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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

Industry-1 Minister inspects Soap Factory and Cotton Grinding Factory in Yamethin

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Jan—Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspected production process of Soap Factory (Yamethin) of Myanma Pharmaceutical and Foodstuff Industries in Yamethin yesterday afternoon and urged officials to improve the quality of products and meet the production targets.

After that, the minister visited Winthuzar Shop (Yamethin) and left necessary instructions.

The minister also inspected Ngwechi-6

cotton purchase centre in the compound of Grinding Factory.

And he met with farmers and fulfilled the needs for boosting cotton production.

Afterwards, the minister inspected grinding of cotton at the Ginning Factory and gave necessary instruction. The minister looked into Tatkon Myoma cotton purchase centre in Nay Pyi Taw District and met with farmers.—MNA

True patriotism

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

Over 150,000 viss of fish and prawn flow into Kyimyindine Central Sanpya Fish Market

Article & Photos: Purchaser Po Htaw

At 4 am on 23 December 2010, I witnessed complexes of Central Sanpya Fish Market of Kyimyindine Township hustle and bustle with sellers and buyers as a natural painting work.

In addition to four complexes of the market, brokerages namely Sanpya Golden Fish,

Mann Myanmar and Wah Wah Win of national fishing entrepreneurs were crowded with fishermen. They unloaded fish from the trawlers.

Ice factories were ready for supply of pieces of ice to the users who covered fish and marine products with ice to be able to prevent decaying and spoiling.

In an interview, Chairman of the Representative Executive Committee of Fishery Brokerage U Mya Maung explained, "The new executive committee was reorganized on 2 December 2010. In line with the instructions of the Yangon Mayor, the executive committee is performing its tasks in ac-



Retailers waiting for purchase of fish and prawn at the brokerage.



Arrival of fish from countryside fish farms seen at Central Fish Market in Kyimyindine.

cordance with the rules and regulations of the Markets Department of Yangon City Development Committee."

Treasurer U Kyi Win Hsan said, "Over 150,000 viss of fish and prawn from various regions of the nation comes into the market daily. The market gives first priority to distribution of fish and prawn to markets in Yangon Region. The committee does not fix the price. Sellers and buyers trade fish and prawn among them as they like. The transport work group

under the committee sends fish and prawn to the countryside."

Fish and prawn from fish ponds from Maubin, Bogale, Kyauklat, Nyaungdon and Pantanaw of Ayeawady Region, and fresh water fish from Patheingyi, Labutta, Kyaunggon, Mawlamyinegyun and Ngathainggyaung flow into the market. In addition, Waw, Thanatpin, Nyaunglebin and DaikU send fish of lakes and ponds to the market.

(See page 7)

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 7 January, 2011

Strive for operating factories at full capacity

State economy is based on agriculture. In striving for boosting production of various kinds of crops, Myanmar is at the top level of producing paddy and beans and pulses. Myanmar has now achieved food sufficiency not only for present population but for the generation to come.

The nation set an aim to establish an industrialized nation. Thus, strenuous efforts are to be made for shaping a modern, developed and industrialized nation. Now, it can be witnessed that power plants have been commissioned into service for supply of electricity which is necessary in transforming the nation into an industrialized one.

Industrial regions and industrial zones have been established at suitable areas for establishment of factories and industries. New factories and workshops have been built. As such, heavy industries and import-substitute productions come into acceleration.

Magway Industrial Region of Magway Region is constituted with No. 2 Farming Machinery Factory (Malun), Machine and Machine Tools Factory (Myaing), Technical Training School (Magway) and Technical Training School (Pakokku) including Heavy Turbo Truck Assembly Shop and Gear & Transmission Plant.

No. 3 Automobile Factory (Magway) of the Ministry of Industry-2 was inaugurated in Magway Industrial Region on 31 December. The factory plans to manufacture 5,000 automobiles and machine parts to be installed at the vehicles yearly. The factory can share technology to automobile manufacturers of local industrial zones.

So far, there have been over 600 State-owned factories across the nation. The private industrial sector is on the increase. Skillful technicians who have capability to apply modern technology are being turned out. Emphasis is to be placed both on quantity and quality for keeping abreast of products from international community. All-out efforts are to be made for operating of all factories at full capacity for building an industrialized nation.

Nano energizer brand Engine Restoration and Protection products on sales



Nano Energizer booth seen at Living with Technology Expo 2011.—MNA

People's Desk

- * 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

Commander attends Deepawali Commemorative Celebration, Pongal Pre Function Dinner

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Jan—Organized by All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (HQs), Deepawali commemorative Celebration was held in conjunction with Pongal Pre Function Dinner at Traders Hotel here yesterday, attended by Chairman of Yangon Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than.

Also present were Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin, the Indian Ambassador to Myanmar, the Nepalese Ambassador, the Sri Lankan Ambassador and guests.

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Jan—The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Professor Dr Nay Soe Maung of University of Public Health of the Medical Science Department under the Ministry of Health as Rector of the same university on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.—MNA

First, the commander, the minister, the mayor and the Indian Ambassador formally opened the festival and ignited the lights.

Next, the minister and responsible persons spoke words of praise.

Then those present enjoyed cultural variety show.—MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Tun Than, Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Mayor U Aung Thein Lin and the Indian Ambassador open Deepawali commemorative celebration & Pongal Pre Function Dinner.—MNA

Upgrading of Tachilek Airport in momentum



Minister for Transport U Thein Swe inspects Tachilek Airport.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Jan—Minister for Transport U Thein Swe yesterday heard reports on paving of asphalt concrete, maintenance of drains, repaving

YANGON, 6 Jan—Myanmar Engineering Society will organize the Living with Technology Expo 2011 with display of Nano energizer brand Engine Restoration and Protection products manufactured by the Republic of Korea, at Tatmadaw Convention Hall in Yangon from 8 to 10 January.

Nano energizer can improve engine power, save heat and fuel, reduce smoke and pushing interior of the engine and stabilize sound of engines. Royal Lubricants Trading Co Ltd with 01-

works, apron and installation of signal lights along the runway presented by Director U Kyaw Soe of Department of Civil Aviation at Tachilek Airport.

The minister stressed the need to take special awareness of security affairs as the airport is located at the border area.

The minister looked into checking passengers at arrival and departure lounges, installation of signal lights along the runway and progress in extension of the runway.—MNA

73039191 and 01-681606 is sole agent of Korea-made Nano energizer products. The products are available at sale agents from countryside.

MNA



An Iraqi man and his children are seen at a compound for the displaced in western Baghdad, Iraq, on 4 Jan, 2011. An estimated 1.55 million people are currently displaced inside Iraq, according to the International Organization for Migration.—INTERNET

Morocco's terrorist network linked to al-Qaieda

RABAT, 6 Jan—Twenty-seven suspected terrorists recently smashed by the Moroccan security forces have links “with extremists of different nationalities in European countries,” the Moroccan Interior Minister said Wednesday.

According to state-run *Maghreb Arabe Presse (MAP)*, Taib Cherkaoui said that the terrorist cell includes a member of Al-Qaieda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), who was tasked by this organization to set up a rear base in Morocco where it would plan terrorist

acts.

“This cell planned to commit terrorist attacks using bomb belts and car bombs targeting security services in particular,” he added.

“The cell’s members attempted to hold up bank agencies in Casablanca and Rabat to get funds needed to finance their terrorist schemes,” he noted.

He added that preliminary investigations revealed that the cell was trying to gather members of some previously dismantled terrorist organizations.—*Xinhua*

Man attempts to hijack plane in Istanbul

ANKARA, 6 Jan—A passenger who claimed to be wearing a bomb attempted to hijack a Turkish Airlines flight from Oslo to Istanbul on Wednesday after it landed at the Ataturk Airport in Istanbul, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

No one was injured in the attempted hijacking, and the police detained the suspect after evacuating other passengers.

The unidentified passenger claimed that he was carrying a bomb and attempted to enter the cockpit while the Boeing 737-800 plane was flying over Bulgarian air space, said the report.

Flight attendants prevented him from entering the cockpit, the report said, adding the plane landed at Istanbul’s Ataturk Airport safely at around 9:00 pm local time (GMT 1900).

The passenger was detained by the security forces and was then taken to the security department, said the report.



A man who tried unsuccessfully to hijack a Turkish Airlines plane (2nd L) is detained by police at Ataturk airport in Istanbul on 5 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET

There were 60 passengers including a child and seven crew members onboard the plane.

Xinhua



Afghan policemen stand near damaged police vehicles in their compound after a suicide attack in Kandahar south of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 27 Dec, 2010. A car bomb exploded in the heart of the southern city of Kandahar Monday, killing at least three people and wounding more than a dozen, an Afghan policeman who witnessed the attack said.—INTERNET

Explosion hits French embassy in Mali

BAMAKO, 5 Jan—An explosion hit the French embassy in Bamako, capital of Mali on Wednesday evening, local media reported.

The explosion was caused by a bottle filled with gas and three people were injured in the incident, reports said.

But there is no confirmation of the explosion from the police of Mali so far.

According to reports reaching here, the French Foreign Ministry has said an explosion rocked the French embassy in Mali on Wednesday.

It also said it had no information about the possible casualties in the explosion at this stage.

Xinhua



A security agent stands guard near the gate of the French Embassy, marked by burn marks and bullet holes following an attack in the evening in Bamako, Mali on 5 Jan, 2011.

INTERNET

Australian jailed for Afghanistan murder

SYDNEY, 6 Jan—A former Australian soldier has been jailed for 20 years in Afghanistan after murdering an Afghan colleague and then trying to pretend he was killed by the Taliban, a report said on Thursday.

Robert William Langdon shot the man after a violent argument while they were escorting a convoy to American military bases in 2009, *The Australian* newspaper said.

He then told colleagues to fire

randomly in the air while he tossed a grenade into the vehicle where the victim’s body lay, in an attempt to pass the killing off as a militant attack.

Langdon was arrested later that day at Kabul airport as he tried to board a flight to Dubai.

The report, citing court documents, said the sentence was handed down in October, but that Langdon’s family was not aware of the term until contacted by the newspaper.

Langdon was

initially sentenced to death and again on appeal, but then paid “sizeable” compensation to the victim’s family, the report said.

Both men were working for US security firm Four Horsemen International.

“A 20-year sentence in (Kabul prison) Pol-e-Charkhi is really the equivalent of a death sentence,” Langdon’s Australian lawyer Stephen Kenny told the newspaper.

Internet

Three killed in blast in South Waziristan, Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 6 Jan—At least three people were killed and four others injured in a remote-controlled blast that took place Wednesday evening in Pakistan’s northwest tribal area of South Waziristan, sources told *Xinhua*.

A local journalist who asked to remain anonymous from North Waziristan, a neighbouring area of South Waziristan, confirmed through a telephone interview with *Xinhua* the earlier report by a local Urdu TV channel about the blast, adding that all the people

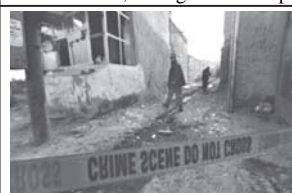
killed and injured in the blast were civilians. Other details about the blast are not immediately available, said the source.

Located in the country’s northwest mountainous area bordering Afghanistan, South Waziristan used to be a stronghold of militants, but due to the strikes by the Pakistani army as well as the US drones, most of the militants hiding there have moved up to the north into the adjacent North Waziristan, which has now become a major target of US drone strikes.

Xinhua

Afghan police officers look for clues near the site of an explosion in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 4 Jan, 2011. The bomb exploded in central Kabul early Tuesday, killing one police officer and wounding three other people, a government official said, on the one-year anniversary of the country’s constitution.

INTERNET



Science



A sabal palmetto with ganoderma butt rot, courtesy of the University of Florida.—INTERNET

Fungus threatens Florida palm trees

FORT LAUDERDALE, 6 Jan — Million of palm trees in southern Florida that appear healthy on the outside may be rotting from the inside and can topple in even modest winds, officials say.

A fungus, ganoderma butt rot, has been infecting South Florida palms for at least 50 years, experts say, creating a potential danger from dead palms that cannot withstand winds from the frequent summer thunderstorms, not to mention tropical storm- or hurricane-force winds, the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* reported Tuesday.

The fungus doesn't get the attention of citrus canker or other diseases that affect cash agricultural crops, but the disease is widespread throughout the region, Monica Elliott, a University of Florida professor of plant pathology, said.

"From the landscape industry perspective, this would be one of the top two diseases of palms in South Florida," Elliott said.—*Internet*

'Dry-roasted' plants could be energy fuel

LEEDS, 6 Jan — Power plants could burn more plant matter instead of coal if the fuel was delivered pre-roasted like coffee beans, British researchers say.

Researchers at the University of Leeds say many British power stations burn plant matter, or biomass, as well as coal to cut their carbon footprint, but biomass is moist and bulky, making it expensive to transport and difficult to store for long periods without going moldy, a university release said Tuesday. A roasting process known as torrefaction could solve that, scientists from the university's School of Process, Environmental and Materials Engineering say.

The process, in which plant matter is heated to about 575 degrees Fahrenheit in an air-free container, transforms bulky biomass into a dry, energy-rich fuel that is cheaper and easier to move around and has a much longer shelf life.

Internet

Thousands of crabs wash up on UK beaches

LONDON, 6 Jan — Thousands of dead crabs have washed ashore along Britain's east coast in the county of Kent, and environmentalists say the prolonged cold weather is to blame.

Huge numbers of Velvet swimming crabs, also known as devil crabs, are thought to be victims of lower-than-average sea temperatures caused by Britain's coldest December in 120 years, *The Daily Mail* reported Wednesday.

More than 40,000 of Britain's largest swimming crab littered beaches along the Kent coastline, the

newspaper said.

"We suspect that climate change and warmer weather has lured the crabs towards the shoreline," coastal warden Tony Sykes said.

"We believe the sudden temperature drop causes the crabs to suffer from hypothermia and die," he said.

Coast Project Manager Tony Childs said he was surprised at the large numbers of dead crabs. "We had a crash in numbers last year and we hadn't expected such a large population," he said.

Internet



A dead sea turtle lies on a beach in Waveland, Mississippi at the height of the US Gulf oil spill. A panel in the US has spread blame for the deadly environmental disaster beyond BP to Halliburton and Transocean, accusing all three companies of "systemic" management failures that could happen again.

INTERNET

Technology



File photo of the Google street-view car camera. South Korean police have found evidence that Internet giant Google illegally collected private data while producing its Street View mapping service, a report said Thursday.

INTERNET

Global tablet market will soar to 46 billion dollars by 2014

WASHINGTON, 6 Jan — Total global revenue from tablet devices like Apple's iPad and Samsung's Galaxy Tab will increase from 16 billion dollars in 2010 to a whopping 46 billion dollars in 2014, according to a report released Wednesday by US technology research firm Yankee Group.

"The growth in this market is unprecedented," said Dmitry Molchanov, Yankee Group analyst and author of the forecast. "The tablet sales curve is rising faster than that of HDTVs, handheld gaming consoles or even MP3 players."

According to the report, North America accounts for 37 percent of total global tablet revenue in 2010. However, by 2014, Asia-Pacific will be the front-runner. The region, primarily China, will own more than half the global market (58 percent), while North America's share will drop to just 17 percent.

The report also forecast that the average tablet price tag in the US will drop to just 237 dollars by 2015. Apple Inc.'s iPad, the main player in today's tablet market, costs 499 dollars to 829 dollars depending on the configuration.

Xinhua

Microsoft sold over 8m Kinects in 60 days

LAS VEGAS, 6 Jan — Microsoft Corp sold more than 8 million of its Xbox Kinect motion-sensing game system in its first 60 days since launch, outpacing its target of 5 million and outshining Sony Corp's competing Move.

The Japanese electronics maker sold 4.1 million units of its Move, which like the Kinect tracks body gestures for video games, in its first two months. However, that figure did not take into account the peak December holiday shopping month. Sony launched the Move controller — a wand-like device that allows users to control on-screen gaming action — in September in North America and in October in Japan. The device costs \$50 for the controller or \$400 bundled with a PlayStation 3. Microsoft's Kinect, launched in early November, costs \$150 or \$300 bundled with a 4 gigabyte Xbox console.

Chief Executive Steve Ballmer also told the Consumer Electronics Show that Sprint and Verizon Wireless will begin carrying phones based on its fledgling Windows Phone 7 operating software from this year's first half.

Reuters



Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer is shown as a Kinect avatar on a large screen during his keynote address on the eve of the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, Nevada, on 5 January, 2011.

INTERNET

Sony beefs up content for 3D, pushes connected TV

LAS VEGAS, 6 Jan — Sony Corp reaffirmed its commitment to 3D technology on Wednesday, saying it would provide more content and launch 3D cameras and camcorders.

In a splashy presentation at which Chief Executive Howard Stringer appeared on stage in a car from the upcoming 3D action film "The Green Hornet,"

alongside the film's stars, the company also announced a deal with Time Warner Cable to provide content across a range of Sony's connected products.

"2011 begins the next phase of our 3D strategy, a year in which 3D becomes personal," Sony CEO Howard Stringer told reporters at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. "Imagine wat-

ching your child's soccer games in 3D."

Sony also plans to launch a 24-hour 3D television channel in partnership with Discovery and IMAX Corp this year, Stringer said. He reeled off a list of Sony 3D movies to come, including "Men in Black 3" and the next installment of the "Spiderman" series.

Reuters

Health

Health Tip: Smokeless tobacco can harm your oral health

Chewing tobacco, even though it doesn't involve smoking, can still threaten your oral health, the *American Dental Association* warns.

The ADA says at least 28 cancer-causing chemicals are found in smokeless tobacco products. The group says these products pose increased risk of:

- * Cancer of the mouth, lip, tongue and pancreas.
- * Gum disease and irritation of the tissues inside the mouth.
- * Tooth decay from the sugar that's usually added to these products.
- * Erosion of tooth enamel from grit and sand found in these products.

Internet



Dr Andrew Wakefield in the 1990s unleashed a major health scare by linking childhood autism to a triple vaccine. He has since been barred from medical practice on grounds of conflict of financial interest and unethical treatment of some children involved in the research.—INTERNET

Health benefits of some organic produce overestimated

LOS ANGELES, 6 Jan—The health benefits of some organic farm produce are not as great as scientists may expect, a new study suggests.

Researchers at the National Food Institute in Denmark said they have found new evidence that organically grown onions, carrots, and potatoes generally do not have higher levels of healthful antioxidants and related substances than vegetables grown with traditional fertilizers and pesticides.

Their study was published Wednesday by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) on its website.

In the study, the scientists describe experiments in which they analyzed antioxidants termed "polyphenols" from onions, carrots and potatoes grown using conventional and organic methods.

They found no differences in polyphenol content for organic vs traditional methods of growth.

"On the basis of the present study carried out under well controlled conditions, it cannot

be concluded that organically grown onions, carrots, and potatoes generally have higher contents of health-promoting secondary metabolites in comparison with the conventionally cultivated ones," the study said.

With the demand for organically produced food increasing, there are many reasons to pay a premium for organic food products, said lead researcher Pia Knuthsen, a nutrition expert.—*Xinhua*



People walk past a blood donation sign in downtown Beijing on 29 December, 2010. Blood donation to strangers has not yet caught on in China, where only 84 out of every 10,000 people give blood — a fraction of the 454 who do so in developed countries, the health ministry says on its website.

INTERNET

Yale researchers find double doses of chicken pox vaccine more effective

WASHINGTON, 6 Jan—When vaccinating children against varicella (chicken pox), researchers at Yale School of Medicine have found, two doses are better than one. The study will appear in the 1 February issue of *Journal of Infectious Diseases*.

The US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began recommending a single dose of chicken pox vaccine for children ages one to 13 in 1995. The chicken pox rate fell drastically and studies showed that the effectiveness of one dose was 86 percent. But there was still a high rate of breakthrough illness in immunized children. The CDC changed the immunization policy for chicken pox in 2006, adding a second dose for children ages four to six.

In the new study, leader author Eugene Shapiro, professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Yale and his colleagues at Yale and Columbia universities showed that the effectiveness of two doses is 98.3 percent.

Past studies have suggested that two doses of varicella vaccine are linked to higher antibody levels than one dose, but this is the first study to assess the clinical effectiveness of two doses of the vaccine in the general population.—*Xinhua*

Business

S Korea's finance ministry pledges measures against inflation

SEOUL, 6 Jan— South Korea's finance ministry on Thursday pledged efforts "on all fronts" to stem inflationary pressure in the face of rising prices of everyday essentials and raw materials.

The government will seek stability in its macroeconomic management and make comprehensive efforts not to encourage inflation expectations stemming from rising prices, the finance ministry said in its monthly Green Book report.

The ministry attributed rising inflationary pressure to fluctuations in commodities prices and ample global liquidity, while predicting a continuous overall recovery in the world economy despite existing geopolitical and financial risk factors.

The vow was echoed by the Bank of Korea, which said, in a separate monetary policy report released on the same day, that stabilizing prices tops the policy agenda this year.

The central bank has set its inflation target for the 2010-2012 period at between 2 percent and 4 percent, and raised its key interest rate twice last year to 2.5 percent from a record-low 2 percent in an attempt to rein in inflation.

Xinhua



A commercial facility is seen under construction in central Bangkok. China will build a "commercial city" in Thailand worth \$1.5 billion that will allow traders to re-export Chinese-made goods and avoid costly tariffs, state media said Thursday.

INTERNET

Hong Kong economy forecast to grow 4.4 pct in Q1 of 2011

HONG KONG, 6 Jan— Hong Kong real gross domestic product (GDP) growth is likely to slow to 4.4 percent year-on-year in the first quarter of 2011, according to a quarterly economic report released by the APEC Study Centre of the University of Hong Kong on Wednesday.

The report, titled Hong

Kong Macroeconomic Forecast, expected the city's economy to expand by 5.2 percent in the last quarter of 2010, and by 6 percent in the second half of last year.

For the entire 2010, the report forecast Hong Kong's economy to expand 6.6 percent. Hong Kong's GDP grew 7.2 percent in the first half of 2010, according to the report.

"In the third quarter of last year, Hong Kong's economy had fully recovered from the setback caused by the turmoil in the global financial market triggered by the sub-prime mortgage crisis more than two years ago," said Richard Wong, professor of Economics of the University of Hong Kong.

Xinhua

Low interest rates, high staff costs may dent bank profits in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 6 Jan— Low interest rates and rising staff costs could squeeze the profits of Singapore banks this year, although they are still likely to do well as the economy continues to grow strongly, local daily *The Business Times* reported on Thursday.

Singapore is estimated to register a record economic growth of 14.7 percent for 2010, and strength growth of 4 to 6 percent is expected for 2011, according to the latest estimates of the Ministry of

Trade and Industry.

Loan growth is likely to be stronger than many expect, especially for the first half of the year, the newspaper quoted Kenneth Ng, head of research at CIMB, as saying.

Total Singapore-dollar bank loans grew 14.5 percent to 318.5 billion Singapore dollars (247.7 billion US dollars) over the 12-month period ended 30 Nov, statistics released by the Monetary Authority of Singapore showed.—*Xinhua*

Brazil's vehicle sales are record-high in 2010

RIODEJANEIRO, 6 Jan—Brazil's vehicle sales registered in 2010 record-high 3.515 million units, up 11.9 percent from 2009, the National Motor Vehicle Distribution Federation (Fenabrave) announced on Wednesday. According to Fenabrave, it was the fourth consecutive record-high result in the country. All sectors registered sale rise last year. The sales of buses were up 25.3 percent, while the truck sales rose 44.4 percent.

The sales of cars and light commercial vehicles reached 3.329 million units, up 10.6 percent from 2009. The motorbike

sales, which are not included in Fenabrave's main sale figures, also increased, reaching 1.8 million units, up 12.1 percent from 2009.

Italian manufacturer Fiat maintained its market share lead in 2010, with 760,474 units sold, which amounted to 22.84 percent of participation. Volkswagen had a 20.95 percent market share, with 697,342 units sold. GM ranked third, with a market share of 19.75 percent and 657,622 units sold, and Ford ranked fourth, with a 10.1 percent share and 336,309 units sold.—Xinhua



Mongolian-born grand sumo champion Yokozuna Hakuho performs the New Year's ring-entering rite at the annual celebration for the New Year at Meiji Shrine in Tokyo on 6 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET

China to tighten supervision on ephedrine-contained drugs

BEIJING, 6 Jan—China will tighten supervision of the sale and use of compound drugs that contain ephedrine, codeine, and diphenoxylate, according to the country's food and drug watchdog.

In an online statement by China's State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) issued Wednesday, compound drugs that use each of the three specific ingredients should bear a standard digital code and be covered by China's digital monitoring network for drugs.

Starting on 1 Jan, 2012 the listed compound drugs without digital codes shall not be sold, the SFDA said, urging all related medicine manufacturers to register their products with the digital network by 31 Dec, 2011.

The SFDA said the step was part of its improved supervision efforts against misuse or overuse of such drugs.

Xinhua



A woman walks along a flooded and devastated street in Haiti after the catastrophic 2010 earthquake. The destruction and death meant many women and girls lost the family and community networks that used to shield them from the threat of sexual violence. Precarious living conditions in camps further worsened their already dire situation.—INTERNET

Indian economy to grow robustly with inflationary pressure

WASHINGTON, 6 Jan—The real gross domestic product (GDP) of India was forecast to grow nearly 9 percent during the period of April 2010 to March 2011 year on year, with high inflationary pressure, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in a report on Wednesday.

Masahiko Takeda, the IMF's mission chief for India, held that India's real GDP was predicted to grow at 8.75 percent in the period year on year, with robust growth supported by high investment in infrastructure and productivity gains.

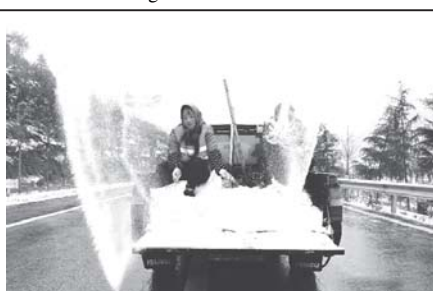
India weathered the recent global financial crisis well, and since mid-2009 domestic demand had powered a vigorous recovery. The country's growth rate remained among the strongest in the world, the Washington-based

agency said in its annual assessment of one of the world's fastest growing economies.

"With robust growth spurring elevated levels of inflation, India should speed up its return to pre-crisis monetary and fiscal policies to keep the economy in check," added the IMF.

Partly due to the threat of rising food

prices, India's inflation rate was currently in the range between 8.5 percent and 10.5 percent. Inflation was expected to come down slowly as last year's high food prices caused by poor rainfall drop out of the inflation calculation, but underlying price pressures were still strong, noted IMF economists.—Xinhua



Workers spread salt to help ice thaw on a highway in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, on 5 Jan, 2011. As cold waves came to Chongqing, several highway in the municipality were covered with ice. Local government in Chongqing enacted emergency procedures aiming to ensure the operation of road traffic.—XINHUA

Oil price rebounds on diminished crude supply

NEW YORK, 6 Jan—US crude oil future price rebounded back to above 90 US dollars a barrel on Wednesday as crude oil supplies dropped last week.

US commercial oil supplies fell 1.2 percent to 335.3 million barrels last week, according to the Energy Department. The total is about 2.4 percent above year-ago levels.

Oil supplies have dropped in the past six to eight weeks, returning to a level that is closer to normal than it was early last fall.

Also, some positive economic data showed the economy continued to expand. The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing executives, said Wednesday that its index of service sector activity rose to 57.1 in December, up from 55 the previous month. Any reading above 50 indicates growth.

The private sector added 297,000 jobs from November to December, according to a report from ADP, which was the highest number the payroll firm has ever reported.

Light, sweet crude for February rose 92 cents to 90.30 dollars a barrel on New York Mercantile Exchange.—Xinhua



A vendor packs vegetables at a market in Taipei on 6 Jan, 2011. Food prices hit a record high last month, outstripping levels that prompted riots in 2008, and key grains could climb even further as weather patterns give cause for concern, the UN's food agency said on Wednesday.—INTERNET

S Korea reports more outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease

SEOUL, 6 Jan—South Korea confirmed four additional cases of foot-and-mouth (FMD) disease Thursday, despite nationwide quarantine efforts.

The Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said three additional cases of the highly contagious disease were reported in the Chungcheong Region in the central part of the country, along with one outbreak in Gyeonggi Province near Seoul.

A total of 55,731 pigs and 10 heads of cattle, as well as animals within a 500-metre radius of the

affected farms, have been culled as a precautionary measure, according to the ministry.

The ministry, meanwhile, has decided to expand vaccination in the face of the rampant spread of the disease across the country. It said vaccines will be administered to nearly 210,000 pigs. Only cattle have been the subject of vaccination in an effort to limit the use of vaccines, as the measure can cause a delay in regaining the country's FMD-free status from the Paris-based World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). Over 1.2 million cattle have been given shots since 25 Dec.

Earlier in the day, President Lee Myung-bak convened an emergency meeting with relevant ministers and called on his government to devise "fundamental measures" to stem the disease.

Xinhua



Minister U Aung Thaung visits Tatkon Myoma cotton purchasing centre in Nay Pyi Taw District. (News on page-1)—MNA

Shine played a role in Housing, Living and Furniture Fair

YANGON, 6 Jan—Shine motto “Remember Shine Construction with the if you want to buy a

Talk on Withholding Tax held

YANGON, 6 Jan—Talk on Withholding Tax issued by Ministry of Finance and Revenue with Notification No.41/2010 was held at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), here, on 31 December.

At the talk, Vice President U Aung Lwin of UMFCCI made a speech. After that, Director U Aung Moe Kyi of Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue gave talk and Assistant Director U Zeya Kyi Nyunt replied to the queries raised by those present.—MNA

house” played a part in Housing, Living and Furniture Fair organized by Smart Business Group at Tatmadaw Convention Hall in Yangon from 1 to 4 January.

For those wishing to get further information, contact Shine Group of Companies at No. 29, Gyobyu Street, Mingala Taungnyunt Township (Ph: 385340 and 09-5192428).—MNA

Bago Region vice-chairman views free eye treatment

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Jan— Vice-Chairman of Bago Region Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Sein Myint viewed free treatment given by eye specialists of Health Ministry at

Township People’s Hospital in Shwedaung, Bago Region on 30 December.

On 31 December, the vice-chairman attended the conclusion of course on systematic

use of pesticide held at Myanmar Agriculture Service in Pyay.

On 1 January, he gave encouragement to the students partaking in puzzle contest at Pyay University.—MNA

Woodcarving products available at Shwebin Ngwebin U Than Tun Furniture House

YANGON, 6 Jan — Myanmar Handicrafts Booth of Shwebin Ngwebin U Than Tun took part in Housing, Living and Furniture Fair organized by Smart Business Group at Tatmadaw Convention Hall here from 1 to 4 January.

Woodcarving pictures and Myanmar traditional handicrafts were on display for the second time at the fair.

Woodcarving pictures and woodcarving curtains are available at Shwebin Ngwebin U Than Tun Furniture House at No (166) on

Mahabandoola Street between 53rd and 54th Streets in Pazundaung

Township Yangon (Ph: 01 292192, 01 703803 and 01 399884). — MNA



Myanmar handicrafts booth of Shwebin Ngwebin U Than Tun at Housing, Living and Furniture Fair.—MNA

Reminder for watercraft

YANGON, 6 Jan— PTTEP International Ltd that is undertaking joint venture in oil exploration with Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise conducted the soil boring

survey for the nearshore soil investigation at BH2 by vessel LCT Sumer Carrier 11 and at KP 228 and KP 227-228 (1/3) by vessel Jack-up Pontoon from March to May 2010,

and left the soil test drilling pipe from LCT Sumer Carrier 11 and feet of Jack-up Pontoon.

Salvage for the soil test drilling pipe and feet of Jack-up Pontoon

will be undertaken around Mawgyi Village in the Nearshore Area of Block M-10 at Mottama offshore by MC Sea Princess from 12 to 31 January 2011.

The salvage areas is located at point A KP 228 between north latitude 14° 31' 65.108"

and east longitude 97° 55' 15.464", point B KP between north latitude 14° 31' 35.002" and east longitude 97° 55' 10.440", and point C BH2 between north latitude 14° 14' 12.000" and east longitude 97° 41' 33.167".

Any watercraft is not to pass through four kilometers around the salvage area at Block M-10 around Mawgyi Village not to anchor and carry out fishery works, according to the Department of Fisheries.

MNA

Over 150,000 viss of fish and prawn flow ...

(from page 1)

In the open season, over 80,000 viss of sea fish and over 100,000 viss of fresh fish flow into the market daily.

The chairman said, “The market is constituted with 125 shops that are unbalanced with over 200 entrepreneurs. Therefore, new Central Fish Market is under construction near new Thiri Mingala Market in Hline Township. The new market will be No. 2 facility of its kind. The present

Central Fish Market in Kyimyindine will be operating regularly.”

On my departure, I have learnt that the news on Central Fish Market in Kyimyindine will be moved to Wataya is incorrect. As four main roads to the market is being placed with concrete, the Kyimyindine Central Fish Market will be crowded with sellers and buyers.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin:
28-12-2010



Photo shows trading fish and prawn at Kyimyindine Central Fish Market.

Myanmar's political affairs at present and in future

Maung Sedanar (B.A, B.Ed)

In Myanmar, democratization is well underway according to the four political objectives and the State's seven-step Road Map. Democratization process is now gathering momentum. Due to the transformation from old into new system, development and prosperity are well above expectations in the Myanmar society. There is a link between old and new systems. But, new system is somewhat different from old system in character and potency.

The 1947 constitution reflects the difference between the colonial period (CASB) and post-independence period; and the 1974 constitution, between the time of the Revolutionary Council and that of the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party. The announcement dated 7 December 2010 by the Union Election Commission about successful completion of the elections is a signal that the 2008 constitution will show the difference between present time and the time of the democracy government in future.

Announcement No 143/2010 submitted by the Union Election Commission to the State Peace and Development Council carries in-depth statement of successful completion of the elections and electoral matters.

The commission issued election results through newspapers. All candidates were satisfied with the announcement when they learnt the numbers of the votes they won in the elections and results. However, internal and external stooges presented their personal views through certain foreign radio stations to deal a serious blow to public trust in election results. The commission and the voters are well convinced that there is not any grain of truth in what they have presented about election results.

In democracy, practice of freedom shall not have any detrimental effects on that of others. If it has, it is an anarchic act, not democracy.

A certain political party, that has been revoked, decided not to stand for election. However, it launched "No Vote" campaign to disrupt the elections that were being held with political parties and the people. It claims itself to be a democratic organization, but its acts were totally undemocratic, thus provoking widespread criticism from inside and outside the country. In the post-election period, it conspired with other destructive elements to make election results null and void. Those pessimists were amid fears for their political future, following the announcement of the Union Election Commission. The ruling government decided to address political issues with political means, which made the sixth and seventh steps of the Road Map transparent to all.

In the nation, the constitution is Common Ground for all the 37 legal political parties, and Common Politics is National Politics, not left-wing or right-wing politics. National Politics

means a political party has to prioritize national interests over its interests or individual interests. The commission's announcement is that national interest is at the forefront. So, the announcement is to be viewed without personality cult and attachment to any particular party. The announcement also gives green light for the remaining two steps as the election has been held successfully.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the seat of ASEAN Chairman issued an announcement dated 8 November that ASEAN welcomed the multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010 as an important step to the seven-step Road Map designed for Myanmar's democratization; and that if necessary, ASEAN was ready to support Myanmar in accordance with the ASEAN Charter.

The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China said on 9 November 2010 that China welcomed successful completion of multiparty democracy general elections on 7 November in Myanmar.

As expected, following the announcement of the commission, China, India, ASEAN, South Asia countries and Myanmar's friendly nations are seeking ways to deal with the new government for cooperation in various sectors owing to the better political climate.

Above-mentioned point reflects positive response of the international community to successful completion of the free and fair elections.

That achievement is largely due to combined efforts of the ruling government, the Union Election Commission, parties and voters. In the whole process, the existing government and the commission acted as referee and the political parties, individual candidates and voters emerged as major players. Political fruits of the elections concern with the entire people: winners, losers and participants, not with the winning party only.

Before long, democratic administration will be practised in place of military rule. The new government will implement the principles stipulated in the constitution in connection with agriculture, economy, social affairs, education, health care, affairs of national races, workers, peasants, civil servants and servicemen. The entire people can enjoy equal rights. There is no gap of interests between winners and losers. So,

winners and losers in the elections are friends, not enemies.

In the 1960 elections, only 52% of the electorate of 9,915,216 people cast votes. Of the voters, 52% voted for Clean AFPFL; 31%, for Stable AFPFL; and 5%, for Pa-Ma-Nya-Ta. Clean AFPFL won 159 seats; Stable AFPFL, 42 seats; and Pa-Ma-Nya-Ta, nil despite participation of its 135 candidates winning 297,062 votes in the elections. But, in the 1956 elections, Pa-Ma-Nya-Ta won 46 seats, which is a lesson that should be learnt.

The results of recently-held elections imply the decision the people made in line with objective conditions, not based on personality cult. That is reality as well as relative truth. Neglecting reality means total disregard for relative truth. So, everyone should accept the rule of cause and effect, and national interest must have first priority. Losers have to ease the fever of emotional feelings of election results.

Myanmar's elections were held in accordance with the 2008 Constitution. Therefore, political arrangements for national interests at present and in future exactly conform to the constitution.

A person is to be knowledgeable about the constitution to understand well the political arrangements. If a person practises politics without any knowledge of the constitution, he is merely a daredevil politician.

The elections not only gave the nation a lot of political lessons, but also revealed pragmatic approaches to political issues. Some political parties that did not participate in the elections were revoked through Paragraph (3) of Announcement 97/2010. The 37 parties that registered for the elections were bestowed the right to stand for election and were given places, and they became legal parties. In that way, electoral rights were bestowed upon all candidate parties in consistency with the constitution. The parties that did not participate in the elections missed these opportunities. NDF party is entitled to the parliament, whereas the powerful party that did not participate in the elections has gone down the drain. That is the consequence of its past decision. Now, it is no longer a political party or NGO.

Whether they won or lost in the elections, legal political parties have the rights to practise

(See page 9)

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, political parties are not responsible for public issues. However, in the time of a democratic government, they will have to take responsibility for public issues in the framework of the constitution.

(from page 8)

politics in accordance with the law at present and in future. The difference is that the winner will have to shoulder heavy duties, while a loser, light duties. However, both are equally responsible for the principles enumerated in the constitution. In the process, the three sovereign powers are delegated equally, and so there will be check and balance between political parties and between the government and political parties. There is no need to form a coalition government or coalition opposition inside the parliament, and to form a coalition or coalition opposition outside the parliament. That is a sign of improvement for national reconsolidation.

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, political parties are not responsible for public issues. However, in the time of a democratic government, they will have to take responsibility for public issues in the framework of the constitution.

In the democratic society, there will be three Hluttaws along with governing bodies, political parties and NGOs at central, region/state, district, township, ward and village-tract levels. There will be check and balance system among them in working together. In such situations, there will be no room for anyone who is apt to violate laws in the economic, social, administrative and judicial sectors. That is the fruit of the genuine discipline-flourishing democratic system in which the three sovereign powers are shared correctly.

In the previous elections, a political party won a landslide victory. Then, some power-craving people thought that the victory had led to transformation from military dictatorship into one-party dictatorship, and the entire people would come under complete control of the winning party.

The multiparty democracy system today is different from that in the time of AFPFL due to the difference between the two constitutions and between two political systems.

According to the 1947 constitution and the liberal political system, the multiparty system in the time of AFPFL was Liberal Multiparty System. The three sovereign powers were divided according to Sections 56, 90 and 140 in order that the three powers were solely under the control of the winning party. Therefore, the winning AFPFL party became the ruling party, and Pa-Ma-Nya-Ta party, the opposition party. The entire people came under the thumb of the ruling AFPFL party in consequence of the incorrect sharing of the three sovereign powers.

Due to the 2008 constitution and the national politics system, the recently-adopted multiparty democracy system is National Multiparty System, or the genuine, discipline-flourishing multiparty system. Chapter III, IV, V and VI of the constitution entrust sovereign powers correctly in order that any political party or organization will not have exclusive access to the three sovereign powers. So, there will be no ruling party or opposition party. Executive power is entrusted in accordance with the principles in Chapter V to the State president to be elected in

In the democratic society, there will be three Hluttaws, along with governing bodies, political parties and NGOs at central, region/state, district, township, ward and village-tract levels. There will be check and balance system among them in working together. In such situations, there will be no room for anyone who is apt to violate laws in the economic, social, administrative and judicial sectors. That is the fruit of the genuine discipline-flourishing democratic system in which the three sovereign powers are shared correctly.

accordance with Article (60); legislative power, to the parliament and MPs in accordance with the principles in Chapter IV; and jurisdiction, to the Supreme Court of the Union in accordance with the principles in Chapter VI. So, unlike in the time of the AFPFL party, the party that won a landslide victory in previous elections will not have any exclusive powers, as a result of the delegation of the three sovereign powers are distributed in accordance with Article (37) that keeps off the two extremes, and Article 35 and 36 that manifest market economy and national politics.

The announcement of the Union Election Commission is intended to protect the nation politically against the threats posed by certain elements who are resorting to diverse means to turn election results upside down. In addition, it paved a political path to the national goal as prescribed by the Road Map, thereby putting an end to the political trick of convening the 21st Century Panglong Conference. Therefore, the ruling government designated "successful completion of the State's seven-step Road Map" as one of the four objectives of the 90th Anniversary National Day; and "All the national people to work in concert for building a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic new nation as the multiparty democracy general elections have been held successfully", as one of the five objectives of the 63rd Anniversary Independence Day.

According to the rule of cause and effect, cause and effect are interrelated with each other. Myanmar has ever exercised three political forms and three election systems. So, political results of the three elections are different from one another.

The multiparty general elections in the time of AFPFL gave birth to Liberal Democracy, Liberal Government, and Liberal Democratic Republic, which are also known as parliamentary democracy, parliamentary democracy government, and parliamentary democratic republic.

The elections for a single party in the time of the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party gave birth to Socialist Democracy, Socialist Government, and Socialist Democratic Republic.

The national multiparty democracy elections will give birth to National Democracy,

National Government and National Democratic Republic. National Democracy means genuine, discipline-flourishing democracy; National Government, genuine discipline-flourishing government; and National Democratic Republic, genuine, discipline-flourishing National Democratic Republic, which is 21st century Democratic Republic free from the two extremes. Political arrangements in the superstructure are being made according to the 2008 constitution, and principles in Articles 37, 35 and 36.

Abovementioned points are present and future political conditions, resulting from successful completion of the elections.

Democracy is of two forms: fake democracy and genuine democracy. One can distinguish between fake and genuine democracy through land process and delegation of the three sovereign powers.

If the three powers are exercised concurrently and solely by a party, the practice will be beneficial only to that party, but harmful to the public interest. That can bring about an oppressive tool and an oppressive government or dictatorial government.

Separate practice of the three powers can contribute towards public interests, so it can bring about a balance tool and a balance government or a genuine democratic government.

The principles in Article (37) of the 2008 constitution are designed to share the three powers as a balance tool.

In the course of the Myanmar history, the three sovereign powers were exercised incorrectly due to different political systems, which put the people under the rule of oppressive governments. The people have never been under the rule of a balance government. Before long, the nation will see a balance government. By then, Myanmar will achieve genuine democracy without the two extremes, genuine democratic government and genuine democratic rule for which Myanmar people and world people have been waiting for centuries.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 6-1-2011

Indonesia to host ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Retreat

JAKARTA, 6 Jan—Indonesia will host the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting Retreat on 15-17 Jan at North Lombok of West Nusa Tenggara Province, an official said here. “The point is that the retreat would discuss efforts that would be made by ASEAN towards the ASEAN Community by 2015 through three pillars of economy, politics and security as well as socio-culture,” Sam Marentek, deputy director for Media Facilitation at the Foreign Ministry told *Xinhua*.

The event is part of Indonesia’s chairmanship of the bloc this year, starting on 1 Jan, 2011 and will terminate in the end of the year.

During the period, Indonesia will host the 18th ASEAN Summit, the 19th ASEAN Summit and the East Asia Summit (EAS) as well as other series of ASEAN meeting including ASEAN Political Security Community (APSC) Council, ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council, ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ Meeting (AMM) Meeting, ASEAN Economic Ministers’ Meeting, ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting and ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crimes.—*Xinhua*



Lior Shambadal conducts a concert in Meizhou City, south China’s Guangdong Province, on 4 Jan, 2011. A New Year’s concert performed by a symphony orchestra from Berlin was held here Tuesday. XINHUA

Mothers are key to HPV vaccination

COLUMBUS, 6 Jan—Mothers play a key role in who gets vaccinated against human papillomavirus, researchers at Ohio State University in Columbus say.

The researchers say college-age women who talked to their mothers about the HPV vaccine

were more likely than others to get vaccinated.

“Mothers talking to their daughters were an important factor in whether young women were vaccinated,” lead author Janice Krieger says in a statement. “It is an encouraging finding, because it shows that communication between mothers and daughters can be very helpful, even if it may be difficult sometimes.”

Many mothers and daughters may be uncomfortable talking about the HPV vaccine, because it is designed to prevent the spread of a sexually-transmitted virus, Krieger said. HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection, Krieger says.

The study, published in *Human Communication Research*, concluded the key for a daughter getting the vaccine was a mother who was willing to discuss the vaccine and who felt the vaccine was safe and effective in preventing HPV-related diseases.

Krieger and colleagues looked at

questionnaires answered by 182 mother-daughter pairs. The daughters were college students — average age of 20. Overall, 137 pairs of mother-daughter pairs had discussed the vaccine, and 45 pairs had not.

Internet



Tourists visit the Times Square on a tour bus in this file photo taken in New York, the United States, on 2 May, 2010.

XINHUA

Italy plans to secure Rome’s historical area

ROME, 6 Jan—The Italian Culture Ministry and Rome’s local authorities on Tuesday launched a preservation plan aimed at securing the capital’s historical area and avoid collapses similar to those recently occurred in Pompeii.

The restructuring will concern 107 hectares of the historical centre including the Coliseum, the Capitol Hill, the Roman Forum and the ancient Roman chariot racing stadium of Circus Maximus, according to the plan presented by Rome mayor Gianni Alemanno’s office.

An initial sum of 60 million euros have already been allocated and private sponsors will be taking part in the entire restructuring.

The project, titled “Ancient Rome, a value for modern Rome”, is crucial in maintaining and protecting the cultural heritage of the capital.

The central historical area, attracting

each year millions of tourists from all over the world, has just recently been cleared of all the mud, grass and open-air sewage runs and now needs a thorough restructuring to avoid parts of monuments from falling down.

According to the project, Rome’s City Hall has launched an international tender to select firms interested in restyling the Coliseum, from the undergrounds all the way up to the breathtaking attic.

The 30-million-euro project is aimed not only at securing the amphitheatre’s external walls after a piece fell off in May, but also at restoring its original beauty and increasing its allure.

The goal of Rome’s restyle plan is three-fold: secure the monuments, increase their appeal and exploit culture as an instrument of local economic revamp.—*Xinhua*



A visitor takes photos during an exhibition marking the 20th anniversary of Sanmao’s death in Taipei, southeast China’s Taipei, on 4 Jan, 2011.

XINHUA

Bus crash kills three, injures 10 on SW China expressway

GUIYANG, 6 Jan — Three people died and 10 others were injured in a bus crash Thursday morning on an expressway in southwest China’s Guizhou Province, police said.

A long-distance bus from Chongqing Municipality overturned near Zhazuo Toll Station on an expressway linking Guiyang and Zunyi at around 9 am, a spokesman with the provincial public security bureau said without giving details.

Police were forced to impose a temporary traffic ban on at least two

lanes to pull out the victims and remove the wreckage of the bus.

The spokesman said the injured had been sent to hospital and the cause of the accident was still under investigation.

A cold snap since New Year’s Day has left parts of Guizhou covered in ice. Though most expressways have reopened to traffic Thursday, police warn it remains risky to drive on the icy road as sleet continues and the temperature still lingers below freezing.—*Xinhua*

A panda plays in snow at Qinling Giant Panda Research Centre in Foping Natural Reserve of Foping County, northwest China’s Shaanxi Province, on 3 Jan, 2011.

XINHUA



Ex-US diplomat sentenced to 2 years in prison

SEOUL, 6 Jan — A South Korean judge says she has sentenced a former US diplomat to two years in prison over a swindling scam.

Busan District judge Kim Moon-hee told *The Associated Press* on Thursday that Dario Sarmiento Tomas was convicted in December of swindling a South Korean woman out of \$191,000 with false promises of investment opportunities in the Philippines. Kim says

Tomas swindled money on eight occasions between 2007 and 2008. She says the former diplomat fled to the Philippines early last year before being caught by local police and handed over to South Korean authorities. Kim says the United States has stripped Tomas of his diplomatic immunity.

The judge says Tomas has appealed the ruling. No new trial date has been set.—*Internet*



Residents collect their belongings from their home after a landslide that killed two people of the same family, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 5 Jan, 2011.

XINHUA

Dutch firefighters tackle blaze at chemical plant



Smoke billows above an industrial zone after a fire broke out at a chemicals plant at the Dutch industrial zone of Moerdijk on 5 Jan, 2011.

XINHUA

THE HAGUE, 6 Jan — Local authorities warned residents to stay indoors and keep doors and windows shut Wednesday as a major blaze and explosions ripped through a chemical storage and packing company.

Television images show a towering plume of thick smoke churning out of the fire and several powerful blasts, apparently as storage tanks exploded.

The fire started in the early afternoon at

Chemie-Pack Nederland BV in an industrial estate in the southern town of Moerdijk. Moerdijk mayor Wim Denie told a press conference that measurements had not detected fumes that could form a health risk.

Police spokesman Willem van Hooijdonk told national broadcaster NOS that “poisonous, flammable and corrosive” chemicals were stored at the company, but gave no further details. Police said none

of the company’s 50 staff were injured. The cause of the fire was not immediately known.

Residents in parts of the nearby city of Dordrecht also were warned to keep windows and doors shut. Barges using the nearby Hollands Diep waterway were ordered to stop.

Dozens of firefighters were tackling the blaze and the government sent three airforce firefighting trucks to the scene.—*Internet*

Kidnapped Hungarian UN peacekeeper released in Sudan

BUDAPEST, 6 Jan — Retired Hungarian lieutenant colonel Istvan Papp, serving in a United Nations’ peacekeeping mission, was released after three months in captivity, the Hungarian foreign ministry announced on Wednesday.

Sudan’s Foreign Minister Ali Ahmed Karti telephoned Budapest on Wednesday afternoon to report that Papp had been freed and was on his way to Cairo. According to Sudanese authorities, he is in good health.—*Xinhua*



A Nepalese book lover visits the Chinese book exhibition in Kathmandu Nepal, on 2 Jan, 2011.

XINHUA

Sweden’s nuclear reactor stops again

STOCKHOLM, 6 Jan — Sweden’s reactor 3 in Oskarshamn on Wednesday was forced to close down again, the Swedish Daily newspaper Svenska Dagbladet reported.

“The third reactor in Oskarshamn’s nuclear power plant stopped

again at lunch time on Wednesday,” the report said.

The reactor is the one which has most problems in recent years. It stopped before Christmas and started again after the festival. The problem this time was a reduced pressure in the

reactor’s inside stop part. It is not clear how serious the problem is, but according to information officer Per Sangrud, it can resume operation again on Saturday.

“The investigation into the problem is underway,” he said.

Xinhua

Mall evacuated after fugitive opened fire in US state Arizona

LOS ANGELES, 6 Jan — Shoppers in a Phoenix, Arizona mall were evacuated after a fugitive fired at marshals around noon Wednesday.

Local officers remain in the Chandler Fashion Centre Mall in the south Phoenix valley as the structure was locked down after the shooting which apparently involved a fugitive who was mistakenly freed from jail.

The fugitive, Daniel Munoz Perez, was followed by the US Marshal’s Fugitive Task Force when he spotted the officers and opened fire. Officers returned fire, David Gonzales, US Marshal for Arizona told local media outlet.

“None of my guys were hit and I don’t think he was hit either,” Gonzales said.

Witnesses said four or five shots were fired on the scene. No injuries were reported.—*Xinhua*



A volunteer sends hot ginger water to a sanitation worker in Guiyang, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 5 Jan, 2011. Hot ginger water was sent by volunteers to people who worked under the freezing weather.—XINHUA

Mexico says US border agent killed teenage boy

NOGALES, 6 Jan—A US Border Patrol agent was involved in a shooting on the Arizona border with Mexico on Wednesday that resulted in the death of a 17-year-old boy trying to illegally scale the border fence, Mexican police said.

Ramsey Barron was found dead outside a hospital in Nogales, Sonora, in the early hours on Wednesday with a wound from a bullet fired by a US Border Patrol agent, Sonora state police said citing witnesses. Three men left Barron’s body at the hospital, hospital workers told police.

Barron, a Mexican, attempted to cross the tall fence between Nogales and its sister city in Arizona of the same name under cover of night, police said in a statement. “At that moment (as he was climbing the fence), a United States Border Patrol agent shot at him, sending him falling onto gravel on the Mexican side,” the statement said.

MNA/Reuters

iPhone hacker publishes secret Sony PlayStation 3 key

LONDON, 6 Jan—The PlayStation 3's security has been broken by hackers, potentially allowing anyone to run any software — including pirated games — on the console. A collective of hackers recently showed off a method that could force the system to reveal secret keys used to load software on to the machine. A US hacker, who gained notoriety for unlocking Apple's iPhone, has now used a similar method to extract the PS3's master key and publish it online. Sony declined to comment on the hack. "The complete console is compromised — there is no

recovery from this," said pytey, a member of the fail0verflow group of hackers, who revealed the initial exploit at the Chaos Communication Congress in Berlin in December. "This is as bad as it gets - someone is getting into serious trouble at Sony right now."

The group, which has previously hacked Nintendo's Wii and says it is vehemently against games piracy, said that it had developed the hack so that it could install other operating systems and community-written software — known as homebrew — on the powerful machine.—Internet

Teenagers shoot it out with Mexican police

VILLAHERMOSA, 6 Jan—A gang of teenagers, most 15-years-old, were detained after a running shootout with officers in the border city of Ciudad Juarez, officials said on Wednesday, part of a trend of ever-younger drug suspects. Police found packages containing 10 pounds (4.5 kilograms) of marijuana and a .45 caliber pistol in the pickup truck the youths were traveling in.

The five teenagers — three 15-year-olds and two aged 17 — were speeding and tried to escape, pumping several rounds into a police car and leading police on a

chase for several blocks in Ciudad Juarez before they were caught, federal police said in a statement. Their names were not released because of their ages. The government has increasingly detained youths under 18 for drug-related crimes.

Last month, authorities arrested a 14-year-old boy who they alleged worked as an assassin for a drug gang in central Mexico. And in the Gulf coast state of Tabasco, police reported that two men dressed up in clown costumes had been found executed in the city of Cardenas, Tabasco.

Internet



In this publicity image released by Disney, the Disney Dream, Disney Cruise Line's newest ship, arrives from Bremerhaven, Germany, on 4 Jan, 2011, to her home port of Port Canaveral, Fla. The 4,000-passenger cruise ship will make her maiden voyage on 26 January.— INTERNET

Coffee spill diverts United Airlines flight, Transport Canada says

TORONTO, 6 Jan — Don't underestimate the power of a spilled cup of coffee. A United Airlines flight from Chicago to Frankfurt, Germany, was diverted to Toronto this week after the pilot dumped a cup of coffee on the plane's communication's equipment. The unwanted liquid triggered a series of emergency codes, including one for a hijacking, according to Transport Canada, the agency that regulates transportation in Canada.

"With the help of their company dispatch staff, the flight crew was confirmed the problem to be a NAV(navigation)/communication issue and not a valid code 7500 (for a hijacking or unlawful interference)," Transport Canada said on its website.

Flight 940 initially was going to return to Chicago, but then diverted to Pearson International Airport in Toronto where it landed without incident around 10 pm on Monday. United had little to say about the coffee spill that led to the diversion, and did not acknowledge that the caffeinated beverage had anything to do with it.

"Our review of the communications issue encountered on flight 940 continues, so it's too soon to comment on any particulars that led to the captain's decision to divert," United spokesman Raasaan Johnson said on late Tuesday.—Internet

Nurse dead in psychiatric ward stabbing

ORANGE, 6 Jan—A male nurse died after being stabbed by a patient on Wednesday at a mental health hospital in Orange, New South Wales, the Australian Broadcasting Corp reported. The 62-year-old nurse was stabbed in the chest and arms by a 33-year-old patient at Bloomfield Hospital. He died early on Thursday in a Sydney hospital where he had been airlifted following the attack.

A 20-year-old female nurse also was injured in the incident and is at Orange Base Hospital in sta-

ble condition. Canobolas Area Commander Superintendent David Driver told the ABC the patient is expected to be charged on Wednesday. "Security and other staff went to the assistance of the nurses and the gentleman was escorted to a secure part of the hospital," Driver said. "First aid was administered to the staff members, police arrived and spoke briefly with the person who was given some further treatment at the facility and he was arrested this morning."

Internet



A Dusit Zoo official holds two one-month-old female White Bengal tiger cubs as they are being introduced as new members of the zoo on 6 Jan, 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand.

INTERNET

Arab, Turkish ministers call for more cooperation in transportation sector

AMMAN, 6 Jan—Transport officials from Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Turkey on Wednesday called for intensified cooperation in the transport sector and implementing joint

projects to help boost trade relations.

At the first "meeting of the ministers of transport of the high level cooperation council member countries" involving transport ministers from Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Turkey taking place in Amman, the officials said improving transport infrastructure is key to

enhancing relations at various levels and increasing trade exchange among these states.

Stressing the importance of the geographic location of the four countries, Jordan's Transport Minister Alaa Batayneh said "these countries can function as the link between Europe and Asia."

Xinhua



In this 26 April, 2005, file photo, piles of used computer gear fill a waste collection lot in Montpelier, Vt Vermont is one of twenty-five states that have bans on electronic waste in landfills. Vermont's new electronic waste law took effect on 1 January.— INTERNET

Siberian tiger attacks, kills bus driver in China

BEIJING, 6 Jan—A rare Siberian tiger attacked and killed a tour bus driver in northern China while the man's horrified passengers watched, Chinese media reported. The tiger pounced on driver Jin Shijun and dragged him into the forest after he got out to check on his bus, which was stuck in the snow at the world's largest Siberian tiger breeding base in the northern province of Heilongjiang, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The bus was full of tourists visiting the breeding centre, and Jin broke safety guidelines by leaving the vehicle, the report said. Park employees tried to distract the tiger with firecrackers and tranquilizer darts, but when they managed to get to Jin, the driver was already dead. The report on Monday's attack cited a spokesman at the base, which has about 1,000 Siberian tigers.—Internet

Dead birds riddle probed in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, 6 Jan — Investigators in Sweden are trying to find out what caused the death of around 50 birds found in a street in the city of

Falkoping. Fireworks had been set off near the scene earlier, said vet Robert ter Horst.

Cold weather, difficulties finding food and

possible shock from the fireworks could be responsible, leading to the birds dying from the stress or being run over by vehicles. Five of the dead jackdaws were being tested. Mass bird deaths are not uncommon. In the US, New Year's Eve fireworks were blamed in Arkansas for the deaths of thousands of blackbirds, and a few days later power lines were blamed for killing about 450 birds in Louisiana.—Internet



Investigators in Sweden are trying to find out what caused the death of around 50 birds.

INTERNET

Picnic with polar bear for Norwegian adventurer

After Dances With Wolves comes Picnic With A Polar Bear: a spectacular video made public on Wednesday showing a Norwegian adventurer sharing salmon sandwiches with the great white king of the Arctic.

'I gave him salmon sandwiches with mayonnaise,' explained Ragnar Thorseth, as he was filmed feeding a young polar bear from the deck of the Havella, a ship initially built for... polar bear hunting.

Shot more than 20 years ago during a visit in the Norwegian archipelago of Svalbard, some 1,000km from the North Pole, the video was only made



public Wednesday when a website dedicated to camping and outdoors life posted online.

According to the US Geological Survey, two-thirds of today's polar bear population of 20-25,000 risks disappearing by 2050.

Idaho Police: Man Stole Cop Car To Be Deported

Police in Idaho say a man who asked authorities to arrest and deport him to Mexico stole a squad car after his request was denied.

The Idaho Mountain Express reports that 38-year-old Guadalupe Cruz-Vasquez went to the Jerome County Sheriff's office Monday night and demanded to be deported.

Police Sgt Duane Rubink says authorities declined to take the Jerome resident into custody, so he walked to a nearby police station, broke the window of a squad car and drove away with the vehicle.

Rubink says a cell phone inside the vehicle helped police track its location near Carey, but police didn't need to stop it: The car ran out of gas.

He says after that, Cruz-Vasquez finally got his wish.

Participants write at a calligraphy contest to the celebrate the New Year in Tokyo on 5 Jan, 2011. About 3,000 calligraphers took part in the contest writing different characters depending on their school grade. The contest is part of a bigger competition, in which about 11,000 entrants hope to win the "Prime Minister's Prize" by being judged as the best drawing. The winner will be announced in late February.

Woman Calls 911 to Force Boyfriend to Propose

A woman from Chicago's Northwest Side wanted to start the New Year with a marriage proposal, with help from police.

The woman is now facing criminal charges, reports CBS Station WBBM in Chicago.

Ana Perez, 40, called 911 around 8:30 pm on Sunday, claiming her boyfriend was attacking her.

When police arrived, she changed her story, admitting she was trying to scare her boyfriend into marrying her.

Police in the Grand Central District were not amused, and charged Perez with disorderly conduct.

"She called 911 to scare him and have the police force him to marry her," according to Grand Central District police Capt. Ronald Pontecore.



Tsiuri Kakabadze, 80, (L) and Yuri Merabov, 77, wave to spectators after winning the "Super Grandmother and Super Grandfather" contest in Tbilisi on 5 Jan, 2011. Twenty-four participants aged over 70 from all over Georgia attended the contest.

NewsAlbum

Matt Damon, J-Lo to present at Golden Globes



Actor Matt Damon

LOS ANGELES, 6 Jan— Jason Bourne, a vampire heartthrob and an "American Idol" judge are going to the Golden Globes.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association announced Tuesday on Twitter that Matt Damon, Robert Pattinson and Jennifer Lopez would present trophies at the 68th annual ceremony at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on 16 Jan.

For the second year in a row, Ricky Gervais will host the event, which is seen as a predictor of how films will do at the Academy Awards on 27 Feb.—Internet



Tournament of Roses Queen Evyannne Friedman, centre, and her court attend the 122nd Annual Tournament of Roses Parade presented by Honda on 1 Jan, 2011, in Pasadena, Calif.—INTERNET

Cheryl Cole wants to meditate on mountains

LONDON, 6 Jan —A relaxed, six-month long break on a mountain is all that British singer Cheryl Cole wants after going through a marriage split and contracting malaria in 2010.

"It would be nice to take six months out and get to a mountain top and just meditate, xlet myself go," Cole has been quoted as saying by contactmusic.com.

Last year was quite stressful for her as she divorced her soccer player husband Ashley Cole and battled potentially-fatal malaria, which she contracted during a trip to Africa with rumoured boyfriend Derek Hough.

After her split, she even thought of taking some therapy, but decided against it. "It crossed my mind but I'm not trusting enough to bare my soul to a stranger. I'm lucky that I've got friends and family to turn to," she said.

No matter how she felt, she was determined to put on a brave face in public. "It's very much a perception. Nobody knows what I went through behind closed doors.

"Nobody knows what it was like when I was on my own. Of course I held it together in public. Who wouldn't?"

She is now a judge on the US version of "The X Factor". —Internet

Julia Stiles to join Broadway cast of 'Fat Pig'

NEW YORK, 6 Jan— Julia Stiles will join Dane Cook and Josh Hamilton in a production of Neil LaBute's "Fat Pig" on Broadway this spring.

The three will team up beginning 12 April at the Belasco Theatre on 44th Street for the darkly comic tale of a bachelor who falls for a plus-size girl. The show officially opens 26 April.

Stiles began her



Actress Julia Stiles

career on stage at New York's downtown La MaMa Theatre, and has

since appeared in "Twelfth Night" in Central Park, the Broadway revival of David Mamet's "Oleanna" with Aaron Eckhart and Bill Pullman, and opposite Mia Farrow in "Fran's Bed."

"Fat Pig" premiered off-Broadway in 2004, and LaBute, whose films include "Nurse Betty" and "Your Friends and Neighbours," will be making his Broadway debut as its director.

Internet

George Clooney to star in serial-killer film

LOS ANGELES, 6 Jan— George Clooney is attached to star in "The Monster of Florence," an adaptation of a best-selling nonfiction book about a serial killer who roamed the Italian city.

The project is set up at Fox 2000, where "Usual Suspects" scribe Christopher McQuarrie will adapt Douglas Preston and Mario Spezi's book. Clooney and business partner Grant Heslov will produce along with the "American Beauty"



duo of Dan Jinks and Bruce Cohen. At one point, Tom Cruise optioned the rights and set up the project at United Artists, which he was running at the time. Cruise brought McQuarrie aboard.

Internet

Aston Villa manager insists he won't be sacked

BIRMINGHAM, 6 Jan — Aston Villa manager Gerard Houllier insists he won't be sacked by owner Randy Lerner even though his side crashed into the relegation zone after a 1-0 defeat against Sunderland. Houllier was jeered by Villa supporters, who chanted 'you're getting sacked in the morning' after Phil Bardsley's late goal clinched the points for Sunderland at Villa Park on Wednesday.

Villa are now third bottom of the Premier League but Houllier claimed he received support from chief executive Paul Faulkner after the final whistle and is adamant that Lerner also remains on his side "I spoke to Paul Faulkner and he was very

supportive," Houllier said. "I don't doubt Randy Lerner's firm support and determination. We are in this together for better or worse.

"I understand the fans' frustration and the players can't complain about the fans because, when we were under the cosh, they were still supporting the team." Despite his side's precarious position, Houllier is convinced Villa will climb out of trouble.— *Internet*



Aston Villa's French manager Gerard Houllier

Tottenham manager unsure over Beckham bid

LIVERPOOL, 6 Jan — Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp admitted after Wednesday's 2-1 loss to Everton at Goodison Park that he is in the dark over his side's bid to sign David Beckham. Reports on Wednesday suggested that the former England captain had signed for Spurs on a short-term loan from MLS side LA Galaxy, but that is not the case. Redknapp's team could have done with Beckham's delivery on Merseyside as goals from Louis Saha and Seamus Coleman helped Everton put a dent in Tottenham's bid to be considered genuine Premier League con-

tenders.

Saha fired the first after just three minutes before Rafael Van der Vaart equalised with his 11th goal of the season, but Everton's dominance was finally rewarded with 15 minutes to go when Coleman headed past Heurleho Gomes to secure Everton's third home victory of the season. Redknapp was quick to admit there is no deal for Beckham yet, but he still hopes to be able to call on the former Manchester United and Real Madrid star at some stage during the transfer window.

— *Internet*

Arn tips Sharapova out of tennis Auckland Classic

AUCKLAND, 6 Jan — Top seed Maria Sharapova was bundled out of the Auckland Classic women's tennis tournament in the quarter-finals Thursday when she was beaten in straight sets by unheralded Greta Arn. The 31-year-old Hungarian, whose best world ranking was 81 in 2002 and is now ranked 88th, dominated the former world number one and three-time Grand Slam winner from the start to win

6-2, 7-5. Sharapova is currently ranked 18th as she rebuilds following shoulder surgery, and had earmarked the tournament as crucial in her preparation for the Australian Open and as part of her bid to regain the world top spot.

But she was the victim of too many unforced errors, which began when she dropped her serve in the opening game. Afterwards she declined to discuss her performance with the news media. Arn, however, was ecstatic. Before the match she described playing Sharapova as "a dream come true" and afterwards said she was stunned by the outcome.

— *Internet*



Top seed Maria Sharapova



Manchester City's striker Carlos Tevez (2nd R) is challenged by Arsenal's defenders Gael Clichy (L) and Laurent Koscielny (R) during their English Premier League football match at The Emirates Stadium, north London.— *INTERNET*

Defiant Mancini defends City's negative tactics

LONDON, 6 Jan — Roberto Mancini made no apologies for Manchester City's negative tactics as they ground out a dull 0-0 draw at title rivals Arsenal. Mancini's team opted for a safety-first approach to hold onto second place behind Manchester United, two points ahead of the third-placed Gunners. The Italian believes his side are in a good position heading into the second half of the title

race and he said: "I prefer to go home with one point because when you come here, it could be that Arsenal will play better than you and you must defend. This is football.

"Not all teams can play like Arsenal. I think Arsenal also have won some games they don't deserve to win. In the first half they had the chances to score. "It's not my business.

— *Internet*

Liverpool's Hodgson ducks questions over future

BLACKBURN, 6 Jan — Roy Hodgson refused to answer questions about his future after a dismal 3-1 defeat against Blackburn left his position as Liverpool manager in serious doubt. Wednesday's tame 3-1 surrender at Ewood Park was Liverpool's ninth Premier League defeat of the season and leaves them four points off the bottom of the table. They have now lost five out of

their last eight matches in the league and face a daunting trip to bitter rivals and Premier League leaders Manchester United in the FA Cup third round on Sunday.

Whether Hodgson will still be in charge for that clash remains to be seen, but a defeat at Old Trafford would only push him closer to the exit just six months after arriving at Anfield.— *Internet*

Under-fire Ancelotti doesn't fear Chelsea sack

WOLVERHAMPTON, 6 Jan — Carlo Ancelotti insists he doesn't fear the sack even though he effectively wrote off Chelsea's title hopes after their shock 1-0 defeat at Wolves. Ancelotti is facing an increasingly uncertain future after a run of one win in nine league games left the champions nine points adrift of leaders Manchester United, having played one game more.

Another dismal result against Wolves, who had been bottom of the league before kick-off, only served to pile the pressure on the beleaguered Italian. Even a top four finish

in the Premier League - and a place in the Champions League - can't be taken for granted by the fifth-placed Blues.

But Ancelotti insisted he will not be worrying about the reaction of notoriously demanding Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich.— *Internet*



Chelsea's Italian manager Carlo Ancelotti

Avram Grant defiant as Newcastle beat West Ham 5-0

NEWCASTLE, 6 Jan — West Ham manager Avram Grant insisted his team would recover after a 5-0 drubbing at Newcastle that sent the London club back to the bottom of the table. The Hammers' run of five league games unbeaten came to a juddering halt as the Magpies ran riot at St James Park, with stand-in striker Leon Best scoring a hat-trick

alongside goals from Kevin Nolan and Peter Lovenkrands. Grant later dismissed the result as "a bad day at the office."

"I don't like the game, I don't like the performance, I don't like how we played, but in football, that happens," Grant said. "Sunderland lost here 5-1 and afterwards, they have won many games, so it happens. "Today was a bad day at the office. Everything we tried to do was not good - not the desire, not the effort, not passing the ball well, putting pressure on the other team. "But those are things we did very well in the games before, so we need to continue." — *Internet*



West Ham United's Israeli manager Avram Grant

Barcelona squeeze into Spanish Cup last eight

MADRID, 6 Jan — French international defender Eric Abidal scored his first Barcelona goal on Wednesday in a 1-1 draw at Athletic Bilbao to hand his club a spot in the Spanish Cup quarter-finals. Abidal found the net in the 74th minute of the last 16 second leg tie before Fernando Llorente levelled 10 minutes later. Barcelona, held 0-0 at home in the first leg, went through on away goals.

"When I get a chance like that, I shoot," said Abidal. "Now I hope to score more this season." Defending Spanish Cup champions Sevilla and Deportivo La Coruna also went through. Sevilla beat Malaga 3-0 for an 8-3 aggregate while Deportivo La Coruna saw off second division Cordoba 3-1 for a 4-2 aggregate win.— *Internet*

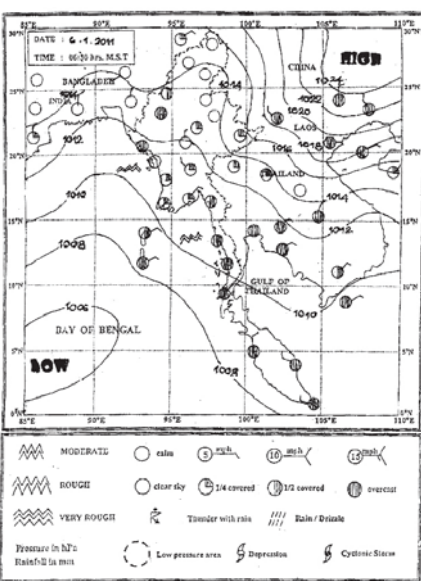


Barcelona's midfielder Seydou Keita (L) clashes with Athletic Bilbao's defender Andoni Iraola (R) during the Spanish King's Cup (Copa del Rey) football match at the San Mames stadium in Bilbao.

— *INTERNET*

SPORTS

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 6th January, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Regions and generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Night temperature were (3°C) below January average temperature in Kachin State, (5°C) below January average temperature in Upper Sagaing Region, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Shan, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States, Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions (5°C) above January average temperatures in Magway Region and about January average temperatures in the remaining States and Regions. The significant night temperatures were Putao (4°C) and Katha (5°C) each.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 5-1-2011 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 6-1-2011 was 61°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 6-1-2011 was (73%). Rainfall on 6-1-2011 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 5-1-2011 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 6-1-2011 was 67°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 6-1-2011 was (73%). Total sunshine hours on 5-1-2011 was (9.0) hours.

Rainfall on 6-1-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northeast at (12:30) hours MST on 5-1-2011.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the South Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 7th January 2011: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Region, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Regions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 7-1-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-1-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-1-2011: Partly cloudy.

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (7-1-2011) (Friday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am - 11:00am MST)
Oversea Transmission	- (7-1-11 09:30 am ~ 8-1-11 09:30 am MST)

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * "Myanmar's Beauty and Nature" Beach
- * News
- * Ah laung Taw Kathapa Natural Cave and National Park
- * Let's Speak Myanmar "Mingalabar"
- * News
- * Myanmar Traditional Instruments "Myanma Drum"
- * News
- * Traditional Banana Shrine Art

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * "Myanmar's Beauty and Nature" Beach
- * News
- * Topic on Journal "Alaungtaung Kathapa National Garden"
- * Ah laung Taw Kathapa Natural Cave and National Park
- * Let's Speak Myanmar "Mingalabar"
- * News
- * Myanmar Traditional Instruments "Myanma Drum"
- * News
- * "Record Album"
- * Traditional Banana Shrine Art
- * News
- * "Today's Efficient Youth" Travelling is a Part of Education for Youth
- * A Memorable Market Day (Inle Khaung Taing)
- * News
- * The Richly Blessed Gem Land
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * Endless Wonders....(Htukant Thein Temple)
- * News
- * Mya Nan San Kyaw Golden Palace
- * Myanmar Movie "Life is struggling"

Asleep in Jesus
Lt.Col Maung Maung Kyan (Retd)
B.C. 6041, O.T.S.5
Aged-88 Years
31st Street, Leikpyagan Qr, Bago
 Son of Mr. Ghose and Mrs. Mary, husband of Daw Kyi Htet, father of Daw Aye Oo Kyan-U Bynnyarr Aung, Daw Khine Myat Kyan-U Tin Maung Thein, U Htet Kyan-Daw Aye Aye Swe, Dr. May Htet Kyan-U Hla Aye, grandfather of Swe Swe Htet Kyan, Lin Htet Kyan, Han Thi Ni Ni, Thinzar Ni Ni, Myint Maung Kyan, great grandfather of Jonah, passed away peacefully at 126, Aye Theik Di Street, East Ywama, Insein on 5th January, 2011, and will be entombed at Yayway Christian Cemetery at 3.30 pm on 7th January 2011.
Bereaved Family

Members of the Edo Firemanship Preservation Association wait prior to a bamboo ladder demonstration for the New Year by the fire brigade in Tokyo on 6 Jan, 2011.

INTERNET

Friday, 7 January
View on today

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:15 am
2. Dhamma Puja Song

7:25 am
3. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am
4. Morning News

7:40 am
5. Nice & Sweet Song

7:55 am
6. The Mirror Images Of The Musical Oldies

8:15 am
7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition

8:30 am
8. Musical Programme

8:40 am
9. International News

8:45 am
10. Teleplay (Health)

4:00 pm
1. Martial Song

4:10 pm
2. Musical Programme

4:20 pm
3. Song Of National Races

4:35 pm
4. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Myanmar)

4:50 pm
5. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

4:55 pm
6. Songs Of Yester Years

5:00 pm
7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition

5:10 pm
8. Myanmar Language

5:25 pm
9. Musical Programme

5:35 pm
10. Yoetha Phyu Sin Kalay doeathwin

6:00 pm
11. Evening News

6:15 pm
12. Weather Report

6:20 pm
13. Internet Garden

7:00 pm
14. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
15. News

16. International News

17. Weather Report

18. Just For Laughs (Gags Asia)

19. TV Drama Series

20. Song Lover

- ★ 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 killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Paddy per acre yield reaches 85.50 baskets in Hpa-an District



Ceremony to harvest model monsoon paddy Manaw Tun paddy strain (fair) in progress.

HPA-AN, 6 Jan—The ceremony to harvest model monsoon paddy *Manaw Tun* paddy strain (fair) was held at farmer U Sein Hlaing's 4 acre of farmland at field No. 1017/A, Holding No. 142 in Kawdan Damal Village, Kawtayote Village-tract, Hpa-an District of Kayin State on 23 December.

Chairman of District Peace and Development

Council U Ye Naing and Secretary U San Win, District Manager U Khun Than Tun of Myanmar Agriculture Service, Staff Officer U Min Chit Maung of District Land Records Department and officials, and local farmers attended the ceremony. Per acre yield was 85.50 baskets.

District IPRD

Thutayaungchi library opens in Ponnagyun Tsp

PONNAGYUN, 6 Jan—The new building of Thutayaungchi self-reliant rural library opened in Pannila Village, Ponnagyun Township of Rakhine State on 19 October.

On behalf of the chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Saw Tun, Secretary U Aung

Shwe Zan, Staff Officer U Hla Baw Thu of Township Information Public Relations Department and village head U Ba Tha Yay formally opened the new building.

The township PDC Chairman presented publications to responsible persons of the library.

Township IPRD

Insein Township Writers and Journalists Association pays respects to doyen literati

YANGON, 6 Jan—Insein Township Writers and Journalists Association organized the ceremony to honour publishing of a poem book entitled "Loving-kindness of parents" in conjunction with the respect-paying ceremony for doyen literati at the office of Insein Township Peace and Development Council on 1 January.

CEC member of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Maung Maung Myint Aye (Maung Maung Myint Aye), Chairman of Insein Township WJA U Phone Wai (Director Phone Wai) and Retired township Education Officer U Yan Naung (Yan Naung-Education) spoke on the occasion.

Next, respect-paying ceremony followed. Vice-Chairman of township WJA U Bo Kyi (Dr Bo Thanmani-Taungdwingyi) made an opening address and, on behalf of the doyen literati, President of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science Patron of township WJA Sayaygi U Than Oo gave words of advice.

Then cash and kind were presented to eight doyen literati aged over 80 and 12 aged over 70 at the ceremony.—MNA

Significant night temperatures (6-1-2011)

Putao (4°C) each
Katha (5°C) each