 1970s.—*Internet*

## Twelve Taliban militants killed in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 24 Jan — Twelve Taliban militants were killed when they were planting roadside bombs in south Afghanistan's Helmand Province on Friday night, a spokesman of local government said on Saturday.

"Last night, a group of Taliban militants were trying to plant roadside bombs in Greshk District, Helmand Province, but the bomb went off prematurely, killing four of the militants," said Dawod Ahmadi, a spokesman of provincial government.

Afghan and NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) then went to the incident area, and encountered another group of insurgents planting roadside bombs.

"Afghan and foreign forces opened fire at the militants, killing eight of them," he added.—*Xinhua*

## NATO troops discover ammunition cache in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 24 Jan — The NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) found a cache of explosive devices in the restive Helmand Province south of Afghanistan, a Press release of the alliance said on Sunday. "ISAF forces operating in the Garmser district of Helmand province yesterday discovered a large cache of homemade explosives," the Press release added.

"The estimated 310 kg cache included 36 five liter jugs of explosives and 9 kg of fragmentation," it further said, but did not give more details.

ISAF forces destroyed the cache at the site and there were no injuries during the operation, the Press release emphasized.

Taliban militants as part of tactic have been using explosive devices in carrying out suicide attacks and roadside bombings against Afghan and the NATO-led troops stationed in Afghanistan.—*MNA/Xinhua*



*The derailed train lies on the railway near Mashhad in northeastern Iran, on 23 Jan, 2010. At least eight people were killed and 12 others injured on Saturday when the passenger train heading for Teheran derailed near Mashhad, the state-run television reported. — XINHUA*

## At least eight killed in Iran train derailment

TEHERAN, 24 Jan — At least eight people were killed and 12 others injured on Saturday when a passenger train derailed in northeastern Iran, the state-run television reported.

"The derailment occurred near Mashhad (capital of Iran's northeastern province of Khorasan Razavi), and the total number of passengers was 50," he said, adding that the number of casualties is expected to rise.

"The train derailed when it was travelling from Mashhad to Teheran," said Mohammad Reza Kazemi, the governor of Joghatai region where the accident occurred.

He said that the locomotive's brakes failed to work properly according to the train's engineer.

In 2004, a train carrying fuel and fertilizer derailed and exploded in Khorasan Razavi Province, leaving about 300 people dead.—*Xinhua*

## NEWS ALBUM

### Face masks, hand hygiene limit flu spread

Face masks and hand hygiene can effectively reduce the spread of influenza-like illness, US researchers found.

Study leader Allison E Aiello of the University of Michigan School of Public Health and colleagues recruited more than 1,400 college students living in university residence halls during the 2006-2007 influenza season.

Participants were assigned to one of three groups — those who wore face masks, those who wore masks and used alcohol-based hand sanitizer, or a control group who received no intervention.

Students were monitored for influenza-like symptoms for six weeks. All participants viewed a basic hand hygiene instructional video. Subjects in the hand hygiene and mask group were given an alcohol-based hand sanitizer and written instructions regarding proper face mask and hand sanitizer use. Those in the mask group received written instructions on face mask use only.

The investigators observed significant reductions in the incidence of influenza-like symptoms starting after three weeks in the hand sanitizer/mask group and in the mask group compared with the control group.



*A man looks at German artist Johan Lorbeer (R) attached to a wall during his performance "Proletarisches Wandbild" at the Contemporary Art Centre in Malaga, southern Spain.*



*Kiangs are seen in snow-covered Junggar Basin in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. Large flocks of wild animals have been seen moving from the Altay pasture and the northern Junggar Basin, heading for hinterland of Junggar Basin for food and warmer weathers after the northern areas in Xinjiang was suffering from the worst snow in 60 years, with snow accumulating to 50 centimetres deep on the average and 1-2 metres in mountainous areas.*

## Haitian man saved 11 days after quake

A Haitian man in his 20s was saved from a crumbled hotel grocery store in the flattened capital city of Haiti on Saturday, 11 days after a devastating earthquake hit the Caribbean nation.

The man, who had been buried under the rubble of the collapsed Hotel Napoli Inn in downtown Rue du Centre, was pulled out alive one day after the government announced an end to the search for survivors due to manpower shortage for relief distribution among the estimated 600,000 people left homeless by the quake.

It took the rescuers, who were brought to the shattered store by the man's brother, some four hours to get him out of a tangled mass of wood and concrete.

The food and drinks in the grocery where he worked might have helped the

Haitian man to survive the ordeal, rescuers said.

According to the man, there might be other people trapped deep in the rubble.



*A 23-year-old man is rescued by a French search and rescue team after being trapped in the rubble of a fruit and vegetable shop for 11 days after the massive earthquake in Port-au-Prince.*

## Dog bites firefighter who rescued it from LA River

A firefighter splashed into a rain-swollen river to rescue a German shepherd and managed to hang on safely, even after the dog furiously bit his arm and hand. Joe St Georges, a 25-year Los Angeles Fire Department veteran, said he received a "real bite in the thumb" but was otherwise feeling fine.

He said he had no hard feelings toward the dog.

"I didn't really have the time to establish any rapport with the dog," St Georges told reporters after being released from County USC Medical Centre. "He's cold, he's wet, he's scared, and then here's this stranger jumping on his back for all intents and purposes, and he did what dogs do."

Fire officials said the male dog, nicknamed Vernon after the Southern California town where he was found, was fine. He did not have a name tag or computer chip, said Sgt Charles Miller of the Southeast Area Animal Control Authority in Downey.



## Yangon Division sees 2056 village, 657 ward libraries

YANGON, 24 Jan—Yangon Division organized the sixth ceremony to donate buildings, furniture, media equipment, funds and periodicals to self-reliant ward libraries at No(2) Basic

Education High School in Sangyoung Township here this afternoon.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon

Command Maj-Gen Win Myint in his speech clarified the establishment of libraries in 2056 villages and 657 wards in Yangon Division, calling for combined efforts for

sustainable development of the libraries.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that so far 55,755 self-reliant village libraries have been set up across the nation in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State to broaden the horizons of the people; and that, over 30,000 libraries have possessed the five standards of a library, and the rest of the libraries have yet to meet the standards.

The commander presented K 92 million to 80 libraries through the minister.

The minister handed over K 2.4 million donated by the Ministry of Information to the 80 libraries through the commander.

Today's donations to the libraries amounted to K 543.4 million.

*Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts cash and publications donated by a wellwisher to self-reliant libraries in Yangon Division.*

MNA



*Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint accepts cash and publications donated by a wellwisher to self-reliant libraries in Yangon Division.*

MNA



## PyinOoLwin, lovely highland ...



*Gas Station roundabout is decorated with flower beds.*

(from page 16)  
rural roads, Chief Engineer U Aung Tun

said, "We have a target of building 15 tarred roads and two gravel

roads, repairing 25 roads and raising the shoulders of 10 roads for 2009-2010 fiscal year. Up to now (December 2009), we have built five tarred roads and resurfaced six roads." Then, he conducted us along 2500-foot-long and 12-foot-wide Yuzana Road, which had been resurfaced by 60 percent.

Regarding rural water supply project, Assistant Engineer U Zaw Myo Thet

said, "We are now pursuing the target of seven urban and 15 rural water supply projects for 2009-2010 fiscal year." The township has many water supply facilities supplying 2.592 million gallons of potable water a day, along with 4872

it was at 5.30 pm, but it was getting dark. The roads, roundabouts and the clock tower were illuminated with coloured lights.

Executive Officer U Tin Win said, "We illuminate the clock tower and roundabouts

enjoy the beautiful sense of the township not only in daytime, but also at night."

On the whole, PyinOoLwin, a hill resort town full of naturally scenic beauty, has been a household name in the nation's



*A road in downtown PyinOoLwin.*



*The scene of Zaylay roundabout seen at night.*

wells.

When we got back at the downtown township,

with coloured lights at night all-year round in order that the people can

tourism industry.

**Translation: MS Kyemon: 24-1-2010**

## Choose publications capable of equipping ...

(from page 1)

After speaking on the occasion, the Chairman of Tun Foundation read out the report of the literary award selection committee chairman.

A committee member read the brief remarks for Tun Foundation Life-time Literary Award winner writer U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin).

Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented prize to Thura U Tun Tin in the biography literature genre.

Chairman of

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint presented prize to a family member of award winner Dr Maung Maung Teik in the health and fitness genre.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gave prize to a family member of writer U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin).

The chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association

awarded Taung Khoe in the ancient treatise (in English) genre and U

Thaw Kaung in the reference (English) genre.

Next, officials presented prizes to the respec-



**Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents prize to a family member of Tun Foundation Life-time Literary Award winner.**

MNA



**Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint presents prize to a family member of Dr Maung Maung Teik.**

MNA

**Tun Foundation Bank Chairman makes a speech at the prize presentation ceremony.**

MNA



tive winners.

The chairman of the foundation presented gifts to the literary award selection committee.

Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander, the minister and the mayor viewed prize winning manuscripts and books.—MNA

## Culture related roundtable meeting of CLMV Ministers of Culture and Fine Arts held in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan—The culture related roundtable meeting of Ministers of Culture and Fine Arts of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV), hosted by Myanmar, took place at Thingaha Hotel, here, this morning.

The meeting was held with the aims of further cementing relationship among CLMV countries, fostering the spirit of good neighbouring countries, enhancing bilateral understanding among them for promotion in cooperation

measure, exchanging culture among the countries, promoting cultural preservation and developing tourism industry through cultural integration.

It was attended by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Minister of Culture and Fine Arts Mr Him Chhem of Cambodia, Minister of Culture and Information Mr Mounkeo Oraboun of Laos, Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism Mr Hoang Tuan Anh of Vietnam and senior officials, Director-General U Sann Win of Archaeology,



**Ministers of CLMV countries sign Nay Pyi Taw Declaration 2010 on cultural connectivity among CLMV countries.—MNA**

## KNPP blasts pylon in Dimawhso Township

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan—Pylon No (134) of 230 KVA Grid near Lotarkhu Village in Dimawhso Township, Kayah State, linking Lawpita Hydropower Station and Toungoo was ravaged in a bomb blast by an insurgent group from KNPP around 8 pm yesterday,

bringing the power supply to a halt.

Local security forces and the Myanma Electric Power Enterprise are now making repairs to the facility for resumption of power supply.

It was the insurgent group that also destroyed Pylon No (199) on 9 January. KNU and KNPP re-

sort to all possible ways to disrupt the education, health, social and productivity sectors of the people by committing bomb attacks on power supply facilities.

Now, Tatmadaw columns and local people are working together to expose the offenders.

MNA

National Museum and Library Department, Director U Aung Latt of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Director Daw Khin Than Win of Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint delivered an address.

At the meeting, Director-General U Sann Win submitted the report on senior official meeting of CLMV held in Bagan on 20 January and

the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration 2010 on cultural connectivity among CLMV countries.

The ministers from CLMV countries discussed the reports, preservation of cultural heritage in CLMV countries, prevention against illegal trading cultural heritage through borders, establishment of sister cities among the countries, and promotion of tourism industry. Minister Maj-Gen Khin

Aung Myint gave concluding remarks.

Next, the ministers signed the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration 2010 on cultural connectivity among CLMV countries and then they posed for documentary photo. The meeting ended at 11 am. Those CLMV ministers left Nay Pyi Taw for Yangon by air in the afternoon. They were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint.—MNA



## Lt-Gen Khin Zaw inspects culture of seaweed in Zadekgyi Island

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan — Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and officials, inspected the culture and dehydration of seaweed in local battalion of Zadekgyi Island in Kawthoung on 21 January.

He met with officers, other ranks and their families at the hall of the



*Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence inspects culture of seaweed in Zadekgyi Island, Kawthoung.—MNA*



battalion and gave necessary instructions on

development. An official presented feedstuff and gifts for the family

members of Tat-madawmen.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw also

visited Affiliated Basic Education High School of the island. He met with

officials and attended to the needs.

MNA

## Minister inspects upgrading 124-mile and 2-furlong long Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo road

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, accompanied by departmental officials left here for Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo road upgrading site via Ottwin road of

Yangon-Mandalay expressway on 21 January.

On his inspection tour, the minister inspected a 124-mile and 2-furlong long Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo road upgraded by 12 road

construction groups with the use of heavy machinery.

After the minister had looked into paving gravels on the new alignment and progress in constructing a conduit between mile posts Nos

107/3 and 105/6 of Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo road, he gave instructions on timely completion of upgrading tasks meeting the set standards.

Overseeing progress in paving

gravels on the road between mile post Nos 101/7 and 102/0 and tarring the road between mile post Nos 95/3 and 95/4 by the road construction group-5 and storage of tar containers, the minister gave

instructions on requirements.

After the inspection of road works along Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo road in a motorcade, the minister heard reports on progress in tarring Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo road presented by Chief Engineer U Kyaw Hlaing at Kyetmahnit camp briefing hall.

In response to the reports presented by engineers in-charge of the 12 road construction groups, the minister gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, the minister inspected paving gravels on the road between mile post Nos 80/1 and 80/2 by the special group-2.

MNA



*Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint oversees tarring of Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo Road.—MNA*



NAY PYI TAW, 24 Jan—Than-u-chauk Dam constructed by Irrigation Department (Maintenance) of Magway Division was inaugurated on 23 January. It was attended by Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe, personnel of Irrigation Department, departmental officials, and locals.

Than-u-chauk Dam which cost K 430 million

## Than-U-Chauk Dam inaugurated



*Photo shows Than-U-Chauk Dam in Kyaukhtu Township, Gangaw District, Magway Division.—MNA*

is the 46th of its kind in Magway Division. The dam is built by damming

up Than-U-Chauk creek in Kyaukhtu Township, Gangaw District. The

earthen type facility is 45 feet in height, 1,000 feet in length and its maximum

storage capacity is 462.11 acre feet. The dam may benefit 256 acres of

highland farm and also contribute to greening of the region.—MNA

## Spotlight turns to Apple's 'latest creation'

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 Jan—The technology rumour mill is busy grinding speculation regarding an Apple event on Wednesday at which the culture-changing firm will unveil its "latest creation."

Expectation that the maker of iPhones and iPods is set to wow the world with a tablet computer is so rampant that the California company's stock could suffer if it fails to deliver.

"This proposed Apple tablet will take the App

Store and iPhone operating system and deliver it in a larger form factor instead of starting from scratch," said Canada-based independent technology analyst Carmi Levy.

"Apple can take years worth of iPhone momentum and drive it right into what is essentially an iPhone on steroids," he continued.

Apple's tablet is believed to be a notepad-shaped device with a 10-inch colour screen that lets

people browse the Web, listen to music, watch movies or television shows and also read electronic books and newspapers. A tablet would be Apple's first major product release since it came out with its winning iPhone three years ago.

Online retail powerhouse Amazon.com beefed up its market-leading Kindle electronic reader devices just days ago in apparent preparation for an Apple onslaught.—Internet



A model holds a 3G iPhone during its launch in Hong Kong. The technology rumour mill is busy with speculation over Apple's forthcoming event on Wednesday at which the culture-changing firm will unveil its "latest creation."—INTERNET

## Flight diverted to Denver due to unruly passenger

DENVER, 24 Jan—A United Airlines jetliner carrying more than 100 people en route to Las Vegas was diverted to Denver on Saturday after a passenger tried to open an exterior door on the

### Swine flu predictions off on numbers

NEW YORK, 24 Jan—America's sometimes patchy health surveillance system may have led officials to expect a more serious H1N1 epidemic than actually materialized, experts say. Last week the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said about 55 million people in the United States have come down with H1N1 and about 11,000 have died so far, *The Wall St Journal* reported on Saturday.

The death toll is far smaller than a White House report last summer predicted. It projected a scenario where 60 million to 120 million people would become sick in fall and winter 2009 with a projected total of 30,000 to 90,000 dying, the newspaper noted. The estimates were based on outbreaks such as the one at the University of Delaware. Many students who exhibited flu-like symptoms did not seek treatment, and many who did weren't confirmed by lab tests, the *Journal* said.—Internet

plane while it was in flight, officials said. Flight 223 from Washington, DC, set down at Denver International Airport at 5:10 pm, and police who met the plane at the gate took the passenger into custody, said airport spokesman Jeff Green.

"There was a disturbance onboard, an unruly passenger," Denver airport police said in a statement. "Due to that distur-

bance, pilots decided to divert to Denver." Green said police interviewed the male passenger on Saturday night but did not know if he would be charged.

Police and United Airlines did not return calls from the *Associated Press* for further comment.

The flight was carrying 129 passengers as well as five crew members.—Internet

## Aussies hopping mad at Govt stance on toad-busting

SYDNEY, 24 Jan—When the enemy reached Australia's largest state last year, the Kimberley Toad Busters knew the battle was on. But they didn't expect that officialdom might strip them of their most effective weapon.

The enemy? The cane toad. The weapon? Plastic bags full of carbon dioxide — long considered the animal-friendly alternative to whacking the creatures with golf clubs or cricket bats.

But Western Australia's Department of Environment and Conservation isn't so sure that euthanizing *Bufo marinus* with carbon dioxide is the kindest way to go, and says further tests are needed.

Should the tests prove the toads are suffering, the

carbon dioxide option could be banned across Western Australia. And that, the Toad Busters fear, would make the war against cane toads virtu-

ally unwinable.

Keep on whacking them instead, says the government. But to many, that makes no sense.

Internet



In this 22 July, 2003 file photo, a cane toad sits at Kakadu National Park in Australia's Northern Territory. When cane toads crossed the border of Australia's largest state in 2009, the Kimberley Toad Busters knew the battle against the poisonous pest was on. What they didn't know: that government concern over animal rights might strip them of their most effective weapon against the hated environmental menace.—INTERNET

## Finding harmony in better, healthier urban life

BEIJING, 24 Jan—Shanghai is the ideal choice as the host city of World Expo 2010. The goal of a World Expo is to exhibit the world's leading achievements in culture, science and technology.

China is the world's largest and fastest-growing emerging economy, and Shanghai has played a leading role in that progress. The city epitomizes

China's achievements in the three decades since the nation embarked on its drive to reform its economy and open its doors to the world. With its deep cultural history and innovative population, Shanghai is certain to give the world a successful, exciting and unforgettable World Expo.

It has been over 100 years since China's first participation in a World Expo. World Expo 2010 Shanghai China, following on from the Beijing Olympic Games, will be the culmination of a century-old dream of the Chi-

nese people. It will bring great pride to the whole nation because China is the first developing country to host a World Expo. This exposition will provide China a golden opportunity to exhibit its culture. As China's national strength and global influence keep rising, it is of increasing importance to help the outside world better understand China's culture, the values of its people and the direction and intent of its development. I believe this World Expo will play a special role in making that happen.—Internet

## Stranded whales die in New Zealand South Island

WELLINGTON, 24 Jan—Fifteen pilot whales died on Sunday after a mass stranding at Port Levy on Banks Peninsula, near New Zealand's South Island city of Christchurch. The whales have been stranded on the beach at around 06:30 am on Sunday local time, *New Zealand Press Association* reported.

New Zealand Department of Conservation personnel and local people managed to return some whales to the water, and about 35 have survived. Project Jonah chief executive Kimberly Muncaster said mass strandings in this part of the country were very unusual.

She said saving whales is not as easy as it looks and one of the most important aspects of such a mission is to make sure no-one tips water into a whale's blowhole or obstructs the opening in any way.

Muncaster said they would continue to monitor the whales for some time to make sure they do not re-strand, and some volunteers would spend the night on the beach keeping an eye on the dead whales.

Scientists will take samples on Monday to try and establish what caused the stranding, and the dead whales will be buried after consultation with local Maori iwi.—Xinhua



## Collision leads to big oil spill in Texas



A barge is seen engaged with *Eagle Otome* after the two vessels collided causing as much as 450,000 gallons of crude oil to spill, according to the US Coast Guard, on 23 Jan, 2010, in Port Arthur, Texas.—INTERNET

HOUSTON, 24 Jan— Two ships collided in the Port Arthur, Texas, area on Saturday, causing as much as 420,000 gallons of crude oil to spill, the US Coast Guard said.

The Port Arthur port captain, John Plunkett, told the *Houston Chronicle* a tanker lost power and the ability to steer shortly before 10 am on Saturday and collided with a barge that was being towed, causing the oil leak.

Exxon Mobil Corp told Dow Jones Newswires both ships were chartered by Exxon subsidiaries.

"This is a significant amount of oil.... The response is going to take some time," Coast Guard Petty Officer Renee Aiello told the *Chronicle*.

The Coast Guard shut down the port at Port Arthur, on the Sabine River near the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

Officials are unsure how long the cleanup will take but estimate for every day the port is closed, it will cost \$250 million.—*Internet*

## Storms trash Calif beaches, bring snow to AZ, NM

SEAL BEACH, 24 Jan— The sky was blue and the sun bright for the first time in days after a week of powerful Southern California rain storms, but all Victoria Macey could see

was the mountain of steaming trash and twisted debris on her favourite beach. "I'm completely shocked. From our house, all we could see was gorgeous clouds and then we

come down here and there's so much trash, it's really sad," Macey said as she photographed a sopping plastic baby doll propped atop an overturned end table. "I can't believe how many shopping carts there are. That's what blows my mind."

The mounds of soggy sofa cushions, rusted shopping carts, plastic children's toys, dented refrigerators and hundreds of plastic cans and food wrappers were just one calling card left by a week of punishing rain that pelted Southern California and went on to tangle with Arizona and New Mexico.—*Internet*



Steve Masoner, co-founder of the non-profit 'Save Our Beach', removes trash from the beach in Seal Beach, Calif, on 23 Jan, 2010 after a week of storms washed garbage and other debris ashore.

INTERNET

## Part of UK airport closed to analyze white powder

LONDON, 24 Jan—Police closed and evacuated part of Manchester Airport on Saturday after discovering a man preparing to board a flight was carrying a white powder in his hand luggage, but the substance turned out to be harmless.

For several hours, the check-in area where the powder was discovered was cordoned off by po-

lice, passengers were checked in at other terminals, and the man carrying the substance was questioned. But the precautions ended and the man was released after the power was analyzed by police. Officer Leor Giladi declined to identify the substance but said it could not

have been used as an explosive.

The event occurred one day after Britain raised its terror threat alert from "substantial" — meaning a strong possibility of a terrorist attack — to "severe," indicating such an attack is considered highly likely.—*Internet*



A security officer demonstrates a body scanner at Manchester airport on 7 January. The government has raised its terror threat assessment from "substantial" to "severe", suggesting an attack is "highly likely", ahead of next week's international meetings on Yemen and Afghanistan in London.—INTERNET

## Philippine experiencing dengue peak season

MANILA, 24 Jan—Philippine Health Secretary Esperanza Cabral urged citizens to take precautions against dengue on Saturday as this is the dengue peak season now.

GMANews.TV quoted Cabral as saying that the risk of getting dengue is high usually in January and in July.

Nevertheless, the Department of Health considers dengue a year-round threat that can strike any time.

She advised the public to keep their surroundings clean and dry to prevent dengue-carrying mosquitoes from breeding.

Cabral stressed the

need for residents to get rid of stagnant water, which she said is a favourite breeding ground for mosquitoes.

She also reminded the public dengue can strike anyone at any time.

The disease is manifested by a sudden onset of fever with flu-like symptoms of muscle and joint pains and severe headache. The patient's skin also develops bright red rashes, which initially appear on lower limbs and chest.

A total of 2,332 dengue cases were admitted to sentinel hospitals nationwide from 1 January to 15 May last year. There were 16 deaths.

Xinhua



## South Africa opens Cape Town WC stadium

CAPE TOWN, 24 Jan—South Africa's venue for one of this year's World Cup semi-finals staged its first test match on Saturday after it was completed last month.

Local clubs Ajax Cape Town and Santos kicked the first ball in the 68,000 seater Greenpoint stadium, in a match marked by colourful music celebrations and vuvuzela cries.

Only 20,000 tickets were made available for

*The Greenpoint stadium with Table Mountain in the background. South Africa's venue for one of this year's World Cup semi-finals staged its first test match on Saturday after it was completed last month.—INTERNET*

the game, in a move to test the capacity of the stadium. The venue will then be filled during a rugby match in two weeks time.

"This first game was treated like a real World Cup game, the organizers applied the standard FIFA regulations, in terms of crowd control and security," Cape Town mayor Dan Plato told SA fm radio.

The Peter Mokaba stadium in the northern town of Polokwane was on the same day opened by a mini tournament, where local teams played against a Danish team Brøndby IF. Construction of the country's 10 stadia was completed in December, as Africa prepares for its first ever staging of the global football extravaganza.—*Internet*

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**Drive safely**

## Pressure mounts for tougher action

NEW YORK, 24 Jan—After trudging through the wilds of western Thailand for several hours, the forest rangers thought they were finally onto something: the distant sound of crunching leaves.

Automatic weapons drawn, the five Thais crept forward, hoping to catch a tiger poacher. It turned out to be a banteng, a wild cow, which disappeared into the woods. But all in all, the absence of illegal hunters was good news, said ranger Sakchai Tessri.

"When we passed before, we would always run into poachers." Now he felt their room for maneuver was narrowing.

"In the old days," he said, "they would spend many nights in the forest for poaching. Now they just come in, shoot, grab and go quickly." The 6,400-square-kilometer (2,500-square-mile) Huai Kha Kheang and Thung Yai Wildlife Sanctuaries on the Myanmar border represent a rare success in the struggle to save the world's dwindling tiger population.

Funded by the New York-based Wildlife Conservation Society, the increased patrols, armed with the latest technology, have scared off poachers and helped stabilize the tiger population of more than 100, along with animals such as the banteng which they prey on.

*Internet*

## Dogs fatally maul woman in Vietnam

HANOI, 24 Jan—A Vietnamese woman was mauled to death by at least five guard dogs at a coffee farm in the country's Central Highlands, state-linked media reported on Saturday.

Pham Thi Ngan, 55, was illegally collecting coffee beans from the farm in Dak Lak Province on Thursday when the dogs went after her, said the *Tuoi Tre* newspaper.

Other women who had entered the farm with her climbed into trees to escape but Ngan was too slow, it said, adding that her body and face were unrecognisable after the mauling.

*Internet*

## Italy not to be intimidated by the Mafia

ROME, 24 Jan—Italian Justice Minister Angelino Alfano on Friday said the country is now stronger and will not be intimidated by the Mafia, news agency *Agi* reported.

Alfano made the remarks following the arrest of an alleged member of the Mafia with links to an explosive-packed car found Thursday near an airport in the southern region of Calabria, where President Giorgio Napolitano was attending an anti-Mafia summit. "The state will not let itself be intimidated, because it is stronger than all criminal organizations put together", said Alfano.

According to the police, however, the car packed with explosives was not aimed at Napolitano.

Calabria is home to the 'Ndrangheta — one of the biggest Mafia groups in Italy, which was responsible for a failed bomb attack on a Calabria court house earlier this month.

Alfano said cabinet officials would travel to Calabria on Thursday to unveil a new anti-Mafia strategy in a bid to "root out" the 'Ndrangheta.—*Xinhua*



Russian girls view an embroidery work by Russian artist Irina Zakharova at an exhibition on Embroidery of Chinese Calligraphy on Cloth held in Moscow on 22 Jan, 2010. —XINHUA

## Forest fires devastate more than 30,000 hectares in Chile

SANTIAGO, 24 Jan—About 30,000 hectares of forest and pastureland have been devastated by fires in different regions of Chile, authorities said on Friday. Catalina Bau, executive director of the

Chilean National Forest Corporation (Conaf), said that the losses caused by the fires reached 40 million US dollars. Bau said on Thursday night that firefighters had controlled the fires in "La Campana" in Maule region.

"We hope to control the fires in the regions of

Valparaiso, Maule and Bio Bio. We are concerned about the high temperature, but fortunately, the houses are not at risk," Bau said. Currently, about 1,500 agents of the Conaf and more than 1,200 Chilean soldiers are fighting fires in different regions of the country.—*Xinhua*

## Survivors flee Haiti capital; buried still saved

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 24 Jan—By boat or by bus, by bicycle and on foot along clogged and broken roads, earthquake survivors streamed away from this city and its landscape of desolation on Friday and into Haiti's hinterlands and the unknown.

The government and international agencies urgently searched for sites to build tent cities on Port-au-Prince's outskirts to shelter hundreds of thousands

of the homeless staying behind before springtime's onslaught of floods and hurricanes. "We need to get people out of the sun and elements," UN spokesman Nicholas Reader said as relief teams worked to deliver food, water and medical aid to the population, estimated at 1 million, sprawled over some 600 settlements around the rubble-strewn capital and in the quake zone beyond.—*Internet*

## Australian baby koala dies on operating table

CANBERRA, 24 Jan—The baby koala shot with a slug gun has died on the operating table later on Friday.

Doug was found with pellet wounds to his ribs and abdomen at the base of a tree at a Morayfield property, north of Brisbane, on Tuesday morning.

His mother Meryl was also shot but is expected to make a full recovery after earlier surgery.

Staff at the Australian Wildlife Hospital tried to remove half of one of Doug's lungs after a pellet was found in his chest.

"However, it is with sad regret that during surgery, Doug passed away and vets were unable to save him," a spokeswoman said.—*Xinhua*



## Biodiversity forum calls in fashion pros

GENEVA, 24 Jan—The United Nations says it has enlisted the fashion and cosmetics industries in the fight against an unprecedented loss of the world's biodiversity.

Representatives from governments, international organizations and industry have been meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, for a "Best Use of Nature" forum to discuss

issues ranging from over-harvesting wild species for skins or natural fibers to pollution from manufacturing processes, the United Nations said in a release on Friday.

The forum's aim is to promote ethical action by producers and consumers to combat loss of the world's species as part of the International

Year of Biodiversity, the release said.

"Changing the way consumers and markets value biodiversity offers an opportunity to maximize the positive and minimize the negative impact on communities, economies and the environment," the UN Conference on Trade and Development announced.

*Internet*

## Cellphone driving affects understanding

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN, 24 Jan—Talking on a cellphone may inhibit one's driving but driving inhibits one's ability to understand and use language, US researchers said.

The finding contradicts two previous studies, researchers at the University of Illinois said on Friday.

"The previous findings made no sense to those of us who have studied language," Gary Dell, a psycholinguist in the department of psychology at Illinois and corresponding author on the study, said.

The study was conducted in driving simulators with 96 participants — half of whom were older than 65 while the other half were in their 20s or late teens.

The subjects worked in pairs, one as a driver and the other as a conversation partner who was either talking with the driver through a hands-free cellphone from a distant location or with the driver in the simulator.—*Internet*



Handicraftsmen lay out colourful lanterns at Dongfang Square in Rushan city, east China's Shandong Province, on 22 Jan, 2010. Over 100 local handicraftsmen in Rushan were busy preparing for the upcoming spring lantern fair to greet the Chinese lunar New Year.—XINHUA

## Microbe's poison linked to fish kills

BALTIMORE, 24 Jan—A microbe linked to toxic algae blooms in the Chesapeake Bay emits a poison to protect itself and to stun its equally tiny prey, Maryland scientists said.

Knowing the hunting habits of *Karlodinium veneficum* could help reduce fish kills, researchers at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, said.

Studies show *K. veneficum* emits a poison called karlotoxin that immobilizes its prey — a single-celled algae called cryptophyte, the researchers wrote this week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

*K. veneficum* blooms spread the toxin, which damage the gills of fish.—*Internet*

## Plasma jets may replace dental drills

HAMBURG, 24 Jan—Plasma jets that remove tooth decay-causing bacteria could be an effective and less painful alternative to the dentist's drill, German researchers said.

The study, scheduled to be published in the February issue of the *Journal of Medical Microbiology*, found firing low temperature plasma beams at dentin — the fibrous tooth structure underneath the enamel coating — was found to reduce the amount of dental bacteria by up to 10,000-fold. Scientists at the Leibniz-Institute of Surface Modifications in Leipzig, Germany, and dentists at the Saarland University in Homburg, Germany, tested the effectiveness of plasma against common oral pathogens including *Streptococcus mutans* and *Lactobacillus casei*.

These bacteria form films on the surface of teeth and are capable of eroding tooth enamel and the dentin below it to cause cavities. If left untreated it can lead to pain, tooth loss and sometimes severe gum infections, the researchers say.—*Internet*



The remote Inupiat Eskimo village of Noorvik, Alaska, is seen on 22 Jan, 2010. The US Census Bureau Director Robert Groves is heading to Noorvik, Alaska to formally launch the nation's 2010 count in where residents are planning a huge reception of traditional dancing and a feast of caribou, moose and other subsistence foods.—INTERNET

## Meat linked to urinary tract infections

MONTREAL, 24 Jan—A Canadian researcher says she has discovered strong evidence of a link between eating contaminated chicken and the *E. coli* that cause urinary tract infection.

Ameé Manges of McGill University in Montreal found chicken sold in supermarkets, restaurants and other outlets in the Montreal area between 2005 and 2007 contained *E. coli*.

*E. coli* such as O157:H7 can cause serious intestinal disease but eating contaminated meat or food does not usually lead directly to a urinary tract infection, Manges says. The study found evidence that *E. coli* bacteria originating from these food sources can cause common urinary tract infections.

Some *E. coli* bacteria can live in the intestine without causing problems

but the bacteria can travel from the anus to the vagina and urethra during sex, which can lead to the infection.

The research team is investigating whether livestock may be passing anti-microbial-resistant bacteria on to humans due to the use of antibiotics to treat or prevent disease in the animals. The wide use of antibiotics may lead to developing resistance to the medication.—*Internet*

## Some may overreact to a person's sneezing

DALLAS, 24 Jan—With influenza being in the headlines, people may overreact to a person sneezing, a US psychologist says.

Dr Deborah Wiebe, a health psychologist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre in

Dallas, says researchers have found a nearby sneeze can raise fear of health threats not linked to germ transfer — such as a person having a heart attack before age 50 or dying from a crime or accident.

"Physical symptoms are cues that tell us whether our health is good or endangered in some way," Wiebe says in a statement. "These

cues or signals are very important to keeping us healthy, but they are also easy to misinterpret and are easily influenced by social context."

Wiebe says others' symptoms raise awareness of our own vulnerability and activate both conscious and unconscious fear and sense of danger.

*Internet*

## China's TB control project avoids 770,000 deaths

BEIJING, 24 Jan—A total of 770,000 deaths from tuberculosis (TB) were avoided over the past eight years in China thanks to a large-scale TB control project, it was announced on Wednesday.

The project covering 670 million Chinese, nearly half of China's population, also prevented 20 million people from getting infected with TB bacteria.

China's Ministry of Health (MOH), the World Bank, and Britain's Department for International Development (DFID), which jointly launched the 2002-2010 project, held a meeting here on Wednesday to review the results while identifying challenges ahead.

Yu Dezhi, an MOH official in charge of the project supervision, said the project had provided free diagnosis and treatment to 1.84 million smear positive TB patients (diagnosed by their sputum), with 1.39 million cured.—*Xinhua*

## SPORTS

## Anelka fires Chelsea into 5th round

PRESTON, 24 Jan—France striker Nicolas Anelka took the plaudits after his goal inspired a 2-0 win at Preston keeping Chelsea on course to land the FA Cup for the third time in four seasons. Anelka set the platform for the Premier League club's fourth round success at Deepdale on Saturday with his fifth goal in four games. Young strike partner Daniel Sturridge doubled the holders' lead in the second half as Carlo Ancelotti's team saw off Darren Ferguson's Championship outfit.

But it was Anelka's performance which caught the eye of Chelsea

assistant manager Ray Wilkins and he was keen to salute the former Arsenal and Real Madrid star. "He's playing some outstanding football at the minute," Wilkins said. "He's clearly enjoying his football and training. He's an outstanding player and hopefully he will carry in this rich vein of scoring form."

Internet



Chelsea's French striker Nicolas Anelka



Manchester United's English forward Wayne Rooney (3rd L) scores the opening goal of their English Premier League match against Hull City at Old Trafford in Manchester. Rooney scored four goals in a match for the first time in his career to send United back to the top of the Premier League table on Saturday after a 4-0 win.—INTERNET

## Zheng first Chinese ever into Melbourne quarters

MELBOURNE, 24 Jan—History making Zheng Jie says it's not unreasonable to hope for two Chinese players to make the semi-finals of this year's Australian Open. The 26-year-old world

number 35 made the bold claim after beating 31st seeded Ukrainian Alona Bondarenko 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 on Sunday to become the first Chinese player ever to make the quarter-finals in Melbourne.

Her reward for the victory is a last eight showdown against either Dinara Safina or Maria Kirilenko.

Internet

## Ferguson tells fans to forget finances and relish Rooney

MANCHESTER, 24 Jan—Sir Alex Ferguson has pleaded with Manchester United supporters to put their dissatisfaction with the club's owners behind them and back his team as they attempt to retain their Premier League title. Before Saturday's 4-0 victory over Hull, which featured an astonishing four-goal performance from Wayne Rooney, Ferguson used his programme notes to appeal for United's increasingly militant fans to cease their campaign against the Glazer family.

Internet

## Bordeaux cruise as minnows Colmar stun Lille in French Cup

PARIS, 24 Jan—Bordeaux cruised into the last 16 of the French Cup on Saturday but an under-strength Lille crashed out after losing on penalties to 10-man Colmar of the Championnat de France Amateurs (fourth tier). French champions and current league leaders Bordeaux outclassed second-tier Ajaccio 5-1, with Argentine striker Fernando Cavenaghi making the most of a rare start by scoring a hat-trick.—Internet

Chinese tennis player Zheng Zie gestures during her women's singles fourth round match. History making Zheng says it's not unreasonable to hope for two Chinese players to make the semi-finals of this year's Australian Open.

INTERNET



## Leeds fight on as Wigan survive County scare

LONDON, 24 Jan—Leeds United's thrilling FA Cup adventure goes on after a penalty equaliser in the sixth minute of injury time ensured Simon Grayson's side took Tottenham to a fourth round replay. Jermaine Beckford, Leeds' match-winner in their third round victory over Manchester United, was the hero again, coolly converting the spot-kick to earn the League One (third division) side a 2-2 draw and a second chance of reaching the last 16.

Notts County also lived to fight an-

other day after coming within seven minutes of a classic giant-killing act before being forced to settle for a 2-2 draw with Premier League club Wigan. Holders Chelsea eased into the fifth round at the expense of Preston while Reading followed up their elimination of Liverpool in the last round by accounting for another Premier League side, Burnley. But there was no doubt that the biggest drama of the day came at White Hart Lane, where Leeds looked dead and buried until Michael Dawson was adjudged to have brought down Beckford deep into injury time.—Internet

Leeds United's striker Jermaine Beckford scores his late second goal from the penalty spot past Tottenham's goalkeeper Heurelho Gomes during their FA Cup fourth round football match at White Hart Lane in north London.—INTERNET



## Nadal, Murray to meet; Petrova upsets Kuznetsova

MELBOURNE, 24 Jan—Rafael Nadal and Andy Murray held off two of the tallest men and biggest servers in tennis on Sunday to set up a quarterfinal meeting at the Australian Open. Defending champion Nadal had a 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over 6-foot-10 Ivo Karlovic of Croatia, the tallest man on the tour. In the previous match at Rod Laver Arena, No. 5 Murray overcame 6-foot-9 American John Isner 7-6 (4), 6-3, 6-2. Murray hasn't dropped a set in four matches.

Over on Hisense Arena, Nadia Petrova advanced with another upset, beating third-ranked Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 to reach the quarters. In the other section

of Petrova's half of the draw, Zheng Jie set another national mark by becoming the first Chinese player to reach the quarterfinals at Melbourne Park with a 7-6 (6), 6-4 victory over Alona Bondarenko.

Nadal, who beat Roger Federer in the final here last year to capture his first major on hard courts after four titles at the French and one at Wimbledon, said the strategy against Karlovic was just not to blink. "Just be focused all the time, move the legs, because you going to have a lot of points only with one shot," said Nadal, who was already looking ahead to a different style of match against Murray.

Internet

## Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle



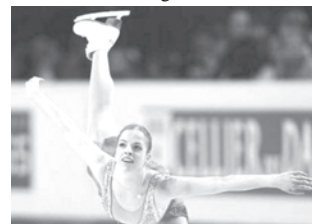
## Lopez stops Luevano to win WBO featherweight title

NEW YORK, 24 Jan—Puerto Rico's Juan Manuel Lopez stopped American Steven Luevano in the seventh round to win the WBO featherweight title in New York on Saturday. A hard right-left combination from the challenger knocked Luevano down and although the American made it to his feet referee Benji Esteves stopped the contest.

"It was a tough fight. He's an intelligent fighter," said Lopez, a former WBO super-bantamweight champion making his first appearance at featherweight. "It wasn't one of the toughest, but it was a little uncomfortable, because he is difficult." Lopez may make a first defense of his title against Cuban exile Yuriorkis Gamboa (17-0), who knocked down Rogers Mtagwa three times in a second round stoppage in the co-main event.—Internet

## Italy's Kostner wins European gold for 3rd time

TALLINN, 24 Jan—Carolina Kostner won her third European figure skating gold on Saturday, a much-needed turnaround after a string of mediocre results this season. "This competition felt like a liberation for me," said the Italian, who has suffered through a disappointing Grand Prix season and a disheartening second-place finish in the national championships. "Now I know I am on the right way and that gives me a lot of confidence." "I think I have nothing to fear from Vancouver."—Internet



Carolina Kostner of Italy performs during ladies free programme at the European Figure Skating Championships in Tallinn on 23 Jan, 2010. INTERNET



## Chinese medical team, medical supplies leave for quake-hit Haiti

BEIJING, 24 Jan—A 40-member Chinese medical care and epidemic prevention team left here for Haiti on Sunday afternoon on a chartered flight, which also carried 20 tonnes of medical supplies, said the Ministry of Commerce (MOC).

The MOC said earlier in the day that China had decided to provide medical supplies worth 18 million yuan (2.64 million US dollars) in additional aid to quake-

ravaged Haiti.

The 20-tonne medical supplies included medicines, hygiene equipment, medical devices and camping equipment, said the ministry in a statement.

Also onboard the plane would be four Chinese peace-keeping police officers, replacing the four who were killed in the earthquake. China maintains a 125-member peacekeeping force in Haiti.

Xinhua



Giant panda Tuantuan eats bamboo shoot in Taipei Zoo of Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan Province, Jan. 24, 2010. A party is held in the zoo on Sunday celebrating the one year anniversary of the first public appearance of the Giant pandas Tuantuan and Yuanyuan in Taiwan. The two pandas arrived in Taipei Zoo on 23 Dec, 2008 and made the first appearance on 24 Jan, 2009. —INTERNET

### MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (25-1-2010) (Monday)

| Transmissions | Times                   |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Local         | - (09:00am~10:00am) MST |
| Europe        | - (19:30pm~21:30pm) MST |
| North America | - (23:30pm~07:30am) MST |

#### Local Transmission

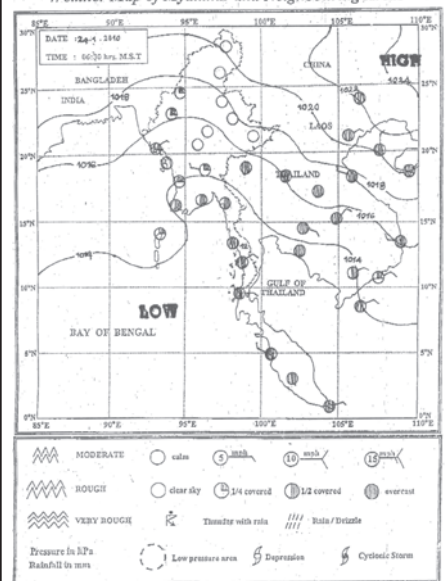
- \* Signature Tune
- \* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- \* Water Hyacinth Furniture
- \* Safari In Style
- \* Wheat Handicraft Toys
- \* Culture Stage
- \* Kyaing Tong with Much Attraction
- \* Myanmar Modern Song
- \* Ancient Royal City Innwa & Nanmadaw Mae Nu Brick Monastery
- \* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

#### Europe/ North America Transmission

- \* Signature Tune
- \* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- \* Water Hyacinth Furniture
- \* Safari In Style
- \* Wheat Handicraft Toys
- \* Culture Stage
- \* Kyaing Tong with Much Attraction
- \* Myanmar Modern Song
- \* Ancient Royal City Innwa & Nanmadaw Mae Nu Brick Monastery
- \* Myanmar Modern Song
- \* Off-shore Fishing Boat Construction
- \* The Royal Animal Weights of the Myanmar Empires
- \* Marquetry
- \* National Dance
- \* Making Myanmar Marionette
- \* Myanmar Modern Song
- \* Paper Toys
- \* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

### Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## WEATHER

Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2010

### Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.

M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakinie and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (4°C) below January average temperatures in Rakhie State and upper Sagaing Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below January average temperatures in Kachin and Chin States, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Eastern Shan and Mon States and Ayeyawady Division, (6°C) above January average temperatures in lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-2°C), Loilem (-1°C), Putao, Namsam, Heho and Mogoke (2°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Dawei (0.47) inch.

Maximum temperature on 23-1-2010 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 24-1-2010 was 58°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 24-1-2010 was 91%. Total sun shine hours on 23-1-2010 was (9.2) hours approx.

Rainfall on 24-1-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northeast at (12:30) hours MST on 23-1-2010.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010:** Rain are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Mon States, Ayeyawady and Yangon Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 25-1-2010:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-1-2010:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-1-2010:** Generally fair weather.

Myanmar



Monday, 25  
January  
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning News

7:40 am

4. အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ (ယဉ်ကျေးမှုနှင့် ဝိဇ္ဇာတိရစ္ဆာန်များ)

7:50 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am

6. "ဆေးလိပ်ကင်းကွာ အနုပညာကမ္ဘာ"

8:15 am

7. Cute Little Dancers

8:30 am

8. အတိုးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:40 am

9. International News

8:45 am

10. Musical Programme

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:10 pm

2. Dance Variety

4:20 pm

3. အတိုးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:30 pm

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

4:45 pm

5. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရပ် ဖြစ်သော ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တစ်ခု (သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (သင်္ချာ)

5:00 pm

6. Songs For Uphold National Spirit

5:05 pm

7. Dance Of National Races

5:15 pm

8. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:25 pm

9. Musical Programme

5:35 pm

10. ကြားညှပ်သုံးနှစ်

5:40 pm

11. စုစည်းသော ရုပ်ရှင်အချုပ်

6:00 pm

12. Evening News

6:15 pm

13. Weather Report

6:20 pm

14. Sing & Enjoy

7:00 pm

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အဆိပ်သင့်တဲ့အချစ်"

(အပိုင်း-၂၈)

8:00 pm

16. News

8:00 pm

17. International News

8:00 pm

18. Weather Report

8:00 pm

19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဆူးလွှမ်းသောချစ်နှင်းဆီ"

(အပိုင်း-၁၉)



- ★ 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

## PyinOoLwin, lovely highland city of beautiful flowers

Byline & Photos: Tin Win Lay (Kyimyindine)

Standing at an altitude of 3538 feet, PyinOoLwin, a highland town, 460 miles north of Yangon and 42 miles east of Mandalay, is like an area of all-season gardens with various species of colourful flowers in bloom.

PyinOoLwin is blessed with a cool climate pattern, impressive geographical features, and masses of flowers blooming all-year round, and it has many interesting places, thus fascinating a far greater number of tourists, local and foreign, than any other hilly town.

With an area of 39.55 square miles, and a population of over 230,000, PyinOoLwin is constituted with 21 wards, and 37 village-tracts of 116 villages.

In an interview, Executive Officer (Deputy Director) of the Township Development Affairs Committee U Tin Win told Kyemon Daily, "We are working hard according to the budgets, urban population, and conditions of the region for development of urban and rural areas in compliance with the directives of the Development Affairs

Department under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs."

When asked about the tasks for keeping the town clean and pleasant, he said that their township had favourable climate pattern and fertile soil, so there flowers bloomed naturally; and that the Township Development Affairs Committee was constantly decorating urban areas with beds of flowers and landscaping plants.

Assistant Engineer U Zaw Myo Thet of the

committee said that the township had eight round-shaped and 16 square-shaped roundabouts decorated with flower beds; that they had grown flowering and landscaping plants along the roads; and that up to that time, they had nurtured and grown over 330,000 plants.

On both sides of the roads were diverse species of flowers in full bloom, making the passers-by feel relaxed. As to the construction of urban and

(See page 7)

### Significant night temperatures (24-1-2010)

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Haka           | (-2° C) |
| Loilem         | (-1° C) |
| Putao, Namsang | (2° C)  |
| Heho and Mogok | (2° C)  |



Entrance to PyinOoLwin on Mandalay-Lashio Road.