

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates King Bhumibol Adulyadej

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec— On the occasion of the birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej which falls on 5 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 Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, King of Thailand. —MNA

Prime Minister sends felicitations to Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec— On the occasion of the birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej which falls on 5 December 2007, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency General Surayud Chulanont, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. —MNA

Monsoon paddy harvested in Kyaukse District

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe attended a ceremony to harvest monsoon paddy for 2007-2008 in Kyaukse District, Mandalay Division, on 1 December.

On arrival at field No 457 of farmer U Aung Yin of Ywathit village-tract in Myittha Township, they heard a report by Chairman of the District PDC U Khin Maung Myint on progress in growing monsoon paddy and harvesting in the district and paddy per acre yield.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected the harvesting and winnowing of paddy.

At Thitthetkon Diversion Weir in Myittha Township of Kyaukse District, he heard reports on construction of the 400 feet long and 12.5 feet high irrigation facility for supply of water to 11,000 acres of cultivable lands and construction of clusters of dams for greening of Meiktila plain.

He instructed the officials to make arrangements for supply of water to irrigated lands.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected thriving plantations of monsoon paddy and crops, and regional development.

The number of the dams in Kyaukse District has increased to 15, which benefit 297,280 acres, up from 9 in 1988.

MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects Thitthetkon Diversion Weir in Myittha Township. — MNA



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

Provisions and cash donated to monasteries in Hmawby, Hlegu, Taikkyi, Htantabin Townships

YANGON, 3 Dec — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence on 2 November attended a ceremony to donate provi-

sions and cash to 14 monasteries by the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) families and wellwishers held at Thathana Wunhsaung Monastery in Hsathwadaw Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon North District and offered donations.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, senior military officers, departmental heads and wellwishers received the Five Precepts from Chairman of (See page 8)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 5 December, 2007

Bilateral cooperation forges Myanmar-Cambodia friendly relations

Myanmar deals with regional countries and neighbours with friendship. In particular, Myanmar and its neighbours are exchanging State visits, thereby promoting bilateral cooperation in various sectors including the economic and cultural sectors.

At the invitation of Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein paid a goodwill visit to Cambodia from 30 November to 2 December.

During the visit, Prime Minister General Thein Sein met with Cambodian Acting Head of State and President of the Senate of Cambodia Samdech Akka Moha Thamma Pothisal Chea Sim, President of the National Assembly of Cambodia Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin and Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen. The meeting focused on enhancing cooperation between the two countries.

At the meeting between Myanmar and Cambodian Prime Ministers, Prime Minister General Thein Sein said that exchange of visits between the leaders of the two countries would help ensure long-lasting friendly ties. Myanmar was grateful to Cambodia for its support for Myanmar both in the international and regional arena. He expressed his belief that Cambodia would continue to support Myanmar.

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen said that Cambodia opposed the attempts to thrust the Myanmar issue into the international spotlight; that the situation of Myanmar could be best known by her people only; that Cambodia opposed any act to encroach upon sovereignty of a nation; and that the Myanmar issue was only her internal affairs and it could be addressed only by herself.

The two prime ministers held discussions on agriculture, human resource development, tourism industry promotion, operation of direct flights between the two countries, cooperation in preservation of cultural heritage and boosting bilateral trade. Exchange of visits between the leaders of the two countries fosters existing friendly relations and yields fruits of bilateral cooperation in various sectors.



Under the patronage of Mother Daw Yi Yi Myint, U Aung Kyi and Daw Win Win Maw and family of Lane-1, Aungtheikdi Housing, Mayangon Township, donated K 335,000 to the funds of Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. U Aung Than, Treasurer of the Home for the Aged, accepts the donation from the wellwishers. — MNA

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

Mass sports activities held in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, service personnel and local people totalling more than 10,000 went for a walk from Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market to Thabyegon Roundabout

then to Nay Pyi Taw during the year 2007 December mass sports activities here today.

After the walk, they took physical exercises on Myoma Market ground.

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and departmental heads taking part in the December mass sports activities for 2007 along with employees of ministries and people.

MNA



Foreign Minister felicitates Thai counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—On the occasion of the birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej which falls on 5 December 2007, His Excellency U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Nitya Pibulsonggram, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand. — MNA

Talks on Human Resources Management

YANGON, 2 Dec—Talks on human resources management 3/2007, organized by Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and sponsored by Myanmar ACME Co, were held at the UMFCFI Office Tower on Minye Kyawswa Street in Lanmadaw Township here at 2 pm today.

UMFCFI Vice-President U Thaug Tin delivered an opening speech. After that, Managing Director of Myanmar Human Resource Co U Aye Kyaw gave talks on Human Capital Management and replied to queries raised by those present. Next, UMFCFI General Secretary Chairman of Myanmar ACME Co U Sein Win Hlaing presented a gift to U Aye Kyaw who gave talks.

MNA



U Sein Win Hlaing, General Secretary of UMFCFI, presents gift to Managing Director U Aye Kyaw. — UMFCFI

Manager of SOGO (PVC) Pipe Industry U Aung Kyaw Oo being seen off by relatives before departure for Yokohama, Japan, at Yangon International Airport on 1 December to attend the Training Programme on International Standardization Advanced Course. (News Reported) — MNA





The skin of a dinosaur — a hadrosaur that lived some 65 million years ago — pokes out of the soil at Hell Creek Formation, North Dakota, in this undated handout released on 3 Dec, 2007.—XINHUA

Report says British Navy in degenerated state

LONDON, 3 Dec—The British Royal Navy is in the most degenerated state with its fighting capability being “eroded” and the fleet’s ability to influence events at the strategic level “under threat,” the *Sunday Telegraph* reported.

The fleet is “thinly stretched,” “increasingly taut” and facing “significant risks” and the navy can no longer fight a major

war because of years of under-funding and cut-backs, the daily quoted the top-level Ministry of Defence document as saying.

“The Royal Navy would be challenged to mount a medium-scale operation in accordance with current policy against a technologically capable adversary. A medium-scale operation” is similar to the

naval involvement in the Iraq War,” the daily said, quoting the leaked report ordered by Defence Secretary Des Browne states.

“A combination of age and reduced spending on maintenance has resulted in today’s ships carrying a far higher number of operational defects, which directly erode operational capacity,” the report says.

Britain’s diluted worldwide presence makes it harder to maintain influence in key areas of interest across the globe and has reduced the Royal Navy’s overall strategic effect, says the report.

The *daily Telegraph* said the 14-page document entitled “Royal Navy Utility Today Compared with 20 Years Ago” and dated 1 November, 2007, was drawn up by Rear-Admiral Alan Massey, the assistant chief of the naval staff and one of the services’ most influential officers.—MNA/Xinhua

Twenty bodies found in mass grave in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 Dec—Iraqi security forces found a mass grave containing the bodies of around 20 men, women and children near the former insurgent stronghold of Fallujah on Sunday, police said.

They said the bodies were partly decomposed and had been found northeast of Fallujah in an area once controlled by militants.

Fallujah lies in western Anbar Province, formerly the heart of the Sunni Arab insurgency and an area where al-Qaeda also had a strong presence until Sunni Arab tribal sheikhs joined forces with the US military to pacify the region.

Security forces have found several mass graves in recent months containing bodies of people believed to be victims of sectarian attacks that swept the country after a sacred Shiite shrine was bombed nearly two years ago. —MNA/Reuters



Zhao Cuilian, a 50-year-old folk handicraftswoman, examines a newly carved shadow play puppet in Houma, a city in north China’s Shanxi Province, 28 Nov, 2007.—XINHUA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

FM says UAE ready for peaceful settlement with Iran

DOHA, 3 Dec—A senior official of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said on Sunday that his country was ready to accept a peaceful settlement with Teheran over three disputed islands, local daily *Al-Sharq* reported.

UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan made the remarks ahead of the

28th annual summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) due to kick off in the Qatari capital of Doha on Monday, the report said.

The island dispute between Iran and the UAE will top the political agenda of the two-day GCC summit, which is expected to focus on regional security and

economic integration. The Foreign Minister, who arrived in Doha late on Sunday, was quoted as saying that the UAE hoped Iran would accept a proposal over a just solution to the dispute. He, however, did not give any details about the proposal.

The UAE has a long-standing feud with Iran over three Gulf islands, namely Greater and Lesser Tunbs and Abu Musa, which are held by Teheran but claimed by the UAE.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is also scheduled to take part in the talks of the six GCC countries—Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Oman, and Qatar. It is the first time that a head of state of the Islamic Republic is invited to a GCC summit.

MNA/Xinhua

Suicide attacker explodes car in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 3 Dec—A suicide attacker exploded his car close to a convoy of NATO troops Sunday morning in southern Afghan province of Kandahar, killing only himself, local police said.

Sayed Aqa Saqib, the provincial police chief, told *Xinhua* that the suicide attack occurred at local time 9:30 am (GMT 5:00) in the Shah Wali Kot District which left no casualties of the NATO forces. However, Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, the purported Taliban spokesman, told *Xinhua* from an unknown place via phone that the suicide attacker, who is a famous Taliban commander named Mullah Faizulah, has successfully killed 12 NATO soldiers and destroyed two vehicles in the incident.

Some 55,000 foreign

troops are being deployed in this country for keeping security and fighting militants. Conflicts and Taliban-related violence have claimed the lives of more than 5,800 people, mostly insurgents, over the past 11 months, according to officials of the war-torn Afghanistan.—MNA/Xinhua

A woman takes photos at Tokyo’s Shiodome district decorated with Christmas illuminations titled ‘Blue Ocean’ on 3 Dec, 2007. About 300,000 LED bulbs were spread all over a plaza of the office complex near Tokyo Bay, marking the fifth anniversary of its opening. INTERNET



Philippines captures communist leader

MANILA, 3 Dec—Philippine security forces arrested a leader of the Communist rebel movement near a shopping mall in the capital, Army and police officials said on Saturday, in a big blow to the Maoist-led guerilla group.

Elizabeth Principe was head of the northern branch of the New People's Army (NPA) and is married to Leo Velasco, the NPA's leader.

His whereabouts are unknown.

"It was a legitimate arrest," Lieutenant-General Alexander Yano, the Army commander, told

reporters after presenting Principe to the media at a base in the capital. She was captured on Wednesday.

"This is a big blow to the rebel movement and would certainly derail their plans to step up ideological, political and organizational work in urban centres in the country.

"She has at least six arrest warrants for kidnapping, robbery, arson and murder from her rebel activities in northern Philippines".

The 6,000-member NPA, active in 69 of 81 provinces, has been fighting for nearly 40 years to overthrow Manila's democratic government and replace it with a Maoist system.

The conflict has killed more than 40,000 people and, despite the collapse of many communism regimes around the world, continues to thrive in the Philippines because of a yawning gap between a tiny elite and the mass poor.—MNA/Reuters



Volunteers fly kites carrying red ribbon at the Renmin Square in Weihai, a coastal city in east China's Shandong Province, on 2 Dec, 2007. A group of volunteers from local medical institutions and Shandong University Weihai Branch gathered on the World AIDS Day to popularize knowledge about AIDS and promote the awareness of preventing the epidemic.—XINHUA

San Francisco launches "Gifts for Guns" campaign

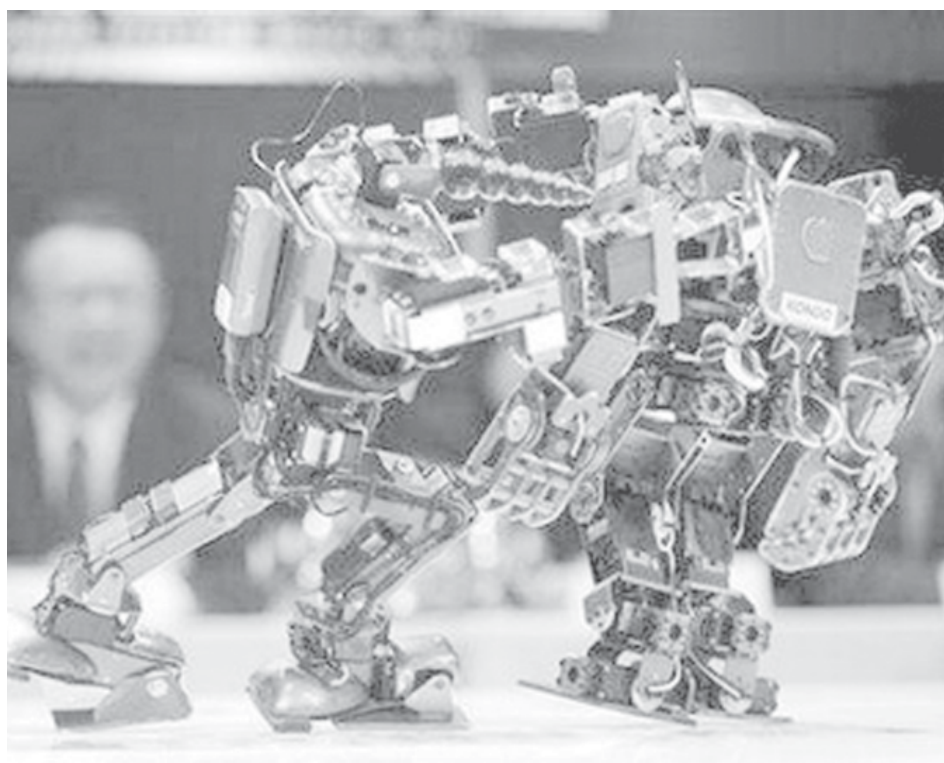
LOS ANGELES, 3 Dec—In an attempt to reduce the number of illegal firearms on city streets, San Francisco officials were offering gift cards in exchange for guns on Saturday.

This was the second time the city launched the campaign, called "Gifts for Guns." The first event in July brought in 117 handguns and 2 shotguns.

Participants will receive 100-dollar gift cards for rifles or shotguns, 150-dollar cards for revolvers or semiautomatic pistols and 200-dollar cards for assault-type weapons like AK-47s.

People who give up their firearms do not need to show identification to participate, said city officials, who promised not to ask any questions about the guns' origins.

The weapons must be unloaded, working and delivered in a clear plastic bag carried in another container, officials said.—MNA/Xinhua



Biped robots "Arius" (L) and "Metallic Fighter" fight in a ring during the Robo-One Grand Prix, a battle competition by biped robots, at the 2005 International Robot Exhibition in Tokyo on 3 Dec, 2005.

INTERNET

Estimates of US HIV cases rise 50%

WASHINGTON, 3 Dec—The US Government is raising its estimate of how many Americans are becoming infected with the AIDS virus every year by 50 per cent, according to newspaper reports on

Saturday.

The federal Centres for Disease Control and Prevention now believes the number of new HIV infections each year is between 55,000 and 60,000 — up from the

40,000 figure used for the past decade, *The Washington Post* reported.

The Post cited two unidentified people in contact with the scientists preparing the new estimate.—MNA/Reuters



Police drag away an AIDS protester in front of the White House in Washington on 30 Nov, 2007. The group of protesters called on the US government to do more to stem the AIDS epidemic.—INTERNET

16 killed in road accident in northern India

NEW DELHI, 3 Dec—Sixteen members of a marriage party, including eight women, were killed and a boy was injured when their vehicle fell into a deep gorge in Rampur sub-division of Shimla District in northern India, official sources said on Sunday.

The vehicle carrying the marriage party from Dankapat village of Kullu District on the way to Kingal in Rampur, fell into a 300-metre deep gorge, some 400 kilometres north of the capital New Delhi, near Artu late Saturday night, killing 16 people on the spot, Sub-divisional Magistrate Rampur, Dilip Negi said.

According to local news agency, *Press Trust of India*, A 12-year-old boy was injured and admitted to government hospital.

Police said they were informed about the mishap by the locals.

MNA/Xinhua

Strong quake hits Indonesia's Java Island

JAKARTA, 3 Dec—An earthquake measuring 6.0 on the Richter Scale shook the western part of Indonesia's Java Island on Sunday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties, the meteorology agency said.

The undersea quake had a depth of 32 kilometres (20 miles) and was centred 78 kilometres southeast of Ujungkulon in the western tip of Java.

An official at the meteorology agency said the quake was felt strongly in the Pelabuhan Ratu resort area but there were no reports of injuries.

"There have not been any reports on damage or casualties so far," said Radito, an official at the National Disaster Relief Coordinating Agency.

Indonesia sits on the so-called Pacific Ring of Fire, a very active seismic region where several tectonic plates meet, and is subjected to frequent tremors.

MNA/Reuters

China, Japan hold high-level eco dialogue

BEIJING, 2 Dec—China is willing to create sound conditions for Japanese firms to invest in China, Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan said at the ongoing first China-Japan high-level economic dialogue held here on Saturday. According to Zeng, four major problems exist in Sino-Japanese economic ties: a slowdown in the growth rate of bilateral trade, unsatisfactory business environment, obstacles in technological cooperation and flu-

tuations of Japanese investment in China. China also hopes Japan considers China's concerns on the status of market economy, trade conditions, export of high and new technologies and personnel exchanges, he said.

"China and Japan share expanding mutual interests and new opportunities for cooperation under new historical conditions," said Zeng, who called for both sides to enhance economic and trade cooperation.

"We should create a new pattern of economic and trade cooperation, putting emphasis on both commodities and services," Zeng said.

The vice-premier also urged the two sides to improve technological exchanges on energy-saving and environmental protection and work together more on global and regional economic issues. "As the two biggest economies in Asia, China and Japan shoulder great responsibility for global economic stability and the prosperity of east Asia," Zeng said.—MNA/Xinhua



An Eurocopter helicopter at the 47th Paris International air show, June 2007 at Le Bourget Airport.—INTERNET

Egypt, Iran keen on boosting economic cooperation

CAIRO, 3 Dec—Negotiations between Egypt and Iran are under way in order to forge a general framework for boosting bilateral economic and trade cooperation, a senior Egyptian official said on Saturday.

Egyptian Minister of Trade and Industry Rashid Moh-amed Rashid made the announcement at a joint Press conference with visiting Iranian

Minister of Industry and Mining Ali Akbar Mehriban.

Rashid was quoted by the Egyptian MENA news agency as saying that the two countries expect to further encourage bilateral trade exchange through the public or private sectors.

He said the talks within the framework of joint interests were expected to reach trade

and industrial deals in the near future, referring to ongoing negotiations to import wheat from Iran.

Rashid noted that the meetings with the Iranian side on Saturday did not tackle on cooperation in the nuclear domain.

As for the possibility of more international sanctions on Iran, Rashid said that differences between Iran and a number of foreign countries have not reached the point of imposing sanctions, reiterating Egypt's stance to respect all international agreements and treaties.

For his part, Mehriban said that during the visit to Egypt he will launch a joint production line of 5,000 Peugeot cars in Egypt during the first year, voicing hope that the production would increase over coming years.—MNA/Xinhua



A model walks the runway during the presentation of Oscar de la Renta's Pre-Fall 2008 fashion collection in New York, on 3 Dec, 2007. INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

China expected to produce 500 m tons of grain in '07

HEFEI, 3 Dec—China is expected to produce a record high of more than 500 million tons of grain this year, according to a senior agricultural official.

However, the country has to maintain an annual output of 500 million tons up to 2010 if it wants to ensure an adequate food supply, said Wei Chao'an, Vice-Minister of Agriculture.

The predicted grain output this year indicates China's grain production has entered a new stage of development, Wei said at a recent national meeting on grain production held in Hefei, capital of Anhui Province in east China.

"However, we still are faced with some new problems in stabilizing grain production" Wei

said. Wei said the problems included tight global grain supply and the decrease in grain reserves which had triggered the grain price hikes.

The growing oil price worldwide not only propelled the production of fuel with grain as a raw material, but also increased the cost of grain transport.

MNA/Xinhua

Venezuela sees 2008 oil price near \$100 per barrel

CARACAS, 3 Dec—Venezuela expects 2008 global oil prices will remain similar to the record prices seen this year, Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez said on Sunday.

"We expect that the (global) market will maintain the same prices that we have seen this year," Ramirez told reporters.

"Probably, if there is no geopolitical tension like what we have seen recently, prices should be around 100 US dollars per barrel," he said.

"We believe this shows there have been structural changes in the market."

Ramirez spoke to reporters after voting in Sunday's referendum aimed at formalizing socialism as the OPEC-member country's economic system and allowing anti-American firebrand President Hugo Chavez to run indefinitely for reelection.

Chavez has proposed that OPEC offer low-cost oil to poor countries and stabilize oil prices around 100 US dollars per barrel.

He threatened over the weekend to cut oil sales to the United States if the US Government meddles in Sunday's vote.

MNA/Reuters



Flood damage seen in the Japanese village of Kuma, Kumamoto Prefecture. Asian nations came together Monday for a first "water summit" aiming to tackle water-related disasters, which hit this region more than any other and are seen as worsening due to global warming.—INTERNET



Children play in front of the Christmas lights of the decorated fountain in front of the Old Opera house in Frankfurt, central Germany, on 2 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

Man dies of bird flu in east China province

NANJING, 3 Dec — A man in east China's Jiangsu Province died of bird flu on Sunday, the provincial Health Department reported. The 24-year-old man, surnamed Lu, developed fever, chills and other symptoms on 24 November and was hospitalized on 27 November after being diagnosed with "lower left lobe pneumonia". Lu's condition deteriorated after he was hospitalized and he died on Sunday.

Lu was the 17th Chinese to die of avian flu

so far. A respiratory tract sample from the man that was examined by Jiangsu Provincial Disease Control and Prevention Centre on Saturday was H5N1 positive.

H5N1 refers to the genetic make-up of the virus. The man had not had any contact with infected or deceased fowl, the Health Department said.

A test done by the China Disease Control and Prevention Centre on Sunday also indicated that the man was H5N1 positive.

In line with the World

Health Organization (WHO) definition of avian flu infection and Chinese standards as well, the bird flu prevention and control expert panel of the Chinese Ministry of Health concluded that Lu had been infected with bird flu.

MNA/Xinhua

Brown under fire over secret donations scandal

LONDON, 3 Dec — Opposition parties stepped up attacks on British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's Government on Sunday, demanding to know who knew about illegal secret donations to the ruling Labour Party.

The property developer at the centre of the scandal was reported to have alleged that 10 Labour Party officials were aware of his arrangement to give more than 600,000 pounds (1.24 million US dollars) to

the party through go-betweens.

British law requires people donating on behalf of others to disclose the source of the money.

An ICM poll for the *News of the World* newspaper showed the donations scandal and a series of other mishaps were seriously undermining the popularity of Brown's five-month-old government with the opposition Conservatives enjoying an 11-point lead.

MNA/Reuters

Rare war medals stolen from NZ museum

WELLINGTON, 3 Dec — Rare war medals, including nine Victoria Crosses, have been stolen from New Zealand's national war museum in a theft described by Prime Minister Helen Clark as a "crime against the nation". The haul included medals awarded to New Zealand's most celebrated war hero, World War II captain Charles Upham, one of only three men to have won two VCs, the highest award for bravery among Commonwealth nations.

About 100 medals were stolen, including nine Victoria Crosses, two George Crosses and one Albert Medal, with a value of about 10 million New Zealand dollars (7.5 million US dollars), according to a local expert.

The medals were taken in the early hours of Sunday morning from the museum on the outskirts of the small town of Waiouru, in the centre of New Zealand's North Island.

MNA/Reuters



UNWTO lists Chinese as official language

BEIJING, 3 Dec — The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has listed Chinese as one of its official languages, according to China's tourism administration.

Chinese has already been made the official language of organizations such as the World Health Organization, World Bank, and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Therefore, China had urged the UNWTO to follow the suit, said Du

Jiang, deputy director of the China National Tourism Administration (CNTA).

Du said China could play a more active role in international tourism issues after Chinese became UNWTO's official language.

It would also promote exchanges and coopera-

tion between China and other UNWTO members, Du said.

The proposal to make Chinese the official language was passed at a recent UNWTO meeting held this week, and it will become effective when two thirds of the member countries approve the proposal.—MNA/Xinhua

Nigeria may tighten control over foreign journalists

LAGOS, 3 Dec — Nigeria may tighten its control over foreign journalists on local reporting, according to a government directive received here on Saturday.

The directive said all organizations that wish to invite foreign journalists to cover events in the country must obtain clearance from the Federal

Ministry of Information and Communications.

The official *News Agency of Nigeria* reported that the governmental guideline was contained in a communique issued at

the end of the 38th National Council on Information and Communications held recently in Jos, the capital city of the central Plateau State.

MNA/Xinhua



Marianne Cruz smiles after winning the Miss Dominican 2008 pageant in Santo Domingo, on 3 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

Turkeys culled after Polish bird flu outbreak

WARSAW, 3 Dec — Poland's veterinary service has culled 4,200 turkeys following an outbreak of H5N1 bird flu on two poultry farms northwest of Warsaw, officials said on Sunday.

"The turkeys were

gassed on Saturday night and the destruction of their carcasses is due to end on Sunday," PAP news agency reported district crisis-management chief Hilary Januszczk as saying.

He added that no new cases had been detected so far. Two turkey farms in the Plock area, some 80 kilometres (50 miles) northwest of Warsaw, were cordoned off after the outbreak was discovered and routine precautions were carried out.—MNA/Reuters

A Gold Stripe Maroon Clownfish (*Premnas biaculeatus*) is seen swimming in an Anemone in an exotic fish store aquarium in Tyler, Texas on 2 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

Images of the Day



Thad Starr of Oregon celebrates after his pumpkin won first place in the World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off in Half Moon Bay, California recently. Starr's pumpkin weighed a record 1,524 pounds.

INTERNET



The diamonds are about 1 billion years older than the oldest known diamonds found in terrestrial rock. Scientists in Australia have unearthed diamonds inside zircon crystals that are more than 4 billion years old, almost as old as the Earth. —INTERNET

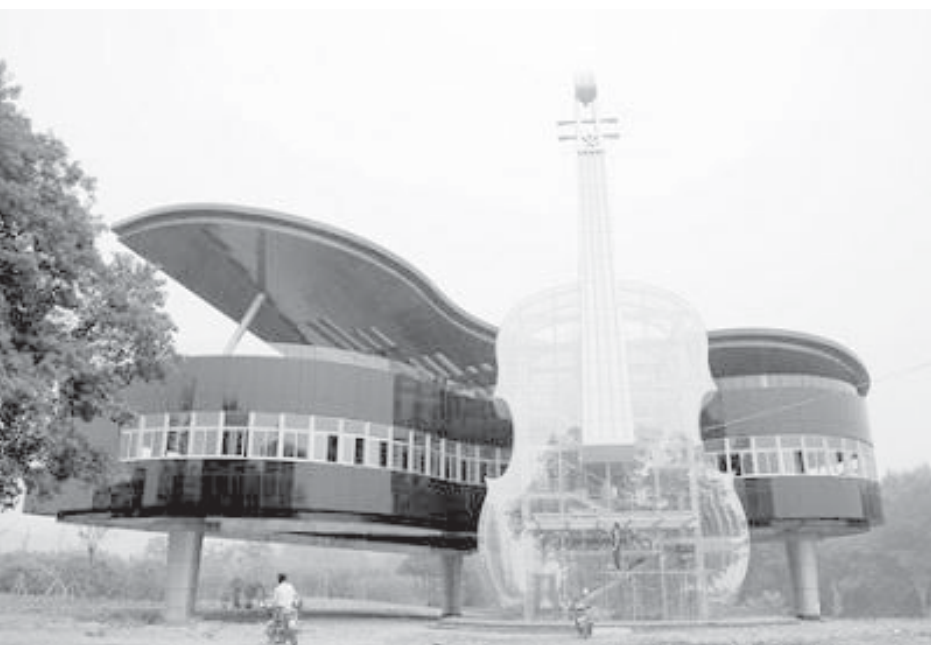
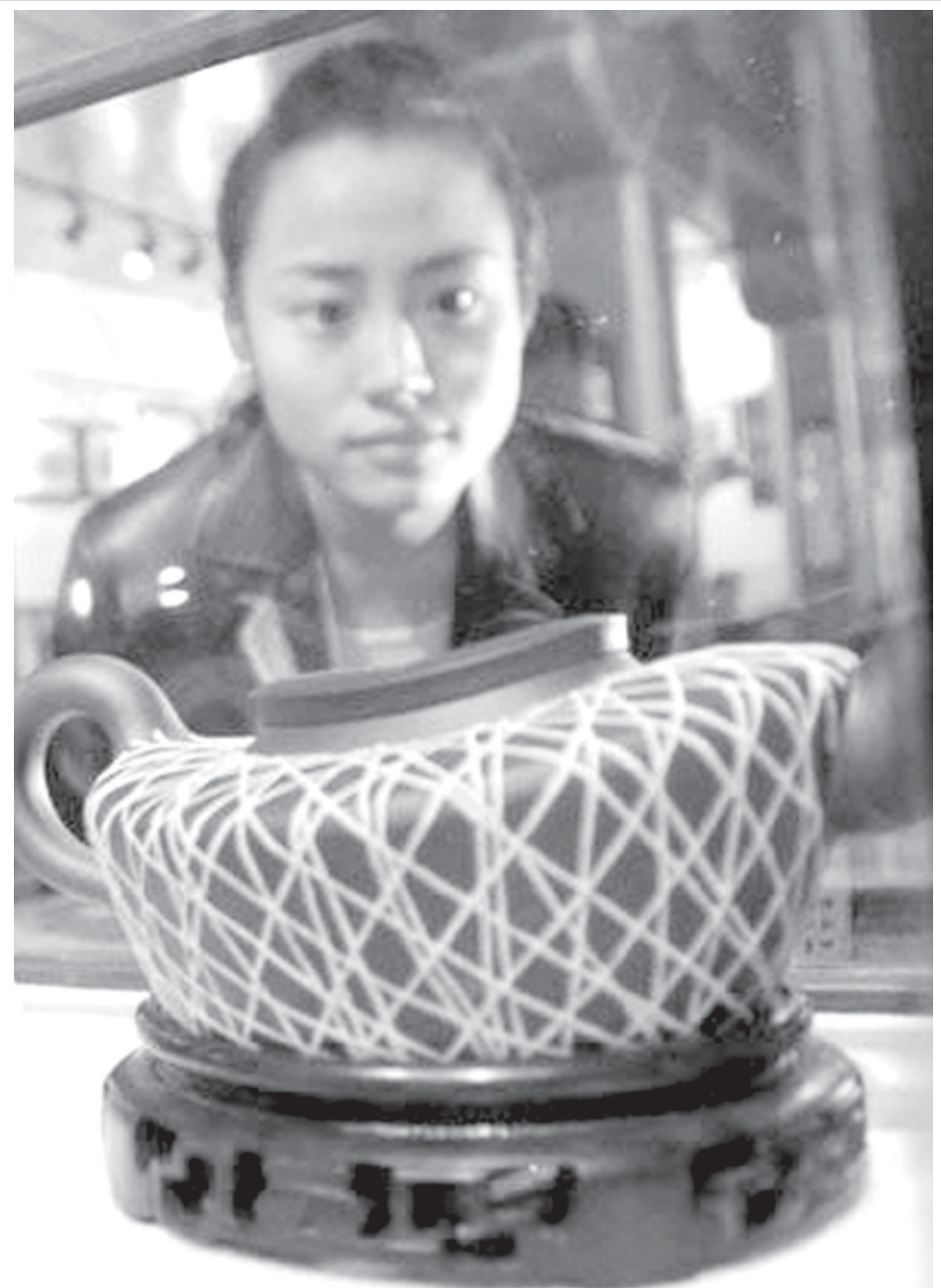
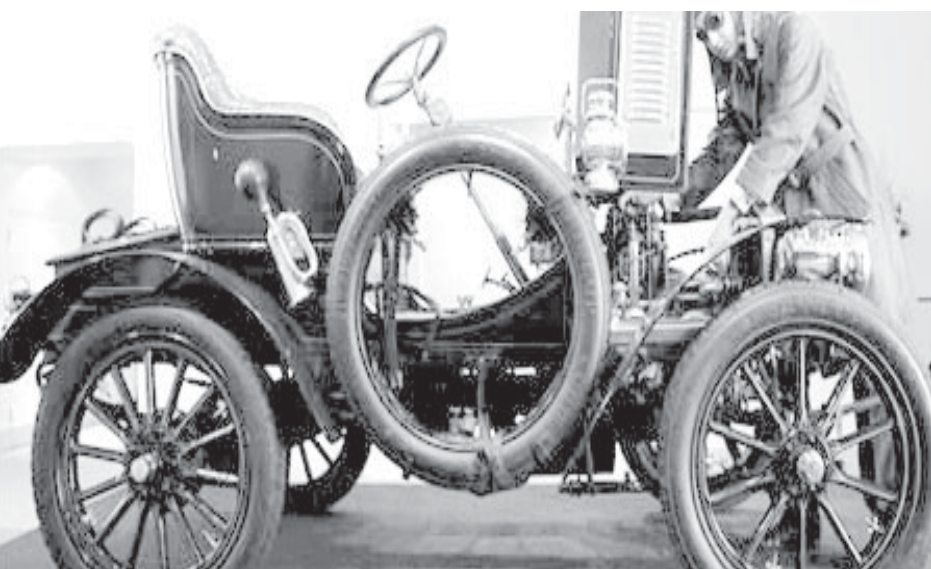


Photo taken on 18 Sept, 2007 shows a building in the shape of piano in Huainan, east China's Anhui Province. The building is mainly used to display the layout pattern of the newly-built area in the city, with its main structure built in the shape of black piano and stairs in the shape of violin. —INTERNET



Visitors take a close look at one of the top ten zisha (purple clay) teapots of 2007 in the shape of Chinese National Stadium, dubbed as the Bird's Nest, shown in Shanghai, east China's municipality, on 17 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET



The world's oldest surviving Rolls Royce (made in 1904) was sold for 3,521,500 pounds (US\$7,275,000) in London on Monday, smashing the world record for a veteran car. — INTERNET

Provisions and cash donated to monasteries...

(from page 1)

Hmawby Township Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwegyin) Presiding Sayadaw of Thathana Wunhsaung Monastery Bhaddanta Medasara.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented offertories to the Presiding Sayadaw.

Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, senior military officers, departmental heads and wellwishers also offered donations to members of the Sangha.

Three senior Tatmadaw officers, on behalf of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) families, offered provisions to members of the Sangha.

Next, the wellwishers also offered provisions.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the vice-mayor and senior military officers accepted the donations K 7,021,250 and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Lt-Col Maung Maung Kyaw of Mingladon Air Base explained the purpose of the donations.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe accepts cash donated by a wellwisher at a ceremony to donate provisions to 14 monasteries in Yangon North District.
MNA



Next, Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Thathana Wunhsaung Monastery Member of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwegyin) Bhaddanta Chandasiri delivered a sermon and the congregation

shared merits gained.

Today's donations included 397 bags of rice, 265 viss of edible oil, 1269 viss of salt, 254 boxes of soft salt and K 7,021,250.—MNA

Sports Minister leaves for Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec—Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint on 1 December left here by air to attend the XXIV SEA Games and the meeting of the SEA Games Federation Council to be held in Thailand from 6 to 15 December.

The minister was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi and officials from the Ministry of Sports.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint being seen off by Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister U Aung Kyi at Nay Pyi Taw Airport. — MNA

Two injured in a fire in Kayukpadaung

YANGON, 4 Dec — Two people were injured in a fire at an oil well of a private oil company in Nagsantatung Village in Kyaukpadaung Township on 2 December.

The fire started due to the friction between an iron pulley and a material in the oil well of Shwe-thein-than Kaba Oil exploration company.

Similarly, a fire broke out in Kayin Kyaung Village in Toungoo Township on 2 December and a house and a shop were destroyed in the fire. The fire started as the lid of an oil tank was opened by hitting with an iron stake.

In another incident, a shed and papers stored in it were lost in a fire that broke out at the shed on 30 November. The fire had started at the shed in Market Street, Kwepwe Village, in Ottwin Township, from the petrol that spilled from the generator at the shed. — MNA

Gold Entrepreneurs Association's meeting 8 Dec

YANGON, 3 Dec—The Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association will hold its fifth annual meeting at Panda Hotel at the corner of Wadan Street and Minye Kyawswar Street in Lanmadaw Township, here, at 1 pm on 8 December. Members are invited to attend the meeting.—MNA

United Nations Secretary General's Message on International Volunteer Day

5 December 2007

YANGON, 5 Dec— Following is the text of the message of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon for the commemoration of International Volunteer Day, today:

The challenges facing our world are vast and complex — from resolving conflicts and building peace, to alleviating poverty and reaching the other Millennium Development Goals. Tackling these challenges requires all of us to work together — Governments, international organizations, the private sector and civil society in its broadest sense. Volunteers play an indispensable role in these efforts. Yet, the remarkable contribution of voluntary action around the world is not sufficiently recognized.

Volunteerism is a feature of all cultures and societies. It is a fundamental source of community strength, resilience, solidarity and social cohesion. It can help effect positive social change by fostering inclusive societies that respect diversity, equality and the participation of all. Such contributions are vital to the three pillars of the United Nations work — promoting peace and security, advancing development, and protecting human rights and human dignity. That is why every United Nations agency draws on the spirit of volunteerism, including through the United Nations Volunteers programme, to expand the reach of its activities.

Voluntary action is also essential in our global effort to address climate change, which poses a serious threat to our ability to reach the Millennium Development Goals. Today, the world's Governments are meeting in Bali, Indonesia, at the landmark United Nations Climate Change Conference. They hope to negotiate a way forward to save our planet from the effects of global warming. But even Governments cannot hope to do so alone. Instead, we need people everywhere to volunteer for this challenge, and to help communities mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. Voluntary action is also critical to build domestic solutions for sustainable economic growth, and to develop capacities to prepare for and respond to natural disasters.

On this International Volunteer Day, let us recognize the power of volunteerism to promote peace and development around the world. Let us also pay tribute to the many millions of citizens all over the world who, every day — in ways small and large — volunteer their time, ingenuity, solidarity and creativity to help build a better, more sustainable future.—UNIC

Rubber and physic nut plantations inspected in Buthidaung and Maungtaw

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec — Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence, Commander Maj-Gen Maung Shein and officials arrived at Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State, on 1 December.

At the Thaung-loanaung Hall of Wahkhokchaung Station, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party met with families of regiments and units, discussed matters relating to agriculture and livestock breeding, and provided cash assistance for them.

They inspected progress in growing physic nut plants and rubber in the station in a motorcade.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party met with departmental officials and local people at the hall of Ingyinmyaing model village where chairman of township PDC U Nyan Myo reported on the agricultural services and regional development tasks. Maj-Gen Khin Zaw gave instructions on striving for the development of education, health



Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence inspects rubber plantation project on Mayyu Mountain Range in Maungtaw. — MNA

and social sectors.

After presenting gifts to local people, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspected rural progress and fulfilled the needs.

Upon arrival at the rubber farm that belongs to U Maung Maung Soe and U San Shwe Maung in Letwedakpyin village, they briefed Maj-Gen Khin Zaw on cultivation of rubber and collecting rubber strains and Commander Maj-Gen Maung Shein gave a supplementary report.

In connection with

the reports, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw gave instructions on extended cultivation of rubber, which is the industrial perennial crop, and other suitable crops.

Buthidaung Township has so far grown 1888 acres of rubber and there are 82,000 rubber sapplings to be grown in 2008-2009.

Next, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspected thriving rubber and physic nut plantations on both sides of Buthidaung-Maungtaw road and those grown

by regiments and units.

Giving the instructions on cultivation of physic nut plants to meet the target, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party oversaw thriving physic nut plantations grown by Maungtaw General

Administration Department.

There are 1,167,000 rubber seeds and 581,500 rubber sapplings, to be grown on 1,000 acres during 2008-2009.

Next, Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party paid

homage to Maungtaw Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Sayadaw Maha Ganthavacaka Bhaddanta Ketu and donated alms to the Sayadaw at Myoma Pariyatti Sarthintaik.

MNA

EP No 1 Minister inspects Natural Pozzoland Production Factory

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min inspected Natural Pozzoland Factory near Ngayantkon village, about two miles off Popa Town in Mandalay Division on 30 November.

Officials concerned gave reports on arrival of raw materials, production

of finished goods, maintaining and repairing of chain conveyor and screw conveyor, future plans, and cooperation with foreign experts.

Later, the minister viewed laying foundation of Ball Mill and installation of Silo foundation and maintenance of machines

at Natural Pozzoland Factory and left necessary instructions.

Then, the minister together with Col Phone Maw Shwe, Chairman of Magway Division PDC, donated offertories to the members of the Sangha at Maha Vithuta Yama Monastery in Pakokku.

MNA

C-in-C's (Army, Navy, Air) cycling tournament prize presentation

YANGON, 30 Nov — The 14th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Trophy cycling for 2007 was opened at the Thuwunna sports grounds here this morning, with an opening address by Commandant of Mingaladon Air Base Brig-Gen Zin Yaw.

In 800-meter event, Yan Naung Oo of Eastern Command team stood first, Myo Lin Aung of South-West Command team second, Yan Myo Aung of Yangon Command team third. In 1600-metre event (novice division) Soe Win Aung of South-East Command team came first, Kyaw Sein of Commander-in-Chief (Air) Office team second and Naing Lin Tun of South-East Command team third. In 4000-metre event, Yangon Command team stood first, Eastern



Commandant of Mingaladon Air Base Brig-Gen Zin Yaw presents the championship shield to Eastern Command Team. — MNA

Command team second and South-West Command team third. The man of the event went to Yan Naung Oo of Eastern Command team, the best award (novice division) went to Aung Bo Bo Hlaing of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) Office team.

Afterwards, senior military offices presented prizes to those who won prizes event-wise. And Brig-Gen Zin Yaw presented Championship Shield to Eastern Command team that emerged champion with 57 points. — MNA

Horizon Streetball Tournament held

YANGON, 4 Dec — Jointly sponsored by Myanmar Basketball Federation and Horizon Int'l Education Centre, the Horizon Streetball Tournament took place at the centre on Po Sein Road here on 1 December morning. The tournament includes 75 events—22 for men under 13, 25 for men (aged 14-18), 8 for men above 19 (open division), 12 for women under 13, and 8 for women above 14 (open division). The prize presentation ceremony was held on 2 December afternoon. — NLM



A player of Wild Cats Team fights for the ball with a player of Vogue Team during Women (open division) Horizon Streetball Tournament. — NLM

**Information Minister addresses ninth meeting of information sub-committee of ASEAN-COCI
Mediamen urge to unitedly distribute authentic, constructive
information to resist influence of powerful nations**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec — The ninth meeting of information sub-committee of ASEAN-COCI was held at Shwe Nandaw Hotel in hotel zone, here this morning.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of ASEAN Culture and Information National Committee in Myanmar Director-General of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department U San Win, Chairman of information sub-committee of ASEAN Culture and Information Committee in Myanmar Director-General of Myanma Radio and Television U Khin Maung Htay, Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Aung Nyein, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Soe Win, departmental officials of the Ministry of Information, delegates of ASEAN Culture and Information Committees in Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam and delegates from ASEAN Secretariat.



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers an address at opening of 9th Meeting of ASEAN-COCI, Sub-Committee on Information. — MNA

In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said:

The Association of South-East Asia Nations (ASEAN) has come into existence with the ASEAN Declaration on 8 August 1967 and now ASEAN is 40 years old. During these 40 years, the number ASEAN member countries increased to 10 from its original 5 members namely Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

It is obvious that culture and information sectors must play vital roles in building a peaceful and developed Socio-Culture Community which is ASEAN's goal. Accordingly, the ASEAN-COCI is im-

plementing culture projects and information projects annually.

Today, the meeting will review previous projects and recommend to the ASEAN-COCI on the information projects for the next year.

The delegates at this meeting are representing the information sectors of their respective nations. Being IT age, communication and information technologies are developing rapidly. The technologies are capable of disseminating a story of a region to the World's nations within seconds. Through these technologies, there would be encouragement for better understanding, friendship, and bilateral assistance to be

harmonious with Socio-Culture Community according to the motto of ASEAN "Ten Nations One Community". Moreover, development of the ASEAN region would be ensured by letting the international community correctly know about ASEAN through communication and information techniques. It is the advantage of the IT age. But there are both good and bad outcomes naturally. Nowadays, some powerful nations are misusing media as a weapon to interfere in internal affairs of small nations. Although the power nations should use their media might in building world peace and peaceful solution of regional disputes, they are

inciting for instability in the country they want to interfere and they are misusing media for biased information with negative views to tarnish the image of the country intentionally. I would like to urge mediamen of ASEAN countries to unitedly distribute authentic and constructive information in order to resist the media influence of the powerful nations.

In conclusion, I would like to exhort you all to make efforts for realization of the information projects which will contribute towards the building of a peaceful and developed Socio-Cultural Community as initiated by the ASEAN leaders.

Next, the minister had photos taken together with the delegates and cordially greeted them.

MNA

Information Sub-committee of ASEAN Culture and Information Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec—The 9th Meeting of the Information Sub-committee of ASEAN Culture and Information Committee hosted by Myanmar took place at Shwe Nandaw Hotel here this morning, attended by delegates from ASEAN countries and ASEAN Secretariat.

Chairman of the Information Sub-committee Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay presided over the meeting.

Those present reviewed the resolutions passed by previous ASEAN meeting, plans implemented and under implementation, and future plans to be carried out in 2007-2008 fiscal year. They also reviewed measures taken together with Dialogue Partners.

This was followed by a general round of discussions.

The timetable of ASEAN-COCI plans to be implemented in 2007-2008, the designation of the date on which the 10th Meeting of the Information Sub-committee will be held and the minutes of the 9th Meeting of the Information Sub-committee were discussed and approved, after which the meeting came to an end.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and party pose for a documentary photo at opening of 9th Meeting of ASEAN-COCI, Sub-Committee on Information. — MNA

Documentary photos displayed at Press Conference 2/2007

ပြည်ပရှိ NLD-LA, AAPP ၊ ဗကသ၊ မကသ၊ မကဒ များမှ
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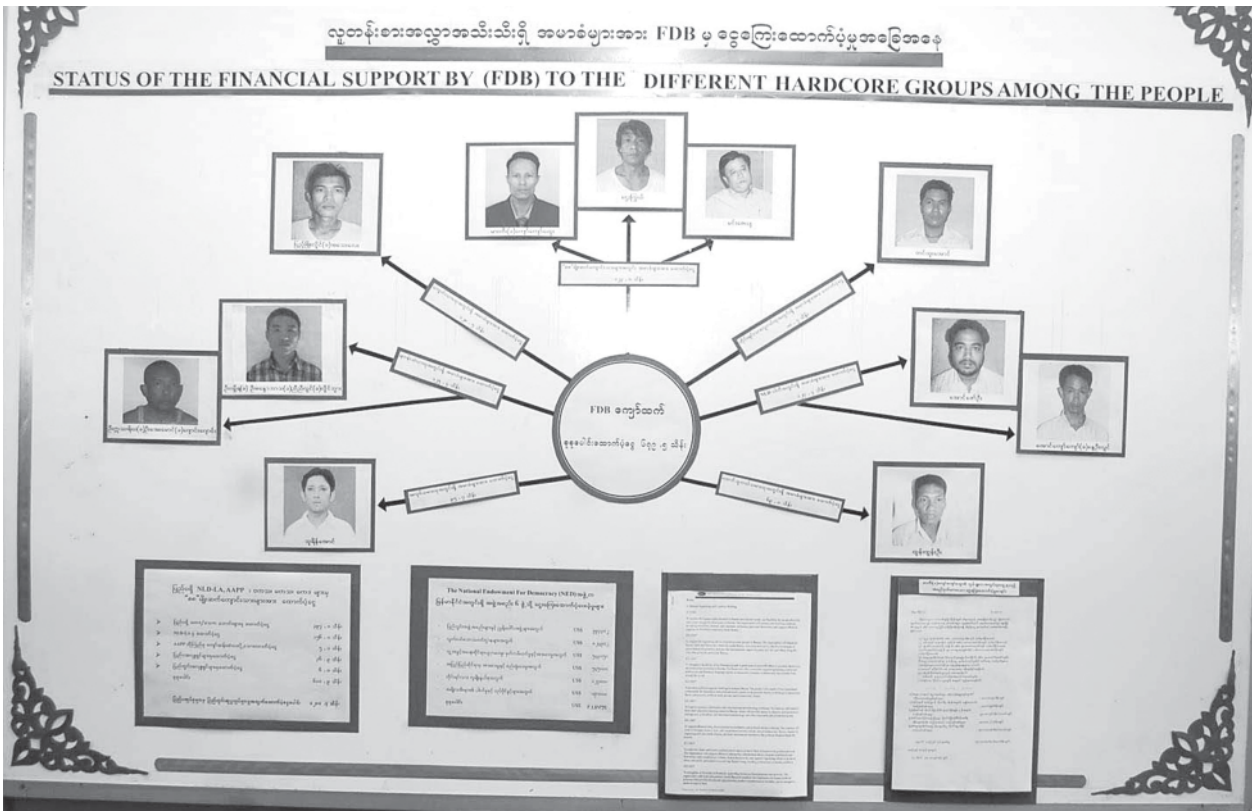
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| ▶ AAPP ဘိုကြည်မှ ကျော်ဆန်းထံပေးပို့သောထောက်ပံ့ငွေ | ၅ . ၀ သိန်း |
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Allocation of cash assistance from NLD-LA, AAPP, Ba-Ka-Tha, Ma-Ka-Tha and Ma-Ka-Da to 88 Generation Students.—MNA

The National Endowment For Democracy (NED) အဖွဲ့က
မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအတွင်းရှိ အဖွဲ့အစည်း ၆ ဖွဲ့သို့ ငွေကြေးထောက်ပံ့ပေးခဲ့မှုများ

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Allocation of cash assistance from National Endowment for Democracy (NED) to six organizations in Myanmar. — MNA



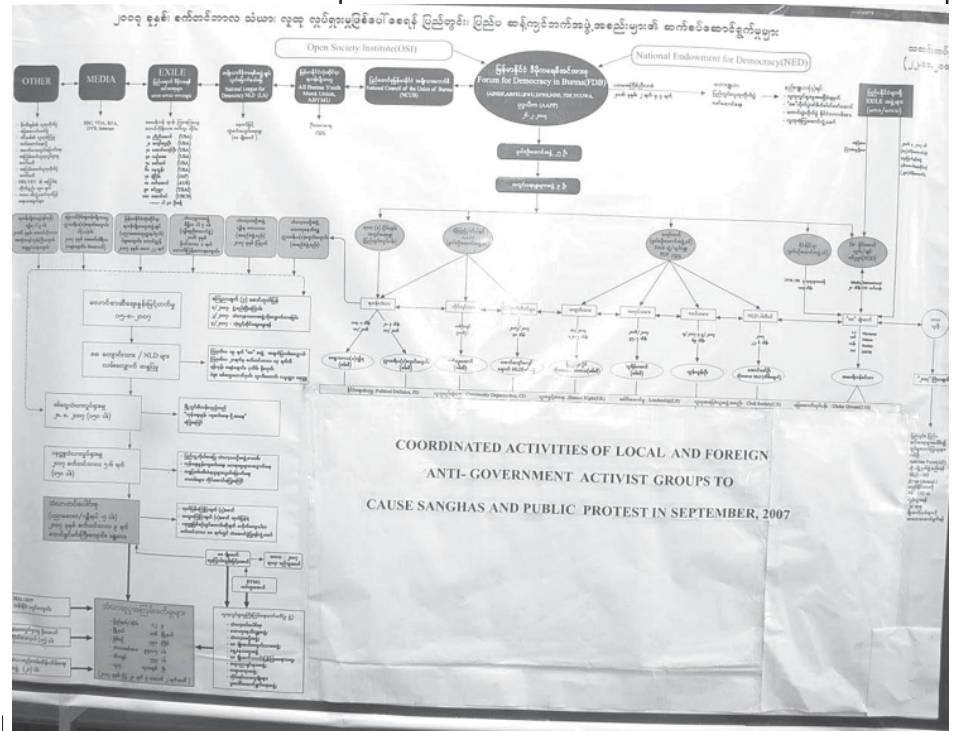
A chart shows flow of cash assistance from FDB to various organizations in Myanmar.

MNA

Documentary photos show coordinated activities of local and foreign anti-government activist groups to cause unrest in September. — MNA



Documentary photos displayed at the press conference. — MNA



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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (VDG-075)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (VDG-075) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.12.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Chinese coal mine blast kills 18, 43 missing

BEIJING, 3 Dec—An explosion at a Chinese coal mine killed at least 18 people and left 43 missing, the *Beijing News* reported on Monday, the latest in an all-too-familiar series of fatal colliery accidents.

The explosion in Zhenxiang in the southwestern province of Yunnan happened on Sunday morning, the newspaper said.

MNA/Reuters

US scientists announce advance in detecting cancer cells

LOS ANGELES, 3 Dec—US cancer researchers on Sunday announced a major advance in detecting cancer cells as they spread throughout the body of an afflicted person. This advance could lead to the use of nanotechnology to detect cancer and determine how rapidly it has spread, said researchers at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA).

Researchers at the

UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Centre said they had used a atomic force microscope to literally poke a pointy stick against the side of living cells, to determine how flexible the cell walls are. Because cancer cells have to squeeze into tight places as they spread through a body, these diseased cells are typically more flexible than healthy cells. By using the nanotechnology microscope and device to wield

the sharp pointy object, scientists have a new tool to determine if any given sample cell is carcinogenic or not.

Jianyu Rao, a UCLA researcher, said the new high-tech optical test replaces the time-honoured procedure of taking a tissue sample, dying it, and looking at it in old-fashioned optical microscopes to spot abnormal, carcinogenic cells.—MNA/Xinhua

Iran says sanctions will not help end nuclear row

TEHERAN, 3 Dec—Further UN sanctions will not solve the row with the West over Iran's disputed nuclear plans, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said on Sunday, a day after six world powers discussed imposing new penalties on Teheran.

The powers met in Paris on Saturday after the European Union's top diplomat, Javier Solana, said he was disappointed about his latest talks with Iran's chief nuclear negotiator that had aimed to persuade Teheran to halt sensitive atomic work.

"If these powers are trying to deprive Iran of its rights, resolutions and sanctions will be fruitless," Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Hosseini told a weekly news conference.

The five permanent UN Security Council members and Germany agreed in September to delay sanctions against Iran until the end of November, pending a report by Solana on his mediation efforts and another by the UN nuclear watchdog, the IAEA. The International Atomic Energy Agency

report found Iran was cooperating, but not proactively.

Two rounds of sanctions have already been imposed on Iran for failing to heed a UN demand that it halt uranium enrichment, a process the West believes Teheran is trying to master so it can build atomic bombs.

Iran insists it wants only fuel for power plants. Iran has refused to stop the activity, saying it is a national right and insisting its work is based on internationally and regulations.—MNA/Reuters

India plans to buy six subs

NEW DELHI, 3 Dec—India has begun the hunt for six more submarines, to add to the six being built under the Scorpene project, local newspaper *Times of India* reported on Sunday.

"We are now actively looking at the second line of submarines after the Scorpene. I think the global tender for the six

new submarines should be floated in the next financial year (2008-2009)," Indian Navy Chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta said.

The contenders for the six new submarines could include the German HDW and Russian Amur submarines, with the French Scorpene also being in the reckoning for

a repeat order.

At present, India has 16 conventional diesel-electric submarines — 10 Russian Kilo-class, four German HDW-class and two very old Foxtrot-class vessels.

The Scorpene project, under which the six submarines will roll out between 2012 and 2017, is crucial since naval projections show India will be left with only nine out of its 16 submarines by the middle of the next decade. India's long-term perspective programme is to acquire indigenous capacity in design, development and construction of submarines, with a total of 24 submarines to be manufactured in a phased manner.

The report says India is also on course to lease an Akula-II class nuclear-powered submarine from Russia from end-2008 onwards for ten years.

MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen kill 11 villagers in N-E Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 3 Dec—Gunmen of al-Qaeda in Iraq organization attacked a Shiite village in Diyala province northeast of Baghdad, killing at least 11 people and wounding five others, a provincial police source said on Saturday.

"Dozens of al-Qaeda militants launched series of mortar and machinegun attacks overnight and Saturday morning on the village of Dwaiyah near the town of Maqadiyah, 100 kilometres northeast of Baghdad," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Adnan al-Bawi, the chieftain of the al-Bawi tribe in the village was among the killed people, the source said. On Saturday morning, the tension is very high in the area as the clash continue between the attackers and the villagers, he said. Several houses were damaged by the attacks, he added.—MNA/Xinhua

Flight delay causes loss of million of dollars in NY

NEW YORK, 3 Dec—New York City Comptroller William Thomson issued a report Sunday, saying passengers lose about 200 million US dollars a year because of the time they spend in airports and on the tarmac.

In the 36-page report, Thomson said the on-time performance of commercial aircraft at the three major regional airports, namely, JFK, Newark and LaGuardia, was 13 per cent below the national level.

Flight delays at New York airports are getting worse every year at a rate much faster than other US cities, polluting the air and eroding the city's

ability to compete in the global marketplace, he said.

"One of New York City's major competitive advantages is its outstanding air connections with the rest of the nation and the world. This advantage is now being degraded by the declining reliability of air travel into and out of New York," Thomson said in a statement.

Thomson said the Federal Aviation Administration needed to modernize an "antiquated" air traffic control system, train more controllers and stop overscheduling airline flights during peak hours.

He said his recommendations could ease delays and save airlines and passengers nearly 260 million dollars a year at Kennedy Airport alone.

Nearly half of all flights coming into Kennedy, Newark and LaGuardia arrived late this year, and the airports were the worst in the nation in terms of on-time records, local media said.

MNA/Xinhua

Cars, vans and cranes wait to be loaded on the Grande Colonia cargo ship, for overseas export, at the Belgian port of Antwerp in Beveren 29 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET



Chinese warship concludes goodwill visit to Japan

TOKYO, 2 Dec— The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy's missile destroyer *Shenzhen* left Tokyo's Harumi wharf on Saturday morning, concluding the PLA's first-ever warship visit to Japan.

Shenzhen, with 345 officials and soldiers onboard headed by Rear Admiral Xiao Xinnian,

Vice-Chief of Staff of the South China Sea Fleet of the PLA Navy, was led off the port by the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force (MSDF)'s frigate *Thunder* at 9:53 am.

About 300 Japan-based Chinese gathered on the bank to see off the warship from homeland.

They waved Chinese

and Japanese national flags and unfolded banners celebrating the successful visit.

Chinese Ambassador to Japan Cui Tiankai also led embassy officials to send off the warship.

During the four-day visit starting 28 November, while Chinese naval officials were meeting with Japanese officials from the Defence Ministry and the MSDF, Chinese crew members toured central Tokyo and held a variety of exchanges activities, including a soccer match, with their Japanese counterparts.

The two sides visited each other's warships and opened their warships to the public.

The visit of *Shenzhen*, which left the Zhanjiang port of Southern China's Guangdong Province on 21 November, was at the invitation of the MSDF.

MNA/Xinhua



An Open Bic sailing dinghy boat for children is installed on a stand ahead of the 47th Paris Boat Show, on 29 Nov. The exhibition will be open from 1 to 9 December showing some 1400 boats including 300 new models.—INTERNET

Nokia Siemens Network launches innovation base in China

HANGZHOU, 3 Dec — Nokia Siemens Network opened an innovation centre here on Friday to develop software technologies.

The Innovation Software Park covers 22,000 square metres of a state-level high-tech industrialization zone in Hangzhou, a scenic city in east China's Zhejiang Province. More than 600 employees will carry out research in solutions for 2.5G, 3G, Wimax and I-HSPA mobile telecommunication technologies as well as develop relative software platforms, according to David Ho, president of Nokia Siemens Greater China Region.

It is the second largest wireless technology research base established by the world's leading network telecommunication company following the one in Finland. Nokia Siemens Network is a joint venture between Finland's Nokia and Germany's Siemens.

It ranked second in the world's wireless network market and telecom service market, and the third in the world's cable network market.

MNA/Xinhua



Palestinian women stand near a section of Israel's separation barrier at the Kalandia checkpoint between the West Bank town of Ramallah and Jerusalem, on 2 Dec, 2007. Israel says the barrier is necessary for security, while Palestinians call it a land grab.—INTERNET

Gunmen kill Spanish policeman in France

PARIS, 3 Dec— ETA suspects shot and killed a Spanish Guardia Civil policeman in France on Saturday, French police said, the Basque separatist group's first killing since it abandoned a ceasefire in June.

A second Guardia Civil was seriously injured in the shooting in the French resort of Capbreton, 20 kilometres (12 miles) from the southern city of Biarritz.

The two plain-clothed officers were taking part in a surveillance operation with French police when they were shot at point blank range as they were getting into their cars around 0830 GMT, a police source told Reuters.

Police were hunting two men and a woman who fled the scene.

The killing was the first by ETA since it called off a 15-month-old ceasefire

on 5 June — which it had effectively already broken by bombing Madrid Airport last December.

Spanish Interior Minister Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba confirmed that one of the policemen had been killed and the other seriously wounded and said they had been shot as they left a restaurant.

"Since ETA broke the ceasefire, they continue to want to kill," Rubalcaba said at a meeting of EU interior ministers near Potsdam, Germany.

"They achieved that today. Prison awaits them.

They will be relentlessly pursued using all available means."

French Interior Minister Michele Alliot-Marie said ETA was trying to use France as a refuge and a base to prepare attacks.

Every effort was being made to catch the culprits, she added.

MNA/Reuters

Mobile phone application to track user's carbon footprint

BRUSSELS, 2 Dec— Scientists at a European Commission research centre have developed a mobile phone application that allows users to see how their daily choices impact on climate change, said the commission Friday.

The technology, called mobGAS, can calculate daily emissions of the three major greenhouse gases — carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide — caused by an individual.

Information about everyday activities, such as cooking, transport, lighting, electronic appliances, is put into the application, which calculates emissions.

A user diary of daily, weekly and yearly emissions can be registered on a secure website, allowing a comparison with national and world averages.

The application also

includes an animation reflecting the user's contribution to the Kyoto Protocol emissions reduction target.

The application is

available in all 21 EU official languages and can be downloaded free of charge into mobile phones of individuals.

MNA/Xinhua



Attendants stand in front of the statue of Confucius in Burwood, Australia, on 1 Dec, 2007. The statue of Confucius, great educator and philosopher in ancient China, was unveiled in Burwood on 1 Dec, the first in Australia.—XINHUA

SPORTS



Republic of Korea handball player Sangeun Lee, left, throws the ball against Yuliya Manaharova, right, of Ukraine during the Group F Women's Handball World Championship match, in Nantes, western France, on 3 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

Corinthians relegated in Brazil two years after title

RIO DE JANEIRO, 4 Dec — Corinthians, one of Brazil's most popular clubs and champions two years ago, were relegated after drawing 1-1 at Gremio in their final game on Sunday.

Corinthians, winners of FIFA's Club World championship in 2000, began the day one point off the danger zone but were overtaken by Goias, who beat Internacional 2-1 with a three-times taken penalty. Corinthians finished 17th in the 20-team first division with 44 points from 38 games and followed Juventude, Parana and America-Natal into Serie B.

Goias climbed to 16th with 45 points.

Sao Paulo had already won the championship with four games to spare.

Relegation came almost exactly three years after Corinthians signed a controversial partnership deal with London-based Media Sports Investments (MSI). Although MSI initially spent lavishly on new signings, the relationship soured last year and the investments dried up. This year's squad was based largely on players brought in from second and third division clubs.

The games involving Corinthians and Goias both kicked off around 20 minutes late.

Corinthians fell behind to a second-minute header by Jonas but Clodoaldo equalized out of the blue in the 31st minute.—MNA/Reuters

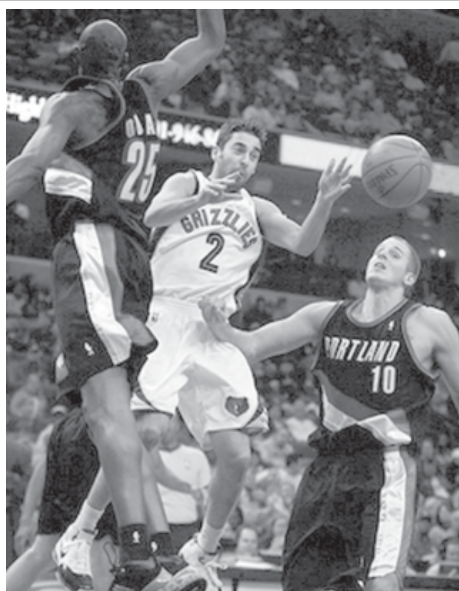
Lanus win Argentine championship for first time

BUENOS AIRES, 3 Dec — Modest Lanus won the Argentine championship for the first time in their 92-history on Sunday, wrapping up the title with a 1-1 draw at Boca Juniors.

Tigre, the only team with a chance of catching them, had two players sent off in a 1-0 defeat at Argentinos Juniors.

Lanus, from the sprawling southern suburbs of Buenos Aires, finished their campaign with 38 points from 19 games, four ahead of Tigre and another three clear of third-placed Boca.

Needing only a draw, Lanus went ahead eight minutes before halftime when striker Jose Sand outjumped the Boca defence at a corner to head his 15th goal of the competition. Boca took control in the second half and Uruguay forward Carlos Bueno missed two good chances after the re-start.—MNA/Reuters



Memphis Grizzlies' Juan Carlos Navarro (2) of Spain makes a pass around Portland Trail Blazers' teammates Travis Outlaw, left, and Joel Przybilla, right, in the first half of an NBA basketball game on 3 Dec, 2007, in Memphis, Tenn.—INTERNET

Ronaldo double lifts Man Utd to second place

LONDON, 4 Dec — Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice as Manchester United beat Fulham 2-0 on Monday to climb to second in the Premier League.

Arsenal, who won 2-1 at Aston Villa on Saturday, lead with 36 points from 14 matches with a game in hand. United have 33 points, Chelsea 31 and Liverpool, who have also played 14 games, and Manchester City are on 30. Ronaldo opened the scoring at Old Trafford in the 10th minute, volleying the ball into the top corner from Nemanja Vidic's header. It was his 12th goal of the season and seventh in the league.

The Portugal winger, second to Brazil's Kaka for the Ballon d'Or at the

weekend, struck again 13 minutes into the second half when he rose above defender Dejan Stefanovic to head substitute John O'Shea's cross past keeper Antti Niemi.

Carlos Tevez could have had a hat-trick in the first half, twice heading wide inside the six-yard box and twice forcing point-blank saves from Niemi.

"We missed too many chances," United manager Alex Ferguson told Setanta television. "When we put our foot on the gas we looked like scoring all the time.

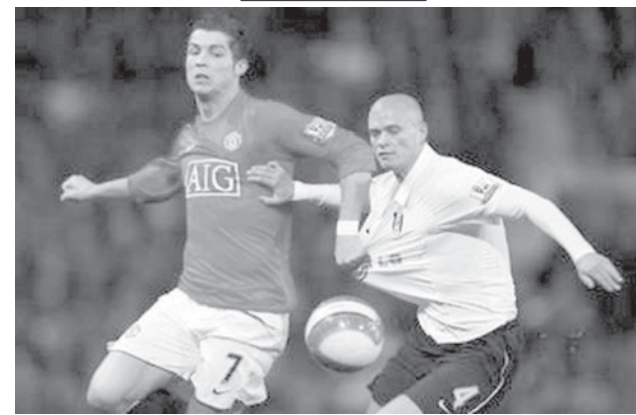
"Niemi made a fantastic save in the first half from Tevez," he added, praising the Finn for a series of fine stops.

Fulham were on the

back foot for the first half hour but then Danny Murphy forced a diving save from Edwin van der Sar. Striker Shefki Kuqi

should have equalized two minutes before the interval when the Finn headed over with the goal gaping.

MNA/Reuters



Fulham's Paul Konchesky (R) challenges Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 3 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

AEK go top after crowd trouble interrupts game

ATHENS, 4 Dec — AEK Athens went three points clear at the top of the Greek championship on Sunday after crowd trouble interrupted their 1-0 win at Aris.

Olympiakos moved to joint second alongside Panathinaikos on 21 points three behind the leaders when they beat Atromitos 3-1.

The trouble in Thessaloniki began late in the first half when a flare fired from the crowd almost hit AEK central defender Traianos Dellas.

Other flares followed, leading the referee to insist on the small number

of AEK fans, the source of the flares, leaving the ground before the second half could get underway.

"We have all agreed to the AEK section of the ground being cleared as there is a danger of someone being injured," Aris president Lambros Skordas told reporters.

The AEK fans were unhappy to depart and an 85-minute halftime ensued.—MNA/Reuters

Thailand foots bill for hard-up SEA Games teams

BANGKOK, 4 Dec — Hosts Thailand will foot the bill for three cash-strapped countries to send teams to this week's Southeast Asian Games, an official said on Monday.

Games organizers agreed to cover the expenses of Laos, Cambodia and East Timor, which are among the world's poorest countries, after their hard-up Olympic committees asked for help.

"Thailand wants unity at the SEA Games and since we have 11 member countries, we want all of them to be here," Charoen Wattanasin, secretary of the organizing committee, told Reuters.

"It's important that everyone gets a chance to compete."—MNA/Reuters

Villarreal lose ground on Real after 2-0 defeat

MADRID, 3 Dec — Villarreal missed their chance to stay in touch with Real Madrid at the top of the Primera Liga when they went down 2-0 at Valladolid on Sunday.

The defeat kept Manuel Pellegrini's side level with Barcelona on 28 points in third spot in the table and four adrift of leaders Real, who won 3-1 at home to Racing Santander on Saturday.

Villarreal went into the game after winning three of their last four games but never looked comfortable against a determined Valladolid side who put them under real pressure in midfield and hit them hard on the break.

The home side went in front in the 18th minute when unmarked striker Joseba Llorente powered a header past Villarreal keeper Sebastian Viera after he met a fine cross from winger Sisi.

Former Villarreal striker Victor made it 2-0 early in the second half when he poked home from close range after a slick passing move involving Llorente and winger Jonathan Sesma.—MNA/Reuters

One in five Americans cannot afford needed health care

WASHINGTON, 4 Dec — Nearly one in five US adults — more than 40 million people — report they do not have adequate access to the health care they need, according to the 2007 annual report on the nation's health released Monday by the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

A special report section focusing on access to care shows that nearly 20 per cent of adults said they needed and did not receive one or more of these services in the past year: medical care, prescription medicines, mental health care, dental care, or eyeglasses — because they could not afford them.

“There has been important progress made in many areas of health

such as increased life expectancy and decreases in deaths from leading killers such as heart disease and cancer. But this report shows that access to health care is still an issue where we need improvement,” said CDC Director Julie Gerberding in a Press release. The report features data on virtually every stage of life.

According to it, in 2005,

nearly one in 10 people between the ages of 18 and 64 said they were unable to get necessary prescription drugs during the past 12 months due to cost. Nearly 10 per cent said they delayed receiving needed medical care.

Young adults 18-24 years of age were more likely than children or older adults to lack a usual source of care and to be uninsured. About 30 per

cent of these young adults did not have a usual source of health care, and an equal percentage were uninsured.

One in 10 adults ages 45-64 years did not have a usual source of health care, and more than 5 per cent of adults in this age group who had diagnosed high blood pressure, serious heart conditions, or diabetes reported not having a usual source of medical care.

In 2005, one out of five people under the age of 65 reported being uninsured for at least part of the 12 months prior to being interviewed.

MNA/Xinhua

Britain's learning difficulty patients suffer "poor" care

LONDON, 4 Dec — Patients with learning difficulties receive poor standards of care and sweeping changes are needed, the government's health watchdog said on Monday.

Even in the best cases, the safety and quality of care given were not up to the standard expected of modern services, the Healthcare Commission said in a

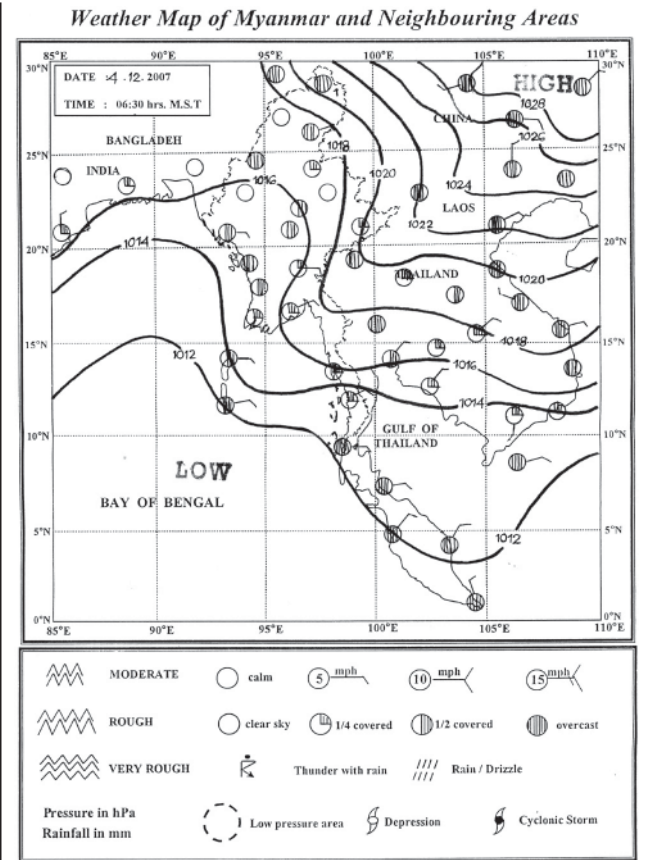
national audit.

“Care is not personalized, living environments and activities are few,” said the commission's chief executive, Anna Walker. In the first review of its kind, the commission discovered poor planning of care, substandard staff training, widely varying procedures and a lack of management scrutiny across England.

It called for “sweeping and sustained changes” to bring services for people with learning difficulties into the 21st Century.

The audit was ordered after the watchdog found cases of abuse and neglect of learning disability patients at Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust and Cornwall Partnership NHS Trust.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Tuesday, 4 December, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder-showers has been isolated in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Magway, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above December average temperatures in Kachin State and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfalls recorded were Putao and Machanbaw (0.07) inch each. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (0°C) and Namsam Heho (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 3-11-2007 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 4-12-2007 was 60°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 4-12-2007 was 78%. Total sun shine hours on 4-12-2007 was (8.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 4-12-2007 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 (6) mph from East at (12:30) hours MST on 3-12-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 5-12-2007: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are possible in Kachin and Chin States, Sgaing Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine State, Magway and Mandalay Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. decrease of certain (40%).


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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 5-12-2007: Generally fair.


Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-12-2007: Generally fair.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 5-12-2007: Generally fair.



Wednesday, 5 December
View on today

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| <p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီးနိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာအဘိဓမ္မာအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တ သာရာဘိဝံသ၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am</p> <p>5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက</p> <p>8:05 am</p> | <p>6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:15 am</p> <p>7. ငါ့သရောကရေလှောင်တစ်</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>8. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>9. Let's go</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Song for uphold national spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (သမိုင်းအထူးပြု) (သမိုင်း)</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. Song of national races</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား</p> <p>5:10 pm</p> <p>6. Classical Songs</p> <p>5:20 pm</p> <p>7. ရှုဖွယ်ရုံလင် အာဆီယံ အစီအစဉ်</p> <p>5:30 pm</p> <p>8. ရသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်</p> <p>6:00 pm</p> <p>9. Evening news</p> | <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>10. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm</p> <p>11. အောင်ပွဲရမြန်မာ့လက်ရွေးစင်သေနတ်ပစ်အဖွဲ့နှင့်တွေ့ဆုံခြင်း</p> <p>6:50 pm</p> <p>12. မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာ လက်တွေ့</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>13. “ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါတယ် ဒီအိုတီအက်စ်” (လွင်မိုး၊ ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ အိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်၊ ခင်သန်းနွယ်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စိုးကျော်ဆန်း)</p> <p>7:15 pm</p> <p>14. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်</p> <p>7:20 pm</p> <p>15. The mirror images of Musical</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>16. News</p> <p>17. International news</p> <p>18. Weather report</p> <p>19. FRANZ HARARY'S MAGIC PLANET</p> <p>20. “မီးရထားစီးခရီးသွားကြသူများ” (နေအောင်၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ ဇင်ဇင်ဇော်မြင့်၊ သဇင်၊ နန်းဆုရတီစိုး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်ယော်မောင်မောင်)</p> <p>21. The next day's programme</p> |
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Wednesday, 5 December
Tune in today

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| <p>8:30 am Brief news</p> <p>8:35 am Music</p> <p>-Looking for heaven</p> <p>8:40 am Perspectives</p> <p>8:45 am Music</p> <p>-Do your thing</p> <p>8:50 am National news/Slogan</p> <p>9:00 am Music</p> <p>-Stay</p> <p>9:05 am International news</p> <p>9:10 am Music</p> <p>-All that I need</p> <p>1:30 pm News/Slogan</p> <p>1:40 pm Lunch time music</p> <p>-I know what love is</p> <p>-In the life</p> <p>9:00pm Variations on a tune</p> <p>-Jamaica fare well</p> <p>9:10pm Article</p> <p>9:30 pm Music at your request</p> <p>-Roses are red</p> <p>-Some day</p> <p>9:45 pm News/Slogan</p> <p>10:00 pm PEL</p> |
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People's Desire

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

National Day observed in three Townships in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec — The ceremonies to mark the National Day were held in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon and Nay Pyi Taw Lewe this morning with the objectives— to uplift dynamism of patriotic spirit and national prestige and integrity, to promote national education, to ensure perpetuation of independence and sovereignty and to realize the State's seven-step Road Map.

Present were Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, departmental heads, officials, members of social organizations, teachers and students.

The 87th Anniversary National Day was observed at No 1 Basic Education High School in Nay

Pyi Taw Pyinmana. Students from No 1 and No 3 BEHS sang Pyi Myanmar song.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township Peace and Development Council U Win Htay read the National Day message of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

Minister Dr Chan Nyein and officials presented prizes to winners of essay competitions at primary, middle and high school levels to mark the 87th Anniversary National Day. Students from No 3 BEHS sang Zartiman song.

The 87th Anniversary National Day was observed at the sport

ground of No 1 Basic Education High School in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon. Students from No 2 BEHS sang Pyimyanmar song.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township Peace and Development Council U Nay Aung read the National Day message of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

Minister Dr Chan Nyein and officials presented prizes to winners of essay competitions at primary, middle and high school levels to mark the 87th Anniversary National Day. Students from No 1 BEHS sang Zartiman song.

A similar ceremony was held at No 1 BEHS in



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein awards a prize-winning student in the essay competitions to mark 87th Anniversary National Day.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Lewe this morning.

Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Naing Tun read the message sent

by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe on the occasion of

the National Day.

Officials presented prizes to winners of essay competitions at primary, middle and high school levels.—MNA

- ★ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
- ★ BBC lying
- ★ VOA deceiving
- ★ RFA setting up hostilities
- ★ Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers