

Senior General Than Shwe inspects construction of Ma Mya Dam, Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin), Pyapon Bridge

Nearly 200 dams were built nationwide and the country capable of building various types of dams

People in Pyapon will soon have easy access to Yangon through Pyapon Bridge

YANGON, 3 March —Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe together with member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, members of SPDC Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, the ministers and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, left here by helicopter for the site of Ma Mya Dam Project in Myanaung Township, Ayeyawady Division this morning.

The Senior General and party were welcomed by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials.

(See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe inspects Ma Mya Dam Project.—MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 4 March, 2007

Faculty members to discharge duties with national outlook

Now science and technology are making progress rapidly in various sectors. So, the government is building good educational environment to nurture and train the youth for bringing about increasing number of human resources.

The government, in pursuit of the national education promotion plan, is opening schools, universities and colleges the length and breadth of the nation to create opportunities for all to have an equal access to education in rural areas and higher education in strategic regions of states and divisions.

Today every citizen has access to inclusive education. Thus, those engaged in the education sector are duty-bound to uplift the education standard of the entire nation and to broaden the horizon and enhance the reasoning power of the people.

Teachers are to nurture younger generations in order that the latter will possess all qualities of a citizen, cultivate a good habit of abiding by the law and social ethics and preserve and promote the national integrity.

National consolidation is an engine for the development of the nation and the people and ensuring peace and stability. So, teachers have to sharpen the abilities of the students and to impart them with patriotic spirit and Union Spirit that serve as a key factor for national unity.

By nature, the youth are active and alert with a positive attitude. And they are eager to serve the interests of the people and have a fine tradition of observing social ethics and shouldering social responsibilities. Therefore, teachers should discharge duties with national outlook so as to help shape a brighter future of the Union through the strength of younger generation.

Chairman of Fund Raising Work Committee of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) and responsible persons accept K 300,000 donated by Chief Editor U San Tin Aung (Shwebo) of Aungmyay Magazine at Sarpay Beikman building at the corner of Merchant Street and 37th Street, Yangon on Saturday morning.—MWJA



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

Matriculation examination guide books donated

YANGON, 3 March — With the assistance of Mon State Union Solidarity and Development Association, a ceremony to donate matriculation examination guide books was held at the meeting hall of Mon State USDA in Mawlamyine on 27 February, with an address by Patron of Mon State USDA Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win.

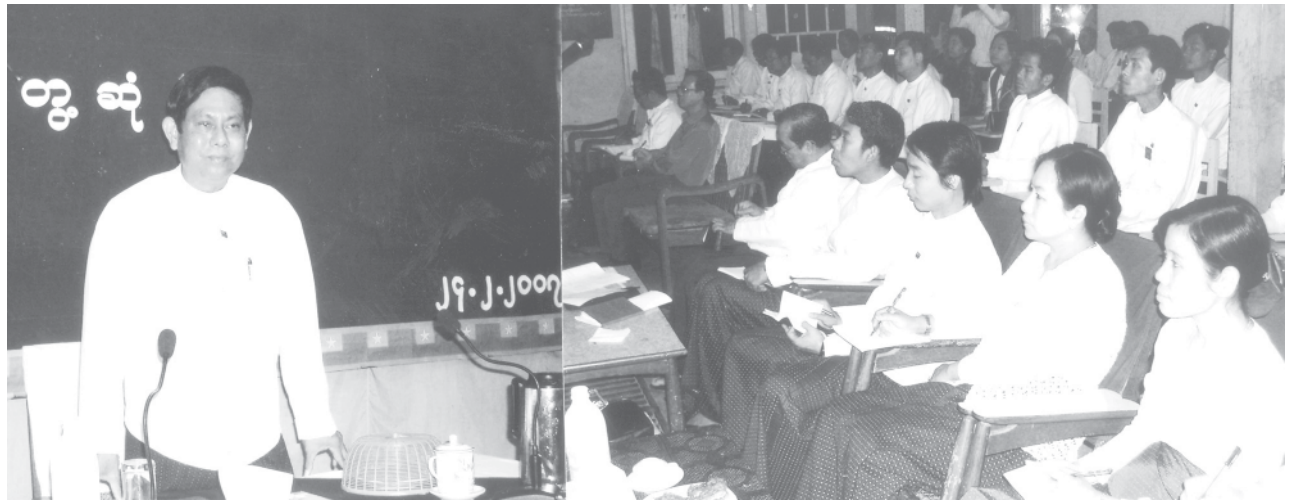
First, the Commander accepted K 3 million donated by Managing director U Aung Win Naing and Daw Thi Thi Lwin of GandaU Construction Service, K 2 million by Chairman U Than Shein of township bus line supervisory committee, K 1 million by U Kyaw Soe and Daw Htay Htay of Shwinlan Mattress Produc-

tion Service and K 500,000 by Managing Director irector U Aung Win Naing of Pynnya Shwezin Education Service.

Next, Secretary of Mon State PDC Commissioner U Aung Win accepted matriculation examination guide books worth K 2.5 million donated by U Kan Chun (Economics), Shwegangaw Education Service, UNyunt Oo-Daw Khin Win (Sandar Nyunt Publishing House and Khitthit Publishing House).

Afterwards, the commander met donors and those present. Educative talks on raising the passing rate for 2007 matriculation examination were held at basic education high schools in the townships, Mon State, starting from 22 February. — MNA

USDA S-G inspects development tasks in Magway Div



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo meets executives and members of USDA in Pyay on 24 February.—A&I

YANGON, 3 March — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo planted grafts of physic nut at Pyalo Village in Aunglan Township on 24 February together with social organizations and local people.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe met participants of the tree planning ceremony and called for putting more efforts for the

cultivation of physic nut, which could lead to the regional development as its oil can be used as bio diesel.

On his tour of Aunglan Township, the minister inspected Duringabo River Water Pumping Project in the township. The project supplies Ayeyawady River water and irrigate 6,000 acres of monsoon paddy and over 2,000 acres of summer paddy this year, an official said in his report to the minister. The minister also called for exceeding the region's targeted per acre yield.

Secretary-General of USDA U Htay Oo also met with executives and members of Bago Division (West) USDA in Pyay. — MNA

Graduation of Forest Training School's 101st batch held

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March — The 101st batch of the Myanmar Forest Training School of Ministry of Forestry concluded at the Survey Training School in PyinOoLwin on 26 February and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung took the salute of the trainee companies.

The minister delivered an address at the graduation ceremony and awarded the best trainee and the best trainee company.

The minister also attended the ceremony to confer completion certificates on the trainees at the training school.

The Director-General and directors of the Forest Department presented prizes to the outstanding trainees. At the ceremony, responsible persons of the Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association donated cash to the training school through Director-General of the Forest Department U Soe Win Hlaing. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung awards prize to an outstanding trainee.—FORESTRY

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Law proposed to prevent Bush from attacking Iran

WASHINGTON, 2 March — Opposition Democrats are drafting a Senate bill that would prevent the Bush administration from launching a military strike against Iran without congressional approval.

Observers say that move reflects the fear that President George W Bush may be preparing a military action to destroy Iran's nuclear facilities and military installations. Freshman Senator Jim Webb, who defeated a veteran Republican and possible 2008 presidential candidate George Allen in November's elections, is leading the effort to draft the new legislation.

Senator Webb is a former Republican Navy secretary and decorated Vietnam veteran who opposes the Iraq war.

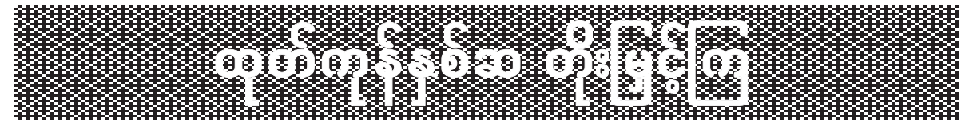
He intends to introduce his measure

next week as an amendment to the \$93.4 billion war spending bill.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said on Thursday that he would support the proposed legislation to put breaks on President Bush's powers to go to war.

"I have not read this (amendment), but I'm confident, in real generality ... that I can support" the move, Senator Reid told reporters. Mr Webb's amendment would prohibit President Bush from spending any money on a "unilateral military action in Iran without the express consent of the Congress".

President Bush has deployed two aircraft-carrier battle groups off Iran's coast. He also frequently denounces Iran's alleged supply of weapons to militias in Iraq.—Internet



People visit a Singapore Armed Forces recruitment drive held at a mall, on 2 March, 2007, in Singapore. The Singapore Armed Forces, Singapore's national security arm, has been actively reaching out to the public through mass media and recruitment drives to attract the youth of its city-state's 4.3 million population. In Singapore, every Singaporean male above the age of 18 has to serve 2 years of national service with the Singapore Armed Forces, Police or Civil Defence.—INTERNET



Tourists from Malaysia pose for group photos on the Tian'anmen Square as the weather turns warm in Beijing, capital of China, on 2 March, 2007.—XINHUA

Burning ship sinks off Haiti, 52 dead or missing

MIAMI, 2 March — Two Haitians were rescued from the sea in poor condition and as many as 52 others were dead or missing from a sail-powered freighter that caught fire and capsized off Haiti, the US Coast Guard said on Thursday.

A yacht crew rescued the two survivors on Wednesday and they were taken to a hospital in the Dominican Republic for treatment of severe burns and dehydration, the Coast Guard said. The crew of the Liberian-flagged merchant ship *Kemer* recovered eight bodies and joined the Coast Guard search for 44 additional passengers who were believed to be missing, based on the survivors' account of the number of people aboard.

The survivors said their

vessel left Haiti from the northern coastal town of Cap-Haitien but did not indicate when it sailed. It was headed for Providenciales 150 miles (240 kilometres) away in the

Turks and Caicos island chain when it sank about 25 miles from the border that separates Haiti and the Dominican Republic, the Coast Guard said.

MNA/Reuters



Visitors look at the orchid display designed with the theme 'Artemis' at the Japan Grand Prix International Orchid Festival in Tokyo, on 3 March, 2007.

INTERNET

'Faulty' petrol results awaited

LONDON, 2 March — Test results on fuel which is thought to have caused problems for thousands of drivers in the south and east of England are expected to be released.

The petrol has already been traced to a storage depot in Essex. The fuel industry is testing its own supplies.

And Cambridgeshire Trading Standards officers have sent a sample from one affected car for tests at a forensic laboratory.

Reports say silicone has been found in some of the affected cars' fuel.

Tesco confirmed that it is testing for the substance, but previous analysis by the supermarket chain have failed to find any contamination.

It is thought silicone may have found its way into a batch of petrol in transit by ship into the UK or in storage containers.

Silicone is a compound containing the element silicon. Its uses include insulation and lubrication.

The problems seem to be centred on oxygen sensors which determine the mix of oxygen and petrol supplied to the engine.

Automotive expert Professor Malcolm Fox, from the University of

Leeds, said all the signs pointed towards some form of liquid silicone having got into the fuel.

He added: "The analysis from the suppliers shows that the fuel is okay, so it must be a very minor, low concentration contaminant.

"When it burns, it will form silicon dioxide and will deposit a very thin sheet on the sensor — the sensor is in the exhaust — and that probably gives a false signal to the engine computer." — Internet

Enriched uranium unearthed from German man's garden

BERLIN, 2 March — A German man obtained enriched uranium and buried it in his garden, raising concerns about the security of Germany's nuclear reactors, the Environment Ministry in the state of Lower Saxony said on Thursday.

"How do pellets get out of a nuclear reactor? That's not supposed to happen," said ministry spokeswoman Jutte Kremer-Heye. She said it was unclear when the man, a resident of the north-western German town of Lauenfoerder, got hold of and buried the 14 low-enriched uranium pellets, which he had sealed in a steel container wrapped in a plastic bag.

He wrote to German Chancellor Angela Merkel in December saying he wanted to hand it over, but it was not until last week that officials unearthed the pellets from his garden. Kremer-Heye said passing the letter on to the relevant government department had taken some time. — MNA/Reuters

Bush pushed for improvement in Katrina-hit region

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Children dress up as characters from ancient myths during a traditional performance of "Shehuo" to celebrate the upcoming Lantern Festival in Tianshui, northwest China's Gansu Province on 1 March, 2007. —INTERNET

LONG BEACH (Mississippi), 2 March — President George W Bush faced new pressure to jump-start the recovery from Hurricane Katrina on Thursday as he toured the Gulf Coast region hit by the worst natural disaster in US history.

Eighteen months after the 2005 hurricane, analysts say tens of thousands of people remain displaced and more than half of the schools in the New Orleans area are still closed, a grim reminder of the toll on the region. "There's obviously a

lot more work to be done ... But the times are changing for the better and people's lives are improving and there is hope." Bush said in one community of rebuilt homes.

Bush later was to go to New Orleans, his first trip to the area in six

months and 14th to check up on the recovery from a storm that caught his administration off guard from the very start.

A report by the Institute of Southern Studies said the Gulf Coast is still in crisis, with more than half the schools in New Orleans still closed, and that the region's recovery has been stalled due to a lack of housing, jobs and other basic needs.

"President Bush and the new congressional leadership have all said Katrina and the Gulf Coast are still a top priority. It's time for them to live up to their promises and responsibility, and help rebuild the Gulf South," said Chris Kromm, a spokesman for the group.

MNA/Reuters



A plow removes snow from a runway at the Minneapolis St Paul International Airport during a winter storm in Minneapolis on 1 March, 2007. The area is forecast to receive twelve to 24 inches of snow in 24 hours. —INTERNET

Special constable's husband in London court for her murder

LONDON, 2 March — The husband of special constable Nisha Patel-Nasri, who was stabbed to death outside her London home last May, is due to appear in court on Thursday charged with her murder, police said.

Fadi Nasri, 33, and

Roger Lesley, 37, a second man also charged with her killing, are due to appear before magistrates in west London, the Metropolitan Police said in a statement.

They were both arrested on Tuesday. A total of four men have now been charged with

murdering the 29-year-old.

Patel-Nasri was a hairdresser who performed unpaid police duties in her spare time. She had been a special constable for more than three years when she was killed.

She and her husband had been celebrating their third wedding anniversary on the night of the attack.

The other two men charged with the murder are Tony Emmanuel, 41, and Jason Jones, 35, both of east London. They are due to appear at the Old Bailey later in March.

Nasri, self-employed, is of Wembley, north west London. Lesley, unemployed, is of Barnet, north of the capital.

MNA/Reuters



A man looks at an ice jam on the Rocky River near its mouth on Lake Erie in Lakewood, Ohio, on 1 March, 2007. — INTERNET

Colombian mayor escapes bomb, 10 wounded

BOGOTA, 2 March — A Colombian mayor who was threatened by guerillas escaped an assassination attempt on Thursday when a rebel car bomb exploded and wounded 10 people near a

radio station where she was speaking, authorities said.

Cielo Gonzalez, mayor of Neiva, was broadcasting a programme in the southern city when her bodyguards noticed a

suspicious car parked outside and ordered it removed. The car exploded on a timer device as it was being towed away, police said.

Local television showed a bus in flames near the wrecked car and wounded motorcycle drivers lying amid debris in Neiva, about 190 miles (300 kilometres) south of the capital Bogota.

Urban bombings are less common since President Alvaro Uribe began a US-backed campaign to combat the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia or FARC and the cocaine trade that fuels Latin America's oldest guerilla war. — MNA/Reuters



An Airbus A-319 belonging to Indian Airlines sits on the tarmac of Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi. India's two state-owned airlines will merge within four months in a bid to create a world-class airline that can compete globally, the government announced on 2 March, 2007. —INTERNET

US Marine killed in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 2 March — A US Marine was killed due to combat operations in the volatile Anbar Province in western Iraq, the US military said on Thursday.

The Marine, assigned to MultiNational Force-West, was killed on Wednesday, the military said in a statement.

Since the US-led war in Iraq broke out in March 2003, about 3,160 US soldiers have been killed in the country, according to media count based on Pentagon figures. — MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

China-Russia border trade reaches \$7b in 2006

Moscow, 2 March — The investment and trade between China and Russia keep growing rapidly in recent years, Chinese Deputy Trade Minister Yu Guangzhou told a Press conference here on Thursday.

China's main trade partners, and China the fourth of Russia.

According to the minister, China has invested in over 700 projects in Russia, adding up to one billion dollars. Russia also

invested 70 million dollars in China. Those projects involve energy and resources exploitation, timber processing, home appliances making, telecommunications and building materials.

MNA/Xinhua

The border trade between China and Russia reached 7 billion US dollars last year, accounting for 20 per cent of the whole bilateral trade of the two countries, Yu said.

The bilateral trade between the two countries has kept growing at a pace of over 30 per cent each year from 1999 to 2005, and leaped 15 per cent over the last year, Yu said, adding that Russia now places eighth among

Airbus slashes 10,000 jobs to cut costs

PARIS, 2 March — European plane maker Airbus announced Wednesday that it will cut 10,000 jobs over the next four years, in an attempt to save 5 billion euros (6.6 billion US dollars) by 2010.

The aircraft maker said in a crisis statement that it will sell or close Varel and Laupheim production

sites in Germany and Saint-Nazaire-Ville site in France.

Across Europe, 4,300 job cuts will go in France, 3,700 in Germany, 1,600 in Britain and 400 in Spain. Half of the redundancies will be made among the 56,000-strong Airbus work force and remainder from subcontractors, CEO Louis Gallois said.

The Toulouse-based company also plans to open its Meaulte plant in France, Nordenham in Germany and Filton in Britain to new investors.

This restructuring plan aims at helping the company overcome costly delays to its A380 super-jumbo and the effects of a weaker US dollar, Airbus said.—MNA/Xinhua

Katsuhiko Machida, president of Japan's electronics giant Sharp Corporation, introduces the world's biggest 108-inch liquid crystal display (LCD) during a press conference in Tokyo in January. Japanese electronics maker Sharp Corp plans to invest 200 billion yen (1.7 billion dollars) in a new plant in Japan to produce large flat screens for televisions, a newspaper has reported recently.—INTERNET



Vietnam wins rice tender in Philippines

HANOI, 2 March — Vietnamese enterprises have won a bid in the Philippines to export nearly 400,000 tons of rice at higher prices to the country, according to local newspaper *Youth* on Thursday.

In the tender on 28 February, the Philippines called for rice supply of 550,000 tons, but the Vietnamese firms won the supply of only 398,000 tons because they placed bidding prices of 324 US dollars per ton, some 16 dollars per ton higher than the prices in

previous similar tenders. Vietnam exported 316,000 tons of rice worth 100 million dollars to the world market, mainly to the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Cuba and Japan, in the first two months of this year, posting respective year-on-year declines of 47.8 per cent and 39.9 per cent.

The Vietnamese Government has recently decided that the rice export volume should be 4-4.5 million tons in 2007 to ensure food security.

MNA/Xinhua

CVI resort to build \$100m-resort on Cambodian-Vietnamese border

PHNOM PENH, 2 March — CVI Resort of Malaysia plans to invest about 100 million US dollars to build five-star

hotel, golf course, international information centre, stadium, entertainment centre, commercial centre and

supermarket on 130 hectares of land in Svay Rieng Province along the Cambodian-Vietnamese border, Srey Thamarong, adviser to Prime Minister Hun Sen said here on Thursday.

Lim Thee Wah, owner of the company, recently told Hun Sen that the hotel will have 450 rooms and the golf course 18 holes,

with nine in Cambodia and the other 9 in Vietnam, he said.

Hun Sen supports the investment plan because it fits the policy of the royal government and will boost the economic growth of the kingdom, he said.

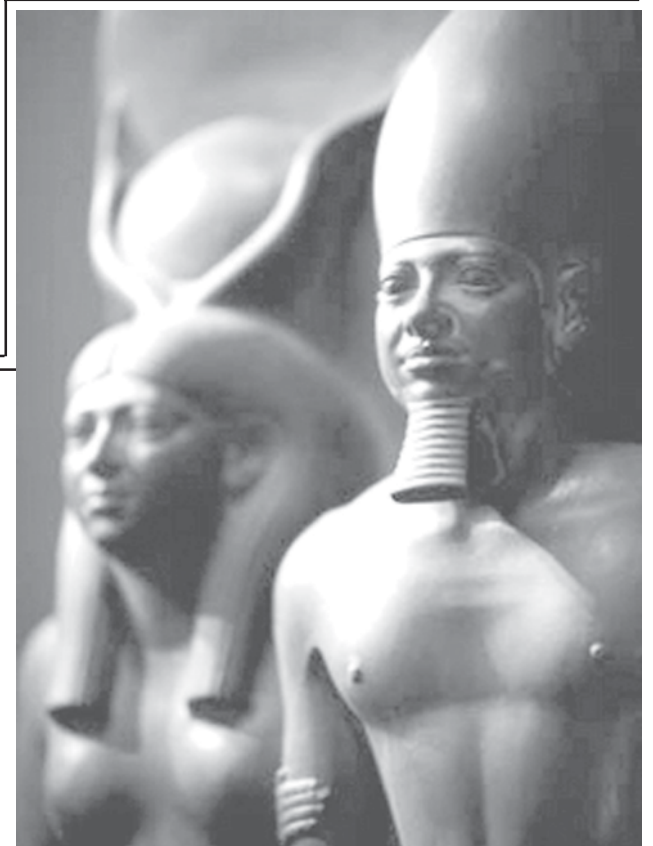
Hun Sen has tried for long to develop the border areas into a complex zone with industrial factory, tourism project and economic and trade facility, thus bringing peace and security there, he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Australia's first commercial wave-generated power station is seen off a surf beach near Wollongong, south of Sydney in this undated handout picture from Energetech. The wave-generated power station will in weeks from 1 March, 2007 begin supplying homes south of Sydney with electricity and fresh drinking water, courtesy of the sea.—INTERNET



The triad of Menkaure is displayed at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo on 1 March, 2007. A group of artifacts, with the exception of this one sculpture is being shown for the first time since they were discovered in 1922 in the Salakhana tomb in Asyut.—INTERNET



Study says Vitamin may help alcohol-damaged babies

WASHINGTON, 2 March — Giving a vitamin called choline to babies whose mothers drank too much alcohol while pregnant might help overcome some of their resulting deficits, US researchers said on Thursday.

Choline, found in peanut butter, iceberg lettuce and soy, among other foods, affects brain development and may help repair some of the damage done by alcohol, the team at San Diego State University found.

These findings have important implications for children exposed to alcohol prenatally and suggest that dietary interventions implemented after birth may reduce the severity of some fetal alcohol effects," the researchers wrote in their report, published in

the journal *Behavioural Neuroscience*.

Jennifer Thomas and colleagues tested 170 rats, giving their pregnant mothers alcohol before they were born and then giving some of the pups choline after birth.

As expected, the newborn rats were over-active and had learning problems. But they improved when given choline. "Choline is not going to be a panacea for all symptoms of fetal alcohol spectrum dis-

orders," Thomas cautioned in a statement. "Women need to be continually reminded of the damaging effects of alcohol on the developing fetus."

Choline helps brain cells develop, and the body uses it to make acetylcholine, a neurotransmitter or message-carrying chemical involved in learning and cognition.—MNA/Reuters



Visitors are reflected in a piece of art as they attend the press day of the 2nd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art in the Federation Tower in Moscow on 28 Feb, 2007. The Moscow Biennale officially opens on 1 March.—INTERNET

US Army hospital chief removed from post

WASHINGTON, 2 March — The head of the US Army's top hospital was removed from his post on Thursday after troops wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan were found to be living in shoddy conditions and struggling with a complex bureaucracy.

An Army statement said top officials had lost confidence in Major General George Weightman's ability "to address needed solutions for soldier outpatient care" at the Walter Reed Army Medical Centre in Washington, D.C.

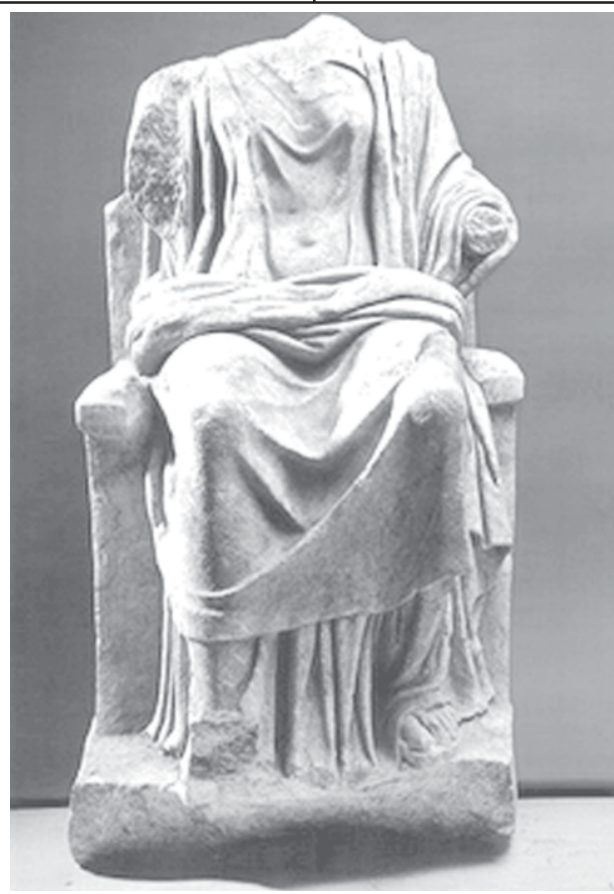
"The care and welfare of our wounded men and women in uniform

demand the highest standard of excellence and commitment that we can muster as a government," Defence Secretary Robert Gates said.

"When this standard is not met, I will insist on swift and direct corrective action and, where appropriate, accountability up the chain of command," he said in a statement. Problems at the hospital were brought to light by a Washington Post investigation published last month.

It found that recuperating soldiers were living in a dilapidated building infested with mice, mold, and cockroaches.

MNA/Reuters



A marble statue of the ancient Greek goddess Hera is shown in this undated handout photo provided by archaeologists on 1 March, 2007. The statue, dating to the 2nd century BC was discovered last year during excavations in the town of Dion, near Mt Olympus in northern Greece.—INTERNET

UN report says bogus medicines flood developing world

VIENNA, 2 March — Counterfeit medicines, some of them sold over the Internet, are swamping unregulated markets in developing nations with sometimes fatal results, the UN drug control watchdog said on Thursday.

Some 25 to 50 per cent of the medicines used in developing countries were now believed to be fake, the International Narcotics Control Board said in its 2006 report, quoting World Health Organization (WHO) findings.

Providers ranged from makeshift village markets to websites.

"This market is believed to be increasing rapidly. (It) exposes patients to serious health

risks by providing access to poorly or incorrectly labelled medicines that are ineffective, substandard and, in some cases, even lethal," it said.

The board spotlighted dangers inherent in graft-ridden, weakly-regulated markets, where bogus medicines had proliferated, and the widespread and growing misuse of prescription and weight-loss drugs.

The annual report also said Iranians had become the world's highest per capita abusers of opiates as they straddled export corridors from lawless Afghanistan, source of more than 90 per cent of the opium produced globally.

MNA/Reuters



A commercial flight approaches Logan Airport over a fighter jet on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS John F Kennedy docked in Boston, Massachusetts on 1 March, 2007. After nearly forty years of service, the USS Kennedy is making its final port visit in Boston before being decommissioned on 23 March in Mayport, Florida.—INTERNET

British businesswoman hired hitman to kill lover

LONDON, 2 March — A millionaire businesswoman was jailed for eight years on Friday for hiring a hitman to kill her former lover after he ran off with an old flame he had found on the "Friends Reunited" website.

Carol Hunter, 50, former managing director of baby products firm Tommee Tippee in Northumberland, was sentenced at the Old Bailey in London.

Hunter had become consumed with hatred after Colin Love, her partner of 22 years, left and married a childhood sweetheart he had refound on the popular site. She persuaded her new lover, 54-year-old former accountant Anton Lee, to find someone to kill the pair, who were living in a 600,000-pound country retreat in Bedfordshire, largely bought with Hunter's money.

She was furious that Love was planning to leave his assets to his new

wife rather than their two children.

The plot was revealed when a friend Lee had asked for advice contacted the police, who put forward an undercover officer to pose as a hitman.

During negotiations with the supposed hitman, Hunter dropped the plan to kill the couple in favour of an attack on Love's wife Judith that would drive them out of the Bedfordshire home.

She asked for Love's wife to be attacked in the house in such a "horrible experience" — leaving her paralysed, blinded or scarred for life — that the couple would no longer want to live there.—MNA/Reuters

Cambodia to consider visa exemption for Vietnamese investors

PHNOM PENH, 3 March — The Cambodian Government will consider exempting visa for Vietnamese entrepreneurs to enter the kingdom, the *Cambodge Soir* reported on Friday.

The Vietnamese side submitted such a request in order to facilitate bilateral trade and economic cooperation, when the Cambodian-Vietnamese Business Forum was held here on Wednesday.

Thong Khon, secretary of state for Ministry of Tourism, was quoted as saying that the government will take the request into account as it wishes to attract more business-oriented foreigners to Cambodia.

"The government has laid out a policy aimed at

attracting investors to come to Cambodia. We will hold detailed discussions on the issue with the ministries of foreign affairs and commerce," he said.

Vietnamese President Nguyen Minh Triet, who was accompanied by 50 investors during his three-day state visit to Cambodia from 27 February to 1 March, said during the forum that Cambodia has good commercial potential in agriculture, tourism, mining and industry sectors for exploration.—MNA/Xinhua



Malaysia's armed force troops march during the Malaysia's 74th army day celebrations in the southern town of Port Dickson, Malaysia, on 1 March, 2007.—INTERNET

Prodi wins second confidence vote

ROME, 3 March — Italian center-left leader Romano Prodi was re-confirmed as premier Friday, after winning a confidence vote in the Lower House of Parliament.

The Prime Minister, who enjoys a comfortable majority in the Lower Chamber, won with 342-253. "It was a good vote and a great margin, but also the debate showed the centre left is much more united than the centre right and that means the government's work will go ahead strongly. We can go forward well," Prodi said.

Prodi survived his toughest test of the week Wednesday, when he won the confidence vote in Senate with 162 votes, only two more than the majority needed, with 157 voting against him.

MNA/Xinhua

Polar year starts with worries of rising seas

OSLO, 3 March — More than 60 nations started the biggest scientific investigation of the Arctic and Antarctic on Thursday amid new evidence that global warming is thawing polar ice and raising sea levels.

About 3,000 children made slushy snowmen and waved banners saying "give us back the winter" in Oslo, scientists met in Paris and other experts gathered on a research vessel in Cape Town to mark the start of International Polar Year (IPY).

"The polar year is important for everyone on the planet," Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg told *Reuters* when asked if people living in places such as Africa or Asia should be interested in science at the icy ends of the earth.

"We are seeing climate change most clearly in the polar areas and research there can give us decisive knowledge in the fight against global warming," he said.

During the UN-

backed year, about 50,000 experts will be involved in 228 projects such as studying marine life in the Antarctic, mapping how winds carry pollutants to the Arctic, or examining the health of people, polar bears or penguins.

Scientists will fly planes into storms off Greenland, others will measure ice from satellites and still others will see how reindeer are faring when warmer weather damages lichen pastures.

MNA/Reuters

Thai arrested for Russian tourist murders

BANGKOK, 3 March — A young robber released from jail last year has been arrested for the murder of two Russian women as they sat on the beach at the Thai resort city of Pattaya to watch the sun rise, police said on Friday.

Anuchit Lumlert, a jobless 24 year old, confessed to pumping bullets into Tatiana Tsimfer, 30, and Liubov Svirikova, 25, as they sat in deck chairs drinking, Pattaya police Lieutenant-General Aswin Kwanmuang said.

"He said he wanted to rob them, but had to kill them because one of the two victims saw his face," Aswin, who led the

investigation in a city notorious as an international criminals' haven 90 miles (150 kilometres) from Bangkok, told *Reuters* by telephone.

But investigators were not wholly convinced by the story of the man released from jail a year ago after serving a sentence for robbery.

"We didn't believe him because he didn't take their mobile phones with him as he claimed he was drunk, and we suspect he might have been hired to

do the job," Aswin said.

The suspected killer was caught in blurry pictures on a hotel security camera arriving on a motorcycle, walking through a garden to the beach, then returning to the same place later.

He also left the womens' wallets behind.

Police brought in experts to identify the motorcycle model, which helped track down Anuchit, who then told them where he had dumped the pistol.

MNA/Reuters



Flight attendants from Oneworld, the global airline alliance consisting of Finnair, Cathay Pacific Airways, Malev, Royal Jordanian, Qantas, JAL, American Airlines, British Airways, LAN Group and Iberia, pose after a news conference in Tokyo on 1 March, 2007. Japan Airlines will join Oneworld on 1 April.—INTERNET

UN says Africa remains hotbed of drug trafficking

NAIROBI, 3 March — Africa has remained hotbed of drug trafficking with criminal cartels preferring to use West, East and North Africa as major transit routes with the spillover effects of increased consumption of high-grade drugs, a UN anti-drug agency warned on Thursday.

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) said in its just published report that the continent is rapidly becoming a hotbed for drug trafficking of cocaine, cannabis and other sophisticated illegal chemicals because of the lack of capacity to deal with sophisticated drug cartels.

The UNODC Representative Carsten Hyttel said there is an increase in almost

all regions of Africa with larger seizures of drugs.

"Africa continues to be exploited by cocaine trafficking organizations for smuggling cocaine from South America to Europe. While western Africa is at the forefront of the cocaine trafficking routes when it comes to Africa, I need to remind you that eastern Africa including Kenya are also on the map of the cocaine

traffickers," said Hyttel.

"Africa is home to illegally operated Internet pharmacies which act as drug suppliers," Hyttel said during the launch of the report in Nairobi and reiterated a global attention on the growing drugs crisis, including screening of all routes of incoming and outgoing international mail.

The report says many African countries face serious difficulties in

providing adequate treatment and rehabilitation for persons abusing cannabis, as health-care facilities often lack the necessary resources.

"Africa's share of global trafficking in cannabis has been increasingly continuously, as corroborated by a number of multiton seizures of cannabis herb and resin in Africa during the last year," said the report.—MNA/Xinhua



Germany's Joerg Ritzerfeld soars through the air during the qualification for the normal hill HS 100 jumping competition at the Nordic World Ski Championships in Sapporo, northern Japan on 2 March, 2007.—INTERNET

Senior General Than Shwe inspects construction...

(from page 1)

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on facts about Ma Mya Dam Project.

He said the project is being implemented on Ma Mya Creek, one and a half miles north west of Hmyinwataung village near Pathein-Monywa Road in Myanaung Township. The earth dam is 11,800 feet long and 150 feet high. The capacity of water at full brim is 70,000 acre feet. The dam can generate 500 kilowatts and supply water to over

10,000 acres of cultivable land and it can prevent farmland on both sides of Ma Mya Creek from flooding.

They must have ability to build small scale hydro-electric power projects with own standards so that irrigation and hydel-power projects can be completed without delay. The people can enjoy the benefits sooner, he said.

Out of the dams built, some dams need regular maintenance. Some irrigation systems are in need of repair. They are to be mended through supervision in accord with the procedures, he added.

He urged officials concerned to give encouragement to cultivate new crops that can earn more money and be thriving in irrigated areas in Ayeyawady Division.



Senior General Than Shwe inspects construction of Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin). — MNA

supply water to cultivable land and two 250-kilowatt turbines can generate electricity.

Senior General Than Shwe and party went by helicopter to the site of Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin) in Hinthada Township. They were welcomed by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and officials.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun said Ngawun Bridge has been in use since 1907. A new Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin) is being built for heavy trucks. In accord with the guidance of Senior General Than Shwe, the bridge that can withstand 60 tons of load is being built.

(See page 9)

Ma Mya Dam project is being undertaken by Construction-9 of Irrigation Department and about 90 per cent of the project has been completed. On completion of the project, the dam can supply water to cultivable land and two 250-kilowatt turbines can generate electricity.

Senior General Than Shwe inspected storage of water in Ma Mya Dam, construction of the control tower, the main dam and spillways.

Ma Mya Dam

project is being undertaken by Construction-9 of Irrigation Department and about 90 per cent of the project has been completed. On completion of the project, the dam can



10,000 acres of cultivable land and it can prevent farmland on both sides of Ma Mya Creek from flooding.

The minister reported in detail on preliminary preparation, construction of diaphragm concrete wall, the main dam, conduit pipe and control tower and spillways and establishment of irrigation system and progress of work.

In his guidance, Senior General Than Shwe said Ma Mya Dam can not only supply water but generate hydro-electric power.

He said nearly 200 dams have been built nationwide and the country is capable of building various types of dams.

He spoke of the need for engineers concerned to design and build dam projects plus hydro-electric



Progress of Pyapon Bridge linking Pyapon River between Ward 1 in Pyapon and Ohnbin Village in Dedaye Township. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe hears report on building of Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin) by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe inspects construction...

(from page 8)

He also reported on data of the project, construction of the main bridge and approach bridges on Hinthada and Ingapu banks and progress of work.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander reported on conditions of roads and bridges in Ayeyawady Division and their use.

Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo reported on production of iron trusses for the bridge.

Senior General Than Shwe said Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin) is on Zalun-Hinthada-Ingapu-Myanaung Road that links most townships and villages. The road is being built for ensuring smooth transport as it is economically and socially vital, he said.

Old bridges on the road are to be repaired and the road is to be upgraded step by step under the project.

The Senior General looked into the construction of the approach bridge on Hinthada side and the main bridge.

On completion, the 2835-foot-long reinforced concrete type Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin) will have a 960-foot-long approach bridge on Hinthada side, an 840-foot-long approach bridge on Ingapu side and 1035-foot main bridge along with a 28-foot-wide motorway on it.

The Bridge Project Special Group (4) of Public Works is undertaking the project.

The Senior General inspected the project site. Next, he inspected progress of Hinthada in a motorcade.

At 2.30 pm, he inspected the Pyapon Bridge Project being implemented on the Pyapon River between

Ward 1 in Pyapon and Ohnbin Village in Dedaye Township. Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun gave an account of the project.

Acting Managing Director U Khin Maung Hse of Public Works reported on work progress and progress of construction of approach roads on Pyapon side and Dedaye side.

The Senior General gave guidance on durability of the facility, and inspected the project. Next, he inspected the progress of Pyapon.

Now, the project being undertaken by the Bridge Project Special Group (7) is nearing completion. When completed, Yangon will be easily accessible from Pyapon through Dedaye-Kungyangon-Dalla Road.

Senior General Than Shwe saw over the Pyapon Bridge and progress of Pyapon. He arrived at Yangon later in the afternoon.—MNA

Drilling of Karkonna Well (1)...

(from page 16)

The well was drilled in February. On 21 February, the drilling reached 11,126 feet deep. It was estimated that natural gas on a commercial scale exists at a sand layer between 3,487 feet and 3,506 feet and another one between 3,510 feet and 3,520 feet.

This hot season, the natural gas deposit has been found after drilling

Zawtika (1), Gawthaka and Karkonna (1) wells. According to the test, 21 million cubic feet of natural gas can be produced from Karkonna (1) well daily.

As the future plan, one exploration well and four appraisal wells will be drilled by the end of July. The Ministry of Energy will implement the plan to use the natural gas for serving the best interest of the State.

MNA

Six bands take part in Military Band Competition

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March—Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, together with Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the Military Band Competition Vice-Adju-

tant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and members, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and members of the panel of judges attended the sixth day of the 15th Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Military Band Competition at the parade ground, here, this morning.

The military bands representing No 1 company of North-West Command, No 1 company of Eastern Command, Western Command, South-West Command, No 3 company of Eastern Command and No 1 company of South-East Command took part in the competition. — MNA



An oil rig named Karkonna (1) in Block M-9 offshore Mottama.—ENERGY

Myanmar defeat Philippine 9-1 in U-21 ASEAN Youth Football Championship 2007

YANGON, 3 March— Myanmar Youth team trounced the Philippines Youth team 9-1 in Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy for U-21 ASEAN Youth Football Championship 2007 held at Berakas Sports Complex in Banda Seri Begawan, capital of Brunei at 4 pm Brunei Standard Time today.

Myanmar striker Hla Aye Htwe scored twice in the third minute and 12th minute. Striker Si Thu Than and midfielder Htoo Kyaw netted third and fourth goals each in the 25th minute and 32nd minute, and Myanmar team dominated the first half of the game with the four-nil result. In the 47th minute of second half, the Philippines team snatched a goal.

However, five more goals by Yaza Win Thein, Si Thu Than, Zaw Htet Aung, Pyae Pyo Oo and Ye Waiyan Soe made sure of victory of Myanmar side. Myanmar plays against Cambodia youth team on 5 March at 8 pm Brunei Standard Time.

MNA

Respects paid to Presiding Sayadaw of Mahathubhawdhayon Monastery



The ceremony to pay homage to Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru title recipient Sayadaw Bhaddanta Narada in progress at Pantapwinttaung Tawya in Taikkyi Township. — MNA

YANGON, 3 March— A ceremony to honour Presiding Sayadaw of Mahathubhawdhayon Monastery in Sagaing Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Narada who was conferred Abhidhaja Maha Rattaha Guru by the State Peace and Development Council was held at Dhammasukha Beikman of

Pantapwinttaung Tawya in Taikkyi Township this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were the Pantapwinttaung Sayadaw and members of the Sangha, nuns, Thirithudhamma Manijotadhaja U Myint Soe and members, Patron of 9,000 Lights Association (Insein) U Soe Win (Singu Soe Win) and wellwishers,

local people, teachers and students.

After paying homage to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Narada, the congregation received the Five Precepts.

After that, the two wellwishers, on behalf of the Pantapwinttaung Sayadaw, presented offertories to members of the Sangha and shared merits gained.—MNA

Religious title recipient members of Sangha honoured



A responsible person presents certificate of honour to Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi title winner Daw Kyi Kyi Swe (Thamada Robe House). H

YANGON, 3 March— Religious title recipient members of the Sangha and Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi title recipient layman were honoured at the Rakhine State Dhammayon at the eastern stairway of the Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

The 20th ceremony

to confer religious title recipient on members of the Sangha was sponsored by Rakhine State Dhammayon Board of Trustees.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhana of Maniyadana Sarthintaik of Sittway administered the Five Precepts and recited Metta Suttas.

Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Pitsimayon Monastery Bhaddanta Khemidha delivered on Ovadakatha and offertories were presented to members of the Sangha.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Indapala delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits.

MNA

Furniture donated to library in Kayan

YANGON, 3 March— Furniture donation ceremony to 'Daw Phwathin Library' was held at the library in the compound of No 2 Basic Education High School in

Kayan, Yangon Division yesterday.

16 sets of iron cabinet, 20 desks, a computer desk, a table and 48 chairs worth K 5 million were donated to the library by donor U

Win Aung Kyaw, wife Daw Tin Mu Aung Kyaw family of Canada.

Present on the occasion were responsible persons, donors and guests.—H

Shwehtidaw hoisted atop Zinamanaung Pagoda in Thingangyun Township

YANGON, 3 March— A ceremony to hoist Shwehtidaw (Golden Umbrella) atop Zinamanaung Pagoda in Thingangyun Township, Yangon East District was held at the pagoda this morning.

It was attended by members of the Sangha headed by Joint-Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Insein Ywama Pariyatti

Sarthintaik Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tilokabhivamsa, Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo and family, heads of departments, Chairman of Committee for All-round Renovation of Zinamanaung Pagoda Agga Maha Thirithudhamma Manijotadhaja Dr Moe Tin and members, wellwishers and guests.

The ceremony was opened with the recitation

of Namo Tassa three times. After that, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Bhaddanta Tilokabhivamsa and members of the Sangha recited parittas.

The heads of department and wellwishers presented Seinbhudaw (Diamond Bud), Hngatmyatnaw and Shwehtidaw to members of the Sangha and offertories.—MNA

A&I Minister receives IRRI Director-General and party



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo receives IRRI Director-General Dr Robert Ziegler and party. — A&I

YANGON, 3 March — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo received Director-General Dr Robert Ziegler and party of Philippine-based

International Rice Research Institute at Yuzana Yeiktha on Natmuk Avenue on 1 March. They discussed matters related to boosting rice production in Myanmar.

Also present were the President of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fisheries, the directors-general and managing directors of the ministry. — MNA

Temporary closure of Defence Services Museum on 1 March

YANGON, 3 March — The Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road, here, will be closed temporarily beginning 1 March to make preparations and renovation for observance of the

exhibition to mark the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2007.

The museum will reopen to organize the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Exhibition on 26 March.

MNA

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

Tasks of Shwesayan, Kyaukse (Belin) Power Stations inspected

YANGON, 3 March — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint on 28 February arrived at Shwesayan Power Station near Ohnchaw Village of Patheingyi Township.

The minister heard reports on erecting of towers for 21-mile Kyaukse-Nawngkhio section of Shweli-Mansi-Shwesayan 230-kv power grid presented by officials. The minister inspected construction of staff quarters in the yard

of the power station.

At Kyaukse (Belin) Power Station construction site in Singaing Township, the minister heard reports on arrangements for supply of power from Yeywa Hydel Power Plant reported by the project manager of Power Supply Project (North). The minister and party viewed progress of staff quarters and buildings for the power station, and gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Workshop on mobile phone conducted



Marketing Manager U Kyaw Zeya Tun speaks at a Workshop on mobile phone.—MNA

YANGON, 3 March—A ceremony to present MySM Mobile application to regional sale agents was held in conjunction with a workshop on mobile phone at the Traders Hotel this afternoon, attended by Managing Director Dr Kyaw Htoo Lin and Project Manager Dr Kyaw Nanda of Mobilemate Telecommunications Co Ltd, entrepreneurs and media men.

Marketing Manager U Kyaw Zeya Tun gave talks on MySm application that can be used in GSM phones and potential businesses and opportunities by using Myanmar language in mobile communications system, Software Architect U Htoo Myint Naung of Technomation Studios, on structure and use of MySM application and other technological data,

Manager U Min Hla Tar of Mobilemate Telecommunications Co Ltd, on a programme to deliver MySM to mobile users in Myanmar and how to use MySM through Internet by Myanmar who are abroad.

Responsible persons answered the queries raised by the attendees. MySM software can be used in Myanmar language.

Those wishing to acquire further information can access www.mysmonline.com and those wishing to buy MySM can contact Mobilemate Telecommunications Co Ltd, No (402) (C), Dagon Centre, Sangyoung Township, Ph: 514324,524611 and e-mail: mobilemate@myanmar.com.mm.

MNA

Grand Royal Special Reserve Third Qualify Round kicks off



YANGON, 3 March—Organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, an opening ceremony of Grand Royal Special Reserve Third Qualify

Round under the sponsorship of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd was held at Ngantay Golf Club in Mawlamyine this morning. Hla Win took the lead in the amateur golfers contest by firing nett total 70 strokes at the first 18th hole.

Col Myo Aung Htay of South-East Command, Secretary of Mon State

Peace and Development Council U Aung Win, MPGA and MGF Executive U Ko Ko Lay and Design and Development Director U Tint Oo of IBTC teed off to open the first 18th hole event.

Air Mandalay, Hotel Nikko, Srixon and Alpine are co-sponsors of the tournament together with organizer Han Event Management — MNA

Academic matters supervised

YANGON, 3 March—Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein supervised academic matters in universities and a college in Yangon this morning.

In his inspection tour of Yangon East University, he instructed the rector and deans to lay down work programmes, conduct research, prescribe combined subjects, use sufficient pedagogical aids, and carry out greening, security and sanitation tasks for the improvement of the university. He inspected performances of students of University of Distance Education.

Upon arrival at the National Management College, he inspected computer diploma courses. In meeting with the principal and teachers there, he responded to the reports on academic matters.

Next, he visited Yangon University and held discussions about educational research with Ph.D degree holder faculty members.

He inspected the special academic methods course No (2) and lecture rooms. He also gave instructions on academic matters.

MNA

Measures taken as to death of fowls and birds in townships of Yangon Division

YANGON, 3 March—The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department is taking measures as to the death of fowls and birds in townships of Yangon Division.

The death of two crows was found in Insein Township on 3-3-2007, one crow and four pigeons in Mingaladon Township on 3-3-2007, two crows and one owl in Mayangon Township on 3-3-2007, one crow in Mingala Taungnyunt on 3-3-2007 and one sparrow in Sangyoung Township on 3-3-2007. Regarding this, bird flu was not detected.

The death of one domestic fowl and one duck was found in Insein Township on 3-3-2007. In this context, protozoa was detected in the dead fowl and E-coli and salmonella in the dead duck although bird flu was not found.

No chickens were dead in poultry farms in townships of Yangon Division. And no bird flu was detected in the dead crows, owl, pigeons and sparrow.

Disinfection was carried out in poultry farms and destroyed poultry farms. The LBVD came to the conclusion that the death of those birds might be due to the residue of disinfectant used in the poultry farms.

The LBVD has requested pet keepers to make arrangements so that their dogs and cats cannot eat the dead crow, sparrow, pigeon and wild birds. It also urged breeders not to directly use concentrate disinfectant but to use 0.5 per cent disinfectant diluting with water in farms for prevention and 2 per cent disinfectant diluting with water in infected farms.—MNA

Joint-Secretary-1 U Myo Thet of Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Association left by air for Singapore on 28 February to attend International Furniture Fair Singapore 2007 and ASEAN Furniture Show to be held in Singapore from 1 to 5 March. U Myo Thet was seen off at the



airport by General Secretary U Nay Tun Min and CEC member U Aung Naing Oo of the association.—MNA

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P. O. Box 60, Yangon. Dated: 4 March 2007

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GEE HONG VOY NO (704)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG VOY NO (704) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.3.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE SHIPPING CO, LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VASCO DA GAMA NO (035)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA NO (035) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.3.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI SUVIDHA NO (72507)

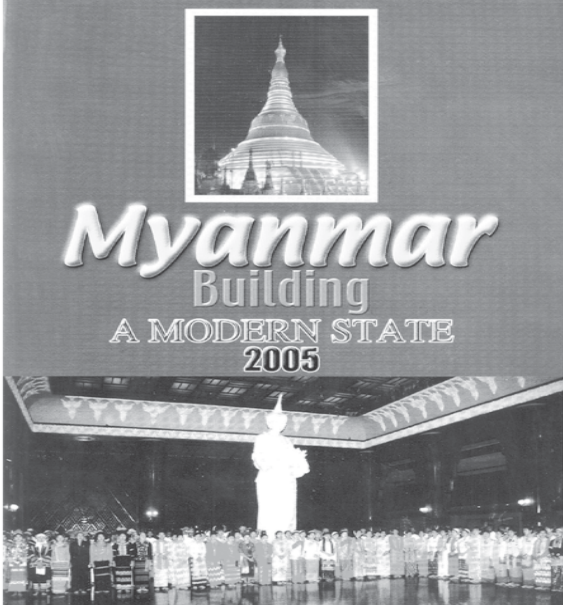
Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI SUVIDHA NO (72507) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.3.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

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MYANMA RAILWAYS
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1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways for supply of the following Store which will be purchased in US Dollar/ Euro:

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Closing Date, Time. 5.4.2007 (Thursday) (12:00) Hours

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon starting from 5.3.2007 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 291985, (201555 Ext 601, 602, 605, 612)
Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botahtaung, Yangon

**Ministry of Industry (1)
Myanma Ceramic Industries
192, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road
Yangon, Myanmar
Invitation to Tender**

Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Ceramic Industries for the extension of Tableware Plant. The Plant Production Line shall be able to produce 1100 tons per year of Ceramic Ware which is to be established at Tableware and Tile Factory (Thayawaddy). Tender document shall be available from 5th, March, 2007, during the office hour and closing date is 21st March, 2007. 15:00 hour Myanmar Standard Time.

Please Contact Phone No. 01-562036, 067-408336 or Fax 01-578226 or 067-408064 for further information.

**Managing Director
Myanma Ceramic Industries**

**British defence ministry
confirms soldier killed in Iraq**

LONDON, 2 March — A British soldier died after a "small arms fire" attack in Basra, southern Iraq, the Ministry of Defence confirmed on Wednesday.

The MoD said the unnamed soldier from the 2nd Battalion The Rifles had been on a routine patrol in Basra when he sustained "very serious" injuries on Tuesday morning and died in hospital, Sky news reported.

MNA/Xinhua

**Train accident in
northern Japan
injures 51**

TOKYO, 2 March — A one-car local train was derailed after colliding with a trailer truck early Thursday in northern Japan's Hokkaido, injuring 51 people, *Kyodo News* said.

The truck driver has been arrested for alleged negligence resulting in injuries, the report said. The train driver and two passengers suffered heavy injuries, though not critical. Other 48 people injured were also train passengers. There were around 70 people in the train when the collision occurred at a railroad crossing between Bihoro and Hiushinai on Hokkaido Railway Co's Sekihoku Line at around 8:20 am (2320 GMT, Wednesday).

The truck, which was carrying log, failed to stop when the crossing gate was closed. The train was running at 60 kilometres per hour before the accident, the train driver was quoted as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

**Indonesia will not
back new Iran
sanctions**

JAKARTA, 2 March — Indonesia will likely oppose or at least abstain during voting on a Western-backed resolution on fresh sanctions on Iran at the UN Security Council, local Press said Thursday.

The main aim of the resolution is to impose tougher sanctions on Iran for its failure to fulfil UN conditions on its nuclear programme.

A credible government source has indicated that Indonesia, a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and a supporter of the peaceful use of nuclear technology, would not approve heavier sanctions on Iran because it has not seen any justification for supporting such a resolution, reported major national newspaper *The Jakarta Post*.

The government argued that Iran has every right to develop nuclear power for peaceful purposes while either the United States or the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has failed to provide proof over claims that Iran will build nuclear weapons, the newspaper said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Desra Percaya has said on several occasions that judging from past experiences, Indonesia did not believe that sanctions against Iran would work.

MNA/Xinhua

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People wait at a crossing in Tokyo's Ginza shopping district on 2 March, 2007. —INTERNET

Transfusion near surgery may up blood clot risk

NEW YORK, 2 March — Transfusion of blood from a donor around the time of surgery appears to increase the risk of blood clots in women, but not in men, according to a new study. Blood clots in the veins, a condition called venous thromboembolism or VTE, are a serious problem. With VTE, clots can form in the veins of the legs, impairing blood flow. But a bigger concern is when clots travel from the legs to the lungs, which can be fatal.

Transfusion of donated

blood can disrupt the normal balance of clotting factors and alter the inflammatory cascade, the study authors explain, thereby increasing the risk of clot formation during periods of systemic inflammation such as surgery. Dr Kent R Nilsson and colleagues from Johns Hopkins University Schools of Medicine and Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland sought to determine whether there was an association between blood product transfusion

and VTE in more than 14,000 patients who underwent colorectal cancer surgery.

MNA/Reuters

Superstition sparks toilet cleaning craze in Japan

TOKYO, 2 March — Cleanliness has long been next to godliness for the hygiene-conscious Japanese, but fortune-tellers are now advising those who want to succeed in life to start by scrubbing the smallest room.

Cleaning the toilet to attract luck published this month is the latest in a series of books advising readers on how to attract good fortune using a brush and an array of cleaning fluids.

“Don’t just wipe the floor, polish it,” the book instructs. “It’s important to maintain a positive mood while cleaning.”

The books are inspired by Buddhist teachings and feng shui, a traditional

Chinese belief that people’s fortunes are determined by their surroundings.

The idea that Lady Luck may be hiding in the lavatory has been taken up by magazines and television programmes.

“I won the lottery! I married my ideal person! I got pregnant!” read some of the claims on the cover of another book on the topic, published last year.

The idea that a clean toilet can bring good fortune, or even make you more beautiful, has existed in Japan for many years, according to Yuka Soma of Makino Publishing in Tokyo, editor of one of the toilet books.

MNA/Reuters

Argentine police seize 3 tons of marijuana

BUENOS AIRES, 2 March — Argentine National Armed Police on Wednesday seized three tons of marijuana in a routine inspection in the northeastern province of Misiones.

The seizure took place in San Ignacio, about 1,800 kilometres northeast of Argentina’s capital Buenos Aires, authorities said.

The drug was hidden in a truck on its way from Paraguay. The driver was held in custody by local authorities.

MNA/Xinhua

Pregnancy diet may impact Child’s allergy risk

NEW YORK, 2 March — What a woman eats during pregnancy may influence the odds that her child will develop allergies, a new study hints.

Dr Joachim Heinrich, of GSF-Institute of Epidemiology, Neuherberg, Germany, and colleagues studied associations between maternal diet during the last 4 weeks of pregnancy and allergies and eczema in offspring at age 2 years.

They analyzed data from 2,641 children. Overall, 17.7 percent of all children had doctor-diagnosed eczema at age 2. A total of 9.3 per cent were sensitized to food allergens, most commonly milk and eggs, and 4.8 per cent were sensitized to inhaled allergens.

After adjusting for potentially confounding factors, positive associations were observed between high maternal intakes of margarine and vegetable oils during the last 4 weeks of pregnancy and eczema during the first 2 years in the offspring.

On the other hand, eating a lot of fish late in pregnancy seemed to offer some protection against

eczema in offspring.

The study also found that children born to moms who ate a lot of celery and citrus fruit were at increased risk for sensitization to food allergens. Sensitization to inhaled allergens was also associated with high maternal intakes of deep-frying vegetable fat, raw sweet pepper and citrus fruit.

MNA/Reuters

US helicopter makes “hard landing” in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 2 March — A US helicopter made a “hard landing” in northern

Iraq on Thursday, and initial reports said the cause was a mechanical problem, not hostile fire, the military said in a statement.

Two pilots on board the US Army OH-58 Kiowa helicopter were injured and had been evacuated, the statement added. Residents in the area said they had seen the helicopter hit wires south of the city of Kirkuk.

A hard landing generally describes an emergency landing, but not a crash. Insurgents have shot down eight helicopters since 20 January in Iraq, killing a total of 28 people, mostly soldiers. Six of those helicopters were US military aircraft and two belonged to a private American security firm.

MNA/Reuters



South Korea’s next-generation tanks, code named ‘XK2’ and nicknamed ‘Black Panther’, are seen during an unveiling ceremony in Changwon, southeast of Seoul, on 2 March, 2007. —INTERNET



Two-month-old Indochinese tiger cubs play with their mother Mi Mi inside their cage at the Hanoi Zoo on 2 March, 2007. Four cubs of the second generation of Indochinese tiger were successfully bred in captivity, Hanoi Zoo deputy General Director Dang Gia Tung said on Friday. — INTERNET

SPORTS



Martina Glagow of Germany wins the Women's 7.5 km sprint at the World Cup Biathlon in Lahti Finland, on 2 March, 2007. — INTERNET

Henry worry for Gunners

LONDON, 2 March—Arsene Wenger admits Thierry Henry is a major doubt for Arsenal's UEFA Champions League return with PSV Eindhoven. The Gunners captain is struggling with a foot injury which forced him to miss Wednesday's FA Cup defeat at Blackburn Rovers.

He is likely to sit out Saturday's Premiership game with Reading and is racing against time to be fit for the second leg with PSV next Wednesday.

Tomas Rosicky has al-



Thierry Henry

ready been ruled out of the Emirates Stadium clash, with Arsenal trailing 1-0 from the first leg in Holland.

And Arsenal boss Wenger concedes it is 'impossible' to say whether his skipper will be fit to line up against PSV.

"Tomas will be out for the PSV game and Thierry is a doubt," Wenger told the club's official website.

"We will try our best to get him fit, but at the moment it is impossible to say. "The suspended players will be back for this game, so Adebayor and Toure will play. Maybe Abou Diaby will be back too."

For Saturday's test with Reading, though, Wenger is confident of having Johan Djourou and Cesc Fabregas back in his plans.

Internet



Liverpool's manager Rafael Benitez, left, and Manchester United's manager Alex Ferguson, right, direct their players during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield Stadium, Liverpool, England, on Saturday 3 March, 2007. — INTERNET

Manchester United beats Liverpool 1-0 in soccer's Premiership

LONDON, 3 March — John O'Shea scored in injury time to give 10-man Manchester United a 1-0 win at Liverpool in English soccer's Premiership, extending its lead atop the standings to 12 points.

O'Shea's goal, the first in the league by a visiting team at Liverpool's Anfield stadium since October, came after his teammate Paul Scholes was shown a red card in the 86th minute.

"Liverpool played fantastically, and we were very lucky," United manager Alex Ferguson told *Sky Sports*. "There were a lot of narrow escapes, but today was a big win for us."

United, which is aiming to win the title for a first time since 2003, moves to 72 points through 29 of 38 matches, while defending champion Chelsea has 60 from 27 games. Liverpool, which has played the same number of games as United, remains on 53 points, with Arsenal on 49 from 26 matches.

Internet

Chelsea admit FA charge over League Cup final brawl

LONDON, 3 March — English champions Chelsea have admitted an FA charge of failing to control their players after the brawl in the closing moments of their 2-1 League Cup final victory over Arsenal, the FA said on Friday.

Chelsea's John Obi Mikel and Arsenal's Emmanuel Adebayor and Kolo Toure were sent off after the clash in Cardiff's Millennium Stadium last Sunday. "Chelsea have admitted a charge of failing to control their players and/or officials," the FA said on their website.

"Chelsea have requested a personal hearing which will be scheduled in due course."

The admission suggests Chelsea are

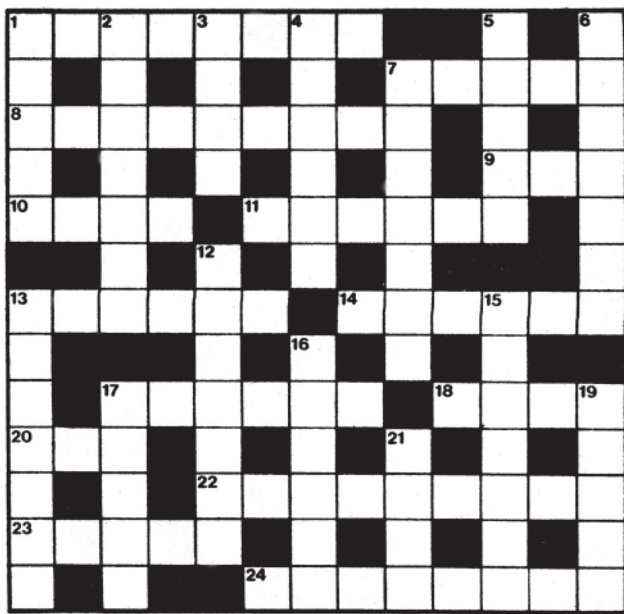
backing off over the incident while Arsenal are embroiled in a full scale row with the FA.

Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho and his Arsenal counterpart Arsene Wenger rushed on to the pitch to try to calm their players during the melee.

Both clubs were charged with failure to control their players and on Thursday the FA also said it would ask Wenger for an explanation of his comments suggesting the FA disciplinary system was dishonest and that a linesman had lied.

Wenger repeated his assertions on Friday, fanning the flames of a dispute that could lead to his third disrepute charge of the season. — MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 London rail-terminal
- 7 Sounding-lead
- 8 Residue
- 9 Everything
- 10 Vivacity
- 11 Lawsuit
- 13 Prairie-wolf
- 14 Zest
- 17 Soprano
- 18 Trudge
- 20 Garden implement
- 22 Out-and-out
- 23 Issues
- 24 Disputed noisily

DOWN

- 1 Poetry
- 2 Firm
- 3 Latin poet
- 4 Charge
- 5 Girl's name
- 6 Do away with
- 7 Commended
- 12 Waits on
- 13 Money handler
- 15 Unlawful
- 16 Blossom
- 17 Lukewarm
- 19 Unfashionable
- 21 Small bird

High demand for Euro 2008 tickets

NYON (Switzerland), 3 March — Organizers of the 2008 European championship have reported a high demand for tickets following the first 24 hours of orders.

According to a statement released on Friday, fans had applied for 53,978 tickets via the official website (www.euro2008.com) within one day of the sales window being opened.

"That's 10 times more ticket applications than were received during the first day of ticket sales for Euro 2004 in Portugal,"

said the tournament's chief operating officer Martin Kallen.

Supporters have until midnight on March 31 to register for tickets after which a lottery will be held to determine the successful applications.

Approximately 350,000 tickets — a third of the total — are on offer, with the remaining tickets being distributed among the competing associations, sponsors and media.

The tournament, co-hosted by Switzerland and Austria, is set to run from 7-29 June, 2008.

MNA/Reuters

Injured Solskjaer faces month out

MANCHESTER, 3 March — Manchester United striker Ole Gunnar Solskjaer will be out of action for most of March after undergoing minor knee surgery. The 34-year-old Norway international only returned to regular action this season after the best part of three years on the sidelines with knee problems. United manager Alex Ferguson told reporters on Friday: "That was done a few days ago. It was good timing with the international (break) coming up.

"It gave us the opportunity to get the thing done and get it cleaned out. It's nothing serious." — MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's Gael Clichy, bottom, is brought down by Reading's Andre Bikey which resulted a penalty being awarded and converted by Arsenal's Gilberto during their English Premiership League soccer match at Emirates Stadium, London, on Saturday, 3 March, 2007. — INTERNET

Premiership

3 March, 2007

Liverpool	0-1	Man Utd
Man City	0-1	Wigan
Watford	2-2	Charlton
Arsenal	2-1	Reading
Newcastle	0-0	Middlesbrough
Sheff Utd	1-1	Everton
Fulham	1-1	Aston Villa
Portsmouth	0-2	Chelsea

Internet

Tornadoes kill at least 20 across US south

ATLANTA, 3 March — Tornadoes swept across the southern United States and killed at least 20 people in three states, ripping up a hospital and high school where students huddled for shelter, authorities said on Friday.

Nine were killed in Georgia, where a hospital was hit late on Thursday, and 10 in two southern

Alabama towns, officials said.

The storms also took the life of a young girl in Missouri, they said.

In Georgia, two were killed in the town of Americus when the Sumter Regional Hospital was hit by an apparent tornado, and six died in hard-hit Baker County. The ninth fatality was in Taylor County, a bit north of Americus, said state emergency management official Michael Parker.

In the Missouri town of Caulfield, a tornado killed a girl in a mobile home, damaging six other homes and two gasoline stations, officials said on Thursday.

Tara Emnett, an official at the Enterprise mayor's office in Alabama, told Reuters that all but

one of the victims there were students at the high school, a shredded building left surrounded by broken trees and overturned cars.

Another fatality in Enterprise occurred in a residence, Emnett said. Emergency management officials, meanwhile, confirmed at least one storm-related death elsewhere in Alabama, in Wilcox County.

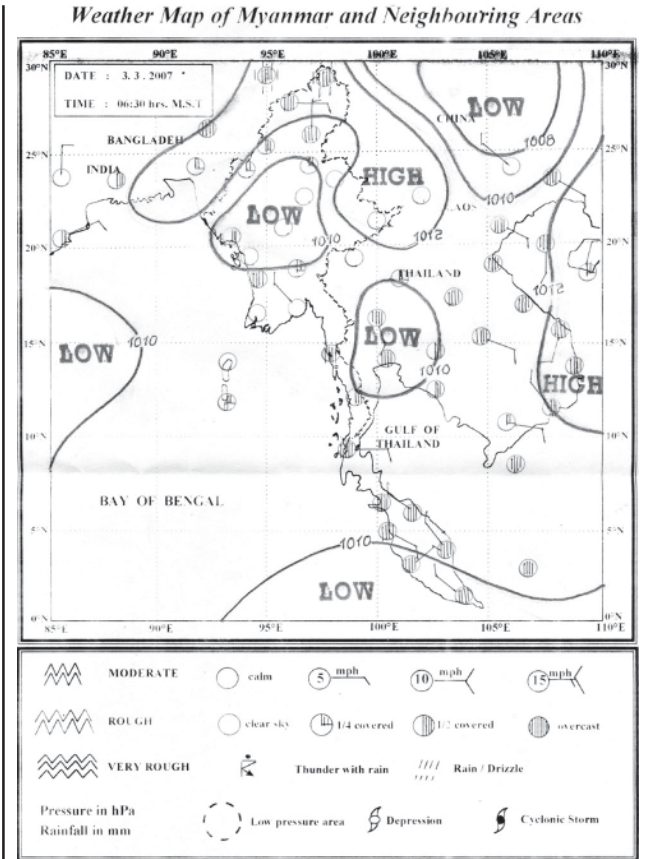
The students at the high school had been assembled in the hallways when the storm hit, in line with emergency procedures, said Coffee County Emergency Management director John Tallas, whose area of responsibility includes Enterprise.

"They were in the hallway of the school which typically is the most structurally sound part of the building," Tallas told CBS television's "Early Show". — MNA/Reuters



Visitors observe a jackal-headed statue of a Soul of Nekhen, at the opening of an exhibit entitled 'Anubis, Upwawet and Other Deities' at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, Egypt, on Thursday, 1 March, 2007. The objects are being displayed for the first time since they were discovered in 1922 by British Egyptologist G A Wainwright at the tomb of Djefaihapy III in Asyut, having been stored in the basement of the museum until now.

INTERNET



WEATHER

Saturday, 3 March, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers have been scattered in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) in above normal in Kayin State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (5°C) below normal in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Nay Pyi Taw, Pyinmana, Magway, Aungmye and Hpa-an (38°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Putao and Machanbaw (0.24) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 2-3-2007 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 3-3-2007 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 3-3-2007 was 82%. Total sunshine hours on 2-3-2007 was (9.2) hours approx.

Rainfall on 3-3-2007 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 (6) mph from South at (17:20) hours MST on 2-3-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 4-3-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine, Shan, Kayin and Mon 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 day temperatures in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 4-3-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 4-3-2007: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 4-3-2007: Generally fair weather.



Sunday, 4 March
View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂူ၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ မွေဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am
 2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ မွေဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်)ဟောကြား တော်မူအပ်သောဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်
- 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. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈)ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 8:10 am
 7. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am
 8. အစဉ်အလာကောင်းမည့် လှိုင်းချောင်းတစ်
- 8:20 am
 9. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:30 am
 10. International news
- 8:45 am
 11. Say it in English
- 11:00 am
 1. Martial song
- 11:10 am
 2. Musical programme
- 11:25 am
 3. Round up of the week's international news
- 11:40 am
 4. Yan Can Cook
- 11:55 am
 5. Myanmar movie: "နင်းပျောက်တဲ့နေ့" (ဝင်းဦးတင်တင်မူ၊ တင်တင်အေး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်လယ်)
- 1:30 pm
 6. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ
- 1:40 pm
 7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 1:50 pm
 8. ရွှေလိတ်တား
- 2:00 pm
 9. Musical programme
- 2:15 pm
 10. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:25 pm
 11. "နင်းကြည့်စမ်းပါ" (မင်းအုပ်စိုးညီဘွား၊ ခင်စိုးပိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
- 2:35 pm
 12. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:45 pm
 13. International news
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

- 4:30 pm
 3. English for everyday use
- 4:45 pm
 4. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြု တေးသီချင်း ပြိုင်ပွဲဆုရတေးများ (၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်)
- 4:55 pm
 5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဒဿနိကဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ဒဿနိကဗေဒ)
- 5:10 pm
 6. Dance of national races
- 5:20 pm
 7. "ညောင်မယ်ချို" (ခန့် စည်သူ၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဂွမ်းမုံ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)
- 5:30 pm
 8. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm
 9. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
 10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 11. သိရိဓမ္မာ
- 7:00 pm
 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သမားတော်" (အပိုင်း-၇)
- 8:00 pm
 13. News
- 14. International news
- 15. Weather report
- 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "လှပသောနေ့ရက်များ" (အပိုင်း-၃၀) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)
- 17. The next day's programme



Sunday, 4 March
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Hello
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Bootie call
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -One
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar
- 9:20 am Music: -Stop
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Children's delight (Story) -The princess and the bears
- 1:50 pm Songs for children
- 9:00 pm Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Music/LIETS -Words -Best of my love
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects military columns, barracks, mess

NAY PYI TAW, 3 March — Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2007 Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe arrived at the hostels of military columns in Ywadow here this morning.

Accompanied by Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Brig-Gen Zaw Win, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Myint Naung and commander of military columns, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspected drills of military columns, hostels of military companies, mess halls, kitchens, booths of the public relations camp and reading rooms.

First, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected Anawrahta Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Gyi.

After viewing the military columns, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe looked into the mess hall, the hostels and the kitchens.

Next, they viewed paintings displayed by the public relations camp of the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare, other booths, documentary photos and poems, and left necessary instructions.—MNA



Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects training of the Tatmadaw Columns.—MNA

Drilling of Karkonna Well (1) offshore Mottama inspected

YANGON, 3 March — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, accompanied by President Mr Marrot Mrigadat of PTTEP Company of Thailand and Executive Vice-President Dr Chitrapongse of PTT Company and officials, inspected drilling at Karkonna Test Well (1) in Block M-9 offshore Mottama on 28 February.

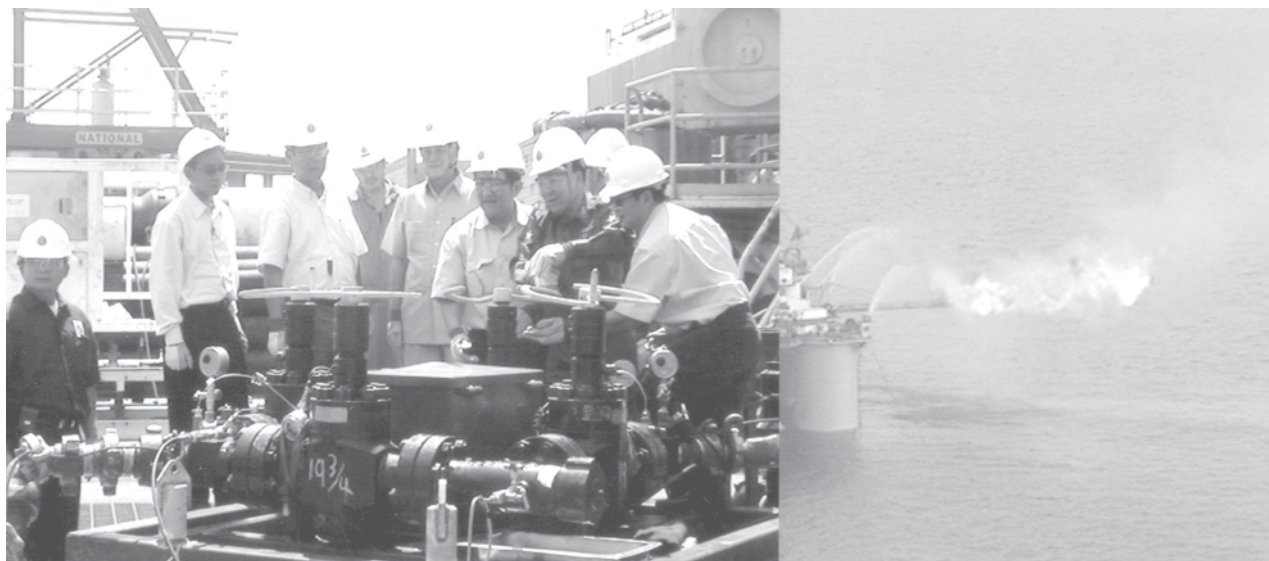
Operation Manager Mr Pasook of PTTEP Co reported on successful drilling of Karkonna Test Well (1), and President Mr Marrot Mrigadat of PTTEP Co

on prospects of Block M-9 and future plans.

The minister gave instructions on exploring of natural gas, efforts to be made for production of the gas on commercial scale and supply of natural gas from Block M-9.

Next, fruit baskets were presented to Myanmar and foreign employees. The minister opened the production valve of the Test Well (1) by torching the gas.

(See page 9)



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi opens the valve of natural gas well from Block M-9 offshore Mottama. — ENERGY

Two members quit NLD

YANGON, 3 March — Member of Mongphyat Township National League for Democracy in Shan State (East) U Sai Hon of Namlauk village and Joint-Secretary of Lewe Township NLD U Kyaw Maung Maung Lay resigned from the party of their own accord and sent their letter of resignation to the NLD Headquarters and authorities concerned on 31 January.

In the letter to Mongphyat Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission and Lewe Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission, they said the reason why they quit the NLD was that they lost trust and interest in the party and its leaders. — MNA

Academy Awards presentation to be telecast live

YANGON, 3 March — Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise under the Ministry of Information will hold the ceremony to present Academy Awards as motion picture outstanding awards for 2005 at the square of City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw at 6 pm on 5 March.

TV Myanmar of Myanma Radio and Television will telecast live the ceremony beginning 5 pm.

MNA