

# Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe welcomed back Prime Minister General Thein Sein, who arrived back here by air after attending the 13th ASEAN Summit and related meetings held in Singapore, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 11 am today.

Accompanying the Senior General, Vice-Chairman of the SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, SPDC Member General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Adjutant-General Maj-



*Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA*

Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung, senior military officers, the director-general of the SPDC Office, heads of department, Singaporean Ambassa-

dor to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong and officials also welcomed back the Prime Minister.

Members of the Myanmar delegation Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for

Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, departmental heads and officials also arrived back here on the same flight.

MNA

### Weather Forecast for 24-11-2007

**Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area**  
Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers.  
Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Yangon and neighbouring area**  
Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers.  
Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Mandalay and neighbouring area**  
Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers.  
Degree of certainty is (40%).

#### 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

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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Saturday, 24 November, 2007

**Perform meritorious deeds on Samañña Phala Day**

The whole sky is clear and it is cloudless in the month of Tazaungmon. On the Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon, the sky is more pleasant than in the fullmoon day of any other month because all the stars appear at night together with the third lunar mansion, constellation Perseus, the constellation Auriga in addition to the fullmoon.

The word Tazaungmon consists of "Tazaung" and "Mon". The word "Tazaung" means light and the word "Mon", convey. So, Tazaungmon means the month in which lights and open oil lamps are lit, and conveying of lights to remove darkness.

On Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon, King Ajatasat of Rajagaha, with the help of physician Jivaka, paid obeisance to the Lord Buddha for a sermon. The Blessed One expounded Samañña Phala (the fruit of the life of a recluse) Sutta. At the end of the discourse, the King became the one who strongly believed in the Three Gems.

With reference to the story, Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon was designated as Samañña Phala Day.

Buddhists have held Kathina robes offering ceremonies on Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon since the Buddha expounded the sermon on the benefits of offering Kathina robes in the month of Tazaungmon. By accepting Kathina robes, members of the Buddhist Order can enjoy the five kinds of benefit. In return, the offering of Kathina robes brings five kinds of benefit to the donors.

All the Buddhists are therefore urged to continue to do meritorious deeds such as hearing the Dhamma, offering Kathina robes and practising insight meditation on Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon or Samañña Phala Day, the most profound and significant day of a year.

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ**

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော် ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၇-ခုနှစ် နိုဝင်ဘာလအတွက်

နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)  
(၂၅-၁၁-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့

၂၀၀၇-ခုနှစ် ဒီဇင်ဘာလအတွက်

(၉-၁၂-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့  
နှင့်  
(၃၀-၁၂-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့

**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 for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo attending the 34th FAO Conference at Rome in Italy.—MNA*

**MYANMAR GAZETTE**

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed the appointment of the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Aung Kyaing	Director-General Health Planning Department Ministry of Health
(b) Dr Myint Thaug	Rector Yezin University of Agriculture Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation

MNA

**A&I Minister participates in FAO Conference**

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo arrived back here by air at 9 am today after attending the 34th United Nations Food And Agriculture Organization Conference and senior officials meetings in Rome of Italy from 17 to 24 November.

The minister was welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and officials.

The minister visited kiwi fruit plantation at Latina region of Rome, Italy, on 18 November.

On 19 November, the minister attended the 34th UNFAO Conference at its headquarters in Rome together with ministers from 191-FAO members countries.

At the conference, FAO Director-General Mr Jaeques Diouf and Chairman of FAO Council Mr Mohammad Sacid Noari Nacini read the reports on tasks undertaken in two years.

The Myanmar delegation discussed the reports on development of

women presented by FAO. Next, FAO submitted development of UN System and assessment on the policy.

In the evening, Myanmar delegation took part in the High Level Special Event: The Roll of

Aquaculture in Sustainable Development. Afterwards, FAO submitted its report for 2006-07 and the appraisal for 2007.

On 20 November, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered an address at the conference. The

Myanmar delegation took part in the discussions on enhancement of cooperation in FAO and WFP tasks, high level special event: forests and energy and the high level special event: the financing of agriculture. — MNA

**Notification on prevention against bird flu**

Bird flu is zoonosis disease, and it has spread to 60 countries since December 2003. Consequently, over 250 million poultry, ducks and birds were killed and culled. Up to 12-11-2007, altogether 335 people were infected with bird flu, in which 206 died.

The incidence of bird flu is common in the winter, and the sporadic outbreaks were also found in all seasons.

In Myanmar, some poultry farms of Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions were struck by an outbreak of HPA1 and H5N1 viruses in February and March 2006, some poultry farms of Yangon Division in February and March 2007, some poultry farms of Mon State and Bago Division (West) in July 2007, and some poultry farms of Bago Division (East) in October 2007.

After the sporadic incidence of bird flu in Yangon Division, disease monitoring and diagnostic tests were carried out regularly. The H5 antigen was found at a poultry farm in Hmawby Township in October 2007. As there were no symptom of bird flu, death and passing of virus, necessary preventative measures were taken.

There were unusual deaths of indigenous chicken in a village, Kengtung Township, Shan State (East) on 18-11-2007. Regarding that, officials made field trips and carried out laboratory tests. The result was that H5N1 virus was detected at the farm. Consequently, chicken of the farm were culled, disinfecting of the farm, restriction of transport of chicken and bio-security were taken.

The Livestock and Veterinary Department issued a notification, urging the people to prevent the entry of poultry and birds of neighbouring countries into the nation, to systematically take the bio-security measures for poultry farms, not to intermingle poultry with ducks, quails and pigs in a farm, to send the dead poultry and birds to the LBVD, the Livestock Breeding Federation and local authorities if found in the farm, to wash the hands with soap after holding poultry and farm utensils and to eat chicken only after cooking them thoroughly. — MNA



Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, and Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi seen at a joint news conference in the Kremlin in Moscow, on 22 Nov, 2007. Russia and Italy moved forward Thursday on a joint project to build a natural gas pipeline under the Black Sea, a project that would strengthen Russia's position as Europe's dominant energy supplier.—INTERNET

## “Sidr” slams world’s largest mangrove forest in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 22 Nov—At least 28 spotted deer were perished in the deadly cyclone Sidr that first slammed into Bangladesh’s southwestern Sundarbans, world’s largest mangrove forest, last Thursday night, a senior forest official said.

Local people, however, apprehended that the

casualty figure of precious wild animals of the Sundarbans, 350 kilometres southwest of capital Dhaka, may be several hundred.

Senior Forest Official SM Shahidullah told *Xinhua* by phone Wednesday evening, the Sundarbans is an abode of about 100,000 to 150,000

deer, 440 Royal Bengal Tigers and over 100,000 monkeys and rare species of birds. The Sidr also caused havoc on costly trees in Sundarbans. Shahidullah said the amount of damage caused to forest and infrastructure is 10 billion taka (about 145.3 million US dollars).—MNA/Xinhua

## Typhoon “Mitag” approaches E Philippines

MANILA, 23 Nov—Philippine weather authority on Thursday said tropical storm “Mitag” has intensified into a typhoon and is moving closer to hit eastern Philippine coast within one day.

According to a statement issued by Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), as of 11 am Thursday, Mitag packed maximum sustained winds of 120 kilometres per hour with gusts of up to 150 kilometres per hour.

The weather bureau said Mitag is moving at the speed of 15 kilometres per hour and is expected to land on Bicol region by Friday.

MNA/Xinhua

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Prenatal cocaine exposure cuts blood flow to brain

NEW YORK, 23 Nov—Babies born to mothers who used cocaine while pregnant show a reduction in blood flow to the brain when they reach adolescence, according to a report in the journal *Pediatrics*.

“What this means is not certain at this time,” Dr Hallam Hurt from Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

told *Reuters Health*. “These changes may have been present since birth, suggesting a long-lasting effect of (exposure during pregnancy), or they may have just occurred during adolescence, a so-called latent effect.”

Hurt and associates used a special type of MRI to measure brain blood flow in adolescents who had been exposed to

cocaine prenatally and those who had not.

The exposed teens showed decreased blood flow in various brain regions, with marked decreases in two key regions: the occipital lobe, an area that controls vision, and the thalamus, an area that acts as a sensory relay station for the brain.

MNA/Reuters

### Putin slams foreign govts for sponsoring opposition

Moscow, 23 Nov — President Vladimir Putin accused foreign governments on Wednesday of sponsoring his political opponents in next month’s election so as to weaken Russia and carry out “dirty tricks” against it.

“Unfortunately there are still those people in our country who still slink through foreign embassies ... who count on the support of foreign funds and governments but not the support of their own people,” Putin told a

cheering crowd of several thousands at a Moscow sports stadium.

“There are those confronting us, who do not want us to carry out our plans, because they have ... a different view of Russia. They need a weak and feeble state. They need a disorganized and disoriented society, a split society, so that they can carry out their dirty tricks behind its back.”

With Soviet-era songs blaring, the crowd waved flags and banners and chanted support for the 55-year-old leader, who is by far Russia’s most popular politician after eight successive years of strong economic growth. — MNA/Reuters



Indian Army soldiers load relief goods including ready-to-eat food packets, tents, blankets and medicines into an Indian Air Force IL-76 aircraft for Bangladeshi cyclone-affected people, at New Delhi Airport. Fears of disease and starvation were growing in Bangladesh on Thursday as relief workers raced against time to bring aid to cyclone victims who have been without adequate food and water for a week.—INTERNET

### Four bodies found at Ottawa home

OTTAWA, 23 Nov—The bodies of four family members were found Wednesday in a home in Ottawa, Canada’s capital, in a case believed to be a suicide-murder, police said.

Police discovered the bodies early morning after responding to a call to check on the residents, a spokesman told reporters.

Police believe 45-year-old Sant Bir Singh Brar fatally shot his wife and two daughters before turning the weapon on himself.

The family’s relatives in India had expressed concern for them, after a reported argument between Brar and his wife earlier this week, according to local media reports.

Neighbours described the family as quiet and reserved, who have been living in the home for five years.—MNA/Xinhua



A Russian policeman escorts the Soyuz TMA-11 rocket to the launch pad of Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.—INTERNET

# Global Images of the Day

*An elderly man checks his e-mail at an Internet cafe for elderly people in Tokyo, July 2007file photo. Scientists are looking for chemicals that prolong longevity.*

INTERNET



*Pedestrians walk in Quebec City's Old Town during a snow storm on 22 Nov, 2007.*

INTERNET



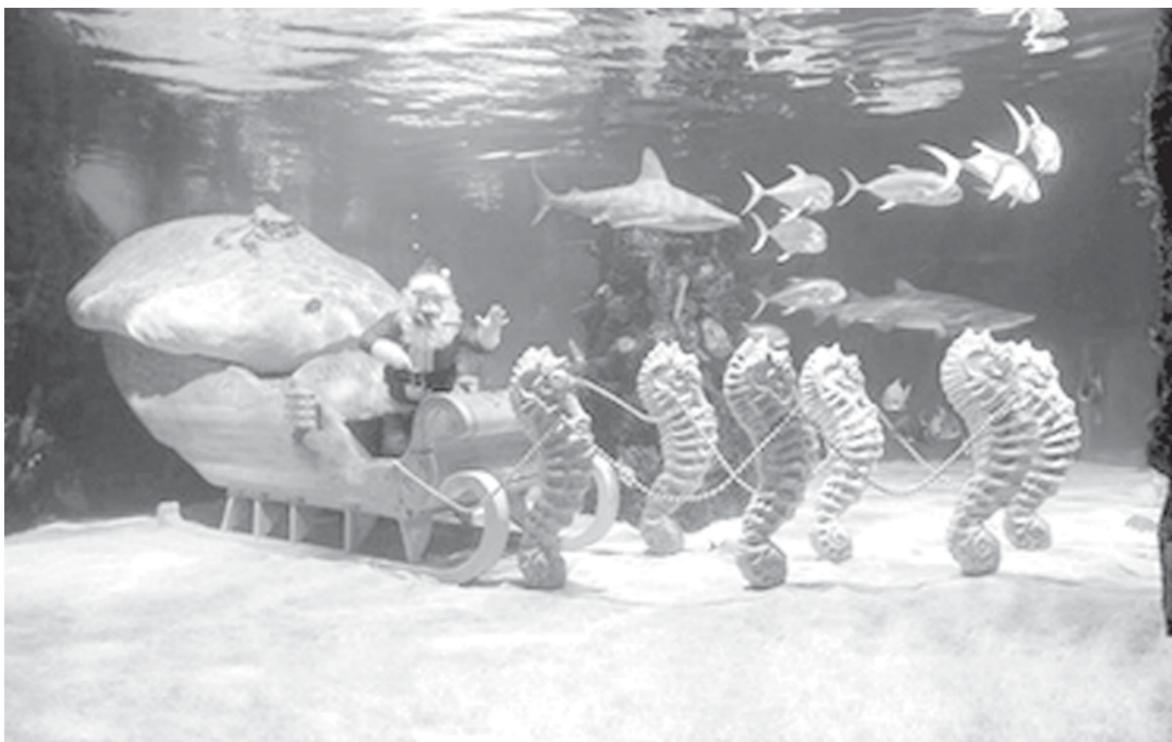
*The M/S Explorer cruise ship lists as it sinks after hitting an iceberg in the Antarctic, in this photo released by the Chilean Air Force on 23 Nov, 2007.*

INTERNET



*Japanese dancers from the National Theatre Okinawa perform Ryukyuan dance "Breath of Beautiful Islands" during a cultural programme in New Delhi on 21 Nov, 2007. — INTERNET*

*Newport Aquarium's 'Scuba Santa' swims with sharks and amazing aquatic creatures in a 385,000-gallon tank during the holiday season. 'Scuba Santa's' underwater presentations have captured the attention of hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world. — INTERNET*



*The undated photo provided by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish shows a desert bighorn ram in the San Andres Mountains east of Truth or Consequences, NM. — INTERNET*

# Duty of all who love motherland Myanmar

*Kyaw Min Aye*

Today, peace and development are necessary for Myanmar and the entire people, as evidenced by historic events. The processes for transition to democracy indicate that democracy is the practice to be exercised for peace and prosperity of the nation and the people.

**It is said that democracy means individual responsibility and respect for rule of law. Many world countries' democratic transition processes have given historic lessons that on the other side of democracy is anarchy.**

Once a historian said that a people who failed to review their historical background would be ill-fated to repeat the same mistakes made in the past. The historical trend of a nation depends on its geographical features and productive relations of the human society living in it.

Myanmar is geographically strategic among southeast Asian countries, northeast Asian countries and southern Asian countries. It is adjacent to the Himalayas with a long coast adjacent to the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.

Being situated in the westernmost land on Indo-China Peninsula in the southeastern part of Asia between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean, Myanmar's location plays an important role in geopolitics. In that regard, the colonialists' annexation of Myanmar in the 19th Century was one of the compelling evidences.

Myanmar is located between north latitude 9° 30' and 28° 30'. The Tropic of Cancer passes near Tiddim, Kyunhla and Hsenwi in Myanmar. Myanmar is more than 1,300 miles from north to south, and about 600 miles from east to west with an area of 261,228 square miles. After Indonesia, Myanmar is the largest country in southeast Asia.

Myanmar is not a landlocked country. It has an exit to the sea along with a 3986 miles long border line and a 1,385 miles long coast line. It shares the border with China, India, Bangladesh, Laos and Thailand. It is situated near the international sea route, air route, and land route. It is rich in natural resources and is home to more than 100 national races who have been living in it through thick and thin from time immemorial. Despite being located in the region where world cultural giants exist, Myanmar has been able to preserve own culture continuously.

Due to these outstanding characteristics, the people love and value the motherland very much. It is heartening to note that the nation and the people have faced crises for several times, but the people have been able to safeguard and protect the motherland from collapse.

Myanmar was under the British colonialists for more than 100 years and under the Fascists for about

three years. Therefore, Myanmar people are capable of weighing the international political affairs and geopolitics.

In addition, Myanmar has passed through the Parliamentary Democracy period and the Myanma Socialist Programme Party period, so the people are strongly imbued with nationalistic spirit (Union Spirit), with which they constantly uphold the fine national political traditions.

To recall an expression that was popular in the ten-year Parliamentary Democracy period in which political parties were in a dominant position, the nation was on the edge of the abyss, and the democracy foundation of the Union was almost broken. Moreover, the political expressions that were popular in the journalism world at that time such as "split story" and "political stalemate, equipped with arms" depicted that the nation tried to transform itself into a democratic one without fine foundations or maturity. It is public knowledge that Myanmar saw anarchic events in the Myanma Socialist Programme Party period.

**Thus, the nation's historic events should be viewed that the Tatmadaw government is implementing the State's seven-step Road Map in earnest to enable the nation to practise genuine democratic process, as aspired by the majority of the people.**

Now, all who are participating in the nation-building tasks have realized that the government is building all necessary infrastructures as many as possible in all sectors in all the regions for proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system to fulfil the wishes of the people.

In Germany-based Spiegel's interview with Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, when asked if it would be possible that in the Asian Century a democratic system directed by authorities in accord with the market economy would emerge, he replied that there would be no absolutely free market. There would not be any absolutely free market no matter what democratic system was practised, Europe-style or American-style. Every human society is different from one another. America had to launch a civil war before it reaches today's stage. Europe also has reached today's situation only after experiencing the two world wars. This passage is mentioned for the readers' observation.

**Well, let me point out some facts regarding the present economic situation of Myanmar. A report of IMF says that at the end of 2006-2007 fiscal, it is estimated that Myanmar's economy would grow by seven percent. Myanmar could have economic prospects as she is an economically strategic nation situated between her developing trade partner countries in the region. ADB also expected that**

**Myanmar's GDP was likely to increase by 4 percent in 2006 as well as in 2007. Prevention of foreign investments from being made in Myanmar as economic sanctions is hindering job opportunities and economic growth of the country, it pointed out. In issuing human development report for 2006 by collecting data from 177 countries, UNDP mentioned that Myanmar stands at the 130th grade being listed in moderate nations in terms of life span, health, literacy and GDP.**

Likewise, I would like to present some points on good economic prospects of Myanmar as follows:

- **Feasible study of India-Myanmar railway section project, the very first of Indian East-west railway projects is in progress. The railroad section passes through China and goes to Russia. It covers Myanmar up to 200 kilometres and the project takes three years.**
- **India is planning to launch a bus line to shuttle between Manipur and Mandalay in order to boost trade ties. This is to reopen historic Stilwell Highway which is 1726 kilometres long stretching from Assam to Kunming, China, by passing through Kachin State, north of Myanmar.**
- **Plans are under way to build Trans-Asian Railway (TAR) in order to facilitate the transport sectors in Asia. The railway is 81,000 kilometres long and passes through 28 Asian and European countries. As Myanmar, part of the route, plays a main role in the transportation between China and Southeast Asian countries, it will have smoother commodity flow and gain benefits.**
- **An agreement has been reached among Myanmar, China and Bangladesh to hold meetings so as to build a road to directly link Dhaka and Kunming by reopening the Silk Route that used to be popular in the history.**
- **China has been prepared to invest in TAR project covering six ASEAN countries such as Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore and Myanmar. Out of the four Trans-Asian Railways, three will directly pass through Myanmar. As another short-cut railway has a link with Myanmar, Mekong region including Myanmar will become a strategic region of Asia.**

Even the above-mentioned facts and figures indicate economic prospects and growth of Myanmar. I have learnt from a book that development indicates a constant learning society blessed with happiness, peace and prosperity.

**I believe that Myanmar has had good conditions in order to carry out democracy transition in a peaceful and united way.**

Therefore, all who cherish Myanmar are working hard keeping sight of the government's policies without ignoring the country's background history and prevailing conditions.

Overall, I will conclude this article wishing the Myanmar nationals working for news agencies at home and abroad to release authentic news about Myanmar in the interests of the State and the people including the monks as they are also the ones who love and value Myanmar.

(Translation: MS+ST)

*Kyemon: 23-11-2007*

**The nation's historic events should be viewed that the Tatmadaw government is implementing the State's seven-step Road Map in earnest to enable the nation to practise genuine democratic process, as aspired by the majority of the people.**

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## **Shan State Nationalities People's Liberation Organization Announcement**

**Letter No 038/2007**

**Date: 21 November 2007**

Shan State Nationalities People's Liberation Organization (SSNPLO) returned to the legal fold on 9 October 1994 and since then it has been engaged in tasks in cooperation with the government for regional peace and development. We absolutely trusted in and realized the constructive efforts and genuine goodwill of the government, so we unconditionally exchanged arms for peace on 26 August 2007.

We support the forming of the 54-member Commission for Drafting the State Constitution by the State under Notification No 2/2007 dated 18 October 2007.

One of the points in the statement released in Singapore by special adviser Mr Gambari to the United Nations Secretary-General under the authorization of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi implies that she would take responsibilities for political organizations and national races. We do not accept that point.

We hereby announce that we support the constitution to be drafted by the Commission for Drafting the State Constitution according to the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted, and we will continue to join hands with the State in implementing the State's seven-step Road Map.

**Shan State Nationalities People's Liberation Organization**

## **Shan State Army Brigade (758) Announcement**

**Letter No 0052/ Sa Sa Ta Ka/ 2007**

**Date: 20 November 2007**

Our SSAS (Mein Sin) Group returned to the legal fold on 6 July 2006 and is undertaking regional peace, tranquillity and development tasks in Napwe and Wangpan in Laikha Township, Shan State (South) joining hands with the State.

We welcome the implementation of the Seven-Step Road Map that is gaining momentum and the 54-member Commission for Drafting the State Constitution, which was formed by the State on 18 October 2007.

We learn that Daw Aung Sann Suu Kyi released her statement that she was responsible for the affairs of the parties and national races, and we object to such a statement at a time when all national races are harmoniously working hard in Myanmar political affairs.

We support the emergence of a new constitution in accord with fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention and will fully take part in the successful implementation of the Seven-Step Road Map.

**SSAS(Mein Sin)**

**Brigade (758)**

## **MTA Matkyan Region Development Group**

**Letter No 044/ MTA (Matkyan), 2007**

**Date: 21 November 2007**

### **Announcement**

MTA (returned to the legal fold) Matkyan Group returned to the legal fold on 23-5-2002 and it is carrying out regional development work under the leadership of the government.

We welcome meetings between Minister U Aung Kyi appointed as Minister for Relations and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The statement issued in Singapore on 8 November by Mr Gambari authorized by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on her behalf implies that she represents wishes and interests of all the national races as her duty. It was inappropriate and we cannot accept it.

We hereby announce that we cannot accept any offer that can harm the already-adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles, and we will steadfastly continue joining hands with the government in the realization of the seven-step Road Map.

**MTA Matkyan Region Development Group**

## **Narai Region Development and New Life Group**

**Letter No 405/Na Ra Pa/Na Sa-Ra Ta**

**Date: 21 November 2007**

### **Announcement**

MTA (having returned to the legal fold) Narai Region Development and New Life Group returned to the legal fold on 12-10-1998 as it had realized the genuine goodwill of the Tatmadaw. It has been undertaking regional development work in cooperation with the Tatmadaw.

We welcome the government's formation of the Commission for Drafting the State Constitution with the legal experts of national races on 18-10-2007.

We do not accept the statement issued by NLD Headquarters on 12-11-2007 in which Daw Aung San Suu Kyi says it was their duty to represent the wishes of the national races and that it is not in conformity with our desire.

Our group will steadfastly continue efforts for successful implementation of the seven-step Road with Union Spirit in cooperation with the government.

**Narai Region Development and New Life Group**

## **SSNA (break away) Wanyein Family Group**

**Letter No 01/07/(Wanyein)**

**Date: 21 November 2007**

### **Announcement**

SSNA (Break away) Wanyein Family Group returned to the legal fold on 27-9-1996 and started performing regional development work in coordination with the Tatmadaw. As it fully trusts in the efforts and objectives of the State, it unconditionally exchanged arms for peace on 3-3-2006.

We welcome and support the government's formation of the Commission for Drafting the State Constitution with the law experts of national races under Order No (2/2007) on 18-10-2007.

We support the principles laid down by the National Convention regarding the affairs of the parties as well as national races and do not accept any offers that can harm the principles. We have been committed to participating in the successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map in cooperation with the national races.

**SSNA (break away) Wanyein Family Group**

(See page 7)

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## SSNA (break away) Mongyun Group

Letter No. 378, SSNA (Peace)  
Date: 21 November 2007

### Announcement

SSNA (break away) Mongyun Group returned to the legal fold on 9-9-1996. After realizing genuine goodwill of the government, we unconditionally surrendered and handed over arms to the government on 8-6-2007 with the aim of serving the interest of the region and the people.

After handing over the arms unconditionally, we are joining hands with the State in ensuring peace and development of the region.

We support the Commission for Drafting State Constitution with national legal experts formed under the announcement No 2/2007 issued by the State Peace and Development Council on 18-10-2007.

The statement issued in Singapore on 8 November by Mr Gambari authorized by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on her behalf implies that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi represents political organizations, political forces, wishes and interests of national races as her duty. In reality, we do not accept the statement as it was issued without wishes of the national races, our group and the people. Hence, we hereby announce that we do not agree to the statement and we continue joining hands with the State for realization of the seven-step Road Map.

SSNA (break away) Mongyun Group

## PBANRDA Ministry offers Communal Kathina robes

YANGON, 23 Nov — Under the patronage of Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt and wife Daw Kyin Khine, the 15<sup>th</sup> Communal Kathina robes offering ceremony of staff families of the ministry was held at Dhamma Beikman Hall of Parahita (Tiger) School for Development of National Races in Hline Township this morning. The ceremony

was opened with the three-time recitations of Namō Tassa.

Next, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Vice-Chairman Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Kontalajoti of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. Next, members of the Sangha recited parittas.

Afterward, Deputy Minister Col Tin Ngwe and wife Daw Khin Mya Chit, heads of

departments and staff families presented Kathina robes and offertories to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

Joint-Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Jagarabhisava delivered a sermon.

The congregation shared the merits gained, and the ceremony came to an end.

MNA



Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise and responsible personnel cut the ribbon to open 17th Mathoe Thingan Weaving Contest at Shwephonepwint Pagoda.—MNA

## Mathoe Thingan Weaving Contest opened at Shwephonepwint Pagoda

YANGON, 23 Nov — The 17th Mathoe Thingan Weaving Contest was opened at Shwephonepwint Pagoda in Pazundaung Township this evening.

Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise, Secretary of Pazundaung Township Union Solidarity and Development Association

U Sonny and Chairman of the Pagoda Board of Trustees U Tint Lwin formally opened the contest.

The contestants of 10 looms participated in the contest.—MNA

## Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2007 continues

YANGON, 23 Nov — At the Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2007 organized by the Central Committee for Organizing the Myanmar Gems Emporium, a total of 3,614 gem merchants are being allowed to examine and buy jade lots today.

Jade lots are being sold through tender at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township at 8 am today.

Altogether 490 jade lots were sold today.

A total of 3,210 jade lots have been sold

through tender from 17 November to date. The remaining jade lots will be sold through competitive bidding system from 24 to 26 November at the same venue. More merchants at home and from abroad will arrive.

MNA

Gem merchants observe jade lots at Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2007.—MNA



## Shwekyar Thingan Weaving Contest held at Botahtaung Pagoda

YANGON, 23 Nov — The 25th Shwekyar Thingan Weaving Contest and Offering Ceremony was held at the platform of Botahtaung Pagoda at 5 pm today.

Contestants from

12 looms participated in the contest. Shwekyar Thingsans will be offered to

Buddha Images in the early morning on full moon day of Tazaungmon.—NLM

## Action Plan of Crops Substitution and Alternative Development signed

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — A ceremony to sign the Action Plan of Crops Substitution and Alternative Development under the Framework of Cooperative Agreement on Ban of Illegal Transportation and Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances between Governments of the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China was held at Aureum Palace Hotel & Resort, here, on 20 November morning.

Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe and Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu signed the action plan. Also present on the occasion were directors-general and officials of the Ministry of PBANRDA.—MNA

# Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends 13th ASEAN...

(from page 16)  
 general consensus out of diversity.

He said that ASEAN had been organized extensively encompassing all nations in South-East Asia step by step, overcoming a variety of difficulties; and that it was important not to cut off some branches of the ASEAN tree, which had become mature gradually in forty years, under an unnecessary excuse.

He suggested that ASEAN preserve the flexible mechanism that could be amended as necessary and that has been exercised successfully rather than the mechanism with



*Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, members of the ASEAN Eminent Persons Group and officials pose for a documentary photo.—MNA*



*Prime Minister General Thein Sein and heads of ASEAN countries sign the ASEAN Charter, the Declaration on Implementation of ASEAN Economic Society, the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability and the ASEAN Declaration on Climate Change.—MNA*

strict and rigid rules and regulations.

He said ASEAN was not an ordinary association, but a community that had common vision and characteristics and could share joys and sorrows through mutual respects.

Next, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries exchanged views on the ASEAN Charter and declarations to be signed at the summit, the declaration to be approved and work programme. Furthermore, the summit approved the motion calling for assigning duties to former Thai Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Surin Pitsuwan as new Secretary-General of the ASEAN as of 2008.

In the afternoon, they attended the Working Luncheon.

At 1.30 pm, the ceremony to sign the Singapore Declaration of the 13th ASEAN Summit was held at Island Ballroom. They signed the ASEAN Charter, the Declaration on Implementation of ASEAN Economic Society, the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability and the ASEAN Declaration on Climate Change.

The Singaporean Prime Minister handed over the ASEAN Charter and the declarations to the ASEAN Secretary-General.

The Heads of State/Government proposed toasts in commemoration of the successful drawing of the ASEAN Charter.

Next, the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries posed for documentary photos with members of the ASEAN Eminent Persons Group and officials.

The ASEAN Charter comprises 13 chapters such as the goal, fundamental principles, member countries, rights and responsibilities of the member countries, accepting of new members and ASEAN Summit in addition to the foreword.

(See page 10)

MNA



*Prime Minister General Thein Sein being welcomed by Singaporean Foreign Minister Mr George Yong-Boon Yeo at Changi International Airport, Singapore.—MNA*

## Prime Minister General Thein Sein arrives Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — At the invitation of Singapore Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister General Thein Sein accompanied by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Director-General Col Thant Shin of the Government Office, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and departmental heads, left here by special

flight and arrived at Changi International Airport in Singapore at 12.35 Singapore Standard Time on 19 November to attend the 13th ASEAN Summit, the 11th ASEAN+3 Summit, the 11th ASEAN+China Summit, the 11th ASEAN+Japan Summit, the 11th ASEAN+Korea Summit, the 6th ASEAN+India Summit and the 3rd East Asian Countries Summit in Singapore.

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister

General Thein Sein was welcomed there by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win who had arrived in Singapore in advance, Singaporean Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr George Yong-Boon Yeo and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Win Myint and officials.

Next, the Prime Minister and party left the airport in a motorcade and arrived at Marina Mandarin Hotel in Singapore.

## Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets Singaporean Prime Minister, Chinese Premier, Indonesian President, the Philippines President



**Prime Minister General Thein Sein shakes hands with Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao at Ritz Carlton Milleniaia Hotel in Singapore.**  
MNA

same day. The Prime Minister met Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and President of the Republic of the Philippines Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo at 6.10pm and 7.10 pm at Shangri-La Hotel.

At the meetings with the leaders of the States concerned, together with the Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National

Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Win Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs were also present.

Together with the Presidents and the Prime Ministers of the States concerned, the ministers and the senior officials were also present on the occasion.

Their discussions focused on ASEAN integration, consolidation and bilateral cooperation.

MNA

**Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong.**—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein called on Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong at Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore at 4 pm on 19 November.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein later met with Premier of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao at Ritz Carlton Milleniaia Hotel at 5.25 pm on the



## Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends Working Dinner of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended a working dinner of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Countries at Waterfall Terrace of Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore,

the Republic of Singapore, at 7 pm SST on 19 November.

Also present at the working dinner were Brunei Darussalam King Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah

Muizzadin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Lao PDR Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, President of the Philippines Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Thai Prime Minister General Surayud Chulanont, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung and ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Ong Keng Yong.

At the dinner, the Singaporean Prime Minister extended greetings and explained the preparations for the 13th ASEAN Summit and tasks to be carried out in the future.

Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries took part in the discussions on ASEAN integration and regional and international issues.

In his speech on Myanmar's internal affairs, Prime Minister General Thein Sein said some protests occurred recently in Myanmar. Local authorities and officials concerned handled the unrest according to standing laws and procedures. The protests led to confrontation, and took the lives of nine people plus the death of a Japanese, he said.

He continued to say that world media exaggerated the news neglecting the actual facts, saying that the situation in Myanmar could harm international and regional peace and security.

(See page 10)



**Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends Working Dinner of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Countries at Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore.**—MNA

## Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends...

(from page 8)

The ASEAN Charter said that all ASEAN member countries must live in amity in the sustainable economic development region with common views; they must be respected for their sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity without interference in internal affairs of member countries; although there are many differences among the member countries, they must place emphasis on similar wishes and unity with friendly relationships among them; and they agreed to construct the ASEAN Society with three pillars such as ASEAN Security Society, the ASEAN Economic Society and ASEAN Social Cultural Society.

The Declaration on Implementation of ASEAN Economic Soci-

ety states draft principles and strategic plans for emergence of the ASEAN Economic Society in 2015.

The ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability emphasizes environmental conservation and management, response to climatic changes and preservation of natural resources.

The ASEAN Declaration on the 13th Session of the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the Tokyo Protocol states reduction of green-house in ASEAN countries, share of technologies suitable for the climate and cooperation in financial saving between two countries or regions and the global community. — MNA



*Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and leaders of ASEAN Business Advisory Council attend the Working Luncheon.—MNA*

## Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends working ...

(from page 9)

The actual situations in Myanmar did not pose a threat to international communities let alone regional countries' peace and security, let alone the international community, he said. He thanked all countries which rightly understood the situations and supported Myanmar.

He added that Myanmar regained her normalcy and was now peaceful. The government tried to implement the seven-step Road Map in a smooth transition to democratic state, and is placing emphasis on national reconsolidation. As a third step of the seven-step Road Map, the Com-

nation in peace and with development according to the seven-step Road Map. We firmly believed that we could solve the internal affairs in our own ways, he said.

In addition, he said Myanmar is closely dealing with both regional countries and global countries, and is cooperating with the

they objected to the statement. Such an act could cause hindrance to the process of national reconsolidation and that the government disapproved of such behaviour, he said.

He went on to say that on taking the suggestions of Mr Gambari into consideration, the government would weigh whether they would harm national policies — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty — and the seven-step Road Map. Otherwise, they would be accepted and implemented, he said.

He continued that the government had accepted the Professor Pinheiro's tour of Myanmar so as to cooperate with the UN Human Right Council and did its best to coordinate and cooperate with him.

He said he hoped that all ASEAN countries would stick to the fundamental principles not to interfere in the internal affairs of its member countries, truly understand Myanmar's delicate internal problems, and respect that Myanmar was solving its internal affairs with own ways that will be in conformity with the situations of the State, he said.

Later, Prime Minister General Thein Sein discussed Myanmar's concept on regional and international affairs. After the dinner, the Prime Minister returned to the hotel.

MNA



*Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in Singapore.—MNA*



*Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets President of the Philippines Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in Singapore.—MNA*

mission for Drafting the State Constitution has already been formed, and work for formulating the constitution was under way, he said.

He continued that mass rallies were held on large scale across the country to welcome and support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution, and express the people's opposition to the recent unrest and their wish for peace. Taking the desire of the people into account, the government would make concerted efforts for the transition to democratic

United Nations. The suggestions and supports of the friendly countries and the UN were all respected. Also, the suggestions made by Mr Gambari, UN Special Envoy, were being implemented, he said. He added Mr Gambari, however, without any consultation or coordination in advance with the government of Myanmar, had released a statement of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on her behalf in Singapore on 8 November.

He continued that legal political parties and national races in Myanmar were displeased with this statement, and announced



An identification security screener with hand raised calls for a TSA screener at Denver International Airport on 21 Nov, 2007 in Denver, Colo.

INTERNET

## China to hold Asia climate change meeting in 2008

SINGAPORE, 22 Nov — China will hold a meeting in Beijing next year for Asian countries to discuss climate change, as it faces the risk of more droughts and floods and seeks common ground on a potential successor to the UN Kyoto Protocol.

China's Premier Wen Jiabao, speaking about China's position on climate change at a summit of East Asian leaders in Singapore, reiterated a pledge to reduce energy consumption per unit of GDP by 20 per cent in five years.

"At this meeting, we propose to East Asian countries to hold a symposium in China next year on coping with climate change," Wen told

reporters in Singapore.

Hosting a symposium would be a rare sign that China is seeking international leadership on an issue that it says is largely the responsibility of rich nations, even though it is battling rampant air and water pollution.

Japan will propose incentives at the summit to cut pollution in China,

which according to the International Energy Agency was the world's top carbon dioxide emitter this year. Experts say dealing with the effects of climate change will be a major problem for Asia. Nations will meet in Indonesia next month to try to work out a successor to Kyoto.

MNA/Reuters

## Chile, S Korea agree to boost animal hygiene collaboration

SANTIAGO, 22 Nov — Chile and South Korea signed on Wednesday a memorandum of understanding to boost collaboration on food and animal hygiene and extend their existing free

trade agreement.

The memorandum was signed by Sergio Bahamonde, chief of Chile's Livestock and Agriculture Service (SAG) and Kang Mun-il, head of the South Korean National

Veterinary and Research Quarantine Service.

Chile will be able to streamline vaccination procedures according to the document, Bahamonde said.

Kang said the new agreement would boost trust between the two authorities and that his service already regarded the SAG as extremely professional.

Chile's pork imports hit 35,000 tons a year, Kang said, adding that he believed strict procedures enforced by the SAG would make the current agreement more significant than existing ones between their two organizations.

Chile and South Korea signed a free trade agreement in 2003 that came into force in February 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

## Gulf Air passenger jet makes emergency landing in Istanbul

ANKARA, 22 Nov — A Gulf Air passenger jet with 121 people on board made an emergency landing at the Ataturk Airport in Turkey's largest city of Istanbul on Wednesday, the semi-

official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

The Gulf Air flight, from Bahrain to Istanbul, sent an emergency landing signal to the control tower due to technical problems while it was descending,

according to the report.

Airport authorities took necessary precautions for a safe landing and the plane touched down without problem at the airport at 1:10 pm, said the report.—MNA/Xinhua

## Can't find your reading glasses? Eat fish

BEIJING, 22 Nov — If you're a senior and you misplace your keys or can't find your reading glasses because they're perched on your forehead, a new study suggests you may experience fewer of these "senior moments" by eating more fish.

And the more fish you eat, the better, according to research conducted in Norway.

Researchers found that elderly men and women who more frequently ate fish scored better on memory, visual conception, spatial motor skills, attention, orientation, and verbal fluency

tests.

"All six cognitive tests were performed better by those who ate fish," principal author Dr A David Smith of the University of Oxford, UK, told *Reuters Health*. Furthermore, he added, the effect was stronger as fish consumption increased up to a limit of about 80 grams per day.

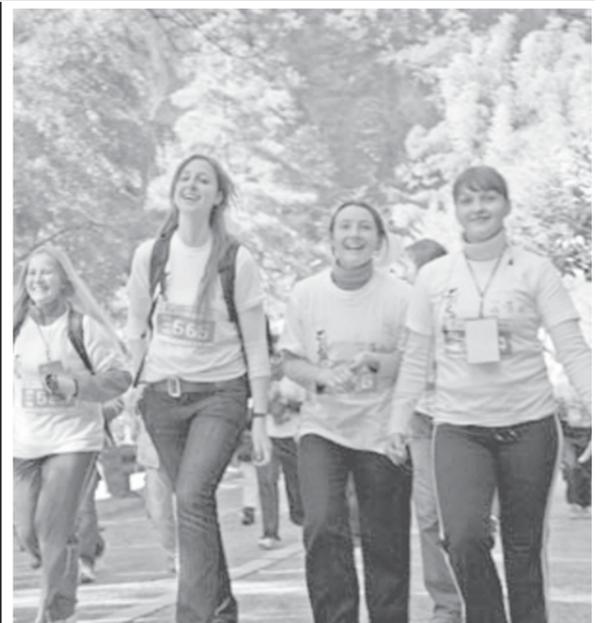
Smith and colleagues assessed cognitive ability and the average the daily amount of fish and seafood in the diets of 2,031 men and women, between 70 and 74 years old, recruited from the general population of Western Norway.

Overall, 1,951 of the study participants reported eating 10 or more grams per day of fresh, frozen, or canned fish and seafood, or fish products such as cod liver and fish oil, the investigators report in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. The remaining 80 participants ate less than 10 grams daily.

Study participants who reported more frequent consumption of fatty or lean fish as their main meal performed significantly better in five of the six cognitive tests, compared with those who did not eat fatty or lean fish. — *Internet*



Rescue personnel work around a landslide over an industrial park in Portuguese Madeira Island on 22 Nov, 2007. At least two people were missing and one injured following a landslide in the mid-Atlantic Portuguese island of Madeira, according to a Reuters witness and local news agency.—INTERNET



Competitors climb Mountain Huangshan in Huangshan City, east China's Anhui Province, on 21 Nov, 2007. The 3rd China Huangshan Climbing Fair was held on Wednesday, attracting over 600 mountain-climbing-lovers from around 20 countries and regions, such as China, the United States, Australia and Singapore.

INTERNET

**ADVERTISEMENT**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BRISA AZUL VOY NO (89)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BRISA AZUL VOY NO (89) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.11.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority 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 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: EASTERN CAR LINER LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV FRATERNITY WISDOM VOY NO (36)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRATERNITY WISDOM VOY NO (36) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.11.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority 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 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: EASTERN CAR LINER LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**Scientists find fossil of biggest bug ever**

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov—A gigantic fossil claw of a 390-million-year-old sea scorpion, found recently in Germany, showed that the creature is the biggest bug known, a research team reported on Wednesday.

"Imagine an eight-foot-long (2.44 metres) scorpion," said Erik Tetlie, postdoctoral associate in the Department of Geology and Geophysics at Yale University, and an author of the online report in Royal Society Biology Letters.

"The claw itself is a foot-and-a-half long (0.46-metre) indicating that these ancient arthropods were much larger than previous estimates, and certainly the largest seen to date," said Tetlie. Co-author Markus Poschmann discovered the fossil claw from the ancient sea scorpion Jaekelopterus

rhenaniae in a quarry near Prum in Germany.

"This is an amazing discovery. We have known for some time that the fossil record yields monster millipedes, super-sized scorpions, colossal cockroaches, and jumbo dragon-

flies, but we never realized, until now, just how big some of these ancient creepy-crawlies were," said lead author Simon Braddy, from the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Bristol, UK.—MNA/Xinhua



**Sancho, the new Emperor Tamarin (Saguinus imperator) of Berlin's Tierpark zoo, is seen in his enclosure recently.—INTERNET**

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**Cambodian Govt recognizes Siem Reap community forests**

PHNOM PENH, 23 Nov—Marking a step forward in Cambodia's forestry reform, the first 10 of Siem Reap province's 37 community forestry sites have been officially recognized by the government, the *Cambodia Daily* reported Thursday.

Ly Chouveang, provincial forestry administration chief, on Monday signed the area's 10 legal agreements, which clearly define roles and responsibilities for community members in managing the forests, including demarcating the forests and patrolling for illegal activity, the newspaper said.

Decentralized management by people who directly benefit from the forests will be more efficient than state control, Ly Chouveang was quoted as saying.

The regional community forestry project was launched a decade ago by the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in cooperation with the Cambodian Forestry Administration and the Ministry of Environment, it said.

Currently funded by New Zealand, it seeks to help set up forest areas where local communities do the managing instead of the state, said Prak Marina, FAO's national team leader for the project.—MNA/Xinhua

**Brazil moving closer to curbing AIDS**

BRASILIA, 22 Nov—Brazil may be close to reversing the AIDS epidemic, health officials said on Wednesday citing a government report that showed fewer HIV and AIDS infections in Latin America's largest country.

Brazil's AIDS infection rates climbed exponentially until the early 1990s when international health authorities warned the epidemic could grow out of control.

Today the World Health Organization considers Brazil's AIDS strategy—which includes large-scale distribution of free condoms, free and fast testing of the HIV virus, and free antiretroviral drugs for all patients—a model for

developing nations.

The prevalence of the HIV virus dropped to 0.5 per cent of the population last year from 0.6 per cent in 2005, its first fall in seven years, said Pedro Chequer, coordinator of the United Nations AIDS programme in Brazil.

"There are first signs that the AIDS epidemic in Brazil could revert," he said after the release of the report on Wednesday.

The report also showed the number of new AIDS cases registered in Brazil fell to 17.5 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2006, from 19.5 the year before and 22.2 in 2002.

MNA/Reuters

**Local authorities use a loud speaker to warn Bangladeshi cyclone-affected villagers not to panic following a rumor of a tsunami in Borguna.—INTERNET**



**Chavez says \$100 a barrel fair oil price**

CARACAS, 22 Nov—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said on Wednesday 100 US dollars per barrel is a fair price for oil, as global crude prices approach triple digits.

"The price of oil (is) almost 100 dollars per barrel, which is the fair price, and I'm sure we'll continue along that path," Chavez told a group of demonstrators in Caracas.

Venezuela has consistently called for higher oil prices and tends to be more aggressive in seeking production cuts in the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries than other OPEC members.

Chavez has boosted his popularity at home by using oil revenues to finance social development programmes.

Venezuela is the fourth-largest exporter of oil to the United States.—MNA/Reuters

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**An ambitious international project using the deep-sea drilling vessel Chikyu, seen here, to dig deeper into the Earth's surface than ever before has made a good start with scientists saying they have gained clues about how large earthquakes and tsunami occur.—INTERNET**

## Mexico edges toward ban on smoking in public

MEXICO CITY, 22 Nov — A Mexican congressional committee approved on Wednesday a ban on smoking in public places, a first step toward prohibiting the lighting up of cigarettes and cigars in a country of heavy smokers.

*El Universal* newspaper reported on its online edition that the health committee of the Lower House of Congress approved the ban, which will also slap more controls on tobacco sales

and cigarette makers.

Jose Antonio Munoz Serrano, the secretary of the health committee, said its members will meet again on Thursday to make minor tweaks to the nonsmoking bill which will then go to the full house for approval, *El Universal* said.

It was not immediately clear what type of public places would be included in the ban.

Mexican bars, cantinas and restaurants allow

smoking in designated areas.

But the smoking rules are often disregarded.

Smoking is prohibited in public offices, but government officials often ignore the law.

Only recently have private office buildings started to ban smoking.

About half the adults among Mexico's 104 million people are smokers or ex-smokers, according to the National Statistics Institute.

MNA/Reuters

## Sadden penguin couple refuse to eat after egg is broken



**One of the penguin couple and their broken egg. INTERNET**

They appeared irritable and restless.

To help them recover from their sorrow, experts with the polar museum placed a boiled chicken egg between the penguins to soothe them.

The penguins have been separated from the others and offered special food—arctic shrimp, said Yao Lei, staff with the polar museum.—*Internet*

HARBIN, 22 Nov— A pair of penguins in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province became withdrawn and anxious after the egg they were hatching was smashed in a fight with other jealous penguins, according to sources with the Polar Museum of Harbin on Thursday.

The female penguin laid an egg on 3 November.

This led to jealousy among other penguins in the zoo, who lingered around the mother waiting for their opportunity to

strike.

Jealousy finally turned to violence at about 7 pm Tuesday, when the female penguin was absent.

A fat penguin jumped onto the hatching area, jostled away the penguin father and tried to take away the egg.

The angry father immediately blocked the way of the looter. Unfortunately the egg dropped in the fight and was broken.

The saddened couple refused to eat after the tragedy and shunned their fellows.

## Scientists discover new genus of dinosaur

OTTAWA, 22 Nov— Scientists unearthed a new genus of horned dinosaur that lived in western Canada 68 million years ago, local media reported Thursday.

The discovery was made in a canyon in Dry Island Buffalo Jump Provincial Park in Alberta province, *Canadian Press* said.



**An imitation of horned dinosaur.—INTERNET**

The new horned beast is the earliest known member of, and possible ancestor to, the well-known Triceratops group. It had large orbital horns and a solid frill, and is the largest and most distinct

type of horned dinosaur known in Alberta.

Scientists say the discovery helps fill in the information gap about dinosaurs that lived from 69 to 67 million years ago.—*Internet*



**A model has her hat painted with chocolate before the Chocolate Couture Collection fashion show in Toronto on 20 Nov, 2007.—XINHUA**

**The wreckage of a helicopter of South African Air Force lies at the accident site, about 30km south of Wepener in Free State Province, South Africa on 21 Nov, 2007.—XINHUA**

## Rift Valley Fever death toll rises to 164 in Sudan

GENEVA, 22 Nov— Human cases of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) continue to grow in Sudan and so far 164 people have died from the disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Thursday.

In a statement, the UN agency said that more than 221 new cases of RVF were reported in Sudan in

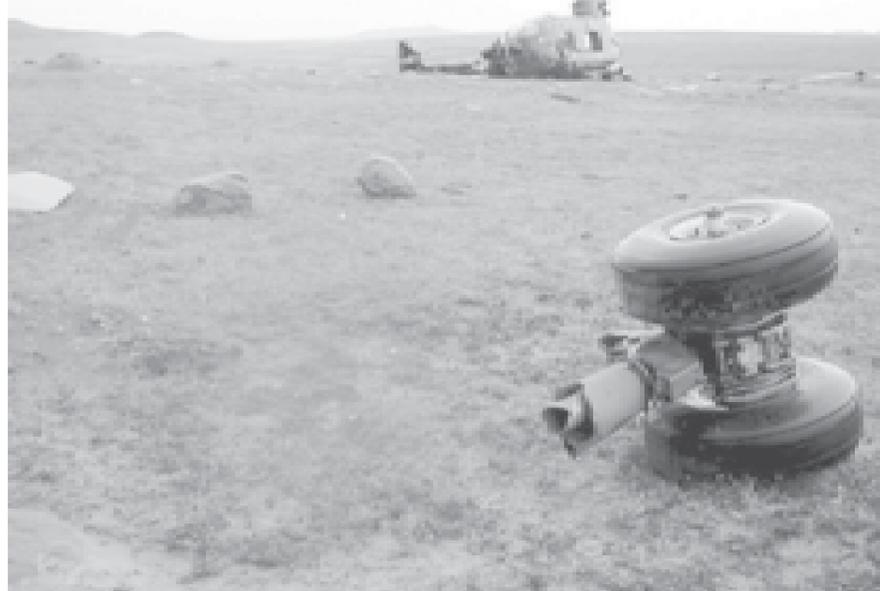
the last two weeks.

As of Wednesday, a total of 436 human RVF cases, including 161 deaths have been reported from White Nile, Sennar, and Gazeera States. In addition 15 cases including 3 deaths were reported in Khartoum State.

According to WHO, the vast majority of human

infections of RVF result from direct or indirect contact with the blood or organs of infected animals.

Human infections have also resulted from the bites of infected mosquitoes. Humans may also become infected with RVF by ingesting the unpasteurized or uncooked milk or meat of infected animals.—*Internet*



# SPORTS



Portuguese soccer coach Jose Mourinho closes his car door and refuse to talk to journalists in Setubal, 50 km (31 miles) south of Lisbon, on 22 Nov, 2007. Steve McClaren was sacked as England head coach on Thursday following their failure to qualify for the Euro 2008 finals, the Football Association confirmed. Former Chelsea manager Mourinho was quoted as 7-2 favourite with British bookmakers to be the new coach.—INTERNET

## McClaren to be sacked as England coach

LONDON, 22 Nov — England coach Steve McClaren is facing the sack following their dismal exit from Euro 2008, British media reported in the early hours of Thursday.

The beleaguered McClaren accepted full responsibility for England's failure to reach the finals but, at a news conference after his team's 3-2 defeat by Croatia, he ruled out resignation.

That may be an academic point as his employers at the English Football Association announced an 0830 GMT board meeting. — MNA/Reuters

## Arsenal's Hleb ruled out for three weeks

LONDON, 23 Nov — Arsenal's Alexander Hleb has been ruled out of action for three weeks after picking up a hamstring injury on international duty, the Premier League club said on Thursday. The Belarus midfielder was withdrawn at halftime in the 2-1 victory over the Netherlands in Minsk on Wednesday.

"Hleb came back with a hamstring injury," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said on www.arsenal.com.

"So once again we lose someone during this (international) period. I think he'll be out for 21 days."

Wenger also said midfielder Mathieu Flamini returned from the France squad with a thigh problem that would rule him out of Saturday's match against Wigan at the Emirates. — MNA/Reuters

## Israel end Euro campaign with win over Macedonia

TEL AVIV, 22 Nov — Israel ended their Euro 2008 qualifying campaign with a comfortable 1-0 victory over Macedonia in their Group E clash in Tel Aviv on Wednesday. Elyaniv Barda scored the only goal of a game with nothing at stake for either side, meeting a cross from the right by defender Yuval Shpungin with a header in the 35th minute.

However, the Israelis could have won by a bigger margin. Substitute Ben Sahar had two good chances in the second half after being put through, but on both occasions fired straight at Macedonia goalkeeper Petar Milosevski.— MNA/Reuters

## Luis Fabiano brace gives Brazil win over Uruguay

SAO PAULO, 22 Nov — Luis Fabiano scored twice to give Brazil a fortuitous 2-1 win over Uruguay in their World Cup qualifier on Wednesday after the visitors had taken an early lead and dominated much of the game.

Goalkeeper Julio Cesar came to Brazil's rescue several times as they beat their smaller neighbours for the first time since 1999, a run stretching over six games.

Sebastian Abreu gave Uruguay an eighth minute lead before Luis Fabiano

equalized in the 44th minute and snatched the winner midway through the second half.

An impatient Morumbi crowd jeered Brazil, insulted coach Dunga and booed Ronaldinho and Robinho when they were substituted in the second half. Brazil have eight points from four games in the South American group while Uruguay have four.

"We played really badly in the first half," said defender Juan. "We managed to turn the game around and it was an im-

portant win."

Uruguay captain Diego Lugano said: "We played better over the 90 minutes but we lacked experience to kill off the game. It's very difficult with all the forwards that Brazil have."

Uruguay sounded an early warning as Luis Suarez narrowly failed to make contact with Cristian

Rodriguez' cross and

Ignacio Gonzalez forced a good save from Julio Cesar.

They went ahead in the eighth minute when Maximiliano Pereira skipped past Ronaldinho and crossed to the far post where Abreu scored with a diving header.

MNA/Reuters

## Paraguay defeats Chile 3-0 in S American World Cup qualifier

SANTIAGO, 23 Nov — Paraguay defeated Chile 3-0 on Thursday in Santiago, Chile's capital city, in the 4th round South American qualifying for South Africa 2010 World Cup.

Chile, coached by Argentine Marcelo Bielsa, was outplayed early in the game since Paraguay scored a goal after 23 minutes by midfielder Salvador Cabanas, who has played for Mexican and Chilean soccer clubs.

Cabanas also aided in the second goal as he served the ball in a corner kick to defence player Paulo da Silva just on time to finish the first half 2-0 in Paraguay's favour. — MNA/Xinhua

## Ruutli named new Estonia coach

RIGA, 23 Nov — Tarmo Ruutli has been appointed coach of the Estonia national team, the country's football federation said on Thursday.

Ruutli, coach of champions FC Levadia Tallinn, replaces Dane Viggo Jensen, who was given a six-month contract in July with the prospect of an extension.

But Jensen failed to lift the side and Estonia fin-

ished second from bottom in Euro 2008 qualifying group E with only seven points from 12 games.

Ruutli has coached Levadia since 2003 and the team's 2007 league title was its third in four years. Only formed in 1998, the club has won the league championship five times.

Ruutli will train both the national side and Levadia in 2008 before leaving his club duties to focus entirely on the Estonia role. — MNA/Reuters



Al-Kuwait's Jarrah Al-Ateeqi (L) fights for the ball with Bashar Abdullah of Salmiya during their Premier League soccer match in Kuwait on 22 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

## Spain end Northern Ireland's hopes with 1-0 win

LAS PALMAS (Spain), 22 Nov — Spain signed off their Euro 2008 qualification campaign with a 1-0 win over Northern Ireland on Wednesday to end their opponents' hopes of earning a first ever place in the European Championship finals.

Defeat for Northern Ireland combined with Sweden's 2-1 win over Latvia in Stockholm, ensured the Scandinavians went through as the second-placed team behind Spain in Group F.

Spain dominated throughout but were unable to break the deadlock until seven minutes into the second half when Barcelona midfielder Xavi beat keeper Maik Taylor with a deflected shot from the edge of the area.

Luis Aragonés's side, who wrapped up qualification last Saturday with a 3-0 win over Sweden, had a string of opportunities to

extend their lead but were unable to breach the Northern Irish defence again.— MNA/Reuters



Pumas striker Ignacio Scocco of Argentina (L) shoots to score a penalty-kick against Toluca goalkeeper Hernan Cristante of Argentina during the first leg of the Mexican league championship quarterfinal soccer match at the University stadium in Mexico City on 22 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

## Werder Bremen suspend two players over training fight

BERLIN, 23 Nov — Werder Bremen said on Thursday they had suspended Boubacar Sanogo of the Ivory Coast and Carlos Alberto of Brazil for three days following a fight in training.

Both will miss the Bundesliga match against Energie Cottbus on Saturday after being sent to the dressing room by coach Thomas Schaaf after "the altercation turned violent", the club said on their website (www.werder.de).

MNA/Reuters

# Russia to use new cosmodrome for manned launches from 2018

Moscow, 23 Nov — Russia will start manned launches from the new cosmodrome Vostochny in the Far East Amur Region from 2018, Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov said on Wednesday.

“The decision is final — the President signed a decree on November 6 on building a new cosmodrome, which will be located in the Amur Region. It’s called Vostochny,” Ivanov was quoted by the

ITAR-TASS news agency as saying.

The construction will take place ten years. Design and experimental works will last two years. The first launches are due by the year 2015. “By 2018, we’ll

provide for launches under manned spacecraft programmes,” he said.

The new cosmodrome will be built near Ulegorsk, where the Svobodny military cosmodrome is located.

Five satellites have been launched from Svobodny. The launch pad was created 11 years ago, on the basis of the missile regiment which was deployed in the Amur Region.

The last launch took place in April 2006, when a Start-1 booster brought Israel’s Eros-1B satellite to an Earth orbit. In February 2007, the country’s leadership decided on shutting down Svobodny.

According to Ivanov, the construction of the new cosmodrome will contribute to the diversification of the Russian economy and help create new science intensive productions in the Far East. In effect, the new cosmodrome will require a new town and new infrastructure.

MNA/Xinhua

# Man pleads guilty to spreading terrorist material in London

LONDON, 23 Nov — A man pleaded guilty on Wednesday to distributing terrorist propaganda and helping someone breach a control order.

Abdul Rahman, 25, also admitted at Manchester Crown Court to possessing an article for a purpose connected with the commission or instigation

of an act of terrorism.

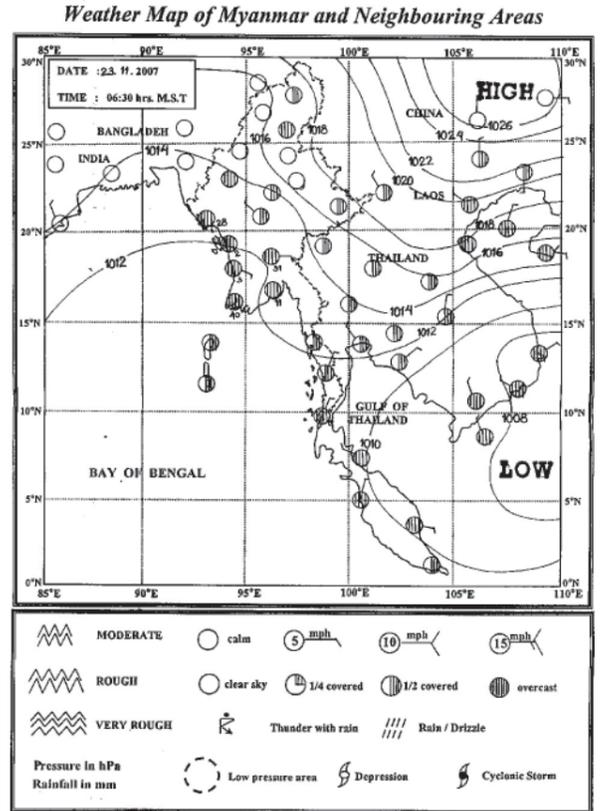
Detective Chief Superintendent Tony Porter, head of the Greater Manchester Police Counter Terrorism Unit, said: “He was clearly intent on drawing others into his network.”

Rahman was arrested in January 2007, two-and-a-half years after arriving

in the country from Pakistan on a student visa to do a biotechnology course at university which he quit within days.

He was arrested for aiding or abetting an individual to breach a control order by paying for a flight ticket out of Britain to Lahore.

MNA/Reuters



## WEATHER

Friday, 23 November, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin and Rakhine States, fairly widespread in Yangon Division, scattered in Bago Division, isolated in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (5°C) below November average temperatures in upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above November average temperatures in Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Taunggu (2.79) inches, Patheingyi (1.58) inches, Maungtaung (1.22) inches, Sittway (1.10) inches and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (0.44) inch. The significant night temperatures were Haka (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 22-11-2007 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 23-11-2007 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 23-11-2007 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 22-11-2007 was (7.8) hours approx.

Rainfall on 23-11-2007 was (0.11) inch at Mingaladon, (0.44) inch at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (136.57) inches at Mingaladon, (141.38) inches at Kaba-Aye and (144.29) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from East at (09:30) hours MST on 22-11-2007.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. **Special features:** According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the severe tropical storm (Hagibis) over the South China Sea has further intensified into a Tphoon centered at about (340) miles East-Northeast of Hochiminh, Vietnam. It is moving North-west direction.

**Forecast valid until evening of 24-11-2007:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread in Shan, Kayah and Rakhine States, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, scattered in Kayin and Mon States, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60)%.

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of rain or thundershowers in the Eastern Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 24-11-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60)%.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 24-11-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60)%.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 24-11-2007:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40)%.

**Weather outlook for last weekend of October 2007:** During the coming weekend, isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.



Saturday, 24 November  
View on today

- 7:00 am**
  - ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့မဟာနာယက အဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘုရား၏စိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am**
  - တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်
- 7:30 am**
  - Morning news
- 7:40 am**
  - နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယက အဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကဓရ၊ ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော “သာမညဗလသုတ်အခါတော် နေ့တရားတော်”
- 8:15 am**
  - Nice and sweet song
- 8:30 am**
  - International news

- 8:45 am**
  - Let’s go
- 11:00 am**
  - Martial song
- 11:15 am**
  - တန်ဆောင်တိုင်တေးများ
- 11:30 am**
  - Games for children
- 11:55 am**
  - Round up of the week’s TV local news
- 12:45 pm**
  - “တို့တရားလုံးချမ်းသာပြီ” (ဆန်းထွန်း၊ သူသူဟံသာ၊ အကယ်ဒမီဇော်ဦး၊ မိုးဒီ၊ ငွေတောင်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဝမ်းပုံ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-တင်အောင်ရွှေ-သူတေသီ)
- 1:15 pm**
  - သီတဂူဆရာတော် အရှင်ဥာဏီသာရ၏ သာမညဗလသုတ္တန်တရားတော်
- 1:45 pm**
  - တန်ဆောင်တိုင်တေးများ
- 2:00 pm**
  - တိုးချဲ့ကာကွယ်ဆေးထိုး လုပ်ငန်းများ အကြောင်း သိကောင်းစရာ
- 2:15 pm**
  - Dance of national races
- 2:30 pm**
  - စွန့်ချောင်းရေလှောင်တစ်
- 2:45 pm**
  - International news
- 4:00 pm**
  - Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
  - Song for uphold national spirit

- 4:30 pm**
  - English for everyday use
- 4:45 pm**
  - အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-တတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)
- 5:00 pm**
  - မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 5:10 pm**
  - တန်ဆောင်တိုင်တေးများ
- 5:20 pm**
  - မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ
- 5:35 pm**
  - ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်
- 6:00 pm**
  - Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
  - Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
  - အလှူရှာမယ်လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်
- 7:00 pm**
  - နှစ်လယ်မြန်မာ့ကျောက်မျက် ရတနာပြပွဲ(၂၀၀၇)
- 7:10 pm**
  - နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “နေပြည်စမ်းမ” (အပိုင်း-၁၀)
- 8:00 pm**
  - News
- 8:15 pm**
  - International news
- 8:30 pm**
  - Weather report
- 8:45 pm**
  - နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်စရာပျိုကညာ” (အပိုင်း-၂၃) (ဇာတ်သိမ်းပိုင်း)
- 8:55 pm**
  - မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီးဦးပိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်း တရားတော်
- 9:00 pm**
  - The next day’s programme



Saturday, 24 November  
Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music -Beautiful life
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music -Before I forget
- 8:50 am** National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music -My doorbell
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music -This love
- 1:30 pm** News /Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Music at your request+music -From the heart
- 9:00 pm** ASEAN news Exchange news from ASEAN member countries
- 9:20 pm** Myanma culture...Dr Khin Maung Nyunt
- 9:30 pm** Souvenirs -Pretty little baby
- 9:45 pm** News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

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# Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends 13th ASEAN Summit Charter an important foundation for future of ASEAN

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended the 13th ASEAN Summit at the Acacia Ballroom of Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore on 20 November morning and signed the Declarations of Singapore Summit.

Also present at the summit were Brunei Darussalam King Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkiah Muizzadin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Lao PDR Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, President of the Philippines Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Thai Prime Minister General Surayud Chulanont, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung and ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Ong Keng Yong.

Before the summit, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong welcomed the Heads of State/Government from ASEAN countries including Myanmar at the



Heads of ASEAN nations pose for a group photo at 13th ASEAN Summit.—MNA

meeting hall.

First, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong presided over the 13th ASEAN Summit (Retreat) at 9 am.

The Singaporean Prime Minister explained the meeting agenda. Next, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries exchanged views on cooperation among ASEAN countries, ASEAN integration, issuing of the ASEAN Charter, establishment of ASEAN Economic Society, sustain-

able conservation of environment, climate change and other regional matters.

The Prime Minister of Myanmar expressed the opinion of Myanmar on solving the problem of international terrorism, control of rapidly infectious flu, matters related to energy sector, climate change and sustainable development.

In his discussion on the ASEAN Charter, Prime Minister General Thein Sein said that adopt-

ing the ASEAN Charter meant that the Association was able to set up one of the milestones in 40 years; and that the Charter

regulations.

He added that ASEAN needed to make further progress and at the same time, it was required

countries.

He said ASEAN Charter was required to strengthen the unity and integration of the mem-

**ASEAN needed to make further progress and at the same time, it was required to preserve the fundamental principles.**

was an important foundation for the future of the ASEAN and would make the ASEAN an organization based on rules and

to preserve the fundamental principles that were being practised successfully and in unity for a long time among ASEAN

bers; and that members should not forget that ASEAN countries managed to build unity and  
(See page 8)

## SSNPLO, SSA Brigade 758, MTA Matkyan Region Group, Narai Region DNLG, SSNA (break away) Wanyein Family Group and SSNA (break away) Mongyun Group issue announcements

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov—Mr Gambari, the special adviser to the United Nations Secretary General, released the statement of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on her behalf in Singapore on 8 November.

Now, political parties, national race armed groups that have returned to the legal fold, State/Division delegates of national race delegate group to the National Convention and certain organizations are releasing announcements to express their disagreement and objection to the points in the statement.

Of the announcements and statements sent to the dailies, those of Shan State Nationalities People's Liberation Organization, Shan State Army (SSA) Brigade 758, MTA Matkyan Region Group, Narai Region Development and New Life Group, SSNA (break away) Wanyein Family Group and SSNA (break away) Mongyun Group are as follows:-

(See page 6)