

# Senior General Than Shwe sees off PM General Thein Sein on his departure for Cambodia

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe saw off Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein, who left here by special flight to pay a goodwill visit to Cambodia at the invitation of Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 11 am yesterday.

Together with the Senior General were Vice-Chairman of the SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, SPDC members Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence,



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

Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, senior military officers, the director-general of the

SPDC Office, departmental heads, Charge d'Affaires of the Cambodian Embassy and officials.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein,

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Director-General of Government Office Col Thant Shin, departmental heads and officials.

MNA

### Weather Forecast for (1-12-2007)

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area**

Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area**

Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area**

Partly cloudy.

#### 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, 1 December, 2007

### Strive with nationalistic fervour for success of Myanmar sports

The government is putting energetic efforts into the development of Myanmar sports.

By nature, Myanmar are strongly equipped with sporting spirit with a fine tradition of winning victories in sports.

Members of Myanmar sports contingent will take part in 29 sports events out of 44 in the XXIV SEA Games to be held in Thailand.

In an effort to produce famous athletes the government is striving for enhancing the standard of Myanmar sports, with the concept that the victories in the sports field means the national achievements. To keep abreast of the world steps are being taken for the development in all spheres including the sports sector.

Victory in sports amounts to improving the image of the State and the people. The government is making all-out efforts together with Myanmar Sports Federations, well-wishers and sports enthusiasts for the development of the sports sector. This is something to be proud of. Myanmar athletes have good prospects of winning victories as they are well-trained, well-prepared and highly efficient.

To bring glory to the nation all athletes are to compete with the spirit of unity and strive for gaining the achievements.

As winning medals in sports of international level highlights the dignity of the State and the people, the entire national people are to make concerted efforts for the development of the sports sector with nationalistic fervour.



To mark the birthday of Mother Daw Mya Kyi of Kanbawza Housing, Shwetaunggya Ward-1, Bahan Township, her children and grandchildren donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Treasurer of the Administrative Board of the home for the aged U Aung Than accepts the donation. — H

## 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

### Myanmar secures two silver in SEA Games shooting

YANGON, 30 Nov — The XXIV SEA Games shooting championship continued in Bangkok, Thailand. This

morning, Aung Nyein Ni, Lin Aung and Aung Thura of the Myanmar selected shooting team lifted a silver medal in 50-m prone

rifle with 22 points.

Thai team won the gold medal in the event and Singapore shooting team got bronze medal.

Lin Aung of Myanmar selected shooting team also secured a silver medal with 22 points in 50-m prone rifle in the events held in the afternoon.

Thai sharp shooter won the gold medal and Vietnamese the bronze medal.

Shooting events were being held ahead of the opening ceremony of the XXIV SEA Games.

MNA



Aung Thura



Lin Aung



Aung Nyein Ni

### Inter-Ministry Men's Volleyball Tournament-2007 continues

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov — The First Inter-Ministry Men's Volleyball Tournament-2007 continued at Nay Pyi Taw Volleyball Grounds this morning and evening.

Among the spectators were Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No 2 Brig-Gen Win Myint, departmental heads and officials.

Ministry of Electric Power No 2 Team defeated Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries with 3-1 at Ground-3 and Ministry of Home Affairs beat Ministry of Sports with 3-2 at Ground-4 this morning.

In the evening, Ministry of Immigration and Population beat Supreme Court 3-0 at



*Ministry of Immigration & Population Team plays against Supreme Court Team.*

MNA

Ground-1 and Ministry of Finance and Revenue beat Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation at Ground-2.

MNA

### Korean Film Festival opens

YANGON, 30 Nov—The opening ceremony of the second Korean Film Festival was held at Thamada Cinema on Alanpya Pagoda Road, here, this evening with the aim of strengthening friendship between Myanmar and the Republic of Korea.

Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Park Key-chong and Director U Thein Tun Aung of the Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise delivered addresses.

The Film Festival has been held for two times including this time. The Festival will be held annually with the collaboration between the Ministry of Information and Korean Embassy in Myanmar.

The film "The Host" is on and the films "Taegukgi-Dongmakgol and The Way Home" are shown till 4 December. — MNA



## Saudi Arabia holds over 200 militants, foils oil attack

RIYADH, 29 Nov—Saudi Arabia said on Wednesday it had arrested 208 militants for involvement in cells planning an imminent attack on an oil installation, as well as attacks on clerics and security forces.

State television in the world's biggest oil exporter said one of the cells was planning to smuggle in missiles. Al-Qaeda sympathizers have mounted a campaign against the US-allied monarchy since 2003.

A cell of eight militants led by a foreign resident planned an attack on an

oil facility in the Eastern Province, it said. Saudi Arabia has been building a 35,000-strong rapid reaction force to protect installations after a failed al-Qaeda attack in 2006 on the world's largest oil processing plant at Abqaiq.

"Security forces foiled an imminent attack on an oil support installation in the Eastern Province after the perpetrators prepared themselves and set a date," it said. The report, citing an Interior Ministry statement, said 18 of those arrested belonged to a cell led by an "expert in

launching missiles" who had slipped into the country. It said they planned to smuggle eight projectiles into the kingdom.

Another 22 were part of a group that plotted to assassinate clerics and security forces, it said.

The government has warned clerics in recent months to do more to stop Saudis heading to Iraq to join al-Qaeda militants fighting US forces and the US-backed Shiite Muslim government, considered heretical by hardline Sunni Saudis.

MNA/Reuters



This photo provided by the Florida Highway Patrol shows a State Police cruiser covered with bags of marijuana on 27 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Russian explodes grenade after ticket request

YEKATERINBURG (Russia), 29 Nov—A Russian man blew himself up with

a hand grenade on Tuesday shortly after train inspectors asked to see his ticket.

The inspectors thought they saw a hand grenade in the man's pocket and asked him to get off the commuter train at Asha station, in Chelyabinsk in the South Urals region.

He refused and instead demanded that the train go to Vladivostok, thousands of kilometres away on Russia's Pacific coast, said Liana Ergasheva of the local prosecutor's office. "Inspectors wanted to check the papers of passengers who looked

drunk, but he took out a grenade. He demanded the train should go to Vladivostok," Ergasheva said. Passengers were evacuated and negotiations with the police had started before Mikhail Ershov, 43, triggered the explosion, blasting out windows in the train carriage.

"Ershov had taken the pin out, he then tried to put the pin back in the grenade, but instead it exploded," the prosecutor said.

The explosion did not kill or injure anyone else.

MNA/Reuters



### Female suicide bomber wounds seven US troops in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 29 Nov—A female suicide bomber wearing an explosives blew herself up in a city north of Baghdad, wounding seven US soldiers and five Iraqi civilians, the US military said on Wednesday.

The attack occurred on Tuesday in Baquba, 65 kilometres (40 miles) from

Baghdad and capital of the ethnically and religiously mixed Diyala Province.

Suicide bombings carried out by women are very rare in Iraq.

US commanders have identified Diyala Province as one of the most dangerous areas of Iraq after Sunni Islamist al-Qaeda fighters were driven out of their former stronghold in the western province of Anbar.

On Tuesday, nine people were killed when a suicide bomber posing as a shepherd attacked the police headquarters in Baquba.— MNA/Reuters

*Miss Singapore Roshni Kaur Soin poses ahead of Miss World pageant in Sanya, Hainan Island, on 29 Nov, 2007. The contest will be held on 1 Dec, 2007.*

INTERNET

*About 40 people scoured part of Spain's rugged northwestern region of Galicia Thursday for about 1,000 minks released into the wild from a farm by animal rights activists, the regional government said.*

INTERNET

### NATO airstrike kills 12 Afghan civilians

JALALABAD (Afghanistan), 29 Nov—NATO airstrikes killed 12 civilian road workers in eastern Afghanistan, a provincial governor said on Wednesday, an incident bound to fuel Afghan resentment against the presence of international forces.

NATO has tightened procedures for launching airstrikes after Afghan

President Hamid Karzai warned of rising anger over mounting civilian casualties, but military commanders say some civilian deaths are almost inevitable in any conflict.

Foreign forces have a limited time to weaken Taliban rebels and allow development to undercut the insurgency before Afghans turn against the international presence and

Western public opinion demands troops be brought home, security analysts say.

"So far we know that 12 people have been killed by US bombardment," Tameem Nooristani, governor of the eastern province of Nooristan, told Reuters. "They were only poor and innocent road construction workers."

MNA/Reuters





## Hun Sen asks China, India, Japan to help improve rural projects

PHNOM PENH, 29 Nov—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said Tuesday that he had asked China, India and Japan to help with the rural infrastructure development of the country.

Hun Sen said that he had asked China to provide a grant aid of 55 million US dollars to build a 128-kilometre road linking O'pong Man area of Stung Treng Province to provincial town of Ratanakiri Province.

"We discussed it with the Chinese side in a meeting in Singapore," Hun Sen said at a graduation ceremony for about 580 students at the National Institute of Education in Phnom Penh.

"In the near future, I will go to India and sign

with the Indian side to get 35.5 million US dollars in aid to build an electricity network from Kratie Province to the Lao border, and the finance will also spend for restoring irrigation system of the Stung Ta Sal River and buying water pumps," he said.

In addition, Hun Sen said he had also asked Japan to build and monitor the roads 76A and 78A which lead to the heritage triangle area bordering Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

MNA/Xinhua



*Villagers steer their boat passing a forest fire in Galang, on Batam island bordering Singapore in 2006. Indonesia has lost 24 of its more than 17,500 islands due to natural disasters and environmental damage, a minister said on 29 Nov, 2007 according to the Antara news agency. — INTERNET*

## FM says US treatment of Ecuadorean President "ignorant"

QUITO, 29 Nov — Ecuador's Foreign Minister Maria Fernanda Espinosa told media on Tuesday that the discourteous treatment President Rafael Correa received at Miami Airport was a sign of the United States' ignorance and arrogance.

"The US failed to respect the fundamental principle of immunity of jurisdiction for a head of state, according to which simply showing his identification would mean he is given the respectful and appropriate treatment that is his due," Espinosa said.

"Administrative pro-

cedures do not preclude the obligation to recognize heads' of state immunity. There is no apology or justification" Espinosa said.

Espinosa ruled out that the problem had been caused by other problems. However, she said the accident will not damage the country's relations with the United States.

The minister also recalled maltreatment Ecuador's Vice-President Lenin Moreno received in Atlanta and New York airports in March, saying "they dragged him out of his wheelchair and shamed him publicly".

Moreno has been in a

wheelchair since the 1990s after suffering a gunshot injury during an armed robbery.

MNA/Xinhua

## Cyclone death toll in Bangladesh rises to 3,256

DHAKA, 29 Nov — The death toll from cyclone Sidr which hit Bangladesh's southern and southwestern coastal areas on 15 November night, climbed to 3,256 Wednesday afternoon, a spokesman for the Army said.

Armed Forces Division Lientenant Col-onel Farooq Hossain was quoted by private news

agency UNB as saying that, some 8.5 million people have been affected by the 15 November storm.

He told reporters that helicopters and C-130, AN 32 and LCT cargo planes airlifted 262.34 tons of relief materials for the cyclone victims on Wednesday.

So far, 1277.34 tons of

relief goods were airlifted and delivered to the affected areas in the coastal districts.

The cyclone Sidr, one of the fiercest cyclones that hit Bangladesh in the last 131 years, slammed the country's southern coastal areas, affecting 30 out of total 64 districts and leaving millions homeless. —MNA/Xinhua

## Two US soldiers killed in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 29 Nov — Two US soldiers were killed and two others injured in a roadside bomb explosion in Salahudin Province in north of Baghdad, the US military said on Wednesday.

The attack took place on Tuesday, when the explosion hit their vehicle while conducting operations in the province, a military statement said.

The wounded soldiers were transported to a military medical facility for treatment, it said.

The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers who have been killed in Iraq to about 3,880 since the outbreak of the Iraq war in 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures. — MNA/Xinhua

## Nine killed, nine hurt as jeep falls into ravine in Philippines

MANILA, 29 Nov — Nine were killed, and another nine were seriously hurt when a passenger vehicle fell into a ravine in the north Philippines on Wednesday.

The accident happened when the jeep was passing through a dirt highway in Mountain Province, the Philippine television network GMA News reported, citing a local official named Jojo Valera.

Valera said the driver tried to avoid lumps of sand and boulders along the highway when the jeep lost its track and fell into the ravine. The driver himself was seriously hurt.

Those hurt have been rushed to a local hospital, GMA said. — MNA/Xinhua

*A model presents fashion design in the Shenmei International Hair Cultural Art Festival at the Dashanzi Art District (or 798 Factory) in Beijing, capital of China, on 28 Nov, 2007.*

XINHUA



*The new China Central Television (CCTV) building is now under construction near Guomao Bridge along the Third Ring Road in eastern Beijing.*

INTERNET





## Vietnam exports more footwear in 11 months

HANOI, 29 Nov— Vietnam is estimated to gain footwear export revenues of over 3.5 billion US dollars in the first 11 months of this year, a year-on-year rise of 9.5 per cent, according to a local industry association on Wednesday.

Vietnam is likely to post footwear export earnings of around four billion dollars this year, up from nearly 3.6 billion dollars in 2006, said the Vietnam Leather and Footwear Association (Lefaso).

The Lefaso is encouraging footwear producers in

Vietnam to diversify products, and produce more sport and cloth shoes, and slippers. It is also urging them to further tap their three largest markets—the European Union, the United States and Japan, and strengthen export to new ones with big purchasing power like Indonesia, Malaysia, the Middle East, Africa, South Asia, Russia and Mexico.

Vietnam has planned to reap footwear export revenue of 6.2-6.5 billion dollars in 2010.

MNA/Xinhua

## Canada, Russia to strengthen economic cooperation

OTTAWA, 29 Nov— Canada and Russia signed a series of bilateral agreements here Thursday in a bid to enhance economic cooperation between the two countries, according to a government release. The agreements, signed during Russian Prime Minister Viktor Zubkov's visit to Ottawa, aims to enhance bilateral relations in the areas of agriculture, fisheries, nuclear power, trade financing as well as in the Arctic and northern regions.

The two sides also agreed to explore the possibility of upgrading the existing Foreign Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement to boost bilateral investment.

Canadian exports to Russia was 875 million Canadian dollars (877 million US dollars) in 2006. Bilateral trade was 2.3 billion Canadian

dollars (2.31 billion US dollars) in 2006, according to Canadian statistics.

Internet



The roof of a house is covered with solar cells, seen in October 2007. Japan's Sharp Corp announced Thursday a 200-million-dollar investment in solar cells as manufacturers compete for a slice of the burgeoning market for alternative energy products.—INTERNET

## Slovaks seize one kilo of radioactive material

BRATISLAVA, 30 Nov— Slovak and Hungarian police seized a kilo (2.2 pounds) of radioactive material and arrested three people in a joint operation

on Wednesday, a spokesman said. Slovak police spokesman Martin Korch said the material was being examined and did not confirm a report carried by the Slovak news agency SITA that it was enriched uranium.

"This one kilogramme should have been sold for one million US dollars," Korch said.

Uranium enrichment can yield fuel for nuclear power stations or be used to make nuclear warheads. Uranium must be highly-enriched to be suitable for use in weapons.

The spokesman said the police raid took place along the eastern part of the two Central European countries' common frontier, near their borders with Ukraine.

"Three people have been

NEW YORK, 30 Nov— Oil prices tumbled 4 per cent on Wednesday after a US Government report showed crude stockpiles fell less than expected last week, easing supply-concerns in the world's top consumer.

The fall extended losses that have chopped seven US dollars off oil prices since Friday on expectations that the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries may increase output and signs US demand growth is cracking due to wider economic

problems.

US oil settled 3.80 US dollars lower at 90.62 US dollars a barrel in the biggest loss since 6 August.

It was also the biggest nominal drop in crude prices since September 2001, when oil was trading just over 20 US dollars a barrel. Brent crude fell 2.71 US dollars to 89.91 US dollars a barrel.

US crude inventories fell 400,000 barrels last week, less than half of what analysts had expected, as imports offset higher demand from

the nation's refineries, according to the US Energy Information Administration.

Crude stockpiles in Cushing, Oklahoma,—the delivery point for US crude futures — rose 600,000 barrels over the same period, according to the EIA.

Analysts said the report could alleviate some concerns about consumer supplies ahead of the winter, which had helped send oil to a record above 99 US dollars a barrel last week.—MNA/Reuters

## ECONOMIC NEWS

### Vietnam faces high air pollution related mortality

HANOI, 30 Nov — The mortality rate related to air pollution in Vietnam is higher compared with other countries, according to the World Health Organization.

Quoting the WHO, local newspaper *Youth* Thursday reported that between 200 and 230 people per one million residents in Vietnam die annually of diseases relating to outdoor air pollution, while between 300 and 400 people per one million residents die of indoor air pollution.

Between 16,400 and 18,800 Vietnamese people suffer from diseases springing from

outdoor air pollution, and between 24,600-32,800 others suffer from diseases rising from indoor air pollution each year, the report said.

Air pollution, plus water pollution and unhygienic environment, has resulted in different respiratory diseases and some kinds of cancer.

Vietnam currently has a population of some 84 million

MNA/Xinhua



A 11 feet long, 21 kgs Indian rock Python (*Python molurus*) sits in a room.—INTERNET



Policemen stand at the entrance of the Criminal Exploration Bureau where British teacher Gillian Gibbons is being detained by Sudanese authorities in Khartoum, on 28 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET





*Balinese women walk back to their home after attending a religious ceremony in Nusa Dua, on the Indonesia's island of Bali on 27 Nov, 2007, a week before the UN climate summit in Bali.*

INTERNET

## Chinese FM meets Israeli PM on ties, Mideast peace process

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov—Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi met here on Tuesday with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert to exchange views on bilateral ties and the Middle East peace process.

Yang, who flew in to attend an international Middle East peace conference held in Annapolis, Maryland, on Tuesday, said that China and Israel witness a rapid

development of friendly co-operation in various fields such as politics, economy and trade, science and technology, and education on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

The Chinese side, he said, will work with the Israeli side to earnestly implement important consensus reached between

leaders of the two sides to enhance political dialogues, expand trade, deepen cooperation in such fields as agriculture and high technologies to elevate bilateral ties to a new high.

On the Middle East issue, the Chinese Minister said the Annapolis conference marked a new phase of negotiations between Israelis and the Palestinians.

MNA/Xinhua

### US troops kill two government employees in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 29 Nov—The US military affirmed that its soldiers opened fire on a minibus carrying government employees in northeastern Baghdad on Tuesday, killing two passengers. "This morning, coalition forces fired on a minibus in Baghdad after the driver failed to heed a warning shot," the military said in a statement.

It said that two passengers were killed and four others wounded, when the minibus was "travelling on a street that is off-limits to vehicles other than passenger cars".

MNA/Xinhua

### Six world powers to discuss Iran in Paris on Saturday

LONDON, 29 Nov—Representatives of six world powers trying to curb Iran's nuclear ambitions will meet in Paris on Saturday, British Foreign Office Minister Kim Howells said in Parliament on Wednesday.

The meeting between the five permanent members of the UN Security Council — China, France, Russia, the United States and Britain — plus Germany will come one day after talks in London between the European Union's foreign policy chief Javier Solana and Iran's

chief nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili.

Iran said on Tuesday it would put forward "new initiatives" at the meeting with Solana on Friday but that it would not suspend sensitive nuclear work as demanded by the United Nations.

An Iranian refusal to modify its stand could bring a third round of tougher sanctions closer. The United States is pressing for sanctions but Russia and China are resisting such a move.

Two sets of mild sanctions have been slapped on Iran so far.

MNA/Reuters



*University of Minnesota scientist Dr Blanca Martinez works with different varieties of algae at the Center for Biorefining at the University of Minnesota in St Paul, Minn, on 9 Nov, 2007 file photo. Driven by renewed investment as oil prices push \$100 a barrel, Ruan and scores of scientists around the world are racing to turn algae into a commercially viable energy source.—INTERNET*

## High blood pressure boosts Alzheimer's risk

BEIJING, 29 Nov—Alzheimer's patients with high blood pressure, which reduces blood flow to the brain, are more vulnerable to the effects of the disease, researchers reported Wednesday. Researchers using a magnetic resonance imaging technique to measure blood flow in the brains of 68 older adults found cerebral blood flow was substantially decreased in all patients with high blood pressure and was the

lowest in Alzheimer's patients with high blood pressure.

"What we think may be happening is hypertension reflects an extra hit to the brain," said Cyrus Raji of the University of Pittsburgh, who led the study.

The study compared Alzheimer patients to adults with normal cognitive function and a group with mild cognitive impairment, defined as a transitional stage between dementia and normal, age-related deficits in language, attention and reasoning.

Half of the patients in each of the three groups had high blood pressure and half did not.

The researchers used an imaging program called arterial spin-labeled MRI, which calculates blood flow per minute in a section of brain tissue and does not require use of a contrast agent.—Internet

*An undated photo taken in the northern Ugandan Kiangandala National Park shows female giant sable antelopes. Aggressive female antelopes are more likely to get a mate even when they go so far as to charge at the male, a study released Thursday found.*

INTERNET





# Decent Work for Persons with Disabilities

*Ko Kway (Geology)*

The government, in pursuit of the goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, is working hard to ensure equitable development of all regions of the Union with the aim of bridging the development gap between one national race and another. In the process, the Social Welfare Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is cooperating with relevant government bodies, NGOs and UN agencies to reduce the number of possible social problems in the future nation. One of the eight functions of the department is "to rehabilitate the disabled".

Myanmar people, by nature, preserve a fine tradition of extending a helpful hand to those in need. If a family comprises a handicapped child, the other family members care him with sympathy. Indeed, showing sympathy for the child is not enough. So, it is required to train such a child in order that he, like other children, will be able to lead a normal life throughout his life. It is also needed to nurture him in order to have access to education and participate in activities, and stand with prestige without facing any discrimination.

In like manner, it is needed to rehabilitate those who become disabled after they have been adults due to various reasons so that they will be able to face and brave various forms of difficulties tenaciously. Such disabled persons who are not in a position to pursue formal education are to be given non-formal education along with appropriate vocational training. Moreover, it is required to create job opportunities that are suitable to their vocational educational qualifications.

Only then will it be possible for them to have opportunities to present their skills and qualifications and do their bit in the nation-building tasks.

The United Nations has designated "Decent Work for Persons with Disabilities" as the theme of the International Day of Disabled Persons for 2007. The statement regarding the theme says that **in every society very few persons with disabilities are duly employed. In fact, in most countries up to 80% of persons with disabilities of working age are unemployed. Most others are under-employed or will never have access to the labour market. It adds that in most countries, there is no law to**

**protect the rights of persons with disabilities. In practice, it means blockage to disabled people's rights to jobs. And the unemployed population is still high in developed countries as well, it says.**

In Myanmar, there is no discrimination against any persons with disabilities. The government is putting strenuous endeavours into the rehabilitation of the disabled in collaboration with governmental organizations (GOs) like the Social Welfare Department, and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs).

In order to rehabilitate those physically handicapped, those mentally retarded, those visually impaired and those with impaired hearing, the Social Welfare Department has established one training school for the adult disabled, one training school for the young disabled, two training schools for the blind, and one training school for the deaf. Among them, those who are in a position to pursue formal education are given education at basic education high schools and universities, and those who are not in this position are given non-formal education and vocational education.

Among the orphans being nurtured at the training schools under the Social Welfare Department, disabled youths are nurtured at the Disabled Care Unit near Kyaikwaing Youths Training School.

Similarly, wellwishers and NGOs run 10 training schools for disabled people. One of them is Eden Disabled Care Centre situated at Phawtkan Ward in Insein Township, Yangon Division, which nurtures and trains young disabled people to sharpen their abilities.

In the Kyimyindine and Sagaing Schools for the Blind, the students are taught education ranging from Braille to university education. So far, 20 persons have passed matriculation examination, 12 are pursuing tertiary education, and two have got their degrees. In 2006-2007 academic year, five students from Kyimyindine School for the Blind passed matriculation examination, two of whom won distinctions. Therefore, the blind youths throughout the nation should be sent to these schools to enable them to lead a normal life. Volunteers teach the students at Khawegyan School

for the Blind.

In Mandalay School for the Deaf, deaf youths are given formal education, non-formal education and vocational training in order to earn their living. Likewise, Yangon Mary Chapman's School for the Deaf and Dumb nurture the deaf.

In Myanmar, the government and social organizations are striving in harness for the nation's rehabilitation services to meet international level. And they are taking measures to enable the persons with disabilities to stand on their feet. AAR (Association of Aid and Relief), one of the INGOs, in cooperation with the Social Welfare Department is conducting advanced tailoring course, hair dressing course, and beauty courses for disabled adults.

In olden days, disabled persons were considered to be unfortunate people, handicapped people, useless people, people who were stunted in physique or deficient in faculties, or burdens on their families and societies. In the late 20th Century, there were global changes in such views and concepts.

**There have been a variety of methods, with which the skills and qualifications of a person can be applied in an easy way in the 21st Century or IT age. Unlike in the past, it is required to improve the life of disabled people in accordance with the changes.**

**Therefore, showing sympathy for disabled people is not enough. More ways and means are to be sought to enable them to lead a better life and to join training schools in accordance with their abilities. They should be sent to schools for the blind and the deaf under the Social Welfare Department in Kyinmyindine and Sagaing for education and vocational training.**

Furthermore, it is required to create jobs for the disabled people who have completed basic education or vocational training and for those who become disabled after they have come of age. In Japan and Singapore, specified percentage of disabled persons have been appointed in factories and companies. In Myanmar, a large number of private-owned factories and companies have emerged according to the market-oriented economic system. Thus, the entrepreneurs and proprietors should help improve the living conditions of disabled people by appointing them in their businesses. Surely, if so, they will win recognition and respect of the people.

So, in accordance with the theme of "Decent Work for Persons with Disabilities", it is needed to extend a helpful hand to the disabled in order that they will have opportunities to participate in appropriate work. Only then will they be able to do their bit in nation-building tasks. In conclusion, I would like to urge the people to help them enjoy the fruits of the drive for building a modern developed nation, like others.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 30-11-2007

**In Myanmar, there is no discrimination against any persons with disabilities. The government is putting strenuous endeavours into the rehabilitation of the disabled in collaboration with governmental organizations (GOs) like the Social Welfare Department, and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs).**



## Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects regional development tasks...

(from page 16)

According to the report of Director of Magway Division Development Affairs Department U San Maw Khin, DAD has been constructed the 75-mile and 3-furlong sections of the division's No 1 District-to-District Road which is 132 miles and 6 furlongs long. So far, 14 miles and 3 furlongs have been paved with tar and 19 bridges and 80 conduit pipes on the road have been constructed by Magway Division Development Affairs Department. Superintending Engineer of Magway Division Public Works U Aung Kyaw Myint reported on conditions of Taungdwingyi-Myothit-Natmauk Road.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint called for the maintenance of the Taungdwingyi-Myothit-Natmauk Road as the traffic has increased on the road.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Payodaw Village in Natmauk Township and inspected the paddy field which is irrigated from a temporary dam. Manager of Magway District Myanmar Agriculture Service U Than Tun and officials concerned reported on cultivation of Yar-2 paddy strain and arrangements for cultivation of crops. After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions to Myanmar Agriculture Service to render assistance to farmers for boosting production.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party visited the 336-acre cultivation of physic nuts at Tagundine Model Village in Natmauk Township.

During the tour of Magway, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders at the City



Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport (News on Page 1). —MNA

Hall and gave instructions on regional development tasks.

In his report, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw

Shwe said the division sets its target of the 1 million acre of rain-fed paddy and extended the cultivation of paddy. He also reported on cultivation of the summer paddy for the 2006-2007 cultivation season, plans for cultivation of summer paddy for the 2007-2008 cultivation season, sufficiency of rice in the region and cultivation of physic nut.

Chairman of district PDCs in the division also reported on arrange-

ments for cultivation and regional development tasks district-wise.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said Magway Division have enjoyed the fruits of development as the government constructed motor roads, rail roads and constructed universities, colleges, hospitals, schools, river water pumping stations, dams, factories and infrastructures for education and social sectors. Local people and authorities are

also to strive for extended cultivation of paddy and for the regional development.

He also called for thriving physic nut in the region and using the physic nut oil in the agricultural mechanization.

As part of efforts for regional development and thriving agricultural sector, local people are to participate in implementing the development tasks joining hands with the local authorities.

MNA



Gems traders examine pearl lots at 23rd Pearl Sales. — MNA



## Sales of pearl lots conclude

YANGON, 30 Nov — The 23rd pearl sales, organized by Myanmar Pearl Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines, continued for the third and final day at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, this

morning.

On the final day, local gem merchants purchased 165 lots of pearl through tender. From 28 to 30 November, a total of 338 pearl lots were sold.

Managing Director

of Myanmar Pearl Enterprise U Maung Toe presented certificate of honour to most pearl purchaser Daw Mya Shin (Daw Mya Shin Pearl Trading) who has purchased 112 pearl lots.

MNA

## White Cane Day on 2 December

YANGON, 30 Nov — The Yangon Mayor's Cup White Cane Day in commemoration of the International Day of Disabled Persons will be held on 2 December.

The competition will start in front of

the Pyithu Hluttaw on Pyay Road to the City Hall through Pyay Road, Phonegyi Road and Maha Bandoola Street. Along the route for the competition roads will temporarily be closed from 5 am to 8 am on 2 December. — MNA



# Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects progress of agriculture, fisheries industries in Ayeyawady Division

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, met local farmers at 1,000-acre farmland in Hsamalauk Village-tract of Nyaungdon Township on 27 November.

Ayeyawady Division Manager U Myo Wai of Myanma Agriculture Service reported on agricultural task and transfer of technology.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged farmers to cultivate mixed cropping of beans and sunflower to general income.

They viewed thriving green gram and sunflower mixed cropping plantations and agricultural equipment.

Next, they looked



**Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than views ploughing for cultivation of paddy in summer season in the 10-acre field of Farmer U Than Ngwe in Kyaunggon Township. — MNA**



into functions of the laboratory of Ayeyawady Division Fisheries Department in Thazin Yekyaw Village in Nyaungdon Township.

While in Thazin Yekyaw Village, they visited the fresh water fish and prawn breeding farm of Grand Win Enterprise Ltd. Technician Dr Myint Swe reported on breeding of

fish and exporting of 500 tons of fish last year.

In Zeechaung Village-tract of Kyaunggon Township, they attended the summer paddy cultivation ceremony on 10 acres of land. After hearing the reports of officials, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that as arrangements are being made for cultivation

of 600,000 acres of edible oil crops to ensure edible oil sufficiency in the region, local farmers are to participate in growing of edible oil crops to ensure of edible oil sufficiency.

In Patheingyi, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met departmental officials and local authorities. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than

said that Ayeyawady Division produces the largest amount of paddy in the entire nation. Ayeyawady is to manage cultivation of 600,000 acres of edible oil crops for ensuring edible oil sufficiency in the division. Furthermore, he stressed the need to make efforts for growing of physic nut to meet the target of 500,000 acres

and rubber, 100,000 acres.

In addition, departmental personnel are to go on field trips in undertaking five rural development tasks.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than visited the cold storage and the feedstuff factory of Ayeyawady Fisheries Ltd of Yuzana Group.

MNA

## Commander, Secretary-General meet USDA members of Sagaing Division

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov — Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Patron of Sagaing Division Union Solidarity and Development Association Brig-Gen Myint Soe and Secretary-General of USDA U Htay Oo met with executives and members of division,

district and township USDAs at the office of Monywa Town USDA, on 27 November.

First, Executive of Sagaing Division USDA U Maung Maung Oo reported on social tasks carried out by the division association.

Next, Commander Brig-Gen Myint Soe instructed them to make more efforts to carry out

social and organizational tasks.

Next, Secretary-General U Htay Oo stressed the need for the USDA members to perform social tasks upholding the policies and aims of the association. He urged the USDA members to implement the future tasks of the association in the respective regions.

MNA

## Work efficiency course for Township Internal Revenue Department heads concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov—The work efficiency course No 33 for heads of Township Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue concluded at the ministry, here, this morning.

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun in his speech said that the trainees are to follow

the regulations, orders, directives and procedures they have learnt at the course in performing their duties, calling for collecting taxes and revenues systematically and fully from the people through organizing measures.

He presented first

prize to U Khin Soe, second prize to Daw Pale, third prize to Daw Khin Pa Pa Soe and the certificates to the trainees through U Saw Kyaw Kyaw Htoo. Fifty-five trainees completed the four-week course.

MNA

## 43 members of Thakayta Tsp NLD quit

YANGON, 30 Nov—A ceremony to submit resignation letters of 43 members of Thakayta Township National League for Democracy to NLD Headquarters and Chairman of Thakayta Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commission U Mya Kyaing was held at Yuzana Construction in Shukhinthar Ward of Thakayta Township on 21 November.

At the ceremony, Ward/village Organizer U Than Nwe said that they disappointed with NLD and no longer wanted to serve as NLD members. Next, they sent their resignation letters to the chairman of the sub-commission.

Some of them were U Than Nwe, U Ye Tin, U Thaug Myint, U Ohn Than, U Hein Soe, U Moe Aung Win, Daw Le Le, U Kyi Maung, Ko Chan Too, and Daw Maw Maw Than. They also sent the duplicates to NLD Headquarters. — MNA



**Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivers an address at conclusion of the work efficiency course No 33. — F&R**



## Development of An, Yangon-Sittway highway inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov—Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence met servicemen and their families of the station at An Taung hall in An, Rakhine State yesterday.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw stressed the need for further development of the region and provided assistance for the families.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, accompanied by Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Shein and officials inspected development of An and five-acre rubber plantation near An. Maj-Gen Khin Zaw called for extended cultivation of rubber and physic nut and utilization of quality strains.

There are 826 acres of rubber cultivated in An. Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party inspected thriving rubber plantations alongside Yangon-Sittway highway. They proceeded to Myebon Township and oversaw roadwork of Yangon-Sittway highway, and called for efforts for long-term durability of the highway.—MNA



**Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence inspects the five-acre plantation of rubber of the Immigration and National Registration Department in An. — MNA**

## Myanmar Archery and Rowing teams leave for Thailand

YANGON, 30 Nov — Myanmar Archery Team led by General Secretary U Kyaw Oo (Assistant Director of Sports and Physical Education Department) left here by air this morning for Nakon Ratchasima of Thailand to take part in the XXIV SEA Games in Thailand from 7 to 12 December 2007.

The Myanmar Archery Team comprises team leader U Kyaw Oo (Secretary of Myanmar Archery Federation), Managers U Tin Than Zaw and Daw Thidar Win, coaches U Aung Thura, Daw Thi Thi Win and Daw Myat Thuzar Myint, technical adviser Mr Jin So Ho and archers namely Zaw Win Htaik, Myo Ko

## Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation discusses matters for organizing annual general meeting

YANGON, 30 Nov—The Leading Committee for Organizing the Annual General Meeting 2007 of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation held a coordination meeting at its hall on Thanlwin Road here at 1 pm today.

At the meeting, Chairperson of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Annual General Meeting President of MWAFF Daw Khin Khin Win delivered an opening speech.

Joint General Secretary Daw Khin Htar May reported on formation of subcommittees for organizing the Annual General Meeting and their duties and functions. Vice-Presidents, heads of department, leaders of working groups and officials took part in the discussions. The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the President of the federation.

The meeting was also attended by Vice-Presidents of the federation Daw Khin Lay Myint and Daw Khin Thet Htay, the General Secretary and secretariat members. — MNA

## Message of United Nations Secretary-General on World AIDS Day 1 December 2007

The theme of this World AIDS Day is leadership. Without it, we will never get ahead of the epidemic.

AIDS is a disease unlike any other. It is a social issue, a human rights issue, an economic issue. It targets young adults just as they should be contributing to economic development, intellectual growth, and bringing up young children. It is taking a disproportionate toll on women. It has made millions of children orphans. It does to society what HIV does to the human body — reduces resilience and weakens capacity, hampers development and threatens stability.

This does not need to happen. We have the means to prevent young adults from becoming infected. We have the means to treat those who are infected. We have the means to provide care and support.

We have made tangible and remarkable progress on all these fronts. But we must do more. Although new data shows that global HIV prevalence has levelled off, the numbers are still staggering. It is our crucial mission to ensure that everyone can access HIV prevention, treatment, care and support. This includes migrants, sex workers, injecting drug users, and men who have sex with men. It includes people who work in Government, banks, legal officers, schools, and international organizations. It includes all people — wherever they live, whatever they do.

Overcoming stigma remains one of our biggest challenges. It is still the single biggest barrier to public action on AIDS. It is one of the reasons why the epidemic continues to wreak its devastation around the world.

Today, I call for renewed leadership in eradicating stigma associated with HIV. I applaud the brave individuals who live openly with HIV, who advocate tirelessly for the rights of the HIV-positive, who educate others about AIDS. I call for leadership among Governments in fully understanding the epidemic, so that resources go where they are most needed. And I call for leadership at all levels to step up the work to scale up towards universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010 — as pledged by all Governments last year. We have only two years left until that target date. We need to show leadership now.

As Secretary-General, I am determined to lead the United Nations family in this endeavour — to ensure that we prioritize action on AIDS, to encourage Member States to keep the issue high on national and international agendas, and to work to make the UN a model of how the workplace should respond to AIDS.

Whatever our role in life, wherever we may live, in some way or another, we all live with HIV. We are all affected by it. We all need to take responsibility for the response. On this World AIDS Day, let us show the leadership required to live up to that responsibility.—UNIC

Ko, Kyaw Lin Tun, Nay Myo Aung, Ye Min Swe, Lin Naing, Kyaw Chan Nyein, Chit Win Shein, Aung Hngein, Tin Zin Ei, Yu Nandar Htaik and San Yu Htway.

Likewise, the Myanmar Rowing Team led by President of the Myanmar Rowing and Canoeing Federation U Chit Khaing also left for Thailand together with the Myanmar Archery Team. — NLM

## UMFCCI officials meet Japanese Ambassador

YANGON, 30 Nov— Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Vice-Presidents U Win Aung, U Zaw Min Win, U Aung Lwin and Joint-Secretary-1 Dr Maung Maung Lay met with Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yasuaki Nogawa at UMFCCI office on 20 November.

At the meeting, they cordially discussed business opportunities in Myanmar, Japan-Myanmar economic co-operation, invitations for training courses and seminars on development of human resources, procurement of laboratory equipment for private business organizations and arrangements for holding Japan-Myanmar CCI Business Cooperation Committee (HIRD) meeting. Also present at the meeting were Counselor Mr Masashi Ogawa and Second Secretary Mr Atsushi Igarashi of the Japanese Embassy.—MNA



**UMFCCI Vice-Presidents meet Japanese Ambassador Mr Yasuaki Nogawa. — UMFCCI**



# Images of the Day

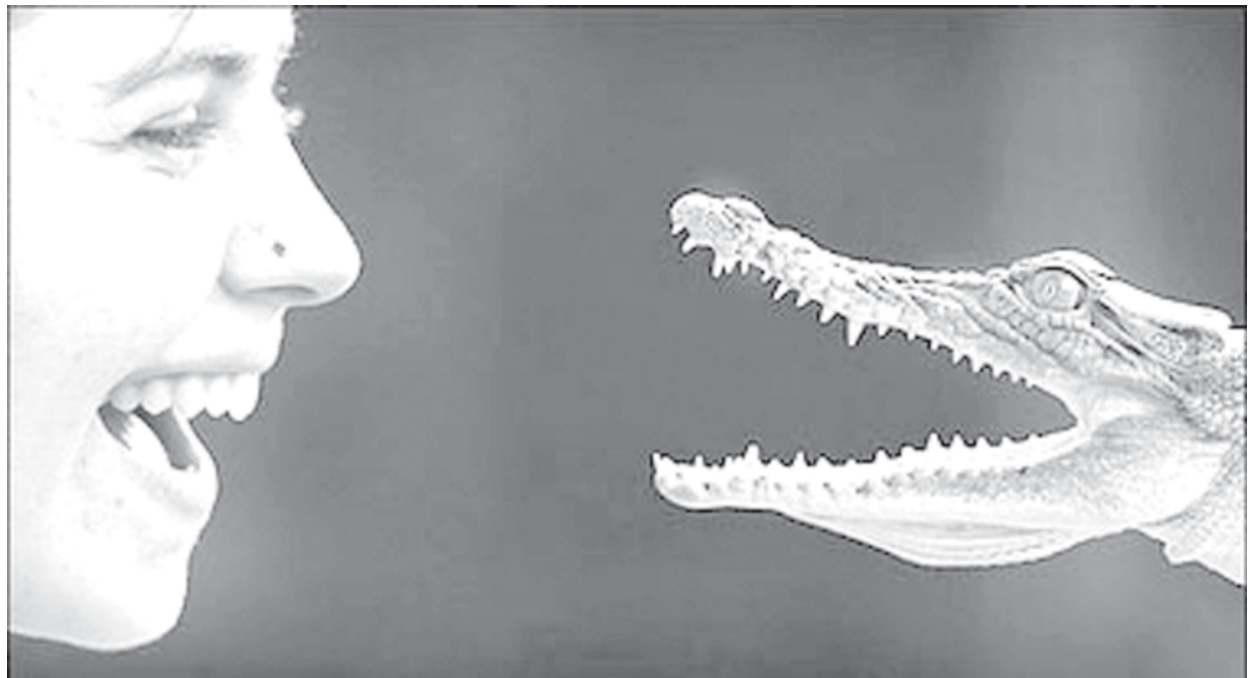


Vancouver 2010 Olympic Mascots, Quatchi (C), a sasquatch, Miga (L), a sea bear and Sumi, an animal spirit are unveiled in Surrey, British Columbia, on 27 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET

Musicians play their harps during a presentation to inaugurate the First International Harp Festival to be organized by the Asuncion City Hall, in front of the Carlos Antonio Lopez train station on early November, 2007.—INTERNET



Photo taken on 30 Nov, 2007 shows ornaments in the shape of rat in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province. As the Year of Rat will begin on 7 Feb, 2008, ornaments in the shape of rat have become popular.—XINHUA



Face-off : Lucy Fraser from the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary takes a closer look at 18 month-old salt water crocodile 'Coochie', in Brisbane.—INTERNET

A passenger ship sails in the Bawu Gorge of the Small Three Gorges in the lower reaches of the Daning River, in central China, with maple leaves as the foreground, on 30 Nov, 2007—XINHUA



Artist William Burge from Houston Texas sits in his art-car 'Phantoms' at a presentation prior to the Essen Motor Show 2007 in the city of Essen, Germany, on 26 Nov, 2007. The car is based on a 1968 Volkswagen Beetle and will be shown at the automobile fair in Essen from 1 to 9 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET



## ADB extends \$80m to Sri Lanka for education

MANILA, 29 Nov—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is providing 80 million US dollars to improve secondary and tertiary education in Sri Lanka, the bank said in a news release on Wednesday.

The assistance will be provided in the form of a 65-million-dollar loan and a 15-million-dollar grant to support the Education for Knowledge Society

Project.

The project will help the country improve the quality, relevance, effectiveness and accessibility of secondary and tertiary education, ADB said.

Globalization and the impact of economic and technological change in Asia are opening opportunities and creating challenges for the future labour force of Sri Lanka.

“The education system needs to adjust to the changing needs of the modern economy. The school system is currently oriented toward conventional university education and does not teach skills and attitudes relevant to labour market needs,” said Ayako Inagaki, senior education specialist of ADB’s South Asia Department.

MNA/Xinhua

## China attaches importance to food safety

BEIJING, 29 Nov—Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said here on Tuesday that China attached great importance to food safety and had taken effective measures in legislation, administration and media supervision.

Qin said obvious achievements have been made since China recently tightened supervising on food safety.

The rate of unqualified products in the export of food from the European Union (EU) to China stood at 0.84 per cent in the first nine months of this year, while that from China to EU stood only at 0.2 per cent, Qin said.

“We would make 100 per cent efforts to resolve the 0.2 per cent problem (unqualified food),” Qin added.

Citing Japanese official statistics released last July, Qin said, 99.42 per cent of the food exported from China to Japan were qualified, which was higher than the United States’ rate of 98.69 per cent in its exported food to Japan and the EU’s rate of 99.38 per cent.

Qin admitted that there is certain problems in Chinese food production, but such problems were very few, and China has taken responsible attitude in dealing with the problems so as to continuously raise the qualification rate of food and other products.

MNA/Xinhua

## Brazil rejects emission targets for poor nations

BRASILIA, 30 Nov—Brazil reiterated its opposition on Wednesday to imposing targets on developing countries’ carbon emissions, days before a major inter-national conference on climate change.

A United Nations report on Tuesday recommended that developing countries cut their carbon emissions at least 20 per cent by 2050. Rich nations should cut theirs by 80 per cent over the same period, it said. “We are not in favor of targets,” Sergio Serra, a Foreign Ministry expert on climate change, told a news conference in the capital Brasilia.

The United Nations hosts a climate

change conference in Bali, Indonesia on 3-14 December, which the world body hopes will lead to negotiations on a new global pact to reduce carbon emissions blamed for global warming.

Brazil is a developing world trading power and is gaining influence on environmental issues because of its pioneering biofuels programme and global concern over the destruction of its Amazon rainforest.

“The principle responsibility lies with the industrialized countries,” said Everton Vargas, under-secretary for political affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

MNA/Reuters

## Quake hits Solomon Islands, no reports of damage

SYDNEY, 30 Nov—A 6.6 magnitude undersea earthquake struck near the Solomon Islands on Tuesday, but residents said there was only a short tremor and no damage.

“We had a tremor for about 20 seconds,” said Australian Alan Giles from Kirakira, a town in the Solomons.

“There is no damage from what we can see. The police station is on the beach and operates 24 hours and we haven’t heard anything from them,” Giles told Reuters by telephone.

The US Geological Survey said the quake, which hit at 1150 GMT, was centred 43 miles (69 kilometres) southeast of Kirakira, in the southeast of the Solomons, at a depth of 25.8 miles (41.5 kilometres).

There was no significant threat of a destructive

Pacific-wide tsunami, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre said.

MNA/Reuters

## Moderate quake hits Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 30 Nov—An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.6 rocked Bengkulu Province of Sumatra Island in western part of Indonesia on Thursday morning, no report of damage or casualties, Indonesian Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said.

The quake jolted at 07:05 Jakarta Time (0005 GMT) with epicenter at 63 kilometres southwest Muko Muko Town of the province and at 10 kilometres in depth, an official of the agency said.

Twenty-three people were killed and thousands of buildings were destructed in September after a 7.9 on Richter Scale quake hit the province.

In December 2004, over 170,000 people were killed in the Aceh Province after a tsunami triggered by a strong quake devastated coastal areas in the province and other countries in the Southeast Asia.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable zone so called “the Pacific Ring of Fire” where two continental plates meet, causing frequent volcanic movements.

MNA/Xinhua

## Typhoon death toll rises as floods sweep Philippines

MANILA, 30 Nov—The death toll from Typhoon Mitag climbed to 19 on Wednesday after more people were drowned by flooding in the northern Philippines, disaster officials said.

Mitag, which ripped through the archipelago earlier this week, weakened to a tropical depression and has bypassed Taiwan en route back to the Pacific Ocean.

Four people drowned in Cagayan and Isabela provinces, where swollen rivers blocked roads and bridges while another three were killed in the western island of Palawan.

At least 12 people had previously been reported killed in drownings, landslides and electrocutions caused by Mitag, a category I typhoon with

winds of 120 kilometres per hour (75 miles per hour).

Mitag caused 162 million pesos (3.8 million US dollars) worth of damage to farmlands, houses and infrastructure but the destruction was less than feared.

Hagibis, which means “rapidity” in the Philippines’ Tagalog language, had already killed 14 people in the Philippines last week and radio reports said that it had killed at least four children in the western island of Palawan on its return trip.

Disaster officials have yet to confirm the deaths.

Hagibis has passed over the Bicol region and is heading out towards the Philippine Sea, according to typhoon tracking

website Tropical Storm Risk (www.tropicalstormrisk.com).

Officials said another tropical depression was expected to dump rain over the Philippines’ eastern seaboard later this week.

MNA/Reuters

*People protect themselves from cold as they wait outside a school in Brussels, November 29, 2007. Hundreds of parents have been queuing to register their children for the 2008-2009 school year following a school reform. Some parents have been queuing for two days ahead of the start of registration on November 30.*

INTERNET





# Scientist confirms lightning on Venus

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov — With the help of observations from European Space Agency's Venus Express mission, astronomers confirm for the first time that the Venusian atmosphere generates its own lightning.

The discovery is part of the Venus Express science findings that appear in a special section of the 29 Nov issue of the journal Nature.

"In addition to all the pressure and heat, we can confirm there is lightning on Venus — maybe even more activity than there is here on Earth," said Christopher Russell, a NASA-sponsored scien-



An artist's rendition released by the European Space Agency on 28 Nov, 2007 shows lightning striking the surface of planet Venus.—INTERNET

tist on Venus Express from the University of California, Los Angeles, and lead author of one of the Nature papers.

The discovery puts Venus in elite planetary company. Scientists

currently know of only three other planetary bodies in the entire universe that generate lightning — Earth, Jupiter and Saturn.

Lightning on Venus — as well as on any other

planet — is an important discovery because the electrical discharges drive the chemistry of an atmosphere by breaking molecules into fragments that can then join with other fragments in unexpected ways.

Any future missions to Venus may have to take into account the electrical activity in its atmosphere.

The lightning on Venus is unique from that found on Earth, Jupiter and Saturn since it is the only lightning known that is not associated with water clouds.

Instead, on Venus, the lightning is associated with clouds of sulfuric acid.—Internet

# Afghan Govt rejects Amnesty International's report

KABUL, 30 Nov — Afghanistan's intelligence service department termed the report of Amnesty International on Afghan detention facilities as groundless and rejected it Wednesday.

"The report of Amnesty International on detention centers of National Security Directorate (NSD) is based on information provided by

biased elements," spokesman of NSD Syed Ansari told journalists at a Press conference.

In its newly-released report, the London-based watch dog called on the international troops stationed in Afghanistan not to hand over detainees to Afghan NSD's authorities because they would be maltreated.

MNA/Xinhua

# Brazilian race car driver wins in US TV dance show

NEW YORK, 29 Nov — Brazilian race car driver Helio Castroneves beat out English pop singer Melanie Brown on

Tuesday to win "Dancing with the Stars", America's most popular television show that pits celebrities' ballroom dancing skills.

Castroneves and his reigning champion dance partner Julianne Hough beat the Spice Girl known as Mel B and her dancing partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy in a hard-fought contest for the hit ABC show in its fifth season. Singer Marie Osmond and partner Jonathan Roberts came in third. "This is an extraordinary moment right now," Castroneves said, wearing a bright mustard-coloured suit.

In an earlier recorded segment he said as an Indy car driver he never imagined he would enjoy ballroom dancing.

MNA/Reuters



Tourists walk at the Wadi Hitan, or Whale Valley, protected area and the UNESCO World Heritage site located about 150 km (93 miles) outside of Cairo, Nov. 28, 2007. Wadi Hitan contains fossils of the extinct suborder of whales, the archaeoceti, that date back about 40 million years. The UNESCO says the fossils show the evolution of the whale from a land-based mammal to an ocean animal. —XINHUA

# India' Supreme Court gives bail to actor Dutt

NEW DELHI, 29 Nov — India's Supreme Court granted bail on Tuesday to Bollywood actor Sanjay Dutt, serving a six-year jail sentence for taking guns from gangsters involved in the country's worst bombings.

The actor was convicted for taking an AK-56 rifle and a pistol from gangsters linked to the bombings in which 257 people were killed in the financial capital, Mumbai, in 1993.

Dutt, who is lodged in a jail in the western city of Pune, had challenged

the conviction late last month and sought bail until the petition was heard. He is expected to be out of jail for a while as the appeal could take months to be heard and ruled on by a judicial system burdened by millions of cases.

"It could take at least a couple of years I would imagine," his lawyer Karan Singh told Reuters.

MNA/Reuters

# Finland, Russia, Estonia discuss to prevent airspace violations

HELSINKI, 29 Nov — Air Force specialists from Finland, Russia and Estonia met here on Wednesday to discuss means to prevent airspace violations over the Gulf of Finland after several incursions by Russian aircraft in recent years, the Finnish Foreign Ministry said. The foreign ministers of the three countries had agreed on the meeting earlier this autumn.

There were air force experts from these countries present at Wednesday's

meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to intensify dialogue among the three countries on the coast of the Gulf of Finland, and to find technical and operational means for the advance prevention of possible airspace violations.

At the meeting, information was also exchanged about the countries' principles for implementing territorial surveillance.

MNA/Xinhua

Specialists perform decommissioning works at a nuclear reactor, which was shut down at the end of 2004, at the Ignalina Nuclear Power Station about 130 km (81 miles) northeast of Vilnius, Lithuania, on 29 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET



# Canon explodes in India during salute, killing 2

NEW DELHI, 30 Nov — A 200-year-old canon wheeled out by Indian villagers to greet a visiting minister exploded after being over-stuffed with gunpowder, killing two

man a newspaper reported on Thursday.

Residents of Badoli Village in western-India's Rajasthan State had planned the gun salute on Tuesday evening to

welcome Kirodi Lal Meena, a state minister, the Times of India reported.

The minister left immediately after the accident, which also injured six other people.—MNA/Reuters



# SPORTS

## Beijing bans firework sales near Games venues

BEIJING, 30 Nov — Beijing authorities concerned about fire risks have banned the sale of fireworks near venues for next year's Olympic Games during celebrations to mark Chinese New Year in February.

Firework sellers have been banned from setting up shop within 100 metres of the city's 31 Olympic venues, which join kindergartens, schools and hospitals as prohibited areas, Wednesday's *Beijing News* said.

Sales had also been banned near the site of the Olympic village and near offices on "airport roads", the paper said, citing local authorities.

China may have famously invented fireworks but accidents kill hundreds of people every year, often in explosions at illegal factories based in densely settled areas. — MNA/Reuters



David Beckham (L) practises with his LA Galaxy team for a friendly soccer match against the Wellington Phoenix side on 30 Nov, 2007.

INTERNET

## Rijkaard plays down red card, Ronaldinho bench role

MADRID, 30 Nov — Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard played down the significance of his red card and Ronaldinho's rare start on the bench after watching the side secure top spot in Champions League Group E on Tuesday.

Goals from Andres Iniesta and Lionel Messi earned Barca a 2-2 draw away to Olympique Lyon. Brazilian playmaker Ronaldinho only came on for the last 20 minutes.

Ronaldinho has been in the headlines for his patchy form and identified by Spanish media as the possible "black sheep" that Edmilson had referred to when criticizing teammates for their lack of commitment last week.

He had pulled out of Saturday's squad hours before their Primera Liga match at home to Recreativo Huelva complaining of fatigue.

MNA/Reuters

## Jewell faces big challenge at Derby County

LONDON, 30 Nov — Struggling Derby County named Paul Jewell as their manager on Wednesday following the departure of Billy Davies.

The club, bottom of the Premier League with only six points from 14 games, presented Jewell at a news conference at their Pride Park ground and said he had signed a 3-1/2-year contract. Jewell, 43, resigned as Wigan Athletic manager in May after securing their Premier League survival on the last day of last season.

Davies left on Monday,

along with nine of the backroom staff, after 18 months in charge. Derby have conceded 33 goals and scored only five in the league this season, with none since September.

Jewell's first game in charge will be at Sunderland on Sunday.

"I think we can move forward, I know we have a struggle at the moment but all is not lost," he told the news conference.

MNA/Reuters



Atletico de Madrid player Sergio Leonel 'Kun' Agero from Argentina duels for the ball with Aberdeen FC player Michael Hart from Scotland, back, during their UEFA Cup soccer match at the Vicente Claderon stadium in Madrid, on 29 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET



Qatar's Bill Jackson Tchato (R) from Cameroon fights for the ball with Al-Khor's Fabricio Souza from Brazil during their Qatar Championship soccer match in Doha on 29 Nov, 2007.

INTERNET

## Ronaldo targeting Champions League glory

MANCHESTER (England), 30 Nov — Manchester United, semi-finalists last season, are a stronger side now and can win the Champions League, top scorer Cristiano Ronaldo said on Wednesday.

United have made their best start to the competition for five years thanks to a 100-per-cent record from their first five games, securing first place in Group F.

Ronaldo has scored five times during that run, including Tuesday's winner in the 2-1 home victory over his former club Sporting, to make him the leading scorer in the tournament.

"We have made a fantastic start. We are doing well. We have won all our games and we are playing fantastically well," the 22-year-old told reporters.

"I hope we do the same job in the second round.

We have a good group (of players) and good coaches. We have everything required to win the Champions League," said Ronaldo, who was in the United side beaten by AC Milan in last season's semifinals.

"We have new players with great quality. We have played five matches and won every one. That is important.

"We have a better chance than last year."

United manager Alex Ferguson believes Ronaldo's goalscoring contribution is a reflection of the winger's growing maturity and the player, who was the club's joint top scorer in all competitions last season with 23 goals, is hungry for more.

MNA/Reuters



Pumas striker Rubens Sambueza of Argentina (R) fights for the ball with Santos midfielder Francisco Torres during the first leg of the Mexican league championship semi-final soccer match at the University stadium in Mexico City, on 29 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

## McLeish takes over at Birmingham City

LONDON, 30 Nov — Birmingham City presented Alex McLeish as manager on Wednesday then cast doubt on the likelihood of Hong Kong businessman Carson Yeung taking control of the Premier League club.

McLeish, 48, resigned as Scotland coach on Tuesday after narrowly missing out on leading the country to next year's European championship finals.

He replaces Steve Bruce who has moved to rivals Wigan Athletic.

"I always had the desire to come to the Premiership and I'd love to be managing in the Premiership for a considerable time," said McLeish, who signed a 3-1/2-year deal.

MNA/Reuters

## Yasser Al Qahtani named Asian Player of the Year

SYDNEY, 30 Nov — Saudi Arabia captain Yasser Al Qahtani gained some consolation for his team's shock loss to Iraq in the Asian Cup final when he was named Asian Player of the Year on Wednesday.

The 25-year-old striker received the award at a gala dinner in Sydney after being chosen ahead of Iraqi pair Younis Mahmoud and Nashat Akram, who had made up the shortlist of the final three nominees.

Al Qahtani became the fourth Saudi Arabian to win the award, which has been given out annually since 1994, joining Saeed Owiran (1994), Nawaf Al Temyat (2000) and Hamad Al-Montashari (2005).

MNA/Reuters



South Korea's Jang Jong-hyun (L) defends the ball from Spain's Eduard Arbos during their Hockey Champions Trophy match in Kuala Lumpur on 29 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET



## Syria upbeat on chance to reopen Golan issue

WASHINGTON, 30 Nov — The Middle East peace conference has boosted Syria's campaign to regain the occupied Golan Heights, even though no direct talks with Israel were initiated at the meeting, a Syrian official said on Wednesday.

In the first official Syrian reaction to the meeting in Annapolis, Maryland, Ahmed Salkini, official spokesman for the Syrian Embassy in Washington, said Damascus had made a diplomatic step forward by thrusting the Golan issue into the international spotlight.

"We have taken a step by reigniting the issue of the occupied Golan Heights. Syria's goal of a comprehensive Middle East peace agreement was

raised by major international participants at the conference. The door is now open for further international meetings to discuss Golan," Salkini told Reuters in an interview.

The Syrian delegation, led by Deputy Foreign Minister Fayssal al-Mekdad, met with a number of other delegations, which Salkini did not name. The delegation departed from Dulles airport near Washington later on Wednesday.

Diplomatsti said the Syrians met with envoys from Saudi Arabia, including Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal. Relations between the two countries have been severely strained due to Syria's role in Lebanon and its moves to forge closer ties with Shiite Iran.

MNA/Reuters

## Strong quake causes panic, little damage in Martinique

DUCOS (Martinique), 30 Nov — A powerful earthquake with a magnitude of 7.3 struck near the Caribbean Island of Martinique on Thursday, sending tremors and panic through the region but causing little damage, witnesses said.

Residents screamed and fled into the streets as the deep quake rumbled for nearly 10 minutes. One person had a heart attack and another was injured jumping out of a window, according to witnesses.

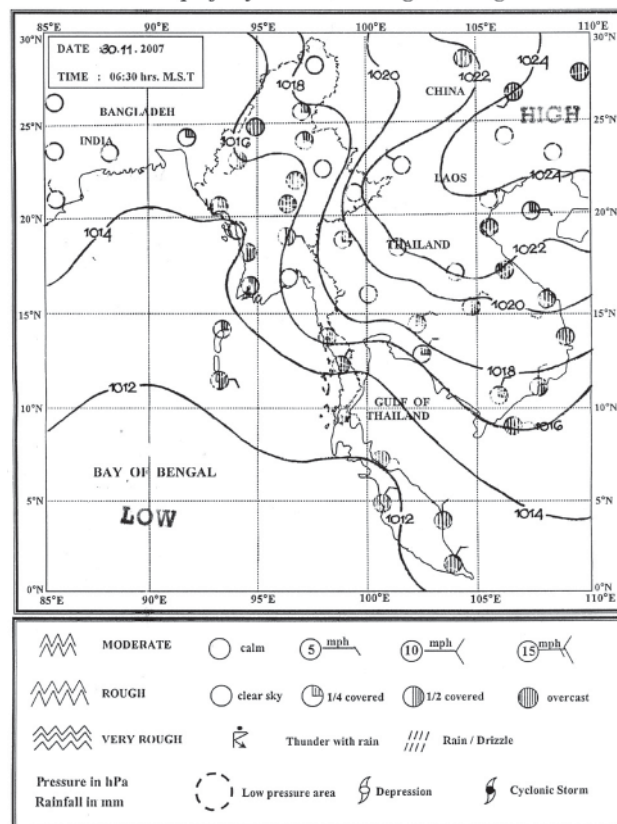
"When it started, I ran out of the building straight away but when I saw my students were still inside I ran back and shouted 'Everybody get out'" said Pamela Morin head of a

training school in the central town of Lamentin "Everybody was terrified".

At least five houses collapsed in the quake, the strongest in living memory, and walls cracked in building on Martinique and nearby St Lucia to the south, authorities said. But "there were neither deaths nor serious damage," said Bernard Cavignaux assistant director general of Martinique's central university hospital who spoke by telephone from the capital, Fort-de-France. On St Lucia water lines and water tanks were damaged, director said Julian Dubois deputy director of the St Lucia Civil Defence.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



### WEATHER

Friday, 30 November, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Kachin, Shan and Kayin States, Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below November average temperatures in Kayah State, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (4°C) above November average temperatures in Mandalay Division and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (2°C), Namhsam (4°C) and Heho (6°C).

Maximum temperature on 29-11-2007 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 30-11-2007 was 60°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 30-11-2007 was 66%. Total sun shine hours on 29-11-2007 was (7.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 30-11-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and 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 (10) mph from Northeast at (11:20) hours MST on 29-11-2007.

**Bay inference:** Weather is generally fair in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 1-12-2007:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Chin States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-12-2007:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-12-2007:** Generally fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-12-2007:** Partly cloudy.

**Weather outlook for First weekend of December 2007:** During the coming weekend, generally fair weather in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.



Saturday, 1 December  
View on today

- 7:00 am
  1. အဘိဓမ္မာ အဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဒမ္မ ဇောတီက တောင်တန်း သာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ကြီး ဦးဥတ္တမသာရ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
  2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
  3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
  4. Nice and sweet song
- 8:00 am
  5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am
  6. Musical programme
- 8:30 am
  7. International news
- 8:45 am
  8. Grammar made easy
- 11:00 am
  1. စစ်သည်တော်
- 11:15 am
  2. Musical programme
- 11:30 pm
  3. Game for children

- 11:50 am
  4. Round up of the week's local news
- 1:10 pm
  5. "လောကရဲ့အလှရတနာ" (ရဲ့အောင်၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ သူထူးစံ ပွင့်နီမောင်၊ ချစ်စန်းဦး၊ ချောရတနာ၊ မေကဗျာ)
- 1:25 pm
  6. တော်ဘင်ရေလှောင်တံ
- 1:35 pm
  7. ပိုလီယိုကာကွယ်ရေး
- 1:45 pm
  8. ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှား အေးရိုးဗစ် အားကစား
- 1:50 pm
  9. Dance of national races
- 2:00 pm
  10. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:30 pm
  11. "ရေမြင့်ကြာတင်" (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ဧရာ၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဝမ်းပုံ၊ မျိုးမျိုးခိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)
- 2:45 pm
  12. International news
- 4:00 pm
  1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
  2. Song for uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
  3. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)

- 4:45 pm
  4. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 4:55 pm
  5. ချစ်စရာအရွယ် ကစားကြမယ်
- 5:30 pm
  6. Game for children
- 5:35 pm
  7. ရသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင် လွင်ပြင်
- 6:00 pm
  8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
  9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
  10. အလှရာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်
- 6:50 pm
  11. ကမ္ဘာ့စုံအား ကျဆင်းမှုရောဂါ တိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့တေးများ
- 6:50 pm
  12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နေခြည်ဆမ်းမှ" (အပိုင်း-၁၂)
- 8:00 pm
  13. News
- 14. International news
- 15. Weather report
- 16. "ကမ္ဘာ့ AIDS ရောဂါ တိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့ အထိမ်းအမှတ် ဉာဏ်စမ်းပဟေဠိပြိုင်ပွဲ"
- 17. The next day's programme



- Saturday, 1 December
- Tune in today
- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music -Story of my life
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music -Don't bother
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music -Chances
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music -I'll still here
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Music at your request -Away from the sun -So cold
- 9:10pm ASEAN news Exchange news from ASEAN member countries
- 9:20pm Myanmar culture...Dr Khin Maung Nyunt Shwe Nandaw Monastery
- 9:30 pm Souvenirs -Once upon a time -Love is
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

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# People's Desire

- ★ We favour stability.
- ★ We favour peace.
- ★ We oppose unrest and violence.

## Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects regional development tasks in Magway Division

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe arrived at Nyaungmyint Village, east of Meiktila, on 28 November and called on officials concerned for timely completion of the by-pass road passing through the village.

During the tour, Chairman of Meiktila District PDC U Myint Than reported on conditions of tributary canals and buildings which are in need of repair. Lt-Gen Ye Myint urged officials concerned to repair reservoirs and tributary canals built to irrigate the farm land in Meiktila District and to make efforts for extended cultivation of paddy in the region.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected thriving paddy fields and crop cultivation on both sides of Pyawbwe-Ywamon-Natmauk-Magway Road in a motorcade.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party arrived at a junction near Mile Post No 17/6 of Pyawbwe-Ywamon-Natmauk-Magway Road and inspected construction of Yangon-Mandalay Highway.

When they arrived at the mile post No 25/4 on the border between Mandalay and Magway Division, they were welcomed by Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and departmental officials.

Deputy Chief Engineer of Public Works (Upper Myanmar) reported on condition of the axis of Ywadam-Natmauk Road which will be constructed for improving conditions and shortening of Pyawbwe-Natmauk Road. After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Ye



*Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects paddy field of Farmer U Mya Daung in Mayodaw Village in Natmauk Township. — MNA*

Myint fulfilled the requirements.

At the briefing hall at Ywamon Village in Natmauk Township, Magway Division, Col Phone Maw Shwe reported on transportation in the division and Senior Engineer of Public Works U Saw Thein and Deputy Chief Engineer U Kyu Hin on plan for repaving the 37-mile Natmauk-Pyawbwe Road and finding the axis for construction of Ywadam-Natmauk Road.

*(See page 8)*

### Decent Work for Persons with Disabilities

There have been a variety of methods, with which the skills and qualifications of a person can be applied in an easy way in the 21st Century or IT age. Unlike in the past, it is required to improve the life of disabled people in accordance with the changes.

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KO KWAY (GEOLOGY)

INSIDE

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- ★ BBC lying
- ★ VOA deceiving
- ★ RFA setting up hostilities
- ★ Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers