

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

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects construction of airport, university in Sittway

Roads and bridges constructed in Rakhine State for ensuring better transport



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects construction of three-storey main building of Sittway University.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Rakhine State PDC Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Maung Shein, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and officials, inspected progress in construction of the runway of Sittway Airport yesterday morning.

Commander Brig-Gen Maung Shein,

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Director-General U Tun Hlaing of Department of Civil Aviation reported on matters related to the airport, the plan to repave the runway, extension of the apron and progress of earth work.

The plan is being implemented to place asphalt on 6,000 feet by 150 feet runway, 525 feet by 75 feet taxi way and 600 feet by 300 feet apron.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party proceeded to the site for construction of Sittway

University near Bumay Village.

Acting Rector U Ba Shwe reported on matters concerning the university, strengths of students and faculty members and training courses.

Sittway District Senior Engineer U Khin Maung Htwe also submitted reports on construction of the three-storey main building and other lecture halls.

After fulfilling the requirements of the tasks, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the human

resource plays an important role in building a modern and developed nation. Faculty members are to teach the new generation youth to become the nation-building force of the State. The talented new generation youth are to be nurtured, and the

main building of the university is to be constructed as a high quality structure.

They inspected the sites for buildings in the campus of the university.

At the hall of Sittway Station, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental offi-

cial and gave instructions on regional development.

The commander reported on progress of health, education, economic and social sectors of the state, and departmental officials on their respective sectors.

(See page 8)

The plan is being implemented to place asphalt on 6,000 feet by 150 feet runway, 525 feet by 75 feet taxi way and 600 feet by 300 feet apron.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 20 February, 2007

New Phaungdawgyi Jetty in Sittway contributing to trade and commerce

Better transport plays an important role in developing a region. Easy access to different regions can bring about swift commodity flow, thereby contributing to improvement of the socio-economic life of the people.

Transport covers commerce as well as services. The government has therefore built a network of roads and bridges for better transport. In the meantime, it has fulfilled the requirements of air transport and water transport.

The new Phaungdawgyi Concrete Jetty of Sittway Port in Rakhine State, one of the requirements, was opened on 18 February. The 120-year old jetty was destroyed in 2004 due to a cyclone. Since then, vessels could not use it, resulting in poor transport of goods and passengers.

The problem has now been solved through opening of the new Phaungdawgyi Jetty. The 4,000-ton vessels and seagoing ships of neighbouring countries can now dock at the jetty.

As airways, roads and waterways of Rakhine State are making progress, more passengers and commodities can be transported. The opening of the new jetty in Sittway has paved the way for development of trade and commerce in Rakhine State and improvement of the socio-economic life of the people.

Iran's top leader emphasizes need to produce N-fuel

TEHERAN, 19 Feb — Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Saturday emphasized his country's need to produce nuclear fuel, saying its oil and gas reserves would dry up eventually.

"Oil and gas resources will not last forever," Khamenei's speech was quoted by *Iranian Student's News Agency* (ISNA) as saying.

"If a country does not consider this fact it will turn to a dependent country for energy in the future," the Iranian supreme leader said.

Describing the nuclear issue as a "future-determining matter" for Iran, Khamenei criticized those who had said that "nuclear energy is not worth what it was currently costing the country."

"The only reason behind the powers' objection towards our peaceful nuclear programme is because they want to control the world energy future," Khamenei said. Iran, the world's fourth biggest producer of crude and has the second largest natural gas reserves, says it needs to produce nuclear fuel as a peaceful, alternative energy source.

However, the West has accused Iran of trying to produce nuclear weapons under a civilian cover, a charge denied by Teheran. — *MNA/Xinhua*

People's Desire

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

Minister inspects roads, bridges in Magway Division

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and officials of Public Works inspected road and bridge works on Gangaw-Yemyetni Road in Gangaw on 15 February.

Gangaw District Senior Engineer U Maung Naing and Magway Division Superintending Engineer U Aung Kyaw Myint reported on work of Gangaw-Htlin-Kyaukhtu Road.

The minister inspected Pakokku-Pauk-Kyaukhtu Road, Seikphyu-Salin Road, Salin-Kanbya Road and Pathein-Monywa-Padan-Kanbya Road.

The minister also inspected construction of Mone Creek. The 940-foot suspension bridge can withstand 30 tons of load.—*MNA*

SWRR Minister attends coordination meeting of FSD

YANGON, 18 Feb — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe attended the coordination meeting of Fire Services Department at its headquarters in Mayangon Township this morning.

Also present at the meeting were Director-General U Myint Tun of Fire Services Department, deputy directors-general and officials.

At the meeting, the minister explained progress of the State and guidance of the Head of State.

Next, Director-General U Myint Tun reported on tasks of the department, the Principal of Central Fire Services Training School and heads of State/Division FSDs briefed the minister on work being carried out. The minister gave necessary instructions.

After the meeting, the minister inspected laboratory equipment for the training school, power-tillers and water pumps.—*MNA*

Mayor attends desks and cash donation ceremony in Kawhmu Township

YANGON, 17 Feb — CEC members of Union Solidarity and Development Association in charge of Yangon Division Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa this morning attended a ceremony to donate desks to Wabalaukthauk Village BEPS and Kamapat Village BEPS and present cash for construction of Kyweluaing Village BEPS held at Khatawhmi Monastery in Wabalaukthauk Village, Kawhmu Township and presented desks and cash.

After making a speech, the mayor presented 15 sets of desks donated by Yangon Division USDA for Wabalaukthauk Village BEPS through Headmistress Daw San San Yi and the vice-mayor 15 sets of desks for Kamapat Village BEPS through Headmaster U Phone Naing.



Next, the mayor present K 1.5 million for construction of Kyweluaing Village BEPS and accepted 320 membership applications.

After that, U Tin

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin presents desks to basic education primary schools in Wabalaukthauk and Kamapat Villages, Kawhmu Township.—*MNA*

Aung of Wabalaukthauk Village spoke words of thanks.

Later, the vice-mayor briefed of the five rural development tasks being implemented by the government and the

ceremony ended.

After the ceremony, the mayor and the vice-mayor met local farmers and explained works to be carried out for regional development.—*MNA*

Study shows mobiles can add significant value to India's GDP

NEW DELHI, 19 Feb — Mobile phones are not just about getting connected, they can prove to be a great money spinner for the country's economic health by the virtue of productivity gains achieved by its users, especially in a developing market like India.

According to a new study of three developing markets — China, India and Philippines — conducted by global consultancy giant McKinsey, the economic impact of all wireless activities on the economy of these countries is up to four times of the combined value of mobile operators.

The overall wireless activities in India contributed about 2 per cent to the country's GDP in 2005, the study says, adding that this could rise considerably going ahead as the mobile penetration was a mere 7 per cent in the year. Even a 2 percent contribution to the GDP amounts to a whopping 14 billion US dollars, taking into account a GDP of 700 billion US dollars in 2005.

In markets like China and Philippines, where wireless penetration is higher, the wireless activities contributed 5 per cent and 7.5 per cent, respectively, in 2005.—*MNA/PTI*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Hu Jintao meets residents of one of China's poorest provinces

LANZHOU, 18 Feb— Chinese President Hu Jintao market the eve of the Year of Boar by frying dough twists, eating dumplings and cutting paper window decorations with poor farmers in the barren countryside of north-western Gansu Province.

On early Saturday, buses carrying Hu and accompanying officials rocked along the bumpy mountain roads to Daping Village of Dingxi City in Gansu where Hu once visited in 1999 and

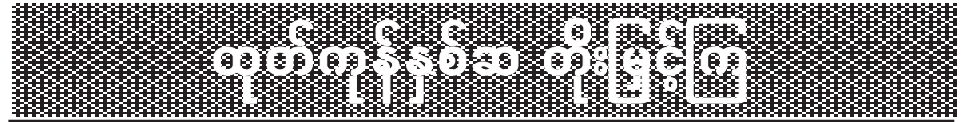
ordered local officials to work hard on poverty alleviation.

"Dear villagers, I come to greet you a happy new year," Hu said addressing a crowd of farmers in front of a village house. "I visited Daping eight years ago. Today I am very pleased to see lots of changes. New houses are erected and plenty of food is stored, which shows the lives of the Daping people have really improved."

In a villager's home, Hu sat with farmers and

children, asking about grain production and the family income.

One of the farmers gave the President a full basket of potatoes, telling him that like many others his life had improved by planting potatoes. The Lunar New Year of 2007 which starts on 18 February, is also the year of Boar. To most Chinese, the pig is considered a symbol of wealth and good fortune.—MNA/Xinhua



Traditional Chinese decorations are seen on Changdian Temple Fair on the Spring Festival in Beijing, on 18 Feb, 2007. —XINHUA

Buffalo kills villager in Zimbabwe

HARARE, 18 Feb— A 71-year-old man in Mashonaland West Province of Zimbabwe was gored to death by a buffalo on Tuesday as he collected clothing items that had been left by his wife when she fled from an earlier attack by the animal, police said on Friday.

Police said the man's wife, Senziya Dewe, 45, was attacked by the buffalo on her way home with her daughters Brenda and Viola, who are 11 and 12 years old respectively. The daughters escaped unhurt while their mother was gored in the back but managed to run home and informed her husband, who later decided to go to the field to collect a baby towel and other items that had been scattered as the woman ran for life.

MNA/Xinhua

US troops killed in chopper crash

LONDON, 18 Feb—Eight US troops have been killed and 14 wounded in a helicopter crash in south-eastern Afghanistan, US-led coalition forces say.

The Chinook came down after the pilot reported engine trouble.

The crash happened in Zabul province, bordering Pakistan. A coalition statement said the Taliban had been building up forces in the area.

Coalition and Nato forces have lost several helicopters in Afghanistan in the last few years, most in accidents. Initial reports

indicated that Sunday's crash was purely accidental.

"It was not enemy fire related," Col Tom Collins, of Nato's International Security Assistance Force

(Isaf), was quoted by the Associated Press news agency as saying.

"The pilot was able to radio in that he was having engine problems. We're

confident it was not due to enemy action."

However, a statement issued by the US-led coalition forces later on Sunday did not specify the reason for the crash.

It said the CH-47 helicopter had "a sudden, unexplained loss of power and control and crashed in eastern Afghanistan".

It also said that: "Recent reporting indicated a Taliban build up for operations against the coalition forces in the region." There were 22 people on board, including the crew.—Internet



A US Chinook helicopter prepares to sling load a damaged HMMWV at an undisclosed location in Afghanistan in December 2003. —INTERNET

Thai southern attacks kill 7, injure over 50

BANGKOK, 19 Feb — Death toll from a string of bombing and arson attacks across Thailand's southernmost provinces through Sunday night till early Monday, stood at seven, while over 50 others were injured, Thai security officials said on Monday.

The latest string of attacks are in the biggest scale ever in the over-three-year-long insurgent violence in Thailand's southern border region.

Security sources told Xinhua that at least 29 bombings and arsons were launched in Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani and Songkhla provinces on Sunday night, killing six persons. An Army official in Yala Province who was killed Monday morning by a bomb believed to have been planted on Sunday at his house, added the death toll to seven.

The blasts targeted tourist and commercial sites such as hotels and

karaoke bars. In Yala Province alone, 17 bombs exploded, and another six went off in the province's Betong district.

Bombings at a power plant in Pattani Province caused a blackout in the provincial seat. Several public schools were torched. Militants also shot at military, police forces and villagers.

The attacks were another festival nightmare, which came 50 days after a string of bombings hit the capital Bangkok and its suburb on New Year's Eve by Western calendar, which killed three people and injured some 40 others, including foreigners. No

culprits have been arrested yet.

The Internal Security Operation Command (ISOC), which is in charge of security in the deep south, sent helicopters to survey the areas around Yala's provincial seat. Special armed forces have also been dispatched to hunt down the culprits, the ISOC said.

Colonel Wichai Thongdaeng, a military spokesman, said the Army has sent additional troops to the region, where nearly 2,000 people have died in the renewed violence since early 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

Bomber kills 15 in Pakistani courtroom

QUETTA, Pakistan 17 Feb, — A suicide bomber blew himself up Saturday in a courthouse in southwestern Pakistan, killing 15 others, including a judge, in the deadliest of a series of attacks that have struck the country in recent weeks.

There is suspicion in Pakistan that pro-Taliban militants are targeting sensitive sites to undermine the country's support of the United States, and an official in the region where Saturday's attack took place hinted at Afghan involvement.

Saturday's explosion wounded 24 people and left bloodied clothes and body parts scattered next to wrecked furniture and shattered glass in Quetta District Courts. It forced police already on alert to further tighten security nationwide. "Afghans have been involved in previous such attacks here. I cannot rule out their involvement in today's attack, but we don't have any evidence to

prove it," Jam Mohammed Yousaf, the top elected official in Baluchistan, told reporters in Quetta.

Relations between the neighbouring countries have soured over Afghan allegations that Pakistan is supporting Taliban militants who have escalated their campaign of violence in the neighbouring country over the past year. Pakistan denies helping the militants but acknowledges that some operate from its soil.

Increasingly, it appears Pakistan itself has become a battleground. There have been about 10 bombings in the past month, mostly in the tribal northwest, but the capital

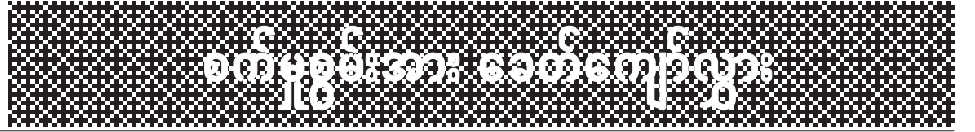
Islamabad has also been targeted in suicide attacks at its international airport and the Marriott Hotel.

Saturday's blast in Quetta, a city where Taliban activists and leaders are alleged to hide, was by far the deadliest. The suicide bomber "entered the courtroom on foot and he immediately exploded himself," Yousaf said.

The blast killed Judge Abdul Wahid, five lawyers and some of the relatives of prisoners who were on trial, Yousaf said. He could not give details about the prisoners' identities or the cases being heard. The attacker died, along with 15 others. — Internet



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao sings on the eve of Chinese Lunar New Year, or the Spring Festival with college students in Northeast University, Liaoning Province. —XINHUA



Pakistan, India to sign deal on reducing N-accident risks

ISLAMABAD, 18 Feb— Pakistan and India are likely to ink an agreement in Indian capital New Delhi on next Wednesday for reducing risks of nuclear accidents, according to a newspaper

report of *The News* on Saturday.

The details of the agreement have been finalized and the accord will be signed in the presence of foreign ministers and secretaries

of the two countries, said the report, quoting “well-placed sources”.

The newspaper notes that diplomatic observers are attaching great importance to the proposed agreement, terming it a major confidence-building measure (CBM) between Pakistan and India.

According to the agreement, in case any nuclear mishap takes place in any country, it would immediately share with the other so that no confusion or misperception should come in the way.

The two sides will use hotline in extreme emergency, said the report.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Weapons used in attack in S-E Iran come from US

TEHERAN, 18 Feb— Explosive devices and arsenals used in a terrorist attack in the southeastern Iranian city of Zahedan on Wednesday came from the United States, the semi-official *Fars* news agency reported on Saturday.

Relevant documents, photographs and film footage, which show that the explosives and arsenals used in the attack were American, would soon be made public, an “informed source” was quoted as saying.

The source further pointed out that Jundallah, a shadowy Sunni militant group, had several plots for assassinating Sunni and tribal leaders to sow discord and foment conflicts between the Shiite and Sunni citizens in Sistan-Baluchestan Province.

On Wednesday morning, an explosive-laden car exploded in Zahedan as a bus, belonging to ground forces of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards Corps, passed by, killing at least 11 people and injuring 31 others.

Jundallah has reportedly claimed responsibility for the Wednesday attack.

Iran has blamed the group for past killings in the area bordering Pakistan and Afghanistan.

MNA/Xinhua



Spain’s bullfighter Pablo Hermoso de Mendoza performs at the Nuevo Progreso bullfight Plaza, on 18 Feb, 2007, in Guadalajara, Mexico.

INTERNET

US rejects investigator’s Guantanamo visit request

PARIS, 18 Feb — A European investigator probing alleged CIA abuses of detainees said on Friday the United States has refused his request to visit the controversial US prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba to talk to inmates.

Council of Europe investigator Dick Marty had planned to travel to Guantanamo with Manfred Nowak, United Nations special rapporteur for torture, to

question detainees about reports they were earlier held in secret prisons in Europe.

“The US sent a very short reply saying that they couldn’t accept his request to visit and talk to inmates,” a spokesman for the Council of Europe said.

Over 20 mainly European countries colluded in a web of secret Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) jails and flight transfers of terrorism suspects stretching from Asia to Guantanamo Bay, Marty said in a June 2006 report.

MNA/Reuters

Indian doctors returning from Britain

LONDON, 18 Feb— With little prospect of finding a job in Britain due to changed immigration rules, an estimated 5,000 Indian doctors have returned to their home country since April and thousands more will leave by August, the British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin said Friday.

“Before 2004-05, about 10,000 doctors from India used to come every year. Since the new

immigration rules were announced in April 2006, according to rough estimate 5,000 doctors might have gone back,” BAPIO spokesman Raman Lakshman told *PTI*.

“There are still more than 10,000 doctors affected here,” he said.

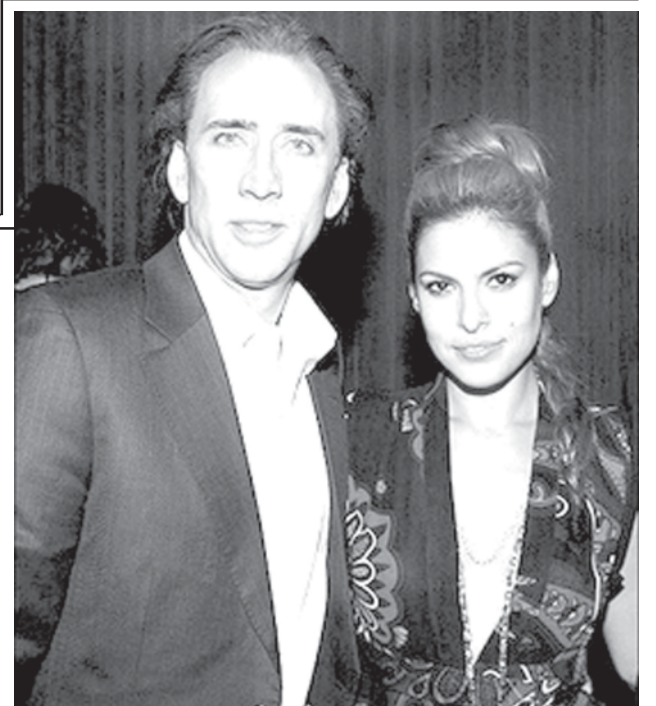
Earlier, Indian doctors could apply and get a job in the National Health Service, the biggest employer of medicos, after passing the Professional

and Linguistic Assessment Board (PLAB) test.

But under the new immigration rules, the employer has to prove that they had no appropriate candidates from Britain and EU before offering it to the non-EU candidates.

He said there would be more problems after August this year when the government’s Modernizing Medical Career Process scheme would be introduced.— *MNA/PTI*

Actors Nicolas Cage (L) and Eva Mendes attend the world premiere of Columbia Pictures’ “Ghost Rider” after party at Marquee, on 15 Feb 2007 in New York City. “Ghost Rider,” a Marvel comic adapted for the silver screen, blazed to the top of the North. — INTERNET



ECONOMIC NEWS

China confirms 650 tons of gold mine reserves

BEIJING, 19 Feb— China's gold mine reserves increased more than 650 tons in 2006, said the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).

A recent report by the NDRC said that for the past few years in a row, the amount of China's newly confirmed gold mine reserves has been larger than that consumed in the same period.

According to the report, prospecting in Yangshan Gold Mine of northwest China's Gansu Province made considerable progress in 2006, with a confirmed total reserve of 258 tons, making it China's largest gold mine deposit.

For China's gold industry, 2006 was a year of concentration. The report said that through mergers and acquisition and the closing of unsafe small mines, the number

of gold mines has been reduced to fewer than 1,000. The top five gold mining enterprises produce 40 per cent of the country's total gold output, and hold over half of the country's gold mine reserves.

In 2006 China produced a record high of 240.08 tons of gold, up 7.15 per cent year-on-year. It plans to produce 260 tons of gold in 2007, nearly 20 tons more than last year, according to the NDRC. — MNA/Xinhua



A crane hauls a rare giant ocean sunfish out of the water at a fishing port in Zamboanga City, southern Philippines, on 18 Feb, 2007. The ocean sunfish, which was found dying by a local fisherman near a beach in a remote town 30 km (18.6 miles) east of Zamboanga City, is considered the largest bony fish in the world and usually weighs more than a ton.

INTERNET



Fireworks explode over the People's Square in Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 18 Feb, 2007, the New Year's Day on China's lunar calendar.

INTERNET

SAFTA must include services, investment

MUMBAI, 19 Feb— India Saturday said South Asia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) should include services and investments, in order to enlarge its scope.

"Full implementation of SAFTA will catalyze other areas of economic integration, including enlarging the scope of SAFTA to services and investments," India's External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee said after inaugurating the second SAARC Business Leaders conclave organized by FICCI here.

"SAFTA can be an important instrument to deepen intra-regional trade if it is implemented in letter and spirit," he said.

Mukherjee observed that regional integration would provide opportunities of cooperation to address problems of energy shortage, constraints of transit for land-locked regions of the sub-continent and overcoming high transaction costs due to poor facilitation.

"Regional cooperation on transport and trade facilitation can transform these land locked regions into land-linked region. The SAARC Multimodal Transport Study has given important suggestions which should be carried forward," he said.

MNA/PTI

LA County pays heavily for piracy products

LOS ANGELES, 18 Feb— Bootleg DVDs, CDs, prescription drugs and other merchandise such as handbags cost nine industries across Los

Angeles County more than 100,000 jobs and about 5.2 billion dollars in lost sales in 2005, said a new study.

Conducted by the Los

Angeles County Economic Development Corp, the motion picture industry accounted for about half the losses — 2.7 billion dollars — followed by the recording industry, which sustained 850 million in losses, said the study published on Friday by the *Los Angeles Times* on Friday.

"Every dollar lost to piracy represents wages

lost for the hardworking families that make the Los Angeles entertainment industry the envy of the world," Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said in a statement.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia's Merpati to lease 15 Chinese 'MA-60' aircraft

JAKARTA, 19 Feb — Indonesia's state-run air carrier Merpati Nusantara plans to lease 15 MA-60 propeller planes from China to replace the aging Fokker-27 mainly for eastern routes in the country, local Press said Saturday.

Two of the 55-passenger Chinese planes are expected to arrive in April, reported major national newspaper *Kompas*.

The leasing tariff is reportedly 30 per cent lower than other planes of its class in the global market and the Chinese passengers planes have lower operating costs apart from MA-60, Merpati will also lease 13 Boeing planes of the 737 series.

"With the additional fleets, we expect to boost passengers to 5.7 million this year," Merpati's corporate secretary Irvan

Harijanto was quoted as saying.

Merpati currently operates 22 planes and had 2.4 million passengers last year, a tiny share from the national figure of some 34 million passengers in 2006.

Irvan said the government would inject a fund of 450 billion rupiah (about 49.7 million US dollars) for the leasing.

MNA/Xinhua



Carnival revellers dressed as 'Peliqueiros' run through a street in Spain's northwestern village of Laza, on 18 Feb, 2007. 'Peliqueiros', or ancient tax collectors, pursued villagers through the streets ringing their cowbells and hitting villagers with their sticks.

INTERNET



A worker of the Hyundai Motor Co walks inside a showroom in Seoul, South Korea in this 12 May, 2004 file photo. Hyundai Motor Co, the world's sixth-largest automaker, on 19 Feb, 2007, denied a British newspaper report that it is interested in acquiring Chrysler, the US unit of German automaker DaimlerChrysler.—INTERNET

Democrats vow new challenge to Bush over Iraq

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb — Leading US Democrats vowed on Sunday to seek a revision in President George W Bush's 2002 authorization to wage war in Iraq, as a way to raise pressure for a change in strategy.

Undeterred by Senate Republicans who blocked a resolution opposing Bush's troop buildup in Iraq, Democrats in control of Congress pledged to challenge Bush anew by seeking a mandate that the mission of US troops does

not include interceding in a civil war.

"We'll be looking at modification of that (war) authorization in order to limit the mission of American troops to a support mission instead of a combat mission," Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin, a Michigan Democrat told "Fox News

Sunday".

With the safety of US troops already in Iraq at stake, Levin said there was little appetite in Congress to end funding for the unpopular war.

The war, fuelled by an unrelenting insurgency and sectarian violence, already dominates the 2008 White House race.

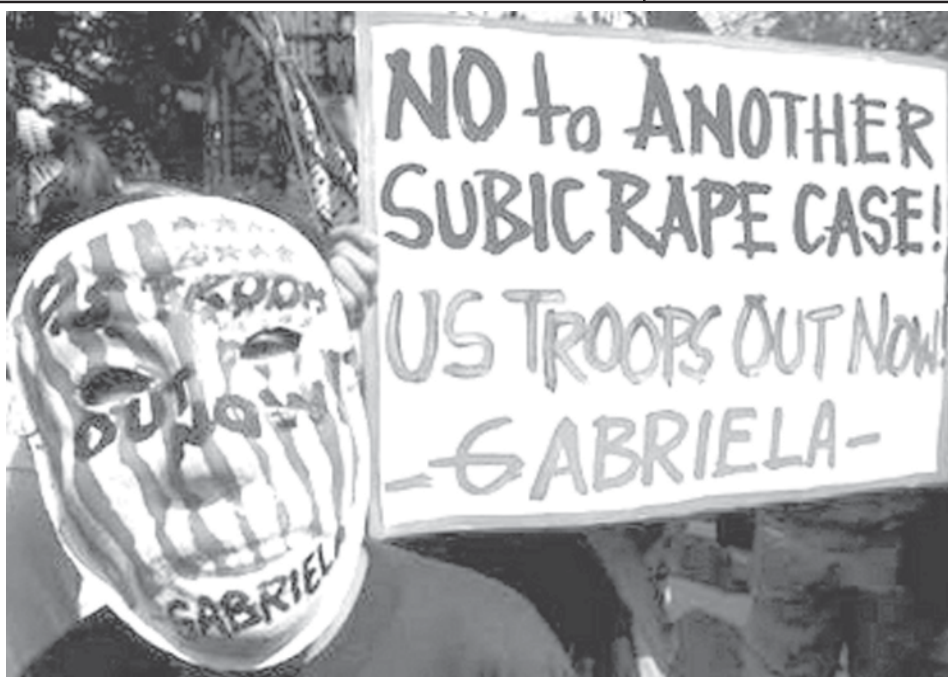
MNA/Reuters

Landslide kills seven in central Java

JAKARTA, 19 Feb— At least seven residents of Tanjungsari and Pasangsari villages in Magelang District of Indonesia's Central Java Province, were killed in a landslide on Sunday.

Besides the fatalities, four others were wounded and three remained missing in the disaster, Antara news agency quoted Tanjungsari village head Sapari as saying. Rescue workers had evacuated the dead and the wounded victims, he said, adding that the rescuers would continue to search for Maskun, Juri and Sururi.

MNA/Xinhua



A protester displays a placard during a protest outside the US Embassy in Manila, on 19 Feb, 2007 to denounce the opening of US-Philippines military exercises in Jolo, Sulu, southern Philippines. The United States and the Philippines began annual war games on Monday with the focus this year on maritime threats including piracy, seajackings and terrorists slipping across porous borders.— INTERNET

Kosovo independence would have bad fallout

MOSCOW, 18 Feb — Independence for the Serbian province of Kosovo would cause serious problems for the Balkans and beyond, news agencies quoted Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov as saying on Friday.

"As far as Kosovo is concerned, we are convinced that granting the province independence will have the most negative consequences for that region and for Europe as a whole," Interfax news agency quoted Lavrov as saying.

A United Nations envoy has proposed a plan, backed by the United States and Europe, for Kosovo's future status which would set it on the path to independence. Russia, Serbia's historic ally, has said it has doubts about the plan and may use its veto in the UN Security Council to block it. — MNA/Reuters

10 killed in road accident in central Thailand

BANGKOK, 18 Feb — At least 10 people were killed and three others injured on Saturday when a pick-up truck and an 18-wheel coal truck collided in Thailand's central province of Ayutthaya.

The victims, eight men and two women, were riding in the back of the pick-up truck in Ayutthaya, police said. After the crash, the pick-up truck fell into a shallow canal. The police have launched investigation into the reason of the accident. — MNA/Xinhua

Mummified body in front of blaring TV found in US

NEW YORK, 18 Feb — Police called to a Long Island man's house discovered the mummified remains of the resident, dead for more than a year, sitting in front of a blaring television set.

The 70-year-old Hampton Bays, New York, resident, identified as Vincenzo Ricardo, appeared to have died of natural causes. Police said on Saturday his body was discovered on Thursday when they were called to the house over a burst water pipe.

"You could see his face. He still had hair on his head," Newsday quoted morgue assistant Jeff Bacchus as saying.

The home's low

humidity had preserved the body.

Officials could not explain why the electricity had not been turned off, considering Ricardo had not been heard from since December 2005.

Neighbours said when they had not seen Ricardo, who was diabetic and had been blind for years, they assumed he was in the hospital or a long-term care facility.

MNA/Reuters



Paris Hilton arrives at her birthday celebration at Body English inside the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on 17 Feb, 2007.—INTERNET

Freed Filipino seamen arrive home from Nigeria

MANILA, 18 Feb — Twenty-four Filipino seamen freed by kidnappers in Nigeria arrived here on Saturday night, a local radio reported. After landing at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the 24 seamen met President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and members of their families in the Presidential Palace, radio DZBB reported. All 24 Filipino seamen were released on Tuesday by militants in Nigeria after 24 days in captivity. The Filipinos were employees of a German-owned cargo ship.— MNA/Xinhua

One killed, 18 injured in road accident in HK

HONG KONG, 18 Feb — A man was killed and 18 others injured in a road accident around 9 am Saturday in a tunnel northwest of Hong Kong.

According to local TV station, a truck collided with a bus Saturday morning in Tai Lam Tunnel in New Territories of Hong Kong, ripping open the front of the double-deck bus and two passengers were thrown out of the bus. — MNA/Xinhua

Germany chides US move on anti-missile shield

BERLIN, 19 Feb — German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier criticized the United States on Sunday in a rare public rebuke for failing to inform Russia of an offer to build an anti-missile base on Polish soil.

In an interview to appear in Monday's *Handelsblatt* daily, Steinmeier said it was vital to keep all partners fully informed due to the sensitive nature of the project.

"Because the sites for the stationing are quite near Russia, one should have talked about it with Russia beforehand," Steinmeier said in remarks released ahead of publication.

"In view of the strategic nature of this sort of project, I urge one to act with caution and to engage in an intensive dialogue with all the partners directly and indirectly involved," he added.

Steinmeier, a leader in the Social Democrats (SPD), was chief of staff under former chancellor Gerhard Schroeder — a close ally of Russian President Vladimir Putin and an outspoken opponent of the 2003 US-led invasion of Iraq.

The United States has asked Poland and the neighbouring Czech Republic to host elements of its multi-billion dollar global defence system designed

to counter missiles potentially fired by what Washington calls rogue states.

The Polish base would supplement existing missile-shield installations in the US states of Alaska and California and intercept hostile missiles from the Middle and Far East.

Russia has threatened to install

medium-range ballistic missiles in its Baltic Kaliningrad Region neighbouring northern Poland if Warsaw agrees to host the US base in its territory.

New Polish Defence Minister Aleksander Szczyglo said on Sunday Poland would reply within two weeks to the US offer.

MNA/Reuters

Nikolay Vlasov, head of veterinary surveillance at Russia's animal and plant health watchdog Rosselkhozadzor, speaks during an interview in Moscow on 19 Feb, 2007. Health officials confirmed on Monday that a bird flu outbreak near Moscow was caused by a H5N1 strain that can theoretically kill humans. — INTERNET



Tons of fireworks debris removed from Beijing's streets

BEIJING, 19 Feb — Sanitation workers removed more than 900 tons of fireworks debris in the Chinese capital after residents celebrated the Eve of the Chinese Lunar New Year, the most important festival in China.

According to the Beijing Municipal Administration Commission, some 16,000 sanitation workers spent the whole night on Saturday collecting tattered red paper and cardboard casings from spent fireworks on 2,698 streets in the city.

Fireworks are part of traditional celebrations marking the Chinese Lunar New Year, also known as Spring Festival, which falls on Sunday this year.

Since Beijing lifted a 12-year ban in 2006, fireworks have made a loud return to the city, with sales

increasing sharply this year to 380,000 boxes, compared with 240,000 boxes last year, according to a municipal public security official.

Sanitation workers started Saturday night sweeping debris of firecrackers ignited on the eve of the Lunar New Year as the municipal authorities had ordered an early clean-up.

One person was confirmed dead and more than 100 others were injured when setting off fireworks to celebrate the Eve of the Chinese Lunar New Year in Beijing.

MNA/Xinhua



Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has called for unity among his country's many races as its ethnic Chinese minority celebrated the Lunar New Year amid a robust economic outlook. INTERNET

Two Russian bird flu cases confirmed as H5N1

Moscow, 19 Feb — Two cases of bird flu in Russia have been confirmed as being the deadly H5N1 strain, Russia's animal and plant

health watchdog said on Saturday.

"It was confirmed as H5N1," said Alexei Alexeyenko, Press secretary for Rosselkhozadzor.

The positive tests refer to the first two cases found

on Friday night. "Tomorrow we will do more tests and be able to determine how dangerous the virus is," Alexeyenko said.

No human cases of bird flu have been recorded in Russia.

MNA/Reuters

Bus falls off bridge in India, 24 feared drowned

BHUBANESWAR, (India), 19 Feb — Four people drowned and 20 more were feared dead after a bus in eastern India fell into a river after colliding with a truck on Saturday, police said.

The accident took place on bridge in Keonjhar District 270 kilometres (170 miles) north of Bhubaneswar, capital of Orissa State.

"At least 20 (more) people could have drowned after the bus fell into the river," Bijoy Murmu, a senior police official said from Keonjhar.

Around 30 people were rescued but 15 of them were in critical condition at a local hospital. There were well over 50 people in the bus, police said.

Buses and trucks are often driven recklessly in India, where highway regulations are regularly flouted. — MNA/Reuters

Two killed in Kazakh fighter jet crash

ALMATY, 19 Feb — Two Kazakh military officers were killed on Saturday when their fighter jet crashed on landing in the city of Karaganda, a military source told Reuters.

"A captain and a major died when the plane crashed approaching Karaganda after a training flight," the source said.

He said the plane was an *MiG-31B* fighter jet, but gave no further details about what might have caused the crash.

Karaganda, in central Kazakhstan, is about 200 kilometres (125 miles) southeast of the Central Asian country's capital, Astana. — MNA/Reuters



Visitors stroll at a temple fair in Beijing, as part of Chinese Lunar New Year festivities, on 19 Feb, 2007. — INTERNET

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

Commander attends dinner to mark Pongal Festival of AMTHF

YANGON, 19 Feb — A dinner to mark Pongal Festival, organized by All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (HQ) was held on the lawns of Dusit Inya Lake Hotel, Mayangon Township yesterday.

First, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win lit an oil lamp to open the ceremony.

Present at the dinner were Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra, heads of department of the ministry, the chairman of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the secretary, managing director Dr Simon of Stevan's Corner Restaurants Group and members of Malaysian cultural troupe, chairman of AMTHF U Zaw Zaw



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung lit oil lamp to mark Pongal Festival. — MNA

Naing and executives, chairman of organizing the ceremony U Thein Lwin and the members, Tamil Hindus and guests.

First, Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura

Myint Maung, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra and chairman U Win Myint of UMFCCI lit oil lamps.

Next, officials of AMTHF explained the purpose of the ceremony in Myanmar, Tamil and

English languages and those present enjoyed the dinner.

During and after the dinner, cultural troupe of AMTHF and Malaysian Tamil-Hindu cultural members presented songs and dances. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects construction of airport, university...

(from page 1)

In his speech, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that over 1.205 million acres of monsoon paddy have been cultivated in Rakhine State for 2006-07. Acres of summer paddy, pea and edible oil crops increased. Hence, it is necessary to utilize quality strains of crop and apply agricultural technology. Concerted efforts are to be made for cultivation of pepper and rubber to meet the target of 100,000 acres and for growing 500,000 acres of physic nut within three years. Furthermore, tasks are to be carried out for boosting production of prawn from 150,000 acres of ponds. It is known to all that roads and bridges have been constructed in Rakhine State for ensuring better transport. In conclusion, local authorities and departmental personnel are to join hands with the local people for undertaking development of the nation including Rakhine State with Union Spirit.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party paid homage to Lawkananda Pagoda in Sittway and inspected renovation tasks. They also paid obeisance to Atulamarazein Pylonchantha Pagoda. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe visits...

(from page 16)

the staff for their effort for earlier completion of production and renovation of locomotives and other machinery parts.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected production of new locomotives, repair of old ones, 35 items of machine parts produced by Myanma Railways, 40 items of machine parts produced by private entrepreneurs, five items of machine parts produced by the Ministry of Industry-2, two items of machine parts produced by the Ministry of Science and Technology, 38 items of electric goods produced by private companies, 25 Ton Lifting Jack and the traction shop and repair of motors and generators. Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe left necessary instructions. — MNA

English and Computer Course No 2/ 2007 concludes

YANGON, 19 Feb — A conclusion ceremony of English and Computer Course No 2/ 2007 organized by Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and International Language and Business Center (ILBC) was held at the ILBC building in Tamway Township this morning.

First, Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw

Mar Mar Wai made a speech and accepted K 600,000 donated by wellwishers.

Next, Managing Director U Tin Maung Win of ILBC also spoke. Principal U Lay Maung gave completion certificates to the trainees. Chairperson of Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Thauung Mya presented gifts to the instructors. — MNA

1000-mile cyclists arrive in Mandalay

YANGON, 19 Feb — Min Min Han (A&I) was the first among the cyclists of 1000-mile Yangon-Pay-Mandalay-Yangon race arriving in Mandalay

today on the seventh day of the competition.

He received a prize of K 65,000, and the runner-up, Kyaw Kyaw Oo (Flamingo), got K 40,000. The third

prize of K 20,000 went to Zaw Min Tun of Shan State (South).

Cyclists will ride to Meiktila tomorrow on the eighth day of the competition

sponsored by Myanmar Cycling Federation with the assistance of Myanmar Olympic Committee and the Ministry of Sports.

MNA

Beans and Pulses and Sesame merchants to hold meeting

YANGON, 19 Feb — The 14th annual meeting of Myanmar Beans and Pulses and Sesame Merchants

Association will be held on the first floor of UMFCCI office tower on Minyekyawswa Road in Lanmadaw

township on 24 February.

A workshop on boosting production of beans and pulses and

sesame will also be held. Members are requested to attend the workshop without fail.

H

Chirac awards high French order to Clint Eastwood

PARIS, 19 Feb — President Jacques Chirac awarded the Legion d'Honneur order to actor and director Clint Eastwood on Saturday, calling his latest films lessons in humanity.

"At this side of the Atlantic ... you embody the best of Hollywood. In France, your films move millions of viewers because they are strong without being simplistic, lucid without being cynical," he told the 76-year-old American during a ceremony at the Elysee Palace.

Chirac said Eastwood's latest films "Flags of Our Fathers" and "Letters from Iwo Jima" showed the impasse that can follow from the blind use of force.

"This warning, which is a good lesson in humanity, evokes a special echo in our conscience," Chirac said.

He wished success for "Letters from Iwo Jima", which will be released in France next week.

The Legion of Honour is France's highest order and has five classes. Eastwood was awarded the lowest rank — that of knight. The order was first awarded by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1804. — MNA/Reuters

USDA CEC member inspects regional development in Ingapu Township

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 17 February morning attended the ceremony to share merits gained for Sasanavottikari Ordination Hall renovated by USDA held at Laygyi Village in Ingapu Township, and presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

In the afternoon, the CEC member inspected construction of a new building for Tatsu Village BEPS and made cash donation.

Afterwards, the CEC member looked into the requirements for renovation of Mezaligon Village BEPS and presented K 2.5 million.

In the evening, he inspected the construction of a new building for Ingapu Township People's Hospital and attended to the needs.

On 18 February morning, he looked into the construction of new buildings for Gwaygon Village BEPS and Naukmi Village BEPS with the supervision of USDAs.

On arrival at Yaylegyun Village BEMS (Branch), the CEC member looked into the requirements for renovation of the school and made cash donation.

Next, he proceeded to Nankatgyi Village BEHS (Branch) and donated K 1.7 million together with well-wishers.—MNA

Students, outstanding disabled persons honoured

YANGON, 19 Feb — Ceremonies to honour the students who had passed the matriculation examination in 2005-2006 academic year and outstanding disabled persons who had won prizes in sports competitions from respective training schools under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and donate cash were held at the hall of Kyimyindine School for the Blind yesterday.

First, the blind students opened the ceremony by singing a song.

Next, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe made a speech on the occasion.



Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and wife present K 100,000 for Kyimyindine School for the Blind. — MNA

Afterwards, donors presented K 2.61 million to students and outstanding disabled persons.

Next, Minister Maj-

Gen Maung Maung Swe, leader of Working Group of Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Tin Tin Nwe and Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing

gave away honorary prizes to Mr Jimbo and wife of Ko Ko Ro Volunteer Group.

The ceremony ended after the minister and wife presented K 100,000 to the students of the school for the blind. — MNA

Education Technology Course No 2 opens

YANGON, 19 Feb — A ceremony to open an Education Technology Special Course No 2, organized by the Ministry of Education, was held at the Convocation Hall of Mandalay University yesterday, with an address by Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein.

Present on the occasion were directors-general of departments and responsible personnel, rectors of universities, the pro-rector of Sagaing Education

University, professors, affiliated professors, lecturers and trainees.

The trainees attending the course totalled 615.

A similar ceremony was held at the Convocation Hall of Yangon University yesterday, with an address by Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt.

A total of 538 are attending the course.

MNA

Yangon Div USDA holds extempore talks

YANGON, 18 Feb— As a gesture of hailing the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association organized extempore talks at the association in Bahan Township today.

Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin delivered an address and accepted K 100,000, each donated by UNyi Nyi of Cairo Tailor and Construction, and Managing Director U Maung Maung of Phoenix Group Int'l Co.

Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa presented prizes to Maung Kyaw Kyaw Htoo who stood first, Ma Phyu Phyu Nyunt second and Ma Wint War Tun third in the extempore talks.

Secretary of Yangon Division USDA U Aye Myint presented gifts to Yangon East District Education Officer U Tint Lwin and the ceremony ended.—MNA

CEC member visits Chin villages

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb — USDA CEC member Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko visited a number of villages in Thantlang Township, Chin State, on 14 and 15 February.

At the villages, he attended opening ceremonies of mini-hydel power stations, provided cash and other assistance for social progress of the rural areas and accepted USDA membership applications.

In Haka on 16 February, Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, who is also the Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs, visited UPC Church, Zion Church and other religious associations to facilitate their functions.

The following day, he presented a set of TV for the prison in Haka, and visited some villages in the surrounding areas. The deputy minister visited Buddhist monasteries in the town the next day. — MNA

One human trafficker sentenced to life imprisonment, two others ten years' imprisonment each

YANGON, 19 Feb — Yangon East District Court sentenced one human trafficker to life imprisonment and his two brothers to ten years' imprisonment each on 7 February.

The case was that Win Naing Oo (a) Ange Lay, son of U Win Aung, of Ward 2 of Dagon Myothit

(East) Township took six persons— three women and two children of the same township and one woman of Dagon Myothit (North) Township—to the other country and trafficked in them. He was arrested on 2 February 2006.

According to the investigation, Win Naing Oo deceived two women

of the same township and one from Dagon Myothit (North) Township in December 2005 telling them that they would get well-paid jobs in a store in Muse. He trafficked in them to get married with men from the other country by force.

Kyaw Win Than and Myo Naing Oo (a) Ko Myo, brothers of Win

Naing Oo, got involved in human trafficking. About a week later, Win Naing Oo took one woman and two children from Dagon Myothit (East) Township to the other country again. He was sentenced to life imprisonment and his two brothers to ten years' imprisonment each for human trafficking.

Officials concerned in cooperation with social organizations are launching anti-human trafficking programmes including educating women and children regarding trafficking in persons and meting out severe punishment for human trafficking.

MNA



Win Naing Oo (a) Ange Lay. — MFP



Kyaw Win Than. MFP



Myo Naing Oo (a) Ko Myo. — MFP

Malaysia mulls ban on fast-food advertising

KUALA LUMPUR, 19 Feb — Malaysia's Health Ministry is considering a ban on fast-food advertisements because the meals they promote are considered "silent killers", the Star newspaper reported on Saturday.

The move would also cover endorsements of events linked to fast food, Health Minister Chua Soi Lek was quoted as saying.

A fast-food "sin tax" was also being considered, he said, adding that the proposal was motivated by the increasing number of Malaysians suffering from diseases of the "affluent" such as diabetes and hypertension.

"We want to send a strong signal to consumers. We do not allow advertising for cigarettes and liquor. Fast

food should be treated in the same way as alcohol," he said. Links between fat-laden fast food and health issues such as obesity were heightened by a 2001 US best-selling book, *Fast Food Nation*, and a 2004 documentary movie about eating only fast food for a month, "Super Size Me".

Britain announced in November a ban on fast-food advertising during children's television programmes.

Fast-food restaurants such as McDonald's and Burger King are popular among Malaysians.

MNA/Reuters



In the shadow of San Francisco's Coit Tower, cyclist Ivan Basso of Italy crosses the finish line during the prologue of the Tour of California on Sunday, 18 Feb, 2007, in San Francisco. — INTERNET

Pakistan detains 36 over bombing

QUETTA, Pakistan, 18 Feb — Police in southwestern Pakistan have detained 36 people, mostly Afghan refugees, for questioning about a suicide bombing inside a courtroom that killed a judge and 15 other people, an official said Sunday.

The suicide bomber struck a crowded courtroom in the city of Quetta on Saturday in the deadliest of a series of attacks in recent weeks.

There is suspicion in Pakistan that pro-Taliban militants are targeting sensitive sites to undermine the country's support of the United States, and an official in the region where Saturday's attack took place hinted at Afghan involvement. The explosion wounded 24 people and left bloodied clothes and body parts scattered next to wrecked furniture and shattered glass in the Quetta District Courts. It forced police — already on alert — to further tighten security nationwide.

The chief of police in Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan province, said Sunday that 36 people, including at least 22 Afghan refugees living in the city, have been detained in a probe into the bombing.

Internet

125 wounded by fireworks on New Year's Eve in Beijing

BEIJING, 19 Feb — A total of 125 people were wounded in Beijing as citizens set off fireworks on Saturday to celebrate the eve of the Spring Festival, according to the capital's fireworks administration authorities.

Three were seriously wounded, including a person whose eyeballs had to be removed by doctors, said a spokesman with the Beijing Fireworks Administration Office.

"Eight people wounded by fireworks underwent operations on Saturday," said a source with the Tongren Hospital in Beijing, which received 44 cases of eye wounds by Saturday night.

The city also reported 114 fire cases from fireworks ignition, but no casualties were reported, the spokesman said.

The ignition peak of fireworks was between 10 pm Saturday and 1 am Sunday in the capital. About 480,000 security workers were mobilized Saturday to watch out for firecracker accidents.

Chinese usually ignite firecrackers during traditional Chinese festivals, especially the Spring Festival, or Lunar New Year, to expect good luck for the coming year.

Beijing lifted a 12-year ban on firecrackers in 2005. With the fifth ring road as the dividing line, the whole city is divided into firecracker areas and forbidden areas. Firecrackers had been banned in the capital for

environment and safety concerns.

The sales of fireworks by two major suppliers had reached 380,000 boxes in Beijing, compared with 240,000 boxes last year, according to a municipal public security official.

"But the city also saw a sharp inflow of substandard firecrackers,

despite supervision efforts," said the spokesman, who blamed the three seriously wounded cases on ignition of substandard fireworks.

The city had confiscated 560 million substandard firecrackers, more than four times that of last year, said the spokesman.

MNA/Xinhua



Ethnic Malaysian Chinese pose beside a lion dance performer during Lunar New Year celebrations at a temple in Kuala Lumpur on 18 Feb, 2007. Chinese around the world welcomed the Lunar New Year which is believed to be an especially auspicious 'golden pig year', which only comes around every 60 years. — INTERNET

Chinese film wins top award in Berlin

BERLIN, 19 Feb — Chinese film "Tuya's Marriage" on Saturday won the Golden Bear for best film, the top prize of the Berlin International Film festival.

This is the first time a Chinese film won such a prize in the festival since 1993 when Xianghunnu, or Women From the Lake of Scented Souls, directed by Xie Fei, got the prize.

The film, directed by Chinese director Wang Quan'an, tells the story of Tuya, a woman in Inner Mongolia in north China, forced to confront the necessity of finding a new husband who can take care

of both her family and her partially disabled ex-husband.

When awarded the prize, Wang said that he cannot imagine a new gift for Chinese Lunar New Year than such a prize. "When I started making films, my teacher said film should show people's dreams. This film made my dreams come true."

The festival's Silver Bear for outstanding

artistic achievement was awarded to the cast of Robert de Niro's "The Good Shepherd". The event, which started, on 8 February, came to a close Saturday. A total of 22 films were competing for the festival's top honours.

The festival, also called the "Berlinale", has been regarded as one of the world's most prestigious film festivals.

MNA/Xinhua



A student holds up a sign during a demonstration at Cairo University in Cairo, on 19 Feb, 2007 to protest Israeli excavations in Jerusalem. The sign reads, 'It will not be destroyed as long as I am still alive'. — INTERNET



A performer bites the stainless lid of a cooking pan into two pieces to show his strength at a temple fair in Beijing as part of Chinese Lunar New Year festivities in China, on 19 Feb, 2007. — INTERNET

Heat wave set records in S California

LOS ANGELES, 19 Feb — Record-high temperatures made their mark around Southern California these days, an indication of climate changes in the world.

A February heat wave set records on Saturday at Los Angeles International Airport and other spots around Southern California, said National Weather Service spokesman Bill Hoffer.

The Los Angeles-area records included 87 degrees Fahrenheit (35.5 degrees Celsius) at the airport, 87 at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) and 88 in Long Beach, Hoffer said.

Other records were set in Camarillo (87) and Paso Robles (82) near the downtown area.

But Saturday's high of 89 degrees Fahrenheit in downtown Los Angeles was not a record, but it did tie the high for the date set in 1890, Hoffer said in

remarks published by the *Los Angeles Times* on Sunday.

Officials said

thousands of people headed for the beaches on Saturday.

MNA/Xinhua



Two Chinese women walk down the street dressed as brides in Changchun. Singapore marriage agency is offering a Lunar New Year special on brides from China's Fujian Province. — INTERNET

Iran arrests suspects over bomb blast

TEHERAN, 19 Feb — Iranian security forces arrested several suspects after a bomb explosion in the southeast of the country, the semi-official *Fars* news agency said on Saturday.

Police and insurgents clashed after the explosion at a school in the city of Zahedan on Friday. The blast caused no casualties, the agency said on Friday.

"Some people suspected of being behind the Friday bombing have been arrested," a local military official told *Fars*.

"The armed bandits, in their new crime,

exploded a percussion bomb and fled the scene," Zahedan governor Hassanali Nouri was quoted by *Fars* as saying. He linked the bomb to the "massive participation of people in the funeral of victims of Wednesday's terrorist act".

A booby-trapped car blew up a bus owned by Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards on Wednesday,

killing at least 11 people and wounding 31 others.

Responsibility for that attack was claimed by a shadowy Sunni group, Jundallah (God's soldiers), which Iran has said is linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda network. Teheran has blamed Jundallah for past killings in the area bordering Pakistan.

MNA/Reuters

Mexico extends anti-drug fight to border states

MEXICO CITY, 19 Feb — Mexico is sending thousands of police and military personnel to two states bordering Texas in its fight against drug gangs, Interior Minister Francisco Ramirez Acuna said on Sunday.

Security forces will step up operations in the northeastern states of Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas, and Navy vessels will patrol the Gulf coast for drug shipments.

Tamaulipas is home to the infamous Gulf Cartel, one of Mexico's two main drug smuggling gangs. Nuevo Leon's normally placid capital Monterrey has been rocked by the drug-related murders of at least 14 active or former police officers this year.

President Felipe Calderon has sent troops to combat drug cartels in several states since taking

office last December.

"More than 2,600 elements from the Defence Ministry, the Navy, the Security Ministry and the attorney-general's office will take part in this new effort against organized crime in these two states," Ramirez Acuna

told reporters.

More than 2,000 people were killed last year in a feud between the Gulf Cartel and an alliance of drug traffickers from the western state of Sinaloa. Many of the victims were tortured and beheadings are common

MNA/Reuters

Blair's adviser mullied suicide after cash-for-honours arrest

LONDON, 19 Feb — Des Smith, a former government adviser on schools, contemplated killing himself after being arrested in a police probe into political party funding, the *News of the World* said on Sunday.

Smith, a teacher and former adviser to Prime Minister Tony Blair's flagship schools programme, the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust, told the tabloid he felt he had been deserted by the Premier.

"I was literally hung out to dry by Tony Blair and his government and all of his associates and ministers," Smith told the paper. "They didn't even wait to see if there was any evidence against me before cutting me off."

Smith is alleged to have told an undercover journalist that businessmen could get a state honour by sponsoring the so-called City Academies, sparking a police investigation which has rocked the Labour Party and damaged Blair's image.

"After my arrest, Blair and his government did nothing to help me or my family. He sat by and said nothing, like the shallow, fair-weather friend he is. They knew I wasn't involved and now the world knows," Smith was quoted as saying.

MNA/Reuters



Italy's designer Giorgio Armani acknowledges applause at the end of his Fall/Winter 2007/2008 women's collection during Milan Fashion Week in Milan, on 19 Feb, 2007. — INTERNET

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DONATE BLOOD

Three killed in bank robbery in S-E Nigeria

PORT HARCOURT (Nigeria), 18 Feb—Three people have been killed and many others injured when armed robbers attacked a bank on Friday in Nigeria's southeastern Rivers State, local police said.

Eyewitnesses said that the robbers stormed an Intercontinental Bank branch in the Bori area of Rivers State at about 11 am (1000 GMT) on Friday, taking customers and staff by surprise as they shot sporadically and dispossessed customers of their monies.

According to one of the sources who declined to be named, the bank is being officially used by the institution for the payment of fees by students.

The source said apart from the three deaths, many others including some students of the Polytechnic who went to pay their fees before the incident sustained serious bullet wounds and have been rushed to hospitals.

"We are suspecting that some more persons may die on the way to the hospital, because the degree of bullet wounds sustained by some of them is heavy," the source said.—MNA/Xinhua

Two killed in Uganda car blast

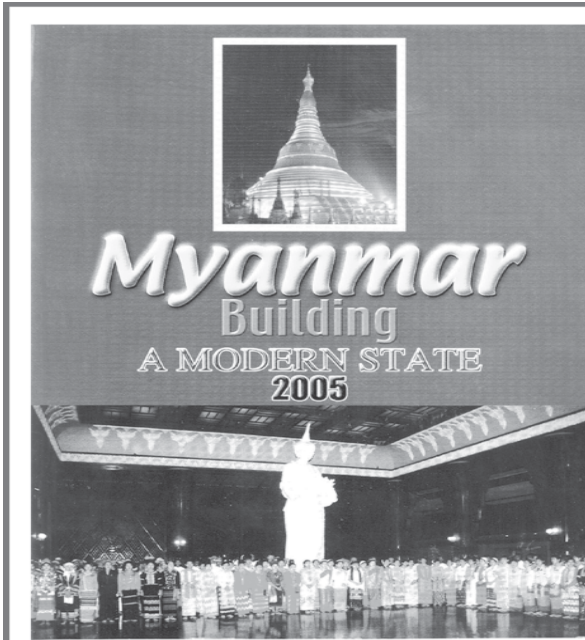
KAMPALA, 18 Feb—Two people were killed when their car exploded in the outskirts of Uganda's capital late on Friday, police said.

"Two people have been confirmed dead, maybe it had something inside which exploded. It looks like there was a blast from inside the vehicle," Ugandan police spokeswoman Judith Nabakoba, who was on the scene, said. "It is a civilian vehicle."

Kampala police chief Grace Turyagumanawe said: "For sure it was a blast, we can't give more details at this stage."

He said there were other people in the vehicle but did not give exact figures. "There were other people in the car, they were taken to hospital," he said, adding he did not know whether or how badly they were injured.

MNA/Reuters



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Tender No. (IFB No. CCS-01-07)

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8th March 2007 at 4pm

Tender documents are available at the following address or can be accessed at www.miccl.com.mm. Any queries can be done between 10 am to 4pm at MICCL Yangon office before the tender closing date.

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70 (I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township

Yangon, Myanmar (Tel: (95)1-514194 to 7/Fax: (95) 1-514208/

Email: miccl@miccl.com.mm)

"Taxi 4" star Naceri jailed for four months

AIX-EN-PROVENCE (France), 18 Feb—French actor Samy Naceri was jailed for four months on Friday at the end of a week in which his latest film "Taxi 4" hit the screens.

Naceri, who has had several brushes with the law, was arrested following a fight outside a nightclub in the southern town of Aix-en-Provence in January. He is currently serving a jail sentence for racially insulting police officers.

The actor was sentenced to nine months in jail on Friday, with six suspended, for the nightclub fight. He

was also ordered to pay compensation to two security staff and a symbolic one euro damages to the nightclub.

In addition, he was sentenced on a separate charge to one month in prison with a fine of 5,000 euros (6,600 US dollars). That charge followed a scuffle with staff at a hospital where he was taken when he swallowed a quantity of medicine. Naceri, 45, plays the speeding hero of the Taxi series who won a prize at the Cannes festival for the wartime drama "Indigenes" ("Days of Glory").

MNA/Reuters

Indonesia to resume sending H5N1 samples to WHO

JAKARTA, 18 Feb—Indonesia will resume sharing bird flu samples with the World Health Organization (WHO), but under a new mechanism aimed at ensuring developing nations get access to vaccines, the Health Minister and the WHO said on Friday.

In a controversial move, Jakarta last week declared it would only share its H5N1 bird flu virus samples with parties who agreed not to use them for commercial reasons

and had stopped sharing them with the WHO.

"We agree to responsible sharing practices and we're going to do it soon," Health Minister Siti Fadillah Supari told reporters.

She said that a proposal would be drawn up that would be fair and guarantee access for any products resulting from the sharing of samples to other developing countries. WHO spokesman David Heymann told reporters that there would

be a meeting of health ministers from the Asia Pacific Region and select countries in March to look into the new mechanism.

"The government of Indonesia has agreed to resume free sharing of viruses of H5N1 with WHO for global public health security to ensure the world is secure in knowing what viruses are circulating that could cause a pandemic," Heymann said after a meeting with the Indonesian Health Minister.—MNA/Reuters

TRADE MARK CAUTION

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Int'l Class 30: "Ice cream; edible ices; frozen yogurt (confectionery ices); cocoa beverages with milk; coffee beverages with milk; chocolate beverages with milk; coffee-based beverages; cocoa-based beverages; chocolate-based beverages; sherbets (ices); binding agents for ice cream; powder for ice cream; water ice; ice-cream brick; frozen sucker".

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Thein Aung B.Sc., R.L., D.B.L. Advocate
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Tel: 254037 G.P.O Box: 666
Yangon. 20 February 2007

သစ်ဆာသစ်
ချစ်ခင်တဲ့လူမျိုး၊
သစ်ပင်ကို
နှစ်စဉ်စိုက်
ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုး။

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြုစိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Cambodia provides 2,000 tons of rice for WFP

PHNOM PENH, 18 Feb— The Cambodian Government has decided to provide 2,000 tons of rice to the World Food Programme (WFP), which has helped Cambodia support children in hunger and HIV- infected people, a statement from the spokesman office of the Cambodian Government said here on Saturday.

The WFP received a “critical and timely” contribution of 500,000 euros (648,000 US dollars) on 8 February from the Spanish Government, which allows the WFP to resume its vital food assistance to over one

million poor and vulnerable Cambodians, the statement said.

Spain’s contribution is crucial as thousands of Cambodians suffered from malnutrition and not having enough food, said Thomas Keusters,

WFP country director in Cambodia. WFP appealed in January that it needed at least 10 million US dollars to assist 1.1 million hungry and poor Cambodians until July 2007, Thomas Keusters said. — MNA/Xinhua

Bush has two moles removed from his face

WASHINGTON, 18 Feb— A doctor removed two moles from President George W Bush’s left temple on Friday and they were believed to be benign, a White House spokesman said. The five-minute procedure took place in the White House doctor’s office and was performed by Steve Krivda, a dermatologist at Walter Reed Medical Centre.

Tests will be performed to determine if the moles were cancerous. Results should be back by the middle of next week.

“The doctors expect that both moles are benign,” said White House spokesman Scott Stanzel.

The procedure will leave Bush with a one-inch scab for a week to 10 days, he said. Bush has suffered the effects of sun exposure in the past. He has had non-cancerous growths removed before, the last time occurring in December

2004. The doctor shaved off the moles in what Stanzel called a “shaved biopsy”. Bush was given a local anesthetic.

Bush had pointed out a mole to his personal physician, Richard Tubb, on Monday.

MNA/Reuters



British actress Jenna Russell, left, and actor Daniel Evans pose with their Laurence Olivier Awards for Best Actress and Best Actor in a Musical for the show ‘Sunday in the Park with George’ during an awards ceremony in London, on 18 Feb, 2007.—INTERNET

North China Customs seize 1,881 pieces of wildlife furs

HOHHOT, 19 Feb— The Manzhouli Customs in north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region cracked down several wildlife furs smuggling cases this year, and seized 1,881 pieces of squirrel furs, according to an official with the Customs.

Jiang Bo, a Customs director, told Xinhua that his Customs, the largest land port at China-Russia border, cooperated with

the Zabaikalsk Customs in Russia, joined hands in fighting against the smuggling activities. Some smugglers chose to enter China in early morning or late at night, the time they took for granted that Chinese Customs would be unfixed, said Jiang, adding that they often put the furs in the interlayers of their packages, or wrapped furs around their bodies.—MNA/Xinhua

Yunnan helps develop more cash crops in bordering countries

KUNMING, 19 Feb—Southwest China’s Yunnan Province had helped neighbouring countries plant nearly one million mu (66,667 hectares) of cash-bearing crops as substitutes for opium poppy by the end of 2006, local Chinese authorities have said.

An area of 284,000 mu (18,933 hectares) in the northern parts of Myanmar and Laos was planted with rubber, tea and other cash crops in 2006 at a cost of nearly 180 million yuan (22.5 million US dollars), said Liu Ping, director of the Yunnan Provincial Drug Control Committee and vice-governor of the province.

Yunnan faces a major problem with drug trafficking from the “Golden Triangle”, a notorious drug-producing area along the Mekong River delta.— MNA/Xinhua



A new congestion charge sign for Knightsbridge is seen in London on 18 Feb, 2007. The western extension to the London, on 18 congestion charging zones is due to come into force on Monday and will cost 8 pounds (\$15.6) per day.—INTERNET

Egyptian woman dies of bird flu, 13th death

CAIRO, 18 Feb— A 37-year-old Egyptian woman who tested positive for the bird flu virus has died in a Cairo hospital, bringing the number of deaths from the disease in Egypt to 13, a government health official said on Friday.

A World Health Organization expert said a delay in reporting symptoms was largely behind the most recent deaths in Egypt.

A mutated strain that killed three people in December is not suspected to have recurred, officials say. The woman who died, Nadia Abdel Hafez, had been reported in stable and improving condition after being transferred to hospital in Cairo, but her condition later deteriorated.

“She died yesterday evening,” said Amr Qandil, director of communicable diseases at the Egyptian Health Ministry. Egypt has the highest

known cluster of human bird flu cases outside Asia, with 21 known human cases since the virus first surfaced in Egyptian poultry a year ago. Thirteen have died.

Abdel Hafez, who kept birds in her home, was admitted to hospital on February 12 after coming into contact with infected poultry. She was from Fayoum, the same province where a 17-year-old girl died of bird flu earlier this month.

Most people infected in Egypt had been in contact

with poultry kept at home. Bird flu initially caused panic across the country and did extensive damage to the poultry industry, although the sector has largely recovered.

John Jabbour, a WHO official in Cairo, said delays in reporting symptoms were making bird flu more deadly in Egypt, where many people keep birds at home but are often reluctant to disclose that to health officials for fear of sanctions.

MNA/Reuters



A monkey sits on the roof of a house at a residential estate bordering a nature reserve in Singapore, on 10 Feb, 2007. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Spurs, Man City reach FA Cup quarterfinals

LONDON, 19 Feb— Striker Robbie Keane scored twice to steer Tottenham Hotspur to a 4-0 win over Fulham while Manchester City came back to beat Preston North End 3-1 to reach the FA Cup quarterfinals on Sunday.

In two copycat strikes, Keane volleyed home superbly from the edge of the area in the seventh and 69th minutes, both times supplied by Egypt striker Mido.

Bulgarian substitute Dimitar Berbatov came off the bench to turn it into a rout, scoring in the 78th and 89th minutes, and Fulham's misery was complete when Italian substitute Vincenzo Montella was red-carded at the end.

MNA/Reuters



Fulham's Moritz Volz (L) challenges Tottenham Hotspur's Aaron Lennon during their FA Cup fifth round match at Craven Cottage in London, on 18 Feb, 2007.—INTERNET

Ferguson goal gives Rangers 2-1 win over Falkirk

GLASGOW, 19 Feb— Rangers beat Falkirk 2-1 with a late goal from captain Barry Ferguson in Sunday's Scottish Premier League clash to move seven points clear of third-placed Aberdeen.

Rangers are 19 points behind champions Celtic on 52 points from 28 games while Aberdeen, who lost 2-1 to the leaders on Saturday, are level on 45 points with Hearts but have a better goal difference.

"After coming back from a European game, (and a) long journey, we didn't reach the level we have done in previous games," Rangers manager Walter Smith said.

"The important thing was that we won the game. When you look at the weekend results the teams who are vying for second place all dropped points.

"Aberdeen have a game in hand, but they are all going to be tough games until the end of the season. So, if we do harbour any ambitions of finishing in second place then we will need that little bit of a gap," he added.

MNA/Reuters



Owen hopeful to play for Newcastle

LONDON, 19 Feb— English soccer club Newcastle manager Glenn Roeder said on Sunday that Michael Owen would be fit to play before the end of the season.

Roeder told Sportsweek on BBC Radio Five Live that "Owen was out all week on the grass, running hard".

Owen suffered a cruciate knee ligament injury at last year's World Cup and has not figured in the current campaign, but Roeder revealed his rehabilitation is progressing ahead of schedule.—MNA/Reuters

Shiv Kapur from India hits a shot on the 16th hole during the final round of the Indonesian Open golf tournament in Jakarta, on 18 Feb, 2007.—INTERNET



William Vainqueur (R) of Nantes challenges Olympique Marseille's Samir Nasri during their French Ligue 1 soccer match at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille, on 18 Feb, 2007.—INTERNET

Blatter expects tougher measures to fight fan violence

GENEVA, 19 Feb — FIFA president Sepp Blatter said in a magazine that he expected tougher punishments for clubs with violent fans.

Blatter was quoted as saying in an interview with Swiss weekly *SonntagsZeitung* that "the Swiss high court recently confirmed that we can order point deductions, relegations and expulsions". He said FIFA wanted these sanctions to be used more frequently, but he did not elaborate.

MNA/Reuters

FA dismisses report on Beckham recall talks

LONDON, 19 Feb — The Football Association denied on Sunday that England soccer team manager Steve McClaren held talks with senior players about a recall for David Beckham.

It was reported in a Sunday newspaper that McClaren was considering including the former captain in his squad for the Euro 2008 qualifier in Israel on 24 March.

McClaren last Wednesday said that he had no plans to speak to Beckham although he has also said in the past that he would

never close the door on any player regarding selection.

And the FA stressed that McClaren has not consulted players on the

possibility of a return for Beckham, who was sent off in Real Madrid's La Liga clash with Real Betis on Saturday.

MNA/Xinhua



Bob Russia 1 with Evgeni Popov, Roman Orechnikov, Dmitry Trunenkov and brakeman Dmitry Stepushkin start to the first run of the four man Bob World Cup competition at the bob run in Winterberg, western Germany, on 18 Feb, 2007.

INTERNET

Lens fail to keep up with Lyon after Monaco draw

PARIS, 19 Feb — Second-placed Racing Lens failed to keep pace with leaders Olympique Lyon after being held to a goalless draw by struggling Monaco in Ligue 1 on Sunday.

In the day's other game, goalkeeper Fabien Barthez produced a faultless performance to help relegation-threatened Nantes grab a 0-0 draw at Olympique Marseille.

Lens' draw ended their run of four wins in all competitions and means champions Lyon, 2-1 winners at Lille on Friday, have increased their lead at the top to 13 points over the weekend.

Lens stay second five points clear of Lille and Sochaux, who beat visiting Le Mans 2-0 on Saturday. Monaco lie 14th, only four points clear of the relegation zone.

The visitors dominated most of the game on a bumpy Monaco pitch but failed to capitalize.

Their best chance came in the 78th minute when an Olivier Monterrubio freekick was followed by a scramble in the Monaco area. Goalkeeper Flavio Roma had to make two desperate saves to stop Lens' Adama Coulibaly and Aruna Dindane from scoring.—MNA/Reuters

Terror blasts on train kill at least 66

NEW DELHI, 19 Feb — At least 66 people were killed and more than 120 others were wounded by blasts on an express train early Monday in the Indian state of Haryana, according to the New Delhi TV.

The blasts happened on the Samjhauta Express train carrying 380 passengers to Pakistan was heading to Attari from New Delhi in Deewana of Haryana around 1:50 am local time on Monday.

Indian Prime Minister expressed his outrage on the terror attack and said the guilty must be brought to justice, said the TV.

The incident coincides with a visit by Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri to India on Monday. — MNA/Xinhua

6 trapped in Karachi building on fire rescued

ISLAMABAD, 19 Feb — Six persons trapped in a building on fire in the southern Pakistan city of Karachi were rescued Sunday, according to the private Geo TV.

They were safely rescued by the Pakistani Navy helicopters from the rooftop of the 15-storey building which caught fire Sunday at 09:15 local time (0415 GMT).

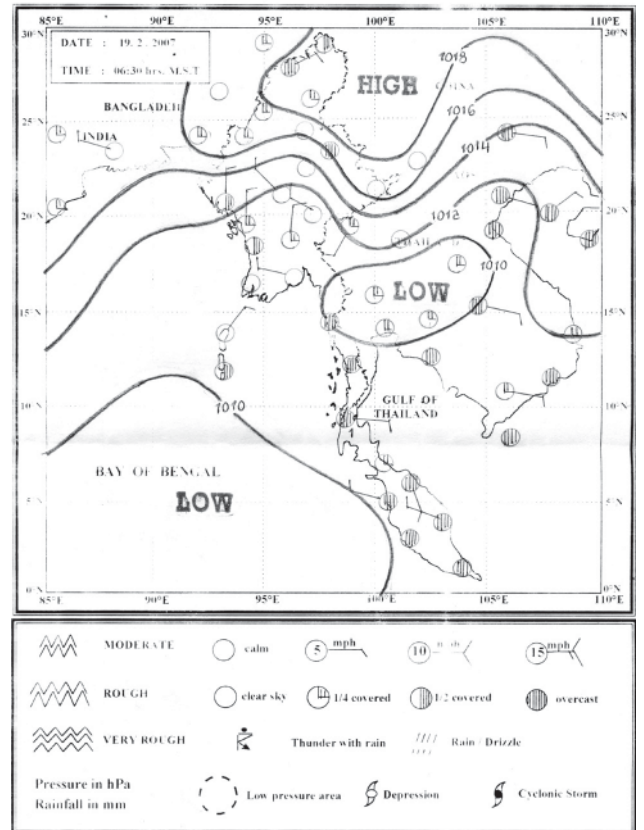
However, two of the rescued who were all staff

members of a cellular phone company got injuries and were shifted to hospital.

Fire fighters extinguished blaze on the 11th floor of the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation but the fire erupted at the western portion of the same floor at 11:00 am. The raging fire also engulfed the 12th and 13th floors of the building.

More than 20 fire engines took part in the fire fighting but fire fighters were helpless and unable to put out the fire because they lacked facilities to fight fire at such a height. The snorkels had little pressure to make water reach beyond the 9th floor. — MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 19 February, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin, Shan and Kayin States, Mandalay, Bago and Magway Divisions, (5°C) below normal in Chin State, (5°C) above normal in Rakhine State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Namhsan, Pinlaung and Heho (2°C) each, The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthoung (0.04) inch.

Maximum temperature on 18-2-2007 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 19-2-2007 was 64°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 19-2-2007 was 56%. Total sunshine hours on 18-2-2007 was (9.2) hours approx.

Rainfall on 19-2-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northwest at (15:00) hours MST on 18-2-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 20-2-2007: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are possible in Kachin State and upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Shan, Mon and Kayin States, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 20-2-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 20-2-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 20-2-2007: Partly cloudy.



In this video image taken from India's TV Today via APTN, a rescuer works inside a charred train in the village of Deewana, about 80 kilometres (50 miles) north of New Delhi, on 19 Feb, 2007. Fire swept through the train travelling to Pakistan early on Monday in northern India, killing at least 66 people in a blaze that railways officials said may have been caused by a homemade bomb. —INTERNET

Tuesday, 20 February

View on today

7:00 am

- ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

- ကဗျာပန်းညွှန်

8:05 am

- အကဖြင့်ပွဲ

8:15 am

- Song of yesteryears

8:25 am

- ရင်းမြစ်ရေထိန်းတံခါး

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Let's Go

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- အပေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဒဿနိကဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ဒဿနိကဗေဒ)

4:45 pm

- Dance of national races

4:55 pm

- "အားနာလိုက်တာ" (မော့ဖို့၊ ကျော်စာနည်လှိုင်၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)

5:00 pm

- Sing and Enjoy

5:50 pm

- နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (သေသပ်လှပညီညာ သရက်ကိုင်းသင်ဖြူဖြူ)

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:50 pm

- ရန်ကုန်-ပြည်-မန္တလေး-ရန်ကုန် မိုင်(၁၀၀၀)ခရီးရှည် ဓက်ဘီးစီးဖြင့်ပွဲ

7:05 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ညီမငယ်ပါသေး" (အပိုင်း-၁၈)

8:00 pm

- News

8:05 pm

- International news

8:10 pm

- Weather report

8:15 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "တကယ်သဘောကျတယ်" (အပိုင်း-၂၆)

8:20 pm

- The next day's programme

Tuesday, 20 February

Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:
-Love fool

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:
-All she wrote

8:50 am National news/
Slogan

9:00 am Music
-Cherish this love

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:
-Why

1:30 pm News / Slogan

1:40pm Lunch time music:
-Here with me
-I want to given it all
-When a love song sings the blues
-Between you & me

9:00pm English Speaking Course Level () Unit ()

9:10 pm Article

9:20pm Weekly sport reel

9:30pm Music at your listening pleasure
-Addicted
-With you all the time
-Complicated

9:45 pm News / Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

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20-2-07NL 15 2/20/07, 2:09 AM

Lt-Gen Myint Swe visits Locomotive Shed (Insein)

YANGON, 19 Feb — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence visited Myanmar Railways Locomotive Shed (Insein) of the Ministry of Rail Transportation this afternoon.

First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, arrived at the locomotive shed where they were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, departmental heads and officials. The deputy minister reported on assembling of import-substitute machine parts, production of machines for workshops and factories of other ministries and assembling of locomotives by Myanmar Railways. Next, the general manager of the locomotive shed reported on background history of the shed, its aims and objectives, strength of the staff, production and repair of locomotives. The deputy minister gave a supplementary report.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe said the public have put more reliance on rail transportation rather than air and road transports for its cost-effectiveness and convenience. He then praised

(See page 8)



Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects Locomotive Shed (Insein). — MNA

INSIDE

The new Phaungdawgyi concrete jetty of Sittway Port in Rakhine State, one of the requirements, was opened on 18 February. The 120-year old jetty was destroyed in 2004 due to a cyclone. Since then, vessels could not use it, resulting in poor transport of goods and passengers.

PAGE 2

PERSPECTIVES

Minister inspects Pathi, Pyu creek hydropower projects

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, accompanied by Director-General of Hydro-electric Power Implementation Department U Aung Koe Shwe and responsible personnel, went on an inspection tour of Pathi hydropower project, 10 miles North-East of Toungoo on 16 February.

At the briefing hall, Managing Director U Kyi Tha of Hydro-electric Power Enterprise briefed

the minister on progress in building of power station and remaining tasks, stockpile of materials and work procedure.

After inspecting progress of work and stockpile of materials, the minister gave instructions on construction of the power station to be completed in the open season.

Two-megawatt generators installed at Pathi hydropower project will produce average 8 million kilowatt/hours per year.

Upon arrival at Pyu creek hydropower project, 7 miles west of Pyu, the minister together with project director U Maw Tha Htwe and officials looked into progress in building of water intake structure and intake tunnel. Ninety-nine per cent of earth work of the intake tunnel has been covered and so has thirty-six per cent of concrete tasks of the water intake structure.

Next, staff officer U Kyaw Moe Hlaing briefed the minister and party on progress in building of sluice gate. After hearing reports, the minister oversaw construction of the sluice gate 70 per cent of which was completed.

Upon completion, forty megawatt generators will produce 121 million kilowatt/hours every year.

While inspecting the projects, the minister called on responsible persons to make efforts to complete the projects earlier than scheduled target, run vehicles and heavy machinery with care and carry out the tasks for occupational safety. — MNA



Minister Col Zaw Min on inspection tour of Pyu creek hydropower project. — MNA