

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XVIII, Number 248

4th Waning of Nadaw 1372 ME

Saturday, 25 December, 2010

Build on national reconsolidation that has been achieved, avoid all thoughts and notions that might lead to disintegration of the Union

Proficient physician and victorious soldier need to have full physical and mental attainments and to win battles on battlefield while at the same time serving as medical professionals who add to prestige of Medical Corps

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Dec—The following is the full text of the address delivered by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe at the Passing out of Parade of No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy today.

Comrades,

At this Passing out of Parade of the No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy, I have words of note for

you to which you should pay particular attention.

Comrades,

In our country, over 100 ethnic groups have lived in friendship

and harmony since time immemorial. All the national peoples have found unity in diversity, having been born and living on the same land. The geo-

graphical features of our country, which include high mountain ranges and major rivers that flow from the north to the south, make transportation difficult and impeded interactions among the national peoples. Moreover, under colonialism, they were subject to many years of systematic divide-and-rule practices. The national peoples become suspicious of one another, prompting our leaders to make strenuous efforts during the struggle for independence so that the central Myanmar and the mountainous regions could gain independence together.

In the post-independence period, suspicions toward one another intensified, giving rise to

multi-coloured insurgencies across the country.

So, during the time when the Tatmadaw has assumed the responsibilities of the State, east-west and north-south networks of motor roads, railroads and airports have been built. With improved transportation and communication, friendship and harmony among the national peoples have been further consolidated and progress has been achieved in the economic, health and education sectors of the States.

Comrades,

Our national peoples have the right to settle anywhere in the country, with the result that in every area, many national peoples live harmoniously together. In this day

and age, it is impossible to separate each national people and the very thoughts and notions that give rise to such regional bias have become anachronistic. This is a sign of progress for greater national reconsolidation. I would like to urge you to build on the national reconsolidation that has been achieved and avoid all thoughts and notions that might lead to the disintegration of the Union.

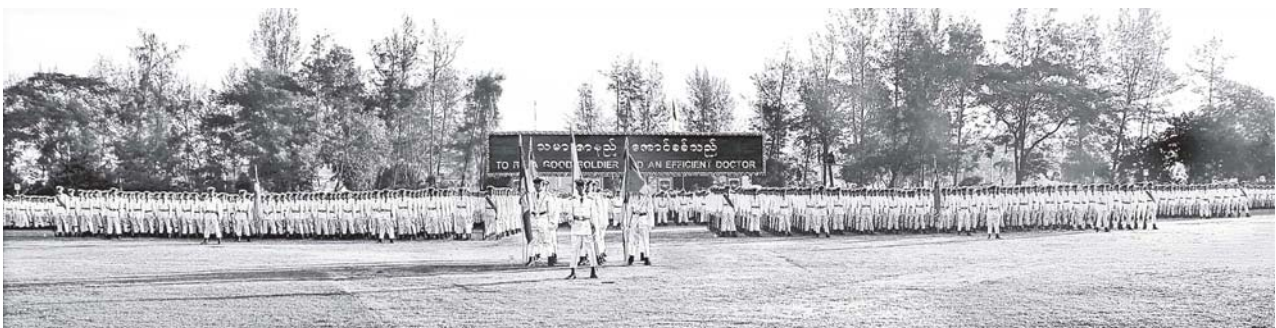
Comrades,

Due to the impact of domestic insurgencies, the national people living in border areas have lagged behind in development. Our soldiers, who have been to every forested or mountainous

(See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe delivers a speech at Passing out of Parade of No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy.—MNA



Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 25 December, 2010

Model villages indicative of rural progress

The majority of Myanmar's population live in rural areas, whose economy relies on agriculture. So, efforts are being made to supply adequate irrigation water and drinking water for those regions. With clusters of dams, sluice gates and river-water pumping stations already built there, the cultivation of various crops has been boosted.

The work for ensuring smooth transport is part of the needs being fulfilled to improve the living conditions of the rural people. Inter-village roads and rural-to-urban roads are being constructed. The upgrading of earth roads into gravel ones has enabled the people to travel in all seasons.

Moreover, new school buildings, station hospitals, rural health centres and self-reliant village libraries are being built in much of the country, allowing the rural youth to have more education opportunities. Similarly, the local people are now in a position to broaden their scope of knowledge.

Aungmyintha Model Village near Tanphe Village, Myitkyina, Kachin State was handed over on 21 December. A 16-bed station hospital in the village and a concrete road and bridges on Myitkyina-Lansone road section were opened as well on that day.

Thanks to the opening of new station hospitals, patient wards and dispensaries, more health care has been provided for the people of villages concerned and their environs. In providing health care, educative measures are also being taken in rural areas for prevention as well as treatment and personal hygiene.

Nowadays, model villages are growing in number in rural regions, and they are boasting about their road transport, education, health and economic development. With the assistance in cash and manpower from the State, regional bodies, social organizations and public wellwishers, the rural areas of Myanmar are progressing day by day.

Hlawga Park extends opening hours on X'mas Day

YANGON, 24 Dec — Hlawga Park in Mingaladon Township, Yangon Region is open daily from 8 am to 5 pm. But on 25 December (Christmas Day), it will be open from 8 am to 6 pm for public rest and recreation.—MNA

AUX air-conditioners on sale in X'mas, New Year

YANGON, 24 Dec — United Asia Co Ltd has offered AUX air-conditioners at a discount during the Christmas and the New Year period.

The company has offered 5 per cent discount on AUX air-

conditioners and has given safe guard for the air conditioners free to customers.

AUX air-conditioners come to Myanmar market with a 4-year guarantee. They are equipped with a auto restart system, digital display, 4-way system air-flow and Japanese branded compressor and circuit, giving a

guarantee that the air conditioners are long time quality.

AUX air conditioners are available at sales agents across the country and at the United Asia Co Ltd, the sole agent, at No. 225, Anawrahta Road, between 11 Street and Hledan Street, Lanmadaw Township, Ph: 01 210834 and Fax: 0095-1-228384.

MNA



Proposed

- * 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

Diploma in Banking (Part Time) Course No. 2 opens



Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun delivers an address at opening of Diploma in Banking (Part Time) Evening Course No. 2.—r&r

YANGON, 24 Dec— The opening of Diploma in Banking (Part Time) Evening Course No.2, organized by Myanmar Banks Association under the supervision of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, was held at the hall of the association here this morning with an address by Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun.

It was also attended by Vice-Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Maung Maung Win, directors-

general and managing directors of the ministry, chairmen of state-owned and private-owned banks, managing directors, rector of University of Economics, the principal of Institute of Banking Service (Yangon) and teachers, senior banking experts and trainees.

A total of 70 trainees— 27 from state- and private-owned banks and 43 others—are attending the course which lasts two year.—MNA

Truck plunged into ravine in Kalaw Township

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Dec—A 12-wheel Nissan driven by Than Naing Oo plunged into a ravine, about 30 feet from the mile post (98/3-4) on Heho-Shwenyaung Road near Taunglaylone village in Kalaw Township, Shan State (South) after having a flat tyre at about 6 am on 20 December. The accident killed two people and injured three including the driver.

Similarly, at about 1.15 pm on 20 December,

a passenger bus from the BM 189 bus line driven by Soe Aung ran over a grandmother and her grandchild crossing the road near the eastern stairways of Kyaikkhaik Pagoda in Thanlyin Township, Yangon South District. The grandchild died on the way to hospital and the grandma broke her right thigh. In connection with the accident, a lawsuit has been filed against the hit-and-run driver, it is learnt.—MNA

New Thiri Mingala Market inaugurated

YANGON, 24 Dec — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin unveiled the signboard of the new Thiri Mingala Market to open the market in Hline Township today.

The newly constructed market is

built on 17.75 acres, comprising nine buildings and over 2000 shops and restaurants and a parking with a capacity of over 400 cars. Drinking water storage tank and water supply facilities are also built for the market.

MNA

Vasmol brand cosmetics and hair dye invites sales agents

YANGON, 24 Dec—Twin Brothers Perfume and Cosmetics Trading has been importing Vasmol brand hair dye from India since 2003 and distributing it in Myanmar.

Vasmol dye is made of forest products without content of ammonia peroxide that can cause damage to hair and skin.

Twin Brothers sells black and brown hair creams.

Vasmol brand cosmetics and hair dye are available at stores and supermarkets in the countryside. Those wishing to buy the products may dial 01-73037802, 01-73058614, 01-386509, 01-200676 and 095112647.—MNA

The best time to plant a tree was

20 years ago.

The second best time is now.

NATO strike on local convoy kills two, say officials

KABUL, 24 Dec—A NATO helicopter opened fire on a convoy of cars heading to an event hosted by the head of a local council Thursday, killing a police officer and the brother of a lawmaker, Provincial officials in northern Afghanistan said.

The chief of police, the governor and the

head of the Provincial council of Faryab Province all said the helicopter strafed one car in the convoy, killing a policeman and Mohammad Aminuddin, the brother of former parliament member Sarajuddin Mozafari.

Police chief Khalil Andarabi said two policemen and a civilian were also wounded in

the strike.

NATO said it was investigating "the inadvertent death of two individuals and the wounding of two others" in an operation it had conducted in Faryab in an attempt to intercept suspected militants. It did not mention whether the operation involved helicopters.

Internet



Afghan policemen and soldiers inspect the site of a suicide bombing in Kunduz on 23 December. Three people died in northern Afghanistan Thursday as a NATO helicopter opened fire on a car and a suicide bomber blew himself up at a busy city centre traffic checkpoint, officials said.—INTERNET

Gunmen kill senior Iraqi officer in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 Dec—Gunmen shot dead a senior Iraqi army officer and wounded a police officer in two attacks in western Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said on Thursday.

Brigadier Imad Hashim of the army's 6th Division was shot dead and his daughter wounded when gunmen carrying silenced weapons opened fire on his car in Baghdad western district of Mansour late on Wednesday, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, gunmen opened fire on Lieutenant Colonel Majid Hameed of the Iraqi police and wounded him, while he was driving in Baghdad's western district of Amriyah on Wednesday evening, the source said.—*Xinhua*



Iraqi troops search a vehicle in Baghdad. Gunmen using silenced weapons have killed two motorists in Baghdad, including an Iraqi brigadier general, and wounded a third, the defence and interior ministries said on Thursday.—INTERNET

20 people feared buried by landslide in northeastern Colombia

BOGOTA, 24 Dec—At least 20 people were believed to have been buried by a landslide that took place on a highway in the northeastern department of Santander in Colombia, local authorities said on Thursday.

A local police source told *Xinhua* on the phone that multiple landslides had occurred over the past week on the road connecting Rio Negro and El Playon, burying some houses along the road.

On Wednesday night, a major landslide destroyed some houses in

La Ceiba area, where an illegal urban settlement is located, and more than 20 residents there were reported missing.

So far only the bodies of two women were found by rescuers from the local emergency agencies, and the search is still underway.

Speaking on the local Caracol Radio, Alex Perez, a pastor of the neighborhood, said that authorities had warned residents in the area against the landslides and evacuated most of them, but some people still chose to stay.

Xinhua



A resident walks through debris left by homes destroyed by a landslide triggered by heavy rains in Gramalote, northeastern Colombia, Wednesday on 22 Dec, 2010.

INTERNET

Seven new natural disaster zones declared in Australia's New South Wales

SYDNEY, 24 Dec—Seven more natural disaster areas in Australia's New South Wales (NSW) were declared on Friday as the worst flooding in years shows no signs of letting up over Christmas.

The newly declared seven natural disaster zones are in the state's southwest and in the central west.

There are now 49 natural disaster areas in NSW, each qualifying for commonwealth and state cash.

Heavy rain that caused the flooding has

cleared from most parts of the state, but the lower reaches of many inland rivers continue to rise, swamping roads and isolating communities.

The State Emergency Service (SES), which has carried out 150 rescues since the flooding began in late November, said it is well placed to continue helping communities over Christmas.

Xinhua

Three soldiers, 24 militants killed in NW Pakistan

PESHAWAR, 24 Dec—At least three soldiers and 24 militants were killed Friday in gunfights in a northwestern Pakistani tribal area after militants attacked paramilitary check points, officials said.

"About 150 Taliban militants attacked five Frontier Corps checkpoints in Baidnami village near the border with Afghanistan," a senior security official told.

"The attack was repulsed leaving 24 militants dead, and three of our men (paramilitary soldiers) embraced martyrdom," the official said.

Local administration officials in Ghalanai, the main town of Mohmand tribal district, and the paramilitary force confirmed the attack and casualties.

"Militants ran away, leaving behind dead bodies. Twelve soldiers were wounded in the fighting," the official said.—*Internet*



Pakistani security personnel are seen at the site of a suicide attack in Ghalanai, the main town in the tribal District of Mohmand, on 6 December. At least three soldiers and 24 militants were killed Friday in gunfights in a northwestern Pakistani tribal area after militants attacked paramilitary check points, officials said.—INTERNET

Security reinforced at Chilean embassies after mail bomb attack

SANTIAGO, 24 Dec—Chilean embassies around the world are taking extra security measures after a mail bomb exploded Thursday at the country's embassy in Rome. "After something like this, we have to take precautions, particularly in Rome," Foreign Minister Alfredo Moreno told a news conference, without specifying what kind of measures will be taken.

"The bomb (in Rome) was wrapped in a letter and injured a Chilean, Cesar Mella, who works at the embassy," he said.

Mella had serious injuries on both hands and risked losing sight in one of his eyes, Moreno added. He said Swiss, Ukrainian and Croatian embassies in Rome also received mail bombs on Thursday, and a Swiss embassy employee was also injured. No one has claimed responsibility and the motives are unknown.—*Xinhua*



Science



Growing hypoxic zones reduce habitat for billfish and tuna

NEW YORK, 24 Dec—Billfish and tuna, important commercial and recreational fish species, may be more vulnerable to fishing pressure because of shrinking habitat, according to a new study published by scientists from NOAA, The Billfish Foundation, and University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science.

An expanding zone of low oxygen, known as a hypoxic zone, in the Atlantic Ocean is encroaching upon these species' preferred oxygen-abundant habitat, forcing them into shallower waters where they are more likely to be caught.

During the study, published recently in the journal *Fisheries*

Oceanography, scientists tagged 79 sailfish and blue marlin with satellite tracking devices in the western North Atlantic, off south Florida and the Caribbean; and eastern tropical Atlantic, off the coast of West Africa. The pop off archival satellite tags monitored horizontal and vertical movement patterns. Researchers confirmed that billfish prefer oxygen rich waters closer to the surface and will actively avoid waters low in oxygen.

While these hypoxic zones occur naturally in many areas of the world's tropical and equatorial oceans, scientists are concerned because these zones are expanding and occurring closer to the sea surface, and are expected to continue to grow as sea temperatures



Samples of surface skin slime are taken from the Atlantic sailfish to determine gender.—INTERNET

rise.

"The hypoxic zone off West Africa, which covers virtually all the equatorial waters in the Atlantic Ocean, is roughly the size of the continental United States, and it's growing," said Dr Eric D Prince, NOAA's Fisheries Service research fishery biologist.

Internet

First high-temp spin-field-effect transistor created

TEXAS, 24 Dec—An international team of researchers featuring Texas A&M University physicist Jairo Sinova has announced a breakthrough that gives a new spin to semiconductor nanoelectronics and the world of information technology.

The team has developed an electrically controllable device whose functionality is based on an electron's spin. Their results, the culmination of a 20-year scientific quest involving many international researchers and groups, are published in the current issue of *Science*.

The team, which also includes researchers from the Hitachi Cambridge Laboratory and the Universities of Cambridge and Nottingham in the United Kingdom as well as the Academy of Sciences and Charles University in the Czech Republic, is the first to combine the spin-helix state and anomalous Hall effect to create a realistic spin-field-effect transistor (FET) operable at high temperatures, complete with an AND-gate logic device — the first such realization in the type of transistors originally proposed by Purdue

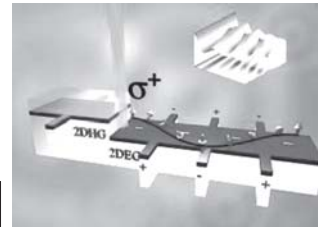


Illustration of the spin-Hall injection device used as a base for the spin-field-effect transistor (FET). A gate on top of the electron channel (not shown) controls the procession of the spin-helix state (shown in upper right panel) and, with this, the output signals measured in the Hall bars.

INTERNET

University's Supriyo Datta and Biswajit Das in 1989.

"One of the major stumbling blocks was that to manipulate spin, one may also destroy it," Sinova explains. "It has only recently been realized that one could manipulate it without destroying it by choosing a particular set-up for the device and manipulating the material.—*Internet*



Technology



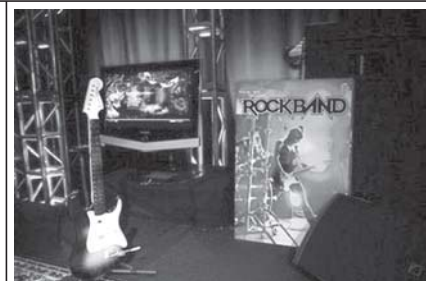
Wal-Mart invests in Chinese e-commerce firm

SHANGHAI, 24 Dec—Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer, has invested in China's top online seller of consumer electronics and communication products, in a push to extend its reach to more Chinese buyers.

Chinese online business-to-consumer (B2C) company 360buy Jingdong Mall secured \$500 million in funding from six strategic partners, including Wal-Mart, a 360buy spokeswoman said on Friday.

Wal-Mart's investment amount was not disclosed but the company has been eager to tap into the pocketbooks of China's burgeoning middle class, and earlier this year launched in China an e-commerce site for its Sam's Club warehouse stores.

"It's a smart move for them (Wal-Mart), because 360buy, in my opinion, is one of the best B2C online companies in China today," said Michael Clendenin, managing director of RedTechAdvisors, a technology research firm.—*Reuters*



Viacom said Thursday that it has sold Harmonix, creator of the "Rock Band" videogame, to New York-based private investment firm Columbus Nova.

INTERNET

Online holiday sales up 15.4 percent: SpendingPulse

NEW YORK, 24 Dec—US online shopping rose 15.4 percent to \$36.4 billion for the holiday shopping season, a MasterCard Advisors' SpendingPulse report showed on Thursday.

Online sales registered double-digit growth in six out of seven weeks since 31 October, SpendingPulse said.

"Today eCommerce accounts for a much larger share of overall retail sales compared to a few years ago," SpendingPulse's Michael McNamara said in a statement. Gains were led by apparel, where online shopping accounted for 18.8 percent of overall sales in that category, up from 16.9 percent in 2009. —*Reuters*

26 pct in US used cell phones for activism

NEW YORK, 24 Dec—If you voted this fall, there's a good chance you were texting about it.

Twenty-six percent of adult Americans used their cell phones to encourage others to vote in November's mid-term elections or to report back on conditions at their local voting sites, among other political activities, according to a survey issued Thursday by the Pew Internet & American Life Project.

In particular, 14 percent said they used their phones to tell others that they voted, while 12 percent used their handsets to receive election updates. Another 1 percent used an election-themed app to keep posted.

If respondents used their phones to take photos and

videos related to the election or contributed money to a campaign, they, too, were counted among the 26 percent who used their phones for political purposes during the election season. Pew did not measure how likely cell phone users were to share their thoughts over social networks such as Facebook and Twitter — favoured tools among many of the candidates running for office.

The November survey found that men and women were about as likely to use their phones to send political messages. But it reported more use of phones for politics among the young, affluent and college-educated. Pew also said its respondents voted equally for Democratic and Republican candidates.—*Internet*

What is requirement for national reconsolidation in Myanmar?

Kyaw Myint Naing

These days, some are asking and some are demanding that the Tatmadaw government hold dialogues with opposition parties, political forces and remnant armed insurgents for national reconsolidation in Myanmar.

There have been such strong requests and demands throughout successive governments in the nation. In response, the AFPFL government and the Revolutionary Council government held talks with anti-government groups.

However, national reconsolidation was not achieved as much as it should be. It was because anti-government groups stuck to demands for fulfilling the desires of a certain party and a national race as a basic principle for national unity, without taking into consideration the root causes that broke up national unity.

In the time of the State Peace and Development Council, 17 major national race armed groups and many small groups have built unity through armistices since they have witnessed the government's efforts to improve the economic, education, health and transport sectors, and they have understood that armed insurrection results in nothing more than untold miseries. And roundabout 15 of those groups have unconditionally surrendered arms for peace.

In reality, political parties and forces, in order to achieve sustainable national reconsolidation, have to stay in touch with economic conditions of the nation and keep in mind the correct economic and political programmes (strategies and tactics) for national development tackling economic conditions.

Myanmar's policy in the post-World War II was just a combination of feudalism and capitalism.

Under the circumstances, the drive for national development called for harmonious co-operation of the entire people to introduce the market economy and the multiparty democracy system in the nation.

Yet, Myanmar Communists were under the influence of views on Socialism because left-wing socialism was in vogue following establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic in Russia through October Revolution; and Soviet troops' victory in the Second World War. So, Communists clung on to the wrong concept that the independence regained through peace talks with the British government was merely sham independence, and the nation became another form of colony as the independence implied the cooperation between the colonial government and wealthy Bamars. It was Communists that made the wrong choice: to introduce Socialism through all possible forms of armed insurgency and deposition of the AFPFL government, instead of joining hands with the AFPFL government for the market economy and the multiparty democracy.

In consequence, the nation saw multicolored insurgency and disintegration of national solidarity.

More than one decade into the armed conflict, conditions of both armed insurgent groups and the then government were going downhill. The AFPFL government was in no position to restore the State's sovereignty and ensure non-disintegration of the Union. Armed groups were unable to grab State power. The Revolutionary Council government was thus formed for ensuring non-disintegration of the Union and perpetuation of sovereignty. Nevertheless, the Revolutionary Council government could not go against Socialism, and the Myanmar Socialist Programme was inevitably introduced.

Twenty-six years after that in 1988, mass demonstration took place, and lack of correct political leadership reduced the nation to anarchic land. That forced the Tatmadaw to form the State Law and Order Restoration Council government.

After taking over State responsibilities, the SLORC saved the people from mob rules, and opened door to democracy by revoking the Myanmar Socialist Programme which proved unpopular with the people, and introducing the market economy and the multiparty democracy system in compliance with the aspiration of the people.

Nonetheless, anti-government politicians inside and outside the nation regarded the government's democratization as suppressing democracy movements and a violent military coup.

With wrong conviction, they deemed the SLORC government, which opened democracy door, to be barrier to democracy as well as a military junta, instead of a democracy ally.

The SLORC government held elections in 1990, and paved ways for peaceful transition to democracy by implementing election results through the constitution. But, NLD stuck to the concept that democracy could be introduced in the nation only through the downfall of the dictatorship. NLD opposed the drive to formulate a constitution and walked out of the National Convention. Confronting with the SLORC government, organizing the public to devolve government orders, and considering that mass protests would occur only when the people suffered adversities, the party attempted to grab power in absence of a constitution through international economic sanctions against Myanmar and mass protests. In that case, West Bloc countries and certain groups under their influence were steadfastly abetting anti-government groups. As a result, extremists and active NLD members were detained in accordance with State Stability Law. And 1990 election results could not be implemented in 13 years owing to lack of a constitution, and the results were null and void. Therefore, the Tatmadaw government had to lay down the State's seven-step Road

Map and held the 2010 elections with the 2008 constitution.

In that way, the Tatmadaw government is transforming the nation from military rule without a constitution into multiparty democracy system in which an elected government rules the nation in line with the constitution.

Internal and external anti-government groups are not able to understand why their programmes have not come true over a couple of decades. Now, they are making comments that the 2008 constitution and 2010 elections are particularly intended to prolong the military rule.

Achievement in transforming a nation from old to new system is not because of gods or political icons who are held in high esteem owing to wrong concepts, but because of increasing productivity with the market economy. Political scientists say that a principle that no groups can stop in relations between productive forces and production is that productive relations go together with productive forces.

And productive forces still go well with social relations. So, any of old social relations come to an end before productive forces make progress. Productive relations depend on conditions of materials.

They also say that without material development in an old human society, there cannot be better productive relations (new systems). So, human beings carry out manageable tasks only. It can be deduced from aforesaid points that progress of productive forces is necessary for transforming old to new system.

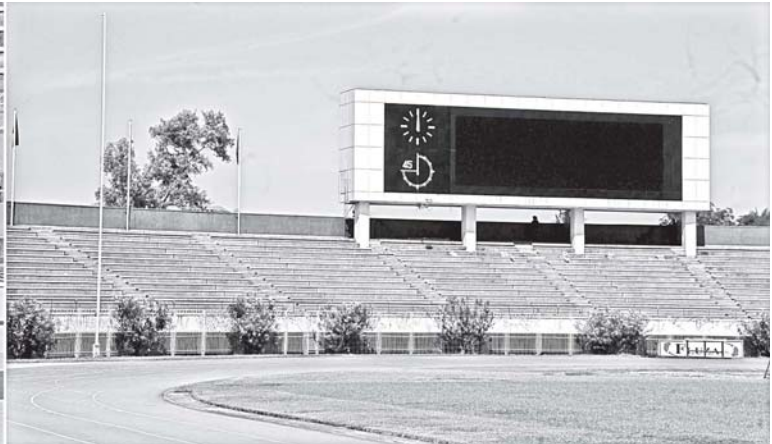
So, those in favour of true democracy have to give advice and make suggestions with a positive attitude, regarding the government elected in 2010 elections as a democracy ally and participating in the government's economic, political, social and public welfare tasks for improvement of the market economy and the multiparty system. That is the only way to national reconsolidation.

Any ways to achieve national reconsolidation through non-violent, violent, indirect and direct approaches designed to control the ruling government will never come to fruition. It was evidenced by multicoloured insurgency that came into existence following regaining independence in 1948, 1988 mass protests, and wrong acts done for more than 20 years to come to power without a constitution by NLD and its supporters.

In conclusion, I would like to make a positive suggestion that anti-government groups review wrong concepts of democratization and national reconsolidation, instead of urging and demanding the present government for national unity.

Translation: MS

Senior General Than Shwe inspects progress of project for extended construction of stadium at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna)



Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Dec—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of De-

fence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council

Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence and party, arrived at the project for

extended construction of stadium at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) in Thingangyun Township, Yangon

briefing hall, Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint reported that the Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) is located in

be extended with seats only. In addition to extension of the stands, plans are under way to construct the score board, masts, car

Senior General Than Shwe inspects land preparation for extended construction of stadium at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna). MNA



A scale model of stadium at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) in Thingangyun Township.—MNA

Region, at 1 pm today.

The Senior General and party were welcomed there by Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint, President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw, executives and officials.

The Senior General inspected conditions of eastern, southern and northern stands including the grand stand of the stadium of the YTC (Thuwunna), tracks, and layout of the stadium. MFF President U Zaw Zaw conducted the Senior General round the project site. At the temporary

Thingangyun Township, six miles from downtown Yangon. The YTC (Thuwunna) has 31 acres of area and its stadium, 21 acres. The existing stadium was built under the Myanmar-Japan friendship programme in 1987 to accommodate 20,000 spectators, he added.

He further explained that at present, the grand stand with roof on the western wing of the stadium will be extended with seats. Roofs and seats will be extended on the eastern stand. Southern and northern stands will

parking, recreation centres, meeting rooms and canteens. This morning, the stake-driving ceremony was held for construction of extending the stands, he said.

After hearing the reports, the Senior General gave guidance on construction tasks to be undertaken for meeting the international standards and priority to be given to safety of spectators.

Later, the Senior General inspected land preparations for extension of the stadium and left the venue.

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend graduation dinner of DSMA 12



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend graduation dinner of No. 12 Intake of DSMA.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Dec — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attended the graduation dinner of No.12 Intake of Defence Services Medical Academy held at the auditorium of the Convocation Hall of DSMA in Yangon at 6 p.m. today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the commander

of Yangon Command, the ministers, the Yangon Mayor, the deputy ministers, departmental heads, senior military officers of Mingaladon Station, the commandant of DSMA and advisors, faculty members, graduate officers and their parents and relatives.

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe attends...

(from page 16)
Ministry of Defence, Defence Services Inspection and Auditor-General (Army, Navy and Air) Maj-Gen Kyaw Phyto, Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than, Ministers U Htay Oo, U Thaing, U Khin Maung Myint, U Thein Swe, U Thein Zaw, U Lun Thi, Dr Kyaw Myint and Dr Chan Nyein, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Directors Maj-Gen Mya Win, Maj-Gen Hla Myint, Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt, Maj-Gen Than Soe, Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Brig-Gen Hla Myint, Maj-Gen Than Aung, Maj-Gen Than Htay, Maj-Gen Sein Lin, Maj-Gen Aye Myint and senior military

officers, Yangon Mayor U Aung Thein Lin, Commandant of DSMA Brig-Gen Ko Ko Naing, senior military officers of the station, parents and relatives of graduate officers and guests.

At the parade, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe took the salute of the cadet companies.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services inspected the graduation cadet companies. The cadet companies marched past the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe presented the Best Cadet Award to Cadet Kyaw Lin,

Excellence in Training Award to Cadet Thet Htut Hlaing and Excellence in Studies Award to Cadet Thant Zin Oo.

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

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe left the parade ground after taking salute of the cadet companies.

After completion of the parade, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe met three outstanding cadets and their parents at the main lecture hall of the DSMA and gave words of encouragement to them.—MNA

Father Land sells condo, flats, decoration materials at discount



Visitors at booth of Father Land Co., Ltd.—MNA

YANGON, 24 Dec — Father Land Construction & Decoration Co Ltd has offered from 5 to 20 per cent discount on condominium, flats and home decoration materials at Yangon Expo-2010 held at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall here from 23 to 26 December.

Besides, the company

has offered a gift of five-million worth mobile line and a handset to customers who make a K10 million-worth home decoration contract with it and buy one flat from the company.

The company will also participate in the exhibition on housing, living and furniture at the Tatmadaw Convention

Hall in Yangon from 1 to 4 January.

Father Land Construction & Decoration Co Ltd is located at No. 219/221, Bo Myat Tun Road, Botahtaung Township, and can be reached by 09-49298877, 09-5131071, 09-5067474, 397649, 296401.—MNA

Build on national reconsolidation that has been...

(from page 1)

regions, realize these circumstances and feel sympathy and compassion toward them. Thus, when the Tatmadaw assumed the responsibilities of the State, the plan for the progress of border areas and national races was launched. Later, the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs was established to work with dedication for the development of health, education and economy of the national peoples, devoting substantial financial resources. Even now, these efforts are continuing. And the national peoples can now enjoy the fruits of development. I would like to express my belief and hope that the successive governments that will come to power will put forth ever greater efforts and continue building on these good foundations.

Comrades,

You need both physical and mental attainments in order to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes: Non-Disintegration of the Union, Non-Disintegration of National Unity and

Perpetuation of Sovereignty. Physical and mental attainments reinforce each other. In the Armed Forces, physical attainments refer to combat capability. Mental attainments refer to loyalty, unity, discipline and noble-mindedness. You comrades, who are both the **proficient physician and victorious soldier** at the same time, need to have the full physical and mental attainments. You have to be soldiers that win battles on the battlefield while at the same time serving as medical professionals who add to

the prestige of the Medical Corps.

Comrades,

The most fundamental requisites for the development of any society is health. So the Tatmadaw government has placed an emphasis on the fostering of medical professionals with advanced knowledge in their fields and the expansion of hospitals and clinics. More than 24 special regions have been designated and health care provision, upgraded.

The Defence Services Medical



Senior General Than Shwe takes salute of the cadet companies of No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy.—MNA



Dignitaries seen at the Passing out Parade of No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy.—MNA



Academy was established with the aim of producing good medical officers with full physical and mental attainments for the Amyotha Tatmadaw who will safeguard Our Three Main National Causes in addition to training medical professionals for the nation. (See page 9)

Dignitaries seen at Parade of No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy.

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents the best cadet award to Cadet Kyaw Lin.

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents the excellence in training award to Cadet Thet Htut Hlaing.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe presents the excellence in studies award to Cadet Thant Zin Oo.—MNA



Dignitaries seen at Parade of No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy.

MNA

in combat forces due to sickness through prevention of disease under any circumstances, utilizing every means available. Health and hygiene regulations for battlefield need to be issued in consultation with respective commanders. Supervision must then be provided to ensure strict adherence by all ranks. Moreover, an army is an organization consisting of many people, so precautions must be taken against the spread of infectious diseases. In health care, awareness and education as well as prevention are vital.

Comrades,

You are the junior leaders in medical matters. Leadership is personality trait. You yourselves have to be models of hard work and win the respect and the admiration of your subordinates. In the same way,
(See page 10)

Dignitaries seen at Parade of No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical Academy. — MNA

Academy. — MNA

Build on national reconsolidation...

(from page 8)

Comrades,

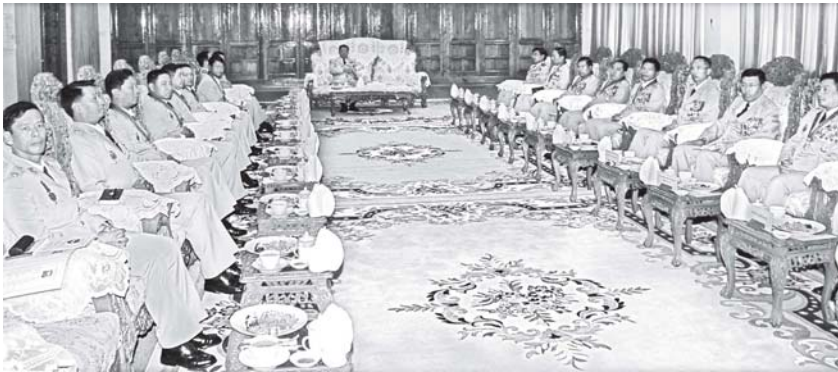
The mission of the Medical Corps is **"MAKE FIT TO FIGHT"**. To achieve this aim, the motto **"Goodwill, Compassion and Safety"** should be adopted in carrying out health care duties.

For battlefield health care, you comrades should research and document diseases that are common to various localities. In addition, you should study how to provide protection against the threat of new weapons in warfare and the injuries they may cause. It is necessary to continue studying military affairs and medicine together.

Comrades,

On the battlefield, you can expect all-round hardships. So, advance preparation is important. You should guard against any reduction





Senior General Than Shwe speaks words of encouragement to three outstanding cadets and their parents.

(News on page 16)—MNA

Achievement already in place can be attributed to strengths in the nation, patriotism, Union Spirit, determination and devotion of the people

YANGON, 24 Dec—The Special Refresher Course No. 73 for basic education teachers concluded with a ceremony at the Yadanatheinga Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, this morning. On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo,

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein made an address.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, departmental heads, the rector of CICS

(Phaunggyi), the pro-rector, heads of departments, officials and trainees.

In his address, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein said that the government is building the nation into a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation while striving for the nation to keep abreast of the international community.

In that regard, it has been able to successfully realize the seven-step Road Map with the active participation of the people, and as a result, the new modern nation aspired by the people will soon emerge.

Today is the time when the entire national people are making concerted efforts with Union Spirit for perpetuation of the Union, the legacy of ancestors for development of their own nation, own regions and own villages.

At such a time, the national brethren should be well aware of the fact that there can be attempts that undermine the national unity and lead to disintegration of the Union. It is incumbent upon the teachers to make known to the public every evil attempt of internal and



Education Minister Dr Chan Nyein presents award to Daw Su Su Khaing of Yebyu Township BEPS (Talineyar).—MNA

Build on national...

(from page 9)

as medical professionals, you have to win the trust and confidence of patients. Only then will you comrades be successful as proficient physicians and victorious soldiers.

Comrades,

In conclusion, I would like to urge you to

- make sure that every action you undertake amounts to the safeguarding of Our Three Main National Causes;
- contribute to the building of a strong, capable and patriotic modern Tatmadaw through your knowledge of military affairs and medicine;
- make an effort to be a successful military leader and a medical professional; and
- provide health care not only to the members of the Armed Forces and their families but also to the people living in the local areas where you are currently serving.

With this I conclude.— MNA

external destructive elements based on racism, ism and sectarianism.

The government, since its assumption of the State responsibilities, has been making relentless efforts in all aspects for the Union to keep pace with the global nations as an independent and sovereign nation, laying down political objectives, economic objectives and social objectives. And at present it is making headway in every sector.

With the infrastructural development, it is safe to say that remarkable progress will be achieved if education and knowledge of outstanding youths soon to emerge and the country's rich natural resources are combined.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe had given guidance that every available resource in the nation had been applied for realization of national

goal; and that the achievement already in place can be attributed to the strengths in the nation, patriotism, Union Spirit, determination and devotion of the people. In line with the guidance, all the teachers are to train the students to become outstanding and reliable ones fully equipped with Union Spirit and to try their utmost to turn themselves into role models.

In conclusion, the minister called on the teachers to strive for the nation to keep abreast of the global nations, to train the students to become outstanding ones with firm determination and devotion, and to do their national duties with Union Spirit.

On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U

Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Education Dr. Chan Nyein presented the outstanding trainee awards to U Nay Thuriya Phyo of the Basic Education Primary School (Kyauhtayan) in Mali Island in Pulaw Township and Daw Su Su Khaing of the BEPS (Talineyar) in Yebyu Township, the perseverance awards to U Than Aung, Headmaster of the BEPS (Khaymawadi) in Nyaungdon Township and Daw San San Le of No.5 Basic Education Middle School in South Okkalapa Township and Daw Khin San Aye of No. 22 Post-Primary School in Hlinethaya Township, and model hostel awards to the Hostel-1 of men's company (5) and the Hostel-7 of women's company (5) and completion certificates to trainees through leaders of the companies.— MNA

Three arrested in UK for stealing Stradivarius violin



An undated image released by the British Transport Police on Thursday on 23 Dec, 2010, of a 1697 Stradivarius violin. Three people were arrested for stealing a 1.2 million-pound (\$1.85 million) antique violin from a musician while she stopped for a snack at a London sandwich bar, British police said Thursday.—INTERNET

LONDON, 24 Dec—Three people were arrested for stealing a 1.2 million-pound (\$1.85 million) antique violin from an internationally

acclaimed musician while she stopped for a snack at a London sandwich bar, British police said Thursday.

South Korean

violinist Min-Jin Kym was eating inside the sandwich shop outside Euston station on 29 Nov when she noticed that her black violin case — which contained the 300-year-old Stradivarius as well as two expensive bows — was missing, police said.

The violin, made in 1696, is one of only around 400 in the world. It was stolen with a Peccatte bow, valued at 62,000 pounds, and another bow worth more than 5,000 pounds.

Police arrested and charged John Maughan, 26, and two teenagers on Wednesday for theft. The teens, aged 16 and 14 years old, cannot be

named for legal reasons. Maughan is in custody and the two teenagers are free on bail.

Police are appealing for information about the whereabouts of the rare instrument. An insurance company has offered a 15,000 pound reward for information that could lead to the violin's recovery.

South Korea-born Kym began playing the violin aged six. She made her international debut with the Berlin Symphony Orchestra when she was 13. Since then, she has performed with some of the world's leading orchestras.—Internet

Driver was on phone to brother when he crashed and died

DUBLIN, 24 Dec —The risks taken when driving while using a mobile phone were highlighted at an inquest into the death of a man whose car went out of control and hit a tree. Paul Gerard Monks (33), died of multiple injuries on 19 July this year after his Mitsubishi Pajero careered off the road into a ditch on Lyons Road, Co Dublin.

His brother Dwayne Monks was having a brief chat with Paul when he heard him say, "Oh Jesus, Dwayne". "I knew something was wrong. I could hear the fear in his voice," Dwayne Monks told an inquest on Wednesday. The phone conversation between the brothers lasted just 44 seconds, Dublin County Coroner's Court heard. Mr Monks was not using a hands-free kit.

He was not wearing a seatbelt and the driver's airbag did not deploy. Scenes of collision investigator, Garda Tony Kelly, found that: "significant contributory factor was driver error probably caused by driver inattention or distraction."

Internet

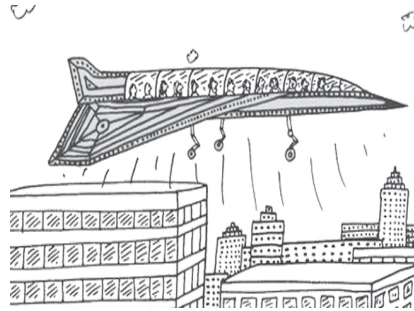
The tricky art of knowing what will happen next

LONDON, 24 Dec —A 1972 book which predicts what life would be like in 2100 has been reprinted after attracting a cult following, but how hard is it to tell the future? Geoffrey Hoyle is often asked why he predicted everybody would be wearing jumpsuits by 2100. He envisioned a world where everybody worked a three-day week and had their electric cars delivered in tubes of liquid.

These colourful ideas from his 1972 children's book, 2100: Living in the Future, helped prompt a Facebook campaign to track him down. His work has now been reprinted with the year in the title amended to 2111.

"I've been criticised because I said people [would] wear jumpsuits," explains Hoyle, the son of noted astronomer and science fiction author Fred Hoyle. "We don't wear jumpsuits but to a certain extent the idea of the jumpsuit is the restriction of liberties."

Hoyle's book is a product of its time. The move towards a planned society with an emphasis on communal living colour it. "Most of it is based on the evolution of a political system," Hoyle



Cheap air travel was among the predictions illustrated in Hoyle's book.—INTERNET

notes. The author also predicted widespread use of "vision phones" and doing your grocery shopping online. He is one of a long line of science fiction authors to have tried their hand at futurology, the discipline of mapping out the future.

Internet

World's smallest Christmas card

LONDON, 24 Dec — Nanotechnology experts have unveiled a Christmas card so small that more than 8,000 of them could fit on a first-class stamp. The card produced by the University of Glasgow, said to be the smallest in the world, is invisible to the naked eye. The university's school of engineering drew up the design to highlight its "world-leading" nanotechnology expertise. A total of 8,276 of the cards could be placed on an area the size of a stamp. Professor David



The Christmas card is so small that more than 8,000 of them could fit on a first-class stamp. INTERNET

Cumming and Dr Qin Chen etched the Christmas tree image on to a minute piece of glass. Prof Cumming said "Our nanotechnology is among the best in the world but sometimes explaining to the public what the technology is capable of can be a bit tricky. We decided that producing this Christmas card was a simple way to show just how accurate our technology is.

Internet

High winds continue to batter New Zealand Capital

WELLINGTON, 24 Dec— While severe weather was easing in most of New Zealand, gale-force winds are still battering the capital Wellington on Friday.

MetService issued severe weather warnings for South Island's West Coast, Canterbury and Southern parts of the North Island on Friday, with high winds felling trees, blocking roads and bringing down power lines in Christchurch. Most of those warnings have been scaled down but there is still a warning of heavy winds in

Wellington and Wairarapa. Gales of 140 km an hour have brought down power lines and started a small grass fire in Wellington, cutting power to about 120 households.

Wind gusts of up to 140 km an hour buffeting Wairarapa have blown branches on to power lines, causing blackouts and starting fires. In the Hutt Valley, felled power lines and a small grass fire caused problems in the Whiteman's Valley area, with about 120 households losing electricity.—Xinhua



Ballet artist Qiu Siting performs on stage "Chopin on Point", a symphony ballet to commemorate the 200th anniversary of birthday of Polish composer and pianist Fryderyk Chopin, in Beijing, capital of China, on 22 Dec, 2010.—XINHUA

Job vacancies hit 4-year high in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 24 Dec — The number of job vacancies in Singapore hit a four-year high of 50,200 this September, a 36 percent rise over the 36,900 openings in the previous September, when Singapore was recovering from a recession.

Figures by the Ministry of Manpower show the vast majority, or 76 percent, of the vacancies are in the services sector, which economists attributed to the sector being the top creator of jobs this year, local daily *The Straits Times* reported on Friday. In contrast, job openings in manufacturing totaled 8,300 (17 percent) and in construction 3,300 (7 percent).

The need for workers is especially acute in the hotel, retail and financial services industries, analysts noted. The services sector is bulging with openings, employers have found it hard to fill them as a result of government measures restricting the flow of foreign workers.—Xinhua

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Johnson & Johnson, a corporation incorporated in the United States of America, of One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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in respect of "pharmaceutical preparations (Int'l Class 5)".
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for Johnson & Johnson
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 25 December 2010



Pharmacists match the traditional acupuncture points applications at a hospital in Linyi, east China's Shandong Province, on 22 Dec, 2010. Having herbal medicine and receiving acupuncture points applications are popular among Chinese people as the coldest weather of the year comes. —XINHUA

Survivors of sinking fish boat arrive in New Zealand's Bluff port

WELLINGTON, 24 Dec—The 20 survivors from the sinking of the South Korean fishing boat *Insung No 1* in the Southern Ocean arrived in New Zealand South Island's southern port of Bluff on Thursday night.

The *Insung No 7*, the sister ship of the doomed *Insung No 1*, arrived in Bluff, carrying also the bodies of five seamen, including two South Koreans, two Indonesians and one Vietnamese on Thursday night.

The Chinese Embassy to New Zealand confirmed on Friday that among the 20 survivors are four Chinese seamen.

Xinhua

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is seeking applications from dynamic and highly motivated Myanmar nationals for the following vacancies with UNDP Yangon. Detailed terms of reference are available at the bulletin board at No. 6, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon.

Position 1

Title - Township Project Manager
Post Level - SC 7
Duration of Assignment - Initial six months, with possibility of extension
Duty Station - Project office in HDI Township with approximately 70% travel to Villages (HDI townships: Dry Zone, Northern Shan Zone, Southern Shan Zone, Delta Zone, Mon/Kayin, Kachin, Northern Chin, Southern Chin, Northern Rakhine and Eastern Rakhine)

Requirements: Bachelor degree in a relevant development field with minimum 5 to 7 years of progressive experience in managing, coordinating and leading the planning, implementation, and management of a rural development project. Training skills is an asset. He/she will have strong cultural sensitivity and has the ability to work under pressure. He/she will have the ability to effectively engage multi stakeholders such as government officials, civil society, grassroots entities and other development partners. He/she will be a good team player with the ability to manage for result. Must be computer literate, and be fluent in English, both written and spoken.

Position 2

Title - Finance Assistant
Post Level - SC 4
Duration of Assignment - Initial six months, with possibility of extension
Duty Station - Project office in HDI Township (HDI townships: Dry Zone, Northern Shan Zone, Southern Shan Zone, Delta Zone, Mon/Kayin, Kachin, Northern Chin, Southern Chin, Northern Rakhine and Eastern Rakhine)

Requirements: Bachelor Degree and at least 3 years of experience in Financial Management. Ability to work on computers with accounting/financial software and additional commercial training in bookkeeping, business or accounting is desirable. Solid command of Microsoft Word and Excel. Very good knowledge of the working languages, English and Myanmar, both written and spoken. Be a good team-player and ability to work under pressure.

Candidates should clearly indicate the Post Title in their application, and should submit together with complete bio-data stating personal details, P-11 Form, academic qualification, work experiences and a recent passport sized photograph. Applications should be addressed to **Deputy Resident Representative (Operations) Attention: Human Resources Unit (DST), No. 6, Natmauk Road, UNDP, Yangon. E-mail: registry.mm@undp.org**. Only those candidates in whose qualifications and experience the Organization has further interest will be contacted for subsequent interview(s). "UNDP practice relating to recruitment prohibits hiring of persons currently engaged by Government services or who left Government service during the past 6 months." Women are encouraged to apply. **UNDP is an equal opportunity employer. UNDP regrets its inability to reply individually or attend to telephone queries on the advertised posts.**
Closing Date: 10 January 2011

Kidnappers of 50 Mexican migrants make ransom call

MEXICO CITY, 24 Dec—The supposed kidnappers of 50 Central American migrants who disappeared in southern Mexico last week called a family in the United States demanding a ransom, a Roman Catholic priest who first reported the abductions said Thursday.

But they contacted relatives of a migrant who had escaped after the 16 Dec assault, said the Rev Alejandro Solalinde, who runs a migrant shelter in the southern state of Oaxaca.

The abductors probably thought he was still in the group, Solalinde told *The Associated Press* in a telephone interview, adding that he reported the call to Central American and Mexican authorities.

"We're calling the governments of Central America in case they know of any other calls for ransom," he said.

It was another apparent confirmation of the massive abduction, which Mexican authorities initially denied when they were contacted by the foreign ministry of El Salvador on Tuesday with the complaint.

Witnesses said the majority of those kidnapped are Salvadorans, and Salvadoran Foreign Minister Hugo Martinez continued his criticism of Mexico for initially ignoring the abduction, calling the government's response "hasty and unfortunate."

"We believe you can't deal with these problems by ignoring them," he told a news conference Wednesday night. "Rather, they should be recognized and thoroughly investigated."

Internet

UK offers troops, EU seeks answers for snow chaos

LONDON, 24 Dec — The snow was melting off London's streets, but Heathrow Airport told infuriated passengers it won't restore full service until Thursday — five days after a five-inch snowfall turned hundreds of thousands of holiday plans into a nightmare of canceled flights and painful nights sleeping on terminal floors.

Travellers' anger boiled over into politics as Britain's prime minister offered to put troops on snow-clearing duty and Europe's top transport official threatened tougher regulation of airports unable to cope with wintry weather.

"It's pathetic — you would think this is a Third World country," said 29-year-old Janice Phillips, who was trying to get back to Minneapolis. She sat next to her

sleeping boyfriend, his head propped against a backpack, his mouth ajar. "All they've been talking about was this snow forecast. You would think the government could do a better job." —Internet



Passengers sit in a tent as they wait to check-in their luggage for their flights outside Terminal 3 of Heathrow Airport in London, on 21 Dec, 2010. —INTERNET

Filipino gunmen free two Malaysians after 10 months

MANILA, 24 Dec — Filipino gunmen with ties to al-Qaeda-linked militants, under pressure from pursuing police commandos, have freed two Malaysian laborers from 10 months of jungle captivity, police said on Wednesday.

The hostages were seized on 8 Feb from a seaweed farm in Malaysia's Sabah state and whisked away in a speedboat to nearby Philippine waters in a pattern similar to past kidnappings-for-ransom blamed on the notorious terrorist group Abu Sayyaf. —Internet



A police officer shows the way to Malaysian national Lai Wong Chun, centre, and Chen Yui Chung as they step out of an ambulance at the police hospital on 22 Dec, 2010 in suburban Quezon City, north of Manila, Philippines. —INTERNET

No austerity for Spain's \$3 billion 'El Gordo' winners



A man celebrates after winning a portion the main prize of Spain's Christmas lottery with the number 79250 in Palleja, Spain, Wednesday, on 22 Dec, 2010.

Spain's "El Gordo", one of the world's biggest lotteries, gave out 2.3 billion euros (1.9 billion British pounds) in Christmas prizes on Wednesday with Spaniards spending almost the same as last year on tickets.

The top prize this year was 3 million euros, going to the series of tickets with the number 79,250. Because the tickets are sold in a series of 10, only those who paid 200 euros for the whole strip get the full prize.

Newspaper photos showed one winner, a bar owner in Barcelona, spraying champagne in the street after winning a fraction of El Gordo, which he said he would share among his customers.



Indian boys play cricket near Agartala in 2008. A 13-year-old Indian cricketer has smashed 498 runs off 490 balls in a match in Mumbai to claim the national record for the highest score by a school boy.

Indian schoolboy hammers 498 runs

A 13-year-old Indian cricketer has smashed 498 runs off 490 balls in a match in Mumbai to claim the national record for the highest score by a school boy.

Armaan Jaffer, nephew of former Indian Test opener Wasim Jaffer, achieved the feat in an under-14 Giles Shield

match while playing for Rizvi Springfield School against IES Raja Shivaji Vidyalaya.

His marathon two-day innings, which finished on Wednesday, beat the previous leading individual score of 461 in Indian school cricket, set recently by Nagpur

boy Ali Zorain Khan.

"I had decided not to play any aerial shots," Armaan told the Hindustan Times. "I knew as long as I occupy the crease, the runs will keep flowing. It would have been better if I had got 500, but there is no grudge."

New Zealand military releases UFO files



The morning sun rises on the Auckland City skyline and a cluster of boats moored in the inner harbour of Auckland in 2003. The New Zealand military released hundreds of previously classified reports Wednesday detailing claims of unidentified flying object (UFO) sightings and alien encounters.

The New Zealand military released hundreds of previously classified reports Wednesday detailing claims of unidentified flying object (UFO) sightings and alien encounters.

The reports, dating from 1954 to 2009, were released under freedom of information laws after the New Zealand Defence Force removed names and other identifying material.

In about 2,000 pages of documents, members of the public, military personnel and commercial pilots outline close encounters, mostly involving moving lights in the sky. Some of the accounts include drawings of flying saucers, descriptions of aliens wearing "pharaoh masks" and alleged examples of extraterrestrial writing.

Zoo seeks sanctuary home for seized monkey

Officials at the Detroit Zoo said they are seeking a primate sanctuary as a new home for a pet monkey seized by suburban police.

Scott Cartre, chief life sciences officer at the Detroit Zoo, said he is looking at sanctuaries as possible new homes for Pearl, a marmoset native to South America that had been living with a

Southfield family for the past three years, the *Detroit Free Press* reported Thursday.

Police said the primate was seized from the home on 6 Dec and the owners, who were not named and are not facing charges despite illegally keeping the exotic pet in the city, willingly surrendered Pearl due to possible plans to move in the near future.

News Album



Indian actors Ajay Devgn (L) and Kajol are seen in New Delhi in 2006. India's animators are hoping that a film starring two of Bollywood's biggest stars will revive the sector's fortunes, after earlier efforts to popularise the cartoon genre fell flat.—INTERNET

Bollywood hopes animation is a draw for audiences

MUMBAI, 24 Dec—India's animators are hoping that a film starring two of Bollywood's biggest stars will revive the sector's fortunes, after earlier efforts to popularise the cartoon genre fell flat.

Ajay Devgn and his wife Kajol appear in "Toonpur Ka Superhero" (eds: correct) (Toontown Superhero), whose combination of real-life actors and cartoon characters recalls the Oscar-winning film "Who Framed Roger Rabbit" from 1988.

Box office success for the film, which is released on Friday, Christmas Eve, could spur more studios to finance home-grown animation projects, analysts say.—Internet

Curtain up! Theatergoers see 'Spider-Man' return



Reeve Carney, centre, who plays Spider-Man in the theatrical version 'Spider-Man Turn Off the Dark' is seen outside the Foxwoods Theatre in Times Square with Patrick Page, left, who plays The Green Goblin, Wednesday, on 22 Dec, 2010, in New York.—INTERNET

question remained: Will new precautions allow the cast of Broadway's costliest show to hit the heights in nearly 40 aerial maneuvers safely, avoiding another dangerous accident that could permanently shutter the show?

Before the show could resume Thursday, producers had to give final confirmation to the state Department of Labour that they had enacted certain safety measures aimed at avoiding any further mishaps. Among them: a requirement that a second person ensure the harnesses used by performers during the show's high-flying stunts have been put on properly at the Foxwoods Theatre at Manhattan's Times Square.—Internet

Chagall exhibit opens in Rome landmark

ROME, 24 Dec—An exhibition of paintings by Marc Chagall (1887-1985) entitled "The World Upside-Down" opened to the public on Wednesday next to an ancient Roman altar in the centre of the Italian Capital. The exhibition inside the Ara Pacis complex brings together around 140 paintings from Nice and Paris, as well as private collections.

The display has been organised by the Marc Chagall National Museum in Nice. Chagall, who was born in Vitebsk in what was then the Russian Empire and is now Belarus, has become famous for his gravity-defying paintings that feature flying farm animals, Jewish folk musicians and wedding scenes.—Internet



A visitor looks at a painting "The Song of Songs II" by Russian born French artist Marc Chagall as part of the exhibition "Chagall II mondo sottosopra" (Chagall The world upside down), at Ara Pacis Museum in Rome.—INTERNET

McClaren gets vote of confidence from board



Former England coach Steve McClaren

BERLIN, 24 Dec — Former England coach Steve McClaren received the dreaded vote of confidence from the board of struggling Bundesliga side VfL Wolfsburg on Thursday. The 49-year-old's position had become increasingly precarious after a winless run of seven Bundesliga matches —

which leaves the 2009 champions in 13th place just four points above the relegation zone — and reached its nadir with a 3-1 German Cup home defeat by Second Division Cottbus on Wednesday.

However, the board gave McClaren, who is in his first season in charge after a successful spell at Dutch side Twente where he guided them to the title, backing after a heated two hour meeting on Thursday. The players had already been punished for their poor run by having their Christmas holidays shortened. — *Internet*

Moyes hails 'youthful' Cahill

LIVERPOOL, 24 Dec — Everton boss David Moyes hailed Australian talisman Tim Cahill as a born-again player on Thursday. Cahill grabbed his ninth goal of the season in Monday's 2-1 win at Manchester City, topping an overall display which prompted goalkeeper Tim Howard to describe him as a Goodison Park legend.

Moyes was equally forthcoming in his praise for a player who will leave for the Asian Cup in Qatar in the first week of January. "In my time here we have not had an awful lot to shout about but I think Tim Cahill is one who could stand up and say he has really played his part in this period," said Moyes, whose side host Birmingham on Sunday and visit West Ham two days later.

"A few weeks ago I

saw a drop in his energy and I was a bit worried about him.

— *Internet*



Everton boss David Moyes hailed Australian talisman Tim Cahill (L), seen here with teammate American goalkeeper Tim Howard celebrating their win over Manchester City on December 20, as a born-again player.

— *INTERNET*

Inter sack Benitez, Leonardo lined up as successor

ROME, 24 Dec — European champions Inter Milan sacked coach Rafael Benitez on Thursday just a few days after he guided them to the World Club Cup title and looks set to be replaced by former AC Milan coach Brazilian Leonardo.

The two parties reached a mutual agreement over terminating the Spaniard's contract ending days of speculation about the former Liverpool manager's future after he had used the World Club Cup win to launch a bizarre outburst against the club's board and their lack of support in the transfer market as well as

an attack on the players. Inter, who turned to Benitez when Jose Mourinho left for Real Madrid in the summer, issued a curt statement confirming that the Spaniard's short reign had been brought to a premature and inglorious end after holding talks with his agent.

— *Internet*



European champions Inter Milan sacked coach Rafael Benitez, just a few days after he guided them to the World Club Cup title and looks set to be replaced by former AC Milan coach Brazilian Leonardo. — *INTERNET*

I am number one not del Bosque: Mourinho

ROME, 24 Dec — Jose Mourinho said on Thursday he deserved to be named coach of the year and not Spain's World Cup winning coach Vicente del Bosque.

The ever immodest 47-year-old Real Madrid coach told the 'Gazzetta



Jose Mourinho, said he deserved to be named coach of the year and not Spain's World Cup winning coach Vicente del Bosque. — *INTERNET*

dello sport' that he firmly believed he had achieved more in 2010 when he was in charge of Inter Milan than the Spanish handler, who delivered Spain their first world title when they beat the Netherlands 1-0 in July's final.

"Me, I've made my choice. 11 months work, 57 matches played, three titles including the most important of all, 'THE' tournament, the Champions League (plus the Italian Cup and the Italian league title)," said Mourinho, who left Inter for Real in the summer. "I have won everything. I could not do any more than that, equally so for the players." — *Internet*

Japan's Hosogai says deal agreed with Leverkusen

TOKYO, 24 Dec — Japanese international Hajime Hosogai Thursday said he has agreed to move to leading German side Bayer Leverkusen and hopes his game will improve by playing in the Bundesliga.

The midfielder was offered a four-and-a-half year contract, but will be immediately loaned to FC Augsburg in the German second division, he wrote on his blog. "I received a very pleasing assessment

from Leverkusen, which is competing for the season title in Bundesliga," he said.

"But since there is little possibility that I would be able to play for Leverkusen this season, I received an opportunity to play for FC Augsburg," he said. — *Internet*



Japanese international Hajime Hosogai

Wenger calls for Gunners to step up

LONDON, 24 Dec — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has called on his players to end their poor run of results against the Premier League's best teams as they prepare to face Chelsea next week. Wenger's men have suffered five straight defeats to the Blues in recent games, leaking 13 goals in the process.

Fresh doubts about Arsenal's ability to mix it with the best sides were raised last week after a 1-0 loss to Manchester United at Old Trafford. Wenger insisted that while he was not con-



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger

cerned by Arsenal's form in crunch matches, it was time for the Gunners to step up. "Of course we have a point to prove given our record against the big teams," Wenger said Thursday. "You have to show that you are up to the level expected from you in these games.

— *Internet*

Fergie expecting van der Sar exit



Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson said he expects Dutch goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar, to retire at the end of the season. — *INTERNET*

MANCHESTER, 24 Dec — Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson said Thursday he expects Dutch goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar to retire at the end of the season. Ferguson said United

were already planning for life without van der Sar on the pitch, although the 40-year-old Holland international could possibly stay on as a coach at Old Trafford.

"We are planning for this being his last season," Ferguson said. Asked about whether the goalkeeper could stay on to help coach his successor, Ferguson said the issue had not been discussed. "But Edwin is a player who would be of interest in terms of his knowledge and standing in the game," he told reporters.

— *Internet*

S P O R T S

Barcelona announces preseason trip to US

BARCELONA, 24 Dec — Barcelona will tour the United States as part of its preseason schedule next summer, with games planned against Manchester United, AC Milan and Mexican team America. The club said on Thursday that it will also play in Munich, Germany and Split, Croatia. The United

match is scheduled for 30 July in Landover, Md, with the game against Milan on 3 Aug in Miami. The tour will conclude in Arlington, Texas, on 6 Aug with Barcelona taking on America.

The club hopes the six-date tour, which includes three matches in Europe before the team departs for

the US, will net Barcelona \$8.1 million. Matches are being arranged in conjunction with Major League Soccer's Soccer United Marketing and the Creative Artists Agency. Contracts for venues and opponents have not been finalized. Barcelona toured the US as part its preseason preparations in 2008 and 2009.

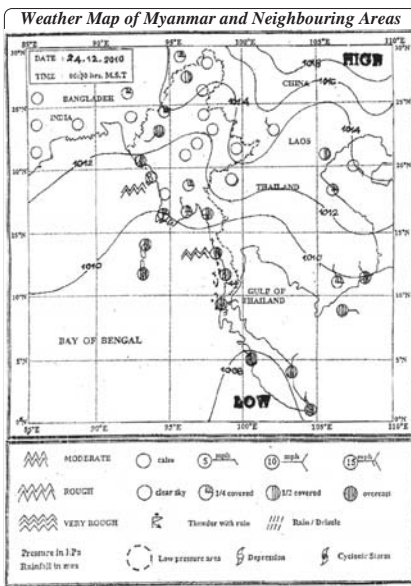
The Blaugrana are likely to be missing star forward Lionel Messi, right back Daniel Alves and midfielder Javier Mascherano because of the Copa America in Argentina, which ends 24 July. — *Internet*

Besiktas-bound Simao in tearful Atletico farewell



Portuguese international Simao Sabrosa

MADRID, 24 Dec — Portuguese international Simao Sabrosa bid a tearful farewell to Atletico Madrid on Thursday after signing a two-year deal with Turkey's Besiktas. "It's difficult for me to talk right now. I want to thank the club for having faith in me and paying so much to Benfica to sign me," said Simao, who joined Atletico in 2007 from Portuguese side Benfica for 20 million euros. — *Internet*



WEATHER

Friday, 24th December, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain have been scattered in Taninthayi Region and weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Yangon Region and generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Kayah States, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Regions, (4°C) above December average temperature in Taninthayi Region, (5°C) above December average temperature in Mon State and about December average temperatures in the remaining States and Regions. The significant night temperatures were Namhsam (-2°C), Pinlaung, Heho and Haka (0°C) each and Lashio (3°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (1.73) inches and Kawthaung (0.12) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 23-12-2010 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 24-12-2010 was 55°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 24-12-2010 was (73%). Rainfall on 24-12-2010 was (Nil) .

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 23-12-2010 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 24-12-2010 was 65°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 24-12-2010 was (68%). Total sunshine hours on 23-12-2010 was (10) hours.

Rainfall on 24-12-2010 was at (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (83.19) inches at Mingaladon, (97.64) inches at Kaba-Aye and (109.29) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Northeast at (09:30) hours MST on 23-12-2010.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 25th December

2010: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region, weather will be partly cloudy in Kayin and Mon States, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of light rain in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 25-12-2010: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-12-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-12-2010: Generally fair weather.

Weather Outlook For Fourth Weekend Of December 2010: During the coming weekend, weather will be generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region and partly cloudy in Yangon Region.

Parents, two children found dead in Mississippi home

MERIDIAN, 24 Dec — A father apparently fatally shot his two young children and their mother to death before killing himself at the small Mississippi home they shared, a county coroner said Thursday night.

Clayton Cobler, the Lauderdale County coroner, said the suspected murder-suicide took place between 7 and 7:30 am on Thursday. Cobler said it appears that the man shot the woman in the living room, and then shot one boy in a hallway and another boy and himself in a bedroom. The handgun was found near the man's body. The couple was not married.

"It looked like it was thought-out," Cobler told *The Associated Press* in a phone interview Thursday evening. Lauderdale County Sheriff Billy Sollie said the boys were 4 and 5 years old. He said the man and woman were 26 and 25, respectively.—*Internet*



A woman shops for onions at a local vegetable market in Kolkata on 23 December. India's food price inflation has returned to double-digits, fuelled by surging onion prices, official data has shown, adding to pressure on the scandal-hit Congress government.

INTERNET

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (25-12-2010)(Saturday)

Transmissions

Local - (09:00am~11:00am) MST
Oversea Transmission - (25-12-10 09:30 am ~ 26-12-10 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * The glory of Maha-Muni Buddha Image, at dawn
- * Yesteryears Bridal Hairstyle
- * News
- * Stream of Songs "Naw Lizar"
- * News
- * Extraordinary Taunggyi Tazaungdaing
- * News
- * Artist Hla Tun Aung's Milestone

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * The glory of Maha-Muni Buddha Image, at dawn
- * Yesteryears Bridal Hairstyle
- * News
- * Stream of Songs "Naw Lizar"
- * News
- * Extraordinary Taunggyi Tazaungdaing
- * News
- * Myanma Traditional Silverware
- * Artist Hla Tun Aung's Milestone
- * News
- * Current Affairs "City Mart"
- * ICT Exhibition 2010
- * News
- * Secret Places for Yummy Foods "Pyay Daw Oo (Rice Salad)"
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * The Richly Blessed Gem Land
- * News
- * Myanmar Teak in Higher Demand
- * Myanmar Movies "I miss you painfully"



Saturday, 25 December
View on today

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Venerable Min Gun Sayadaw Uppatathandi Paritta

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning News

7:40 am

4. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:00 am

6. Health Programme

8:10 am

7. Poem Garden

8:25 am

8. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition

8:40 am

9. International News

8:45 am

10. Musical Programme

11:00 am

1. Martial Song

11:10 am

2. Musical Programme

11:25 am

3. Game For Children

11:50 am

4. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News

12:50 pm

5. Yan Can Cook

1:10 pm

6. TV Drama Series

2:00 pm

7. Mahowthada

2:30 pm

8. Song Programme

2:45 pm

9. Dance Of National Races

2:55 pm

10. International News

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:10 pm

2. Musical Programme

4:20 pm

3. Music Heritage

4:30 pm

4. Cultural Dances

4:40 pm

5. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures)

5:00 pm

6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:05 pm

7. Musical Programme

5:20 pm

8. International

5:30 pm

- Science News

5:30 pm

9. Documentary

6:00 pm

10. Evening News

6:15 pm

11. Weather Report

6:20 pm

12. Ahlshamae

6:35 pm

13. Yindagomae

7:00 pm

14. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

15. News

8:00 pm

16. International News

8:00 pm

17. Weather Report

8:00 pm

18. Cartoon Series

8:00 pm

19. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

20. Gitadagale

8:00 pm

- Phwinbaohn

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

- ★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
- ★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
- ★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

- ★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
- ★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
- ★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Senior General Than Shwe attends Passing out of Parade of DSMA 12

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Dec—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

Senior General Than Shwe delivered an address at the Passing out

of Parade of the No. 12 Intake of the Defence Services Medical

Academy which was held at the parade ground of the DSMA in Yangon at 7

am today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-

1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Hla Min, Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Defence Services Inspector-General Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, Military Appointment-General Maj-Gen Win Myint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Yar Pyae, Maj-Gen Sein Win and Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win, Maj-Gen Thein Htay of the (See page 7)



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects cadet companies at Passing out of Parade of DSMA 12.—MNA