

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

Maj-Gen Tha Aye on inspection tour of Kayin State

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and officials, left Mawlamyine for Zarthabyin of Kayin State by car on 22 December and they were welcomed there by Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Zaw Min and officials.

On arrival at Hpa-an, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party inspected the development tasks and then proceeded to Bethizza Muni Pagoda at Myainggyingu Special Region, Hlaingbwe Township where they paid homage to

Myainggyingu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sujana and donated robes and provisions.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye supplicated on the religious matters to the Sayadaw who gave Ovadakatha to him.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party met the farmers of Kanni Village of Hlaingbwe Township and gave instructions, saying that efforts are being made for self-sufficiency in rice in line with the guidance of the Head of State. He went on to say that edible palm oil has to be imported due to the excessive consumption of the item. And, if the farmers strive for self-sufficiency in edible oil their income will increase and the country will be able to save foreign currency, he



Maj-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence inspects sunflower plantation in Shwegun Village.

MNA

noted. Next, Maj-Gen

Tha Aye inspected Sinpadethabin-7 strain groundnut, Hsinyadana-3 strain sesame, fertilizer and pesticides on display by Myanma Agriculture Service and the plantations of farmer U Thaung Sein.

Next, he met officers and other ranks of Hlaingbwe Station at Dawna Hall and gave instructions and presented clothes and cash assistance.

At 2 pm, he also met departmental officials, members of social organizations and townselders at Aung San hall in Hlaingbwe and gave nec-

essary instructions.

At the briefing hall of Hlaingbwe Township People's Hospital (50-bed), Maj-Gen Tha Aye heard a report presented by Director U Moe Kyaw of Homtau Construction

on construction of the hospital. Later, Maj-Gen Tha Aye inspected female medical ward, toilet, operation theatre, X-ray unit and laboratory of the hospital and left necessary instructions. —MNA

Shwenyaung-Nyaungshwe road section renovated

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, superintending engineer U Myint Aung of Shan State Public Works and departmental officials arrived at Shwenyaung-Taunggyi junction in Shwenyaung Township on 20 December.

The commander

inspected renovation of the roads and he gave instructions on timely completion of the work and meeting the set standards.

Next, the commander inspected waterway in Inlay Lake and plantations.

The commander inspected progress of work of the construction of Tong Hong-Peinnegon-Myayphyu-Eingyigon road section, conditions of Inte-

Thaung-Khaungdaing-Taunglaylone road section, plantation of seasonal crops, renovating of Hupin Hotel (Khaungdaing), conservation of Inlay Lake and visited new hot spring in Khaungdaing. Next, the commander looked into construction of retaining wall near Taunggyi on Meiktila-Taunggyi-Namhsan-Kengtung-Tachilek road.—MNA

INSIDE

Myanmar is also a land of pleasant beaches, and Chaungtha, Ngwehsaung and Setse Beaches, for instance, are popular attractions of local and foreign visitors. Ngapali Beach is the most beautiful one of its kind in Myanmar as well as the cleanest one in Southeast Asian region.

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PERSPECTIVES

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 26 December, 2007

Promote Myanmar tourism industry

Myanmar has a large number of scenic natural beauties. It wins global reputation for its cultural sites and edifices in abundance.

Now, the open season has begun in the nation, so the number of tourist arrivals is growing. Types of Myanmar tourist attractions include impressive geographical features, archaeological regions, and beach resorts.

The beauty of Bagan's glorious sunset is popular in the international tourist industry. Interesting pagodas and stupas put MraukU, an archaeological city of Rakhine State, on the world map. The Kyaik-hti-yo Pagoda in Mon State is a religious wonder.

Myanmar is also a land of pleasant beaches, and Chaungtha, Ngwehsaung and Setse beaches, for instance, are popular attractions of local and foreign visitors. Ngapali Beach is the most beautiful one of its kind in Myanmar as well as the cleanest one in South-east Asian region.

PyinOoLwin National Gardens is a place where flowers of various species are in bloom. Inlay Lake, the showcase of Shan State, is located among mountain ranges. Rowing boats with legs is a cultural symbol of Inlay Lake.

A large number of Myanmar's cultural sites and natural beauties are attractive to local and foreign tourists.

Therefore, it is needed to make collaborative efforts to improve the nation's tourism industry and make the nation's tourist attractions more popular in the world.

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



Mayor inspects drainage system in Thingangyun Township



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspects sanitation works in Thingangyun Township.—YCDC

Health Deputy Minister attends meeting of UN AIDS Control Programme Coordinating Board

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—The 22nd meeting of UN AIDS Control Programme Coordinating Board was held in Geneva, Switzerland on 17 and 18 December, attended by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe.

Also present at the meeting were Permanent Representative of Myanmar to UN Ambassador U Wunna Maung Lwin and party.

At the meeting, Chairman of the Coordinating Board the Minister of Health of Thailand made an opening speech, and the report of the meeting was discussed and approved.

Afterwards, the Managing Director of UN AIDS Control Programme presented his report, and this was followed by a general round of discussions. And Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe took part in the discussions.

Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe and party arrived back here on 20 December. They were welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, the directors-general and deputy directors-general.

Deputy Director Dr Min Thwe who accompa-

nied the deputy minister also arrived back here on the same flight.—MNA



Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe participates in the 22nd meeting of UN AIDS Control Programme Coordinating Board in Geneva, Switzerland.—HEALTH

YANGON, 25 Dec — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected drainage system in Thingangyun Township and gave instructions on proper flow of drains in the township yesterday.

During his tour, he inspected dredging of the drains and extended construction of concrete drain channels in the township.

Afterwards, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin went to South Okkalapa Township and inspected paving asphalt on roads in Ngwekyayan Pariyatti Monastery. He also paid homage to Sayadaw of the monastery Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Rewata.

Later, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected paving of asphalt on the road connecting the junction of International Airport in Mayangon Township and Thirimingala Road in Insein Township.

The mayor also visited Myanmar Convention Centre in Mayangon Township and inspected the construction of buildings in and extended construction of the compound of MCC and called for timely completion of the construction works meeting the set standard. —MNA

China grain producers urged to make new contributions

BEIJING, 25 Dec— Chinese Vice-Premier Hui Liangyu on Sunday encouraged individuals and groups involved in grain production to make new contributions to the stabilization of yields and supplies of other agricultural products.

While attending a ceremony honouring advanced grain producers, he urged those recognized to exert more efforts to push forward agricultural modernization, to help farmers increase income and to promote development of the rural economy.

A total of 820 individuals and 210 prefecture and county governments as well as two provincial grain bureaus were honoured for their contributions to grain production.

Rural work has been at the top of the government's development agenda in recent years.

Agriculture Minister Sun Zhengcai announced on Saturday that China produced more than 500 billion kilogrammes of grain in 2007, the fourth consecutive year of yield growth.

He added that farmers saw their annual per-capita net income increase by 7 per cent to 4,000 yuan (540 US dollars), largely due to price rises for farm produce, a larger number of rural migrant workers and more government subsidies for agricultural production.

MNA/Xinhua



In this photo released by Fincantieri, the Queen Victoria passenger ship is shown in this 24 Nov, 2007 file photo. Italy's state-owned shipbuilder Fincantieri built the new 90,000-ton vessel for Cunard Line, a unit of Carnival Corp.—INTERNET

India, France working on N-cooperation agreement

NEW DELHI, 25 Dec — India and France are working on a proposed civil nuclear agreement on the lines of Indo-US deal, visiting French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said on Monday.

The issue of civil nuclear cooperation will be discussed during the visit of French President Nicholas Sarkozy to India in January but finalization of the agreement will have to await till India gets a nod from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), local news agency Press Trust of India reported.

“We are working on an agreement on civil

nuclear power,” Kouchner said as he wound up his four-day visit to India during which he met Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and held talks with Indian External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee.

Asked whether the two sides had finalized the text of the proposed agreement, he said, “No, we are working on it. We cannot sign it, but we can conclude the agreement.”

He said discussions are underway on details and particular proposals of the agreement which would be on the lines of the Indo-US deal.

MNA/Xinhua

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Indonesia to buy two mln gas cylinders from Thailand

JAKARTA, 25 Dec—Indonesia's state-run oil and gas firm PT Pertamina will start importing three-kilogramme tubes of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) for stoves from Thailand early next year.

Pertamina spokesman Wisnuntoro said Monday that around two million LPG tubes would be imported from Thailand in January and February next year.

“Pertamina should have started importing the tubes this week but because of long holiday, it will be started early January 2008,” Wisnuntoro was quoted by the national Antara news agency as saying.—MNA/Reuters

Man shot dead in Birmingham pub dispute

LONDON, 25 Dec — A 33-year-old man was shot outside a pub in Birmingham on Sunday and died later in hospital, police said.

The unidentified man was shot after an altercation inside the King of the Road pub in the

Newtown District of Birmingham shortly after 7.45 am, a police spokeswoman said.

“Following a disturbance inside the pub, several shots were fired outside and a 33-year-old man was hit in the chest,” she said.—MNA/Reuters



A heavy snow storm pelts the American Midwest, causing deadly road accidents, power outages and grounded flights for Christmas holiday travellers.

INTERNET

Still no shelter for one mln B'desh “Sidr” victims

DHAKA, 25 Dec—The International Red Cross says more than a million people are without basic shelter five weeks after a devastating cyclone struck Bangladesh's low-lying coast.

Cyclone Sidr hit the impoverished South Asian country on 15 November with winds of 250 kilometres per hour (155 miles per hour) and a five-metre storm (17-foot) surge, killing more than 3,300 people.

“An alarming assessment has shown that more than one million storm survivors remain in need of basic, preliminary shelter assistance,” said the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in a statement.

“This finding is the result of a comparison between the extent of Sidr's damage and existing commitments from the international community to address shelter needs,” the Red Cross said on Friday in the middle of the Muslim Eid holiday.

According to government figures, more than 1.5 million houses were fully or partially damaged by Sidr, the deadliest storm since 1991 when a cyclone killed about 143,000 Bangladeshis.—MNA/Reuters

Etihad to introduce “A320” full-flight simulator

ABU DHABI, 25 Dec— Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), will introduce an Airbus A320 full-flight simulator to its pilot training facilities, the Emirates News Agency reported on Sunday. Etihad has placed an order for a CAE 7000 series A320 full-flight simulator from the Canada-based CAE, which provides simulation and modeling technologies and integrated training solutions for the civil aviation industry and defence forces. The A320 full-flight simulator, which costs 15 million US dollars at list price, is scheduled to be delivered

in February 2008 and can be adapted to recreate the flight deck of any aircraft in the Airbus A320 range.

MNA/Xinhua



Rescue workers stand amongst the rubble of a collapsed building in Alexandria, 230 km (140 miles) north of Cairo, on 24 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

China evolving into a pole in multi-polar world

Moscow, 24 Dec— Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told Russian media on Friday that China is evolving into a pole in the world which is in the process of transforming into a multipolar one.

Lavrov said his observation was based on China's vigorous economic growth and its growing political influence worldwide.

Russia and China has cooperated closely within the United Nations Security Council and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and through bilateral channels, the top

Russian diplomat said.

Lavrov stressed that the year of 2007 has witnessed significant achievements in Russia-China cooperation, including the successful holding of the "Year of China" in Russia and the signing of a treaty on long-term good-neighbourliness, friendship and cooperation among the SCO members.—MNA/Xinhua

Actors perform Shaolin kung-fu in Zhengzhou, capital of central China's Henan Province, on 23 Dec, 2007. —XINHUA



Wildlife park to be re-opened in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 25 Dec — Sri Lanka's Yala National Park in the deep south is to be re-opened on 28 December after several incidents related to suspected Tamil Tiger rebels have been reported recently, the military said Sunday.

Brigadier Sudantha Ranasinghe, the Army's area commander in charge of Yala area told reporters in the southern town of Tissamaharama that Block 1 of the park would be re-opened following a security assessment in the area.

However, blocks 2, 3 and 4 would remain as high security zones with no one permitted to enter the areas.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels attacked a military detachment in the national park on 15 October and 16 October, killing seven soldiers.

Thereafter several land mine explosions and gun battles have taken place inside the park. The government set up a special military coordinating unit to ensure safety in the park as well as the surrounding villages.

MNA/Xinhua

At least five killed in car pileups in central US

WASHINGTON, 24 Dec— At least five people were killed and dozens more injured in weather-related car accidents in the central United States on Saturday as a severe snowstorm hit the region. The snowstorm was blamed for numerous car pileups on highways that killed three people in Minnesota, one in Kansas and one in Texas. Portions of several major highways were closed.

The Texas pileup, believed to be caused by blowing snow and zero visibility, involved more than 50 vehicles and eighteen people were taken to hospitals, two of them seriously injured, police said. In Kansas, at

least one people was killed in a 30-car pileup on a highway, and authorities closed a 65-kilometre section of the highway.

The storm also affected flights at airports in some Midwestern states as the busy holiday travel was

getting underway.

In Chicago, flights at O'Hare International Airport, one of the busiest in the country, were delayed for about one hour and about 170 flights were cancelled, airport authorities said.—MNA/Xinhua

Bus accident in Bolivia kills 20

LIMA, 25 Dec — At least 20 people were killed and 22 others injured when a coach overturned in southwestern Bolivia on Friday, according media reports from La Paz. The accident occurred when the coach, which was on inter-city travel in the southwestern province of Oruro, suddenly lost control in a curve and overturned, killing 20 people on the spot, police said.

A preliminary investigation showed the driver improperly operated the vehicle at the curve of the road, which caused the accident.

MNA/Xinhua



Tourists pose for photographs as soap suds simulating snow fall outside a mall in Singapore on 22 Dec, 2007.

INTERNET

Two earthquakes hit Bengkulu, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 25 Dec— Two moderate earthquakes respectively measuring 5.3 and 5.1 on the Richter scale shook Indonesia's Bengkulu Province, on Sumatra island, on Tuesday morning, but there was no immediate reports of casualties and material damage.

The epicentre of the first earthquake, which hit at 3:56 am Western Indonesian Time (WIB), was located at 4.44 degrees southern latitude and 100.81 degrees eastern longitude, at a depth of 10 km, around 170 km southwest of Lais subdistrict, North Bengkulu District,

Antara news agency quoted Coordinator of the Bengkulu meteorological and geophysics office Adjat Sudrajat as reporting on Tuesday.

The second earthquake at 4.21 am WIB was located 4.29 degrees southern latitude and 101.16 degrees eastern longitude, at a depth of 40 km around 130 km southwest of Lais subdistrict, he said.

Bengkulu was devastated by a 7.9-magnitude earthquake on 12 Sept, 2007, killing at least 15 people, seriously injuring 13, and slightly wounded 38 others.

Tens of thousands of houses, a number of offices, places of worship and school buildings were damaged in the earthquake. —Internet

The National Grand Theatre (R) and the Great Hall of the People are seen at night in Beijing on 23 Dec, 2007. The controversial National Theatre, a shiny half sphere that sits awkwardly next to the Soviet-style Great Hall of the People in downtown Beijing, opened on 22 Dec.

INTERNET



ECONOMIC NEWS

Russia likely to become world's fifth largest economy by 2020

Moscow, 24 Dec— Russia will become the world's fifth largest economy by 2020, should its gross domestic product (GDP) keeps an annual growth rate of 6 to 7 percent, said Russian Minister of Economic Development and Trade Elvira Nabiullina on Monday.

"If we maintain the GDP growth at 6 percent to 7 percent per year, we'll join the group of the world's five largest economies," the minister was quoted as saying by Russia's *RIA Novosti*

news agency.

"We are setting ourselves this goal," she said.

Under a forecast drawn up by her ministry in November for Russia's economic development until 2020, the country's GDP is expected to exceed 5 trillion US dollars in 2020 given a foreign exchange rate of 30 rubles equivalent to 1 dollar.

The forecast also put Russia into the position of the world's fifth largest economy measured by the GDP by 2020 while overtaking all the other European countries.

Russia's GDP in 2007 is expected to reach 1.3 trillion dollars, a surge of more than 7 percent driven by growing household consumption and a boosted business activities, the *RIA Novosti* reported, citing a report of the ministry.

Internet



Sri Lanka says floods displace 175,000, most in east

COLOMBO, 25 Dec — Flash flooding in east and central Sri Lanka has forced 175,000 people from their homes, with many seeking refuge in makeshift welfare centres in schools and temples, officials said on Monday.

Heavy rains on Sunday and Monday caused a reservoir to burst its banks

in the eastern district of Batticaloa, where more than 40,000 families comprising around 150,000 people were displaced, said Ramya Siriwanasa, deputy director of emergency operations at the National Disaster Management Centre.

The central district of Polonnaruwa was second-worst hit, with around 6,500 people displaced, with the balance affected in the northern districts of Jaffna and Trincomalee and the central district of Matale.

The inundation comes a week after 20,000 people were flooded out of their homes mainly in the

eastern district of Ampara, when a depression over the Bay of Bengal intensified monsoon rains. Most of those people have since returned home.

MNA/Reuters

A Tunisian experiences

Chinese Embroidery during the Chinese

Embroidery Exhibition

in Tunis, on 24 Dec,

2007.

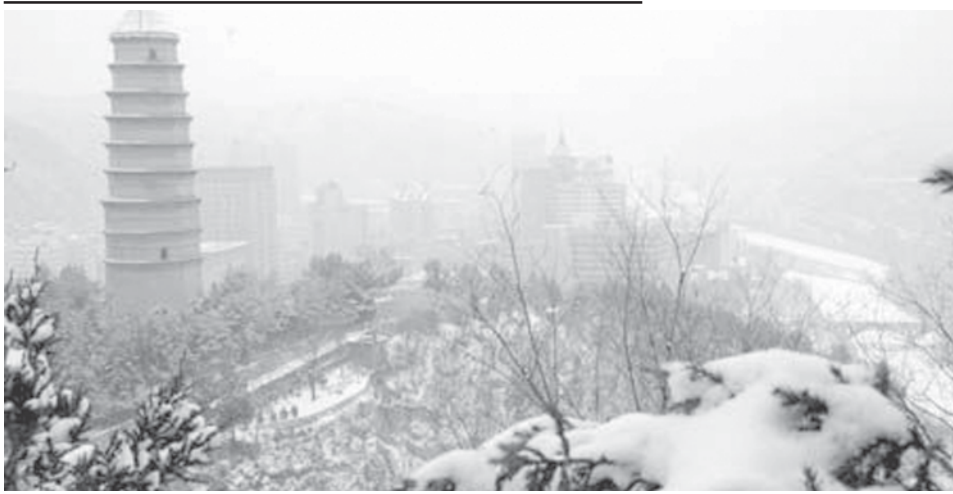
XINHUA

Iran, Italy in gas transfer talks

TEHERAN, 25 Dec — Iran was in talks with Italian power company Edison about exporting gas to the European Union country, Iran's state-run TV channel Alalam reported on Sunday. "We have started negotiations... and the talks have almost been finalized," Iranian Oil Minister Gholam-hossein Nozari was quoted as saying. "Their preliminary need for the end of 2008 is 1.5 billion cubic feet and it will be increased to 4.5 billion cubic feet," Nozari said, without giving details. Soaring oil and gas prices have made energy supply an acute issue in Italy, which has scarce energy resources and depends on imports for about 80 per cent of its energy needs, according to Alalam. —*MNA/Xinhua*

The photo taken on 23 Dec, 2007 shows a snow view in Yan'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

XINHUA



S Korea's agri trade deficit to reach record high in 2007

SEOUL, 25 Dec — The South Korean Government said Monday that the country's agricultural trade deficit is expected to reach a record high of over 10 billion US dollars for the first time this year.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the

state-run Agriculture and Fisheries Marketing Corp (AFMC), the country's agricultural trade deficit reached 9.97 billion US dollars as of November, up 27 per cent from 2006.

The deficit might reach 11.01 billion US dollars for the full year, they said.

According to the government, in the first 11 months of the year, imports reached 12.13 billion US dollars, while exports totalled 2.15 billion US dollars.

In 2006, South Korea's agricultural trade deficit stood at 8.68 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



A model presents a creation by Italian fashion house Gucci during the Spring/Summer 2007 women's collections in Milan.

Hurt by ambiguous legislation and buffeted by globalization, "Made in Italy" fashion is losing its time-honoured credibility, to the dismay of unions and business leaders.

INTERNET

Obama retreats from call for China toy-import ban

WASHINGTON, 24 Dec — US Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama on Sunday stepped back from a pledge to halt US imports of Chinese-made toys because of safety concerns. Instead, the Illinois senator, who is in a tight race with Senator Hillary Clinton of New York to win the Democratic presidential nomination,

reiterated his long-standing call for barring toys with more than a trace amount of lead.

"Now, don't get me wrong: As president, I'll work with China to keep harmful toys off our shelves," he said in Greenfield, Iowa, according to a statement from his campaign for the November 2008 election.

On Wednesday, Obama

had told voters in New Hampshire: "I would stop the import of all toys from China," which supplies about 80 per cent of US toys. A spokesman for Obama, Josh Earnest, said the candidate had been referring in New Hampshire to banning "toys that contain more than a trace level of lead, coming from China or anywhere else".

MNA/Reuters



An artist works on a clay sculpture of "Happy Rats Greeting Olympic Year" in Huishan Clay Figurine Workshop of Wuxi, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 24 Dec, 2007. As the Chinese lunar year of the rat approaches, the workshop has presented a large number of clay works themed in the rat with the traditional skills famed in Huishan. —XINHUA

Chinese police seek Siberian tiger killer

BEIJING, 24 Dec—A rare Siberian tiger was skinned and beheaded in a Chinese provincial zoo and police are offering a reward for information leading to the killer or killers.

The remains of the female tiger, a critically endangered species, were found on Thursday in the zoo in central China's Yichang City, the official Xinhua news agency said

on Sunday, citing a local forestry bureau official.

Police told local media they found the cage locks and the door to the tiger room broken, and also found four self-made anaesthetic rifles nearby, Xinhua said.

The tiger's pelt was peeled off and the limbs were chopped off from the knees, suggesting a professional slaughter, an

unnamed person involved in the investigation was quoted as saying.

"It is highly possible that the killer or killers broke into the room, anaesthetized the tiger, opened the cage and then dragged the animal out of the room and butchered it," the person said. China breeds Siberian tigers as a way to protect one of the world's most endangered species, which mostly live in northeast China and Russia.

Of the just 400 estimated to live in the wild, only 10 to 17 live in China, Xinhua said. Many hundreds live in captivity where they are popular in zoos.

MNA/Xinhua

A diver dressed as Santa Claus feeds fish at the Shanghai Ocean Aquarium on 24 Dec, 2007.

INTERNET



BOGOTA, 24 Dec—At least five people died and 32 others injured in the Santa Lucia neighbourhood, in the south of Colombia's capital Bogota, when a drunk truck driver drove his vehicle into a home, the nation's civil defence authorities said on Sunday.

An 8-year-old girl, who was passing by, died during the crash, which took place on Saturday night. Rescuers have since found the dead bodies of two women, one man and one minor in the rubble, said civil defence chief, Colonel Eugenio Alarcon. Rescuers said the dead in the rubble were all members of one family who lived in the home.

Russian Foreign Minister starts Libya visit

Moscow, 24 Dec—Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov left here for Libya for a two-day visit on Sunday to discuss closer bilateral co-operation, regional and international issues.

Lavrov will hold talks with his Libyan counterpart, Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Shalgham, on international and regional issues, including co-operation in multilateral

areas, especially in the United Nations.

Also on the agenda will be the situation in Iraq and the Middle East as a whole, Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Kamynin was quoted by news agencies as saying.

Libya is Russia's long-time partner in the Arab world and Africa. The two countries have maintained political dialogue and cooperation in various

areas, Kamynin said, adding it is important to focus on boosting co-operation in the oil and gas sector.

Russian gas giant Gazprom and oil company Tatneft have started field development in Libya. The two countries are also considering joint projects in power generation, pipelines, housing and railway construction.

MNA/Xinhua



Performers from Yunnan province rehearse for a Christmas performance in Suining, Sichuan Province, on 24 Dec, 2007.

INTERNET

11 killed as bus falls into river in Egypt

CAIRO, 24 Dec—A minibus fell into the Nile River while it was driving aboard a ferryboat in the Southern Egyptian Minya governorate on Saturday, killing 11 Egyptians, security sources told Xinhua.

The minibus was carrying a total of 14 Egyptian passengers

when the accident took place at a village in Minya governorate, about 220 kilometres south of Cairo, said the sources who declined to be identified.

However, Egyptian MENA news agency reported that 11 were killed, three wounded and five others still missing

during the accident as the minibus was trying to board a ferry to move passengers from the eastern bank of the river to the western bank.

Eleven bodies had been recovered and the rescue teams were still trying to recover the rest in the mishap, the report added.

MNA/Xinhua

Several insurgents killed in central Afghanistan

KABUL, 25 Dec—Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) backed by the US-led Coalition forces killed several insurgents on Sunday while patrolling in the central Afghan province of Uruzgan, said a coalition statement.

The insurgents attacked the ANSF-led forces with mortars, recoilless rifles and small-arms fire from a tabletop ridge when the joint forces were patrolling between the villages of Pasaw and Dosang in Shahidi Hasas District of Uruzgan Province, the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia ready to host Mideast conference

MOSCOW, 25 Dec — Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Monday his nation is ready to hold a Mideast peace conference if all concerned sides are interested in the matter.

“We will be ready whether other gamers are prepared for it and whether

this meeting makes it possible to push us towards moving forward,” *ITAR-TASS* quoted the top diplomat as saying.

“Russia’s position on the Palestinian-Israeli settlement is neutrally positive. The Annapolis meeting put on all obligations assumed by

the sides and they should be carried out,” he said, noting the Syrian-Lebanese relations should also be focused on.

“To this end, the sides, primarily Palestinians and Israelis, must fairly comply with the earlier reached agreements,” Lavrov said.

“No one can create additional obstacles to the solution to this problem. For example, this is related to Israel’s attacks on the Gaza Strip. Unfortunately, Mahmoud Abbas cannot exert restraint because there is no unity among Palestinians. We are calling for the unity consistently,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen kill 4 French tourists in Mauritania

NOUAKCHOTT, 25 Dec — Gunmen armed with assault rifles shot dead four French tourists from the same family and seriously injured a fifth in Mauritania on Monday, local police and French officials said.

Members of the family were attacked in their car on the road 15 kilometres from Aleg, in a popular sightseeing area 250 kilometres (160 miles) southeast of the West African country’s capital, Nouakchott, said a police officer who declined to be named.

The fifth tourist, the father of the family, was injured in the leg and taken to Aleg’s hospital, and was in a serious condition, he said.

The three attackers were armed with semi-automatic assault rifles and

drove two Mercedes saloon cars, he said.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy confirmed the deaths, but said details of the incident were still unclear and an investigation was under way.—MNA/Reuters

Vietnam to spend over \$1.1b on safe water

HANOI, 25 Dec — Vietnam is expected to pour over 1.1 billion US dollars into a programme on increasing access to safe water and ensuring rural sanitation, the *Vietnam Investment Review* newspaper reported Monday.

Some 15 per cent of the fund will come from international assistance, 14 per cent from the central budget, 10 per cent from provincial budgets, and the

rest from public contribution.

Under the 2007-2010 National Programme on Safe Water and Rural Sanitation, nearly nine million rural people would benefit from the construction of millions of sanitary water closets and waste treatment models for villages.

Some 30 per cent of the Vietnamese population currently face shortage of



This photo, released by the Indian Defence Ministry, shows Indian Brigadier DS Dadwal (R), contingent Commander of the Indian troops shaking hands with Senior Colonel Tian of the People’s Liberation Army of China, on 19 Dec, upon the arrival of the Indian troops at Kunming Airport, to take part in the first ever joint military exercise between the Indian and Chinese armies.—INTERNET

Small quake jolts eastern Russian peninsula

MOSCOW, 25 Dec — A small earthquake jolted Russia’s Kamtchatka Peninsula on the Pacific coast overnight Monday, local media reported.

The quake, measuring 4.9 on the Richter Scale, caused no casualties or damage, the *Ria-Novosti* news agency quoted seismology officials as saying.

The epicentre was 205 kilometres northeast of Petropavlovsk-Kamtchatski, the administrative centre of Kamtchatka and about 35 kilometres under the ocean floor, officials said.—MNA/Xinhua

Train-bus collision kills 9 in Tajikistan

ALMATY, 25 Dec — A passenger bus collided with a railroad locomotive in Tajikistan on Monday, leaving nine people dead and several others injured, said the Tajik authorities.

According to news reaching here from Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan, the accident occurred in southwestern Dushanbe when the driver of a minibus was attempting to get over a level-crossing while the diesel locomotive was nearby, said government officials.—MNA/Xinhua

Small plane, US passengers missing in Panama

PANAMA CITY, 25 Dec — Rescuers in Panama searched for survivors on Monday after a small plane carrying three Americans and their Panamanian pilot went missing in foul weather.

The *Cessna* airplane disappeared from radar on Sunday during a 45 minute flight between Islas Secas, in the Gulf of Chiriqui, and Volcan, a mountainous coffee-growing region, the government said.

US businessman Michael Klein and his children, aged 9 and 11 years old, were on the plane, along with their pilot, the government said.—MNA/Reuters

Police say gunmen kidnap 14 members of Iraqi family

BAGHDAD, 25 Dec — Gunmen posing as Iraqi security forces kidnapped 14 members of one family in the volatile Diyala Province north of Baghdad on Monday, police said.

They said the gunmen stopped a minibus carrying the 14 at a fake checkpoint near the town of Muqdadaya, 90 kilometres (55 miles) northeast of the capital. Those kidnapped included women and children, police said.—MNA/Reuters

12 Indonesian state firms to go public in 2008

JAKARTA, 25 Dec — The Indonesian Government plans initial public offering of at least 12 state-owned enterprises (SOEs), including three leading plantation firms, under the massive privatization programme next year.

State-run plantation firms PTPN 3, PTPN 4 and PTPN 7 are expected to sell their stakes by a maximum of 40 per cent in the first quarter of 2008, economic daily *Bisnis Indonesia* reported Monday.

The privatization list also includes trading firm Sucofindo, metal industry Krakatau Steel, construction firms Waskita Karya and Adhi Karya and five other

companies in Jakarta, Medan, Semarang, Makassar and Surabaya.

The three plantation firms are set to become the centre of gravity in the upcoming privatization drive as they are currently benefiting largely from the surging prices of agricultural commodities such as palm oil, sugar, tea and coffee.

But the newspaper said the privatization would require approval from the House of Representatives.

The government said earlier it planned to privatize 28 SOEs next year with an aim to raise 1.5 trillion rupiah (160 million US dollars) to help cover the 2008 budget deficit.—MNA/Xinhua



Workers decorate a 46-metre (151 feet) Christmas tree in the centre of Russia’s Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk on 24 Dec, 2007. The artificial Christmas tree is the highest in Russia, local media reported.—INTERNET

Hospital for the Sangha gets new building



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win unveils signboard of the six-storey building for Jivatadana Sangha Hospital.—MNA

YANGON, 25 Dec—A six-storey building in the compound of Jivatadana Sangha Hospital in Bahan Township was inaugurated, here, this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win unveiled the building.

The ceremony to inaugurate the new building of the hospital was opened with three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa* and Chairman of the administrative board of the hospital U Maung Tin extended greetings.

Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department Deputy Director U Soe Naing, Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint and U Maung Tin formally opened the building.

The ceremony ended with three-time recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Ciram Titthatu*. After the opening ceremony, the commander and party visited the out-patient ward and the eye department of the hospital and donated cash to Buddhist monks receiving treatment at the hospital.

MNA

Yangon Mayor opens Phyto Cetena Free Clinic

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Yangon In-Charge) Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin attended a ceremony to open Phyto Cetena Free Clinic and present donations to the medical funds, organized by Yangon Division USDA in order to provide free health care service for the workers from industrial zone in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon East District yesterday and accepted cash donations.

First, the ceremony was held at the junction of Panlong road and Dokhtawady road.

CEC Member Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Yangon Division USDA Secretary U Aye Myint, Clinic In-Charge Dr Nay Linn, Chairman of Industrial Zone-2 Management Committee U Aung Myint and Chairman of Industrial Zone-3 Management Committee U Aung Than formally opened and inspected the clinic.

Next, the CEC member made a speech on the occasion and accepted 2100 USDA membership

applications presented by officials of Industrial Zone Nos 1, 2 and 3.

Afterwards, the CEC member and secretary received K 3,770,000 and medicines worth K 471,900 from the wellwishers.

After that, an industrial zone representative spoke words of thanks and the ceremony ended.

After the ceremony, the CEC member inspected upgrading tasks of 2090 feet long Thanlwin Road.

The CEC member inspected production of small transformers at Earth electrical appliance manufacturing factory located in the industrial zone 1.

MNA

CPT Deputy Minister receives Deputy Foreign Minister of Vietnam

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—Deputy Minister

for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Maj-Gen Thein Tun received Deputy Foreign Minister Mr Dao Viet Trung of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tran Van Tung and party at his office here at 4.15 pm yesterday.

Also present at the call were officials of the ministry. They discussed matters to improve bilateral communication ties between the two countries. — MNA



Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Thein Tun receives Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Dao Viet Trung.—CPT

Ministry of Industry-1 launches special sales

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Dec—Ministry of Industry-1 conducted its special sales at People's Sports Ground in Myitkyina Township on 20 December.

Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, the deputy commander, senior military officers and their wives and officials of the ministry attended the ceremony.

First, Secretary U Maung Maung Win of Kachin State PDC and Col Win Myint of the ministry opened the special sales and the commander unveiled the signboard.

After opening the sales, the commander visited the shops of clothes, ceramics, foodstuff, medicine, paper and stationery, sewing machine, electric bicycle and handicraft of national races.—MNA

Thamainbayan Road in Mudon commissioned into service

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Dec—Thamainbayan Road was commissioned into service in Mudon Township, Mon State, on 19 December.

Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and officials attended the ceremony.

Deputy Director of Mudon Township Development Affairs Committee U Maung Maung Aye reported on opening of the road and launching of water supply.

Secretary of Township Union Solidarity and Development Association U Zaw Myint and officials formally opened the 1,820-foot tarred road.

The commander formally unveiled the signboard of the archway. The road was built with the contribution of K 17,490,000 by the Township Development Affairs Committee and local people. The road leads to Kya-in-Seikkyi and Phyathonzu Townships.

The commander and party inspected brick pond for water supply in Myoma Ward 4 and 150 KVA paddy-husk-powered station in Kyun Village that supplies power to 275 households in the village.

They also inspected free treatments given by specialists in the village.—MNA

Deputy Attorney-General visits new office in South Okkalapa

YANGON, 24 Dec—Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin inspected South Okkalapa Township law office and the new training centre building of the Attorney-General Office in the compound of the law office in South Okkalapa Township, this morning.

He met with district and township law officers at Yangon Division (East) law office.

He also had a meeting with law officers of division and district law offices and of the Attorney-General Office (Yangon).

At the meetings, he called on the law officers to have goodwill in taking charge of duties and to deal with their subordinates with family spirit. —MNA

Bronze Buddha Image consecrated in Minbya



Commander Maj-Gen Maung Shein and Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint receive the Five Precepts from a Sayadaw at a ceremony to consecrate a Buddha Image at Kyeintaungzihwa Dattawmyat Pagoda in Minbya Township.—ELECTRIC POWER NO 2

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—A consecration ceremony of Bronze Buddha Image and merit-sharing ceremony for Silavisodhani ordination hall were held at Kyeintaungzihwa Dattawmyat Pagoda in Minbya Township on 21 December.

The Bronze Buddha Image was donated by Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife Daw Win Win Nu and family.

Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Shein and officials attended the ceremonies.

First, 15 members of the Sangha consecrated the Bronze Buddha Image.

Commander Maj-Gen Maung Shein, Minister

Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and wife donated provisions to Chairman of Minbya Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Ghosittarambha of Myomamyauk Monastery and members of the Sangha.

The commander, the minister and wellwishers took the Five Precepts from the Sayadaw and they presented offertories to members of the Sangha.

The minister and wellwishers donated K 1,450,000 to the pagoda funds through Pagoda Board of trustees.

After cash donation, Sayadaw Agga Maha Gandhavasaca Pandita Bhaddanta Zhaninda delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained.

MNA

Respect paying ceremony of Botahtaung BEHS-4

YANGON, 25 Dec—The 10th ceremony to pay respects to retired teachers by old students of No 4 Basic Education High School, Botahtaung Township was held at the school this morning.

Firstly, the old students prayed for late headmistress for one minute and they introduced the old teachers to those present. And old student Daw Than Than spoke words of thanks while old student Daw Tin Tin Aye read out the list of donors.

Afterwards, the old students presented household items to Headmistress Daw Mya Mya Thein.

Retired Headmistress Daw Khin May Myint and Headmistress Daw Mya Mya Thein gave speeches and the old students paid respects to teachers presenting cash and kind to them.

Later, old student Daw Wai Wai Oo presented cash to U Kyaw Myint who served as a school watchman for 30 years and retired teacher Daw Htu Htu Khin gave words of advice.

MNA



Old students of BEHS-4, Botahtaung pay respects to retired teachers of the school.—MNA

Commander, Minister take part in December mass walk

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—A December mass walk was held in Monywa of Sagaing Division on 22 December morning. Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Patron of Sagaing Division Women's Sports Organization wife of the commander Daw Khin Mya Oo, departmental officials at division, district and township levels, members of social organizations, students and enthusiasts totalling over 14,000 actively participated in the walk.

The minister inspected minor repairs in Bahtoo Stadium of Mandalay and left necessary instructions. Upon arrival at Sports and Physical Education Institute (Mandalay), the minister met with the principal and coaches.

The minister looked into progress in repairing Chanmyaethazi Sports Ground and building the football academy of Myanmar Football Federation and gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks meeting the set standards.—MNA

District News in Brief

Residents in Pyapon District urged to maintain libraries



PYAPON, 25 Dec—Pyapon District Information and Public Relations Department on 4 December urged residents in Kundaing Village in Pyapon Township to participate in maintaining the village's library and in reading sessions.

At the meeting residents and officials of Pyapon Township IPRD read and discussed excerpts from articles and novels.—PYAPON DISTRICT IPRD



KYAUKSE, 25 Dec—Assistant Engineer U Shwe Tun on 1 December inspected a tube well sunk by Kyaukse Township Development Affairs Committee in Nyaungwun village.

TOWNSHIP DAC



GYOBINGAUK, 24 Dec—Officials of Gyobingauk Township Development Affairs Department supervised storage of water to supply to residents in Gyobingauk recently.—MNA

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

China's cotton imports down substantially

BEIJING, 25 Dec— China bought from abroad 2.04 million tons of cotton for 2.83 billion US dollars in the first 10 months of this year, down 37.3 per cent and 34.8 per cent respectively from the same period of last year.

Customs sources said the United States and India were two leading suppliers, who combined to account for 70.8 per cent of China's total arrivals.

Between January and October, China imported 1.02 million tons of cotton from the United States, down 37.7 per cent, and 424,000 tons from India,

down 11.1 per cent.

The 10-month period saw China's state-owned enterprises buy 622,000 tons of cotton from abroad, down 56 per cent, and private and foreign-funded companies import 482,000 tons and 431,000 tons, down 19.6 per cent and 17.5 per cent respectively.

The sources ascribed the import decline to efforts to protect sale of domestically produced cotton.

This year China postponed distribution of import quota till the time when more than half of domestically-yielded cotton were sold out.

MNA/Xinhua

Three killed as car plunges into water in E Canada

OTTAWA, 25 Dec — Three young men from Eastern Canada's New Brunswick Province were killed after their car lost control on a sharp turn and plunged into waters, reports reaching here said Monday.

The men, all in their 20s, were found dead Sunday with their bodies in the water of Chignecto Bay near Harvey Parish in New Brunswick. Their car were submerged and upside down in the water.

They had left a party late Saturday night. Police believed their car lost control on a sharp turn and plunged over a dam and into the water.

The icy and slippery road could have been a factor in the accident, police said.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippine journalist shot dead on Christmas Eve

MANILA, 25 Dec — A radio anchorman was shot dead Monday morning in southern Philippine city of Davao, adding to a long list of media fatalities in recent years in this archipelago.

According to local television network ABS-CBN, 51-year-old Ferdie Lintuan was driving a green Volkswagen outside the radio station when two motorcycle-riding gunmen approached the vehicle and shot him.

Police said the incident occurred at 9:50 a.m. and Lintuan died after sustaining two gunshot wounds to the head. —MNA/Xinhua



Members of Berlin's ice swimming club "Berliner Seehunde" (Berlin seals) take a dip in lake Orankesee in Berlin December 25, 2007. Several members of the swimming club met on Tuesday for their traditional Christmas ice swimming session.—INTERNET

Senate's special sessions to prevent appointments by Bush

WASHINGTON, 25 Dec — The US Senate will hold special one-man sessions throughout

Christmas and the New Year in order that President George W. Bush cannot make appointments without the legislature's approval, US media reported Monday.

On Sunday morning, a Democratic Senator held the first special session by himself, which lasted only a few seconds.

Similar ceremonies

would be held every two or three days until January 18 when lawmakers resume their work.

Bush, from the Republican Party, has the authority to appoint ambassadors, judges and other key posts without the Senate's confirmation if it is completely in recess. But by holding special sessions, the Senate, which is now controlled by Democrats, would prevent him from doing so. Previously Bush had used this power to battle Democratic foes over disputable nominations including John Bolton's appointment as Washington's ambassador to the UN in 2005. —MNA/Xinhua

A crater is left in a pavement after a suicide truck bomb attack in Beiji on 25 Dec 2007. The suicide truck bomb killed at least 20 people and wounded 80 in the northern Iraqi city of Beiji on Tuesday, the US military and police said, in one of the deadliest attacks in Iraq in two weeks.

INTERNET



Traffic accident kills 4 in Philippines

MANILA, 25 Dec — A multi-cab rammied into a bus in northern Philippines

on Monday, killing four people and injuring two others.

The mishap occurred at about 5 pm at San Francisco Village in Tagkawayan Town in Quezon Province when the charcoal-loaded multicab blew a tire and

collided with a public bus, pushing it to the side of the road, local radio dzBB said.

The report said all four fatalities were passengers of the multicab, while two of the injured were from the bus.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam finds 150 rare langurs

HANOI, 25 Dec — German and Vietnamese scientists have recently detected 150 grey-shanked douc langurs, an endemic kind of primates in Vietnam and one of 25

kinds of most endangered primates in the world, in the central highlands province of Kon Tum.

The grey-shanked douc langurs, whose scientific name is Pygathrix

nemaus cinerea, have been spotted in Ngoc Linh wildlife reserve in Kon Tum Province, according to local newspaper *Labour* on Monday.

MNA/Xinhua

Russian President to visit Libya

Moscow, 25 Dec — Russian President Vladimir Putin is expected to visit Libya and meet with his Libyan counterpart Moammar Kadaffi, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Monday, without specifying the dates.

"The leaders of the two countries intend to discuss a large package of agreements on economic, political and military-technical cooperation." ITAR-TASS and RIA news agencies quoted Lavrov as saying.

Lavrov has conveyed a message from Putin to Kadaffi during his Monday's meeting with the Libyan leader in Tripoli, capital of the oil-rich African country.

Following warming relations with the West, Libya is becoming more attractive to foreign investors thanks to its great reservation of oil and gas.

Russian gas giant Gazprom and oil company Tatneft have started field development in Libya. The two countries are also considering joint projects in power generation, pipelines, housing and railway construction.

MNA/Xinhua

Passengers stranded after fog clears in London

LONDON, 25 Dec — Dozens of flights were cancelled on Monday as the weekend fog continued to cause travel chaos for hundreds of passengers.

Heathrow Airport said 30 departures were grounded as a knock-on effect of the weekend disruption, while a handful of flights were hit at Gatwick. The bulk of the affected journeys are British Airways short-haul

flights. Stranded passengers said their holiday plans had been thrown into disarray.

"Maybe next year I'll tell my family we'll have a white Christmas in Canada because this Christmas is looking grey," one North American passenger told the BBC at a cloudy Heathrow.

On Saturday and Sunday, thick fog forced the cancellation of hundreds of flights during the Christmas getaway. Up to 1,000 stranded passengers were forced to spend the night at Heathrow on Sunday waiting for alternative flights, while others slept in nearby hotels.

MNA/Reuters

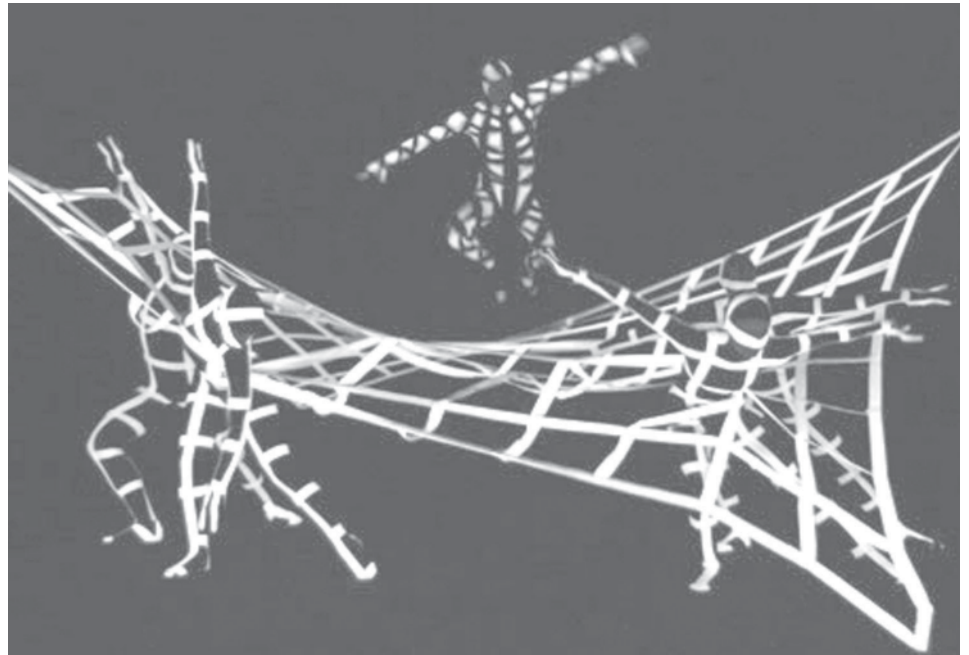
Images of the Day



Two seagulls vie for food near a bank of the Dianchi Lake in Kunming, Southwest China's Yunnan Province on 24 Dec, 2007.—XINHUA



A little girl measures the dessert rolls in Budapest, Hungary, on 16 Dec, 2007. Hungarian Industrial Association of Dessert Chefs displayed a 500-meter long dessert roll in Budapest trying to set a new Guinness World Record of the longest dessert. —XINHUA



Members of Czech's Image Theater perform during a photo session for "The best of image" at a theater in Seoul on 23 Dec, 2007. —XINHUA



A hat in the shape of the Bird's Nest, the Beijing National Stadium of China, was on display in Beijing on 12 Nov. It might lead a new fashion trend when the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games opened. —INTERNET

A wooden sailing ship from the 17th century has been discovered in the Southeast Sea of Sweden. A Swedish TV station is going to make an exploring program about the wreck.—INTERNET



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Dated: 26 December 2007

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI ZIPP VOYNO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI ZIPP VOYNO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.12.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 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 GATI COAST TO COAST
A DIVISION OF GATI LTD**

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Vietnam reports over 50,000 criminal cases in 2007

HANOI, 25 Dec—Vietnam has detected more than 50,000 criminal cases since the beginning of this year, local newspaper *Pioneer* reported Monday.

The number of serious cases, including those of murder, rape and robbery has increased against the same period last year, the paper quoted a report of the General Department of Police under the Vietnamese Ministry of Public Security.

Cases involving in acting against state cadres on duty have doubled to 500, which killed one traffic policeman and injured 43 others.—MNA/Xinhua

China to spend more on education for urban children in '08

BEIJING, 25 Dec—China will continue to spend more on education next year and spread the free nine-year compulsory education to urban children, said Finance Minister Xie Xuren.

The government would continue to improve the funding system to guarantee free nine-year compulsory education currently enjoyed by 150 million rural children, while spreading it to their urban counterparts next year, Xie told an annual conference of the Ministry of Finance in Beijing.

Starting from the spring term, China would increase the funding for free

textbooks used for the national compulsory courses, and the local governments would provide more money for free textbooks for local compulsory courses, he said.

Local governments would also provide scholarships to cover the living costs of boarding students from poor families. The central government would provide half of the education funding for areas in central and west China, while provincial governments in those areas would cover the rest of the costs.

MNA/Xinhua

Dubai's Nakheel acquires stake in Australian Co

ABU DHABI, 25 Dec—The Dubai-based real estate developer Nakheel has entered an agreement to acquire 6.51 per cent stake in Australian property company Mirvac Group, local newspaper *Khaleej Times* reported on Sunday. The move is part of overseas expansion plans of Nakheel, which currently has 30 billion US dollars worth of major projects under development.

“We believe there are many potential opportunities for Mirvac and Nakheel to work together,” Nakheel's CEO Chris O'Donnell was quoted as saying. Nakheel did not reveal how much it paid for the stake, which was

worth about 347 million dollars at the closing price of Mirvac's shares on Friday. As a developer, fund manager and manager of properties, Mirvac is developing residential properties in Australia and manages hotels in Australia, New Zealand and on Pacific islands.

Nakheel is a subsidiary of Dubai World, a holding company created and wholly owned by Dubai Government. Its major portfolio includes the Palm Trilogy, three man-made palm tree shaped islands on the coast of Dubai, Dubai Waterfront and the World Islands, a man-made archipelago of 300 islands in the shape of a world map.

MNA/Xinhua

EU officials, leaders mark Schengen zone enlargement

BUDAPEST, 24 Dec—Senior EU officials, leaders of Austria, Hungary and Slovakia inaugurated Saturday a memorial column marking the enlargement of the Schengen area at Hegyeshalom, Hungary's main border crossing to Austria, the Hungarian news agency *MTI* reported.

The dismantling of the border barriers reflects growing confidence between peoples, said European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso while addressing the event. He congratulated Hungary and Slovakia on their accession to the Schengen zone. Portuguese Prime Minister Jose Socrates, whose country is currently holding the rotating EU presidency, called it an honour for his country to contribute to this historic event. “We are celebrating European citizenship today,” he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippine NPA rebels to halt attacks for holidays

MANILA, 24 Dec—Communist rebels in the Philippines said on Sunday they would hold off from attacking military and police on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and also on 31 December and 1 January.

Gregorio Rosal, the main spokesman for the New People's Army (NPA), said the informal ceasefire was a tradition and, “in deference to the people's holiday celebrations”.

The Philippines is a largely Catholic country and the centre of Christianity in Asia. Christmas holidays in the Philippines start with

dawn masses from 16 December and end on 6 January.

Earlier on Sunday, the military said NPA guerillas had attacked a town hall in the central province of Samar, killing a part-time police man and seizing several assault weapons.

The Philippine Government declared a 22-day ceasefire with the NPA earlier this month but the rebels refused to recognize it and killed three Marines in an ambush in the western province of Palawan on the first day of the ceasefire.—MNA/Reuters

China underscores traffic safety amid thick fog

BEIJING, 24 Dec—China's central government called for local governments to ensure traffic safety as thick fog continues to plague major parts of the country, according to a circular released on Friday by the General Office of the State Council. The circular called for related organizations to cooperate in the work of weather monitoring and to take effective

measures to prevent casualties and financial loss. Many parts of central and eastern China have suffered heavy fog for more than five days since this autumn, posing great danger to air, road and water traffic, the circular said. Most of the central and eastern parts of the country would continue to suffer foggy weather and road visibility in some areas would be less than

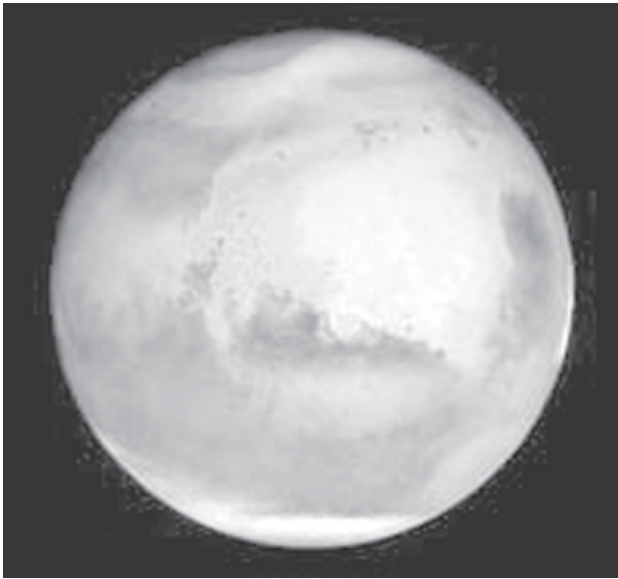
100 metres, according to the Central Meteorological Observatory.

Recently, heavy fog forced six expressways to close in central China's Hubei Province. In the northern Tianjin Municipality, one expressway was closed due to road visibility of less than 100 metres. In addition, most flights were delayed in Hefei City in the eastern Anhui Province.—MNA/Xinhua



A farmer harvests lettuces in the field on the outskirts of Yingtan, Jiangxi Province, on 24 Dec, 2007.—INTERNET

Mars, moon shining at X-mas Eve



Mars, seen in this undated file photo, and the moon will shine exceptionally brightly in the sky at about Monday midnight, according to Discovery News.—INTERNET

BEIJING, 25 Dec — Mars and the moon will shine exceptionally brightly in the sky at about Monday midnight, according to Discovery News.

The planet Mars will be “at opposition” on

Christmas Eve, meaning it will sit directly opposite the sun. It will be about as close and as bright to Earth as it ever gets.

It’s only 55 million miles away, which makes it brighter than the brightest star in the sky on

Christmas Eve,” said Jack Horkheimer, a Miami Museum of Science and Planetarium astronomer.

“Plus it will be followed by a spectacular full moon,” Horkheimer said. “They will track across the sky together all night long until sunrise Christmas morning.” Mars comes into opposition with the sun every 26 months, but it is also currently at its closest to Earth — about 64 million km.

The planet will not be as noticeable for another nine years, astronomers said. Mars came nearest to Earth on Dec. 18, but is now more visible because of its angle. The full moon will also be considerably brighter than normal, as it will reach a height, which is not expected again for another 16 years.

Internet



Tourists race past a tsunami warning sign in Khao Lak, Thailand, Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2007. Thai’s and foreigners alike are set to observe the third anniversary of the worst natural disaster in recent memory. More than 8,000 people were killed in Thailand alone when a giant tsunami wave struck on Dec. 26, 2004.—INTERNET

Oral anti-diabetic substance discovered

WASHINGTON, 24 Dec — Research at the University of Haifa in Israel has discovered a substance that may become an oral treatment for diabetes and its complications, US media reported on Monday.

The substance, which is derived from yeast, is called Glucose Tolerance

Factor (GTF). The research is now at the stage where the substance has been successfully tested on diabetic rats and was found to reduce sugar and lipids in the blood of the treated animals. “The next stage of the research is to evaluate GTF efficacy in humans,” said Nitsa Mirsky, lead researcher.

Diabetics suffer from lack of insulin or a deficiency in the body’s ability to respond to insulin. It is a chronic illness with no cure and can lead to kidney failure, heart problems, strokes or blindness, as well as other complications. Approximately 50 percent of diabetics are treated with insulin, which has to be injected, while the rest are treated with oral medications which tend to be more difficult to regulate and often have side effects. The study by Mirsky’s research team indicate that GTF acts similarly to insulin in the rats, lowering the level of glucose, and of LDL-cholesterol (the “bad” cholesterol), and raising the level of HDL-cholesterol (the “good” cholesterol).— Internet

Japanese PM wants to help all hepatitis patients

TOKYO, 24 Dec — Japan’s Prime Minister said on Sunday his party will draft legislation aimed at helping thousands of Hepatitis patients, the latest development in a high-profile scandal that has drawn voter anger.

At least 10,000 people are believed to have contracted Hepatitis C from tainted products, most notably fibrinogen, a coagulant used to stop haemorrhaging during surgery or childbirth. The

drug was used in Japan even after it was withdrawn from the United States in 1977. The emotive scandal has been instrumental in further eroding Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda’s approval ratings, already suffering from the government’s mishandling of a public pensions crisis and a defence procurement scandal. “Steps will be taken to provide aid to all the Hepatitis sufferers,” Fukuda told reporters.

On Thursday, Hepatitis

patients rejected a government compensation proposal.

MNA/Reuters



A couple checks an oversized shoe during Fashion Fair 2007 at Giang Vo Fair and Exhibition Centre in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 21 Dec, 2007. The shoe, 2.72 meter long (8.92 feet), 1.01 metre wide (3.31 feet), and 1.03 metre high (3.37 feet), came from Phu Yen craft village Ha Tay Province in Vietnam. INTERNET

China’s human-use bird flu vaccine “safe” and “effective”

BEIJING, 24 Dec — China announced here Monday that its human-use bird flu vaccine had proved “safe” and “effective” during the second phase of clinical tests.

The vaccine was jointly developed by the Beijing-based vaccine producer

Sinovac Biotech, the first in the world to develop SARS vaccine, and the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention. The programme was also under support of the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Health.

Zhang Jiansan, vice-general manager of the Sinovac Biotech, said the second phase of clinical tests was carried out from this September to November after applying for human

clinical trials for the vaccine with the Chinese State Food and Drug Administration. A total of 402 people aged from 18 to 60 years took the test.

Test results showed that the major index of the vaccine reached international standards and performed well in the human body. None of the test takers were found to have a serious negative reaction, which proved that the vaccine was safe.—Internet



Thousands of Filipinos shop in a market street in Manila on 24 Dec, 2007. The Philippines celebrates one of the longest Christmas seasons in the world starting with dawn masses on 16 December and ending with the feast of the Epiphany on 6 January.—INTERNET

SPORTS



Guy Luyindula (white) of Paris PSG fights for the ball with Moustapha Sall (L), Efstathios Tavlaridis (2nd R) and Loic Perrin (R) of Saint-Etienne during their French Ligue 1 soccer match, at the Geoffroy-Guichard stadium in Saint-Etienne on 23 Dec, 2007. — INTERNET

Struggling Metz appoint Poulighen as new coach

PARIS, 25 Dec — Yvon Poulighen was appointed coach of struggling Ligue 1 club Metz on Monday, the club said on its Web site (www.fcmetz.com).

A former professional player, Poulighen, 45, replaces Francis De Taddeo, who was sacked on Sunday following a string of poor results which have left Metz bottom of the league. Metz have picked just seven points from 19 matches and are heading towards Ligue 2. — MNA/Reuters

Man Utd, Chelsea win to keep up the chase

LONDON, 24 Dec — Cristiano Ronaldo scored an 88th-minute penalty to give Manchester United a 2-1 victory over Everton at Old Trafford on Sunday that kept them within a point of Premier League leaders Arsenal.

Third-placed Chelsea also kept up the chase when a first-half Joe Cole goal gave them a 1-0 win at Blackburn Rovers.

Arsenal, who beat Tottenham Hotspur 2-1 on Saturday, lead the way on

43 points with United second on 42 and Chelsea on 37. Manchester City, who drew 1-1 at Aston Villa, have 34 while Liverpool, 4-1 home winners over Portsmouth, are fifth on 33. Everton remain sixth on 30, ahead of Portsmouth on goal difference.

Manchester United, seeking a ninth successive home league win, went ahead in the 22nd minute when Ronaldo cut in from the right and clipped in a left-footed shot.

Everton hit back when Tim Cahill showed great determination to power in an excellent header.

United looked lively and inventive but found Everton difficult to break down despite the wealth of attacking talent on show.

That changed when Steven Pienaar thrust out a leg behind him in a play-ground tackle on Ryan Giggs that handed Ronaldo the decisive penalty.

Sunday's double made the Portuguese winger the league's leading scorer with 11. "This game was very tough, Everton played very well," Ronaldo told Setanta Sports TV. "It's an important win with many games to come and not too much time to rest."

Everton manager David Moyes rued Pienaar's late lapse, saying: "It was a moment of madness for Steven. The players have worked really hard to take something from the game but it is just one of those things."

MNA/Reuters



FC Barcelona's Rafael Marguez, from Mexico, left, and Abidal, right, vie for the ball against Real Madrid's Brazilian player Robinho, centre, during their Spanish League soccer match in Barcelona, Spain, on Sunday, 23 Dec, 2007. — INTERNET

Ronaldinho, Rijkaard in media's crosshairs

MADRID, 25 Dec — Barcelona's Frank Rijkaard and Ronaldinho were in the media's crosshairs on Monday after Real Madrid's psychologically crushing 1-0 victory at the Nou Camp sent them seven points clear in the Primera Liga.

Brazilian international Julio Baptista scored the game's only goal after 36 minutes as the Spanish champions out-fought and out-thought a Barca side short on confidence and ideas.

"Real won through their tactics and physical condition, not because of their superior play," said Barcelona-based daily *Sport* on Monday, while *El Pais* talked of Barca being past their sell-by date.

After keeping Ronaldinho on the bench for the 3-0 win at Valencia the previous weekend, Rijkaard surprised many by playing the Brazilian from the start.

A further change saw Deco, only recently re-

turned from injury, preferred to Eidur Gudjohnsen in midfield despite impressive performances from the Icelander in recent games.

Rijkaard's reliance on two players who had helped the side to consecutive league titles in 2005 and 2006 regardless of form drew criticism as they failed to make an impact.

"Rijkaard's insistence on always turning to his big name players burdened Barca for the 'clasico'," said sports daily *AS*.

An out-of-shape Ronaldinho was reduced to throwing himself to the floor looking for dead-ball opportunities -- a far cry from the player who had the Bernabeu on their feet applauding when Barca hammered Real 3-0 there in 2005.

"This is the Ronaldinho of 2007 -- he wants to but he can't, he tries but it doesn't happen," *Sport* added.

MNA/Reuters

Abid error hands Thailand King's Cup win over Iraq

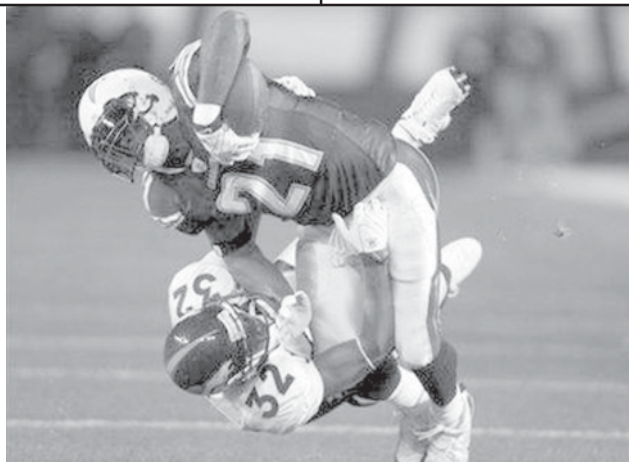
BANGKOK, 25 Dec — A bizarre own goal seven minutes from time by Iraq's Ahmad Abid gave Thailand a 2-1 victory on Monday and a place in the final of the King's Cup tournament.

With the score locked at 1-1, Abid tried to clear a powerful low cross from Narongchai Vachiraban with a spectacular diving header but found his own net instead, handing the Thais a place in the final with one round-robin game remaining. The hosts took the lead on 43 minutes when in-form striker Surayuth Chaikamdee broke free on the right and floated an inch-perfect cross on to the head of the onrushing Nattaporn Phanrit, who buried the ball in the roof of the net.

Iraq came back fighting in the second half and took just five minutes to

find the equalizer when forward Mubarak Almas brought down a looping cross and beat the Thai keeper from close range.

In the earlier game, Kim Kum-il scored an 87th-minute equalizer to earn North Korea a 2-2 draw with Asian Cup quarter-finalists Uzbekistan. — MNA/Reuters



San Diego Chargers runningback LaDainian Tomlinson carries along Denver Broncos Dre Bly as he runs in the first quarter during their NFL Monday Night Football game in San Diego, on 24 Dec, 2007. — INTERNET

Thailand, Indonesia to host 2008 ASEAN c'ships

BANGKOK, 24 Dec — Indonesia and Thailand have been picked to jointly host next year's ASEAN soccer championships, the ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) said on Monday.

The two countries were chosen ahead of Vietnam to stage the biennial Southeast Asian tournament following the withdrawal of Malaysia and Myanmar.

Formerly known as the Tiger Cup, the tournament will take place in December next year.

"A secret ballot took place to decide the two hosts. Thailand and Indonesia won outright," Yap Nyim Keong, executive secretary of the AFF, told *Reuters*.

"However, a decision on who should host has rarely been a matter for competitive bidding in the AFF. Hosts are chosen more by consensus."

Thailand, Indonesia, Myanmar, Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam will automatically qualify for the eight-nation contest. The region's five lowest-ranked teams -- Laos, Cambodia, the Philippines, East Timor and Brunei -- will take part in qualifying tournament in Cambodia in October to decide the remaining two places.

Thailand and Singapore are the only countries to have won the ASEAN championship, famed for comedy as much as controversy. — MNA/Reuters

Adriano lands in fresh controversy

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 Dec — Brazilian striker Adriano, who last week promised to turn over a new leaf and get his career back on the rails, has landed in fresh controversy after being photographed at a pop concert holding a can of beer.

Brazilian newspapers *Estado de Sao Paulo*, *O Dia* and *Lance* all published the photographs of the player, which they said were taken on Saturday night in Rio de Janeiro.

AC Milan's injury-prone striker Ronaldo also appeared in the pictures.

Adriano last week joined Brazilian champions Sao Paulo on loan from Italy's Inter Milan, where he has barely featured in the last two seasons after battling fitness and reported alcohol problems.

On Friday, Adriano, once one of Serie A's most feared strikers, told a news conference that was determined to get his career back on track and win back his place in the Brazil team.

"I want to make the most of this chance to recover," he said. "Everyone here wants to help me. Now it just depends on me."

Adriano has been undergoing a fitness and psychological recovery programme at Sao Paulo's training centre for the last month.

Sao Paulo's players are now on holiday and are due to report back on January 7 for the new season. Sao Paulo director Marco Aurelio Cunha played down the incident. — MNA/Reuters

Argentine capital receives more foreign tourists

BUENOS AIRES, 25 Dec — Some 2.3 million foreign tourists visited Argentine capital Buenos Aires in 2007, roughly 200,000 more than a year earlier, the Buenos Aires Tourism Organization said on Monday.

Food, shopping, soccer and tango were the main attractions for the bulk of the tourists from the United States and European countries, it said.

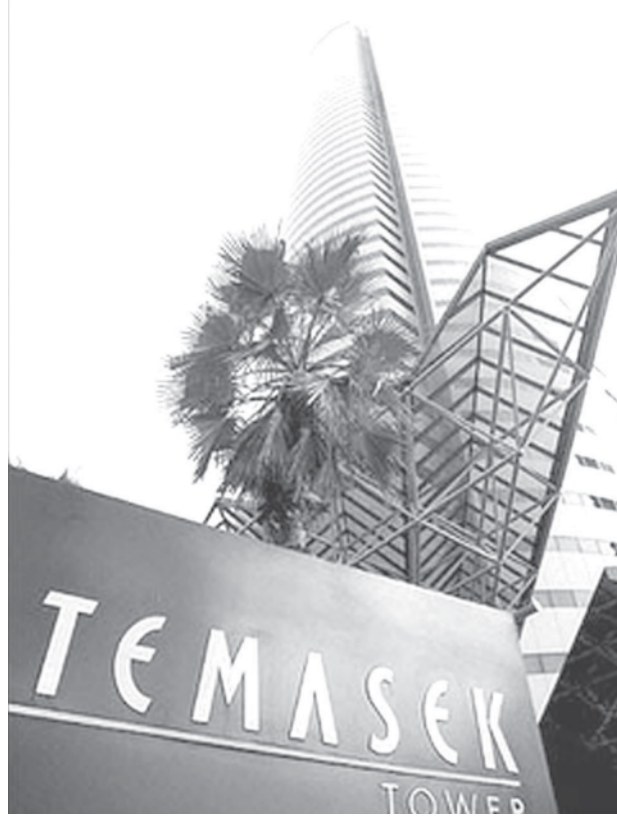
They spent an average of 150 US dollars

a day during an average week-long stay there.

International travel publications, including the *New York Times*, have recommended Buenos Aires, boosting visitor numbers, the body said, adding that hotel occupancy rates are around 80 per cent at the year-end.

In 2006, some 2.1 million tourists visited the city and in 2005 this number was around 1.8 million.

MNA/Xinhua



Temasek Tower stands tall in the financial district of Shenton Way in Singapore. US banking and brokerage titan Merrill Lynch said Monday that Temasek Holdings Pte Ltd, a Singapore state-owned investment group, will buy a hefty 4.4 billion dollar stake in the investment firm.

INTERNET

Somali kidnappers free French journalist

BOSASSO (Somalia), 25 Dec — Somali gunmen released on Monday a French journalist they had kidnapped eight days ago in the northern Puntland region, local officials said.

“The French journalist has just been released and is now staying with officials, local elders and some diplomats in the hotel,” Puntland trade and industry minister Abdishamad Yusuf Abwan

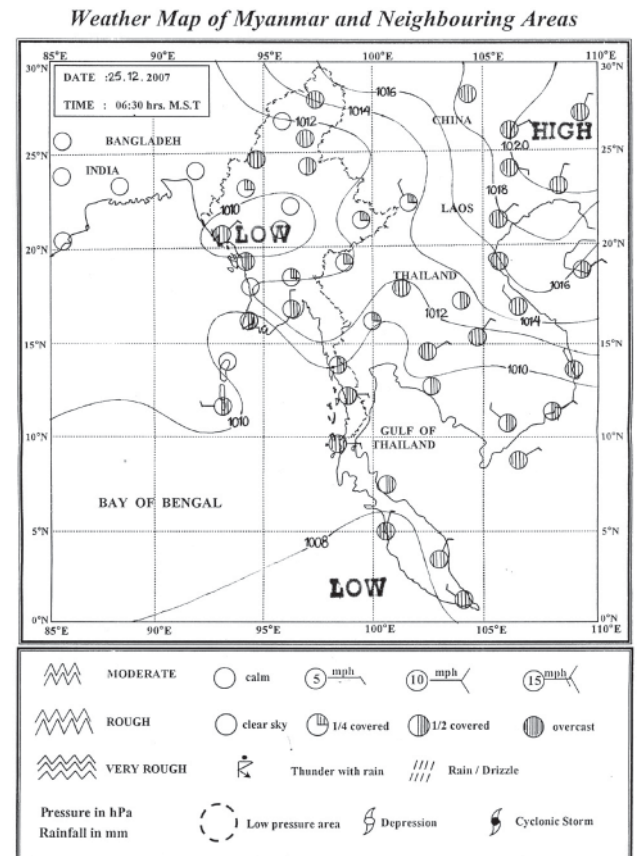
told Reuters.

Witnesses said the kidnappers handed Gwen Le Gouil to French diplomats at a hotel in Bosasso earlier on Monday.

“I’m fine. I’m healthy.

I’m only feeling very tired,” Le Gouil told a brief news conference in Puntland’s main port. “I’m very happy to be free to go back to France and see my family.”

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Tuesday, 25 December, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) below December average temperatures in Chin, Rakhine and Kayin States, Yangon Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-1°C), Pinlaung and Mogok (3°C) each, Namhsam and Heho (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 24-12-2007 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 25-12-2007 was 56°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 25-12-2007 was 87%. Total sunshine hours on 24-12-2007 was (8.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 25-12-2007 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 (5) mph from Southwest at (12:30) hours MST on 24-12-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 26-12-2007: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.


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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of decrease of night temperatures in the Deltaic areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 26-12-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-12-2007: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-12-2007: Generally fair weather.



Wednesday, 26 December

View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ နိုင်ငံတော်သံ ဗဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်အဘိဇေ မဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရုအဘိဇေအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တ သာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သီရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ(လောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning news

7:40 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

6. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:05 am

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am

8. ကွန်းချောင်းရေလှောင်တံခံ

8:20 am

9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. Let's go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-စတုတ္ထနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)

4:45 pm

4. Song of national races

5:00 pm

5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:15 pm

6. Classical song

5:25 pm

7. ရှုဖွယ်စုံလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်

5:35 pm

8. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင် လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ

6:50 pm

12. “ချစ်လွန်းလို့” (မိုးဖြူခင်စိုးဝိုင်း၊ မျိုးမျိုးခိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)

6:55 pm

13. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

7:15 pm

14. သက်ဝင်လှုပ်ရှားပန်းချီပုံရိပ်များ (Best Paintings of the Year 2007)

7:30 pm

15. နှစ်(၆၀)ပြည့်လွတ်လပ်ရေးနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

7:45 pm

16. အချုပ်အခြာအာဏာခွန်ရှည် ကြာခိုင်မာစေမှု ဒီ.ဇေ.၅၂ (ကိုယ်ထီးကိုယ်နန်း ကိုယ့်ကြွားနန်းဖြင့်ခမ်းနား ထွန်းပေါ်မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်)

8:00 pm

17. News

18. International news

19. Weather report

20. FRANZ HARARAY'S MAGIC PLANET

21. Myanmar video feature “နင်းဆီကကြိုး” (လှမင်းအိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ညိုမင်းလွင်)

21. The next day's programme



Wednesday, 26 December

Tune in today

8:30 am

8:35 am

8:40 am

8:45 am

8:50 am

9:00 am

9:05 am

9:10 am

1:30 pm

1:40 pm

9:00pm

9:10pm

9:30 pm

9:45 pm

10:00 pm

Brief news

Music: -I breath again

Perspectives

Music -If I only had the heart

National news/Slogan

Music: -The day and the time

International news

Music -Everyday

News/ Slogan

Lunch time music -Lock me in your heart -Sukiyaki

Variations on a tune -Words

Article

Music at your request -Sweet dreams -Something tells me

News /Slogan

PEL

People's Desire

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

Commander attends Buddha Pujaniya of Arahan Pagoda in Ela



*Com-
mander
Maj-Gen
Wai
Lwin and
wife Daw
Swe Swe
Oo
donate
provi-
sions to
monks at
the 3rd
Buddha
Pujaniya
of
Arahan
Pagoda
in Ela.
MNA*

Objectives of the 60th Anniversary Independence Day

- (a) All the national people to constantly join hands for safeguarding the perpetuation of independence and sovereignty of the State;
- (b) All the national people to collectively strive for non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity;
- (c) To ensure emergence of an enduring constitution in line with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles adopted by the National Convention that has been completed successfully;
- (d) All the national people to harmoniously make all-out efforts for building of a modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation;
- (e) All the national people to cooperate in realizing the State's seven-step Road Map with Union Spirit, patriotic spirit and the spirit of sacrifice.

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and wife Daw Swe Swe Oo attended the third Buddha Pujaniya of Arahan Pagoda and provisions offering ceremony at Thayettaw Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Ela, Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township this afternoon.

Member of the State Sanga Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Gandhavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Vimalabuddhi of Mingalar Zayyon

Pali Tekkatho Kyaungtaik in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana administered the Five Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Next, Thayettaw Pariyatti Sarthintaik Presiding Sayadaw Sasanadhaja Dhammacariya Bhaddanta Kumara delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

The commander, wife and the guests presented offertories to the members of the Sangha.— MNA

Significant night temperatures

Haka	(-1°C)
Pinlaung, Mogok	(3°C)
Namhsam, Heho	(4°C)

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