

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates UAE President

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December 2007.

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Laotian President

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec— On the occasion of the 32nd Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2007, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Choummaly Sayasone, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye felicitates Vice-President, PM of UAE

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Maktoum Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December 2007. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends message of felicitations to Laotian Vice-President

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — On the occasion of the 32nd Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2007, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Bounnhang Vorachit, Vice-President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — MNA

State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee holds plenary meeting

YANGON, 1 Dec— The 3rd Plenary Meeting of the 6th 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held the meeting at State Pariyatti Sasana Uni-

versity (Yangon) on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this morning.

Chairman of the SSMNC Magway Sayadaw

Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara presided over
(See page 10)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo attends World AIDS Day 2007

In the fight against major diseases steps are being taken to control TB and malaria in addition to AIDS as a national duty

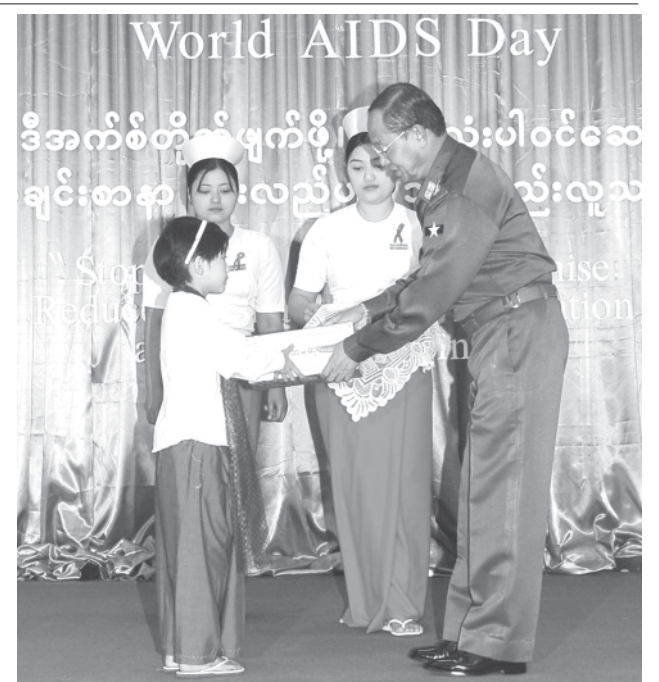
NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec— Jointly Organized by the Ministry of Health and UN agencies with the motto— "Stop AIDS. Keep the promise. Reduce stigma

and discrimination, all are human beings", a ceremony to mark World AIDS Day 2007 was held at the Ministry of Health, here, this morning with an

address by Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung

Myint Oo.

The Secretary-1 said that with the aim of working in concert for HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by departments, social organizations, people with HIV positive and the entire mass of people of the nation, the ceremony is observed from 1 to 7 December yearly and it has turned 20 years.
(See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presents first prize to Ma Kyi Sein Lan of No 1 Basic Education High School in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon.—MNA

A Coordination Body comprising the ministries, UN agencies and social organizations at home and abroad was formed and possible steps are being taken for the control and treatment of AIDS, TB and malaria in Myanmar.

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

Sunday, 2 December, 2007

Expedite triple-cropping pattern to improve farmers' living conditions

The government is building dams, river water pumping stations and underground water tapping stations throughout the nation to supply sufficient irrigation water.

North Yama supporting dam in Pale Township, Sagaing Division, inaugurated on 28 November will benefit some 12,000 acres of farmlands. So, nearby regions will be able to cultivate monsoon and summer paddy, and launch mixed cropping and multiple-cropping patterns.

North Yama supporting dam is designed to store the water spilled out from North Yama Dam, to supply more irrigated water to nearby arable lands, and to generate electricity for rural areas.

Sagaing Division is a region where paddy, cotton, sugarcane and beans and pulses grow well. So far, the division has got 23 dams that benefit more than 600,000 acres of farmlands. Emergence of irrigation facilities built for the agricultural purpose like North Yama supporting dam will step up cultivation of crops.

Up to now, the nation has seen 205 irrigation facilities inclusive of North Yama supporting dam and they benefit over two million acres of arable lands.

The government is making a substantial investment in the plan to speed up construction of irrigation facilities across the nation. Local farmers should, therefore, grow monsoon and summer paddy, mixed crops and apply multiple cropping pattern extensively with effective use of the water from the irrigation facilities to boost production of agricultural produce and improve the living conditions of local people.

Myanmar Table-Tennis Team, which will participate in XXIV SEA Games in Thailand, seen at Yangon International Airport prior to departure for Thailand.—NLM



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

Foreign Minister felicitates counterpart of UAE

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Sheikh Abdallah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December 2007. — MNA

FM sends message of felicitations to Lao PDR

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — On the occasion of the 32nd Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2007, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — MNA

TatU Monastery Sayadaw leaves for Singapore

YANGON, 1 Dec — Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Mogok Vipasana Association Missionary Sayadaw Bhaddanta Saddhamma Kittisara of Aung San Tawya TatU Monastery in Insein Township accompanied by disciple U Soe Aung left here by air to Singapore yesterday to deliver sermons there at the invitation of Mahamuni Buddhist Society (MBS) of Singapore and Earth Integration Co Ltd of Thailand.

The Sayadaw was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by disciples. — H



Sayadaw Bhaddanta Saddhamma Kittisara seen with the disciples at Yangon International Airport before his departure for Singapore and Thailand.—H

Standardized Sign Language Dictionary Vols: I and II for the deaf comes out

YANGON, 1 Dec — The circulation ceremony of Standardized Sign Language Dictionaries Vols: I and II for the deaf published by Social Welfare Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement was held at Mary Chapman School for the Deaf in Dagon Township this morning with an address by Minister for Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe.

Director-General U Sit Myaing of Social Welfare Department spoke words of thanks to those who took part in compilation of the dictionary and Principal Daw Khin San Yi of School for the Deaf in

Mandalay explained the efforts of the department in collaboration with JICA to produce the dictionary. Later, the minister and the Director-General presented the books to the representatives of the Ministry of Education, the Archive and Library of the Social Welfare Department, Schools for the Deaf in Yangon and Mandalay, Dagon Township BEHS No (3), Japan International Cooperation Agency, Myanmar Disabled Persons Federation and wellwisher Mr Tanaka Toshihara.

After the ceremony, the minister and party viewed books and equipment for the deaf. — MNA

Myanmar Table-Tennis Team leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 1 Dec — the table-tennis event of XXIV SEA Games to be held in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand this morning.

Myanmar Table-Tennis Team comprises President of MTTF U Kyaw Kyaw, Manager U Win Naing, Coaches U Ye Kyaw and Mr Pu Jin Chaung (China), athletes Thet Ko Ko Latt, Ye Aung Naing, Lin Zaw Oo, Sein Lin, Swe Swe Han, Aye Myat Thu, Thanda Aung and Nyo Nyo Myint also left for Thailand on the same flight.

NLM



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe presents Sign Language Dictionaries to Representative of JICA Mr Tanaka Toshihara.—SOCIAL WELFARE

Poll shows US voters shifting on foreign policy

NEW YORK, 30 Nov — US foreign policy since the 11 September attacks has created fundamental shifts in voters' views on international affairs that presidential candidates have yet to address, a pollster said on Wednesday.

Bill McInturff, who describes himself as a Republican pollster, teamed up with Democrat colleague Geoff Garin to conduct a new poll on US voter attitudes to foreign policy ahead of the 4 November, 2008 presidential election.

The poll published this month found 78 per cent of voters believe America is less respected by other countries than in the past — a finding McInturff linked to the Iraq war. "There's broad consensus that America is less respected in the world and people think this is a major problem," he said.

MNA/Reuters



People display a giant red ribbon on Madrid's historic Alcala gate to help raise awareness of AIDS on 30 Nov, 2007. INTERNET

Malaysia achieves seven UN Millennium Development Goals

KUALA LUMPUR, 30 Nov — Malaysia has achieved seven of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of the United Nations (UN), Foreign Ministry parliamentary secretary Ahmad Shabery Cheek said here on Wednesday.

The goals already achieved were eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, universal primary education, gender equality and empowerment of women, reduction of child mortality, improvement of maternal health, environmental sustainability and a global partnership for development, he said in the Parliament. "Only on the sixth MDG which relates to combating HIV/Aids, malaria and other diseases, Malaysia's performance record has not given us pride," the

national news agency *Bernama* quoted him as saying.

The MDGs are eight goals that 189 UN member

states have agreed to try to achieve by 2015. It was adopted at the UN Millennium Summit in 2000.— MNA/Xinhua



Chicago fire fighters work around the scene where an Amtrak passenger train plowed into the back of a freight train on the Chicago's South Side, on 30 Nov, 2007.

INTERNET

Bomb attacks rock southern Thailand

BANGKOK, 30 Nov — Five explosions rocked five locations including at parking lot of the Southern Border Province Administrative Center's (SBPAC) headquarters in Thailand's southernmost Yala Province Wednesday but caused no casualty.

The five bombs went off separately near a car show room, near a local residence, at parking lot of the SBPAC, beside a department store and in front of a stationary shop in Yala's Muang District, according to the report of local news network *The Nation*.

Yala's Muang District police chief Police Colonel Phumphet Pipatpetphum was quoted as saying that many bomb detonators did not work properly so that they cause low explosion but strong enough to slight damage some properties in their range.—MNA/Xinhua

56 killed in Turkish plane crash

ANKARA, 1 Dec — A Turkish private *Atlasjet* plane crashed in Keciborlu Town of Mediterranean Province of Isparta at early hours on Friday, killing 56 people aboard, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

"Nobody survived the crash," *Atlasjet* CEO Tuncay Doganer was quoted as saying in the Turkish largest city of Istanbul.

The plane with 49 passengers and seven crew members on board was en route from Istanbul to Isparta. It took off from Istanbul's Ataturk Airport at 12:51 am (1051 GMT).

According to executives of Ataturk Airport, they lost communication with the *Atlasjet* aircraft around 1:36 am (2336 GMT Thursday), when it was about to land at Isparta's Suleyman Demirel Airport.

"When the aircraft approached the airport to land, the tower gave permission but then lost communication with the plane," Tayyar Sasmaz, the deputy governor of Isparta, told reporters.—MNA/Xinhua



The wreckage of a crashed *AtlasJet* Airline MD-83 passenger plane is seen near the town of Keciborlu, in Isparta Province, on 30 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US troops kill five insurgents, detain 17 in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 30 Nov — US troops have killed five suspected insurgents and detained 17 others during operations across Iraq, the US military said on Thursday.

Earlier in the day, US troops fought insurgents in the Khan Bani Saad area near Baquba, 65 kilometres

northeast of Baghdad, killing two of them and detaining five others, a US military statement said.

The troops originally targeted "an individual who was reportedly a significant explosively formed penetrator facilitator and trainer within Special Group

criminal elements", the statement said.

According to the military, Special Groups are Shiite militia extremists funded, trained and armed by external sources specifically by Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps Quds Force operatives.

MNA/Xinhua



A giant root sculpture "The Lion" showed up at a folk artworks exhibition in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 29 Nov, 2007. The Lion is 2.7 metres tall, 4.8 metres long and 4 tons heavy. It is reportedly worth more than one million yuan. —INTERNET

Fire shuts main Canada-US crude oil pipeline

NEW YORK, 30 Nov— A fire and explosion in Minnesota on Wednesday forced Enbridge to shut most of the main pipeline that supplies Canadian crude to Midwest refineries, halting nearly a fifth of US imports and sending prices up one US dollars.

Calgary, Alberta-based Enbridge Inc said all its lines in the vicinity of its Clearbrook, Minnesota, terminal — Lines 1, 2, 3, and 4 — were immediately shut down and isolated.

Those are the main trunk lines that carry an estimated 1.9 million barrels per day (bpd) of

Canadian crude to the United States.

Enbridge did not give further details about the total line capacity that had

been shut down and said it was unable to say when the line might be restarted.

MNA/Reuters



Oil tanker explosion kills five in Nigerian University

LAGOS, 30 Nov — Five people were killed in an explosion in the American University of Nigeria in Yola, which is sponsored by former presidential candidate Alhaji Atiku Abubakar, according to local newspaper reports reaching here on Wednesday.

All the five were casual workers hired by the university to weld a leaking oil tanker at one of the institution's official quarters on Lekki Taba Street.

According to Lagos-based newspaper Vanguard, moments after the victims commenced the work, there was an explosion which threw them far.

It is learnt that they were all badly burnt and subsequently rushed to the Federal Medical Centre, Yola, where they died one after the other.

The head of the institution, Elspeth Smith, confirmed the incident and said the university was still monitoring the situation and would probe it.

MNA/Xinhua

Detroit man pleads guilty to bid to aid Hizbollah

DETROIT, 1 Dec — A Detroit-area man on Thursday pleaded guilty to terrorism-related charges after a failed 1998 attempt to deliver global positioning systems and night-vision goggles to Hizbollah in Lebanon.

Fawzi Assi, 47, pleaded guilty in federal court in Detroit to attempting to provide support to a terrorist organization under US law, federal prosecutors said.

The guilty plea marked the latest twist one of the first prosecutions under a 1996 US law that made it illegal to provide money or other aid to

terrorists groups as defined by the US Government. The US State Department designated Hizbollah a terrorist group in 1997.

Assi, who has been held in federal prison for the past three and a half years, now faces up to a 10-year prison term and a fine of up to 250,000 US dollars, prosecutors said.

Assi was stopped in July 1998 when he attempted to board a flight from Detroit to Lebanon with two Boeing Co-manufactured global positioning system kits, night vision goggles and a thermal-imaging camera.

MNA/Reuters

EU citizens under 18 to be banned from buying guns

BRUSSELS, 30 Nov — People under 18 in the European Union will be banned from buying a gun from 2010, but lawmakers said the measure adopted on Thursday will not ensure that this month's school shooting in Finland will not be repeated. The European Parliament voted to update the

bloc's firearms rules and bring them in line with a UN protocol. Everyone will need a licence to buy a gun and it will force change in countries like France where a 16-year-old can buy a firearm.

People convicted of a violent crime will not be allowed to acquire a firearm at all, but youths under 18 can use a gun for hunting or target-shooting with parental consent.

Finland had opposed

parts of the proposal but softened its stance after Pekka-Eric Auvinen shot dead six children, the school nurse and the principal in a Tuusula school this month.

Auvinen was 18 and obtained a licence for a .22 caliber handgun from a shooting club in October. Finnish MEPs backed the measure, with Britain's eurosceptic UKIP party voting against.

MNA/Reuters

Damage caused by a powerful 7.3-magnitude quake in Martinique. The powerful 7.4-magnitude earthquake shook several Caribbean holiday islands, destroying buildings and killing at least one person and causing widespread panic. — INTERNET

Croatia seizes cocaine on Balkan smuggling route

ZAGREB, 30 Nov — Croatian police have seized 160 kilos (350 lb) of cocaine in the northern Adriatic port of Rijeka in an operation with Bosnia and Greece, they said on Wednesday.

"This is a strong blow to the narco-mafia in the Balkans, which increasingly use Adriatic ports, in addition to roads, for their illegal activities," the head of the Croatian police, Marijan Benko, told state radio.

The value of the seized drugs was put at 82 million kuna (16.5 million US dollars), the radio said.

According to local media, a police operation in the three countries had been going on for almost four months and resulted in the arrest of several people in Greece, Bosnia's Serb republic and Croatia.

Croatia lies on a notorious Balkan trafficking route where smugglers of cigarettes, drugs and people regularly make use of the mountainous terrain.

MNA/Reuters



A four meter long ribbon fish, or oarfish was captured on Tuesday in Wenling, east China's Zhejiang Province. —INTERNET

Russia, Uzbekistan light flame at major gas field

BUKHARA (Uzbekistan), 30 Nov — Russia's LUKOIL officially started up output from a major gas field in Uzbekistan on Thursday in a project expected to contribute one fifth of the Central Asian state's gas output.

Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov and top Uzbek and LUKOIL officials toured the Khauzak deposit, tucked in a barren Uzbek steppe near the Silk Road town of Bukhara, after lighting a symbolic torch

at the site.

Russia, the world's largest natural gas producer and a major supplier to Europe, depends on gas imports from Central Asia where it pays below-market prices.

The two nations used the opportunity to highlight increasingly close ties after years of chilly relations. "Uzbekistan's President once again reassured us that Uzbekistan's long-term foreign policy, both in politics and business, is closely tied to Russia, and

that this policy is not susceptible to sudden changes," Ivanov told reporters in Tashkent on the eve of the Bukhara ceremony.

Khauzak is part of the wider Kandym-Khauzak-Shady-Kungrad project, developed jointly by LUKOIL, with a 90-percent stake, and Uzbek state energy company UzbekNefteGaz which controls the rest. A 2004 production sharing agreement will last 35 years.—MNA/Reuters



Max Szadek, a personal assistant to Luther Vandross for 13 years, sits among furniture and three gold-colored stage masks, front, that were owned by Vandross that is displayed at an auction house in Morris Plains, NJ, on 29 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

UAE Energy Co completes acquisition of Canadian firm

ABU DHABI, 30 Nov — Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Wednesday announced the completion of its acquisition of the oil and gas exploration company Pioneer Canada, Emirates News Agency reported.

The acquisition of Pioneer Canada will provide the TAQA with an additional 59 million barrels of proven and probable oil and gas reserves, more than 10,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day in production and expertise in coal bed methane exploration and production, the report said.

The TAQA agreed in

August to purchase Pioneer Canada from its parent the US-based Pioneer Natural Resources Company for 540 million US dollars.

"The closing of this arrangement is an

important milestone for TAQA as it continues its rapid international expansion," the company's CEO Peter Barker-Homek was quoted as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



Pakistani children collect belongings from their house destroyed by heavy artillery during a fight between security forces and militants in Allahabad near Mingora in northern Pakistan, on 30 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET



A model presents in a hat partially made from chocolate during a food show in Moscow. INTERNET

Chinese Customs destroy counterfeit goods worth 12m yuan

HANGZHOU, 30 Nov — Customs authorities in east China's Zhejiang Province announced on Thursday that they have destroyed 12 million yuan worth of counterfeit products including knives, lighters and toothpaste.

Officials with the Hangzhou Customs used bulldozers to crush the fake goods, which were seized from shipping and mail services as part of an intensive crackdown against the infringement of intellectual property rights (IPR).

The crackdown was part of the nationwide five-month-long "Dragon Boat" campaign against IPR infringement initiated by the General Administration of Customs (GAC) on 1 October.

Shen Qianlin, an IPR consultant for Sony, said

most of the destroyed Sony fakes were DVD players and earphones.

"The Customs crackdown served to curb and deter the exports of fake products, and protected the rights and image of companies like Sony," Shen said.

The GAC announced this month that it had uncovered 1,914 cases of IPR infringement in the first three quarters of 2007, involving goods worth 230 million yuan (31 million US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

"New York Times" freezes hiring, cuts jobs

NEW YORK, 30 Nov — The New York Times Co's namesake paper has frozen new hiring and has cut a small number of newsroom jobs as it tries to rein in spending, according to

a memo from Executive Editor Bill Keller to employees on Wednesday.

"As we approach 2008, it is clear that the newsroom is going to have to do even more to tighten spending, and to help the publisher and the Times Company meet the difficult financial challenges facing our industry," Keller wrote in the memo, which Reuters obtained.

The Times is cutting about a dozen support positions and is trimming "a number of" clerical and secretarial jobs, according to the memo.

MNA/Reuters

Vietnam to receive more overseas remittance in 2007

HANOI, 30 Nov — Vietnam is estimated to receive overseas remittance of 5.5 billion US dollars via official channels this year, up from 4.7 billion dollars last year, local newspaper Saigon Liberation reported Thursday.

The anticipated hike is

attributed to higher investment by overseas Vietnamese, especially in lucrative sectors such as stock and real estate, stronger labour export, and the country's improved overseas remittance policy.

Over three million people of Vietnamese

origin are residing in foreign countries and regions, most of them are in the United States. The overseas Vietnamese have combined annual income of some 30 billion dollars.

They have remitted home nearly 30 billion dollars since 1991.

MNA/Xinhua

Hailing the 87th Anniversary National Day:

National victory through national spirit

Tekkatho Myat Thu

Eighty-seven years ago, Myanmar achieved national victory over Yangon University Act, which the British government had enacted to prolong their rule, through the consolidation of the entire people. The General Council of Burmese Associations (GCBA) designated the 10th Waning of Tazaungmon, on which the entire people opposed the Act, as National Day.

Every year, the 10th Waning of Tazaungmon is observed as National Day throughout the nation to rekindle the national spirit of the people. Then, the people came to arm themselves with anti-colonialist sentiment and the spirit of safeguarding independence. They managed to regain sovereignty or independence through national spirit or the spirit of regaining independence. Then, the National Day came into existence.

Throughout the independence struggles, the people strove for realizing the bounden duty of regaining independence, singing the song "Doh Myanmar" by YMBA Thakin Tin.

After the nation regained independence, the entire people managed to safeguard and protect the motherland through national spirit whenever the nation's independence came under threats triggered by sectarianism, personality cult, attachment to the party concerned and power craving.

In the course of independence struggles, the people made all-out efforts to regain independence. After regaining independence, the people took a vow to safeguard the nation at risk to their lives if necessary in accordance with the expression carried in the National Anthem that "We love the motherland, our heritage. We take a vow to protect the Union at risk to our lives".

Being rich in natural resources along with fertile soil, Myanmar has a prosperous future. The entire people are now shouldering nation-building duties with national spirit to be able to fully enjoy the taste of independence.

The people have entered into the national politics

through national spirit in the national interest. The national politics means serving the interests of the nation with national vigour based on nationalistic spirit.

In the national politics, being faithful to the motherland is the nation's soul, with which the people can serve national interest without alien instigation, dogmatism and attachment to the party concerned. So, national politics is pure.

In the colonial days, various national races of hilly regions and the plains were well equipped with the spirit of cherishing the motherland in launching the movements for driving the colonialists out of the nation. The spirit can be called patriotic spirit or nationalistic spirit. The national spirit the entire people cultivated with unanimous consent shaped the national politics.

The national spirit is not associated with dogmatism, influence, scepticism, attachment to the party concerned, sectarianism and personality cult. So, national spirit strengthens national unity.

National spirit is the driving force behind the movements for regaining independence, safeguarding independence, enjoying the taste of independence, and serving national interest. Those who lack national faithfulness, harming national interest, deliberately failing to discharge national duty, and turning back to national politics are national traitors. A handful of the national traitors dare not face the national force comprising the entire national people.

The three national duties Myanmar people have to put in the fore — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty — are also the three bounden duties they have to see to.

No one wants to face a situation in which his home is destroyed. Similarly, no citizen wants to see the collapse of the Union, home to various national races. This is the concept of the people of the Union. Utilizing the strength of national unity, the people managed to regain independence and safeguard it, and build national solidarity and achieve national development, with

which they could enjoy the fruits of independence. So, each and every citizen is responsible for performing national duty of safeguarding the Union for its perpetual existence. It is the strength of national unity through which the people manage to regain independence and ensure the development of the nation. Therefore, ensuring non-disintegration of national solidarity is a national duty, as well.

Today, old colonialists and neo-colonialists are scheming to invade, interfere and destroy the nations that have regained their independence. The main national duty of the people is to protect and safeguard the nation's sovereignty and independence, while overcoming the threats of the colonialists. The three national duties are indeed bounden duties the entire people have to uphold and realize.

It is required to use advanced methods and technology to transform Myanmar into a prosperous land. And the drive for national development calls for an environment that is free from any forms of destructive activities. With this concept, "building of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline" has been designated as the national goal or the goal of the Union.

To achieve the goal, the government is implementing the State's seven-step Road Map. So far, the National Convention has been held successfully and the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles have been adopted with a unanimous consent to draft a constitution. In other words, more than 1000 delegates to the National Convention have discharged a national duty successfully.

Now, preparations are being made to implement the second step. And the third step of drafting a constitution is now in progress.

As soon as the constitution is drafted, it will be adopted through a referendum. This is the fourth step. The fifth step is to hold free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaws (Legislative bodies) according to the new constitution, the sixth, to convene Hluttaws attended by Hluttaw members in accordance with the new constitution for election of the President and forming of the government, and the seventh, to build a modern, developed and democratic nation by the state leaders elected by the Hluttaw; and the government and other central organs formed by the Hluttaw.

The national political leadership role lies at the centre of the drive for achieving the national goal and realizing national duties through national spirit, national vigour and national solidarity. The people are therefore urged to work hard together applying national spirit to win national victory.

Translation: MS

National spirit is the driving force behind the movements for regaining independence, safeguarding independence, enjoying the taste of independence, and serving national interest. Those who lack national faithfulness, harming national interest, deliberately failing to discharge national duty, and turning back to national politics are national traitors. A handful of the national traitors dare not face the national force comprising the entire national people.

Prize presentation for performance in crop production in Ayeyawady Division for 2006-2007 held

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec — A prize presentation for performance in crop production in Ayeyawady Division for 2006-2007 was held at the city hall in Patheingyi on 28 November.

Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe reported on the measures taken on agriculture, livestock breeding, education, health and regional development.

Next, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence delivered an address.

He said the government has laid down political, economic and social objectives and implementing them for the emergence of a peaceful modern developed democratic nation and for progress of the entire economic life of the people. The government will continue to serve the interest of the

people in the future.

He said Myanmar has a population of over 56 million and 70 per cent of them live in rural areas. The government is making efforts for better economic life of the people living in the rural areas as the majority of them are engaged in agriculture and business on forests.

He said the government is implementing the five rural development tasks and is making endeavours for development of Patheingyi, Hinthada and Maubin in Ayeyawady Division after designating 24 development regions for the national development.

He said officials concerned are to organize local farmers to apply modern techniques for extended cultivation of ten major crops.

He stressed the need for the officials to reach the targets set in all the townships in the division.

He also spoke on increase of production of paddy, beans and pulses,

fish, prawn and poultry.

Nakathu, Konchaung and Ma Mya dams were opened in Hinthada District in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. Kanyin Dam and other river water pumping stations are now under construction.

He also said physic nut cultivation is to be undertaken to reach the targets.

He urged local authorities at different levels, departmental officials, social organizations, entrepreneurs, farmers and local people to make concerted efforts for progress of socio-economic life of the people utilizing natural and human resources as Ayeyawady Division is the one on which the State relies.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presented cash awards, shields and certificates to officials of Myaungmya for best performance on economic progress and outstanding students of the division at the 2007



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presents award to an outstanding student at the prize presentation for performance in crop production in Ayeyawady Division for 2006-2007. — MNA

matriculation examination.

Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe presented cash awards, shields and certificates to officials for best performance in implementation of the projects.

Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min presented cash awards

and certificates to 20 distinction winners in the matriculation examination in 2007 and other outstanding students.

Next, officials presented prizes to the respective persons for their performance in various fields.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe and

party inspected Kyunkon suspension Bridge construction on Patheingyi-Wakema Road and fulfilled the requirements. The bridge is 500 feet long and 13 feet wide.

They also inspected construction of 270-foot reinforced concrete Thonkhwa Creek Bridge on Einme-Pantanaw Road. — MNA

Myanmar Paddy Producers Association meets

YANGON, 1 Dec—The Myanmar Paddy Producers Association held the first annual general meeting at the office of

Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street in

Langmadaw Township, here, this afternoon.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe in his address said that the nation produces 25

metric tons of paddy a year and 10 per cent of the produce is wasted, calling for education talks to minimize loss and wastage of paddy.

It is needed to use high-yield strains, advanced agricultural methods, and chemical and natural fertilizers in

combination, plough paddy fields in the right time, and boost production in order to achieve targeted per acre yield, he said.

In conclusion, he called for collaborative efforts to grow paddy extensively, help transform the nation from conventional agriculture to mechanized agriculture, and ensure stable prices of rice.

The report of the Central Executive Committee and annual financial statement were approved with the consent of the members.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of

the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Chairman of the association U Sein Win Hlaing and party viewed rice samples, Golden Deer Brand combine-harvesters produced by Good Brothers Co Ltd, Vietnam style Pioneer Brand paddy drier and agricultural implements, fertilizers and pesticides. — MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party observe paddy strains and farm equipment.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivers an address at the ceremony to observe World AIDS Day 2007.—MNA

families without discrimination.

So far, about 33.2 million people have been suffering from AIDS in the world. During this year, 2.5 million people were infected with the disease and about 2.1 million people died. About 46 per cent of HIV positive persons are women. Most people aged between 15 and 49 years in the world have died of AIDS. The lifespan of the people in some nations has dropped.

support.

Therefore, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals cover the objectives to put an end to the spread of AIDS and to reduce the spread of the virulent disease in 2015.

In Myanmar, the government is taking systematic measures for uplift of health and fitness of the entire people, with the concept that the health and fitness of the people reflects the development of the nation and it is also a priceless

ger to the public health.

In an effort to control AIDS the Central Committee for Control and Elimination of AIDS was formed in 1989 with the Ministry of Health, relevant ministries and social organizations at home and abroad. In the same way, the work committees at state, division, district and township levels were formed for successful realization of the task.

A Coordination

transfusion.

With this end in view, efforts are being exerted in all aspects through comprehensive activities covering the educative talks on treatment aiming at changing the behaviours of targeted groups with a high incidence of AIDS, treatment of AIDS, TB and their complications and community-based health care services for HIV infected persons and AIDS victims.

In this regard, 13 strategies on preventive meas-

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo ...

(from page 1)

To raise HIV awareness among the public, the mottoes are designated yearly. This year's motto is "Stop AIDS. Keep the promise. Reduce stigma and discrimination, all are human beings".

Under the leadership of the heads of the World nations, departments, social



worldwide for two decades.

In the second part of this year's motto, the words

As an epidemic in the world, AIDS has hampered not only the public health

resource for national development.

Moreover, arrangements are being made for each and every citizen to enjoy the public health care services as their social rights.

In the fight against

Body comprising the ministries, UN agencies and social organizations at home and abroad was formed and possible steps are being taken for the control and treatment of AIDS, TB and malaria in Myanmar.

As part of the project for control of AIDS and syphilis efforts are being made for giving educative talks on AIDS, the cent per cent use of condoms in targeted groups in 170 townships and effective treatment of sexually transmitted diseases.

Work is well under way for preventing the spread of HIV among those who used drugs through injection and from mother to foetus at 37 hospitals and in 106 townships while preventing the spread of HIV through blood transfusion and introducing the safe blood

ures and rehabilitation are now being implemented in accordance with the National Strategic Plan (2006-2010) adopted collectively by the relevant ministries, local NGOs, UN agencies and community-based organizations.

Moreover, educative talks are being held and rehabilitation services carried out systematically in order that there is no the social stigma of infected people and those suffering AIDS.

As for the taking care of HIV/AIDS victims, measures are being taken to provide medical care, mental and social assistance, consultancy and educative talks, HIV diagnosis and anti-retroviral therapy.

In cooperation with social organizations such as the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar (See page 9)

Arrangements are being made for each and every citizen to enjoy the public health care services as their social rights.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party view posters, pamphlets and documentary photos displayed at the ceremony to observe World AIDS Day 2007.—MNA

organizations, artistes, entrepreneurs and those with HIV infection are making relentless efforts for stepping up the work to control the AIDS, which has spread

"Reduce stigma and discrimination, all are human beings" are being laid down for striving to provide care and support for HIV infected persons and their

of a nation but social and economic development of the world nations. All world nations are giving priority to taking action on HIV prevention, treatment, care and

major diseases steps are being taken to control TB and malaria in addition to AIDS as a national duty realizing that those diseases can pose a great dan-

Mr
Daniel B
Baker
reads out
the
message.
MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo attends World AIDS Day ...

(from page 8)

Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Myanmar Medical Association, and Myanmar Nurses Association, community-based disease prevention and health care services started in 2006 for AIDS, TB and the other chronic diseases.

Moreover, in cooperation with various ministries and social organizations, measures are being taken to give educative talks on STD and prevention of women against HIV and to provide medical care for the HIV/AIDS patients.

For ensuring development of living standards of the women, the government is providing vocational training courses to them to have abilities to carry out the tasks to increase income. Furthermore, tasks of the providing assistance for enhancement of education, health and social standards of the women, the prevention against human trafficking and the rehabilitation of human trafficking victims contribute to the control of HIV/AIDS.

The government is joining hands with local social organizations, UN agencies and international social organizations in combating HIV/AIDS. Furthermore, the government is actively taking part in implementing the ASEAN HIV/AIDS Control Plan, the HIV Prevention Plan in Mekong Region Countries and regional and central level plans of UN agencies.

Moreover, Myanmar is cooperating with neighbouring countries to combat the control of TB and HIV/AIDS as the special plan. In September, workshops on prevention against AIDS, TB, malaria and other infectious diseases along the Myanmar-Thai border were organized in Yangon and Tachilek. All-out efforts were made for gradual decline of HIV infection after the year 2000. According to the findings from the HIV/AIDS Projection and Impact Analysis Workshop organized by WHO and the government in September 2007, the infection rate of HIV

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party view posters, pamphlets and documentary photos displayed at the ceremony to observe World AIDS Day 2007.
MNA



declined from 0.94 per cent in the year 2000 to 0.67 per cent in 2007.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 said it is necessary to carry out tasks for the declining of HIV infection, providing effective treatment to HIV patients, rendering assistance to HIV victims and their families and minimizing the ill effects of AIDS. In addition, the Secretary-1 urged all the people to harmoniously participate in combating AIDS and performing rehabilitation task.

The Secretary-1 awarded prizes to the students who stood first in Central Level essay, painting and cartoon contests to mark World AIDS Day 2007.

Chairperson Mr Daniel B Baker of UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS read the message of UNAIDS Executive Director Dr Peter Piot.

The Secretary-1 awarded first prizes to Ma Htet Yi Zaw of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon BEHS No 1 in the high school level essay contest to mark the World AIDS Day, Maung Wai Yan Min Htet of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana BEHS No 1 in the middle school level painting contest and Ma Kyi Seinn Lan of Nay Pyi

Taw Tatkon BEHS in the primary school level cartoon contest.

Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin gave second prizes to Ma May Phu Kyaw of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana BEHS No 1 in the high school level essay contest, Ma Yadana Oo of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana BEHS No 1 in the middle school level painting contest and Maung Lay Thwin of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana BEHS No 1 in the primary school level cartoon contest.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint presented third prizes to Ma Ma Hnin Pwint Wai of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe BEHS No 1 in the high school level essay contest, Ma May Mie Khin of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon BEHS No 1 in the middle school level painting contest and Maung Htet Pyae Zaw of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana BEHS No 1 in the primary school level cartoon contest.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Chairperson Mr Daniel B Baker of UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS presented consolation prizes to respective winners. —MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into regional development ...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Ye Myint donated K 300,000 and the commander, K 200,000 for the final rites of the Sayadaw.

At Myinkin River Water Pumping Project in Myinkin Village of Magway Township, they viewed pumping of water from Ayeyawady River to the canal.

Officials reported on supply of water to the farmlands, progress in implementing four more river-

water pumping projects and matters related to Kyeohn-Kyeewa, Upper Buywa, Buywa and Monechaung dam projects.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed thriving 2-acre physic nut plantation and 104 Thitseint (Belleric myrobalan) near the river-water pumping station.

While in Magway, they also looked into physic nut plantations of departments concerned. They also inspected development of rural regions and agricultural matters along Magway-Yenangyoung-Chauk road.

After inspecting maintenance of Ayeyawady

Bridge (Anawrahta) in Chauk, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on durability of the bridge.

At the hall of Shwepon Hill Greening Project site in Chauk Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint stressed the need to plant 5,000 acres of trees for greening Shwepon Hill region.

On 29 November, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and the commander met servicemen and family members of Magway Station and instructed them to carry out agriculture and livestock breeding on a manageable scale. They also met servicemen and family members of battalions in Yenangyoung and Chauk stations. —MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence looks into maintenance of Ayeyawady Bridge (Anawrahta) in Chauk. —MNA

State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee holds plenary meeting

(from page 1)
the meeting. Joint-Secretary Insein Ywama Pariyatti Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tilokabhivamsa acted as MC.

The Chairman Sayadaw delivered an Ovadakatha. Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicated on the religious affairs.

Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Indasiri and members of the Sangha submitted the report of the first branch of the



SSMNC. The chairman and member Sayadaws discussed Viniççjaya affairs and religious matters.

The meeting continues tomorrow.

Next, U Aung Myint and wife Daw Khin Phone Myint of University Avenue of Bahan Township offered meals to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicates on religious matters to the Sayadaws.

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepts cash donation from U Tin Sein - Daw Kyin Thein and family. — MNA



Tatmadaw Football matches go on

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec — The first round matches of the 46th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Football Tournament for 2007 went on today at designated zones.

In South West Command Zone (Pathein), Northern Command team and North East Command team ended in 3-3 draw. Nay Pyi Taw Command team beat No 33 LID team 2-1 in North West Command

Zone (Monywa) and Coastal Region Command team defeated No 101 LID team 5-3 in Central Command Zone (Mandalay). No 99 LID team beat No 88 LID team 2-1 in Southern Command Zone (Toungoo).—MNA

Inter-Ministry Volleyball Tournament continues

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec — The First Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Volleyball Tournament 2007 continued at the designated sports grounds, here, today.

Transport Ministry team edged out Ministry of Culture 3-0; Ministry of Electric Power No 1 beat Ministry of Religious Affairs 3-1; Ministry of Industry-1 won over

Ministry of Forestry 3-0 and Ministry of Industry-2 defeated Ministry of Hotels and Tourism 3-1. The tournament continues tomorrow at the same venues.— MNA

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence looks into construction of Kyauktan Bridge in Sittway Township. — MNA



Maj-Gen Khin Zaw on inspection tour of Kyauktaw, Sittway

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec — Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence together with Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Chairman Western Command Commander Maj-Gen Maung Shein and officials viewed the green fields on both sides of Minpya-MraukU Road, development of the town and condition of the road by car yesterday morning.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, the commander and party visited and paid homage to Shitthaung also known as Yanaung Zeya Stupa and made cash donations. He next stressed the need for the responsible persons to

maintain cultural heritage and religious edifices.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party paid homage to the Maha Myat Muni Pagoda in Kyauktaw and offered Shwe Thingan to it. They then visited the 100-acre physic nut plantation of Kyauktaw Station and left instructions on making efforts for extended cultivation of physic nut. Maj-Gen Khin Zaw met with the officers and other ranks and their families of Kyauktaw Station at Nawarat Hall in Kyauktaw.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party visited Pyaingchaung Dam in Kyauktaw

Township and gave instructions on supply of irrigation water. The earthen dam can irrigate 500 acres of farmland and generate 40 to 60 kilowatts.

They also visited the two-acre plantation of Manawthukha paddy strain of U Maung Hla Thein and the two-acre plantation of edible oil crops of U Bo Thein Aung in Apaukwa Village. Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party then inspected condition of the town, villages and roads along Kyauktaw-Sittway road and visited Thetaw construction site near Thetaw Village in Ponnagyun Township.

Later, they proceeded to Kyauktan Bridge in Sittway Township and inspected the bridge, which is 32 feet wide and 452 feet long. The bridge construction has been completed by 90%. Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party next met with the families of Sittway Station at Bandoola Hall and called for their participation in regional development work. — MNA

Images of the Day



Miss China Zhang Zilin is crowned as she wins the Miss World 2007 title in Sanya on the Chinese island of Hainan on 1 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET



Miss World contestants wearing evening gowns perform on stage during the Miss World beauty pageant in Sanya, Hainan Island Province, China, on 1 Dec , 2007.
INTERNET

The Guennol Lioness is photographed on 30 Nov , 2007 at Sothebys in New York.
INTERNET



Carried by a jumbo jet, shuttle Atlantis took off its return trip to Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Sunday, and it should arrive there on Monday, according to NASA officials. — INTERNET

This photo made available by the Shalem Center shows pieces of pottery discovered in Jerusalem's City of David. Artifacts including pottery shards and arrowheads found during an excavation to rescue a tower and a wall which were in danger of collapse suggest, according to Israeli archaeologists that the wall is from the 5th century BC, the time of Nehemiah. —INTERNET



Photos taken on 28 Nov show a miniature city of Shenyang made of 25,000 pieces of cookies. The edible construction is 5 meters long, 5 meters wide and 2.5 meters high. — INTERNET



Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed at 4th December (Tuesday) 2007, being Public Holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

New strain of Ebola identified in Uganda

WASHINGTON, 30 Nov — A new strain of Ebola virus has infected 51 people and killed 16 in an area near Uganda’s border with Democratic Republic of Congo, US health experts said on Thursday.

Analysis of samples taken from some of the victims show it is a previously unknown type of Ebola, a team at the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said.

“This virus didn’t behave as would be expected of some of the known strains,” Dr Tom Ksiazek, current chief of the CDC’s special pathogens branch, said in a telephone interview.

“That tipped us off that this is probably a novel or new strain of Ebola.”

Ugandan health officials have said the virus appears to be unusually mild, but Ksiazek said it is not yet clear if this is the case. He said experts need to check to see how many diagnosed patients are still alive.

Ebola is a hemorrhagic fever, meaning it can cause internal and external bleeding. Victims often die of shock but symptoms can be vague, including fever, muscle pain and nausea.

There are four identified strains, Ksiazek said. The two strains that cause the most human disease are the Zaire and Sudan strains, named after the countries in which they first appeared.

A strain called Reston caused an outbreak in a primate facility in the Washington, DC suburb of the same name while a single human case in Ivory Coast was caused by the Cote d’Ivoire strain.

MNA/Reuters



American television channel host Josh Gates displays what is believed to be “Yeti” footprints to the media in Kathmandu 30 Nov, 2007. The US-based television channel investigating the existence of the legendary Yeti in Nepal has found footprints similar to those said to be that of the abominable snowman, the company said on Friday. A team of nine producers from Destination Truth, armed with infrared cameras, spent a week in the icy Khumbu region where Mount Everest is located and found the footprints on the bank of Manju river at a height of 2,850 meters (9,350 feet).—INTERNET

Japan builds second missile defence shield

TOKYO, 30 Nov—JAPAN set up its second ballistic missile interceptors at an air base east of Tokyo on Thursday, the Defence Ministry said, as part of its efforts to strengthen defences against neighbour North Korea.

Two Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) launchers, capable of shooting down incoming missiles in the final stage of flight, were deployed at the Narashino Base in Chiba, about 25 kilometres (16 miles) from central Tokyo.

Japan first deployed interceptors at a base north of Tokyo in March, after North Korea fired a ballistic missile in 1998 that flew over Japan. Last year, Pyongyang fired more missiles and tested a nuclear device.

Japan is scheduled to

deploy interceptors at two more locations near Tokyo by the end of March next year.

With a relatively short range of 20 kilometres (12 miles), the interceptors are likely to be deployed to protect political and financial hubs.

A newspaper reported on Sunday that Japan would conduct drills next month to move the missile interceptor equipment into central Tokyo in times of emergency, although a Defence Ministry spokeswoman said nothing had been decided.

Japan plans to test its first ship-based anti-ballistic missile interceptors off Hawaii in a joint exercise with the United States in the week of 17 December.

MNA/Reuters

Xinhuanet.com celebrates 10th anniversary

BEIJING, 30 Nov — A symposium marking the 10th anniversary of Xinhuanet.com, which is affiliated to Xinhua news agency, was held here Wednesday.

As one of the earliest news websites founded by mainstream media in China, Xinhuanet.com has

contributed to the the development of Internet culture especially news websites in China, said Li Changchun, a member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau in a letter of congratulation.

He hopes that

Xinhuanet.com will continue to provide good service to the public, expand its influence both at home and overseas, and create a sound environment of public opinions for the reform and opening up of China and the modernization drive.

Two NATO troops killed in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 1 Dec — Two soldiers from the NATO-led International Security Force (ISAF) have been killed while on patrol in southern Afghanistan, said an ISAF statement released here Friday.

“Our respectful condolences go to the family, friends and colleagues of the soldiers who gave their lives in support of ISAF’s task to enable Afghanistan to allow the people of this region to live in peace without fear of violence and intimidation,” said Wing Commander Antony McCord, an ISAF spokesman.

In accordance with ISAF policy, ISAF does not release the casualty’s nationality. Meanwhile, a statement from the Danish Army operational command said that two Danish soldiers died of injuries sustained in a firefight with unknown gunmen in southern Afghan Province of Helmand on Thursday.

The firefight took place while the soldiers were on patrol in the upper Geresk Valley of Helmand, the Danish Army’s statement said. — MNA/Xinhua

800 kilos of cocaine seized in Costa Rica

SAN JOSE, 1 Dec—Costa Rica has seized two boats carrying 800 kilos of cocaine off its northwestern coasts in a joint operation with the US Coast Guards, the Public Security Ministry reported on Thursday.

The “Yorlenny II” boat was detained Wednesday night some 250 nautical miles off the Guanacaste coasts, it said.

The Drug Control Police (PCD) found the boat was engaged in drug trafficking and informed the US vessels patrolling the area.

Shortly afterwards, another boat named Jurel IV and carrying the Mexican flag was found having received drug packages from Yorlenny II.

They managed to dump some 400 kilos of the drug into the sea after spotting the police. The remaining 400 kilos were found on board the Mexican boat.

Of the seven crew members arrested, six are

from Costa Rica and one is Nicaraguan.

So far in 2007, Costa Rican narcotics officials have seized four boats used for drug-trafficking.

MNA/Xinhua

The website has attracted domestic and overseas readers with its popular web columns such as “Xinhua headlines”, “Xinhua Interviews”, and “Internet live broadcast”, and has accumulated a wealth of experience in Internet news coverage, said Liu Yunshan, head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee at the symposium.

Xinhuanet.com was founded on November 7th, 1997. It has web pages in six languages including Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic and many kinds of Internet services including photographs, graphics, audio and video, text messages and mobile news. The website handles more than 12,000 news items, displayed on the site and dispatched to readers in all parts of the world by SMS, everyday.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia lost 24 islands by disasters

JAKARTA, 1 Dec — Indonesia has so far lost 24 islands because of natural disasters and environmental damage, bringing the total number of islands in the country from 17,504 to 17,480. Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Minister Freddy Numberi said on Thursday.

Four islands disappeared when a massive tsunami devastated Aceh Province on 26 December, 2004, while 20 others in Riau Province and in the Seribu Island group in Jakarta Bay had also vanished because of unbridled exploitation and environmental damage, Antara news agency quoted the minister as saying.

“Scientists have even predicted that Indonesia could lose at least 2,000 islands by 2030 if the government fails to anticipate it and take preventive measures,” the minister said.

The minister said one of the ways to prevent more islands from disappearing was preserving their environments, especially their forests and seas.

MNA/Xinhua



A general view of the 47th Paris Boat Show at Porte de Versailles exhibition centre in Paris on 30 Nov, 2007. The Salon Nautique de Paris will run from 1 to 9 December. — INTERNET

Glaxo asthma drug needs kid risk warning

GAITHERSBURG (Maryland), 30 Nov — US regulatory advisers on Wednesday recommended strengthening safety warnings on GlaxoSmithKline Plc's asthma drug Serevent amid new reports of deaths in children taking the drug.

The US Food and Drug Administration expert panel on drugs for children reviewed nine new adverse event reports in kids taking the inhaled treatment, including five deaths over

a period of about a year, among other studies finding increased hospitalization and asthma-related death in kids. "The data is very troubling because both the increase in hospitalization and in mortality is so different" from what doctors currently believe, said Thomas Newman, an epidemiologist at the University of California, San Francisco, and panel member.

Serevent's use has

fallen dramatically since original reports of asthma deaths came to light a few years back. But it is one ingredient in Glaxo's blockbuster asthma drug Advair, and the new worries could impact that drug, which had 6.8 billion US dollars in 2006 global sales.

At least two panel members said the data was so convincing that Serevent should be pulled from the market. The FDA said it will consider the safety of all drugs in the class, called long-acting beta agonists, at a future meeting.

"The members of this committee think this is an urgent public health issue," panel chairwoman Dr Marsha Rappley, a neurology and psychiatry expert at Michigan State University, said. Novartis also sells a long-acting beta agonist called Foradil. FDA staffers said no date for the meeting has been set.

MNA/Reuters

China issues ID cards to ensure migrants get paid

BEIJING, 30 Nov — China's capital has issued 530,364 identification cards to migrant workers to make sure they get paid, local media said on Thursday.

China has an estimated 200 million migrant workers who in recent years have flocked from the vast, countryside to the booming cities. Instead of paying cash, companies wire salaries to the migrant workers' cards, which are connected to a system monitored by the

government. The ID cards are similar to bank cards.

"Compared to the previous method of paying workers in cash, using the identification card can assure migrant workers are paid and avoid infringement of migrant workers' rights," the *Beijing News* said.

The programme was launched in April and is open to all migrant construction workers in Beijing. More than 570,000 had signed up so far.

MNA/Reuters

London police starts Labour Party's funding probe

LONDON, 1 Dec — London's Metropolitan Police is set to begin its investigation into secret donations to the Labour Party on Friday as a poll suggested the scandal was hurting Prime Minister Gordon Brown's popularity.

Scotland Yard has been asked to take over the inquiry into revelations that property developer David Abrahams, a millionaire tycoon, had channelled 600,000 pounds (1.24 million US dollars) to Brown's

Labour Party through intermediaries.

The news comes as a poll put the Conservative Party 11 points ahead of Labour, its biggest lead since Margaret Thatcher was at her most popular.

Electoral laws require those making donations on behalf of others to give details of the source of the money and Brown has said that the money from Abrahams had not been lawfully declared and would be returned.

Abrahams said he did

not realize that using middlemen to donate to Labour was against the law and that he had merely wanted to avoid publicity.

However, Labour's general secretary Peter Watt resigned on Monday after admitting he knew Abrahams had donated through associates.

MNA/Reuters

Uganda tops East Africa in education enrolment

KAMPALA, 30 Nov — Uganda is still leading the East African region in education enrolment with 63 per cent, a new UN report due to be officially released on Thursday has said.

According to the 2007 United Nations Human Development Programme report, which was quoted by the state owned *New Vision* daily on Wednesday, education enrolment in Uganda at primary, secondary and

tertiary levels is at 63 per cent while that of Kenya is 60.6 per cent.

Education enrolment in Rwanda is 50.9 per cent and Tanzania's proportion is 50.4 per cent.

Ugandan children reaching primary five increased from 36 per cent in 1991 to 49 per cent in 2004. At the same time, the youth literacy has increased from 69.8 per cent to 76.6 per cent over the same period.

MNA/Xinhua

Bollywood star Dutt freed on bail in bombing case

MUMBAI, 1 Dec — Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt, jailed for six years for taking guns from gangsters involved in the country's worst bombings, was released on bail from a prison in western India on Thursday.

Dutt, sporting a beard and closely cropped hair, walked free following more than a month in jail,

and after being granted bail by the Supreme Court on Tuesday while his lawyers challenge the conviction.

Wearing a white crumpled shirt and a streak of vermilion on his forehead, Dutt waved to the crowds outside the jail in the city of Pune before quickly getting into a waiting car. He carried a yellow bag containing his

belongings.

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 had challenged the conviction last month and sought bail until the petition was heard.

MNA/Reuters

NZ police question teenager over global cyber crime

WELLINGTON, 1 Dec — New Zealand police are questioning a man alleged to be the leader of a cyber crime network that infiltrated computers worldwide and brought down the system at a US university.

Investigators in New Zealand, the United States and the Netherlands believe the 18-year-old wrote software used to attack over a million computers, causing damage of around million (19 million New Zealand dollars), New Zealand Press Association said. The software was allegedly used in bringing down the computer server at the University of Pennsylvania last year, New Zealand police said in a statement. — MNA/Reuters

Two of the Western Lowland gorillas, dubbed the Taiping Four, are seen at Pretoria Zoo, South Africa, on the eve of their departure for the Cameroon, on 28 Nov, 2007.

INTERNET



SPORTS

Totti denies considering Italy return

ROME, 30 Nov — AS Roma striker Francesco Totti denied reports on Thursday that he is ready to return to international action, saying comments he made in jest have been misinterpreted.

The Roma captain told GQ magazine that he would be willing to come out of international retirement for Euro 2008 if Italy coach Roberto Donadoni needed him because of injuries to other players.

"I was asked for fun, if I would go to the European championship if all the forwards got injured," Totti told the Gazzetta dello Sport's website (www.gazzetta.it).— MNA/Reuters

Oledong stuns Eagle to win WBC strawweight title

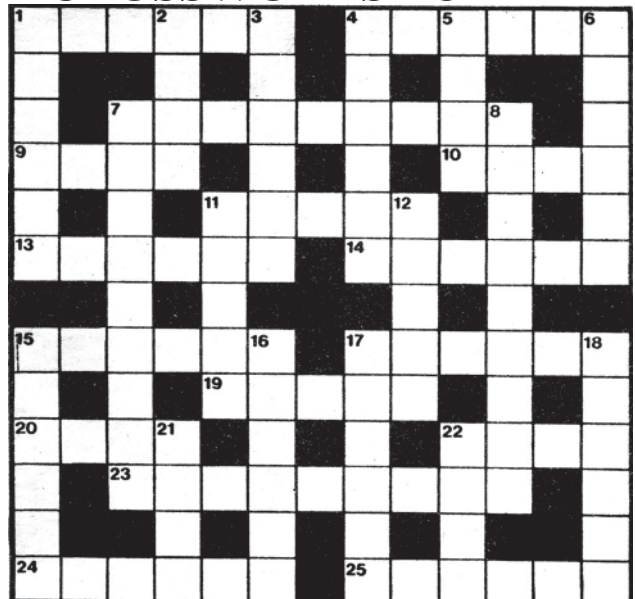
BANGKOK, 30 Nov — Thailand's Oledong Sithsanerchai pulled off a shock points victory over compatriot Eagle Den Janlapan to win the WBC strawweight title on Thursday.

The eagerly awaited bout was the first all-Thai world title fight and drew a huge crowd, which backed Oledong all the way over Japan-based Den. Oledong, the 17-times undefeated WBC youth champion, had the edge in a close and entertaining contest to deny Den (18-2-1) a victory in his sixth successive defence of the title.

The judges gave Oledong the advantage at 114-115, 112-117, 113-115, which improved his record to 25-0.

"I'm proud of the way I boxed today, I'm very very happy," Oledong, 22, told reporters. "Den was good, he was strong. I knew he would come at me with everything.— MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Trading centre
- 4 Early aviator
- 7 Punctuation mark
- 9 Satellite
- 10 The devil
- 11 Drain
- 13 Suit maker
- 14 Scolded persistently
- 15 Firewood log
- 17 Metric distances
- 19 Bird
- 20 Stew
- 22 Additionally
- 23 Not permanent
- 24 Ladle
- 25 Tremble with frailty

DOWN

- 1 Burrowing rodent
- 2 Enthusiastic
- 3 Hard worker
- 4 Made of timber
- 5 Metal
- 6 Changed course
- 7 Labourite
- 8 Mean
- 11 Staid
- 12 Large crow
- 15 Execute
- 16 High hat
- 17 Cut at 45°
- 18 Female relation
- 21 Cannabis
- 22 Poke

Australia want FIFA to punish Advocaat

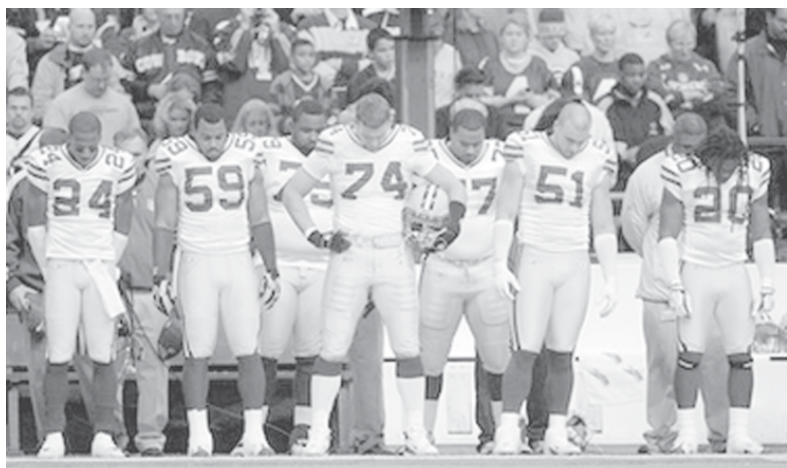
SUDNEY, 30 Nov — Australian soccer officials want the sport's world governing body FIFA to punish Dutchman Dick Advocaat for renegeing on his contract to coach the Socceroos.

Advocaat had agreed to take over as Australia's next coach in time for the start of the 2010 World Cup qualifiers but pulled out after being offered a more lucrative deal to remain with his Russian club Zenit St. Petersburg.

Football Federation of Aus-

tralia (FFA) boss Ben Buckley has already started an international search for a replacement but wants FIFA to take action against Advocaat to ensure the same thing does not happen again.

"We put a lot of hard work and effort into securing his services and to be told on the eve of the World Cup campaign that he was not going to fulfil his contract is very disappointing," Buckley told the Sydney Morning Herald on Friday.— MNA/Reuters



The Green Bay Packers observe a moment of silence for Washington Redskins' Sean Taylor before playing the Dallas Cowboys in their NFL football game, on 29 Nov, 2007, in Irving, Texas. Taylor died on 27 Nov, after being shot in his home by an apparent intruder.—INTERNET

Blake win puts US 2-0 up in Davis Cup final

PORTLAND (Oregon), 1 Dec — James Blake beat Russian Mikhail Youzhny 6-3, 7-6, 6-7, 7-6 in the second singles match of the Davis Cup final on Friday to give the United States a commanding 2-0 lead.

American number one Andy Roddick had out-classed Dmitry Tursunov 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 in the opening rubber of the three-day tie at Memorial Coliseum.

Blake, who lost to Youzhny in their only previous encounter in last year's semi-final, held off a spirited fightback by his opponent in a fluctuating contest lasting three-and-

a-half hours.

The American failed to serve out for the match when leading 5-4 in the fourth set, but he held his nerve to clinch the tiebreak 7-3 when Youzhny netted a forehand. Big-serving Roddick fired down 25 aces against Tursunov to wrap up victory in just under two hours and put the US in early control.

Roddick, who regularly unleashed serves in excess of 140 kph on the slick, indoor surface, paid tribute to the crowd of just under 13,000.

"They were amazing and when they stood in that last game of the final set it

was probably one of the coolest experiences of my career so far," said the American, who lost to Tursunov in five sets in last year's semi-final.

Tursunov, ranked 34th

in the world, survived three break points in the third game of the opening set before being broken in the fifth after hitting a backhand wide.

MNA/Reuters

Milan's Ronaldo in club World Cup fitness battle

ROME, 30 Nov — AC Milan striker Ronaldo is unsure whether he will be able to play at the FIFA Club World Cup in Japan next month because of a new injury scare.

The Brazilian pulled up with a calf pain while warming up to come on as a substitute for the Euro-

pean champions during Wednesday's 1-1 draw at Benfica in the Champions League.

After the match Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti said that the problem was not serious and that he expected Ronaldo be able to play in Saturday's Serie A clash with Juventus.

But the striker was much less optimistic on Thursday.

"I still feel a little pain. I don't think I'll recover for the Juve game," he told La Gazzetta dello Sport's website (www.gazzetta.it).

"I still don't know what happened yesterday. Tomorrow I'll have to do tests, so it is necessary to wait."

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

Wenger will not appeal against any European ban

LONDON, 30 Nov — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger will not appeal against the automatic one-match UEFA ban he faces after being sent off in the 3-1 Champions League defeat at Sevilla on Tuesday.

The Frenchman strongly criticised the fourth official after being sent off 10 minutes from the end of the match after protesting at the behaviour of Sevilla's Daniel Alves, who appeared to simulate a serious injury.

"No, I am not appealing against this.

But I think that if I was to be banned for more games than one, it would be unfair," Wenger told a news conference on Thursday.

"It is a long time that I have wanted to see a game from the Directors Box. I was surprised to be sent off."

Wenger will be missing from the Arsenal dugout for their final Champions League Group H clash with Steaua Bucharest at the Emirates Stadium on 12 December.

Thai north troubled with chilly weather

BANGKOK, 1 Dec — Unusually chilly weather in northern Thailand has brought a shortage of warm clothes and prompted local authorities to declare disaster zones in some parts of the tropical country.

Wiboon Sanguanpong, Governor of the northern province Chiang Mai, said Thursday that the provincial administration has declared disaster zones in the lowland areas where the temperature has been below 15 degrees Celsius for three days and is expected to keep dropping until the end of the year.

"Almost 300,000 local residents have been affected by the cold weather," the governor

was quoted by *Thai News Agency* as saying, "The provincial administration has already approved a budget of 50 million baht (1.52 million US dollars) for rescue operations, including the provision of warm clothes."

Meanwhile, in the northeastern province of Loei, temperatures had dropped to 9.7 degrees Celsius, according to the report. At Loei's Phu Kradung National Park, the temperature was measured at five degrees Celsius.

Loei governor Manit Makaraphong said the provincial administration has already distributed 50,000 blankets to residents but it was not yet sufficient. Warm clothes for children and students are still needed.

MNA/Xinhua

British teenage burglar gets 18 years for murder

LONDON, 1 Dec — A teenage burglar who battered a mother to death after seeing her on a bus and following her home was jailed for at least 18 years on Thursday.

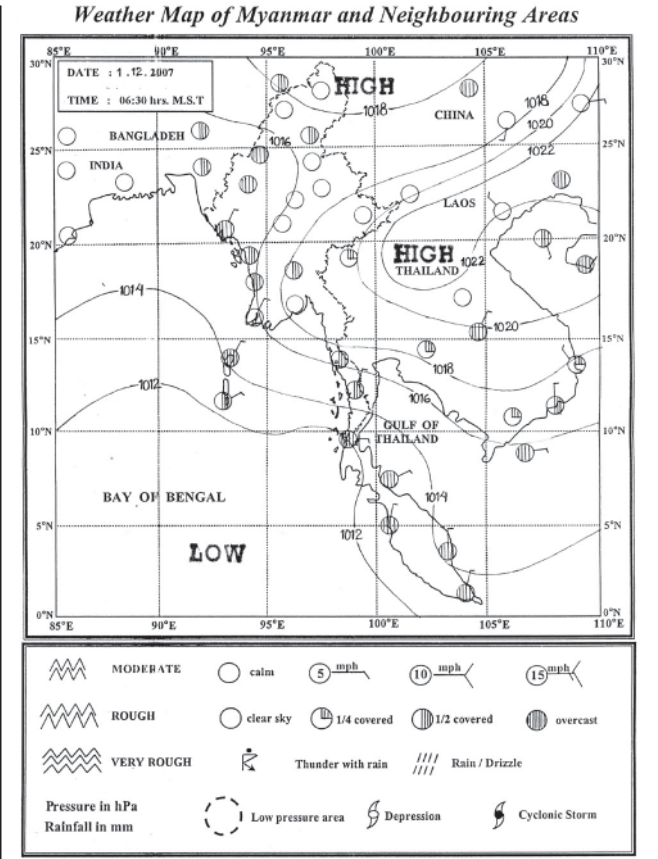
Lloyd Edwards, 19 repeatedly punched Laila Rezk in the face after he confronted her at her house in Kingston Vale, southwest London in November last year. Her children returned home for a family dinner to discover their 51-year-old mother's body on the floor of the living room.

Edwards, from Roehampton, was convicted of murder on Wednesday, a charge he had denied, after a trial at Kingston Crown Court. He had previously admitted manslaughter.

Edwards, who had

trained as a boxer, told police he had been drinking all day before the attack. He targeted Rezk's house after deciding to commit a burglary and escaped with 60 pounds in cash.

It was revealed after the trial that he had been electronically tagged for a previous offence at the time.—MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Saturday, 1 December, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Chin, Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) below December average temperatures in Rakhine States, (4°C) above December average temperatures in Kachin States (5°C) above December average temperatures in upper Sagaing Divisions and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Namhsam and Pinlaung (4°C) each and Heho (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 30-11-2007 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 1-12-2007 was 59°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 1-12-2007 was 91%. Total sun shine hours on 1-12-2007 was (8.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 1-12-2007 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 (8) mph from Southeast at (12:30) hours MST on 30-11-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 2-12-2007: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Tanithayi 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: Generally fair in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 2-12-2007: Generally fair.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-12-2007: Generally fair.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-12-2007: Generally fair.



Sunday, 2 December
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music
-Sultons of swing
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music
-I live for the day
- 8:50 am National news/
Slogan
- 9:00 am Music
-You don't have to see
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Cultural
Images of Myanmar
-Myanmar concept for the word 'Kyetha-Yay'
- 9:20 am Music:
-Superfantastic
- 1:30 pm News/ Slogan
- 1:40 pm Children's delight (story)
- 1:50 pm Songs for children
- 9:00pm Weekly news review
- 9:10pm Article
- 9:20 pm Music/LIETS
-Come see about me
-Into my dreams
- 9:45 pm News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Sunday, 2 December
View on today

- 7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီးနိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့မဟာနာယက အဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်အောင်မြင်စေမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုဏ်အဘိဓမ္မာအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကံ တိပိဋကဓမ္မဗျာဏ္ဍာနိကဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရတိပသင်္ဃာတီတော်တရားတော်(မင်္ဂလာသုတ်)
- 7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 8:00 am
6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:05 am
7. စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်းပုထိုးလုံးတံတား
- 8:15 am
8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:30 am
9. International news
- 8:45 am
10. Say It in English
- 11:00 am
1. စစ်သည်တေး
- 11:10 am
2. Musical programme
- 11:25 pm
3. Round up of the week's local news
- 11:40 am
4. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင် အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်
- 12:00 pm
5. "မမှောင်သောအလင်း" (ဖိုးသောကြာ၊ ဖျိုက်၊ ဇော်ဦး၊ ရတနာခင်၊ ခင်မိုးမိုးအေး၊ ရှုမဝစမ်းစမ်းအေး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)
- 1:50 pm
6. ကမ္ဘာ့အေအိုင်ဒီအက်စ်ရောဂါတိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့အထိမ်းအမှတ်ဉာဏ်စမ်းပဟေဠိပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 1:10 pm
7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 1:30 pm
8. တမာနှင့်ဖိုးနီရေလှောင်တစ်
- 1:45 pm
9. International news
- 4:00 pm
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
2. Song for uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
3. English for everyday use

- 4:40 pm
4. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ-ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)
- 4:15 pm
5. Song of national races
- 5:20 pm
6. ဆိုကြမယ်ပျော်ကြမယ်
- 6:00 pm
7. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
8. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
9. "အသက်ကလေးရယ်တဲ့ရှည်စေလို" (ဦးအောင်လွင်၊ ဦးကြည်စိုး၊ မေထွဋ်ခေါင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဦးကြည်စိုး)
- 6:50 pm
10. Musical programme
- 7:05 pm
11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နေပြည်ဆမ်းမှ" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)
- 8:00 pm
12. News
- 13. International news
- 14. Weather report
- 15. မြန်မာ့ရုပ်ရှင် "ငါ့သူတစ်ပါးယောက်ျား မိန်းမ" (ရန်အောင်၊ လွင်မိုး၊ မေသန်းနု၊ ခင်စာခြည်ကျော်၊ ထက်ထက်မိုးဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီမိုးမိုး)
- 16. The next day's programme

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People's Desire

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

PM General Thein Sein felicitates UAE Vice-President, PM

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Maktoum Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, on the occasion of the National Day of the United Arab Emirates, which falls on 2 December 2007. — MNA

PM General Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Laos

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — On the occasion of the 32nd Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2007, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. — MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into regional development tasks in Magway Division

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Com-

mand Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe and Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe, paid homage to the remains of Chairman of Magway Division Sangha Nayaka Committee Magway Maha Withutarama New

Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Jotipala, age 86 and 66 vasa at the monastery in Magway on 29 November.

(See page 9)

Winners of National Literary Award for 2006 announced

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec — National Literary Award Scrutinizing Committee of the Ministry of Information today announced the list of the National Literary Award winners for 2006 today.

Kyi Naing won the National Literary Award in collected short stories genre, Myinmu Maung Naing Moe, in collected poems genre, Shin Htwe Yin (Manuttha), in Myanmar Culture and Fine Arts literature genre, Ma Sandar, in youth literature genre, Kyaw Win, in translation (general knowledge) genre, Maung Paw Tun, in translation (aesthetics) genre, Kyaw Oo, in general knowledge (science) genre, Nay Myo Naing, in general knowledge (applied science)

genre and Hmu Thamein, the political literary genre.

Among the 14 genres, novel, belles-lettres, child literature, general knowledge (art) and drama categories cannot be awarded.

Winners are to contact the Chief Editor of Sarpay Beikman at No 529-531 on Merchant Street (Tel: 240048, 381449) bringing together with one colour photo measuring 8 by 10 inches and one passport size photo each.

The prize presentation ceremony will be held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 December (Sunday).

MNA

Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan) awarded Life-Long Literary Award

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec — National Literary Award Scrutinizing Committee of the Ministry of Information chose Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan) as the winner of Life-Long Literary Award. She has dedicated to the progress of Myanmar literature, said the committee.

She will be awarded at the prize presentation ceremony for National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award for 2006 to be held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw at 2 pm on 23 December (Sunday). — MNA

- ★ **RFA, VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies**
- ★ **RFA, VOA and BBC saboteurs, watch your step!**
- ★ **The public be warned of
killers in the air waves —
RFA, VOA and BBC**