

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

Senior General Than Shwe addresses Graduation Parade of DSA 50th Intake

Thin line dividing democratic practice and anarchy

Entire people need to take discipline seriously and abide by it while the administrative sector cultivates discipline-flourishing democratic practices



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivers a speech at graduation of the 50th Intake of the Defence Services Academy.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Dec—*The following is the speech delivered by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe at the graduation of the 50th Intake of the Defence Services Academy today.*

Comrades,

On the occasion of the Graduation Ceremony of the 50th Intake of the Defence Services Academy, I shall speak on matters of importance that you would do well to bear in mind.

As you have successfully completed the period of training and academic study, you will soon be commissioned as junior leaders. The three Primary Duties of the Tatmadaw that you will be entrusted with are the national defence duty, the

training duty and the public service duty.

Comrades,

In speaking of the national defence duty, military affairs are a continuation of politics, which in turn, is interdependent with economics. In addition, political objectives, economic objectives and social objectives are guided by the administrative sector. For this reason, you will need the Four Outlooks—the political outlook, the economic outlook, the administrative

outlook and the defence outlook—in discharging the national defence duty as junior leaders.

Comrades,

With regard to the political outlook, in our country, Our Three Main National Causes—Non-Disintegration of the Union, Non-Disintegration of National Solidarity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty—constitute the national politics that history has bequeathed to us.

(See page 8)



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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 15 December, 2007

Strive for IT development

Today is the age of Information Technology (IT). As the world is experiencing rapid development of IT, efforts are being made for the nation to keep pace with changes and developments of IT.

In building up a modern and developed nation, workshops, seminars and IT products and technology exhibitions are held yearly for development of IT.

The 6th Myanmar ICT Week is being held in Yadanabon Myothit, PyinOoLwin from 14 to 20 December with a view to ensuring development of IT.

Altogether 70 local companies and five foreign companies are staging 115 booths that put on display modern technologies and IT products.

At the ICT Week experts will give talks on e-Government and IT technology and clarify salient points of advanced ICT products. This will largely pave the way for youths to widen their scope of knowledge.

With an increase in the number of youths who take interest in IT, advanced IT technology will be applied extensively in the nation. Based on IT, all the offices will be able to work smoothly and swiftly, thereby contributing to national development.

As the extensive holding of ICT weeks gives rise to development of IT, technologies of international level will surely emerge all the more in different economic spheres.

Bakari Idd on 21 Dec

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Dec — The Government of the Union of Myanmar today announced that 21 December 2007, Friday, is a public holiday as it is Bakari Idd Day, under section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act. — MNA

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun delivers opening address at the 7th China-Myanmar border trade fair-2007. —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

Culture Minister receives Chinese Cultural Counselor, Secretary

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Dec — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint received Cultural Counselor Mr Wang Ruiqing and Secretary Mr Sun Liangan of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China at his office, here, this morning.

They discussed matters on promoting bilateral cooperation in the culture sector.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint meets Cultural Counselor Mr Wang Ruiqing and Secretary Mr Sun Liangan of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China. —MNA

Work Efficiency Course for Auditors concludes



Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung makes an address at the concluding ceremony of the work efficiency course No 27. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Dec — The concluding ceremony of the work efficiency course No 27 for auditors was held at the training school of the Auditor-General's office, here, at 10 am today with an address by Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung.

It was also attended by Deputy Auditor-General Daw Thinn Thinn, the director-general, deputy directors-general, officials and trainees.

Altogether 76 trainees attended the two-month

course. The Grades-I, II and III courses for the staff from government organizations and the work efficiency courses for senior auditors from the Auditor-General's Office will be opened at the training school of the Auditor-General's office in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

7th China-Myanmar border trade fair-2007 opens

YANGON, 14 Dec — The 7th China-Myanmar border trade fair-2007 was opened in Shweli, Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China on 10 December. Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun and the governor of Yunnan Province delivered opening addresses at the ceremony.

After the opening ceremony, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun and the Chinese governor held talks on boosting bilateral trade at Jing Cheng Hotel in Shweli.

The third joint-committee meeting of the two countries was held at the same hotel. The meeting focused on boosting bilateral trade.

The China-Myanmar border trade fair has been held alternately in Muse, Myanmar, and in Shweli, China, every year since 2001. The trade fair-2007 would last until 14 December. — MNA

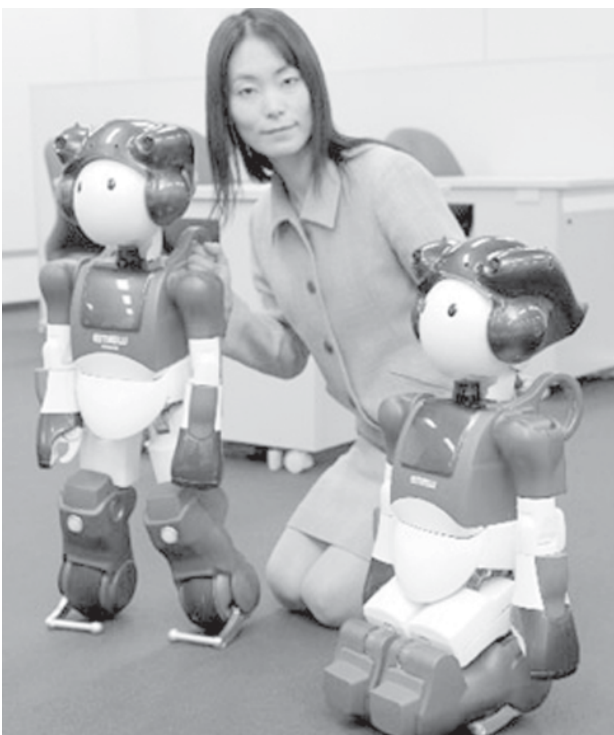
China's first hybrid-power sedan rolls off production line

CHONGQING, 14 Dec—China's first self-produced hybrid-power sedan, the Jiexun-HEV, rolled off the production line on Thursday at a Chang'an Automobile plant in Chongqing. It is expected to be put onto the market soon.

A Ministry of Science and Technology official said the new sedan was developed using China's self-owned intellectual property rights in terms of the engine, hybrid power system and the car as a whole. This marked the mastering of core technologies in hybrid-power system by a Chinese auto enterprise.

Xu Liuping, president of the Chang'an Automobile, said the Jiexun-HEV was a major component of the "electrified automobile programme" in the state backed high-tech plan, known as the 863-Plan. With a development period of six years, the car had finally become a mass-produced model with internationally-advanced technologies.

He said the car adopted a fuel-battery hybrid technology and reduced fuel consumption by more than 20 per cent compared with traditional cars. The emission also met the state's standard IV, the highest standard in China.—MNA/Xinhua



Hitachi Ltd Advance Research Laboratory staff Ryoko Ichinose holds humanoid robot EMIEW 2 during a press preview at its research center in Hitachinaka, north of Tokyo, on 12 Nov, 2007. —XINHUA

HK students win six science medals

HONG KONG, 14 Dec — Hong Kong students have won a silver and five bronze medals in the 4th International Junior Science Olympiad, the city's best ever result, the Information Services Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government said on Wednesday.

According to a Press release from the department, 200 scientifically gifted secondary students from 38 countries and regions participated in the competition in Taipei on 2 to 11 December. It comprised a multiple-choice test, a theoretical examination and a practical examination covering physics, chemistry and biology up to Secondary 6 level.

MNA/Xinhua



A China Shipping Line cargo ship is unloaded onto barges in Hong Kong waters.—INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Egypt will not sign nuclear deal protocol

CAIRO, 13 Dec—Egypt will not sign on to a nuclear non-proliferation agreement which gives the UN nuclear watchdog the right to make intrusive short-notice inspections of nuclear facilities, the Foreign Minister said on Tuesday. Egypt, which said in late October it would build several civilian

nuclear power stations to meet its growing energy needs, ratified the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1981, but has not signed on to the additional protocol. In a speech delivered on Tuesday, Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit said Egypt would not go beyond its existing commitments on

monitoring of its nuclear programme.

"It's necessary to adhere to the principal of not linking the provision of nuclear energy with the acceptance of obligations not specified in treaties and agreements," Aboul Gheit said in the remarks, distributed by his ministry. "Egypt will not accept any additional obligations in this matter."

Aboul Gheit said developing countries found themselves facing constraints beyond those set down in international treaties, which could make such countries "permanently dependent on developed countries" for nuclear energy needs.

MNA/Reuters

Malaysia floods kill 12, over 20,000 displaced

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 Dec—Floods in Malaysia have killed 12 people and left more than 20,000 homeless, and more rain is expected, which could push up food and palm oil prices in one of the world's top growers.

The monsoon rains have cut off roads in several states including Kelantan and Terengganu in the east and Johor in the south, local media reported. The Meteorological Department has forecast more heavy rain.

Johor was the worst hit, with 13,000 residents fleeing to higher ground, the *New Straits Times* reported on Thursday. The state is a major oil palm and rubber growing region and a key source of vegetables and poultry.

Plantation officials say heavy rains have slowed down harvest and



Rescue personnel work to clear the rubble of the UN offices targeted in Tuesday's bombings in Algiers, on 13 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET

Five killed in train blast in N-E India

NEW DELHI, 14 Dec—At least five persons were killed and four injured on Thursday in a train blast in India's northeastern state of Assam, officials said. The blast took place at a place about 270 kilometres east of Assam's main city of Guwahati. Five people were killed and four injured with the impact of the explosion hitting a portion of the luggage van of the train, a railway official said.

The New Delhi-bound train, originating from Dibrugarh in eastern Assam, was not derailed and all other passengers were safe, the *Indo-Asian News Service* reported.

"There was partial damage to the tracks with just two sleepers affected. It was immediately repaired and the train has resumed its journey," the official said. The injured were shifted to a hospital.

Police suspect the bomb could have been planted inside the train.

All the dead passengers were Hindi-speaking migrant workers from Bihar, the police official said.

"The needle of suspicion is on two militants groups — the ULFA (United Liberation Front of Asom) and the ALNA (Adivasi National Liberation Army)," the IANS quoted the official as saying.—MNA/Xinhua

China builds world's first road transport bamboo bridge

CHANGSHA, 14 Dec — An eight-ton truck passed over a bamboo bridge in south China on Wednesday, marking the completion of the world's first bamboo road bridge, claimed the designers.

wide and nine-metre long, looks like a concrete bridge from the top and side, but its nine bamboo girders can be seen from beneath and it is covered by bamboo boards.

It allows a maximum load of 90 tons with a

service life of 20 to 30 years.

Fiberglass-reinforced plastics were also used in construction to ensure safety, said Xiao Yan, dean of the college of civil engineering of Hunan University, where the bridge was designed.

Villagers in Daozi Town, Leiyang City, Hunan Province, were amazed by the bamboo bridge that workers took less than 10 days to assemble.

Parts of the bridge were made in a workshop before being transported to the town, said Dr Shan Bo, a member of the design group.

Xiao Yan said bamboo could cut the cost of footbridges in cities and bridges in the countryside by half. — MNA/Xinhua

Bomb-making materials found at US school

LOS ANGELES, 14 Dec — The discovery of bomb-making materials at a school in Newport Beach near Los Angeles led to the arrest of a 12-year-old boy, it was reported on Wednesday.

The boy brought the bomb-making materials to his Newport Beach school, stowing some of the items in his locker on Tuesday, according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

A student notified

campus security about what he thought were drugs in the boy's possession, according to police.

Newport Beach police and fire officials said they searched the boy's locker, discovered the materials and immediately locked down the school, evacuating about 1,100 students.

Students at the Horace Ensign Intermediate School were evacuated to

an athletic field as a bomb squad swept the campus and anxious parents gathered outside the school, said the paper.

"He had the equipment to manufacture a type of acid bomb that was not put together but could obviously cause serious injury," said Evan Sailor, a spokesman for the Newport Beach Police Department.

MNA/Xinhua

H5N1 bird flu new sites found in Poland

WARSAW, 13 Dec — The deadly H5N1 bird flu virus has been found in two new sites in Poland on Wednesday, an official said.

In the afternoon a new site was found at a small farm near the city of Elblag, in northern Poland, chief veterinary officer Ewa Lech told *Reuters*.

"Unfortunately we had detected the bird flu at a sixth site, a small farm with about 40 birds.

This is an entirely new location," said Lech.

Lech also confirmed a report earlier on Wednesday that bird flu was also detected in wild birds near the town of Orneta, northeastern Poland.

MNA/Reuters

Afghan landmine blast kills six civilians

KABUL, 14 Dec — A civilian passenger bus was struck by a landmine in southern Afghan province of Uruzgan on Thursday, leaving six passengers killed and another six people injured, the Interior Ministry said.

"A small passenger bus hit a landmine planted by enemies of Afghanistan when travelling from Tirin Kot, a central town in Uruzgan, to Mehr Abad, resulting in six deaths and six injuries of the passengers," Afghan Interior Ministry said in a statement. — MNA/Xinhua

Triple car bombing kills 40 in southern Iraq

BASRA (Iraq), 13 Dec — Forty people were killed and more than 125 wounded when three car bombs exploded in quick succession in the Shiite city of Amara in southern

Iraq on Wednesday, police said. The bombings were among the deadliest in Iraq in months and came as tensions are running high across oil-producing southern Iraq, where rival

Shiite factions are struggling for influence as Britain reduces its forces in the region.

One police official in Amara said 40 people had been killed in the blasts, which all happened along the same street in the capital of Maysan Province. A health official said 39 were killed and more than 125 wounded.

"Operating rooms are stretched to the limit because of the number of wounded. The city is in shock because it's the first big explosion like this," the police official said by telephone.

Most people were killed in the second and third blasts, police said. Many onlookers had gathered after the first blast in a parking lot and were killed or wounded when the subsequent car bombs exploded. — MNA/Reuters



Ice hangs in a tree in Northern St Joseph, Mo on 13 Dec, 2007. Utility officials said on 13 Dec that they are still busily trying to restore power to thousands of northwest Missouri residents after an ice storm that's being called the worst in years in that part of the state. —INTERNET

A young pink salmon infected with sea lice is pictured in this undated handout photograph.

Infestations of sea lice at salmon farms on Canada's west coast are threatening local wild pink salmon populations and could result in their extinction in another four years, Canadian researchers said on 13 Dec, 2007.

INTERNET



Death toll rises to three in Argentine lab explosion

BUENOS AIRES, 14 Dec — Death toll from an Argentine lab explosion rose to three on Wednesday, after a man died of wounds he sustained in last week's blast in Cordoba Province, a hospital official said.

Carlos Ravera, 60, had suffered burns in 65 per cent of his body and severe damages to his respiratory system, Cordoba Hospital

director Carlos Simon said. Ravera was a professor at Rio Cuarto National University, 650 kilometres northwest of Buenos Aires, where an explosion caused a fire and a post-explosion in the engineering faculty lab on December 5 when students and professors were using high-explosive inflammable substances.

The other two victims

were student Juan Politano, 22, and professor and researcher Liliana Giacomelli. Another 24 people were injured, six of them seriously, with three victims classified as high risk patients. "All of them are still in danger, they are patients that can become complicated at any time," Simon said.

MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS



Japan's electronics giant Sony employee Mariko Yamabe displays the world's first battery-less digital camera "Twil N Take." Sony on 13 Dec unveiled a prototype digital camera shaped like a pizza cutter with a wheel that can be turned to generate enough power to take pictures.—INTERNET

Russia to lift ban on imports of Polish meat

WARSAW, 14 Dec — Agriculture Ministers of Poland and Russia Marek Sawicki and Aleksei Gordeyev have reached an agreement under which Russia will lift its ban on Polish meat, local media reported. The two

ministers told a Press conference in Moscow on Wednesday that next week veterinary experts from the two countries will meet in Kaliningrad to sign a memorandum. Immediately upon signing of the memorandum, the restrictions will be lifted, they added.

The ministers announced they would meet next month during the Gruene Woche Fair in Berlin to discuss Russia's ban on Polish plant products.

They also said that phytosanitary experts from the two countries would prepare a report for the

meeting in Berlin.

Sawicki told Polish news agency PAP that he was really very glad and described the talks with Gordeyev as "constructive". He also said that the Polish side hoped that it would be possible to close all phytosanitary matters in Berlin.

MNA/Xinhua

China, DPRK ink science cooperation agreement

PYONGYANG, 14 Dec — Officials from China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) signed an agreement on Thursday on carrying out cooperation in science and technology.

Under the agreement between China's Ministry of Science and Technology and the DPRK's National Academy of Science, both sides will cooperate in projects in the areas of agriculture, power generation, software development and medicine, among others.

Meanwhile, the ministry decided to donate some computers, science books and journals and office equipment to the academy.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia expects 179 million tons of coal exports in 2008

JAKARTA, 13 Dec — Indonesia, the world's second largest coal exporter, will export about 179 million tons or 75 per cent of total coal production next year to fill the surging demand from especially China and India.

The country's total production has been forecast to increase by 9 per cent, reaching 234

million tons next year from an estimate of 215 million tons this year.

The 9-per-cent increase was reasonable as local coal producers were mostly raising production to benefit from higher global demand.

"The market is waiting, and they (coal producers) have the capacity. So there is no reason why the production can not be

upped," Indonesian Coal Producers Association chairman Jeffrey Mu-lyono was quoted on Wednesday by local newspaper *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

The government has earlier indicated a plan to limit coal export to 150 million tons from 2009 through 2025 to ensure domestic supplies.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkish PM says France cannot stop Ankara's EU bid

ANKARA, 14 Dec — France cannot halt Turkey's bid to join the European Union, Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan said on Wednesday, despite Paris' success in having the word "accession" deleted from a statement on Turkey's EU talks.

At French insistence, an EU foreign ministers' statement on the bloc's enlargement strategy on

Monday omitted the words "accession" and "membership" in connection with Turkey, French President Nicolas Sarkozy opposes Turkey's EU entry bid.

"If France believes it can achieve this (stopping Turkey's accession) with the support of a few countries, it is mistaken," the state *Anatolian* news agency quoted Erdogan as saying at a business

reception that was also attended by EU ambassadors.

Erdogan, a keen soccer player in his youth, also said the EU could not change the rules of a match halfway through, a reference to Sarkozy's efforts to persuade Turkey to opt for a "privileged partnership" with the EU instead of full membership.

Ankara began EU entry talks in 2005 but they have been advancing very slowly due to rows over Cyprus and human rights.—MNA/Reuters

Prices on all items at Beijing Airport will be cut 25-30%

BEIJING, 13 Dec — Prices on all items sold at the Beijing Capital International Airport will be cut by 25 per cent to 30 per cent on average by the

end of this month, said a manager of the airport trading company.

The goal is to bring prices at the facility in line with those charged by

downtown retail outlets.

Beijing Capital Airport Trading Development Co Ltd drew up plans in August to reduce the prices of 8,600 items sold at the two terminals (T1 and T2) to levels comparable with downtown department stores or supermarkets. Since 16 September, the company has cut the prices of more than 100 items, including imported and domestic liquor, tobacco products, clothes, toys and cosmetics, said a purchasing manager surnamed Huang.

Most prices were cut by up to 40 per cent. A bottle of green tea sells at 3.5 yuan (about 0.5 US dollar) now, almost the same as in downtown shops.

A packed roast duck is 70 yuan, compared with 98 yuan in the past.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysian firm invests \$2b in Vietnam

HANOI, 13 Dec — Malaysia's Gamuda Berhad is pouring two billion US dollars into building a park and relevant facilities in Vietnam's capital Hanoi, local newspaper *Youth* reported on Wednesday.

Construction of the Yen So Park and the facilities, including an exhibition centre, a conference centre, a shopping mall, a hotel, an apartment block and villas in a total area of 327 hectares in Hoang Mai District started on 11 December.

The park is scheduled to become operational in 2010.

MNA/Xinhua



A grizzly bear holds onto a freshly caught pink salmon is seen in this undated handout photograph. Infestations of sea lice at salmon farms on Canada's west coast are threatening local wild pink salmon populations and could result in their extinction in another four years, Canadian researchers said on 13 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

S Korea PM concludes China tour

BEIJING, 13 Dec — Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Han Duck Soo left here on Tuesday night, concluding his two-day official visit to China.

During his stay here,

Han has met with Chinese President Hu Jintao and top legislator Wu Bangguo, respectively, and held talks with his Chinese counterpart Wen Jiabao.

Han and Wen also attended a grand

performance on Monday evening, marking the closing of the China-ROK Exchange Year, a year-long bilateral cultural programme.

Han has paid the visit at the invitation of Wen.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia urges DPRK to supply N-information to IAEA

MOSCOW, 13 Dec—Russia has asked the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to supply all the necessary information about its nuclear programme to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) by 31 December, *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported on Tuesday.

"Russia welcomes the disabling of three nuclear sites in North Korea. We also welcome the progress made at the six-nation negotiations on the nuclear problem of the Korean Peninsula," *ITAR-TASS* quoted Representative to the IAEA Grigory Berdennikov as saying.

"The IAEA plays an important role in the Korean nuclear settlement," he said.

Progress has been made on the nuclear issue this year, following IAEA

experts' visits and delivery of aid to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. According to a six-party talks joint document released in Beijing on 3 October, Pyongyang

agreed to disable all the existing nuclear facilities and provide a complete and correct declaration of all its nuclear programmes by the end of this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Residents look at Bella Vista neighbourhood after the passing of Tropical Storm Olga through the province of Santiago de los Caballeros in Dominican Republic on 13 Dec, 2007.

INTERNET



Schoolboy killed in rare Indian school shooting

NEW DELHI, 13 Dec — A boy was shot dead at a school in New Delhi during a fight with two classmates, police said, in a rare case of a deadly school shooting in India.

The victim, identified by local news channels as Abhishek Tyagi, was shot four times in a corridor of the Euro International School in Gurgaon, senior police officer Sumit Kumar told NDTV news. The boy died on the way to hospital.

Two students from the same year had been detained in connection with the shooting, he said.

Reports said the boys were all aged about 15, and that the two detained may have taken turns with the gun. "Probably once or twice they had a fight with each other," Kumar told NDTV. "And so now they decided to settle the score and he got his father's revolver and fired at him."

School shootings are almost unheard of in India, although a college student in the southern city of Hyderabad was shot and injured by a fellow student in April. One news channel aired footage of the blood-stained corpse of the boy on a stretcher, partly covered by a white sheet.

MNA/Reuters

Lunar probe programme ceremony opens in Beijing

BEIJING, 13 Dec — Chinese scientists have pledged to seize time to start the plan and implementation for the second-phase of China's lunar probe programme at a red-carpet ceremony opened on Wednesday morning to mark the country's initial success in deep space exploration.

Zhang Qingwei, Minister in charge of the Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence, said the immediate tasks facing Chinese scientists and technicians were to secure the proper operation of *Chang'e-1*, the country's first lunar probe, on its final working orbit, data



Star Alliance logos are seen on Shanghai Airlines (L) and Air China aircrafts at Beijing International Airport for a ceremony marking Air China and Shanghai Airlines' joining Star Alliance on 12 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

Canada set to order restart of isotope reactor

OTTAWA, 13 Dec—The Canadian Parliament was set to overrule the country's nuclear

watchdog on Wednesday and order a reactor that makes crucial radioisotopes for cancer tests be restarted immediately.

The Chalk River reactor — which makes more than two-thirds of global supply of the medical isotopes — was shut down in November, quickly triggering shortages.

The Conservative government, under heavy political pressure to solve the problem, is pushing through legislation that will allow the reactor to resume operations for 120 days.

This would involve using back-up safety

systems, an action that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission says is unsafe. The House of Commons approved the bill on Tuesday night and the Senate is expected to follow suit on Wednesday.

Once the reactor is restarted it will take three or four days before operator Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd can begin delivering isotopes. When injected into the body, the isotopes give off radiation that can be seen by a camera to diagnose cancer, heart disease and other medical conditions.

MNA/Reuters

In this undated photo released by Tokyo University's Department of Biophysics and Biochemistry Graduate School of Science, a genetically modified mice stays near a cat in Tokyo.—INTERNET



Laos strengthens UXO clearance

HANOI, 14 Dec — Laos, one of the most heavily bombed countries in the world, is accelerating the clearance of unexploded ordnance (UXO) to reduce the number of UXO-related casualties to no more than 100 persons per annum, and to increase the release of agricultural land for food production and the development of other sectors.

In the first 10 months

of this year, 3,305 hectares of land in Laos have been cleared, with the removal or destruction of 445 large bombs, 38,370 tennis ball-sized bomblets (parts of fragmentation bombs), 92 mines and 38,260 other forms of weaponry, Lao newspaper *Vientiane Times* on Thursday quoted the latest report of the National Regulatory Authority of the Lao UXO Sector. Out of a total 236,800 square kilometers

of land in Laos, about 78,200 square kilometres are considered still being contaminated with UXO.

Laos suffered from intense ground combat and aerial bombardments during the Indochina War. Over 580,000 bombing missions run by American planes dropped more than two million tons of ordnance on Lao soil during the 1960's and 1970's, the newspaper said. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Earthquake jolts Samoa

WELLINGTON, 14 Dec — A magnitude 6.2 earthquake shook the South Pacific Samoa early Friday morning without causing damages.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning center said after the earthquake at 1551 GMT was 210 kilometres off American Samoa's main island of Tutuila.

Meanwhile, Samoa's earthquake monitoring office said the quake, which was 171 kilometres south southwest of the capital Apia, was the strongest felt there this year.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

Global death toll in disasters drops in 2006

GENEVA, 14 Dec — A total of 23,833 people worldwide were killed by natural disasters in 2006, down nearly 75 per cent compared with the number in 2005, the International Red Cross said in a report released on Thursday.

The combined death toll from natural and technological disasters was 33,733 in 2006, which was the lowest figure in the past decade (1997-2006), said the annual World Disasters Report.

The report said there were altogether 427 natural disasters in 2006, which were responsible for the overwhelming majority of people affected by all disasters. However, the total number of people affected was almost 50 percent lower

than the decade average of 268 million per year.

The earthquake in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on May 27, 2006 represented the deadliest disaster last year, resulting in the death of 5,778 people.

The financial damage inflicted by natural disasters in 2006 was estimated at nearly 34.5 billion US dollars — the second lowest figure of the past decade and less than half the decade average of 78.7 billion dollars per year. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Cambodian Govt subsidizes over \$ 100m for energy

PHNOM PENH, 14 Dec — The government pays around 126 million US dollars in subsidies against price hikes of petroleum and natural gas as well as electricity, said Prime Minister Hun Sen here on Thursday.

He made these remarks while addressing the construction ceremony

of counter-flood facilities on the Tonle Sap River bank in Phnom Penh, without elaborating how the subsidies were allocated to the people.

"We have dealt with these issues through quite a few ways," he said.

Meanwhile, he told Ministry of Industry, Mine and Energy to work for

more efficient transmission of power from the Vietnamese suppliers to the Cambodian customers.

Oil, gas and power prices kept on rising in recent years in Cambodia due to the oil price increases in the global market.

Currently, quality gasoline sells over 1.1 US dollars a liter in the capital city, while electricity about 0.2 US dollar per watt in Phnom Penh, but nearly two US dollars each watt in remote rural places.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

Poland to recruit skilled manpower from Bangladesh

DHAKA, 14 Dec — Poland, the 10th largest country in Europe, will recruit a substantial number of skilled and semi-skilled manpower from Bangladesh to help its infrastructure development ahead of the European Soccer Cup 2012.

"The authorities concerned of the Polish Government have already given their approval to a proposal to receive workforce from Bangladesh," a Bangladeshi official was quoted by local newspaper *The Financial Express* as saying on Thursday.

An official of the state agency Bangladesh Overseas Employment Services Ltd, said there is an immediate demand for sending 200 workers, having expertise in building construction, to Poland.

He said they have started processing the selection of right persons in line with the requirements of Poland.

About the wage structure and service tenure, the official said the workers will receive wages based on their expertise in the jobs for which they are to be hired.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

Militants killed in operation in N-W Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 14 Dec — Pakistani security forces on Wednesday killed scores of militants in an overnight operation in northwestern Pakistan, the Army said.

Security forces extensively attacked militant's locations with Artillery fire in Puchaar and Loece Namal areas of Swat Valley in North West Frontier Province on Tuesday night, a news release of Media Information Center Mingora, Swat said.

According to the release, the exact number of casualties on the militants' side could not be confirmed. The security forces apprehended 16 suspects from various check posts in Swat Valley.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

21 killed in auto crash in S-E Nigeria

LAGOS, 14 Dec — Twenty-one people were killed in an accident that occurred on Wednesday at "Kwata" junction in Awka, on the Onitsha-Enugu expressway in southeast Nigeria.

According to a report from the News Agency of Nigeria, an eyewitness said 16 of the victims died on the spot, five died in hospital, while five survivors were taken to private hospitals in Awka.

The tragedy struck when an articulated vehicle that was heading to Enugu from Onitsha lost its brakes and rammed into a jeep that was crossing a T-junction in Awka.

In the confusion, the eyewitness said the articulated vehicle also ran into a group of commercial motorcycle riders waiting for passengers, commercial phone operators and passers-by, killing the 16 on the spot. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Afghanistan, Kuwait to set up inter-ministerial committee

KABUL, 14 Dec — Afghanistan and Kuwait have agreed to set up an inter-ministerial committee to boost bilateral cooperation, Afghan Foreign Minister said on Thursday.

Terming the just concluded visit of Afghan president to Kuwait as successful, Afghan Foreign Minister Dr. Rangen Dadfar Spanta on Thursday said an inter ministerial committee will be set up by the two countries to look into different areas of development, economic cooperation, cultural cooperation and different international issues.

"We are hopeful that after our talks with officials of chamber of commerce of Kuwait a new chapter of cooperation will be

opened between the two countries," Spanta told a Press conference here.

It was agreed that soon a Kuwaiti minister will visit Afghanistan to see the possibilities of

investment in both government and private sectors, he added.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai visited Kuwait on 11-12 Dec.

— *MNA/Xinhua*



Olinka a 15-year old polar bear is pictured with one of her recently born twin cubs in Vienna's Schoenbrunn zoo on 12 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET

Senior General Than Shwe addresses...

(from page 1)

In our country, more than 100 national races have lived harmoniously since the origin of the human race. It was only under colonialism that they suffered divide-and-rule practices. As a result, racial and geographical prejudices made their appearance among some nationalities, and major domestic armed conflicts broke out with the gaining of the independence. Without peace, tranquillity and the rule of law, our country lagged behind in every way. Threats to sovereignty were also encountered frequently.

Thus, in successive historical periods, it fell to the Tatmadaw to ensure Non-Disintegration of the Union, Non-Disintegration of National Solidarity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty at the cost of sweat, blood and lives. This is bearing allegiance to the State, to the People and to the fallen Tatmadawmen. In the future as well, the Tatmadaw will be true to its tradition and make every effort to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes — Non-Disintegration of the Union,

Comrades,

With regard to the economic outlook, the ultimate concern of economics is the fulfillment of the livelihood requirements for every citizen. In the past, increase in food production failed to match population growth, leading to the frequent rice shortage. So, during the time of the Tatmadaw Government, special efforts were made toward achieving rice sufficiency for a projected population of 100 million, anticipating the next generations in addition to the current population of 56 million. Moreover, all avenues are being explored for increased production of cooking oil and the production of biofuel for use in mechanized agriculture.

Efforts for domestic sufficiency in foodstuffs are also accompanied by endeavours toward the building of an industrial nation for national prosperity. To this end, education and health sectors are being upgraded to produce highly qualified human resources.

The upgrading of human resources will bring ever greater momentum to national development year after year.

Comrades,

To move on to the administrative outlook, in today's transition period, the main thrust of administra-



Senior General Than Shwe presents Best Cadet Award to Cadet Min Thu. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents the excellent in training award to Cadet Soe Win Naing. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents the literary award (science) to Cadet Htoo Wai Yan Phyo. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents the literary award (computer science) to Cadet Soe Thu. — MNA

Non-Disintegration of National Solidarity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty — in any age, in any period, under any government — even at the cost of our lives.

...tive activity is the cultivation of good practices required for a true discipline-flourishing democracy. As there is a thin line dividing democratic practice and anarchy, the

entire people need to take discipline seriously and abide by it while the administrative sector cultivates discipline-flourishing democratic practices.

(See page 9)



Dignitaries at the graduation parade of 50th Intake of DSA. — MNA

Tatmadaw need to be built into a strong, capable and modern patriotic Tatmadaw. The ways and means to achieve this are none other than the Four Principal Duties for the Building of Tatmadaw Units: Build Through Training, Build Through Administration, Build Through Welfare and Build Through Morale.



Senior General Than Shwe meets with four outstanding cadets and their parents at the hall of DSA Headquarters. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe addresses...

(from page 8)

Comrades,

To continue with the defence outlook, our Tatmadaw was formed to protect the Nation and the People. Hence, Our Three Main National Causes need to be safeguarded. The territorial integrity of the State — our land, waters and airspace — has to

be defended. National interests have to be protected, with our lives if necessary. To have such capability, our Tatmadaw need to be built into a *strong, capable and modern patriotic Tatmadaw*. The ways and means to achieve this are none other than the Four Principal Duties for the Building of

Tatmadaw Units: Build Through Training, Build Through Administration, Build Through Welfare and Build Through Morale.

Comrades,

Training is not only one of our Principal Duties but also the first of the *Three Forever*: Training Forever, Military Awareness Forever and Combat Ready Forever.

Being well-trained is one of the Ten



skill begets confidence. You will be confident and you will have a keen desire to make sacrifices and go beyond the call of duty for the State and for the Tatmadaw. In addition, you will have the resolve and the capacity to complete missions and achieve goals.

So, when it comes to training, let it be wide-ranging and up to standard.

Comrades,

Speaking of public-service activities, which are part of the Three Principal Duties of the Tatmadaw, we, the Tatmadawmen who repeat the oath, *“I resolve to sacrifice my life for my country, for my citizens, and*

you must strive to become good leaders.

A leader must have not only leadership characteristics but also talents that are above average. You must know how to bring forth commitment and ability and lead people to work in concert and do their duties to achieve goals.

For this, a leader needs the Three Capabilities: the military capability, the administrative capability and the organizational capability. He must have courage and daring based on patriotism. He must dare to make sacrifices and take risks. He must have the foresight and the preparation to anticipate all kinds of situations.

Speaking of public-service activities, which are part of the Three Principal Duties of the Tatmadaw, we, the Tatmadawmen who repeat the oath, ‘I resolve to sacrifice my life for my country, for my citizens, and for my Tatmadaw,’ every day, must follow the policy that the Tatmadaw is for the people. You comrades, who are the sons of the people, are to abide by your Code of Conduct Toward the People, which says, “Always uphold the interests of the People.”

Strengths of the Tatmadaw. When you are well-trained, you are good at taking orders. You have strong morale and possess a full measure of perseverance and courage. You have good military discipline, and full combat capability. You have robust health fitness. You develop a strong sense of comradeship toward one another. There is a motto: training begets skill and

for my Tatmadaw,” every day, must follow the policy that the Tatmadaw is for the people. You comrades, who are the sons of the people, are to abide by your Code of Conduct Toward the People, which says, “Always uphold the interests of the People.”

Comrades,

As junior leaders who will be responsible for the Three Principal Duties of the Tatmadaw,

He must win the confidence and trust of the soldiers he leads. He must know how to build the unity of the organization he is entrusted with, at all times. Only then will you comrades be the good sons of the people that deserve the reliance that the people place on you, just as the motto has it, *the victorious soldier to whom the future belongs.*

(See page 10)



Those present at the graduation parade of 50th Intake of DSA. — MNA



Those present at the graduation parade of 50th Intake of DSA. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe addresses...

(from page 9)

Comrades,

In conclusion, you, who are the patriotic Tatmadawmen, are to uphold Our Three Main National Causes. You are to abide by the Four Oaths, placing equal value on them as life itself. You are to be the successors to the Twelve Traditions of the Tatmadaw. You are to discharge fully the Three Principal Duties of the Tatmadaw. You are to abide by the Soldier's Code of Conduct strictly as if it were the clothes that cover your shame. And while favourable circumstances have been achieved in every aspect and sector in the gentle transition to a true discipline-flourishing democratic State with development, you are to discharge the duties you are assigned, with energy and enthusiasm.

With this, I conclude my speech.—MNA



Dignitaries at the graduation parade of 50th Intake of DSA.

MNA

Dignitaries at the graduation parade of 50th Intake of DSA.

MNA

Human infection of birdflu under control in Kengtung

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Dec — A girl infected with bird flu virus was discharged from a local hospital in Shan State on 12 December as she was in good condition after receiving treatment.

Specimens of four persons who were suspected of being infected with the virus during the bird flu outbreak in November in Naungngin Village, Kengtung Township, were sent to the public health lab in Yangon which confirmed on 26 November that among the four, Ma Nan Kham Than, 7, was infected with the virus. She had been kept in quarantine and given a dosage of timilflu pills at the People's Hospital in Kengtung since 27 November.

Human samples of those four persons were also sent to a lab in Bangkok, Thailand, and a lab of WHO in Tokyo, Japan, and the laboratory tests also confirmed on 13 December that Ma Nan Kham Than was infected with the virus.

After the outbreak, Ministry of Health monitored 689 close contact persons who involved in culling chickens and live near the farms and found four persons who were suspected of being infected with the birdflu virus.

The ministry monitored close contact persons for 10 days and confirmed that other persons were not infected with the virus.

Acting on information that some domestic fowls were found to be dead unusual in Naungngin Village, Kengtung Township, Shan State (East), on 18 November, responsible personnel of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department conducted thorough examinations and lab tests on the dead chickens and found H5N1 virus.

However, the outbreak was put under control in a short time, thanks to the control measures of the local authorities, LBVD staff, related departments and social organizations. — MNA

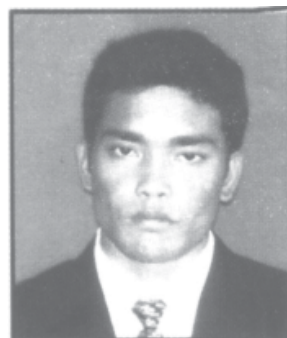
Medal Standing in XXIV SEA Games

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Thailand	174	118	103	395
2	Malaysia	65	49	89	203
3	Vietnam	64	56	82	202
4	Indonesia	53	62	82	197
5	Singapore	43	42	41	126
6	Philippines	40	88	94	222
7	Myanmar	14	26	45	85
8	Laos PDR	5	7	31	43
9	Cambodia	2	5	10	17
10	Brunei Darussalam	1	1	4	6

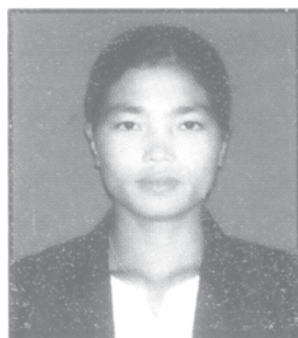


GOLD

MEDALISTS



WIN HTI KE



AYE MI KHAING



NAW LASHE

MNA

Saudi King invites Ahmadinejad for haj

TEHERAN, 14 Dec — The King of US-allied Saudi Arabia has invited Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to attend this year's haj in the Muslim holy city of Mecca, Iranian media reported on Wednesday.

It would be the first time an Iranian President was officially invited to take part in the annual pilgrimage, starting later this month, the official IRNA news agency said.

MNA/Reuters

Air New Zealand looks to expanding China services

WELLINGTON, 14 Dec — Air New Zealand's chief executive has said his airline wants to expand its China services in the leadup to the Beijing Olympics by building on the experience gained on its Auckland-Shanghai route and its relationship with Chinese airlines.

Chief executive Rob Fyfe, who is in Beijing Thursday for the formalities around Air China and Shanghai Airlines joining the global airline grouping Star Alliance, said the success of the inbound Shanghai-Auckland service depended very heavily on the connections with the Chinese airlines.

"We rely very heavily on both Air China and Shanghai Airlines to feed us at that (the Shanghai) gateway," The *New Zealand Press Association* (NZPA), the nation's news agency, on Thursday quoted him as saying.

The Shanghai service drew significant numbers of Chinese tourists, around 80 per cent of inbound visitors on the Shanghai service were tourists, Fyfe added.

Fyfe said Air New Zealand had started with three Auckland-Shanghai services a week but had now expanded that to five and would like to lift that to seven by August 2008.

MNA/Xinhua

A man sells DVDs at an alley in Beijing on 13 Dec, 2007.

INTERNET

Iran says atomic talks with IAEA positive

TEHERAN, 14 Dec — Iran said on Thursday its latest round of talks with the UN nuclear watchdog to resolve outstanding issues about its disputed atomic work were a positive step, the semi-official *Mehr* news agency reported.

Experts from the two sides started three days of talks on Monday under a deal reached in August between the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Iran to remove concerns about the country's nuclear work, which the West says is a cover to build bombs. Iran says it seeks only nuclear power.

"Talks were held in a completely constructive atmosphere and this is another positive step by Iran ... to resolve the remaining issues," *Mehr* quoted Ali Asghar Soltanieh, Iran's envoy to the IAEA, as saying.

Soltanieh said the result of talks would be announced by the IAEA after "it finishes all the necessary evaluations".

Under the pact, Iran is to answer outstanding questions about its nuclear activities one by one.

The latest round of talks focused on questions about particles of arms-grade enriched uranium found by IAEA inspectors at Teheran's Technical University.

MNA/Reuters



Jakarta to limit private cars

JAKARTA, 14 Dec — The use of private cars will be limited in Jakarta to avoid traffic jams after the mass transport facilities completed, the governor of the city Fauzi Bowo said here on Thursday.

The governor said that the city administrators were planning to build integrated mass transport facilities, including subways, monorails and bus ways, in the capital.

"After we have sufficient mass transport facilities, we will impose restrictions on the use of private cars," Bowo said at the city hall.

The number of vehicles in Jakarta now reached 5.7 million, said Bowo.

Each day an average of 1,027 vehicles were added to the city, including 236 cars and 841 motorcycles.

In the satellite cities near the capital, where many residents went to Jakarta to work, cars grew by 320 units per day and motorcycles 1,707 per day, Bowo said.

MNA/Xinhua

Four survive light plane crash in Australia

CANBERRA, 14 Dec — One pilot and three passengers miraculously escaped serious injury when the light plane carrying them crashed landed in Sorrento, a coastal town in south eastern Australia on Thursday.

The pilot and his passengers, a man and two women aged in their 40s and 50s, were taken to two local hospitals with minor injuries, local radio reports said.

The flight was purchased as a 40th birthday present for one of the female passengers.

The single-engine plane took off from Moorabbin Airport, in south-eastern Melbourne, bound for the coastal town of Anglesea, west of Geelong, in the afternoon.

MNA/Xinhua

Donors grant \$57.4m for primary education in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 14 Dec — Development partners have granted 57.4 million US dollars to the Cambodian Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports for universal access to primary education by 2010, local media said on Thursday.

The money will be used in academic years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, Cambodian-language newspaper the *Rasmei Kampuchea* quoted Ker Nai Leang,

general director of the ministry's education department, as saying.

"We hope to achieve it if we have clear strategic plan objectives. But even if we will not achieve it by 100 per cent, we will still almost reach our goal," he said.

However, Rong Chhun, president of Cambodian Independent Teachers' Association, said that the goal is unlikely to be realized, while citing past

irregularities in the ministry's spending.

According to the UN millennium goal of education for all by 2015, every Cambodian is expected to complete nine years of basic education.

Meanwhile, a World Bank finding said that about 50 per cent of Cambodian students are dropping out of school before they finish lower secondary education.

MNA/Xinhua

Israel denies encouraging Jews to leave Germany

BERLIN, 14 Dec — Israel is not trying to encourage Jews who left the Soviet Union for Germany to migrate to Israel, its Ambassador to Berlin said on Wednesday.

German media had reported Nativ, an Israeli agency, was encouraging Jews in Germany to relocate but Yoram Ben-Zeev told a news conference it was aiming only to give them a sense of Israeli culture.

"Nativ is not there to get immigrants from the former Soviet Union," Ben-Zeev told journalists after being confirmed as the new Ambassador to Germany by President Horst Koehler.

"The main purpose of Nativ is to bring to those communities a sense of the Jewish culture, the

Israeli culture and to help with education. The agenda is not to become movers of the communities to Israel."

However, Ben-Zeev said Israel was the natural home for Jews and anyone wanting to move to Israel was "more than welcome".

MNA/Reuters

Don't smoke

ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BRISA AZUL VOYNO (EAL04)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BRISA AZUL VOYNO (EAL 04) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.12.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER LTD**
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANG SRI MAUNG VOYNO (66)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG SRI MAUNG VOYNO (66) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.12.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONG SAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Air France jet in Toronto crash going too fast

TORONTO, 13 Dec—An Air France jet that crashed at Toronto's International Airport in a thunderstorm in August 2005 came in too high and too fast, and ran out of space on a slippery runway, a Canadian investigation concluded on Wednesday.

The Canadian Transportation Safety Board said the crew of the *Airbus A340* failed to calculate how much tarmac they needed to land the plane safely. The aircraft caught fire after overshooting the runway and plunging into a small ravine.

All 297 passengers and 12 crew members escaped down emergency chutes. No one died.

"The aircraft approached Toronto in a severe and rapidly changing thunderstorm with shifting winds and limited visibility," said Wendy Tadros, head of the Canadian Transportation Safety Board.

"It came in too high and too fast. Touching down almost halfway along the wet and slippery runway, it simply ran out of room," she told a news conference.

The board made seven recommendations on how to prevent such accidents in future.

MNA/Reuters

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P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 15 December 2007

Oil price rises above 90 dollars

NEW YORK, 13 Dec—US crude-oil futures rose more than two dollars to close above 90 dollars a barrel Tuesday after the Federal Reserve cut its key interest rate and forecasts showed US crude inventories have fallen for a fourth time in the latest week.

Crude oil for January delivery rose for the first time in three days, closing up 2.16 US dollars at 90.02 US dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The Federal Open Market Committee, the

Fed's rate decision arm, cut its benchmark federal funds rate by a quarter-point to 4.25 per cent. It also trimmed the discount rate by a quarter-point to 4.75 per cent.

US crude inventories may have dropped for a fourth week in the week ending 7 December, down two million barrels, said analysts surveyed by Platts, an energy information provider owned by McGraw-Hill Cos.

A rate cut could prevent the US economy from sliding into recession and boost the country's oil demand, analysts said.

An interest rate cut would also lower the value of the dollar and make dollar-denominated oil cheaper for buyers holding other currencies. These buyers would then be more likely to increase demand and bid up oil prices.

MNA/Xinhua

Rotterdam gives away energy-saving lightbulbs

AMSTERDAM, 13 Dec—The city of Rotterdam will distribute energy-saving light bulbs to all of its more than 300,000 households to cut emissions of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO2), it said on Tuesday.

The Dutch city said it will distribute more than 600,000 light bulbs and that the expected savings for its citizens—26 million euros (38 million US dollars) over six years from lower electricity bills—will far outweigh the costs of four million euros.

The initiative is part of a push by the city of Rotterdam to cut its CO2 emissions by half by the year 2025 compared with 1990 levels.

MNA/Reuters

Rescuers search debris after al-Qaeda blast in Algeria

ALGIERS, 13 Dec—Rescuers scoured masonry and debris on Wednesday for survivors from a twin bombing in the Algerian capital that killed dozens and showed al-Qaeda retains the ability to strike despite recent reversals.

The group said its attack on UN offices in Algiers' affluent Hydra District and the Constitutional Court in nearby Ben Aknoun area had struck "the slaves of America and France".

"My brother is still trapped. He is a driver," said a man who gave his name as Djamel. "Who'll care for his four children?"

"I could not sleep last

night—my sister is under the wreckage. I hope she will be pulled out alive," said another onlooker, Farid.

"I'm here to ask for good news about my cousin. He is under the debris. I don't understand why I'm not allowed access to the wreckage. I'm ready to help," said Manel Djidi.

Seven people were pulled alive from the wreckage overnight.

Foreign Minister Mourad Medelci told Europe 1 television the official death toll was 30, while a Health Ministry source on Tuesday said 67 people were killed.

MNA/Reuters

Fire kills 21 in east China apartment block

BEIJING, 13 Dec—A fire in a ground-floor flower shop in east China spread into a dance hall and an apartment block above on Wednesday, killing 21 people, media said.

Most of the victims were elderly people doing

their morning exercise.

Hundreds of residents were trapped when the fire broke out in the 28-storey building in downtown Wenzhou in the coastal province of Zhejiang, the *China News Service* said on its website (www.chinanews.com.cn).

Two were killed in the flower shop and 19 died of carbon monoxide poisoning in the dance hall on the second floor, the semi-official news agency said, citing a local government official. Two people were seriously injured.

"Wenzhou residents have the habit of dancing in the morning and many old people do it as exercise," the *China News Service* said. It said more than 200 firefighters took three hours to put out the fire, during which they rescued 105 residents, many by crane, and evacuated 98.

MNA/Reuters



Workers talk inside a Chinese restaurant at the MGM Grand Macau hotel resort in Macau on 13 Dec, 2007. The 154-metre-high luxury resort, designed by architects Wong & Tung International Ltd, is developed by MGM Mirage and businesswoman Pansy Ho.—INTERNET

Study: Chimpanzees not experience menopause



Chimpanzees

WASHINGTON, 13 Dec—A new study of wild chimpanzees has found that these close human relatives do not routinely experience menopause, rebutting previous studies which had postulated that female chimpanzees reach reproductive senescence at 35 to 40 years of age.

Together with recent data from wild gorillas and orangutans, the new finding published Thursday in the journal *Current Biology* suggests that human females are rare or even unique among primates in experiencing a lengthy post-reproductive lifespan.

“We find no evidence that menopause is common among wild chimpanzee populations,” says lead author Melissa

Emery Thompson, a researcher in anthropology at Harvard University. “It’s not at all uncommon for individuals in their 40s and 50s — quite elderly for wild chimpanzees—to remain reproductively active.”

While wild chimpanzees and humans both experience fertility declines starting in the fourth decade of life, most other human organ systems can remain healthy and functional for many years longer, far outstripping the longevity of the reproductive system and giving many women several decades of post-reproductive life.

By contrast, in chimpanzees reproductive declines occur in tandem with overall mortality. A chimpanzee’s life expectancy at birth is only 15 years, and just 7 percent of individuals live to age 40. But females who do reach such advanced ages tend to remain fertile to the end, Emery Thompson and her colleagues found, with 47 percent giving birth once after age 40, including 12 percent observed to give birth twice after age 40.

Internet



Rescue workers carry out the body of a labourer, five days after a building collapse, in Dhaka on 13 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

Nepal, S Korea sign pact on language test for workers

KATHMANDU, 13 Dec—Nepal and South Korea have signed the Implementing Agreement, a technical agreement on the process of sending Nepali workers to South Korea under the Employment Permit System (EPS), *The Kathmandu*

Post reported on Wednesday. According to the daily, the EPS is a system introduced by South Korea enabling workers from countries with which it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to be employed there by companies obtaining em-

ployment permits.

Keshar Bahadur Baniya, director general of the Department of Labour, and his South Korean counterpart Lee Ki Kweon inked the pact that mainly focuses on conducting and administering the Korean Language Test (KLT) for Nepali job aspirants.

Under the agreement, the ratio between job aspirants who pass the KLT and recruitment numbers would be 5:1, meaning one-fifth of the selected candidates would get a chance to work in South Korea.

Under the agreement, successful candidates will be selected on the basis of the marks they obtain in the KLT and their academic qualification and experience.

MNA/Xinhua

Boeing promises to test fly first “787” jet on schedule

LOS ANGELES, 13 Dec—Boeing officials said on Tuesday that the first plane of the company’s 787 programme is expected to meet its schedule for flight test during the first quarter of 2008.

Pat Shanahan, Boeing’s new leader for the 787 programme appointed about two months ago, told industry analysts and media reporters that the company is “staring to turn the corner” on finishing the installation work that was left undone by its major supplier partners.

As the US aircraft manufacturing giant struggles to finish its first 787 *Dreamliner* jet in the face of parts shortages and incomplete work, Boeing must look ahead to rapid assembly of the next two planes for fatigue and stress testing.—MNA/Xinhua

Adopted girl, given up by Dutch diplomat in HK

HONG KONG, 14 Dec—The case of a Korean girl given up by a Dutch diplomat and his wife in Hong Kong seven years after adopting her has sparked outrage among social workers and expatriate Koreans who are struggling to find a new home for her.

A South Korean consular official in Hong Kong said the couple, who adopted the child when she was four months old, had handed her over last May into the care of Hong Kong authorities.

“She is Korean and her situation after seven years of adoption is that she is hurting,” the official said.

“Our concern is for the welfare of the child, we’re looking for a good home for her, she cannot speak Korean, she can only speak English and Cantonese, so we think it’s better for her to find a home in Hong Kong,” the official added.

The *South China Morning Post* reported that the couple had adopted the girl while they were based in South Korea, believing

they could not have children. The wife later gave birth to two children, the report said.

“The diplomat gave no explanation for his decision except to say ‘the adoption had gone wrong’,” the paper reported. “It’s just a very terrible trauma that everyone’s experiencing,” the South Korean official was quoted as saying.

“I don’t have anything to say to the public. It is something we have to live with,” he told the paper.

MNA/Reuters



A dancer from The Great Chinese State Circus performs during their show “Pirates Pirates” in Palma de Mallorca in the Spanish island of Mallorca on 13 Dec, 2007. INTERNET

Bangladesh seeks \$2.2b aid for cyclone recovery

DHAKA, 14 Dec—Bangladesh seeks 2.21 billion US dollars in assistance from overseas donors to help recover from damage from the 15 November cyclone that killed more than 3,200 people and made millions homeless, a senior official said on Thursday.

The assistance is required to finance rebuilding infrastructures and for a long-term disaster protection programme in the affected coastal areas.

“We have requested our development partners to provide 400 million US dollars as budgetary support, 457.76 million US dollars for immediate rehabilitation of the affected areas and 1,351.09 million US dollars for sustainable protection,” Aminul Islam Bhuiyan, secretary of the Finance Ministry’s economic relations division, told *Reuters*.—MNA/Reuters

Sharon Stone in Dubai to raise \$1m for AIDS

DUBAI, 13 Dec—Hollywood star Sharon Stone hopes to raise more than one million US dollars for AIDS research at an auction in Dubai to spread awareness about the deadly virus that remains taboo in the Arab world.

“Cinema Against AIDS”, an artist-led drive to raise funds for AIDS research, is being held on the sidelines of the fourth Dubai International Film Festival.

“We’re happy as artists to know that we’re coming together in the movie community to work in AIDS awareness,” Stone told *Reuters* on Monday night as she arrived on the red carpet.

Wearing a long black satin dress and a purple fur wrap-over, Stone paused for photographers before she opened the auction on behalf the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR).—MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Sevilla top Group H with win at Slavia

PRAGUE, 13 Dec — Sevilla topped Champions League Group H on Wednesday after beating Slavia Prague 3-0 away with second-half goals from Luis Fabiano, Frederic Kanoute and Daniel Alves.

The win ensured Sevilla stayed ahead of Arsenal, who beat Steaua Bucharest 2-1 in London and also qualified for the knock-out stage.

Slavia secured third spot in the group with a draw against Steaua Bucharest two weeks ago and qualified for the UEFA Cup.

Both teams had chances in the first half, with the most promising attempts coming from Slavia striker Milan Ivana, who hit the post, and a header from Kanoute that went wide. — MNA/Reuters

Arsenal beat Steaua to finish second in Group H

LONDON, 13 Dec — Arsenal wrapped up their Group H campaign with a low-key 2-1 win over Steaua Bucharest at the Emirates Stadium on Wednesday to finish second behind Sevilla, who won 3-0 at Slavia Prague.

There was an oddly subdued atmosphere on a chilly night in north London, with little at stake as Arsenal were already sure of advancing to the Champions League knockout stage while Steaua were certain to be eliminated at the bottom of the group.

The only outstanding issue was who would finish in first place and Sevilla duly took top spot with 15 points following their victory.

Arsenal finished second on 13, with Slavia, third on five points, going into the UEFA Cup and Steaua eliminated with just one point. — MNA/Reuters



AC Milan's Kaka (C) breaks through during the semifinal against Japan's Urawa Red Diamonds at the FIFA Club World Cup 2007 in the International Stadium Yokohama in Yokohama, Japan, on 13 Dec, 2007. AC Milan won 1-0 and advanced into the final. — INTERNET

Cruz goal gives Inter 1-0 win at PSV

EINDHOVEN (Netherlands), 13 Dec — Julio Cruz struck midway through the second half to give Inter Milan a 1-0 victory over 10-man PSV Eindhoven on Wednesday and end the Dutch side's hopes of reaching the knockout stage of the Champions League.

PSV had Edison Mendez sent off for a last-man foul on David Suazo after 27 minutes.

A wild clearance gave Suazo free passage to PSV goalkeeper Heurleho Gomes and Mendez prevented the striker from

opening the scoring with a professional foul.

Inter, without several players because of injury or suspension, started with five reserves but were never forced to play their best game and missed half a dozen chances before Cruz netted from close range.

The Italian club finished top of Group G with 15 points from six matches and were joined in the knockout phase by Fenerbahce (11), who beat CSKA Moscow 3-1. PSV were third with seven points and will go into the UEFA Cup next year.

MNA/Reuters

Roma hold Man Utd to stop winning streak

ROME, 13 Dec — A second-half Mancini goal earned AS Roma a 1-1 draw with Manchester United in the Champions League on Wednesday, scuppering the English side's bid to finish Group F with a perfect record of six wins.

The Brazilian midfielder stepped inside Wes Brown after Mirko Vucinic had found him on the left and curled the ball into the top corner in 71st minute.

Spanish defender Gerard Pique had headed in a Nani corner to put the visitors in front in the 34th.

The result does not alter the positions in Group F.

The Premier League champions, who were sure of topping the group before the game and fielded a second-string team, have 16 points while the Serie A side, who had already qualified for the knockout stage in second, are on 11.

MNA/Reuters



Argentine club Boca Juniors' Martin Palermo kicks a ball during an official training session for the FIFA Club World Cup Japan 2007 soccer tournament in Yokohama, south of Tokyo, on 14 Dec, 2007. — INTERNET

Benzema double puts Lyon through against Rangers

GLASGOW, 13 Dec — Karim Benzema struck twice in the last five minutes to help Olympique Lyon to a 3-0 win over Rangers in Group E on Wednesday that clinched a place in the Champions League knockout stages.

Striker Sidney Govou had put the visitors ahead in the 16th minute when he pounced on the rebound after Rangers goalkeeper Allan McGregor parried a Benzema cross. The home side needed only a draw to qualify but squandered their chances and Benzema made them pay with a goal in the 85th and then three minutes later.

Rangers were reduced to 10 men at the end when Jean Claude Darcheville was shown a straight red for a studs up challenge on Swedish midfielder Kim Kallstrom.

Lyon finished runners-up in the group to Barcelona, who had already

qualified for the last 16 before beating VfB Stuttgart 3-1. Rangers' consolation is a place in the last 32 of the UEFA Cup for finishing third in the group.

The Scottish side found Lyon's fast-flowing football hard to deal with and it was no surprise when the French side took the lead, Benzema whipping

a low cross into the danger zone that McGregor palmed into the path of Govou, who cracked a seven-metre shot into the middle of the net.

Rangers rallied after the interval and defender Alan Hutton swept in a teasing cross from the right that keeper Remy Vercoutre struggled to tip on to the bar. — MNA/Reuters



Paul Casey of England follows through on the 18th hole during the first round of the Target World Challenge golf tournament at Sherwood Country Club in Thousand Oaks, Calif, on 13, Dec, 2007. — INTERNET



South Korea's Lee Sangeun (L) tries to pass Norway's Gro Hammerseng and Karoline Dyhre Breivang (R) during their women's world handball championship quarter-final match at Bercy in Paris on 13 Dec, 2007. — INTERNET

Late lapse costs Woods share of Sherwood lead

THOUSAND OAKS (California), 14 Dec — Tiger Woods, back in action after a two-month break, was left seething after double-bogeying the final hole to surrender a share of the lead in the Target World Challenge first round on Thursday.

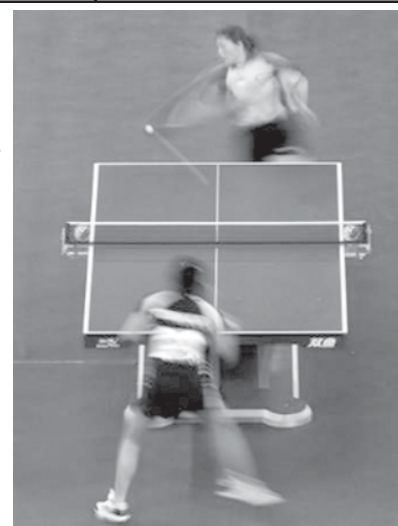
The world number one and tournament host had to settle for a three-under-par 69 after finding a water hazard with his approach into the 18th green before two-putting from 10 feet. That left him in a four-way tie for second place, a stroke behind pacesetter Ameri-

can Jim Furyk who birdied two of the last six holes for a 68 at a breezy but sun-drenched Sherwood Country Club.

MNA/Reuters

Yu Meng Yu (top) of Singapore hits a shot during her match against Zhenqi Barthel of Germany at the ITTF Pro-TOUR Grand Finals table tennis tournament at the Peking University Gymnasium in Beijing on 13 Dec, 2007.

INTERNET



Three killed eight injured in Serbian hotel blaze

BELEGRADE, 14 Dec— An overnight blaze in a northern Serbian hotel killed three people and injured eight others, police said on Wednesday. A woman and two men were apparently suffocated after the fire broke out shortly before midnight in the Hotel Putnik in Novi Sad, some 80 kilometres north of Belgrade.

The victims' bodies were discovered by firemen during and after the operation to extinguish the blaze. None of the eight injured were in a life-threatening condition but suffering from smoke inhalation and some very small cuts to their arms, said doctors at the local hospital.

MNA/Xinhua

25,000 barrels of oil spilled in North Sea

OSLO, 14 Dec— About 25,000 barrels of oil spilled into the Norwegian sector of the North Sea at the Statfjord oilfield on Wednesday, field operator StatoilHydro and oil officials said.

The spill occurred in rough seas while oil was being loaded from a storage unit to a tanker, but the spillage has been halted, oil safety authorities said.

A meteorologist at the Storm forecasting centre said the spill may be drifting east to southeast. That could put it on a collision course with the southwest coast of Norway. "This could be the second largest spill in Norwegian oil history," the Petroleum Safety Authority's (PSA) spokeswoman, Inger Anda, said. The biggest was a 75,000-barrel spill from the

Bravo blowout in 1977.

By comparison, the Exxon Valdez tanker spilled about 240,000 barrels of crude off Alaska in 1989. "During loading of oil from the Statfjord A platform in the North Sea about 4,000 standard cubic metres of oil was released into the sea," Norwegian energy group StatoilHydro said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

FBI searching for 5 Californian men

LOS ANGELES, 14 Dec—The FBI launched a search on Wednesday for five Californian men suspected of participating in an organized Phishing scheme.

The men were suspected of stealing, through e-mail attacks, on-line brokerage accounts that cost victims more than 400,000 US dollars, the FBI said.

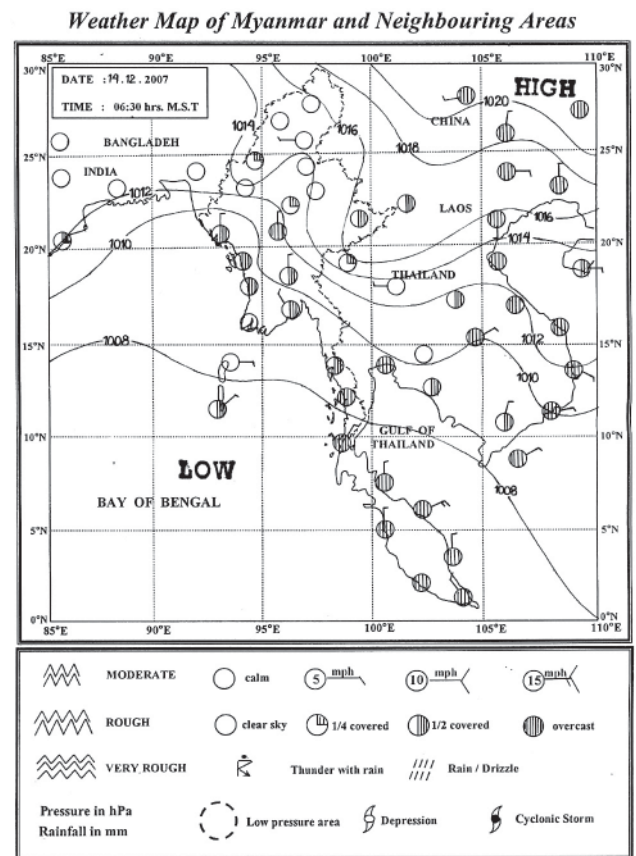
The suspects were filmed on surveillance cameras at various ATMs in Los Angeles and Orange counties. They are believed to have acted as mules for

a larger organized crime ring by withdrawing money from the stolen brokerage accounts.

"Phishing" is the creation and use of e-mails and websites that look real but are in fact fraudulent. The purpose of such attacks is to obtain victims' identities and financial account information for criminal purposes.

Internet users become phishing victims when they send truthful responses to what appear to be genuine e-mail requests for their personal information. Criminals often replicate e-mails and websites of legitimate companies in order to perpetrate their schemes, the FBI said.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 14 December, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Kachin, Rakhine, Kayah and Kayan States, lower Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (6°C) below December average temperatures in Chin State and upper Sagaing Divisions, (5°C) above December average temperatures in Mon State and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka and (-2°C), Namhsam, Pinlaung and Mogok (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 13-12-2007 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 14-12-2007 was 62°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 14-12-2007 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 13-12-2007 was (8.2) hours approx. Rainfall on 14-12-2007 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 (4) mph from North-east at (11:30) hours MST on 13-12-2007.

Bay inference: According to observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's low pressure area over Southwest Bay still persist. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 15-12-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin, and Shan States and Sagaing, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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


Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 15-12-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-12-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-12-2007: Partly cloudy.

Weather outlook for third weekend December 2007: During the coming weekend, Generally fair weather in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.



Saturday, 15 December
View on today

7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am
6. Musical programme

8:15 am
7. သုံးဆယ်ရေလှောင်တံ

8:30 am
8. International news

8:45 am
9. Grammar made easy

11:00 am
1. Martial song

11:15 am
2. Musical programme

11:30 am
3. News

11:40 am
4. Games for children

12:00 noon
5. Round up week's TV local news

12:30 pm
6. "ခံစားရင်းစံစားပါ" (ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ ကုသိုလ်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မြင့်မိုးရဲအောင်)

1:05 pm
7. သတင်းအချက်အလက်နှင့် နည်းပညာနယ်လှည့် ဟောပြောပွဲ (IT Caravan 2007) (အပိုင်း-၁)

1:20 pm
8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

1:35 pm
9. ပို.ကုန်သွင်းကုန်များသယ်ပို့ စွမ်းအားဖြည့်တင်းထား ဒဂုံတတား

1:50 pm
10. Musical programme

2:05 pm
11. Dance of national races

2:20 pm
12. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:25 pm
13. "သတိနဲ့ယှဉ်အသိနဲ့ပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၁) (ဝါးမယ်မရဲမောင်၊ ဘုန်းလျှော်၊ မြတ်ကောသီအောင်၊ ရတနာခင်၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ပြည့်ဖူးခိုင်၊ နီနီရွှေရည်၊ ဆောင်းနှင်းဝေ၊ ဝိုင်းစုခိုင်သိန်း၊ အိုင်းရစ်လေးပြေညီ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအုပ်စိုး)

2:35 pm
14. ရောင်းမကြီး(မြို့လှ)ရေလှောင်တံ

2:45 pm
15. International news

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Song for uphold national spirit

4:30 pm
3. အပေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)

4:45 pm
4. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

4:55 pm
5. မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ

5:10 pm
6. Games for children

5:30 pm
7. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm
8. Evening news

6:30 pm
9. Weather report

6:35 pm
10. အလှူရှာမယ်၊ လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:50 pm
11. အမျိုးသားအထိမ်းအမှတ်ဥယျာဉ် (ပြင်ဦးလွင်) National Landmarks Garden

7:10 pm
12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နေပြည်တံခမ်းမှ" (အပိုင်း-၁၅)

8:00 pm
13. News

8:15 pm
14. International news

8:30 pm
15. Weather report

8:45 pm
16. နိုင်ငံခြား ဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချိုမြိန်အချစ်နေ့" (အပိုင်း-၃)

9:00 pm
17. The next day's programme



Saturday, 15 December
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:

8:50 am National news/Slogan

9:00 am Music:

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:

1:30 pm News/Slogan

1:40 pm Music at your request

9:00pm ASEAN news Exchange news from ASEAN member countries

9:20 pm Myanma Culture... Dr Khin Maung Nyunt Shwe Nan Daw Monastery

9:30 pm Souvenirs -I love you because

9:45 pm News /Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Senior General Than Shwe delivers an address at Graduation Parade of 50th Intake of DSA



Senior General Than Shwe takes the salute of graduate cadet battalions. — MNA

Gen Hsan Hsint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Defence Services Inspector-General Maj-Gen Thein Htaik, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun, Directors Maj-Gen Mya Win, Maj-Gen Tin Soe, Col Kyaw Nyunt, Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tint, Col Nyan Tun, Maj-Gen Than Htay, Maj-Gen Sein Lin and Maj-Gen Hlaing Myint of the Ministry of Defence, PyinOoLwin Station Commander Brig-Gen Zeyar Aung, Mandalay Mayor

missions to the Union of Myanmar, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Red Cross and Fire Brigades, parents and relatives of the graduate cadets and guests.

On the occasion, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe took the salute of the cadet battalions of the DSA and inspected them.

Next, the graduate cadet battalion marched to salute the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

Afterwards, the

Naing, Excellent in Study Award (Computer Science) to Cadet Soe Thu and Excellent in Study Award (Science) to Cadet Htoo Wai Yan Phyo.

Later, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address.

(The full text of the speech of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services is reported separately.)

After taking the salute of the cadet battalions, the Senior General left the parade ground.

After the gradua-



NAY PYI TAW, 14 Dec — The Graduation Parade of the 50th Intake of Defence Services Academy was held at the parade ground of the DSA in PyinOoLwin at 8 am today, with an address by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

Also present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-

Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Thaug Aye, Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe, Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe, Ministers Maj-Gen Htay Oo, U Aung Thaug, Maj-Gen Saw

Tun, Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, U Thaug, Col Zaw Min, Dr Chan Nyein and Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Military Appointment-General Maj-

Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe and departmental officials, Military Attachés of the foreign

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services presented the Best Cadet Award to Cadet Min Thu, the Excellent in Training Award to Cadet Soe Win

tion parade, Senior General Than Shwe met with four outstanding cadets and their parents at the hall of the DSA Headquarters.

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe inspects graduation cadet battalion of 50th Intake of Defence Services Academy. — MNA