**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

**Lt-Gen Ye Myint looks into construction of bridge, production of sugar mills, ethanol plants in Sagaing Division**

NAV PYI TAW, 6 Dec — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe and Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Tin Ngwe inspected 2.5 acres of physic nut plantation of Foresty Department in Madaya Township on 3 December morning.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Latpanhla Bridge Construction Project being implemented by Bridge Construction Special Group 14, they heard the report by officials on bridge construction plans. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party viewed preparations for placing of concrete floor of the bridge.

In Kyitaupkaung Village of Singu Township, they inspected the construction of a hospital. They also looked into the station hospital in Tagoung and developments of the town.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to No 2 Great Wall Sugar Mill of Great Wall Foodstuff Co Ltd at Maungkon Village in Htigyaing Township and heard the report by Managing Director U Tin Maung on construction of an ethanol plant along with the sugar mill in production of not only sugar but also ethanol from sugarcane and tapioca, the target production and the process of production of ethanol.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint viewed production process at the sugar mill and progress of the ethanol plant. Production target was set to manufacture 120 tons of ethanol per day and concerted efforts are being made to run the plant in January 2008.

In Myataung Village, they looked into BEHS (Branch) and Myataung Station Hospital. Upon arrival at Special Teak Plantation of Honda Myanmar Co Ltd in Htigyaing Township, they inspected thriving 500,000 teak plants on 1,000 acres of land against the target of 10,000 acres.

They proceeded to Tonlon village where they viewed 10,000 acres of land put under plantation of sugarcane and tapioca of Good Brothers Co Ltd.

In Tonlon Village, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected sugarcane and tapioca plantations of Great Wall Foodstuff Co Ltd. They viewed ethanol and sugar mill construction project of Shweli Energy Co Ltd at Pyinhtauklay Village. At Nga-O Station Hospital, they looked into the operation theatre.

**Nature of tourism industry**

Tourists are responsible for abiding by the laws of the host nation. If they want to visit natural disaster-hit regions, they should extend a helping hand, but should not disturb.

PAGE 7

CHIT SWE MYINT

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
PREVENT ANTI-GOVERNMENT GROUPS FROM INSTIGATING UNREST

The Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held press conference 2007 at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw on 3 December.

At the conference, officials made clarification on the incidents that took place in August and September in the nation, and relevant photos, materials and documents were displayed.

The protest marches that occurred in some states and divisions in September were due to the instigation launched as a mass movement under the pretext of the fuel price rises by a handful of people, who wanted to disrupt prevailing law and order, and community peace, in complicity with the ‘88’ generation student group, some political parties and some young artless people.

Behind the protests were the notorious western country, and anti-government groups at home and abroad. The attempt was part of their scheme to devastate the nation and oust the government.

Certain foreign countries including the western super power conducted courses and provided funds for anti-government groups in exile in their bid to incite unrest and violence throughout the nation. Anti-government groups at home organized the people, students and workers to create public panic.

Now, the National Convention has been held successfully, and the democratic process is moving ahead step by step in line with the State’s seven-step Road Map. And plans are being made to draft the State Constitution.

Therefore, the entire national people are required to prevent anti-government groups from instigating unrest.

KOICA PROVIDES EQUIPMENT FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH IN MYANMAR

YANGON, 6 Dec — Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Myanmar Office and Department of Medical Research (DMR) of Ministry of Health held a hand-over ceremony at the Auditorium of DMR today for the KOICA-provided nutritional research apparatus and electronic and electrical devices, worth US$ 25,000, to be used for upgrading of DMR’s research capabilities. At the ceremony, Resident Representative of KOICA Myanmar Office, Director-General of DMR, 4 KOICA volunteers and other officials from DMR were present.

Since 1998, KOICA has sent about 80 KOVs to Myanmar to work together with Myanmar staff at host Ministries and organizations. Currently, 18 KOVs are serving in the fields of Korean language, Computer education, agriculture, sports, health and IT sector at various host departments of Ministries concerned. Along with his volunteer program, KOICA’s department assis-tance programs not only contribute to the economic and social development of Myanmar but also strengthen the relationship between the two countries in various sectors.

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KOICA'S DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS NOT ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF MYANMAR BUT ALSO STRENGTHEN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN VARIOUS SECTORS.
On Iran, Bush faces questions of what he knew when

WASHINGTON, 5 Dec—President George W. Bush faced questions on Tuesday about whether he knew of intelligence that Iran had ended its nuclear arms programme when he warned in October that Teheran could trigger World War III.

"Can't you be accused of hyping this threat?" Bush was asked at a news conference a day after his Administration released a new National Intelligence Estimate concluding that Iran halted its nuclear weapons programme in 2003. "I was made aware of the NIE last week," Bush replied.

But it was his next remark that drew attention from Democrats, the news media and intelligence experts: "In August, I think it was (US intelligence chief) Mike McConnell came in and said, 'We have some new information.' He didn't tell me what the information was." Increasingly strident US rhetoric over Iran's nuclear programme reached a peak on 17 October when Bush warned that a nuclear-armed Iran could lead to World War III.

A day later, Vice-President Dick Cheney announced his own warning of "serious consequences" for Iran if it refused to abandon its nuclear activities.

The comments stirred fears of a possible US military confrontation with Iran and helped send world oil prices soaring toward the 100 US dollars a barrel mark.

On Tuesday, some former intelligence officers said Bush and other top White House officials were probably briefed about the intelligence findings long before the NIE was published.

"I can't imagine that McConnell...would tell the President about this and not tell him what the information actually said," remarked Flynt Leverett, a former member of Bush's National Security Council.

Iraq orphanage boss to face court in abuse case

BAGHDAD, 5 Dec—The manager of a Baghdad orphanage where US forces found children naked and malnourished in June will face court, a government official said on Monday.

Hamid al-Zaidi, general inspector of the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry, said a government inquiry had found the manager, two childcare workers and the guard of the orphanage of Dar Al-Hanan — Arabic for the Home of Tenderness — guilty of negligence.

He said the two childcare workers were on the run.

"An arrest warrant was issued for them," he told Reuters.

Under Iraqi law, an investigative judge will review evidence and decide whether to send the case to a three-member court for trial.

US and Iraqi forces were led to the orphanage by members of a neighbourhood council and found 24 abused boys. Many had been tied to their beds and were too weak to stand.

After the incident, the boy's section of the orphanage in central Baghdad was closed and the boys were moved to a nearby building where orphaned girls were housed.

Afghan police set on fire 1.7 tons of illicit drugs

KABUL, 5 Dec—Afghan police destroyed nearly 1.7 tons of illicit drug including 286 kilos of heroin on Monday, a Press release of Afghan Interior Ministry said. "Police on Monday in the northeastern Takhar Province burned 1,789 kilos of narcotics including 286 kilos of heroin and 227 kilos of opium poppy," the Press release said.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy head of the Interior Ministry’s Narcotics department Mohammad Daud said the government is determined to eliminate opium poppy from the country.

The Interior Ministry also said police had destroyed 300 acres of poppy-cultivated field in Afghanistan’s southern Helmand Province on Sunday. Afghanistan with an estimated output of 8,200 tons of opium poppy in 2007 has topped poppy growing nations in supplying raw material used in manufacturing heroin in the world.

Young Chinese athletes exercise at a gymnastics hall at the Shichahai sports school in Beijing on 5 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET

Residents use a makeshift raft to travel to their flooded house in West Jakarta on 5 Dec, 2007. —INTERNET

Iran dismisses US comments about nuclear danger

TEHERAN, 5 Dec—Iran’s chief nuclear negotiator on Wednesday brushed off US comments that Teheran was still a danger and said he hoped any future US intelligence report would say Teheran’s nuclear plans had always been peaceful.

The US National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on Monday surprised US friends and foes by saying Iran halted an atomic weapons programme in 2003, contradicting charges by the Bush Administration that Teheran was actively working on an atomic bomb.

Teheran welcomed the report although it insists its nuclear programme has never had any military goals.

"In the report they said that Iran’s nuclear activity was peaceful after 2003 and I hope they say in their next report that all Iran’s activity was peaceful since the beginning," top nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili said after visiting Russia.

The NIE report, however, said Iran was continuing to develop the technical means that could be applied to producing weapons. US President George W Bush said Iran remained a danger if it mastered the knowledge to make a nuclear weapon.

Jalili responded: "Bush’s remarks were not new. What is important is their official organizations admitted that Iran did not have non-peaceful activities."
IAEA says US report on Iran supports its findings

VIENNA, 5 Dec—The United Nations nuclear watchdog said on Tuesday that the latest US intelligence report on Iran’s nuclear weapons programme backed up findings of IAEA inspectors over the past few years.

“This validates the repeated assessment of the director general that the inspectors’ findings represented no clear and present danger and that there was ample time for negotiations,” a senior official at the International Atomic Energy Agency told Reuters.

“This is in sync with IAEA statements over the past few years that we had no evidence or had been given any intelligence information of an undeclared nuclear weapons programme anywhere,” the official added.

The US National Intelligence Estimate released on Monday said Iran had halted its nuclear weapons programme in 2003.

Teheran says it has never had plans to build atomic bombs and wants only to generate electricity.  

MNA/Reuters

Blast hits NATO convoy near Kabul Airport, eight wounded

KABUL, 5 Dec—A suicide bomber rammed a car into a convoy of NATO forces close to the airport in the Afghan capital on Tuesday, wounding eight Afghan civilians, a police official said.

A spokesman for the Taleban said the militant Islamic group carried out the attack to “welcome” US Defence Secretary Robert Gates who arrived in Kabul on Monday evening. There were no casualties among NATO troops in the attack which happened during the morning rush hour on a road just outside Kabul’s International Airport, an alliance spokesman said.

The spokesman for NATO, which runs a force separate to the US military in Afghanistan, said that one of its vehicles was damaged in the blast.

Foreign and Afghan troops sealed off the site of the blast and smoke could be seen rising from the area. Tuesday’s attack reflected a rising level of violence in the past two years in Afghanistan, the bloodiest period since the Taleban’s removal from power in 2001.

Gates is to gauge the needs of military commanders as they face a resurgence Taleban and signs that al-Qaeda is regrouping in the country.

More than six years after a US-led invasion drove the Taleban from power, Gates said on Monday he was concerned about the increasing violence but he did not think Afghanistan was moving backwards.

“I’m not worried about a backslide as much as I am how we continue the momentum going forward,” the Pentagon chief told reporters.

“I think that one of the clear concerns that we all have is that in the last two or three years there has been a continuing increase in the overall level of violence.”

MNA/Reuters

HIV, tuberculosis jointly kill 300 Peruvians every year

LIMA, 5 Dec—Around 300 Peruvians die every year of tuberculosis worsened by acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), a senior Health Ministry official said Monday.

Tuberculosis spreads the process that turns human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection into full-blown AIDS, said Cesar Bonilla, the coordinator of tuberculosis prevention and control at the ministry.

“It is important to have an early diagnosis for people who are suffering from tuberculosis or infected with HIV,” said Bonilla, noting some 50 per cent of those who died of tuberculosis in Peru were also infected with HIV.

Every year Peru reports nearly 36,000 tuberculosis cases. Official figures estimate 30,000 people are infected with HIV in Peru, but non-governmental organizations put the figure at nearly 100,000.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing’s population exceeds 17.4 million

BEIJING, 5 Dec — The total population of Beijing has exceeded 17.4 million, according to a municipal population official.

Speaking at a population forum hosted by Fengtai District on Monday, Zhang Yunli, deputy chief of the Beijing municipal commission of population and family planning, said there were 12.03 million permanent, registered residents and 5.4 million transients in the capital.

Of the total permanent population, 91,000 were born in the first 10 months of this year, with 40,475 migrant babies born during the same period, said Zhang.

The gender ratio for permanent residents (female vs male births) is 100:108; the highest level that can be considered a natural distribution of births, while the ratio for transients is 100:120, which is highly skewed towards males.

According to Zhang, innercity areas are the most densely populated, with the number of residents being 60 times as many as outlying suburbs.  

— MNA/Xinhua

Suicide bomber kills six, wounds 25 in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 Dec—A suicide bomber killed six people and wounded 25 when he blew himself up outside a police station in Iraq’s Diyala Province on Tuesday, police said.

The bomber struck in the town of Jalawla, 110 kilometres (70 miles) north of Baghdad in the Diyala River valley.

Police earlier said a suicide car bomber caused the attack, but they later said it was a militant wearing a vest packed with explosives. The attack took place near a popular market. Among those killed were two policemen. Diyala is an ethnically and religiously mixed area that has seen some of the worst fighting between US forces and militants over the past several months.

MNA/Reuters

NASA workers are seen near Space Shuttle Atlantis’ external tank and one of the rocket solid boosters at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla. Wednesday Dec. 5, 2007.  

INTERNET

Iraq group holding Britons demands UK withdrawal

DUBLIN, 5 Dec—Kidnappers holding five Britons seized in Iraq in May threatened to kill one hostage in 10 days as a “first warning” unless Britain withdraws from Iraq, in a video aired by Al Arabiya television on Tuesday.

A statement said that if Britain failed to leave Iraq within 10 days after it was broadcast, “this hostage will be killed as a first warning, which would be followed with details that you would not want to know”.

Britain has not disclosed the names of the five Britons — a computer consultant and his four bodyguards — who were snatched from a Finance Ministry data processing centre by gunmen wearing police commando uniforms in May. “My name is Jason. Today is 18 November, I have been here now 173 days and I feel we’ve been forgotten,” said the hostage on the video as he sat in front of a banner of the Shiite Islamic Resistance in Iraq.  

— MNA/Reuters

The home page of Nokia’s social networking site called Mosh is seen on a mobile phone in Stockholm.

INTERNET
China, India vow to expand financial cooperation

BEIJING, 5 Dec—China and India signed here on Tuesday a joint statement that pledges to expand financial cooperation between the world’s two largest developing countries.

In the statement signed at the second China-India Financial Dialogue in Beijing, the two countries vowed to boost exchanges and cooperation on bond markets development, capital markets opening and financial supervision.

Both sides agreed to develop bond markets and expand channels for direct financing, gradually open domestic capital markets and boost financial supervision to guard against risks brought about by short-term cross-border capital flows.

The two countries also pledged to improve macro-economic controls, promote renewable and clean energy development and usher in more sustainable resources-saving and environment-friendly production and consumption models.

Li Yong, Chinese Vice-Minister of Finance, and Indian Financial Secretary Dr D Subbarao co-chaired the meeting. Li acknowledged that China and India face similar challenges brought about by fast economic growth.

The statement says that both sides have realized that the spreading subprime crisis, high oil and commodity prices, global economic imbalance and rising trade protectionism pose potential threats to global economic growth.

ECONOMIC NEWS

Vietnam’s farm product export to surge 20% this year

HANOI, 5 Dec—Vietnam is estimated to earn at least $10.5 billion US dollars from exporting agriculture, forestry and seafood products in 2007, up 20 per cent over 2006, according to a local agriculture agency on Monday.

The country exported nearly 4.5 million tons of rice worth over $1.4 billion US dollars in the first 11 months of this year, down 3.4 per cent in volume but up 14 per cent in value against the same period of last year, said the Planning Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Meanwhile, Vietnam sold overseas roughly 1.1 million tons of coffee totalling $1.7 billion dollars, posting respective year-on-year rises of 35.5 per cent and 72.7 per cent; 648,000 tons of rubber worth $1.2 billion dollars, up 1.6 per cent and 5.3 per cent; 21 billion dollars worth of woodwork, up 23.7 per cent; and more than 3.4 billion dollars in seafood, up 11.9 per cent.

Vietnam is centering on boosting production of items with big export advantages, establishing largescale production zones attached to processing establishments and markets, and developing husbandry industries.

Oil hits five-week low below $88, US economy weighs

NEW YORK, 5 Dec—Oil prices plunged five-week lows below 88 US dollars a barrel on Monday as concerns about the health of the US economy extended losses that have cut 10 per cent from crude prices over the past two weeks.

US crude was down 81 cents at 87.90 US dollars, after trading down to 87.14 US dollars earlier, well off the record high of 99.29 US dollars a barrel hit on November 21. Brent crude traded down 30 cents at 87.96 US dollars.

“Oil’s record rally was clipped by worries over the weakening economy in the United States and the restart of the giant Canada-US Enbridge pipeline, which carries 10 per cent of the world’s top consumer’s crude imports, following a fire last week.”

The slide comes as the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries gathers in Abu Dhabi to decide on output policy.

“The market will be very focused on Wednesday’s OPEC meeting, but we believe they are unlikely to do anything,” said Mike Wittner of Societe Generale. “They have the same concerns as the market — the possibility of weakening economic growth led by the United States.”—MNA/Reuters

Gulf Arab nations announce establishment of common market

DOHA, 5 Dec—Abdul Rahman al-Attiya, secretary general of the six oil-rich Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) nations, announced the establishment of a common market at the closing session of the GCC summit here on Tuesday.

The Vasco da Gama striker, who has played sporadically since scoring what he claimed to be the 1,000th goal of his career in May, said he had tested positive for finasteride after the game against Palmeiras on 28 October.

“I’m losing some hair and I have been taking this product for a while,” the 41-year-old told a news conference.

Brazil’s disciplinary tribunal has not said when it would rule on the case.

The 1994 World Cup winner said he planned to keep playing until early next year and did not expect a stiff punishment.

“I don’t think it’s going to disrupt my career,” he said. “It’s not really doping. As far as I’m concerned, it’s something which has never influenced my performance. It isn’t the first time I’ve used it.

“If I had known it wasn’t allowed, I would never have used it.”

In an upbeat mood, he added: “I’m going to go a little balder. The few hairs I still have are going to fall out. Some bald guys who had been taking it told me it was good. And it really worked, as you can see.”

Romario has kept his career going over the last few years, defying those who said he should retire.
**Britain’s party funding scandal flares up again**

**London, 5 Dec** — A financing scandal engulfing Prime Minister Gordon Brown’s Labour Party flared up again on Monday when a Cabinet minister disclosed he had failed to declare donations to Britain’s elections watchdog.

The disclosure was a setback to Brown, who has been struggling to regain control of the political agenda after his party was blown off course by a storm over illegal donations.

The row has damaged Brown’s standing andLabour trails the opposition Conservatives by up to 11 points in opinion polls.

Work and Pensions Secretary Peter Hain admitted last week he had failed to register a 5,000-pound (10,000-US-dollar) donation to his unsuccessful campaign this year to become the Labour Party’s deputy leader because of an administrative error.

He announced on Monday that further donations had not been registered with the Electoral Commission, Parliament’s elections and funding watchdog, as required by law.

He said he had been seen to the Electoral Commission and was preparing a full declaration for the watchdog. “This is extremely regrettable and I apologize,” he said in a statement.

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**Six kilos of cocaine found on aircraft at Sydney airport**

**Canberra, 5 Dec** — Nearly six kilos of cocaine with an estimated street value of 660,000 Australian dollars (580,000 US dollars) has been found in an aircraft toilet cubicle at Sydney airport.

Australian Associated Press reported Tuesday that the Boeing 747 was searched by Australian Customs officers Sunday morning after arriving in Sydney from Los Angeles.

An i-Sobot performs in Tokyo, Japan, on 15 Nov 2007. Recognized by Guinness World Records as the smallest humanoid robot in commercial production, i-Sobot went on sale in Japan, in white, and the US, in black, in recent weeks, and is set to arrive in European stores next year. It’s designed for people 15 years or older.

Officers and specialist dog teams found 12 blocks of shrink-wrapped white powder in a garbage bin in one of the toilet cubicles. The powder was later confirmed as 5.7 kilos of cocaine.

Australian Customs Manager Gayle Brown said the drugs had been handed over to the Australian Federal Police.

“It’s pretty obvious that whoever planned to import these drugs got cold feet at some stage,” she said in a statement.

She said Customs officers focus on checking passengers but also regularly search international aircraft.

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**Strong quake hits Indonesia’s Sulawesi Island**

**Jakarta, 5 Dec** — An earthquake measuring 6.0 on the Richter Scale shook the northern part of Indonesia’s Sulawesi Island on Tuesday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties, the meteorology agency said.

The undersea quake was at a depth of 35 kilometres (22 miles) and was centred 138 kilometres northeast of Bitung on the northern tip of Sulawesi Island. “We are still looking for damage and casualties from civilians. It was felt in Bitung, Manado, and Ternate,” said Suharjono, an official at the meteorology agency.

Indonesia, which is situated on a belt of intense seismic activity known as the “Pacific Ring of Fire”, has had a series of earthquakes in recent weeks, but experts say that this activity is normal.

A huge earthquake in December 2004 triggered a devastating tsunami in the Indian Ocean which killed more than 230,000 people in the region, including 170,000 Indonesians.
Nature of tourism industry

Chit Swe Myint

Tourism is said to be very sensitive, like a tender flower. To nurture a flowering plant requires air, water, sunshine and soil, however, it is needed to keep a balance, in this regard.

Indeed, tourism is a business of providing services with care. In other words, it is the sale of products plus care. So, tourism industry can boom only if it wins customer satisfaction.

Suppose a tourist attraction faces natural disasters such as heavy rain, strong wind, flooding and earthquake, or epidemics such as SARS, bird flu, and plague, or dangerous situations such as armed conflicts, unrest, strict security measures, and domination of terrorists, the tourist arrivals to such a region drop sharply.

If so, the officials concerned are responsible for revitalizing the region’s tourism industry.

In the tourism field, the expression “crisis” represents natural disasters, epidemics, and man-made military and political problems endangering public life and security.

And the expression “crisis management” means remediying tourism crisis. The processes to remedy tourism crisis include meetings such as seminars, forums and dialogues, presentation and symposiums, educative talks, clarification, and tourism festivals.

As part of the crisis management, local and foreign news agencies issue news about programmes directly or indirectly. Sometimes, global celebrities, worldwide famous travel operators, travel agents and journalists are invited to and conducted around the tourist destinations.

In the tourism industry, measures are taken to create alternative job opportunities for the people of the tourist destinations and to promote sales of the local products. And local administrative bodies, NGOs, entrepreneurs and stakeholders contribute towards the programmes through coordination.

A nation is responsible for security of its citizens who are visiting another country, imposing restrictions or dissuading its people from visiting unsafe destinations, and persuading and providing local people to visit niche destinations abroad. Host countries have to take responsibilities for providing data and information and designating dangerous zones for the security of the tourists, and suggesting to visit safe destinations.

Tourists are responsible for abiding by the laws of the host nation. If they want to visit natural disaster-hit regions, they should extend a helping hand, but should not disturb.

In addition, they shall not release the photos they have taken. Some cameramen make use of advanced technologies to release the photos. Photos show the images but they do not explain the details of the reasons. Genuine tourists shall not mislead international community into misunderstanding the host nations by releasing photos. If a tourist face dangers while he is in a place where unrest and violence are occurring, at an inopportune time, he is liable for what he has faced.

Some foreigners attempted to tarnish the image of Myanmar by posting in the Websites the photos of the protest marches that took place along Sule Pagoda Road in Yangon in the last week of September. Similarly, some nationals took photos of the protest marches and sold them to foreign news agencies at low prices. Therefore, it cost a long haul for the government and responsible persons to tackle the incidents to fulfil the people’s desire and wishes of leading a peaceful life and support the forthcoming State constitution.

The photos and news on Sule Pagoda Road had a strong negative impact on the nation’s tourism industry. Some people want to frequent other countries at will but they do not want foreigners to enter their countries at will.

The ministries concerned, relevant departments, private stakeholders and the news agencies that have goodwill towards tourists are working together for tourists to visit Myanmar. Those engaged in the tourism industry are now making renewed efforts for the nation’s tourism industry to recover.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is seeking new ways and means in cooperation with the Ministry of Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the convenience of tourists. It also gives encouragement to the people through travel entrepreneurs. Airlines, hotels and travel agents are coordinating to work out solutions to the issues. The nation has yet to hold grand-scale festivals and sales promotion exhibitions and invite experts and travelogue writers. All the ongoing programmes are designed to serve the interests of the people. So, the people are duty-bound to do their bit in the campaign for tourism promotion.

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Translation: MS
Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence inspects storage of medicine at the hospital in Kyaukpyu District. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects Kyeeohn-Kyeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project near Wunlo Village of Pwintbyu Township on 29 November.

The minister inspected construction of the reinforced concrete spillway measuring 1,100 feet by 326 feet at the dam. He also viewed preparations for installation of the pre-stressed steel pipelines and construction of the power plant.

Accompanied by departmental officials, the minister looked into diversion canal that carries water from Mone Creek. The minister viewed progress in construction of the main embankment measuring 3,280 feet by 164 feet. Officials of the Irrigation Department reported on process of implementing the dam project.

Kyeeohn-Kyeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project is being implemented to store water from Mone Creek Dam and other places for generating 74 megawatts. In addition, the Kyeeohn-Kyeewa Dam will supply water to 96,777 acres of farmland through Mezali Dam, five miles downstream of it. Moreover, Mezali dam will irrigate over 70,000 acres of summer paddy for ensuring food sufficiency of Magway Division. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects Kyeeohn-Kyeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project. — A & I

Progress of Kyeeohn-Kyeewa Multi-purpose Dam project supervised

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec — Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo made a field trip to Kyeeohn-Kyeeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project near Wunlo Village of Pwintbyu Township on 29 November.

The minister inspected construction of the reinforced concrete spillway measuring 1,100 feet by 326 feet at the dam. He also viewed preparations for installation of the pre-stressed steel pipelines and construction of the power plant.

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Myanmar men’s and women’s teams stand second in Hoop Takraw contests

YANGON, 6 Dec — The men’s and women’s Hoop Takraw events of the XXIV Sea Games continued in Thailand.

This afternoon, Myanmar Women’s Team secured the second prize in the women’s Hoop Takraw event on 590 points, while Thailand stood first on 630 points and the Philippines, third on 550 points.

In the men’s Hoop Takraw contest, Myanmar team stood second on 760 points, Thailand, first on 930 points and Indonesia third on 650 points.

CEC members to be elected to MFF

YANGON, 6 Dec — Myanmar Fisheries Federation will elect members of Central Executive Committee for the period 2008-2010 in the last week of December 2007.

Candidates for the Central Executive Committee of MFF are to submit their names to MFF at the corner of Bayintnaung Road and Sethamu Saywah Street in West Gyogon, Insein Township not later than 4 pm on 20 December.
Saw Hnin, the resident representatives of UN agencies, attended to the needs.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Daw Khin Saw Hnin presented first, second and third prizes to winners who participated in the extempore talks to mark World AIDS Day. Next, the president of MMCWA presented gift to Assistant Director Dr Htin Aung who presided over the extempore talks. After the presentation, the commander and party browsed documentary photos on the activities of the association. — MNA

**Cash reward presented for ancient gold plate**

**Nav Pyi Taw, 6 Dec —** Assistant Engineer U Nay Pin found one gold plate with embossed flowers in construction of the reception building of a hostel of Eden Group Co in Bagan Cultural Heritage Region and he entrusted the gold plate to the Ministry of Culture recently.

This morning, the ceremony to present reward for the gold plate was held at the Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department in Nay Pyi Taw.

Director-General U Sann Win of the department made a speech and presented K 8,409,943 for the gold plate in Bagan era to Project Director Daw Saw Thu Wai of Eden Group Co.

The upper surface of the gold plate was 7.8 inches and the lower surface, 8.4 inches. The plate weighed 124.3 grams. The department presented K 4,004,735 for the gold plate plus K 4,405,208 for reward, totalling Ks 8,409,943. It seems to be one of the artifacts of Baganera. The gold plate will be displayed at the Bagan Archaeological Museum. — MNA

**Fires break out**

Yangon, 6 Dec — A fire damaged Finished-Wood Product Factory at No 4, Kyun Shwe Wah Street, Sanpya Village in Mingaladon Township, here at about 11:40 on 4 December and the fire started due to overheated sawdust machine.

Another fire destroyed nine houses and left 37 people homeless in Kaingnge village, Mindon Township, Thayet District in Magway Division on 4 December. The fire started from the kitchen. — MNA

**Personnel urged to carry out regional …**

Later, they inspected production processes of oil palm plantation project of Yuzana Co Ltd. At the briefing hall of the project, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met national entrepreneurs. Officials reported on extended cultivation of oil palm in 2007-08, use of insecticide and matters related to technology and the commander made a supplementary report.

Maj-Gen Tha Aye urged them to strive for ensuring food surplus and stressed the need for growing 500,000 acres of palm oil in the division.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party inspected oil palm plantations along Kawthoung-Bokpyin-Myeik Road on a motorcade.

So far, 228,928 acres of oil palm plantation have been cultivated and 51,855 acres harvested in the division. — MNA

**Secretary of AHF Relations Committee leaves for Thailand**

Yangon, 6 Dec — Secretary of the Relations Committee of the Asian Hockey Federation and member of AHF/FIH Hockey Development Committee U Kyaw Naing left here by air this morning for Thailand to discharge duties as Jury of Appeal in the Hockey Tournaments at the XXIV SEA Games to be held from 6 to 14 December in Thailand.

AHF assigned duties to him as technical officer at the Asian Hockey Championship to be held in Singapore in June 2008.

In the XXIV SEA Games, Myanmar Men’s Hockey Team will play against Malaysia on 8 December, host Thailand on 9 December and Singapore on 11 December. — MNA
US teen births tilt up, unmarried rate hits record

WASHINGTON, 6 Dec — The birth rate for teenagers increased in 2006 in the United States for the first time since 1991, while childbearing among unmarried women surged to the highest level on record, health officials said on Wednesday.

Across-the-board increases in birth rates for women ages 15 to 44 drove the total US fertility rate — the estimated average number of births for women in their lifetimes — to its highest mark since 1971, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said in a report.

The birth rate for females aged 15 to 19 rose by 3 per cent in 2006 from the previous year, to 41.9 live births per 1,000 from 40.5 in 2005. This ends 14 years of declines during which the teen birth rate dropped by 34 per cent from a peak of 61.8 births per 1,000 in 1991.

The increases were largest among Black teens, whose birth rate climbed 5 per cent in 2006 from the prior year. The rate was up 3 per cent for White and 2 per cent for Hispanic teens.

“It could be a new trend, but it’s just really too soon to say,” Stephanie Ventura, who heads the CDC’s Reproductive Statistics Branch, said in a telephone interview.

The reasons for the rise in the teenage birth rate are unclear, Ventura said, but she noted there is early evidence that declines in US teen sexual activity have levelled off.

“I don’t know if the use of contraception among teens has changed. We just don’t know what’s happening,” Ventura said.

The CDC said the birth rate among the youngest girls — ages 10 to 14 — declined last year. Births to unmarried girls and women reached their highest levels in 2006 since the government began tracking such statistics in 1940, Ventura said.

ECOWAS holds meeting in Togo

LOMÉ, 6 Dec — About thirty representatives from 11 West African countries are attending a seminar here aimed at reviewing the implementation of a common policy on traditional medicine in the Economic Community of West African Countries (ECOWAS)’s sub-region.

The participants are expected to review the harmonized regulatory framework policy on traditional medicine in the sub-region, and come up with a plan of action with a view to adopting a law or a code of ethics for traditional health practitioners, sources said Monday.

Bangladesh to seek world heritage aid for Sundarbans

DHAKA, 6 Dec — Bangladesh will seek emergency funds from the World Heritage Centre to restore the ecosystem and biodiversity of the Sundarban mangrove forest, badly mauled by last month’s killer cyclone, officials said on Wednesday.

Cyclone Sidr, which struck the Bangladesh coast on November 15 with winds of 250 kilo per hour (155 miles per hour), killed around 3,500 people, made millions homeless and destroyed a large part of the Sundarbans, a UNESCO World Heritage site and home to the Royal Bengal Tiger.

Forest officials said they had found two dead tigers and several deer following the cyclone, the worst to hit Bangladesh since 1991 when a storm killed around 143,000 people.

Officials said better preparedness and an advance warning system had helped save many people this time, but the vast mangrove forest had also largely offset the impact of the cyclone, which triggered a five metre water surge from the Bay of Bengal.

Finnish parents help their adult children more

HELSINKI, 6 Dec — A survey by the Academy of Finland shows that parents in their mid fifties in the Scandinavian country offer more help to their adult children than those in other European countries.

Finland was followed by Sweden, Austria, Greece and Germany. Parents in Spain, Switzerland, Italy, and Belgium offered the least support, Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE reported on Tuesday.

Researchers say the reason is partly that children in Nordic countries tend to move away from home at an earlier age than those in southern Europe.

Nokia predicts 10% growth in mobile phone market

HELSEINKI, 6 Dec — Nokia, the world’s largest mobile phone producer, predicted that the mobile phone market would grow by 10 per cent next year to more than 1.2 billion units.

Nokia said on Tuesday that it was now targeting a one to two-year group operating margin (the proportion of revenue after production costs are subtracted) of 16-17 per cent, up from its previous target of 15 per cent.

It also predicted that the worldwide market for internet services would reach 100 billion US dollars by 2010, according to the acquisition of Avvenu, a US-based company that specializes in online services and access to PCs and handsets.

In a note timed to coincide with an investors’ meeting in Amsterdam, Nokia said it expected industry handset unit sales to grow by around 10 per cent in 2008 from an anticipated 1.1 billion units this year.

Overall sales next year are expected to increase more than 15 per cent in the Asia-Pacific Region, China, the Middle East and Africa and less than 10 per cent in North America and Europe, Nokia said.

Shoppers at NYC shopping mall speak in 150 languages

NEW YORK, 6 Dec — Shoppers at the Queens Center Mall, a shopping mall located in the New York borough of Queens, speak in 150 languages, and merchants are recruiting translators to help them, according to New York Daily News on Tuesday.

So far, Queens Center is the only city megalopolis that offers translation services with a core of full-time multilingualists and the ability to draw on dozens of mall employees who speak other languages, the paper said.

“It’s important and very much needed, especially because of the cultural diversity of Queens,” the paper quoted Dawn Simon, the mall’s marketing director, as saying.

“Over 150 languages are spoken here. What better way to connect with shoppers than to speak their language?”

The shopping mall launched the Foreign Language Assistance Programme more than 10 years ago — the Italian American Chamber of Commerce’s directory of multilingual employees at the 70 shops, whose owners have okayed to translate for visitors with questions about the mall.
Images of the Day

Undated photo made available by the Italian Culture Ministry in Rome, on 4 Dec, 2007 showing the area where a wooden throne was dug out between October and November in the ancient southern Italian city of Herculaneum, near Pompeii, one of the Roman cities buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in the year 79.

INTERNET

This handout image from 24 Oct, 2006, shows the world’s most premature living baby, Amillia Sonja Taylor’s, feet held in contrast with adult hands, just after her birth at Baptist Children’s Hospital in Miami, Florida. Taylor, only slightly longer than a ballpoint pen at birth was due to be sent home in the coming days from a Florida hospital after four months of neonatal intensive care, the hospital said on 20 Feb, 2007. — INTERNET

A type of artificial heart known as the Jarvik 2000, displayed at a hospital in 2005. A Briton who was given the world’s first permanent artificial heart has died, seven years after the ground-breaking operation.

INTERNET

A female Kangaroo and her baby near Brisbane. A 25-million-year-old fossil has revealed that a predecessor of Australia’s iconic hopping kangaroo once galloped on all fours, had dog-like fangs and possibly climbed trees, scientists have reported.

INTERNET

Heavy equipment rolls through Point Sate Park as work filling up the moats in front of the bastion walls from the historic fort at the confluence of the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio Rivers in Pittsburgh, in this file photo from 4 Jan, 2007.

INTERNET

A combination of handout images showing Toyota’s violin-playing (L) and mobility robots, both released on 6 Dec, 2007. Toyota Motor Corp said on Thursday it aims to put its humanoid and other advanced robots to practical use soon after 2010 to help people in factories, hospitals, homes and around town. — INTERNET

INTERNET
MYANMAR IVANHOE COCKPIT COMPANY LIMITED (TENDER NOTICE)
TENDER, IFB No. 04/ Oversea/2007
Supply of General Items, Tyre, Electrical, Pipe & Fittings, (37 lots) are invited by CIF Yangon Basis, Singapore $ or Euro Currency by LC Term. CLOSING DATE will be on 21st December 2007.
Tender documents are available at the following addresses:
Yangon: 70 (I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: (95) 1 514194 to 7; Fax: (95) 1 514208; Email: miccl@ miccl.com.mm
Site: Tel: (95) 71 222256; Fax: (95) 71 22522; Email: supply@ miccl.com.mm
Bids are to be reached the above offices on or before the closing date.
Queries can be done between 10am to 4pm at Supply Department; Tel: (95) 71222256;
Email: supply@ miccl.com.mm before the Tender Closing Date.

MYANMAR IVANHOE COCKPIT COMPANY LIMITED (TENDER NOTICE)
TENDER, IFB No. 03/ Oversea/2007
Supply of Caterpillar Spares, (13 lots) are invited by CIF Yangon Basis, US$, Singapore $ or Euro Currency by LC Term. CLOSING DATE will be on 21st December 2007.
Tender documents are available at the following addresses:
Yangon: 70 (I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: (95) 1 514194 to 7; Fax: (95) 1 514208; Email: miccl@ miccl.com.mm
Site: Tel: (95) 71 222256; Fax: (95) 71 22522; Email: supply@ miccl.com.mm
Bids are to be reached the above offices on or before the closing date.
Queries can be done between 10am to 4pm at Supply Department; Tel: (95) 71 222256;
Email: supply@ miccl.com.mm before the Tender Closing Date.

INVITATION TO TENDER
Scaled tenders are invited by the Department of Health, Central Medical Stores Depot for the Supply of Pharmaceuticals.
Tender documents are available during office hours at the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, No.57, Sakawa Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, Commencing from 21st December 2007.
Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, not later than (21.12. 2007) 14:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraphic/ telex proposal will be accepted.
For detail information please contact the Deputy Director (Medical Stores) Phone No.371284,372362.
Central Medical Store Depot
Department of Health

Five questioned by police after mine blast in S-W China

KUNMING, 5 Dec—Five people are being questioned by police following a lethal coal mine gas blast in southwest China's Yunnan Province on Sunday morning that killed nine miners.
The five are Zhang Hua, manager of the mine, Gan Jiahuan, deputy manager, and three other safety workers, according to a statement released by the Xinhua county government.
They have been ordered to cooperate with police inquiries and prevented from leaving the county. An explosion occurred at 8:30 am on Sunday in the Shizishan coal mine in Xinhua county when 52 miners were working underground.
Thirty-six, whose working sites were un-affected by the blast, were evacuated unharmed. In another working site containing 16 miners, eight were killed at the scene and one died in hospital. Seven were injured, two of whom are in a critical condition.
All coal mines in the county were ordered to suspend operations on Monday to prepare for safety inspections.
The privately owned Shizishan mine had an approved production capacity of 90,000 tons a year.—MNA/Xinhua

Researcher says al-Qaeda-linked websites number 5,600

RIYADH, 5 Dec—There are now about 5,600 websites spreading al-Qaeda's ideology worldwide, and 900 more are appearing each year, a top Saudi Arabian security consultant has said.
Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, has identified the Internet as a key battlefield with militants who launched a campaign to topple the US-allied ruling royal family in 2003.
"Research shows there are more than 5,600 sites on the Internet promoting the ideology of al-Qaeda," said Khalid Al-Faraj, the Information Technology and National Security conference in the Saudi capital Riyadh.
"There are some 900 news sites appearing every year, and despite the threat of some media outlets specifically run by al-Qaeda, extremist websites are constantly on the rise."
"It's the best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now.
Tourist arrivals to Nepal increase by 17.6% in November

KATHMANDU, 5 Dec—Encouraging trend of tourist arrivals to Nepal has continued for yet another month, as November witnessed a growth of 17.6 per cent tourist arrivals compared to the same period last year. The Himalayan Times reported Tuesday.

The total tourist arrivals in November by air reached 34,580, an increment by 17.6 per cent from 29,407 visitors last year, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation stated, quoting the data provided by Immigration Office at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu.

Although the Indian tourist arrivals posted a negative growth, tourists from other countries registered a healthy growth of 28.7 per cent.

A total of 29,129 tourists from different countries came to the country during the month, while the Indian arrivals dropped to 5,451. One of the major reasons for decline in arrival from India is lack of air seats, as most arrivals dropped to 5,451. Another major reason is decline in arrival from India is lack of air seats, as most arrivals dropped to 5,451.

The arrivals from the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation as a whole recorded a decline during the fall in arrivals from a major market — India by 19.8 per cent. — MNA/Xinhua

Childhood obesity increases adulthood heart disease risk

Beijing, 6 Dec—A new study found that obesity in childhood will substantially increase future risk of heart attack and other cardiac events, media reported Thursday.

The study published in the New England Journal of Medicine showed that the greater the increase in the children’s weight, the higher their risk of suffering heart disease in their future life.

The study also said that the obesity ratio would increase by 8 to 12 percent for the boys who are overweight now and 2 to 12 percent for the girls by 2020 in the United States, which means more heart disease, diabetes and high blood pressure at a younger age. “If we don’t take steps to reverse course, the children of each successive generation seem destined to be fatter and sicker than their parents,” said David Ludwig of Children’s Hospital Boston in a commentary in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Britons spend billions on unwanted gifts every Christmas

London, 5 Dec—Britons waste 2.3 billion pounds every year on unwanted Christmas presents, and almost a third of them wind up being sold online after the festive season.

More than three-quarters of 1,400 adults surveyed for charity World Vision said they waste up to 50 pounds on unwanted gifts every Christmas.

Of the hundreds of thousands of unwanted gifts received each year, 39 per cent gather dust in a cupboard and 28 per cent are later sold on the Internet. A quarter of the population spends up to 300 pounds on gifts for friends and family each year, the survey shows.

But almost 60 per cent who waste money on unwanted Christmas presents said they would rather spend that money on themselves than give it to charity.

The research also shows that more than a quarter of Britons cannot even recall what they bought them for Christmas last year. Half of men and 43 per cent of women could not even recall what their partners gave them.

World Vision undertook the research to coincide with the launch of its catalogue selling gifts that aim to help people in poverty around the world.

They include a mosquito net for five pounds and a toilet for 34 pounds. — MNA/Reuters

Uganda says suspected Ebola cases rise to 75

KAMPALA, 5 Dec—At least 75 Ugandans are now suspected to have contracted a previously unknown strain of the lethal Ebola virus, although the death toll in the east African country remains at 18, an official said on Tuesday.

Uganda confirmed on Sunday it had 58 cases of the virus, which causes symptoms including fever, vomiting, diarrhoea and bleeding. The infected include medical staff looking after Ebola patients, Deputy Health Minister Dr Emmanuel Otaala said.

“Since the outbreak started back in August, we have registered 75 suspected cases,” he told reporters.

Otaala said all patients who are in Uganda’s western Bundibugyo District, bordering Democratic Republic of Congo, except one nurse being treated in the Ugandan capital Kampala who contracted it in Bundibugyo.

Otaala denied claims in the local Press that the government knew of the outbreak but concealed it to avoid putting off the 53 heads of government and thousands of delegates — including Britain’s Queen Elizabeth — who came to Kampala 11 days ago for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

The government announced the Ebola outbreak four days after the summit ended, fuelling speculation of a cover-up.

Three-month-old twin pandas Aihin and Meihin play at Adventure World in Shirahama town, central Japan, on 14 April, 2007. — Xinhua

A woman gave birth to Indonesia’s heaviest ever baby, a boy weighing 6.9kg (15.2lbs), in Indonesian capital Jakarta, on 5 Dec, 2007. — Xinhua
**Late goal earns Nancy draw at 10-man Toulouse**

PARIS, 6 Dec — Second-placed Nancy needed a last-minute Chris Malonga goal to snatch a 1-1 draw at Toulouse who played half the Ligue 1 match with 10 men on Wednesday.

The home side were 1-0 up when their goalkeeper Nicolas Douchez was sent off for pulling Nancy striker Marc-Antoine Fortune’s shirt outside the box after 46 minutes.

Swedish striker Johan Elmander had put the south westerners ahead from close range with his seventh goal of the season in the 17th minute.

Toulouse fought bravely and held onto their lead until substitute forward Malonga equalized with a few seconds remaining.

Easterners Nancy hold onto second place but are five points behind six-times champions Olympique Lyon, who have 37 from 16 matches, and no longer have a game in hand.

Toulouse stay fourth from bottom on 18 points.

**Sevilla end losing streak with 1-1 draw at Osasuna**

MADRID, 6 Dec — Sevilla earned their first point in four matches when they came from behind to draw 1-1 away to Osasuna in a rearranged Primera Liga match on Wednesday. The game was originally scheduled to be played in early September, but was postponed following the death of Sevilla midfielder Antonio Puerta after his collapse in the opening game of the season.

Sevilla, who have worn in the Champions League but struggled in domestic competition this season, fell behind midway through the first half when Czech striker Jaroslav Plasil nipped in front of two defenders to clip home from close range.

The Andalucians looked to be in further trouble when Osasuna were awarded a penalty after Patxi Punal fell in the area, but Andres Palop produced a brilliant diving save to turn the midfielder’s penalty around the post.

**Mitroglou spares Olympiakos’ blushes in Greek Cup**

ATHENS, 6 Dec — Two second half goals from Greece Under-19 international Costas Mitroglou helped Olympiakos to come from a goal down to beat Third Division Diagonas 2-1 in their fourth round Greek Cup tie in Rhodes on Wednesday.

The 19-year-old Mitroglou equalized in the 66th minute and headed the winner a minute from time after Tassos Triantafyllopoulos had put the underdogs ahead with a penalty on the hour.

In a match played in pouring rain, Olympiakos missed the chance to take a first-half lead when Diagonas goalkeeper Markos Velettis saved Michalis Kontstantinou’s penalty.

**Luxemburgo says Brazilian talent is draining away**

Belo Horizonte, 5 Dec — Former Real Madrid and Brazil coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo has called on the Brazilian Government to take action to slow the exodus of young players to foreign clubs.

Luxemburgo, whose Santos side finished second in this year’s Brazilian championship, complained that the competition had stopped unveiling new talents.

He said Sao Paulo goalkeeper Rogério Ceni had been voted the competition’s top player for the last two years and that Argentina’s Carlos Tevez won the award the year before that.

"Three years ago, the best player in the Brazilian championship was Tevez, and for the last two years it has been a goalkeeper," he told delegates at an international soccer forum.

"We don’t have the players we did before and the last three years have been a clear indication that we are short of quality in Brazilian football.

"The last generation was (in 2002) at Santos with Diego, Robinho, Tevez, and for the last two years it has been a goalkeeper," he told delegates at an international soccer forum.

"We don’t have the players we did before and the last three years have been a clear indication that we are short of quality in Brazilian football.

"The last generation was (in 2002) at Santos with Diego, Robinho, Tevez, and for the last two years it has been a goalkeeper," he told delegates at an international soccer forum.

"We don’t have the players we did before and the last three years have been a clear indication that we are short of quality in Brazilian football."
Flood risk faces 150 mln people in cities by 2070

London, 6 Dec—As many as 150 million people in the world’s big coastal cities are likely to be at risk from flooding by the 2070s, more than three times as many as now, according to a report released on Tuesday. Climate change, population growth and urban development will mean the number at risk will rise from the current 40 million while total property and infrastructure exposure is forecast to rise to 35 trillion US dollars—9 per cent of projected global GDP.

The report from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, put together by disaster modelling firm Risk Management Solutions and leading scientists, is the first part of the largest ever study on urban coastal flood risk. The report analysed the vulnerability now and in the future of 130 ports, in the future of 130 ports, and those projected to rise in value to over 3.5 trillion US dollars by 2070.

West African shark population threatened with extinction

Brazzaville, 6 Dec—The population of sharks is dwindling across the whole of the West African region largely owing to over-exploitation, Diop Mika Samba, coordinator of a regional commission on fishing, has said.

“Sharks are increasingly becoming a rare commodity and are even threatened with the prospect of extinction,” Samba said on Monday while addressing a regional workshop organized to review the outcome of the first phase of the Sub-regional Plan of Action for the Sustainable Conservation and Management of the Population of Sharks. (PSRA). “At the regional level, the annual reproduction cycle and capture of sharks, which was once estimated to weigh a total of 34,000 tons, has fallen sharply owing to a number of factors including increased fishing activities, a long reproduction cycle and subsidised fertility among sharks,” Samba told the workshop. The “sub-regional plan of action was mooted as a precautionary measure to enhance and ensure the long-term management of shark resources,” according to Samba, who said the ongoing meeting would help give a clear indication of the situation on the ground and also outline the gains of the first phase.

WEATHER

Thursday, 6 December, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunderstorms have been isolated in upper Sagaing Division, weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (7°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Chin State, upper Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kalewa (0.11) inch. The significant night temperatures were Haka (1°C), Nambassai (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 5-12-2007 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 6-12-2007 was 61°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 6-12-2007 was 82%. Total sunshine hours on 5-12-2007 was (7.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 6-12-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (36.57) 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 North at (10:30) hours MST on 5-12-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 7-12-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershows in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeawady and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong winds may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 7-12-2007: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-12-2007: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-12-2007: Fair weather.
People’s Desire

☆ We favour stability.
☆ We favour peace.
☆ We oppose unrest and violence.

Personnel urged to carry out regional development tasks in cooperation with local people

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec — Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and departmental heads, looked into Kawthoung-Maliwan-Khamaukkyi road and oil palm plantations along both sides of the road by car on 1 December.

At the hall of Khamaukkyi station, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met service men and their families and instructed them to strive for regional development.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye visited Aye Mya Thida Park of Khamaukkyi Development Affairs Committee and gave necessary instructions.

Then, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met departmental officials and local people at the office of Khamaukkyi General Administration Department. Head of Khamaukkyi GAD U Aung Moe reported on development matters and implementation of five rural development tasks in Khamaukkyi. Speaking on the occasion, Maj-Gen Tha Aye urged them to carry out the regional development tasks in cooperation with the local people and to strive for ensuring food sufficiency in the region.

Next, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and party went to Khamaukkyi Basic Education High School and viewed the learning of students in Language Lab and Computer Room. They proceeded to Khamaukkyi People’s Hospital and presented cash assistance to the patients and comforted them.

(See page 9)

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