

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects progress of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) Project



Lt-Gen Ye Myint visits construction site of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, together with Deputy Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Tin

Maung Ohn, viewed greening tasks on either side of Monywa-Sagaing Road and Myinmu bypass yesterday.

Accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Divi-

sion PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and official, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected construction of Ohgyi Roundabout in Sagaing.

(See page 8)

Myanmar Info-Tech in cooperation with Myanmar Computer Federation could make brilliant efforts for carrying out of IT development activities during five years

YANGON, 2 Feb — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the 5th annual general meeting of Myanmar Info-Tech Corporation Ltd at its hall in Hline University Campus in Hline Township here this morning.

Chairman of e-National Task Force Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw delivered an opening address. He said that IT is the driving force behind the development of the nation's economic, social and other sectors. Digital divide causes social-economic gap. While the Government is striving to narrow the gap, an organization of ICT entrepreneurs such as

Myanmar Info-Tech is serving the interest of people of all walks of life by applying information and communication technology.

For turning out ICT human resources, computer colleges were up-

graded to the universities in 2007. Myanmar Computer Federation and associations are opening ICT training courses. Countries have changed their base for development from natural resources to human resources. The nation will achieve

greater success only if it can develop itself from the level of relying on natural resources to the stage of depending on human resources.

In line with the guidance of the Head of State, ICT parks were es-

tablished in Yangon and Mandalay by computer scientists with the assistance of the government. Now, Yadanabon Myothit Project is being implemented near PyinOoLwin. It will be an IT town, whose area will

be thousands of acres .

At present, Teleport and Incubation buildings are under construction.

e-Procurement, IDIS, RDIS, Data Center and Public Access Centre

(See page 8)



Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends the 5th annual general meeting of Myanmar Info-Tech Corporation Ltd and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw addresses the meeting.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 3 February, 2007

Rebut slanderous accusations through unity and Union Spirit

Every nation in the world forms a Tatmadaw (the armed forces) to defend and safeguard its interests and sovereignty.

In Myanmar there is the Myanma Tatmadaw which came into existence on the basis of patriotism. No forced recruitment is carried out in the Myanma Tatmadaw and all the soldiers have joined it of their own volition. But raw recruits are allowed to join the army only when they meet the prescribed rules and regulations.

Myanmar not only promulgated the policy on recruitment in 1947 but also prescribed the Tatmadaw Act in 1959. Moreover, the Committee for Prevention against Recruitment of Minors was formed in 5 January 2004.

The representatives of UNDP, UNICEF and the head of ICRC Office in Mandalay were allowed to meet with raw recruits at Mandalay Recruitment Unit on 25 October 2006. They were shown the raw recruitment in Myanmar carried out in accordance with rules and regulations.

Internal and external destructive elements are accusing Myanmar of recruiting minors.

Therefore, the entire national people are to rebut the slanderous accusations of internal and external destructive elements through unity and Union Spirit.



A three-member delegation of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry-UMFCCI poses for photo before their departure for Kunming, People's Republic of China, on 28 January to participate in Meeting of the Working Groups and the Coordination Committee on Promoting the Participation of SMEs in GMS in Global and Regional Value Chains.

The meeting is scheduled to be held in Kunming from 29 January to 2 February.

UMFCCI

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

Tama, Phoeni dams inaugurated in Seikpyu Township



Tama Dam built in Seikpyu Township, Pakokku District. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — Newly-built Tama and Phoeni dams in Seikpyu Township, Pakokku District, Magway Division implemented by Magway Division Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation were inaugurated at a pavilion near Tama dam on 31 January.

Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint

attended the opening ceremony and formally opened the dams.

Tama dam is built on Tama creek near Tama village in Seikpyu Township. The dam is 1,600 feet long and 43 feet high. The dam can store 735 acre feet of water and will benefit 150 acres of farmland.

Next, Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe formally unveiled the stone inscription of Phoeni dam.

Phoeni dam is built on Phoeni creek near Gwaybin village in Seikpyu Township. The dam is 1,075 feet long and 35 feet high. The dam can store 286 acre feet of water and will benefit 75 acres of farmland.

MNA

Fires break out in some townships

YANGON, 2 Feb—Bahan Township in Yangon Division saw a fire that broke out at about 8.55 am on 31 January when a candle lit on a facial tissue box burnt the tissue box and others in Room No (3) of Daw Khin Tha on the third floor (right) of the five-storey two-unit building on Bo Min Gaung Street in Bo Sein Hman Ward. The fire destroyed properties worth about K 100,000.

At 9.15 am the same day, a fire broke out at Kyeepwayay (South) Ward in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Division. Eight houses with a total loss of about K 1.1 million were burnt down, leaving 45 people homeless and six cows dead. In the incident, a live cigarette set the nearby mattress on fire at the house of U Aung Myat Kyaw at 364/B on Aung Thitsar Street and the fire spread to other houses.

At about 11 am the same day, a shock circuit of the live hot plate caused a fire at the house of Daw Kyi at 120/B on Padameya Street in Ward 19, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Division, destroying four houses with a total loss of K 300,000 and leaving 18 people homeless. — MNA

MCF to hold 1,000-mile cycling race

YANGON, 2 Feb — Myanmar Cycling Federation gave a press conference on its 1,000-mile men's and women's cycling race scheduled to be held from 12 to 24 February.

At the press conference held at Aung San Stadium, Vice-President of Myanmar Cycling Federation U Thet Win and responsible persons replied to the queries raised by journalists.

During the race, Yangon-Pyay-Mandalay-Yangon route Highway will be used as the race-track. The cyclists will start their first leg in Yangon on 12 February and will finish in Yangon on their return from Mandalay.

The cycling race is organized by MCF with the assistance of Myanmar Olympic Committee and the Ministry of Sports.

MNA

China, Portugal seek closer ties amid spiralling trade

BEIJING, 1 Feb—China and Portugal on Wednesday pledged to further their trade ties and seek cooperation in more areas as Portuguese Prime Minister Jose Socrates pays his first China visit since taking office.

“Since the two countries established all-around strategic partnership in 2005, China and Portugal have deepened their political trust and witnessed rapid trade development,” said Chi-

nese Premier Wen Jiabao while hosting talks with Socrates.

Wen proposed the two countries improve their trade structure and encourage mutual investment, and increase exchanges in culture, education and science and technology.

Trade between China and Portugal surged to 1.7 billion US dollars last year, up 39 per cent year-on-year.

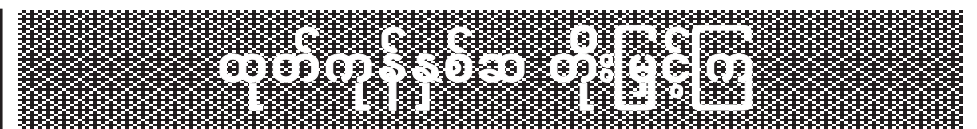
In a visit to Portugal in 2005, Wen expressed the

hope that bilateral trade volume could double in three years.

He said on Wednesday the goal is expected to be achieved ahead of time.

The two countries also signed eight agreements covering areas such as trade, jurisdiction, education and science and technology after the two leaders’ one-hour talk.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese President Hu Jintao (L) meets with his Liberian counterpart Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf in Monrovia, capital of Liberia, on 1 Feb, 2007. —XINHUA

Breast cancer remains serious threat to American women

LOS ANGELES, 1 Feb—The American Cancer Society (ACS) estimates that more than 40,000 women will die in the United States this year as a result of breast cancer.

Meanwhile, more than 178,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, the society says in a statement published recently.

One way to battle these

numbers is through increased information sharing and use of early detection methods, said a new study by the University of Missouri-Columbia (MU).

The study found that spirituality might play an important role in achieving this, particularly for African-American women.

“Spirituality has been

found to be an important cultural factor for African-American women thinking about their health, so we evaluated its impact on breast cancer information processing,” said Glenn Leshner, associate professor of radio-television in MU’s School of Journalism.

“We found that spirituality positively affected African-American women’s willingness to talk about breast cancer, pay attention to information about breast cancer and engage in preventative measures,” the researcher added.

Leshner and other

researchers studied the effects of spiritual locus of control by conducting surveys in 11 US cities. Then they analyzed the 446 completed surveys (240 from Caucasian women, 206 from African-American women). Results showed that for African-American women, spirituality had a positive effect on talking about cancer and paying attention to breast cancer messages in the media. For Caucasian women, spiritual locus of control played no role in paying attention to breast cancer information.

MNA/Xinhua

Lost Austrian tourist found alive after missing for eight days

JAKARTA, 1 Feb—A tourist from Austria was found alive at a village in Indonesia’s North Sumatra Province Wednesday, eight days after he began climbing a nearby mountain and was then declared missing by the hotel he stayed in.

Franz Resch, 46, was in critical condition when he was found by villagers at Sibolangit subdistrict, Deli Serdang regency, near the Sibayak Mountain at 14:30 local time (07:30 GMT), reported leading news website Detikcom.

Upon finding him, villagers reported to local police, who identified him as the missing tourist and whisked him to the nearest hospital. “He is very weak

and now being treated at a hospital,” local officer Ricky Wakanno was quoted as saying.

Franz, reported to be a journalist, has left traces including boots, soft drink cans, books and mattress. Rescuers did find the clues, but not him.

MNA/Xinhua

Suspicious packages found in four areas of Boston

BOSTON, 1 Feb—Four suspicious packages were found in separate locations around Boston on Wednesday hours after a bomb squad detonated another suspicious package below a highway, police said.

The packages were found near the New England Medical Centre, the Longfellow Bridge that connects Boston with Cambridge, the Boston University Bridge and on Storrow Drive near Charles Street in

downtown Boston, police said.

“Right now they’re under investigation,” said a Boston Police Department spokesman.

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority spokesman Joe Pesaturo said one of the train system’s busiest lines have been stopped.

US Coast Guard said it closed Boston’s Charles River amid the security alert. —MNA/Reuters

A silver handbag from the fall 2007 collection of Israeli-born designer Elie Tahari is displayed in the designer’s showroom in New York, on 1 Feb, 2007.

INTERNET



Seating cards are put on display during the preparations for the 13th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards at the Shrine auditorium in Los Angeles on 27 Jan, 2007. The SAG awards air live on 28 January on TNT and TBS. — INTERNET





Chinese President Hu Jintao(L) talks with United Arab Emirates (UAE) Vice-President and Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, also Governor of Dubai, during a brief stopover in Dubai of United Arab Emirates on 30 Jan, 2007. —XINHUA

တစ်နှစ်အတွင်း အိတ်ကော်ပီလွှား

South Korean duo arrested for 1.6 bln spam e-mails

SEOUL, 31 Jan—Two South Korean computer programmers have been arrested on suspicion of sending out 1.6 billion spam e-mail messages in violation of the country's commerce laws, police said on Tuesday.

The two men, one aged 20 and the other 26, are suspected of sending out the unsolicited e-mail

messages between September and December last year in what police describe as one of the biggest spam blasts in the country's history.

The two are suspected of obtaining personal and financial data from 12,000 South Koreans who responded to their spam messages. The pair then sold information on those

people to lending services firms in return for 100 million won (106,400 US dollars), police said.

Police said they will soon turn over evidence on the pair, who were not named, to prosecutors who will then tell the court what sort of criminal penalties they are seeking against the two.

MNA/Reuters

LA authorities urged to address homeless problem

LOS ANGELES, 31 Jan—An anti-homelessness group urged Los Angeles officials on Tuesday to do more to try to solve the continuing problem of homelessness than simply arresting the homeless.

The Inter-University Consortium Against Homelessness, a non-partisan group, lodged a petition to the authorities concerned, saying it was dedicated to investigating homelessness and po-

verty.

More than 50 professors from universities and colleges throughout Southern California joined in the petition.

"Our goals must aim to stop the manufacture of homelessness, close off the flow of homeless people to the streets of Skid Row and assist those already homeless to get off the streets permanently," the petition stated.

Los Angeles has the

biggest homeless population of any US city, consortium officials said, but at one-dollar per capita, the city spends less to address the problem than other major cities, including New York, Chicago and Boston.

The consortium proposed that Los Angeles provide homeless people with public-sector jobs, boost public assistance and provide affordable housing, beyond emer-

gency shelters.

An estimated 42,000 homeless people live in Los Angeles, and up to 90,000 countywide, according to a study released last year by the Los Angeles County Homeless Services Authority.

City and county agencies provide about 9,000 beds in single-room occupancy hotels, homeless shelters and other facilities.

MNA/Xinhua



South Korean Director Chan-wook Park arrives for the premiere of his film "Sympathy for Lady Vengeance" during the Toronto Film Festival. INTERNET



The National Museum of China, the grand building on the east side of Tian'anmen Square in downtown Beijing, closed on Wednesday for a three-year overhaul that will make it the world's largest arts and history museum. —XINHUA

Japan's Mitsubishi Motors Corp President Osamu Masuko looks at the new Delica D:5 at its unveiling ceremony in Tokyo, on 31 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

Two UN peacekeepers wounded by cluster bomb in S Lebanon

BEIRUT, 31 Jan—Two UN peacekeepers from Belgium were wounded by a cluster bomb explosion in southern Lebanon, the local Naharnet news website reported on Tuesday.

The two sappers assigned to the United

Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) were wounded on Monday in the vicinity of Kounin Village in south Lebanon and were evacuated to a field hospital nearby for treatment, a UNIFIL statement was quoted as saying.

The two wounded

soldiers would be flown to Belgium for advanced treatment, according to the statement issued on Monday.

Belgium has 370 troops with the UNIFIL which comprises around 12,000 blue-helmeted soldiers.

MNA/Xinhua

One dead in chemical plant blast in Romania

BUCHAREST, 31 Jan—One worker was reported dead and at least another wounded on Tuesday morning in a blast at Azomures chemical plant of Targu Mures, 330 kilometres northwest of

Bucharest.

The blast occurred at the urea division of the chemical plant, and that the dead worker was a welder at the boiler section where he was doing some welding operations, the

national Rompres news agency quoted company sources as reporting.

The causes of the accident and the exact number of victims were not known yet.

MNA/Xinhua





A supporter of Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez holds a photo of him during an outdoor legislative session at Plaza Bolivar in Caracas, on Wednesday, 31 Jan, 2007. Hundreds of Chavez supporters wearing red, the colour of Venezuela's ruling party, gathered the plaza, as lawmakers read out the proposed bill giving the President special powers for 18 months to transform 11 broadly defined areas, including the economy, energy and defence.—INTERNET

Singapore tourism breaks records in 2006

SINGAPORE, 1 Feb — 2006 was a record breaking year for Singapore's tourism sector, registering new records in visitor arrivals, tourism receipts, average occupancy rate and hotel room revenue.

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) Wednesday announced these on the sidelines of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Tourism Forum.

Singapore welcomed 9.7 million visitors last

year, exceeding its target of 9.4 million and posting a 9-per-cent increase over 2005.

The tourism sector also generated an estimated 12.4 billion Singapore dollars (about 8.1 billion US dollars) in tourism receipts, some 400 million Singapore dollars more than the target and a 14.5-per-cent increase compared to the previous year, the STB said.

All top 10 source markets for Singapore registered growth last

year. Indonesia, China, Australia, India and Malaysia emerged as the top five market while the Republic of Korea, China, the Philippines, India and Australia contributed double-digit growths.

Particularly, China has become the key market for Singapore.

Singapore received more than one million Chinese visitors for the first time last year, with a 20.9-per-cent growth over 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

One-Polydex drug trial halted after HIV risk seen

CHICAGO, 1 Feb — Polydex Pharmaceuticals said on Wednesday a clinical trial of its experimental HIV prevention drug was halted after an increased risk of HIV was seen in women being tested.

The company, which said its current income will not be affected by the

situation, said a reproductive health organization involved in the trial stopped the study of UsherCell, a microbicide gel.

Several trial sites found an increased risk of women getting HIV. The study was taking place in South Africa, Benin, Uganda and India.

A second trial of the drug was halted in Nigeria as a precautionary measure, the Toronto-based company said.

An independent panel monitoring the trial will investigate the increased risk.

The company said the gel, which had been tested in 11 other clinical trials, might still be useful to develop as a contraceptive.

MNA/Reuters



Protesters carry placards as they march towards the US Embassy in Manila, Philippines, on 2 Feb, 2007 to mark the 108th anniversary of the Filipino-American war that lasted for 16 years. INTERNET

EU pressures oil companies to fight climate change

BRUSSELS, 1 Feb — The European Commission proposed on Wednesday that oil companies cut greenhouse gas emissions

from the production, refining, transport and use of fuel in a new set of rules aimed at fighting global warming.

The proposals, which confirmed a Reuters report, seek to cut emissions from oil's "life cycle" from the ground to a car's petrol tank by 10 per cent from 2011-2020.

The Commission, the European Union executive, said the move would cut emissions by 500 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) by 2020.

It also proposed stricter environmental standards for diesel and gasoil sold in the 27-nation bloc.

"This is one of the most important measures in the series of new initiatives the Commission needs to take to step up the fight against global climate change," Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas said in a statement.

Sulphur content in diesel would be limited to 10 parts per million from 2009, while poly aromatic hydrocarbons—which the Commission says can cause cancer—would be cut by one-third.

MNA/Reuters



Daredevil tightrope artist Adili of China poses on Piazza Del Popolo in central Rome on 31 Jan, 2007. INTERNET

New bird flu outbreak suspected in Japan

TOKYO, 1 Feb — A new outbreak of bird flu is suspected in Japan after 23 birds died at a poultry farm in the southwestern prefecture of Miyazaki, the Agriculture Ministry said on Tuesday.

Authorities are conducting preliminary tests on chickens at the farm, which keeps about 93,000 birds for their eggs, the

ministry said in a news release.

If confirmed, it would be the fourth bird flu case reported in Japan since the beginning of the year.

On Monday, Japan confirmed its third outbreak of bird flu at a farm in the western prefecture of Okayama. Further tests are being carried out to confirm

whether that case is due to the lethal H5N1 strain.

The H5N1 virus has killed at least 164 people worldwide since 2003, most of them in Asia, and over 200 million birds have died from it or have been culled to prevent its spread.

There have been no reported cases of human infection from the virus in Japan.—MNA/Reuters



A resident gestures next to a burning minibus shortly after a suicide bomb attack in Baghdad, on 1 Feb, 2007.—XINHUA



Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf (L) and Malaysia's Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi speak at a news conference in Kuala Lumpur on 1 Feb, 2007. —INTERNET

Badawi confers with Musharraf

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 Feb— Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi met with visiting Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf at Malaysia's administrative centre Putrajaya on Wednesday.

The two leaders discussed international issues, including peace efforts in the Middle East, Malaysia's national news agency *Bernama* said.

Musharraf arrived here on Wednesday for a two-day working visit to Malaysia. The Malaysian Foreign Ministry earlier said that this is the first visit by President Musharraf to Malaysia since his stopover at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport on 13 June, 2005.

Malaysia and Pakistan established diplomatic ties in 1957 and both countries will mark their 50th year

of diplomatic ties this year.

The Malaysian Foreign Ministry said that Malaysia and Pakistan currently are negotiating a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the first bilateral FTA that Malaysia plans to sign with another member country of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The process is expected to be concluded soon, the ministry added.

MNA/Xinhua

India to establish 240 megawatt power plant in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 1 Feb— An Indian company will set up two power plants in Bangladesh's Narayanganj District, 20 kilometres southeast of capital Dhaka, with generation capacity 120 megawatt each which would supply power to the national grid during peak hours, Bangladeshi official news agency *BSS* reported Wednesday.

Bharat Heavy Electric Company Limited (BHEL) will implement the project by 2008 at a cost of 11.33 billion taka (about 162 million US dollars) and hand over the plants to the Electricity Generation Company of Bangladesh (EGCB), an enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).

An agreement to this effect has been signed here Wednesday. Executive

Director of BHEL Rabintra K Belapukar and secretary of EGCB Kazi Nazrul Islam signed the contract on behalf of their respective sides.

The project will be financed jointly by the Bangladeshi Government and Asian Development

Bank while KEMA international, a Dutch company, will work as a technical consultant, EGCB sources said.

The national grid will get 240-megawatt additional power during the peak hours on completion of the project.

The Energy Adviser Tapan Chowdhury assured the Indian company of taking initiatives to hand over lands for the project as early as possible so that it could be commissioned for power generation within earliest time. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Undersea quake jolts Indonesia

JAKARTA, 2 Feb — Moderate earthquakes shook tremor-prone Indonesia on Thursday with the most recent in the eastern Moluccas Sea, but officials reported no casualties or damage.

A 5.9 magnitude quake struck off the southern coast of the country's main Java Island early on Thursday. That was followed by one in the evening that measured 5.7 on the Richter Scale.

"It was an undersea earthquake with no tsunami potential," said Sutiono, an official at Jakarta's meteorological and geophysics agency, referring to the latest quake.

He added the impact was small on nearby islands, including Ternate 124 kilometres (77 miles) from the epicentre. Another agency official told *Reuters* earlier there was no damage or casualties reported from the first quake.

Indonesia straddles Asia's so-called "Ring of Fire", where continental plates collide and earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are frequent.

MNA/Reuters

Women present traditional Tu ethnic group outfits during a folk clothes show in a town of Huzhu Tu Zu Autonomous Region in north China's Qinghai

Province on 30 Jan, 2007. — XINHUA

Ancient Malian relics seized by French Customs

PARIS, 1 Feb— French Customs officials have seized a valuable collection of ancient art objects and tools from Mali, some possibly as much as one million years old. The objects, which were labelled as handicrafts, arrived in Paris on a freight plane from Bamako. They were headed for Los Angeles, where private buyers may have been waiting for them, Customs office spokeswoman Sophie

Hocquerelle said on Wednesday.

The collection of 601 stone handaxes and tools as well as 68 bracelets and necklaces are thought to have come from a region on the edge of the Sahara desert in Mali in west Africa.

"These are rare pieces, specific to the Sahara borders," Hocquerelle said. Most were from the Neolithic period a few thousand years ago but some came from the more

ancient Acheulean era and could be between 200,000 and one million years old, she said.

An expert from France's Museum of Natural History carried out the dating of the objects but no formal estimate of their value has been established and it is not yet clear what will happen to the collection.

The objects were seized on 19 January at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris. — *MNA/Reuters*



A woman passes dozens of snowmen assembled outside one of Moscow's theatres as an advert for a play called "Snow Show" in Moscow on 31 Jan, 2007. —INTERNET

Dahbein gaining reputation for wood carving

Article by Zaw Win (Kyemon); photos by Htay Aung (Kyemon)

One Village, One Product

Dahbein in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division, is 24 miles from Yangon. About 40 per cent of the villagers rely on agriculture. Others are engaged in iron works industry, brick industry and cheroot industry. A symbol of the village is wood sculpture.

The village adopted the art of wood carving with the initiative of sculptor U Bo Kay in 1970.

So far, its wood sculpture industry has been nearly 40 years. Creating wood works especially religious designs, the village has stood as a famous wood sculpture community in Myanmar.

The artistic works of the sculptors around Dahbein region who learnt sculpture under U Bo Kay started to gain a foothold in Yangon market around 1972. Then, the wood sculpture industry of the region was recognized nationwide.

U Bo Kay initially handed down the heritage of the art of wood carving to U Khin Shwe, U Thein Hlaing, U Chit Thaung, U Kyaw Nyunt, U Myint Aung, U Soe Soe, U Kyaw Swe, U Hla Tun, U Aung Htay and U Tun Ngwe. Later, Dahbein wooden sculpture industry began to thrive.

In 1985, the works from Dahbein were in demand and the number of professional sculptors of Dahbein stood at over one hundred.

According to the demands, the sculptors chose the sculpture lines they took more interest in such as sculptures of animals, sculptures on religious



Wood sculptures of Myanmar traditional designs at different sizes ranging from 18-inch to 36-inch heights.

faiths, and wooden souvenirs of traditional styles.

In 1997, the number of local professional sculptors increased to more than 300, over 150 of them were well-versed in making wooden sculptures of various kinds. The wood sculpture industry initiated by U Bo Kay mobilized a large number of professional level sculptors. Then, its wood sculpture industry helped put the region on the map.

Now, many sculptural professions born in Dahbein are migrating to Mandalay and other townships where sculptures have its ready markets. Earning their living through wood sculpture, the sculptors from Dahbein are taking innovative measures to widen their horizon so as to uplift their sculptural skills.

U Tun Ngwe of Dahbein took part in the 48th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative literary and arts competition (1993) with a wooden solid figure of Maha Bandoola on horseback and won the first prize. Many professional sculptors from Dahbein annually participated in the Armed Forces Day commemorative contest till the 61st time of its kind in 2006 and won different medals. They have advanced to creation form replication.

A team of newsmen of the Kyemon daily interviewed Secretary U Htay Aung (Dahbein) of the Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon, Joint-Secretary U Tin Nyunt and sculptors U Kyaw Nyunt and U Myo Hlaing in Dahbein Village. Secretary U Htay Aung said that wooden sculpture is categorized into two kinds—skill and arts. In the past, they made sculptures according to the demands such as sculptures of religious faiths and various species of animals. Then, the professionals from the village were qualified enough to create various designs of artistic wooden sculptures at different sizes ranging from 18-inch to six-foot high figures.

They took part in the ten Myanmar traditional arts and crafts exhibition held in Mandalay in December 2006 with 60 entries. The majority of the entry works were based on traditional designs and others were modern ones. The sculptors from the villagers were so skilled that they could create various figures of any kind, he said.

Joint-Secretary U Tin Nyunt said that more than 200 members of the Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon were from Dahbein Village. About 250 villagers were engaged in sculpture. Seven households were working in sculpture as their family business. Each of the families had an expert sculptor with about five skilled sculptors and apprentices. Other professional sculptors did sculpture for a living. Between 1996 and 2003, the village received orders most from Mandalay and other regions. At the time, sculptures of animals were in high demand. Orders declined after 2003, he said.

Sculptor U Myo Hlaing said that in the village, apprentices had to learn sculpture under an expert. It would be more convenient if they had had the ABC of painting. Sculpture was a combination of



Sculptor U Myo Hlaing is seen with his entry work of hero Pyu Saw Hti.

arts and skill. So, an apprentice with aptitude could learn in a short time and then reach professional level. Making artistic works and creation called for hard work and aptitude. Local sculptors were the professionals who learnt sculpture traditionally. The price of a wooden sculpture was based on workmanship, not on species of wood.

He said that at present local sculptors were making replicas of the orders placed by the sculpture shops in Yangon or making replicas of the works they had created, according to the demands. Sculpture was combination of skill and arts and it was created through workmanship. Then, time was limited to meet the number of the ordered works. In making sculptures, Yamane, teak, gumkino, and Yindaik species were used. At present, they were having difficulties with high prices of raw materials, he said.

When asked about relation between workmanship and prices and between created works and prices, desire of the sculptors, current developments, and their aims, Secretary U Htay Aung said the works the region made were various such as typical sculptures on religious faiths, souvenirs, tradition and culture for sales, replicas of ordered works, and works created based on the ideas of the sculptors. Their major goal was to set up a sales centre in a suitable place. It would be convenient for them if raw materials were available at reasonable prices, he added.

Dahbein wood sculpture will thrive more and contribute towards regional economic development if reasonable prices of raw materials, markets and demands meet in harmony.

Translation: MS

Industrial entrepreneurs to participate in tasks to gear up industrial sector

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects progress of Bawditahtaung Dam, Monywa Industrial Zone

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye on 31 January inspected progress in construction of Bawditahtaung Dam at the foot of the hill on which Bawditahtaung Standing Buddha Statue is kept.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects construction of Bawditahtaung Dam.—MNA

Bawditahtaung Dam is an earthen embankment to supply water for

greening of the religious precinct, ensuring sufficient supply of drinking water for local



Lt-Gen Ye Myint visits Monywa Industrial Zone.

MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects progress of Ayeyawady...

(from page 1)

The construction of the roundabout has been completed by 75 per cent. They looked into construction of the earth approach road to Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) on Sagaing bank. The whole construction work of the approach road has been completed by 60 per cent.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected progress of construction tasks at the main structure of the bridge.

Afterwards, they viewed construction of the roundabout on the approach road on Mandalay bank.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on 89 per cent completion of the approach road on Mandalay bank, progress of the main bridge and tarmacking of 3,300 feet section on the approach road presented by Deputy Superintending Engineer U Htay Myint. Likewise, Superintending Engineer in-charge U Hsan Win reported on remaining tasks to be carried out on Sagaing bank.

Construction of the main bridge has been completed by 94 per cent, and the construction of the whole bridge, 78.6 per cent.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Mandalay. — MNA

people and irrigating 100 acres of farmland.

The embankment will be 75 feet high and 670 feet long. Construction of the dam started in 2006-07 and it will be completed in 2007-08.

They inspected the new road linking Monywa - Kyemon Village and Bawditahtaung religious area.

In Monywa Industrial Zone, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed production of power tillers, machine parts, fire extinguishers, light trucks and Chindwin Star

automobiles.

At the hall, they met with members of the Industrial Zone Management Committee and entrepreneurs.

Responsible personnel reported on efforts being made for development of the industrial zone, production process and manufacturing of spare parts for heavy machinery of Irrigation Department.

The commander gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint said and that factories of the zone are to strive for

manufacturing more and more quality products. It is necessary to set the aim of producing the whole machine in one place, instead machine parts only.

Industrial entrepreneurs are to participate in tasks to gear up the industrial sector. In addition, all are to grow shady trees for greening the factories and their environs.

After inspecting construction of Pyidaungsu Road, Lt-Gen Ye Myint went back to Monywa.

MNA

Myanmar Info-Tech in cooperation with Myanmar...

(from page 1)

of Myanma Info-Tech Corporation Ltd can contribute not only to development of ICT sector but also to economic, social and education sectors of the nation. In addition, the corporation is developing the Rural Development Information System (RDIS) for undertaking rural development tasks. During the five-year period, the corporation in cooperation with Myanmar Computer Federation could

make brilliant efforts for carrying out IT development activities.

Later, the minister praised leaders of the Myanmar Info-Tech, technicians, BOD members and officials together with share-holders for their contributions to improvement of the ICT sector of the nation.

Chairman of the corporation U Thein Oo extended greetings and explained progress of the corporation.

Next, the 5th annual general meeting of the corporation followed, and Chairman of the corporation U Thein Oo presided over the meeting. Managing Director U Aung Zaw Myint read the reports of BOD. Responsible persons replied to the queries raised by shareholders. Next, the financial statement for 2005-06 fiscal year and the auditing report were submitted to the meeting. Afterwards, the meeting approved assignment of duties to the auditing team and selection of new members

of the Board of Directors.

Later, Chairman of the corporation U Thein Oo gave concluding remarks.

Also present at the meeting were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice-Chairman of e-National task Force Member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Aung Myint, the responsible persons of Myanmar Computer Federation and guests.

MNA

Energy Minister, Malaysian companies hold talks on oil, gas drilling off Rakhine, Taninthayi coasts

YANGON, 2 Feb — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi held a meeting with officials of Petronas CariGlari Myanmar Co in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 27 January and discussed cooperation in the exploration of natural gas reserve in offshore blocks in Rakhine Coast and matters related to oil and natural gas exploration off the Taninthayi Coast, Myanmar.

At the meeting, they also discussed cooperation in establishment of a factory to make natural gas produced in Rakhine Coast to LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas).

Minister Brig-

Gen Lun Thi and officials of Petronas CariGlari Myanmar Co drew plans for the offshore drilling for oil and gas off the Taninthayi Coast.

In the afternoon, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and President of Rimbunan Petrogas Co Mr Tansridatuk Tiong Hiew King held talks on signing a profit sharing contract for oil and gas exploration at Block-5 off Rakhine Coast and cooperation in offshore drilling in Myanmar.

On 23 January, Energy Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi received Mr Tan Ching Khoon, Chairman of Hatim Capital Pte Ltd, Singapore, and frankly



Vice-President of MMCWA Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint receives External Monitoring Mission of World Health Organization (WHO).—MMCWA

YANGON, 2 Feb — Vice-President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint received External Monitoring Mission of World Health Organization (WHO) at MMCWA here yesterday.

Members of the mission expressed thanks to members of MMCWA for the co-operation in fighting

against the Tuberculosis (TB) in states and divisions.

EMM comprises Dr Akramul Islam of BRAC Health Program of Bangladesh, Dr Sriprapa Nateniyom of Thailand, National Consultant Dr Aye Tun of JICA and Dr Daw Thanda Lwin. Also present at the call were Secretary of MMCWA Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha and executives of MMCWA. — MNA

discussed matters related to cooperation in the energy sector. — MNA

Contract inked for purchase of equipment for Pyu Creek Hydel Power Project

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — A ceremony to ink a contract for purchasing electrical & mechanical equipment, hydraulic steel structures to be used at Pyu Creek Hydel Power Project between Hydel Power Implementation Department of the Ministry of Electric Power No 1 and China Gezhouba Water and Power (Group) Co Ltd (CGGC) of China was held at the Ministry of Electric Power No 1,

here, on 31 January afternoon.

Director-General U Aung Koe Shwe of Hydel Power Implementation Department and Chief Engineer Mr Wang Yimin of CGGC signed the contract and exchanged notes in the presence of Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for

Electric Power No 1 U Myo Myint and departmental heads.

Pyu Creek Hydel Power Station Project is being implemented seven miles west of Pyu. The power station will be equipped with two 20 megawatt generators. The contract was signed for purchase of electrical and mechanical equipment and hydraulic steel structures for the project. — MNA



Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi holds a meeting with officials of Petronas CariGlari Myanmar Co in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

ENERGY

Myanmar delegation arrives back from Bangkok

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe arrived back here from Bangkok, Thailand, today after attending the 5th ASEAN

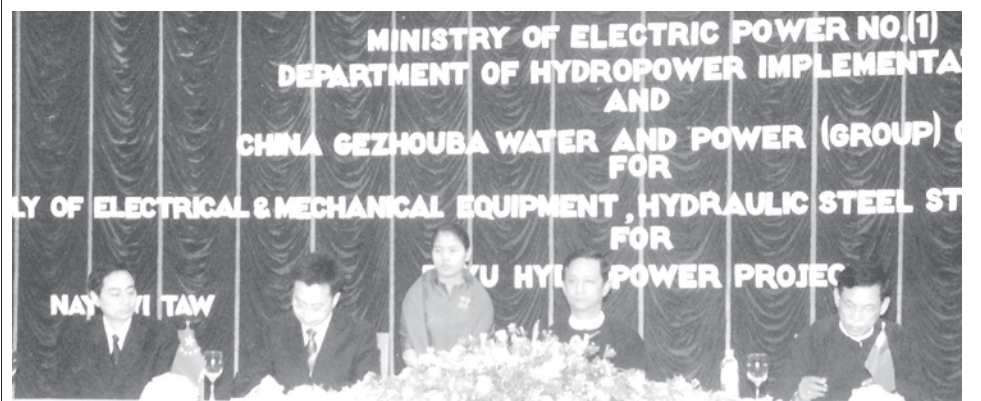
ministerial meeting on alleviation of poverty and preliminary meeting of officials of ASEAN+3.

Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe participated in the meetings held from 29 to 31 January along with the delegation members

Director-General U Myo Myint and Director U Aye Lwin of the ministry.

The delegation was welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by the directors-general of the departments under the ministry and officials.

MNA



Director-General U Aung Koe Shwe and Chief Engineer Mr Wang Yimin of CGGC sign the contract for purchasing electrical & mechanical equipment, hydraulic steel structures.

ELECTRIC POWER NO 1

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. Second best time is now.

Assistance to be provided for development of literary world

Officials urged to perform tasks with positive attitude

YANGON, 2 Feb — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gave instructions on press scrutinizing and registration tasks to officials after inspecting Press Scrutiny and Registration Division of Printing and Publishing Enterprise on Wingabar Road, here, this afternoon.

At the meeting, Director of the division U Tint Swe reported on tasks of press scrutinizing, aims of the press scrutiny, difficulties in the tasks and permission of publisher registration.

In his instructions, the minister said that four points of the aim have been laid down for



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gives instructions on press scrutinizing and registration tasks to the officials.—MNA



the Press Scrutiny and Registration Division. Such aims are: to organize the persons of the literary world for serving the interest of the State

and people, to cooperate with persons of the literary world, to provide aid for development of the literary world, and to supervise tasks of the

literary world in line with the policies of the State and traditional culture. He stressed the need to review strengths and weaknesses of the tasks, fairly

take cautionary and punitive measures, perform the tasks with positive attitude, keep up with development of media field in today's education age,

take care of relations with media, and help media so as to follow the correct way for serving the national interest.

MNA

In sync with internal political...

(from page 16)

Lay Lay Than with ABSDF's Kywegyi as leader (a) Ma Cho and Than Than Win (Thingangyun) with ABSDF's Kywegyi as leader would send explosives to Yangon through Phayalay and Kyauktan bus terminals on the bank of Thaungyin river in Myawady with the help of Wai Moe who was frequently in and out of Myawady and his two associates. Their next plan was to contact Ohn Chit of ABSDF and commit destructive acts in league with a group of '88' generation students.

Therefore, the people are urged to cooperate with authorities concerned in taking security measures in order to wipe out such subversive acts. — MNA

Former NLD members form...

(from page 16)

with diplomats of Western nations; it has been sending its members to various courses conducted by the missions of the West. Those are the significant evidences of the NLD's stance. Its act of filing a complaint against Myanmar to the UNSC, with the support of its foreign masters, to give trouble to her people could harm the interest of the race, religion and nation.

3. Former NLD members, who have resigned from the party, formed the Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) to serve the interest of the race, language and religion. The Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) will decisively counter NLD's continuous act of upholding negative views and harming the national interest and deviating from the original objectives.

4. As NLD will not be able to exist any longer in the entire nation including in the wards of Mandalay Division, the public support for the stance of the Wunthanu NLD has been increasing.

5. Wunthanu NLD is ready to cooperate with any person or organization in the interest of the nation. Together with the people, it will oppose and crush those who are attempting to undermine the national interest.

Leading Body

Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar)

MNA

Chinese delegation concludes visit

YANGON, 2 Feb — The Chinese delegation led by State Council Information Department Deputy Director (Deputy Head of Department) Mr Cai Mingzhao of the People's Republic of China left here by air this morning.

The Chinese delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of Myanma Radio and Television, Managing Director U Soe Win of News and Periodicals Enterprise, Chief Editor U Ye Myint Pe of Myanma Alin Daily, Deputy Director



(News) U Khin Maung Kyaw Din of NPE and Manager (Production) U Wai Phyo Thant. — MNA

Departmental heads of Ministry of Information see off the Chinese delegation led by State Council Information Department Deputy Director (Deputy Head of Department) Mr Cai Mingzhao.—MNA

22nd Gems & Jade Sales (2007) continues

YANGON, 2 Feb — The Union of Myanmar Economics Holding Ltd held the 22nd Gems and Jade Sales (2007) at Gems Emporium on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here this morning.

It was attended by members of UMEHL Board of Directors, domestic and foreign merchants and others.

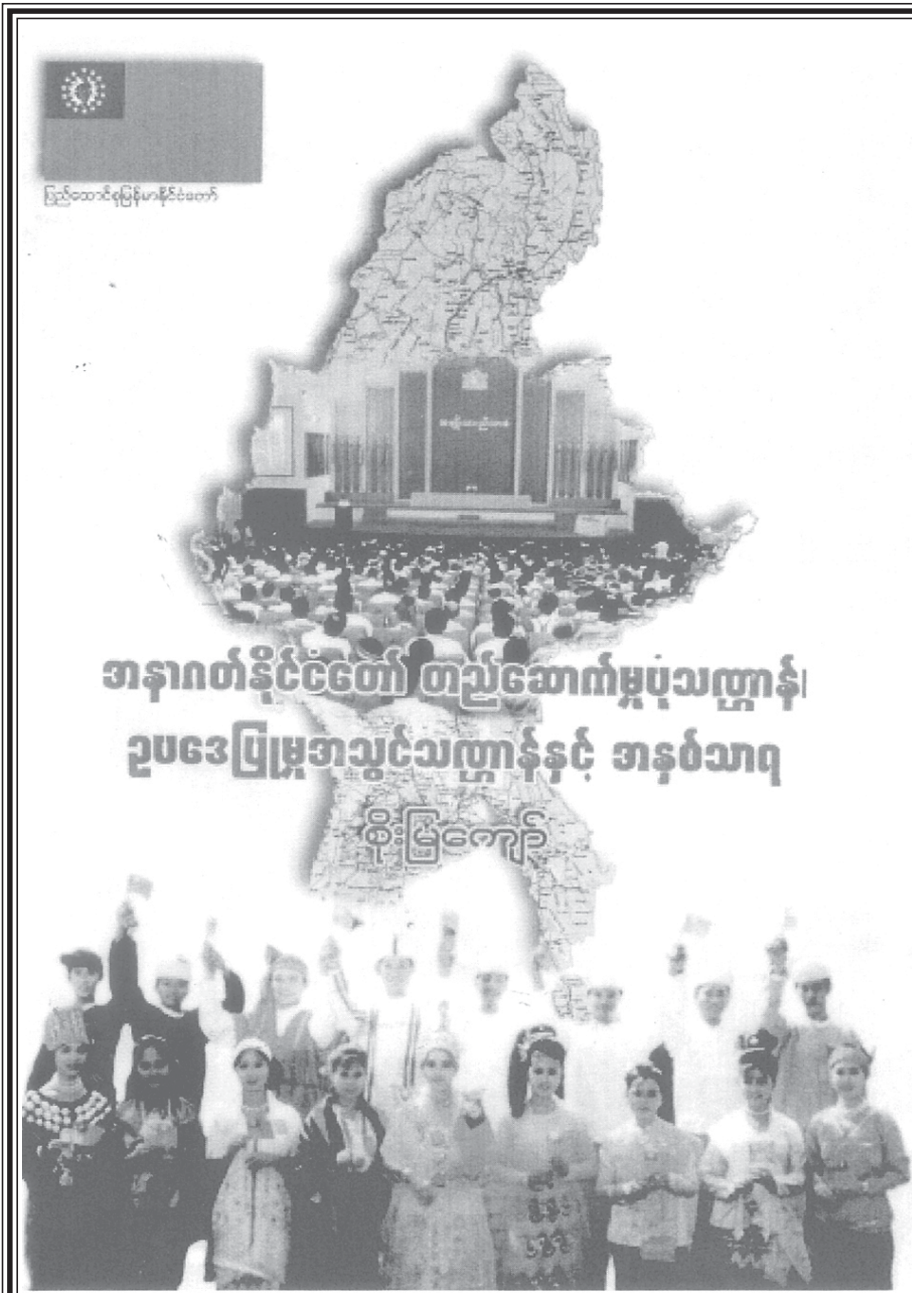
The inspection team opened bargain forms of gem merchants that were put in the tender box.

Director of UMEHL Col Myint Aung (Retd) made an opening speech on the occasion and the master of ceremonies read out rules and regulations of the gems and jade sales in Myanmar, Chinese and English. Next, Director of UMEHL Col Myint Aung (Retd) formally opened the gems and jade sales.

Altogether 204 gem lots were sold through bargain and auction system and 85 jade lots sold through bargain system.

Members of UMEHL Board of Directors presented gifts to merchants who offered the highest prices. The sales of jade lots continues tomorrow.

MNA



- 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

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
ဖုန်း - ၃၈၁၄၄၈၊ ၂၄၉၀၃၁
- သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆

Japan to fund infrastructure development at Buddhist sites in India

PATNA (India), 2 Feb — Japan will offer an aid of 560 million US dollars for infrastructure development of historical Buddhist sites in north Indian state of Bihar, a senior state government official said here Wednesday.

“The Japan Bank of International Corporation (JBIC) will grant the fund for landscaping, solid waste management and improvement of existing drains,” said CK Mishra, Bihar’s Resident Commissioner in New Delhi.

Bihar is home to a number of places of Buddhist importance like Bodhi Gaya, Nalanda, Rajgir, Kesaria, Areraj and Mangalgarh.

The JBIC has also expressed interest in building a green field airport in Patna with all the modern facilities, Mishra said. — MNA/Xinhua

Police question Blair again in funding probe

LONDON, 2 Feb — British police have questioned Prime Minister Tony Blair for a second time in an investigation into political party funding that has cast a shadow over his final months in office.

Blair was questioned as a witness at his Downing Street office last Friday, Blair’s spokesman said.

The expanding police investigation alarmed politicians in Blair’s Labour Party and risks further tainting the legacy of the party’s most successful leader who is due to step down later this year after a decade in office.

In December, he became the first serving British Prime Minister to be questioned by police in a criminal investigation.

Police are investigating whether the Labour Party and other parties promised lordships — state honours that come with seats in the unelected Upper House of Parliament—in return for loans.

“The Prime Minister has been interviewed briefly to clarify points emerging from the on-going investigation,” a police statement said. “He was interviewed as a witness, not as a suspect, and cooperated fully.”

Blair’s meeting with the police last Friday, just before he left to join business and political leaders in Davos, Switzerland, was kept confidential until now at the request of police, Blair’s spokesman said.

Blair was not under caution during the interview, which lasted under an hour, the spokesman said. He declined to disclose any details of the meeting.

The police probe began in March, sparked by a complaint by the Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP).—MNA/Reuters

Dutch police bust giant ecstasy lab, arrest four

AMSTERDAM, 2 Feb — Dutch police arrested four people in a raid on one of Western Europe’s biggest illegal drug laboratories making ecstasy, officials said on Wednesday.

The laboratory, located in the small, picturesque Dutch town of Haarlem, was capable of producing 100,000 ecstasy pills an hour, a spokesman for the Dutch national prosecutor said.

“In terms of size, this laboratory is equal to the one uncovered in the Netherlands in 2005 and ... is one of the biggest found in Western Europe,” the spokesman said.

Police estimate that the laboratory had probably produced a total of 6 to 8 million ecstasy

pills since it was set up, the spokesman said but could not give other details.

An ecstasy pill, the illegal recreational drug blamed by doctors for also causing depression and anxiety, has a street value of about 4 euros (5.18 US dollars) in Amsterdam, a police spokeswoman said.

MNA/Reuters

A villager walks in front of his flooded house in the Kampar district of Indonesia’s Riau Province on 31 Jan, 2007.



Indonesia could lose about 2,000 islands by 2030 due to climate change, the country’s environment minister said on Monday.

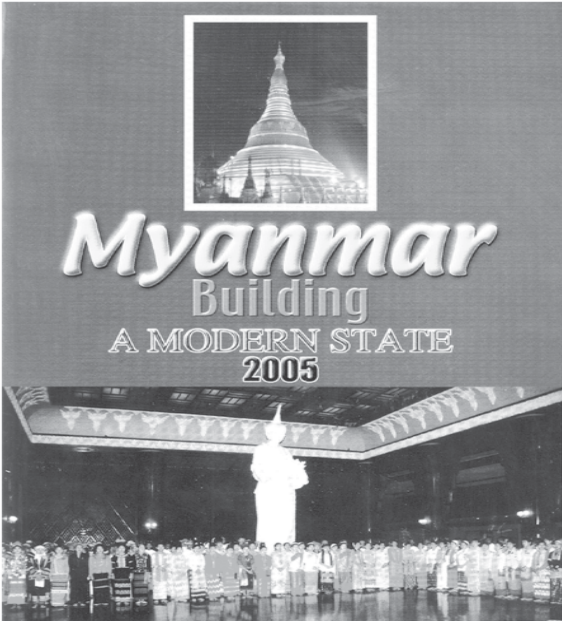
INTERNET

South Korea helps fight bird flu in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 1 Feb—South Korea helped Indonesia with equipment valued at 500,000 US dollars to fight bird flu in the country, Agriculture Minister Anton Apriantono said here Tuesday.

Minister Apriantono said that the devices comprise powder antiseptic, manual knapsack sprayer and devices to rapidly detect bird flu on animals.

The equipment would be used by a number of animal quarantine centres in the country, he said. Most of the provinces in Indonesia has been infected by the highly pathogenic H5N1. Sixty-three out of 81 people infected by bird flu have died in Indonesia, all of them were infected through fowls, Health Ministry said. Indonesia has slaughtered millions of chickens to prevent the disease from spreading.—MNA/Xinhua



MYANMAR
Building A Modern State
2005

☐ This facts studded book provides a reliable and valuable reference for scholars, researchers and the public for general reading.
☐ Illustrated with colourful photographs.
☐ Published by the Ministry of Information presenting five chapters: The Beautiful Land, Economy, Infrastructure, Social Setting, International Cooperation.

On sale US\$ 5.00 per copy

Available at
 ☐ Sarpay Beikman Book Shop, No. 529-531, Merchant Street, Yangon ☎: 381448, 249031
 ☐ News and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop, No. 212, Theinpyu Street, Yangon ☎: 294306
 ☐ Hotels, Shopping Malls and other Book Shops in Yangon

Brazilian police smash international drug trafficking ring

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 Feb—The Brazilian police smashed on Tuesday an international drug trafficking ring which smuggled cocaine from South America to the United States, European Union and Africa.

In a statement, the police said 19 alleged members of the trafficking ring run by Lebanese citizens in Brazil have been arrested in a massive operation in six states.

Among the arrested is federal agent Kleber Luiz

Quilhoes, who was suspected of working as an insider for the gang.

The ring's kingpin, Joseph Nasrallah, was arrested at his flash home in the municipality of Valinhos, a suburb of Sao Paulo.

The police also seized 15 vehicles, two aircraft and around 50,200 US dollars.

Acting on information provided by their German counterparts, the police started tracking the gang two years ago. With the

cooperation of Portugal, Spain and Belgium, the Brazilian police have since apprehended 54 people connected to the gang and seized 3.4 tons of cocaine.

MNA/Xinhua

British police arrest eight in anti-terrorism raids

LONDON, 1 Feb—Police arrested eight people in a series of dawn raids in central England on Wednesday as part of a major counter-terrorism operation, police said.

Detectives said the people were arrested at addresses across the city of Birmingham on "suspicion of the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism".

"As a precautionary measure we will have an enhanced police presence at these locations," West Midlands police said in a statement.

The government said the arrests were part of a nationwide operation. "We can confirm that a major counter-terrorism operation took place

earlier today led by West Midlands Police," the Home Office said in a statement. "The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur."

"This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face."

Britain is on its second-highest threat level of "severe" which indicates that security services believe a terrorist attack is highly likely.

MNA/Reuters

World's most desirable men to face off in S China

HAIKOU, 1 Feb—After having hosted three Miss World contests, China's tropical resort of Sanya will see the world's most handsome men compete for the title Mister World in March, the city's government announced Wednesday.

Organizers of the 5th Mister World contest have received a record number of applicants from contestants representing more than 80 countries and regions, said Li Boqing, vice-mayor of Sanya.

The event, scheduled to be held on 31 March this year, will be broadcast live worldwide to a potential audience of over a billion, he said.

Sanya, China's southernmost city in the island province of Hainan, hosted the Miss World pageants from 2003 to 2005. Julia Morley, chair of the Miss World Organization which also runs the Mister World pageant, said Sanya is one of the most suitable venues for the event.

The Mister World beauty pageant for men has been staged biennially

since 1996. The last Mister World pageant was held in London in 2003, where Gustavo Cabral Narciso from Brazil was crowned the fourth Mr World.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia discovers oil reserves of 1.2 bln barrels

JAKARTA, 1 Feb—The Indonesian Government has claimed exploration activities in 2006 had found 22 new oil wells with combined reserves of 1.2 billion barrels, local media reported Wednesday.

The explorations also found proven gas reserves

of 1.4 trillion cubic feet in ten wells, reported leading economic daily *Bisnis Indonesia*, quoting an official as saying.

The discovery will help the government overcome falling output due to natural depletion, said Kardaya Warnika, head of the Upstream Oil and Gas

Business Executive Body (BP Migas).

The country's oil production averaged 1.01 million barrels per day in 2006 from 1,046 well fields. Production is targeted at 1.05 million barrels per day in 2007 from 878 existing fields and 161 new fields, he said.—MNA/Xinhua



A Pasona O2 employee cares for vegetables which are being grown using light from light-emitting diodes (LED) during a photo opportunity at Pasona O2, an underground farming facility that promotes interest in agricultural work and demonstrates modern and alternative farming technology, in Tokyo on 1 Feb, 2007.—INTERNET

Australia psychologist makes patient wear dog collar

SYDNEY, 1 Feb—An Australian psychologist charged with indecently assaulting a patient told a court on Tuesday that forcing his female patient to wear a dog collar and call him master was within a psychologist's ethical guidelines.

Psychologist Bruce Beaton, 64, pleaded not guilty in the Western Australia District Court to four charges of indecently assaulting a 22-year-old woman in 2005, local media reported.

Beaton was arrested when police, who had been secretly video recording the session with the woman, heard whipping sounds, reported *Australian Associated Press* from the court.

Beaton told the court he resorted to master-servant treatment with his bulimic patient because other methods had failed. He said he thought forcing the woman to wear a dog collar and call him master would build a more trusting relationship.—MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဆက်ရေးတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခုံ

Protein found key to human flu transmission

WASHINGTON, 1 Feb—Researchers have discovered that influenza hemagglutinin—a type of protein found on the surface of influenza viruses that is



Influenza hemagglutinin.—XINHUA

used to bind to host cells—appears to play an important role in the virus's ability to transmit efficiently among humans.

The findings are published on Thursday on the online early edition of journal

Science. Terrence M Tumpey at US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and co-authors studied the hemagglutinin protein covering the surface of the 1918 influenza virus that they recreated in 2005. That virus caused a pandemic that claimed the lives of at least 50 million people between 1918 and 1920, and that virus shows genetic sequence similarities to avian influenza viruses.

Researchers changed two amino acids—basic building blocks of protein—in the 1918 virus hemagglutinin from a mammalian configuration to an avian configuration and inoculated ferrets with it. Ferrets are expected to be good predictors of influenza virus transmissibility among humans. Inoculation of ferrets with the 1918 “avian” hemagglutinin virus caused severe disease, but healthy ferrets placed close enough to the sick ferrets to catch it remained healthy.—Internet

China plans third research station at South Pole

BEIJING, 1 Feb—China is working on the construction plan for a third research station on the South Pole, said Sun Zihui, director of the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) here Wednesday.

Speaking at a SOA meeting, Sun stressed the need to enhance China's competitiveness in the exploration of polar region and ocean. So far, the name of the new research station is still undecided.

The international community has named

this year as the “International Polar Year (IPY) 2007/2008 which runs from 1 March, 2007, to 1 March, 2008. “China should seize the opportunity brought by the event to carry out wide-ranging international cooperation in the field of polar region exploration,” Sun said. It will be the first time China has participated in IPY activities. Sun vowed to continue supporting scientific research at the South Pole and North

Pole, and organizing study on strategy of polar region exploration and polar region laws.

According to him, the Chinese Government last year approved to invest 520 million yuan (around 65 million US dollars) in polar region scientific research. China has launched 22 Antarctic expeditions since 1984 and built two permanent exploration stations named Changcheng (Great Wall) and Zhongshan.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan, EU to cut bluefin tuna catches at Atlantic in 2010

TOKYO, 1 Feb—Japan and the European Union agreed Wednesday to lower their bluefin tuna catches in the Atlantic and Mediterranean seas by around 20 per cent in 2010 from 2006, *Kyodo News*

said. During the meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas held in Tokyo, Japan promised to cut its catches of the highly valued bluefin tuna by 23 per cent in 2010

to 2,175 tons from 2006, while the European Union also agreed to cut its catches by 20.75 per cent, to 14,504 tons in 2010 from 18,301 tons in 2006, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

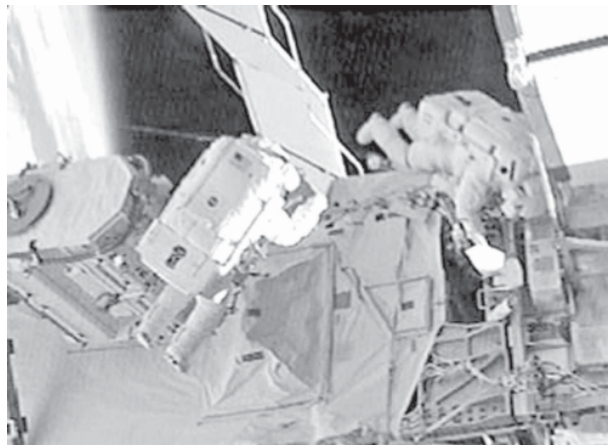


A sales girl gives explanation to a customer about a new charging scheme introduced by China Unicom, one of Chinese major mobile phone service operators, in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, on 1 Feb, 2007.—XINHUA

ISS crew complete first of three spacewalks

WASHINGTON, 31 Jan—Two US astronauts aboard the International Space Station successfully completed a space walk on Wednesday, doing some chores for the orbital outpost, according to NASA TV.

This is the first of unprecedented three space walks in nine days by Commander Michael Lopez-Alegria and Flight Engineer Sunita Williams. Lopez-Alegria, the lead space walker wearing the suit with red stripes, and Williams, in the all-white suit, stepped out of Quest airlock at 10:14 am EST (1514 GMT).



Astronauts Sunita Williams (L) and Michael Lopez-Alegria are shown during a space walk on the International Space Station, on 31 Jan, 2007.—XINHUA

During the more-than-seven-hour excursion, the duo reconfigured one of two cooling loops for the US Destiny module, rearranged electrical connections and secured and covered the starboard radiator of the retracted truss segment. They also removed a solar shade and thermal shrouds that are no longer needed.

Despite a sighting of ammonia coolant flakes, suggesting the possibility of contamination during the space walk, the astronauts found no visible traces of the toxic chemical on their spacesuits. After reentering the airlock, they will spend about 25 extra minutes “baking out” their spacesuits to prevent any possibility of ammonia contamination.

Two other space walks from Quest will follow. Lopez-Alegria and Williams are scheduled to make the second space walk on 4 February and the third for 8 February. The first two focus on the reconfiguration of station power and cooling systems to permanent ones.

The three space walks from the Quest airlock in US spacesuits and a Russian space walk scheduled for 22 February are the most ever done by station crew members during a single month. They also will bring to 10 the total number of space walks by Lopez-Alegria, an astronaut record. Williams will have a total of four, the most ever by a woman.—Internet

Brazilian satellite undergoes environmental tests

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 Feb—Brazil's National Institute of Space Research (INPE) said on Wednesday that *CBERS-2B*, the third satellite to be launched in cooperation with China, is being assembled, integrated and tested.

From Monday on, the satellite will undergo electromagnetic interference tests, as well as tests to detect leaks in the propelling system, and to measure mass, vibration and acoustics, the INPE said.

The institute noted that environmental tests are fundamental, as it will not be possible to maintain the equipment once the satellite is launched into orbit.

The INPE conducted electric tests on the satellite in the past three months. The satellite is basically comprised of two modules—one equipped with cameras, the other with all the structure necessary for its self-maintenance. It also has a solar panel responsible for energy supply.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Calderon to remain Real president after vote ruling

MADRID, 2 Feb — Ramon Calderon will remain Real Madrid president for the time being after a Spanish judge decided the postal votes in last July's presidential election were null and void.

Judge Milagros Aparicio rejected calls from rival candidate Juan Miguel Villar Mir for the 10,511 postal votes to be included in the results and agreed with Calderon's view that there were insufficient controls to guarantee their legitimacy.

"I declare that electoral rule number 15 which regulates the postal vote is ineffective and therefore the votes themselves are null," the judge said in her ruling.

Villar Mir and the other defeated candidates can appeal against the decision.

Two days before the 2 July poll a judge backed complaints from Calderon and fellow candidate Arturo Baldasano that the postal vote should be temporarily suspended because of possible irregularities.

Calderon was declared the winner following a controversial and bitter election campaign after receiving 8,344 votes, just 246 more than Juan Palacios and 1,642 more than Villar Mir. Spanish media have reported that a large number of the postal votes had been for Villar Mir.— *MNA/Reuters*



Tiger Woods of the U.S. chips on the 6th hole during the first round of the Dubai Desert Classic golf tournament in Dubai on 1 Feb, 2007.

INTERNET

Thai players, officials face ASEAN final ban

BANGKOK, 2 Feb — Thai players and officials face suspension from the second leg of the ASEAN championship final following the team's dramatic first-leg walkout against rivals Singapore, the ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) said on Thursday.

Singapore won a bitterly-fought match 2-1 on Wednesday after the Thai players walked off the field for 15 minutes following a hotly-disputed penalty award to Singapore eight minutes from time. Singapore eventually scored the penalty and won 2-1.

Anyone found guilty of orchestrating the protest or manhandling the referee could be banned from the second leg in Bangkok on Sunday.

"The ASEAN Football Federation are studying the relevant reports from the match commissioner and referees inspector," an AFF spokesman told *Reuters*.

"Based on the records action will be taken against anyone guilty of wrong-doing in the 1st leg."

A capacity crowd at the National Stadium booed and jeered as the Thai team walked, preventing the penalty being taken.

Their tempers flared after Singaporean striker Noh Alam Shah went down in the area and the Malaysian referee pointed to the spot.— *MNA/Reuters*

Olsson resigns as UEFA chief executive

NYON, 2 Feb — Swede Lars-Christer Olsson has resigned as UEFA chief executive after reaching a settlement with European soccer's governing body, he told *Reuters* on Thursday.

"I have just signed an agreement with UEFA to stand down," Olsson said in a telephone interview.

"Unfortunately, I would have liked to stay on but there was a difference of views on how we go forward under the new administration."

Olsson, 57, was a very close ally of compatriot Lennart Johansson, who was voted out of office after 17 years as UEFA president last Friday, losing the presidential election to Frenchman Michel Platini at the UEFA Congress in Duesseldorf.

Platini said in a statement: "On behalf of the European football family I therefore take this opportunity to thank Lars-Christer for his dedication and hard work to the game of football, both with the Swedish FA and at UEFA, and to wish him all the very best for the future."

Platini has made no secret of his intention to take a far greater role as executive president of the organization, which would make Olsson's position untenable.

MNA/Reuters

Gattuso inks Milan contract



Ivan Gennaro Gattuso.
INTERNET

Milan, 1 Feb — Gennaro Gattuso has pledged his future to Milan by signing a new deal with the Rossoneri.

The midfielder is one of the most highly-rated midfielders in world football and his all-action efforts for club and country have won him many fans around the globe.

Gattuso has repeatedly been linked with a move away from Milan and Manchester United have held a long-standing interest in the former Rangers man.

The 29-year-old has continually played down talk of a move and he has

endeavoured to ward off the speculation by signing a new deal which ties him to the San Siro until the summer of 2011.

Milan, meanwhile, are awaiting news on the extent of keeper Nelson Dida's shoulder injury.

He picked up the injury against Roma on Wednesday and reports suggest he has damaged ligaments.

Internet



Inter Milan's French defender Olivier Dacourt, center, is caught in between Sampdoria's Mirko Pieri, left, and Fabio Bazzani, during the Italian Cup, second-leg, semifinal match between Internazionale of Milan and Sampdoria of Genoa, at the San Siro stadium in Milan, Italy, on Thursday, 1 Feb, 2007. —INTERNET

Santos make winning start to Libertadores quest

RIO DE JANEIRO, 2 Feb — Santos began their quest to win the Libertadores Cup for the first time in more than 40 years with a 1-0 away victory over Blooming in a preliminary round first leg tie on Wednesday.

Rightback Pedro scored the only goal early in the second half as Vanderlei Luxemburgo's team won a bruising battle against the Bolivian outsiders in Santa Cruz.

The Brazilians, who

won South America's top club tournament with a Pele-inspired team in 1962 and 1963, controlled the match despite a boggy, bumpy pitch and some bone-crunching challenges from their opponents.

Striker Fabiano hit the post with one effort and was then narrowly wide with an angled shot as Santos dominated the first half. Pedro broke the deadlock four minutes after the break when he skipped past a challenge and chipped the ball into the corner of the goal.

Santos midfielder Cleber Santana twice came close to a second goal, then wasted an even better chance when he crashed a penalty against the crossbar in the 75th minute.

The penalty was awarded after Sergio Jauregui clipped Rodrigo Tabata's ankles and the Santos forward tumbled over.— *MNA/Reuters*

Sevilla, Betis draw blank in Cup derby

MADRID, 2 Feb — Primera Liga strugglers Real Betis produced a battling performance to hold high-flying city rivals Sevilla to a 0-0 draw at the Sanchez Pizjuan in the first leg of their King's Cup quarterfinal on Thursday. Betis, who knocked out Real Madrid in the last round, held out against the UEFA Cup holders in a derby that was high on effort and tension but low on skill and entertainment.

Sevilla have a slight advantage in the tie as they will go into the return leg on 28 February knowing that a score draw will be enough to put them into the semifinals.

The remaining first leg games were played on Wednesday with Real Zaragoza holding the edge in their tie against league leaders Barcelona after a 1-0 victory at the Nou Camp, the Catalans' first home defeat in almost a year.

MNA/Reuters



Russia's Maria Sharapova plays a shot against Italy's Francesca Schiavone during the Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament in Tokyo on 1 Feb, 2007. —INTERNET

China airs rare public criticism of Bush Iraq policy

BEIJING, 2 Feb — US President George W Bush should scrap his unilateral approach and respect religious diversity in his “war on terror” to resolve troubles in Iraq, a senior Chinese official said in comments published on Thursday.

Recent anti-war protests across the United States illustrated that the Iraq war was unjust, Ye Xiaowen, director of the State Bureau of Religious Affairs, wrote in the overseas edition of *People's Daily*, the mouthpiece of

the ruling Communist Party, in rare public criticism of US policy.

Ye's bureau oversees Christianity, Buddhism and Islam in the atheist country which only tolerates state-sanctioned religious institutions.

He criticized inflammatory terms such as “crusade” and “Islamic fascism” which Bush had used in the past when speaking of the fight against terrorism and Muslim militants.

“How can you link

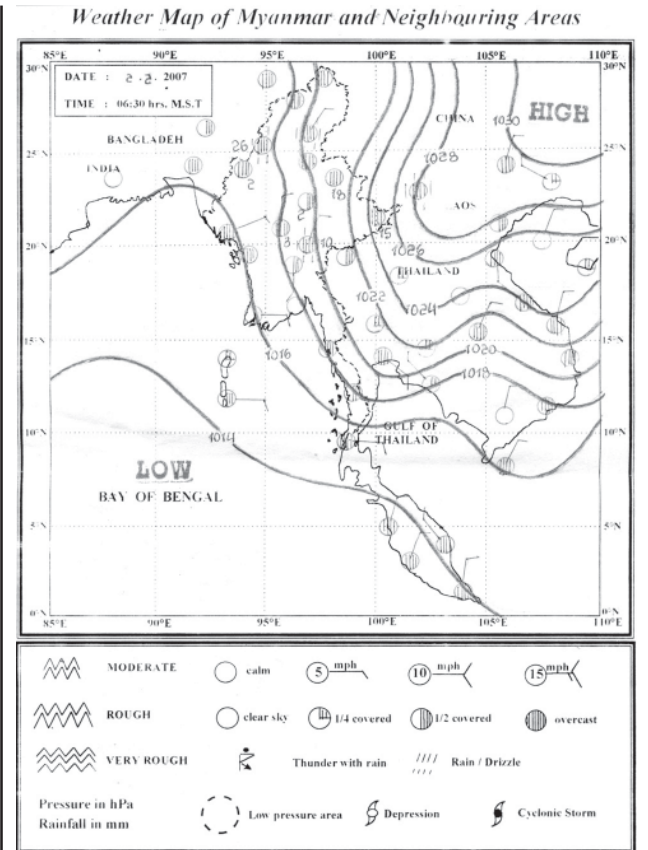
anti-terrorism with a particular religion?” Ye asked in a commentary headlined “Bush should reflect deeply”.

Washington thought it could use Christian civilization to reform Islam but elections and the downfall of Saddam Hussein had transformed Iraq into a “meat grinder” that engulfed innocent lives instead of creating a haven for democracy, Ye added.

“Unilateralism and terrorism breed each other, fight each other, but neither can overcome the other,” he wrote. “Terrorism cheats people under the disguise of religion. Why should unilateralism hijack religion as well?”

“Amid the pains, can the US try to abandon unilateralism and respect that differences can exist in harmony?” he asked.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Friday, 2 February, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin, Shan States and upper Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Mandalay Division, scattered in lower Sagaing Division and isolated in Kayah State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kayin State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Kayah State, (3°C) above normal in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was Haka (0°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.91) inch, Homalin (1.45) inches, Mawlaik (1.26) inches, Namhsan (0.78) inch, Lashio (0.71) inch, Thipaw and Kengtung (0.59) inch each and Pyinmana (0.55) inch.

Maximum temperature on 1-2-2007 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 2-2-2007 was 61°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 2-2-2007 was 69%. Total sunshine hours on 1-2-2007 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 2-2-2007 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 (8) mph from South at (16:30) hours MST on 1-2-2007.

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 3-2-2007: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread in Kachin, Shan States and upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Chin State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Kayah and Rakhine States, Bago and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 3-2-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 3-2-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 3-2-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Weather outlook for second weekend of February 2007: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers are likely in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Yangon Division.



Francis Bacon's "Study for Portrait II," 1956, is on display at Christies auction house, in London in January 2007. The painting will be sold among a string of art auctions covering paintings from the 19th century to the present day, the latest in a series of big buck sales to hit London, are set to break records next week, organizers said. — INTERNET



Saturday, 3 February

View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဥပုသ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am
 2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူ အပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am
 3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 4. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am
 7. စွန့်ချောင်း ရေလှောင်တစ်
- 8:20 am
 8. Musical programme

- 8:30 am
 9. International news
- 8:45 am
 10. Grammar Made Easy
- 11:00 am
 1. Martial song
- 11:15 am
 2. Musical programme
- 11:30 am
 3. Round up of the week's TV local news
- 12:45 pm
 4. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ
- 12:55 pm
 5. “စည်းလုံးခြင်းရဲ့ အရသာ” (ကိုကိုလင်းမောင်၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အေဝမ်းမောင်လှမျိုး)
- 1:15 pm
 6. Dance of national races
- 1:25 pm
 7. “အရက်ဦး၏ ပုံရိပ်များ” (ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ သင်းသင်းယုလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်ဝဏ္ဏ)
- 2:25 pm
 8. မအီချောင်း တံတား
- 2:30 pm
 9. “သတိနဲ့ ယှဉ် အသိနဲ့ပြင်” (အပိုင်း-၁) (ဝါးခယ်မရဲမောင်၊ ဘုန်းလှ၊ မြတ်ကေသီအောင်၊ ရတနာခင်၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ပြည့်ဖူးခိုင်၊ နီနီရွှေရည်၊ ဆောင်းနင်းဝေ၊ ဝိုင်းစုခိုင်သိန်း၊ အိုင်းရစ်လေးပြေဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
- 2:45 pm
 10. International news

- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
 3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)
- 4:45 pm
 4. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 4:55 pm
 5. Musical programme
- 5:05 pm
 6. Games for children
- 5:30 pm
 7. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်
- 6:00 pm
 8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
 9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 10. အလှူရှာမယ် လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်
- 7:05 pm
 11. နယ်ချဲ့လက်သစ်၏ အသုံးတော်ခံ ဘဝရောက်နေရသည့် နီဘယ်လ်ဆု (အပိုင်း-၂)
- 7:15 pm
 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ကြယ်ကြွေရင်စုန်သံ” (အပိုင်း-၁၇)
- 8:00 pm
 13. News
- 8:15 pm
 14. International news
- 8:30 pm
 15. Weather report
- 8:45 pm
 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “လှပသော နေ့ရက်များ” (အပိုင်း-၂၁)
- 8:55 pm
 17. The next day's programme



Saturday, 3 February

Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Earth, wind, water, fire
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Viva la Radio
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -I won't say I'm in love
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -In my business
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Music at your request/ Lunch time music
- 9:00 pm ASEAN news
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Myanma culture ... Dr Khin Maung Nyunt
- 9:30 pm Souvenirs
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

*R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 392308, Manager 392226, Circulation 392304, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 297028

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

Former NLD members form Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) in the interest of race, language, religion

Will counter NLD's perpetration with negative view to undermine national interest

NLD's days are numbered as it is relying so much on aliens and discarding democracy

Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) sends letter expressing its stance to NLD (Central)

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) sent a letter expressing its stance to the headquarters of National League for Democracy (NLD) on 31 January.

The letter said that the NLD (Central) had been committing blunders and heading to the wrong way to the degree of having no ability to serve its own interest let alone serving the national interest; that it had been relying

extremely on the West and disregarding its original policies and democracy fundamental principles, while ignoring the opinions of NLD members inside the nation.

It continued to say that instead of keeping in the fore the national cause, the NLD had been pushing the entire nation to become an imperialist slave and colonialist minion; and that the NLD's frequent meetings and constant contacts

with diplomats of the Western nations and sending of its members to the various courses run by the missions of those nations stood witness to the fact.

It also stated that NLD's days were numbered, declaring to oppose and crush the perpetrators trying to undermine the national interest. The following is a translation of the full context of the letter. — MNA

In sync with internal political movements, expatriate insurgents plotting to commit atrocities

People urged to cooperate with authorities concerned in taking security measures

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Feb — In collusion with some neo-colonialist nations plotting to install a puppet government in Myanmar, alien-reliant national traitors are resorting to various ways to reinvent slanderous accusations against the country.

These days, news reports are being issued stating that in sync with internal political movements, expatriate insurgents are sending operatives to the country in order to incite public unrest and riots and commit atrocities.

It was leant that ABSDF recently sent seven bombers to Yangon. The secret plan was that a group comprising
(See page 10)

To
The chairman/the general-secretary
National League for Democracy (Central)
Shwegondine Road, Bahan Township,
Yangon
Date: 27 January 2007

Subject: A letter from Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) to NLD (Central)

Reference: (1) News announcement for the people issued by Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) on Independence Day (2007)

(2) The declaration of the stance of Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) concerning the objection of the draft resolution to the UNSC with double veto

1. Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar) issued a news announcement for the public on this year's Independence Day. We had joined the NLD to materialize basic human rights and democracy in the interest of the race, language and the religion.

2. The NLD (Central) has never paid any heed to the opinions of the NLD members inside the nation. Instead of organizing its central committee members, central steering committee members, central working committee members, people's representatives, state/division organizers, township organizers and ward/village organizers, the NLD (Central) has been relying too much on foreign nations, especially the West. It has also disregarded its adopted fundamental democracy principles. Hence, the party is on the wrong road, and it cannot even serve its own interest let alone serving the national interests. Instead of placing in the fore the national cause, the NLD party has been trying to make the nation an alien slave and follower; it has been relying on the Western nations; it has lost its original political belief; it has been extending close contacts

(See page 10)