

Commander provides assistance to residents in eastern Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Jan— Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin provided clothes, medicine and stationery to residents in villages in eastern hilly region of Pyinmana on 7 January. A total of 757

households in 17 villages, 14 monasteries and one church were benefited from the assistance worth over K 1.7 million.

During his tour, the commander met with residents and fulfilled the requirements for the re-

gional development.

Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin donated edible oil and robes to the members of the Sangha in the monasteries in Seikphutaung Village and Lahphattaung Village.

He also donated

provisions to a church in Bomathandaung Village in the eastern part of Pyinmana.

He also visited a library in Aungbeiktheik Village where children are being vaccinated against measles. — MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Commander meets personnel participating in launching of security system

YANGON, 9 Jan— Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win met those who are participating in the launching of security system in cooperation with the people and the Myanmar Police Force at the Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Office this afternoon.

At the meeting, the commander said Yangon is designated as a commercial hub and it is very important for the people in the city to make their living peacefully. The MPF is responsible for ensuring stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order.

He said Yangon Divi-

sion Police Force has been carrying out security services in cooperation with companies that are providing necessary assistance and responsible personnel engaged in security affairs.

He said he was glad to learn that the people are carrying out security mat-

ters in cooperation with MPF. He believed people will be able to sleep leaving the doors open in the future, he added.

After the meeting the commander observed the documentary photos of the security services being carried out collectively. — MNA

INSIDE

They refused. So, I asked them: "You have already said what you wish. But you are denying my turn. Is that the democracy you are asking for?" One of them said: "Give him the microphone!" I spoke to the whole town from the microphone: "The members of the party and People's Council, please leave the strike camp as a show of respect and obeisance to the public wish "No more Party and Council".

PAGE 7

NGAR MIN SWE



Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win speaks at the meeting with people participating in the security services in cooperation with Myanmar Police Force.— MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 10 January, 2007

Nurture the youth for greater development of human resources

As part of the drive for shaping a brighter future of the nation, the government is creating opportunities for the youth to pursue education, enhancing their skills and sharpening their appetite of studying lessons beginning from the basic education sector.

School syllabuses alone are no longer enough to achieve today's educational vision. In addition to the teaching processes, teachers are thus training and nurturing the students in order that the former are able to serve effectively the interests of their regions and societies, and possess qualities of a citizen with wider knowledge about respective fields, and imbue themselves with a mellow and mature attitude.

These visionary endeavours are yielding good returns of bringing about a greater number of all-round students.

The School Family Day is observed annually with the aim of presenting performances sector-wise in the education field, implementing the national education promotion plans in cooperation and coordination with the people, and increasing the number of good citizens capable of preserving and safeguarding the traditions, culture and social norms of the motherland.

The Ministry of Education held the School Family Day for 2006-2007 academic year at Nay Pyi Taw from 6 to 9 January to the accompaniment of the opening ceremony, exhibitions on development of the education sector, and musical entertainment and honoured the outstanding students.

Now, the all-round education system is at the centre of the present education sector. Therefore, there will be a sharp increase in the number of human resources if the efforts and goodwill of the teachers, hard work of the students, and contributions and encouragement of the people are welded together.



To mark the 35th Wedding Anniversary, U Myat Thu and wife Daw Khin Swe Win donate K 150,000 to Hwinzigon Home for the Aged. U Chit Myaing accepts the donation which will go on providing meals and constructing a new three-storey building for the home. — H

Peoples' Desire

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

USDA S-G U Htay Oo looks into regional development in Meepya village



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo inspects building of embankment to prevent inflow of salt water to plantations. — A&I

YANGON, 8 Jan — Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo together with CEC Member Yangon In-charge U Maung Pa and departmental heads arrived at Meepya village, Kyauktan, Yangon South District on 7 January. Upon arrival at Meepya village, Secretary-General U Htay Oo and party paid homage to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pannavamsa and offered alms to the Sayadaw.

Next, Secretary-General U Htay Oo and party met with townsenders, rural people and members of Kyauktan Township USDA, Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association at Meepya USDA Office.

First, Joint-Secretary of Kyauktan Township USDA U Than Win briefed the Secretary-General and party on socio-economic life and condition of dams in the region, Director of Yangon Division Irrigation Department U Kyaw Thein on maintenance of dams and situation of farmlands, rural peasant U Hla Kyaing

on cultivation and production of agricultural crops in the region and General Manager U Hla Myo of Myanmar Agriculture Service on agricultural technologies.

In response to the reports, the Secretary-General urged those present to actively participate in five rural development tasks. Next, CEC Member Yangon In-charge U Maung Pa gave instructions on rural development tasks.

Afterwards, chairman of Meepya village PDC U Kyaw Myint spoke words of thanks. Next, Secretary-General U Htay Oo and CEC Member Yangon In-charge U Maung Pa presented books and journals to rural people.

Upon arrival at Meepya village Station Hospital, the Secretary-General and Joint-Secretary of Yangon Division USDA U Tha Win handed supplies for the rural people through Daw Moe Moe Khine.

Next, the Secretary-General and party inspected progress in building of embankment to prevent the plantations from inflow of salt water. — MNA

MWAF holds educative talks in Shwebo

NAYPYITAW, 7 Jan — The educative talks were held at Seikhun village in Shwebo Township, Shwebo District on 31 December, attended by Head of Organizing Department of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo and Chairperson Daw Myint Myint Thu of Sagaing Division Women's Affairs Organization and members.

Firstly, Head of Organizing Department Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo extended greetings and explained the salient points of the federation.

Leader of Health Sub-Group of Sagaing Division WAO Dr Daw Myint Myint Thu gave

talks on preventive measures against HIV/AIDS and Inspector Daw Yi Yi Than of Monywa District Police Force, on crime and punishment related to trafficking in person.

Next, Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo presented uniforms for members of the village WAO, publica-

tions for the village library and traditional medicines and iodized salt for local people to the responsible personnel. She also accepted applications of Shwebo District WAO presented by Chairperson Daw Myint Myint Thu of Sagaing Division WAO.

Later, Dr Daw

Nyunt Nyunt Oo and party held round-table discussions with village WAO members.

After the ceremony, they visited weaving business run by the village WAO with the contribution of small loan by MWAF and observed hand-woven cloth. — MNA



Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo of MWAF gives educative talks to women in Seikhun Village, Shwebo. — MNA

Malaysia launches "Visit Malaysia Year 2007"

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 Jan —After one-year-long intensive preparations, Malaysia officially launched the Visit Malaysia Year (VMY) 2007 Saturday night, the third and also the largest tourism promotion year drive in the country.

Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi attended the grand launching ceremony in Lake Titivangsa Park here, together with diplomatic envoys based in Malaysia, foreign tourists and thousands of Malaysian people from all walks of life.

In his speech, Badawi outstretched his welcoming arms to visitors from all over the world, inviting them to come to this Southeast Asian nation to share its natural beauty and multicultural, promising the

best service for the money they spend here. The Prime Minister gave a clear message, "Malaysia welcomes the world."

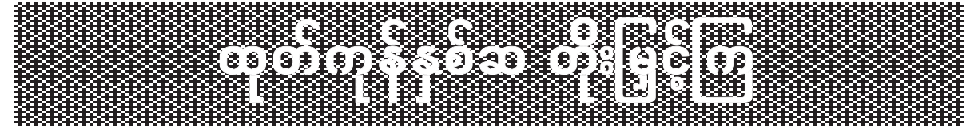
The VMY 2007 came in conjunction with the celebration of 50 years of independence and nationhood of this tropical country. The Malaysian government hopes to woo 20 million foreign tourists this year and earn 44.5 billion ringgit (12.36 billion US dollar) worth of tourist receipts, giving a boost to the growth of national economy and the development of tourism-related industries.

To ensure the year-long campaign a success, the government and tourism industry had joined hands to make relentless efforts in the year 2006.

Senior tourism officials

went on frequent tours to key targeting markets in Asia and Europe, vigorously promoting Malaysia as a premier tourist destination. Meanwhile, the government took concrete actions to upgrade the infrastructure in scenic spots, improve the communications and traffic service and simplify visa application process for foreign visitors.

MNA/Xinhua



An over-60-metre-high building of Zhejiang University is seen against the sunrise in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 6 Jan, 2007. The 22-storey building, also the highest one near the West Lake, was torn down successfully on Saturday. —XINHUA

Trade row halts Russia oil exports

MINSK (Belarus), 8 Jan — Russian oil exports to Europe via neighbouring Belarus halted Monday as

a bitter trade dispute between Moscow and Minsk spilled over into several countries including

Germany and Poland.

EU energy chief Andris Piebalgs said the situation posed "no immediate risk" to energy supplies in the European Union, but that he was seeking an "urgent and detailed explanation" of the cuts from authorities in Belarus and Russia.

The impact of a short-term stoppage is likely to be minimal, as refineries maintain strategic oil stocks.

But the disruption to Russian oil supplies to Europe once again

highlighted concerns about European energy reliance on Russia a year after its pricing dispute with Ukraine briefly affected EU imports of Russian natural gas.

Russian Deputy Trade and Economic Development Andrei Sharonov said that Moscow had been forced to suspend oil exports via the Druzhba, or Friendship, pipeline after disruptions to the flow of the pipeline he blamed on Minsk.

Internet

Windstorm to continue after killing two in California

LOS ANGELES, 8 Jan—A windstorm will continue unabated on Saturday after killing two people and cutting power for more than 100,000 homes in Southern California, according to weather forecasts.

The two people were killed on the way to Las Vegas after a major windstorm swept the region on Friday, causing a chain-reaction crash on the road.

The California Highway Patrol said that in the accident a minivan hit a tour bus, killing a 56-year-old woman and her 13-year-old grandson in the van and leaving others with severe injuries. The windstorm, with gusts of 62 mph in some areas, also downed scores of trees and utility lines, leaving more than 100,000 homes without power.— MNA/Xinhua



British actress Kate Winslet holds the Desert Palm achievement award for acting that she received at the 18th Annual Palm Springs International Film Festival Gala in Palm Springs, California on 6 Jan, 2007.—XINHUA

Saturn General Manager Jill Lajdziak stands beside the Saturn Aura, which won the Car of the Year award at the 2007 North American International Auto Show in Detroit, Michigan, on 7 Jan, 2007.—INTERNET



Train derails among residences in eastern Canada

OTTAWA, 8 Jan—Twenty-four rail cars carrying heavy goods including vehicles derailed on Sunday in the heart of a residential area in a small town in eastern Canada, but there have been no reported injuries.

The accident occurred in the Quebec town of Montmagny early Sunday morning, as a train was heading eastbound from Toronto for Dartmouth in Nova Scotia, reports reaching here said.

A spokesman of the rail company said 72 of the cars were loaded with products ranging from agricultural goods to new vehicles, but no hazardous materials were aboard.

Transportation Safety Board officials are now on the scene, but for the time being, the cause of the derailment is uncertain.

Heavy equipment is removing some of the twisted wreckage. Video footage shows a badly damaged white van near a couple of the derailed cars.— MNA/Xinhua

Three US soldiers killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 8 Jan — Three US Air Force soldiers working for a bomb disposal team in Baghdad were killed and another injured in a car bomb attack on Sunday, the US military said in a statement.

Earlier, the military announced deaths of two soldiers in separate incidents, one from the Multinational Division in Baghdad and the other assigned to 1st Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group in Iraq's western Anbar Province.

More than 3,010 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media count. — MNA/Xinhua



Indonesian Navy men prepare their Nomad airplane before a search operation for a missing plane in Palu, central Sulawesi on 7 Jan, 2006. —XINHUA

50 feared killed in bus accident in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 8 Jan—At least 50 people were feared killed Saturday as a bus fell into a roadside ditch and caught fire in Bangladesh's eastern town of Comilla, about 120 kilometres from the capital Dhaka, officials said.

Rescuers so far recovered 14 bodies from the bus travelling from Dhaka to southeastern Chittagong. Officials said some 60-70 people were travelling by the bus. Only 7-8 passengers could jump out as the bus driver lost

control of his steering and fell into the ditch at about 1:30 pm (0730 GMT).

Witnesses said the bus swerved off the road and burst into fire trying to overtake another bus, killing 14 passengers on the spot.

A senior official of the Comilla administration on condition of anonymity said the death toll might go up to 50 with salvage of the bus from the ditch.

Traffic police sources said there has been heavy rush of passengers on Saturday as people, who went to their village homes to celebrate the Eid-ul-Azha, a major religious festival of the Muslims, were returning to their work places.—MNA/Xinhua



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (Top) talks to business leaders at a New Year party hosted by economic groups in Tokyo on 5 Jan, 2007.

INTERNET

Malaysia forecasts strong winds in its eight states

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 Jan— Malaysia on Sunday forecast strong winds and high waves in its eight states.

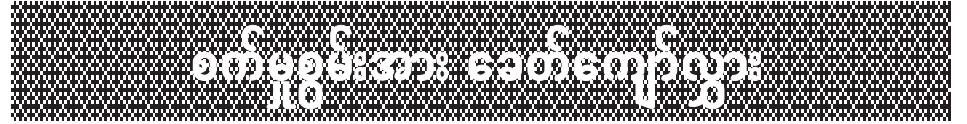
Local media said that the Meteorological Department has issued the "Red alert" for the states of Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, Perlis, Kedah, Penang, Perak and Sabah, saying that 5.5-metre high waves, 50 kilometres to 60 kilometres winds and heavy rain are expected to pound these states until Wednesday— MNA/Xinhua

Customers walk out of an "ice house" restaurant in Harbin, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province recently. The restaurant was made of 240 tons of ice chunks and was expected to be open through this winter.—XINHUA

Guangdong's foreign trade tops \$500b in 2006

BEIJING, 8 Jan— The economically strong Guangdong Province, South China, posted a foreign trade volume of 500 billion US dollars last year, 100 million US dollars more than the previous year, according to the provincial bureau for foreign trade and economic cooperation.

According to the bureau, high and new technologies export contributed greatly to the surge in the province's total trade volume. Statistics show that high and new technologies exports made up 34.5 per cent of Guangdong's total export for the first 11 months last year. — MNA/Xinhua



Turkish President to visit Italy

ANKARA, 8 Jan—Turkish President Ahmet Necdet Sezer will pay an official visit to Italy on 8-10 January, the President Press Centre announced in a statement on Sunday.

During the visit, Sezer will meet with his Italian counterpart Giorgio Napolitano on bilateral political and economic relations as well as regional and international issues, the statement said. —MNA/Xinhua

Garlic shows no effect on heart disease

BEIJING, 8 Jan — Though garlic is touted for heart health, new research suggests that garlic supplements have no effect on several heart disease risk factors.

In a study of 90 overweight smokers, European researchers found that those who took a garlic powder supplement for three months showed no changes in their cholesterol levels or several other markers of heart disease risk.

The study, published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, adds to the conflicting evidence on garlic and heart health. A number of studies have found that garlic supplements may help lower blood cholesterol, and possibly blood pressure, but other studies have failed to find such benefits.

In the new study, researchers looked at whether a garlic supplement could affect heart risk factors other



Though garlic is touted for heart health, new research suggests that garlic supplements have no effect on several heart disease risk factors.—INTERNET

than the usual suspects of high cholesterol and high blood pressure.

Along with blood cholesterol, they measured participants' levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) and other blood proteins that indicate the degree of inflammation in the arteries.

Internet

West Nile virus found in seven provinces of Venezuela

CARACAS, 8 Jan—Cases of West Nile virus have been found in areas north of Venezuela's Orinoco River, and researchers suspected that the virus may have been brought in by migratory birds.

A joint US-Venezuela study found birds and horses in seven Venezuelan states carrying antibodies to West Nile virus, which means the virus has been transmitted by migratory birds to the animals, said Juan Carlos Navarro, a researcher at Central University of Venezuela.

Navarro ruled out the possibility of a pandemic of West Nile virus in South America, given that most inhabitants in the region have either been vaccinated against yellow fever or have obtained immunity to the virus after contracting Dengue Fever.

Medical experts are investigating whether there are human cases of the virus, whose symptoms may be mistaken for those of Dengue Fever, according to local media.— MNA/Xinhua

Chinese telecom giants plan financing for upcoming 3G projects

BEIJING, 8 Jan—China Mobile, China Telecom and China Netcom, all plan to return to Mainland stock markets seeking ton of fresh capital to build infrastructure to implement a new generation of mobile phone service.

With licences for the so-called 3G mobile technology expected to be announced early this year, China's major telecommunications operators may need to quickly raise as much as a hundred billion yuan to build and maintain the required new networks.

The new 3G mobile phone service will provide multimedia services including voice, data, video and wireless Internet access.

Market watchers believe all three com-

panies will look to domestic markets to raise the required funds.

A fourth player, China Unicom, is currently the only major telecommunication operator that is listed on both overseas and Mainland stock markets.

On 3 January, share prices of China Mobile and China Telecom on the Hong Kong market reached new highs of Hong Kong dollars 71.8 (9.2 US dollars) and Hong Kong dollars 4.47 (0.57 US dollar) respectively. China

Netcom's share price was also on the rise after the New Year's holiday.

A spokesperson for China Mobile, the largest Chinese mobile operator, said it is the companies intention to raise funds on the Mainland market, but there is not a concrete timetable for an IPO.

China Mobile is listed on the Hong Kong stock market as a red-chip company, which are Mainland companies registered overseas.

MNA/Xinhua



Docking stations for iPods by Matsunichi are displayed during a media preview for 2007 International CES (Consumer Electronics Show) in Las Vegas, Nevada on 6 Jan, 2007. The iPS7 (L) retails for \$129 and the iPF7 with remote control is expected to be available in March for \$240, representatives said. The iPF7 also allows the user to select the music file from the external screen and can be used as a digital picture frame. —INTERNET

China collects \$30.63b in income tax

BEIJING, 8 Jan—China collected 17 per cent more in personal income taxes last year surging to 245 billion yuan (30.63 billion US dollars), according to the State Administration of Taxation (SAT).

Analysts with SAT attribute the increase to rising incomes.

China's GDP grew by 10.7 per cent in the first three quarters in 2006 during which 9.32 million people found jobs in the

urban areas.

The comparatively developed east coast areas such as Yangtze River Delta and Zhujiang Delta contributed most to the tax revenue.

MNA/Xinhua

Alternative stem cells source found

BEIJING, 8 Jan—US scientists reported to have found plentiful source of stem cells in fluid that cushions babies in the womb and have produced a variety

of tissue types from these cells—sidestepping the controversy over destroying embryos for research.

The new breakthrough was published by the

journal Nature Biotechnology on Sunday.

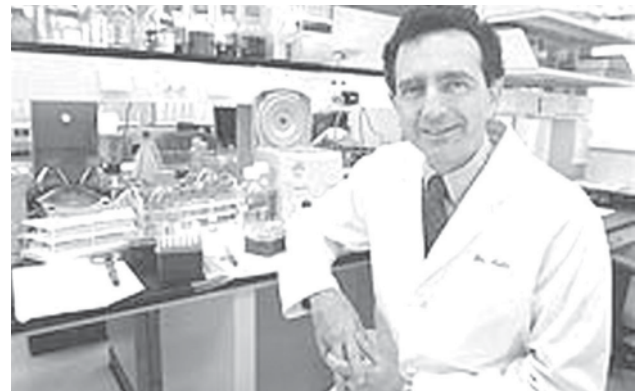
These new sourced stem cells are called AFS (Amniotic Fluid Derived Stem) cells and could be an intermediate stage between embryonic stem cells and adult ones.

Dr Anthony Atala, head of Wake Forest's regenerative medicine

institute, and his team started looking into amniotic fluid as a source of stem cells seven years ago.

He said it took that long to verify they had a true stem cell. "These cells are capable of extensive self-renewal, a defining property of stem cells.

Internet



Dr Anthony Atala, head of Wake Forest's Regenerative Medicine Institute, is photographed in his research lab at Piedmont Triad Research Park in Winston-Salem, NC, on 5 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

Metro train derails in US capital, injuring at least 16

WASHINGTON (DC), 8 Jan—At least 16 people were injured on Sunday when a Metro subway train derailed in a station in downtown Washington, officials said.

The accident took place near the Mount Vernon Station, in which the fifth car of a six-car train carrying some 150 passengers derailed, Metro spokeswoman Cathy Asato said.

Passengers in the first four cars walked to safety by their own, while those in the last two cars were escorted by rescue personnel through the tunnel on a catwalk after waiting for about 45 minutes, she said.

Most of those injured suffered bumps and bruises, and at least one had serious injuries. The cause of the incident was under investigation. —MNA/Xinhua



Russian tennis player Maria Sharapova (R) attends the opening ceremony of a jewellery shop in Hong Kong, on 7 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

Fire kills at least five children in Philippine capital region

MANILA, 8 Jan—At least five children were killed during a predawn fire that hit their house in Valenzuela City, north part of the Philippine capital region on Sunday. The children, who were 4 to 11 years old, died after being trapped inside their padlocked house during the three-hour fire, a report by local radio dzBB quoted neighbours as saying.

Their eldest brother, 12, suffered serious burns when tried to escape the flames by jumping from the second-floor window, the report added.

MNA/Xinhua

Tourist killed when parachute fails to open in Australia

CANBERRA, 8 Jan—A tourist from Iceland died after his parachute failed to open during a jump from a helicopter in Australia's southeastern state of New South Wales on Sunday.

The 27-year-old jumped from a helicopter at a music festival held at Bonalbo and suffered fatal head injuries.

The tourist's parachute failed to open properly, Australian Associated Press on Monday quoted police as saying.

The helicopter jump was believed to be among adventure activities on offer at the festival, police said. Investigations into the incident are underway, the report said. —MNA/Xinhua

Mudslides kill 50 in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 8 Jan—Mudslides triggered by heavy rain in Brazil have killed 50 people, Brazil's Civil Defence Service said on Sunday.

In Rio de Janeiro State, where around 27 people have been killed by the mudslides, a state of emergency has been declared in many districts after improvised homes were swept away.

More than 15,000 people in the state have been forced to flee their homes. The government has allocated 57 million reais (26.5 million US dollars) of disaster relief to assist affected people.

Brazil's rainy season starts in October. In the second worst-hit area, Minas Gerais, some 20 people have died.

Weather forecasters warned that a further 100 to 130 millimetres (3.9 to 5.1 inches) of rain was likely to fall in the states of Rio de Janeiro and neighbouring Minas Gerais and Sao Paulo. —MNA/Xinhua



A man looks at the new Super Multi Blue player at the LG booth on 7 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

LG unveils 1st dual-format DVD player

LAS VEGAS , 7 Jan — LG Electronics on Sunday unveiled the groundbreaking dual-format DVD player at the 2007 Consumer Electronics Show (CES), which can play both Blu-ray Disc and HD DVD content.

Launching in the United States during the first quarter of 2007, the LG model BH100, dubbed “Super Multi Blue

Player,” will be the first player on the market with the capability to play both next-generation disc formats — Blu-ray and HD, addressing the challenge of the current format war.

Blu-ray format is a next-generation DVD standard backed by a group led by Sony Corp. and LG is also a member of the Blu-ray consortium.

The rival HD DVD format is supported by a consortium headed by Toshiba Corp.

“We’ve developed the Super Multi Blue Player

to end the confusion caused by the current competition between Blu-ray Disc and HD DVD. Customers are no longer forced to choose between the two formats,” said Dr Hee Gook Lee, president and chief technology officer of LG Electronics.

LG’s dual-format player up converts standard DVDs to 1080i resolution, providing compatibility with consumers’ existing movie libraries while improving the picture quality of those discs.

Internet

India’s defence budget may touch \$35b

NEW DELHI, 8 Jan— India’s budget for defence acquisitions at current levels may touch a whopping 35 billion US dollars in the next two decades, Indian Defence Minister A K Antony said Sunday.

Noting that defence cooperation has assumed importance in devising a strategy for foreign policy, he said about 2.5 per cent of the GDP was devoted to maintain the military might.

MNA/PTI

Cell phone might have triggered blasts in Mumbai

NEW DELHI, 8 Jan — Indian bomb investigators said a cell phone call or sending of a short message might trigger the serial blasts in Indian economic hub Mumbai in July 2005, NDTV reported Saturday.

India’s National Bomb Data Centre told Mumbai police after the study that

terrorists may use a cell phone to detonate the explosives on commuter trains. The serial blasts killed about 190 people on 11 July last year.

Backing up the theory, the Anti-Terrorist Squad of the Mumbai police have recovered a device from one of the blast sites, which

they think was connected to a cell phone and used to trigger the blasts.

One of the plug-in sockets on the cell phone was connected to a timer while the other socket was used as a detonator to trigger the explosion, the police said.

MNA/Xinhua



Three people were killed when a helicopter crashed into the garden of a restaurant near Marseille, in southern France, on 7 Jan, 2007. —XINHUA

Kidnapped “AFP” photographer released in Gaza

GAZA, 8 Jan—Peruvian AFP photographer Jaime Razuri, who was kidnapped last week by a group of Palestinian gunmen, was released

unharmed in Gaza City on Sunday evening, Palestinian security sources said.

Razuri has arrived at the office of Palestinian President Mahmoud

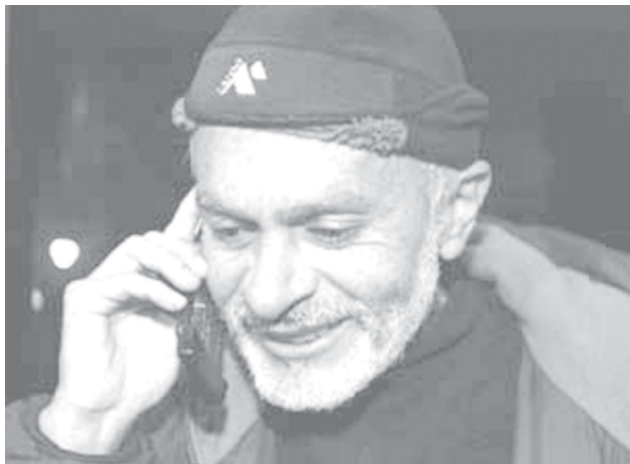
Abbas in the west of Gaza City, said the sources, adding that he was in good health.

Razuri himself also claimed that he was treated well in his duress.

However, the identity of the captors remains unclear amid conflicting reports about them.

Some sources with security forces said that a big clan called Doghmosh family opposing the ruling Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) was behind the kidnapping, while Tayeb Abdel Rahim, an aide to Abbas said that it is Doghmosh family helped the release of the journalist.

MNA/Xinhua



Peruvian AFP photographer Jaime Razuri, who was kidnapped last week by a group of Palestinian gunmen, was released unharmed in Gaza City on 7 Jan, 2007. —XINHUA

Eight killed in drug-related incidents in northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 8 Jan — Eight people, who have apparent links with drugs, were murdered in four separate incidents at the weekend in northern Mexico, police reported on Sunday.

The killings happened in the space of 24 hours over Saturday and Sunday as the central government launched a massive anti-drug operation in the northeastern city of Tijuana, on the border with the United States.

In Monterrey, the largest city in the state of Nuevo Leon, two police officers were shot dead in their squad car while chasing trucks carrying long-range weapons.

In Linares, another town in Nuevo Leon, the 24-year-old son of a state police officer was killed by two gunshots outside a nightclub.

In Reynosa, a city which borders the Texas city of McAllen, police reported the finding of bodies of two men and a woman, who had been tied and executed by a single shot.

On Saturday night, two young men were also killed in the Chihuahua state city of Ciudad Juarez. Mexico’s new government, which took office on 1 December, has started two anti-drug campaigns.

MNA/Xinhua



A man receives a type of beauty treatment with fish at a hot spring resort in southwestern China’s Chongqing municipality on 7 Jan, 2007. The toothless fish, which are used in the treatment, nibbles away dead skin and bacteria while curing skin conditions such as psoriasis, local media reported. —INTERNET

From Ngar Min Swe to Daw Suu Kyi

Ngar Min Swe

How are you Ma Suu? I was worried to hear that you were not feeling well. I was relieved only when I heard that you were sound. I wish you good health and happiness and success in serving the interest of the nation and the people for over a hundred years.

As I am engaged in the fish farming, I am writing articles in journals under the pen name Ngar (fish) Min Swe. I think you have read the article "Open letter to '88' Min Ko Naing from '75' Min Swe" which appeared in the dailies issued on 26 November 2006. Ko Jimmy of '88' generation student told RFA that he welcomed the article. The RFA made a remark that the article was written in the form of a gentle and polite discussion. What's your comments about the article?

I heard your name "Aung San Suu Kyi" when I was five years old. At the school Arzani (Martyrs) Day talks, teacher Daw Amar Sein told us that Bogyoke Aung San, who sacrificed his life for the nation, was survived by a son Aung San Oo and a daughter Aung San Suu Kyi. Since then, all the children of the school have been hoping that one day the two children of Bogyoke Aung San will serve the national interest like their father. Although their father is no more, since childhood days, we have trust in and hope of his son and daughter or in other words for our elder brother and sister.

During the time of Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP), my father ran a salt industry at Kyaikkhami. He had to sell all the products to the State at 12 pyas per viss. He suffered losses and was heavily in debt. So, he had to sell his products at the illegal market at 30 to 50 pyas per viss. But if someone selling his products in an illegal market was caught he would be punishable up to seven years imprisonment and his industry would be impounded. I who was just a teen then, was worried about my father as he could face imprisonment. We would have no income if Father's business was confiscated. I was wondering how I could continue my school education if something went wrong.

Ma Suu, that was one of the reasons why people began to hate the BSPP government that was practising the centralized economic system.

The nation saw an unrest in December 1974 resulting from the demise of U Thant. I was a ten grader then. I went to Kyaikkasan Grounds where the remains of the late U Thant were kept from my school which was the No 1 Basic Education High School (formerly St John's High School) in Lanmadaw Township. Some university students forcibly took away the body and carried it to Yangon University. I was moving aimlessly together with the crowd. I a ten grader played a mean role in the unrest. I passed the ten standard in 1975 and attended Geology Major course at Yangon University. Fifteen students including me of Dagon Hall intoned the pledge of allegiance in front of Judson building, and formed the Judson group. On the eve of the unrest, which we called Hmaing centenary unrest, we of the Judson group and about 100 other hostel students of the university marched

to Yangon Institute of Technology and tried to instigate the students of the institute. The next day, Hmaing centenary unrest broke out with Yangon University as the base. After the unrest, I had to unwillingly leave the campus located next to the Inya Lake.

I who entered business young witnessed the deteriorating economy of the nation in the time of the BSPP. I was dissatisfied with the BSPP government that was badly suppressing the private economic sector. I had to transport the senior BSPP members of Mon State in my car to Yangon to attend the Hluttaw meetings. They liked me, and persuaded me to join the BSPP, with a guarantee for a good party post. I told them frankly that I had no confidence in the party's economic policy; that I wished BSPP to encourage private economic sector; and that I could not join the party.

Since before the occurrence of the four "8s" unrest, I and some townspeople of Kyaikkhami were trying to inspire the people all around the town. We would have been arrested then had not the unrest broken out. It was so unusual that some of the BSPP members and the People's Council members were at the main strike camp which was opened at the dhammayon located in the town centre. I told them politely "The people were shouting "No more Party and Council" just in the afternoon. So you'd better leave our strike camp." Those members and their relatives were so angry with my words, that they got hold of sticks to hit me. They tried to drag me out of the camp. And from the microphone, they announced that whoever opposed the strike should be severely punished. However they were threatening me, I never left the camp. Instead, I was asking them to hand me the microphone.

They refused. So, I asked them: "You have already said what you wish. But you are denying my turn. Is that the democracy you are asking for?" One of them said: "Give him the microphone!" I spoke to the whole town from the microphone: "The members of the party and People's Council, please leave the strike camp as a show of respect and obeisance to the public wish "No more Party and Council".

As there was confusion in the town centre, people from the surrounding areas rushed to the camp to rally behind me. The crowd shouted: "What Min Swe said is right." I did not become the first victim of the murders of the four "8s" unrest in Kyaikkhami because of the public that rallied behind me.

I presented my opinion at the strike camp politely through democratic practice. But they were holding knives and sticks. Ma Suu, wasn't it surprising to see such persons with violent mind joined the National League for Democracy (NLD) after the unrest. Violence and murders occurred in the whole nation during the unrest. As you are an educated person you can imagine easily how many of such violent persons are in your party in the whole nation. If NLD formed with the majority of such persons takes over the State power, it may become a party upholding the democracy by the stick.

As is known to you, Ma Suu, the multiparty democracy general election was held in 1990. At my native Kyaikkhami that was included in Thanbyuzayat constituency 1, U Maung Maung Gyi of NLD and U Tin Tun of National Unity Party (NUP) stood for the election. U Maung Maung Gyi was not a native of Kyaikkhami. Nobody in the constituency knew him or his qualifications and moral conduct well. They only knew him as a retired Lt-Col as his former position was stated in the announcement stuck at the polling booth. On the other hand, U Tin Tun was a native of Kyaikkhami. His father was a village head who defended Kyonkadat village with his gun during the time Kyaikkhami region was under the influence of insurgents. U Tin Tun was a graduate in his early 40s. He once was a unit chairman of the BSPP. During the time of BSPP, Kyaikkhami/Thanbyuzayat region prospered through black market and smuggling. But U Tin Tun was not a self-seeker. He did not even own a house. He lived in a small bamboo hut located in a garden compound at the outskirts of the town. As he had dedicated his whole life to the BSPP politics, he was separated from his wife for years. He had no children. All the natives of Kyaikkhami knew that he was not a self-seeker, but a determined politician. All those facts were a comparison between U Maung Maung Gyi of NLD and U Tin Tun of NUP.

Ma Suu, I would like to compare your NLD with NUP. NLD was formed in a hasty way. So, it has no political experiences. Many of the NLD members guessed that the NLD would win the election. So, they joined the NLD for their own interests. Frankly to say, they are indeed fair-weather friends.

The National Unity Party derived from the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party that had made Myanmar one of the world's poorest countries exercising ineffective economic policies and making mistakes. However, the NUP learnt from its mistakes and launched economic reforms. It laid down some policies to give priority to the private sector and introduce the market-oriented economic system to the nation. It had entered into the politics for more than 20 years. Figuratively speaking, NLD is like a 16-year-old virgin, whereas the NUP is like a divorcee whose mistakes made her marriage end in divorce. In my opinion, the people should have voted for the NUP if they had cast their votes in a wise manner. But, at that time, the 16-year-old virgin NLD won the heart of the people.

Ma Suu, before the election, I had to make a trip, so I cast my vote in advance. I voted for NUP representative U Tin Tun. Whom did you vote for if you were in my place? You are much more educated than I am. And you have a lot of experiences in the international affairs. So, I am sure, like me, you would have voted for NUP representative U Tin Tun.

But, NLD representative U Maung Maung Gyi won in the election. So, it can be deduced from the victory of NLD representative U Maung Maung Gyi, who local people of Kyaikkhami region did not know, whoever represented the NLD, he would surely win in the election. The majority of local people of Kyaikkhami region cast their votes under the emotion aroused by the 16-year-old virgin NLD.

In the love affairs, one can choose his life partner as he pleases; it does not matter. If his is a wrong choice, the adverse effects will be brought to him alone. However, in the political affairs, if a decision is made based on their emotional feelings, such an unwise decision will bring evil consequences to the nation and the people.

(See page 10)

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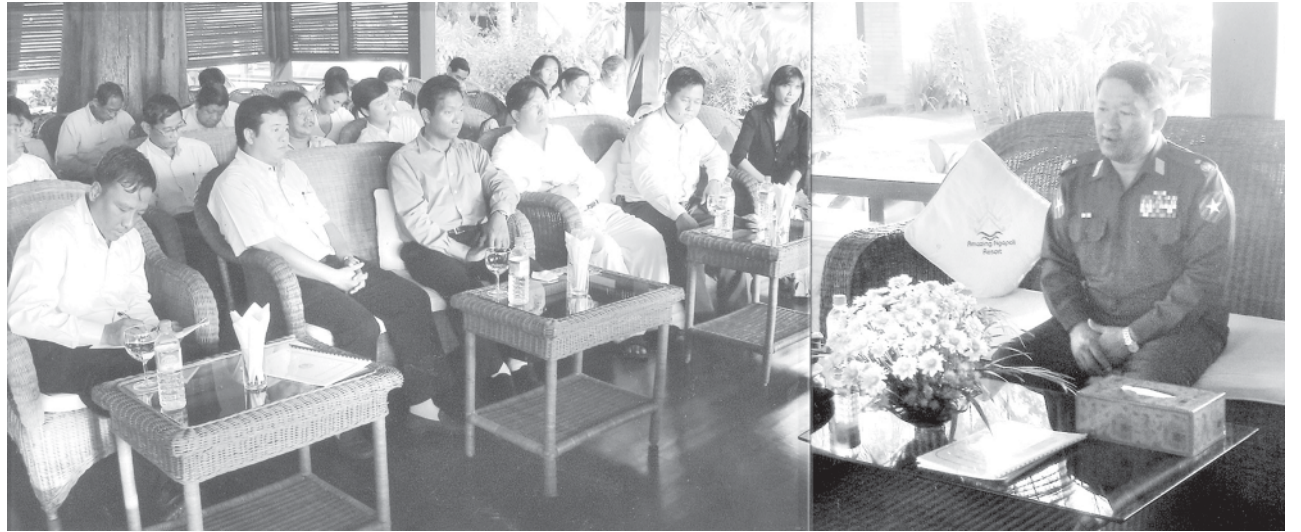
National Flag bestowed for climbing Phonyinyazi glacier

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Jan — A ceremony to bestow the National Flag for Phonyinyazi Ice Mountain was held at the meeting hall of Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association yesterday.

Member of panel of patrons of the USDA Patron of Mandalay Division USDA Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Secretariat Member of USDA Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw made speeches and attended to the needs.

Next, Secretary of Myanmar Trekking and Mountaineering Federation Dr Khin Maung explained matters related to the climbing of Phonerinrazi glacier and the formation of the mountaineering team with USDA members. Next, the commander and the secretariat member presented the flag to Dr Khin Maung. Then a cash donation ceremony followed. A total of more than K 17.3 million was donated. Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on 6 January afternoon visited the project site for construction of Yadanabon new town in PyinOoLwin and inspected construction of the teleport and incubation centre. Later, he gave necessary instructions to officials and fulfilled the needs. — MNA

Hoteliers urged to work harmoniously for development of tourism industry



Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing meeting with hoteliers at Amazing Ngapali Resort on Ngapali Beach. — HOTELS AND TOURISM

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Jan—Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing held a meeting with hoteliers at the

Amazing Ngapali Resort on Ngapali beach on 6 January afternoon.

The minister said that the Ngapali, a famous beach resort, is seeing increasing arrival of tourists year by year, calling for participation of hotel and tourism

entrepreneurs in sprucing up the region and tasks for regional development.

He called on the hoteliers to work harmoniously for the development of tourism industry in the region. He stressed the need for the hoteliers to follow the

rules and regulations adopted by the government. He pledged that the ministry will help the hoteliers address their difficulties.

In response to the reports, he attended to the needs of the hoteliers.

MNA



Secretariat Member of USDA Brig-Gen Thein Zaw hands over flag to secretary of Myanmar Trekking and Mountaineering Federation. MNA

Application of GIS for Natural Resources Management Course opens

YANGON, 9 Jan— Training Course on “Application of GIS for Natural Resources Management” opened at Taw Win hall in West Gyogon, Insein Township, yesterday.

It was organized by Forest Department under

the Ministry of Forestry and International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) based in Kathamandu, Nepal.

Director-General of Forest Department U Soe Win Hlaing delivered an address and Mr Sushil

Pradhan of ICIMOD GSI explained the purpose of the course.

Officials of the Ministry of Forestry and ICIMOD and trainees attended the opening ceremony. A total of 20 trainees are attending the 2-week course.— MNA

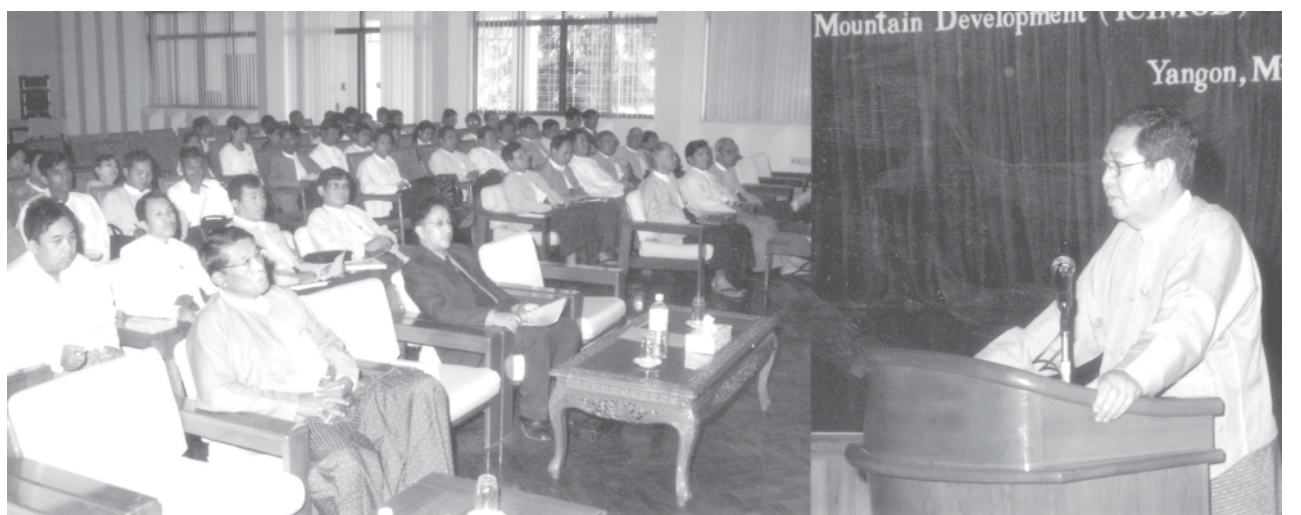
Construction of roads and bridges inspected in Magway Division

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Jan — Director-General U Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs together with responsible personnel went on an inspection tour of construction of No 1 district-to-district road on 7 January.

At the briefing hall, Director U Nyo Win Myint of Magway Division Development Affairs Committee and Director (Engineer) U Kyaw Soe briefed the Director-General on progress in building of road and bridge with the use of charts.

Next, the Director-General and party inspected construction of the wooden bridge and piling of Saparyin bridge. Afterwards, the Director-General looked into paving of gravel road near mile post No 44/0 of Saparyin bridge and mile post No 59/0 of Bwetgyi dam and gave instructions on timely completion of the construction of roads and bridges.

Magway Division DAC is to build 75 miles and three furlongs long road. The earthen road with the length of 66 miles and 1 furlong and the gravel road with the length of 56 miles and 3 furlongs have so far been covered in 2005-06 financial year. Tarred road with the length of 17 miles and 4 furlongs and gravel road with the length of 18 miles and 4 furlongs has still left to build. — MNA



No confidence in stand of NLD and its measures undertaken, party member resigns

YANGON, 9 Jan — U Kyaw Naing (a) Taikku Pari of Shwebontha Ward, a member of Bokpyin Township National League for Democracy, Taninthayi Division, resigned of his own

volition from the party and sent his letter of resignation to NLD Headquarters and local authorities on 27 December 2006.

In his letter of resignation sent to Bokpyin Township Multiparty

Democracy General Election Sub-commission, he said that he resigned from the NLD as he had no confidence in the stand of NLD and its measures undertaken.

MNA

Director-General of Forestry Department U Soe Win Hlaing addresses opening of “Application of GIS for Natural Resources Management” Course. FORESTRY

Commander attends inauguration of road to hail 59th Anniversary Independence Day



Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint delivers address at inauguration ceremony of a tarred road in Myitkyina. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Jan — As a gesture of hailing the 59th Anniversary Independence Day, a self-reliant road was inaugurated in Myitkyina on 3 January in the presence of Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint.

The tarred road in Kyunpintha Ward, Myitkyina, is 800-ft long and 12-ft wide. It was constructed at a cost of over K 4 million contributed by Kachin State Peace and Development Council,

Myitkyina Township Development Affairs Department and local people.

On 2 January, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint attended the opening of the exhibition of ministries to mark the 59th Anniversary Independence Day at Sports Grounds in Myitkyina.

Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and officials formally opened the exhibition where booths of the ministries are staged.

MNA

59th Anniversary Independence Day Ceremonies held in Myitkyina, Myeik, Sittway

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Jan — A ceremony to hoist State Flag to mark the 59th Anniversary Independence Day was held in Myitkyina, Kachin State on 4 January.

Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint read out the message of the 59th Anniversary Independence Day sent by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe during the ceremony.

Similarly, a ceremony to fly State Flag to mark the 59th Anniversary Independence Day was held in Myeik, Taninthayi Division on 4 January.

Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Khin Zaw Oo read out the message sent by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe.

Likewise, a ceremony to hoist State Flag to mark the 59th Anniversary Independence Day was held in Sittway, Rakhine State on 4 January. Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Maung Shein read out the message sent by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe.

MNA

Meetings of State and Township DACs held

YANGON, 8 Jan — Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe attended meetings of Shan State (South), Taunggyi Township and Nyaungshwe Development Affairs Committees held at the meeting hall of Shan State (South) DAC on 28 December.

First, Director of Shan State (South) DAC U Thaug Sein briefed the Deputy Minister on financial matters, completion of building of rural roads and bridges and water supply tasks.

Next, Executive Officer of Taunggyi Township DAC U Maung Soe briefed the Deputy Minister on accomplishment of development affairs during 2006-07 fiscal year and remaining tasks.

Afterwards, Executive Officer of Nyaungshwe Township DAC U Maung Toe briefed the Deputy Minister on accomplishment of the tasks during the present fiscal year and tasks being carried out.

In connection with the reports, the Deputy Minister called on responsible personnel to motivate the public to be convinced of development affairs because of joining hands with the people, organize the public to take part in development affairs and carry out the tasks effectively.

Next, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Thaug Aye and Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe inspected preparations for opening of shops in Myoma Market in Taunggyi.

Afterwards, the Deputy Minister oversaw tarmacking of Oakw road and preparation tasks for Thanlwin road. — MNA

USDA CEC member inspects development work in Ingapu Township

YANGON, 9 Jan — USDA CEC member Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung visited Naukmi Village Basic Education Middle School (Affiliated) in Ingapu Township on 6 January morning and he inspected construction of a new school building and donated K 600,000 for the fund toward the school.

Next, he inspected the construction of a new building of People's Hospital of the township, offered alms to the Sayadaw of Zayya Thukha Monastery and looked into the construction of an ordination hall. On 7 January, the CEC member attended the opening of Paukchaung bridge on Htoogyi-Tittitu road and celebration of school family day of



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung meeting with USDA members in Ingapu Township.

FORESTRY

Nyaungbingyikiwn Village BEMS. After donating K 1.4 million to the school, the CEC member and wellwishers awarded the outstanding students and teachers. At the opening of Tun Myat library in Kanyuntkwin village, the CEC member made a speech. Wellwishers donated K 100,000, a

colour TV and periodicals. Next, he met local people at Wailuwin Monastery and donated K 10 million for construction of a new building of the village primary school.

On 8 January, the CEC member attended the opening of a gravel road in Htantabingon Model

Village, donated K 10 million for construction of the village primary school. Later, he inspected construction of a new building of Kyathe Village post-primary school, donated K 1.7 million for the school and met with USDA members at Ingapu Township USDA office. — MNA

MWAF holds coord meeting

YANGON, 9 Jan — A coordination meeting of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was held at the meeting hall of MWAF, Bahan Township this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were the chairperson of Work Committee for Organizing Annual Meeting of MWAF and committee members, group leaders and secretaries of sub-committees and responsible personnel of support teams.

First, Chairperson of Work Committee for Organizing Annual Meeting of MWAF Daw Khin Thet Htay made a speech on the occasion.



Daw Khin Thet Htay speaks at coordination meeting for organizing annual meeting of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation. — MNA

Next, responsible personnel of respective sub-committees briefed the chairperson on preparation tasks for

organizing the annual meeting.

Afterwards, those present briefed on requirements. In response

to the reports, chairperson Daw Khin Thet Htay gave necessary instructions and made concluding remarks.

MNA

From Ngar Min Swe to...

(from page 7)

Since young, Myanmar nationals who are now about over 40 or 50 like me had looked forward to you, Bogyoke's or major-general's daughter with great expectations. But Ma Suu you did not come to the nation till we became grown-ups when the nation got into various crises due to the practice of the Myanmar Socialist Programme. We looked forward to your appearance Ma Suu. But, you did not turn out.

You did not show any interest in the nation, let alone paying a visit to the mother country. In the time of the Myanma Socialist Programme Party, the nation's economy was in steep decline, Myanmar people lived under the poverty level, the nation was reduced to one of the world's poorest countries, and many nationals lost their lives due to the armed conflicts across the nation. But, we were still looking forward to you Ma Suu. Almost every day, I listened to the news of BBC and VOA, but I never heard your voice. During your stay in England, if you said through BBC that Myanmar people were getting into troubles, urged the government to encourage the private sector and introduce the market economy, the then State leaders might listen to your advice and we Myanmar people would be pleased with it. But, Ma Suu did not do any activities that could ease the difficulties of the people. You continued to live in a developed country England and you did neglect the adversities of the people of your own. Whenever I thought I had expected your arrival here with great expectations, the memory brought a tear to my eye. In the end, I was to blame for my expectations.

Ma Suu, you appeared here only when it was a sign that the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party would be thrown off very soon. So far, you have been here for more than 18 years. During the period, we national people have been arguing with each other about political affairs due to your democracy talks.

However, the countries that practise the one-party system like China and Vietnam have enjoyed the taste of development because they have no intra-political disputes. But, Myanmar is suffering from economic sanctions against it due to the political problems you have incited. Now, Myanmar people

have not been able to deal with the Gordian knot you created, and in consequence, our nation has lagged behind in development. If you had not come here and had still lived abroad like your brother Aung San Oo, Myanmar would have practised the market economy since 1988 and would have developed like China and Vietnam.

I am not the only one who considers so but all the national people assume so. I did business in rural areas in Rakhine State, Mon State, Yangon Division and Ayeyawady Division for long. I also did business in Shwebo region, where you stirred up political problems, from February to July 2003. I am a businessman but I lead a humble life without discrimination against the poor. And I consider that we people are the same, national brethren. So, I got a good opportunity to realize the prevailing situations of the nation, and real attitude, stance and characteristics of national people.

Leave unnecessary affairs alone, to my knowledge, it has been a long time Myanmar people have had aspiration to enjoy magnificent development like China and Vietnam. So, if you consider you are a pro-democracy and you wish to honour the desire of the people, you should give priority to the drive for national development. And if members of so-called 88 generation students group and the political parties focus on the development of the nation and the people, 'national reconsolidation' that you have been shouting will be achieved considerably.

There is a Myanmar saying that means if the people have reached a consensus, they can realize a good cause. What is the most important is to ensure development of the nation and the people. Therefore, you NLD members and your associates should no longer consider the wrong concept concerning democracy to be the right one for development of the nation and the people. Considering the wrong move to be the right one, we Myanmar people are getting into troubles.

In conclusion, I would like to make a positive suggestion, Ma Suu, if you wish to see the development of the nation and the people, what you have to do now without fail is to throw your Gordian knot into the Inya Lake behind your home. I would say that is the best way for the nation and the people.

Translation: TMT + MS

District News in Brief

300 donate blood to mark Blood Donors' Day

AUNGBAN, 5 Jan — Aungpyaisone Blood Donors Association, Aungban, Kalaw Township, celebrated the Blood Donors' Day at People's Hospital in Aungban on 14 December and its members donated blood to hospitals in Kalaw District.

At the association's 30th celebration to mark the Blood Donors' Day, over 300 members of the association donated blood to Kalaw and Aungban and Station Hospitals.

An official of District Health Department presented certificates of honour to blood donors at the ceremony.

KYEMON



Fire drill in Kyaiklatt

KYAIKLATT, 31 Dec — Kyaiklatt Township Fire Services Department demonstrated fire extinguishing skills in Kyaiklatt, Ayeyawady Division, on 28 December.

The fire drill was conducted at Oil Mill No 13 of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading in Kyaiklatt and members of the Kyaiklatt Township Fire Services Department and employees of the mill participated in the drill.

KYEMON

Sewing machines donated to MCWA

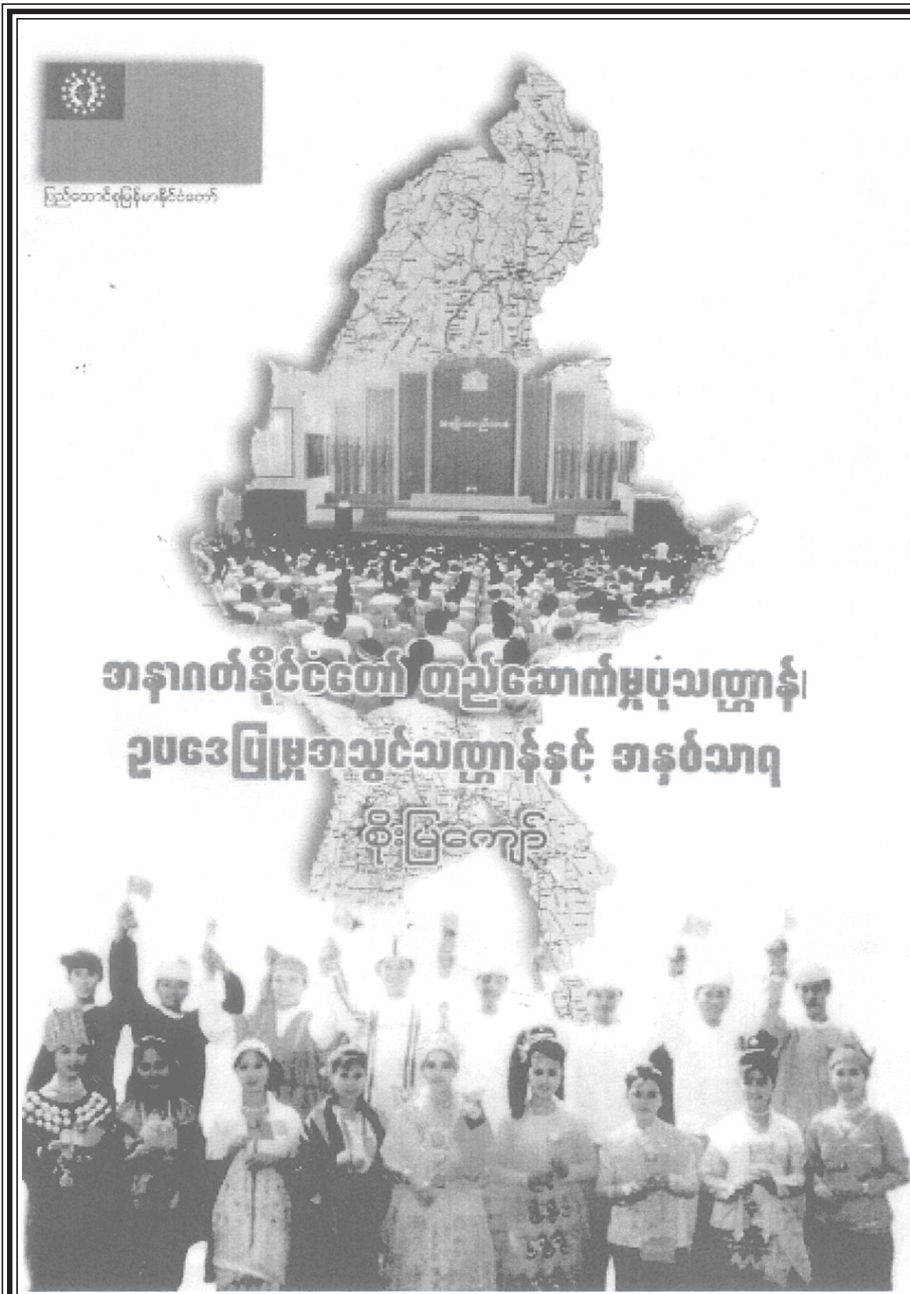
TACHILEK, 31 Dec — Wellwishers donated sewing machines to Tachilek District Police Force's Maternal and Child Welfare Association here on 19 November to be used at the association's tailoring shop.

Executives of the association accepted the donation and spoke words of thanks at the donation ceremony held at the office of Tachilek District Police Force.

KYEMON



Sewing machines being donated. — H



- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်မှန်းမျှော် ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။
- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တွင် ပေါ်ပေါက်လာမည့် ဥပဒေပြုမှုနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်းသည့် အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ထင်လင်းစွာ ပုံဖော်လာရေးအတွက် စာရေး သူ၏တွေ့ရှိချက်များကို တိုင်းရင်းသားပြည်သူများအား အကိုးအထောက် မှန်ကန်စွာဖြင့် လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းဝေငှထားသည့် —

စိုးမြင်ကျော် ၏

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
- ရောင်စုံ သရုပ်ဖော်ပုံများနှင့် စာမျက်နှာ (၁၅၀)၊ ရောင်းဈေး ၃၅၀/-

ထွက်ပြီ

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Security beefed up at Los Angeles Port following scare in Miami

LOS ANGELES, 9 Jan — A security scare which disrupted operations at the Port of Miami prompted authorities to beef up security at the Port of Los Angeles on Sunday, LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said.

“After learning about events in Miami, we took immediate action to enhance security at the Port of Los Angeles, including increasing police patrols and security checks at all our facilities,” he said in a statement.

Three men of Middle Eastern descent, but legal residents of the United States, were detained around 8 am at the Miami Port, including the driver of a big rig attempting to make a delivery.

The driver, an Iraqi national, was stopped by a port security officer who became suspicious when the driver did not produce the proper paperwork for his cargo.

When the security guard found another Iraqi and a Lebanese national in the truck, even though the driver had said he was alone, a Miami-Dade County bomb squad was called, as was a hazardous materials team.

Authorities found no security threats and later said the scare was possibly the result of a miscommunication due to a language barrier.

The truck’s contents matched the driver’s cargo manifest, according to port officials.

“While we cannot and should not prejudice events on the ground in Miami, it is critical that we remain vigilant at all times and in all circumstances,” Villaraigosa said.

“Securing our ports is absolutely critical to our coordinated homeland security strategy, and we need to treat every incident as an opportunity to

improve and strengthen our efforts in this area.”

Operations proceeded normally throughout the day, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Macedonian police seize over 400 kilos of cocaine

TIRANA, 9 Jan— Macedonian police seized on Sunday more than 400 kilos of cocaine near the border with Kosovo and arrested a man in whose

truck the drugs were found on suspicion of drug smuggling.

The cocaine, valued at more than 40 million euros (52 million US dollars), was the largest quantity of drugs seized in Macedonia, according to a news report reaching here from Skopje.

The drugs were packed into 60 plastic paint containers hidden in

a truck with Macedonian licence plates at the border town of Blace, some 20 kilometres north of the Skopje, the capital city of Macedonia, police said.

The truck picked up its cargo in the port city of Bar in Montenegro and entered Macedonia through Kosovo, destined for Greece, it was reported. — MNA/Xinhua



Kim Clijsters of Belgium returns the ball during her final match of the Champions Challenge tennis tournament against Russia’s Maria Sharapova in south China’s Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on 6 Jan, 2007. Clijsters beat Sharapova 2-0. — Xinhua

Crashed helicopter kills 3 on ground in France

PARIS, 9 Jan — A helicopter crashed Sunday in the Camargue region of southern France, killing three people on ground and wounding one more, local media reported.

The pilot and passengers on the Alouette 2-type aircraft, which went down into the carpark of a restaurant, survived unhurt.

Two of the victims were a couple walking near the restaurant and the body of an unidentified man was also found at the crash site.

A woman also suffered serious injuries and was hospitalized immediately. Investigators are looking for the cause of the tragedy. The pilot, shocked, said he just could not steady the helicopter when it seemed to fail. — MNA/Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT

**Yangon Sailing Club
Annual General Meeting**

All members of Yangon Sailing Club are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held as follows:

Date : 14th January 2007
Place : Yangon Sailing Club
Time : 9:30 a.m.

Secretary
Yangon Sailing Club

Millions of Chinese farmers away from unhealthy water in 2006

SHIJIAZHUANG, 8 Jan— A total of 28.97 million farmers in China got away from drinking unhealthy water in 2006 thanks to the government's heavy investment, Minister of Water Resources Wang Shucheng said Saturday.

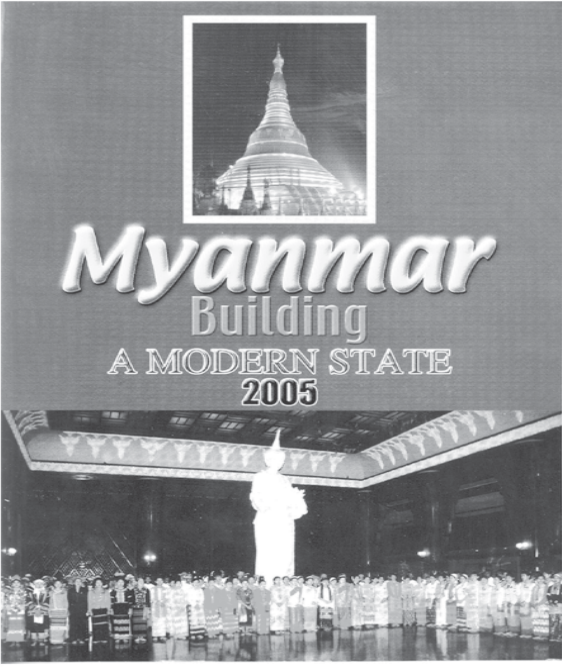
The central government injected six billion yuan last year, four billion yuan more than that in 2005, to prevent farmers from drinking water containing excessive fluorin and arsenic and bitter salty water, and people in snail-fever-hit areas had access to safe drinking water, Wang told a national conference in Qinhuangdao of Hebei Province attended by officials in charge of water resources.

Figures from the ministry showed there were 323 million rural people who suffered from unclean or unhealthy drinking water at the end of 2004.

Contaminated underground water, bitter salty water and water polluted by excessive fluorin and arsenic are three major threats to the health of Chinese farmers.

To provide safe drinking water for farmers has been put as a priority by the ministry since 2004.

MNA/Xinhua



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China develops new human bird flu vaccine virus

BEIJING, 8 Jan—A new recombinant H5N1 vaccine virus has been developed in China and is available for researchers and companies that want to develop or produce the H5N1 vaccine for human use, an official with the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said.

Shu Yuelong, senior official with Chinese CDC, said the new vaccine virus was developed by the

Chinese CDC and US CDC from the cases of human infections of the deadly virus in southern China.

Researchers found that a newly isolated virus collected from people infected with H5N1 in southern China was distinguishable in terms of antigen from the viruses that had previously been selected for vaccine development, Shu said.

Shu said it was the first time for China to develop a new human H5N1 vaccine virus, which will be a great contribution to the prevention of the fatal epidemic.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has put the new development on its website and said it is available for "institutions, companies and others interested in pandemic vaccine development".

The cases of human infection with bird flu in China numbered 13 in 2006, and seven in 2005.

In August 2006, the WHO found that there was antigenic variation among the recent H5N1 viruses. Since then, the WHO Collaborating Centres and H5 Reference Laboratories have been developing several new recombinant H5N1 vaccine viruses.—MNA/Xinhua

Six more helicopters to join missing plane searching in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 8 Jan—The Indonesian Government will add six more helicopters to the fleet of aircraft engaged in the search for the Adam Air Boeing 737-400 jetliner which went missing with 102 people on board six days ago on a flight from Surabaya to Manado, Vice-President Jusuf Kalla said.

"We are going to work efficiently until we find the missing plane. Therefore, I ask the families of those on the plane not to be dismayed but remain patient," Antara news agency on Sunday quoted Kalla as saying in Makassar, capital of South Sulawesi Province.

The six additional helicopters would be operated on Sunday at three locations, namely, the districts of Polewali Mandar and Mamuju in West Sulawesi and

Rantepao in Tanah Toraja District, South Sulawesi, Kalla said Saturday evening.

So far, the joint search and rescue teams had been using at least four military planes, a Puma helicopter, a Singaporean Air Force Fokker-50 and a number of Navy ships in the search for the ill-fated jetliner which disappeared on 1 January, less than three days after a ferry with more than 600 people on board sank in the Java Sea.

The teams were also supported by three warships which had combed the waters off South Sulawesi, West Sulawesi and Central Sulawesi.

Meanwhile, an 8-man US investigating team arrived in Makassar on Saturday to work with the Indonesian transport safety commission to investigate various aspects

of the missing plane case, including engineering, operations and weather that might have contributed to the plane's disappearance.

The vice-president said the search for the missing Adam Air plane would continue until it was found, no matter how long it would take.

He said the search would not be halted regardless of the cost and even if it would take more than the standard seven days.

MNA/Xinhua

Net value of funds in China exceeds 850b yuan

BEIJING, 8 Jan—The net value of investment funds grew by leaps and bounds in China reaching a record 850 billion yuan (10.9 billion US dollars) by the end of 2006, according to a leading provider of Chinese financial data known as WIND.

WIND says investment funds grew by 82.26 per cent over the previous year. By the end of 2006, China's securities investment funds had

issued 620.8 billion units, up 31.68 per cent year on year.

Open-ended funds investing mainly in stocks led the growth in 2006 with a year-on-year rise of 93.39 per cent to 218 billion units. Straight bond-type funds also grew by 196 per cent to 9.97 billion units.

According to WIND, the redemption ratio of short-term bond funds and money market funds

reached 66 per cent and 56 per cent respectively, indicating that capital flew in large quantities from the bond and money markets to the stock market.

Strong performance on the Chinese stock market has drawn in more investment and the market value reached more than 8.8 trillion yuan (about 1.14 trillion US dollars) till Friday.

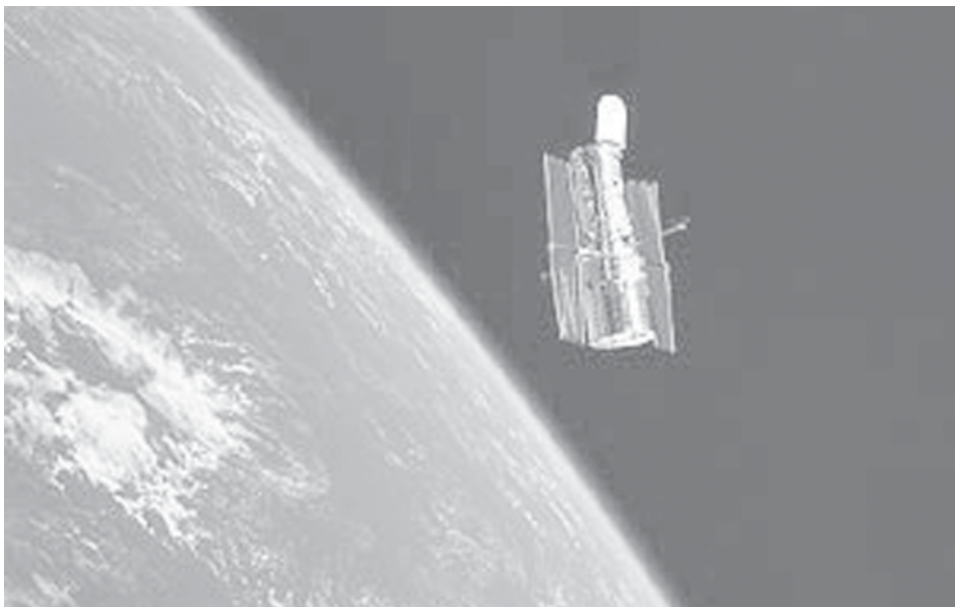
MNA/Xinhua

Haitians work during a fishing day in Jeremi on 7 Jan, 2007. Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas and at least 90 percent of its residents live on less than a dollar a day.

INTERNET



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Astronomers have created the first three-dimensional map of the large-scale distribution of dark matter in the universe, according to the journal Nature on 8 Jan, 2007. A team led by the British scientist Richard Massey, of the California Institute of Technology, has used NASA's Hubble Space Telescope, mapping its presence by the way it bends light coming from stars that lie behind.—INTERNET

Cypriot President confident in eurozone entry in 2008

NICOSIA, 8 Jan — Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos Sunday expressed his optimism that Cyprus would be able to join the eurozone as of 1 January, 2008, local media reported.

"I think no one can predict what will happen, but we are on a good track, all of our indexes are satisfactory," Cyprus News Agency on Sunday quoted the President as saying. Former Yugoslavian republic Slovenia has just adopted the euro on 1 January, 2007, becoming eurozone's 13th member. Cyprus and Malta are preparing for their accession to the monetary union within

one year.

European Union commissioner for economic and monetary affairs Joaquin Almunia visited Cyprus last November. He said that Cyprus' economic situation regarding the fulfillment of the Maastricht economic

criteria for entering the eurozone was a positive one.

But he also warned that this course must continue during the following crucial months, before the European Council decides on this issue in June this year.—MNA/Xinhua

TCM to play important role in human bird flu prevention

BEIJING, 8 Jan — Medical experts said it is of great significance to introduce traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) into the prevention and treatment of human bird flu, especially in the early stage of the disease.

The experts from Chinese Mainland, Hong Kong, Japan and the Republic of North Korea, who attended a seminar held by China's Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization and China Association of Chinese Medicine, have agreed that China should develop its own method of preventing and treating human infections of the avian influenza through combining modern medicine with the TCM theory.

Experts said that the TCM has been playing an

important role in controlling of other infectious diseases, including AIDS and malaria. Therefore, it shares equal responsibility with the modern medicine in human bird flu prevention and treatment.

The cases of human infection with bird flu in China numbered 13 in 2006, which was seven in 2005. China currently has about 3,000 traditional medical hospitals that dispense medical treatment to nearly 234 million people each year.

MNA/Xinhua



The 20th Century Fox comedy "Night at the Museum" grossed 24 million dollars over the weekend, making it the top earner for a third week in a row, according to preliminary figures released here on 7 Jan, 2007.—XINHUA

Tibet sees record-breaking daily temperatures

LHASA, 8 Jan — Numerous locations in Tibet have reported record-breaking high temperatures over the last couple of days as winter seems to have already given way to spring, according to the autonomous region's meteorological station.

Temperatures in the Qamdo region in eastern Tibet reached 21.8 degrees Celsius on Friday, 1.7 degrees Celsius higher than the previous record for the same day set in 1996. Meteorological data began to be collected in the area in 1970.

In Dengqen County, also in eastern Tibet, the temperature hit 16.6 degrees Celsius on Thursday, 2.5 degrees Celsius higher than the previous record for the same day which was set in 2001.

Eight other places across the region also saw record-breaking daily temperatures over the past few days.

"Lhasa, the regional capital, also saw temperatures soar to 20.4 degrees Celsius on Thursday, just a tenth of a degree from the record high set in 2001," said Yu Zhongshui, a meteorologist with the station.

The warm weather will not last long as a cold snap is expected from the north in the next few days, said Yu. —MNA/Xinhua



Hong Kong singer Joey Yung attends the opening ceremony of a jewellery shop in Hong Kong, on 7 Jan, 2007.—XINHUA

North India reels under cold wave, two dead

NEW DELHI, 8 Jan — Northern India Sunday reeled under an intense cold wave that sent temperatures plummeting below zero degree Celsius in Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan and claimed two lives across the region.

One more death was reported from Uttar Pradesh, taking the toll in the state this winter to 41, while a man found unconscious beside a road in Jammu died later in hospital.

Icy winds lashed Rajasthan, affecting normal life and damaging rabi crops. Churu in the plains and Mount Abu in the hills were the coldest places in the state at minus one degree Celsius while Pilani recorded a minimum of 0.2 degree.

MNA/PTI

At least 13 killed in diamond mine collapse in DRC

KINSHAS, 8 Jan — At least 13 people have been killed and 30 others missing after a diamond mine in Kasai Province, the central Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), caved in on Friday, officials said on Saturday.

The authorities of Tshikapa City, where the mine is located, has sent police to the scene of the accident to maintain order, and a rescue operation has been underway. Local officials confirmed that rescuers had retrieved 13 bodies and at least 30 people were still unaccounted for. They feared that the death toll could rise as the rescue operation continued.

Eddy Musangilay, a reporter of the DRC daily Observers who was covering the accident at the scene, told Xinhua that more than 100 local residents were digging for diamonds as the pit collapsed. —MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Chelsea captain Terry admits improper conduct charge

LONDON, 9 Jan— England and Chelsea captain John Terry has admitted a charge of improper conduct for criticizing referee Graham Poll after he was sent off during last November's Premier League defeat at Tottenham Hotspur.

The defender originally asked for a personal hearing but has withdrawn his request and admitted the charge, the FA said on its website on Monday.

After the game Terry said Poll had given him conflicting reasons for his second yellow card, a claim denied by the referee.—MNA/Xinhua



A professional bull rider competes during the Professional Bull Riders, Inc 2007 season Built Ford Tough Series event at Madison Square Garden in New York, on 7 Jan, 2007.—INTERNET

Fergie believes in squad

LONDON, 7 Jan—Sir Alex Ferguson has the belief his Manchester United squad can last the distance in the race for the Premiership.



Sir Alex Ferguson

“There’s been a couple of tests for us and it’s been unlike last season,” Ferguson is quoted in the Daily Star Sunday.

“When we played Wigan and Everton we made five or six changes and we won those games comfortably.

“That’s a good test. But the other thing which is vital is that these players are getting older, so they must be improving.

“They’re good professionals and are training well. When they get the chance we hope they take it, which they did against Wigan and Everton.

“If you look at our back four we have got Wes Brown, Mikael Silvestre, Gaby Heinze and Patrice Evra. Very experienced, capable defenders competing at left-back.

“I can play Wes at right-back or in the centre and I can play Mikael there, so the back four’s okay.

“In midfield we have got reasonable cover with Darren Fletcher and John O’Shea.—Internet

United have established a six-point lead over reigning champions Chelsea after Ferguson rotated his squad over the holiday period. Ferguson was delighted with how his fringe players responded to the challenge and feels it bodes well for the rest of the season.

Eight Brazilian Under-20 players fall ill with food poisoning

MEXICO CITY, 9 Jan— Eight players from Brazil's national Under-20 soccer squad have fallen ill with food poisoning after winning their first game against Chile in South American Cup in Paraguay on Sunday, according to news reaching here on Monday.

“We have eight players sick with a gastro-intestinal infection,” Nelson Rodriguez, the team manager told media in the Paraguayan city of Pedro Juan Caballero.

“We don’t know where the virus came from, but we are taking every precaution to make sure it does not spread.”

Rodriguez refused to name all the players suffering, but said that Danilinho is the most affected. He left the field on Sunday with a high fever and is on strong medication.

The illness was first noticed on Sunday night during the game, which Brazil won 4-2. Rodriguez said hospitals in Ponta Pora, the Brazilian town where the team is staying, had reported a large number of similar infections.—MNA/Xinhua

Hanover close to sign Peru soccer star Miguel Mostto

LIMA, 9 Jan — Soccer chiefs from German club Hanover will arrive in Peruvian capital Lima on Wednesday to meet with Peru club Cienciano and sign a contract for Miguel Mostto, the club's top goal scorer of 2006, Cienciano president Juvenal Silva told media on Monday.

“After seeing videos of Mostto and examining his play and his goals, the bosses were very impressed by the player. They will come to Lima to take care of the final details of the contract, and let’s hope they will sign him,” Silva said.—MNA/Xinhua

Kluft voted European women’s Athlete of the Year

LONDON, 9 Jan—Carolina Kluft was voted Europe's female Athlete of the Year for 2006 on Monday.

The world, Olympic and European heptathlon champion won all three events in which she competed, including the European Championships in Goteborg, Sweden, to become the first two-time winner in the award’s 13-year history.

The 23-year-old Swede also won the trophy in 2003 and has not lost in a combined event since the 2002 European Athletics Indoor Championships.

Kim Gevaert of Belgian finished second in the European Athletics Association poll after winning the 100 and 200 metres double at the Europeans in August.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkey’s Fener wants TFF to pay Rustu

ANKARA, 9 Jan— Fenerbahce wants the Turkish Football Federation (TFF) to pay goalkeeper Rustu Recber’s wages until he recovers from an injury, Turkish Daily News reported on Monday.

Rustu left the field in the ninth minute of the Italy-Turkey friendly on November 15 last year due to a ruptured cruciate ligament and is expected to be out until the end of April.

Fenerbahce Vice-Chairman sekip Mosturoglu said they had applied to the federation right after the match. “We asked the TFF to pay for Rustu’s wages as stated in his contract for the period he will not be able to play for Fenerbahce. We have a right to do that. As I recall, Galatasaray did the same when Hakan Unsal got injured in a national match.”

TFF Vice-Chairman Kemal Kapulluoglu confirmed Fener-

bahce’s application, adding that they would discuss it at a board meeting.

“The issue is now been reviewed by our legal committee. It is a justifiable demand, and if the board agrees we will pay Rustu’s wages until he again plays for Fenerbahce.”

This is not the first time a club has made such a demand from the federation. Earlier this year Belgian First Division side Charleroi brought a case against FIFA because one of its players, Abdelmajid Oulmers, returned injured from an international friendly for Morocco against Burkina Faso in November 2004.

MNA/Xinhua



Getafe’s Daniel Gonzalez (L) and Barcelona’s Carles Puyol jump for the ball during their Spanish First Division soccer match at the Coliseum Alfonso Perez stadium in Getafe on 7 Jan, 2007.—INTERNET

Man Utd’s Bardsley joins Aston Villa on loan

LONDON, 9 Jan— Manchester United's Phil Bardsley has joined Aston Villa on loan for the rest of the season, the Premier League club based in Birmingham announced Monday.

Bardsley, a 21-year-old full-back, who has previously had loan spells with Burnley and Rangers, will not be allowed under the terms of the deal to play against United at Old Trafford on Saturday but should be available for a Villa debut at home to Watford on 20 January.—MNA/Xinhua



Valencia’s David Villa (L) and Villarreal’s Juan Manuel Pena fight for the ball during their Spanish First Division soccer match at the Madrigal stadium in Villarreal on 7 Jan, 2007.—INTERNET

US losing battle for Iraqi public opinion

NEW YORK, 9 Jan — Despite spending millions of dollars, the United States has lost the battle for Iraqi public opinion, according to a new report prepared by American Embassy in Baghdad.

“Insurgents, sectarian elements and others are taking control of the message public level,” Newsweek magazine quoted the report, prepared by the embassy’s director of strategic communications Ginger Cruz, as saying.

“Videos of US soldiers being shot and blown up, and of the bloody work of

sectarian death squads, are now pervasive and the images inspire new recruits and intimidate those who might stand against them,” it said.

“Inadequate message control in Iraq,” the document warned, “is feeding the escalating cycle of violence.”

The magazine quoted an embassy spokesperson

as saying the report represents Cruz’s personal views.

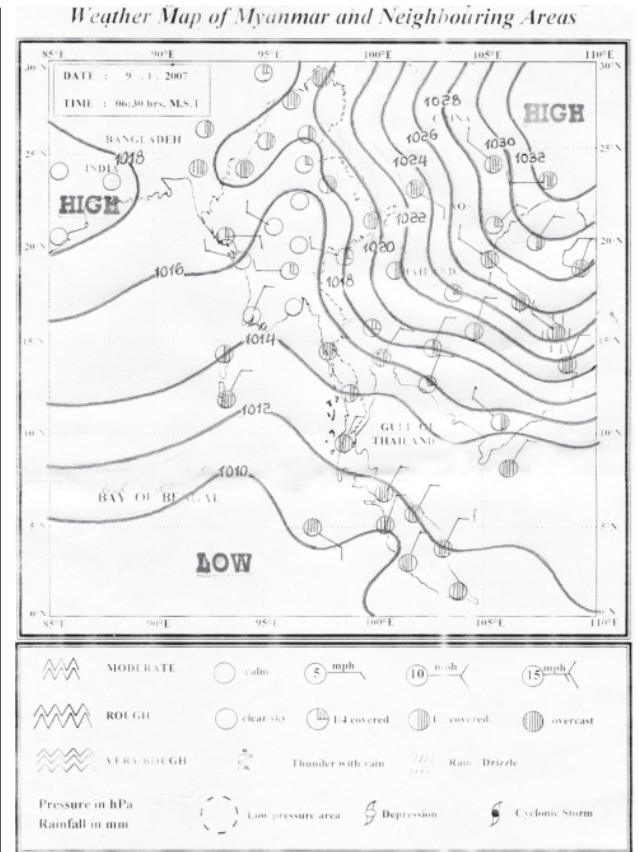
Sunni insurgents in particular have become expert at using technology to underscore — some would say exaggerate — their effectiveness, the magazine said.

“The sophistication of the way the enemy is using the news media is huge,”

Lieutenant-General Peter Chiarelli, the former commander of US forces in Iraq, told the magazine just before he returned to the United States.

Most large-scale attacks on US forces, the magazine says, are now filmed, often from multiple camera angles, and with high-resolution cameras. The footage is slickly edited into dramatic narratives: quick-cut images of Humvees exploding or US soldiers being felled by snipers are set to inspiring religious soundtracks or chanting, which lends them a triumphant feel.

MNA/PTI



WEATHER

Tuesday, 9 January, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (5°C) below normal in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Rakhine State and Magway Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan State and Taninthayi Division, (5°C) above normal in Mon State and about normal in the remaining states and divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-2°C), Pinlaung and Mogok (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 8-1-2007 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 9-1-2007 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 9-1-2007 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 8-1-2007 was (8.2) hours approx. Rainfalls on 9-1-2007 were (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2007 were (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (11) mph from Southeast at (12:15) hours MST on 8-1-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 10-1-2007: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi coast. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35) mph. Seas will be slight elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of slight fall of night temperatures in Northwestern area.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 10-1-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 10-1-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 10-1-2007: Fair weather.

EARTHQUAKE REPORT

(Issued at 12:30 hours MST Today)
A moderate earthquake of intensity (5.4) Richter Scale with its epicentre (inside Myanmar) about (155) miles North of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory, was recorded at (11) hrs (57) min (58) sec MST on 9th January 2007.



A woman walks past the scene of one of a series of roadside bomb attacks in Baghdad on 7 Jan, 2007. The two attacks which targeted a police patrol killed two civilians and wounded one, police said. —INTERNET



Radio Myanmar

Wednesday, 10 January
Tune in today

<p>8:30 am Brief news</p> <p>8:35 am Music: -Rio</p> <p>8:40 am Perspectives</p> <p>8:45 am Music: -At your side</p> <p>8:50 am National news/ Slogan</p> <p>9:00 am Music: -Tragedy</p> <p>9:15 am International news</p> <p>9:10 am Music: -Sometimes</p> <p>1:30 pm News / Slogan</p> <p>1:40 pm Lunch time music: -Kiss from a rose -Colours of the wind -Look what love has done</p> <p>9:00 pm Variations on a tune: -Do I love you</p> <p>9:05 pm Article</p> <p>9:25 pm Music at your request -I will always love you -The light -Making love out of nothing at all</p> <p>9:45 pm News / Slogan</p> <p>10:00 pm PEL</p>	<p>8:25 am 8. ရခိုင်ချောင်တံတား</p> <p>8:30 am 9. International news</p> <p>8:45 am 10. Let's Go</p> <p>4:00 pm 1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm 2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm 3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ်(သင်္ချာအထူးပြု) (သင်္ချာ)</p> <p>4:45 pm 4. Song of national races</p> <p>5:00 pm 5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား</p> <p>5:15 pm 6. Classical song</p> <p>5:25 pm 7. “စည်းကမ်းလိုက်မှာ ဘေးကင်းကွာ” (လူကူးမျဉ်းကျားမှူးမယ်)</p> <p>5:30 pm 8. ရွယ်လုံလင်အာဆီယံ အစီအစဉ်</p> <p>5:40 pm 9. ရာပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်</p> <p>6:00 pm 10. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm 11. Weather report</p>	<p>6:35 pm 12. သုတစုံလင် ရွှေညောင်ရင်</p> <p>7:00 pm 13. Guinness World Records</p> <p>7:10 pm 14. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည်ဝေရာ စာပဒေသာ</p> <p>7:20 pm 15. ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ ဉာဏ်စမ်းပဟောဦးပြိုင်ပွဲ (အခြေခံပညာ အထက်တန်းအဆင့်)</p> <p>8:00 pm 16. News</p> <p>17. International news</p> <p>18. Weather report</p> <p>19. Myanmar movie: “ဆောင်းတစ်ညဝယ်” (ဝင်းဦး၊ ဝါဝါဝင်းရွှေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ - ဗိုလ်ကလေးတင်အောင်)</p> <p>20. မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်း တရားတော်</p> <p>21. The next day's programme</p>
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Nyaungdon oil and gas field in Nyaungdon Region inspected

YANGON, 9 Jan—Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi yesterday afternoon inspected the Nyaungdon oil and gas field in Nyaungdon Region, Ayeyawady Division and gave necessary instructions to officials.

At the briefing hall, the minister heard a report presented by General Manager of the oil and gas field U Myint Kyaw on drilling process of oil and production of gas and successful drilling of Well No 37. And Managing Director U Myint Kyi gave other salient points.

Next, the minister gave instructions on continued drilling of new wells in Nyaungdon Region,

timely completion of drilling of Maubin (South) Test Well, further exploration of oil and gas in Taikkyi, Okkan, Pakun and Aphyauk regions where there is potential for gas tapping and attended to the needs.

After that, the minister presented cash award to staff members who successfully performed the drilling of the well and looked into progress of new Well No 37.

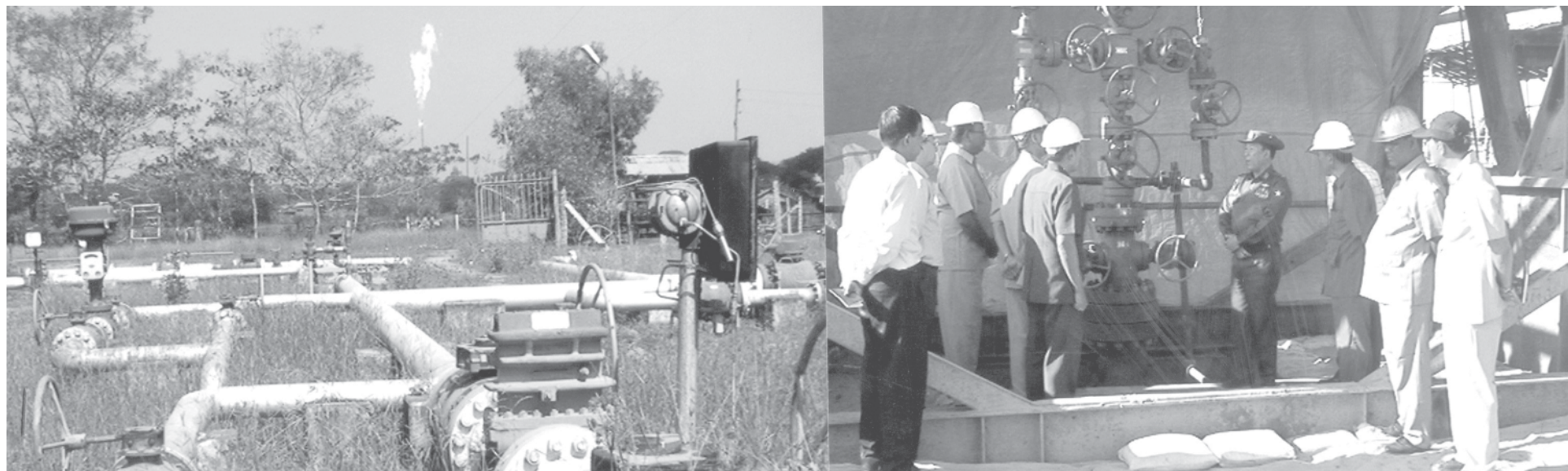
The new Well No 37 produces 3.12 MCF of gas daily.

Nyaungdon oil and gas field produces over 81 MCF and 720 barrels of condensate a day.

MNA

60th Anniversary Union Day Objectives

- For all national races to safeguard the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty;
- For all the national races to keep Union Spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people;
- For all the national races to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence;
- For all the national races to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development; and
- For all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map.



Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi visits new well No 37 of oil and gas field in Nyaungdon. — ENERGY

Minister inspects steel mill, power stations

YANGON, 9 Jan—Minister for Electric Power No (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspected Pyay gas-fired electric power station (Shwedaung) in Shwedaung Township on 7 January.

Manager of the station U Khin Maung Myint

reported on input electric power and distribution of electricity. The minister stressed the importance of maintenance of generators and looked into the input and output lines in the switch yard, arrangements for linking with the 230 KV Toungoo-Oakshitpin and

230 KV Shwedaung-Oakshitpin cable lines.

He also called for completion of the project ahead of schedule, and extended distribution of electricity.

In his inspection tour of No 1 Steel Mill (Kyaukswegyo) of the Myanmar Economic Co-

operation near Kyaukswegyo Village in Aunglan Township, Magway Division, the minister underscored the collaborative undertakings for the mill to get full power supply.

He inspected the production process of the mill and fulfilled the requirements.

He also saw over the 66/11 KV sub-power station in Pyay.—MNA

Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects No 1 Steel Mill (Kyaukswegyo).

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WEATHER

Significant night temperatures

Haka	(-2°C)
Pinlaung	(4°C)
Mogok	(4°C)