

Experts turn focus to today's business opening

Y2K bug not squashed yet

HONG KONG, Jan 2: The millennium bug may have failed to crash this weekend's global party, but it could still be causing a sting in its tail, government and international experts warned today, reports AFP.

More than 3000 billion dollars is conservatively estimated to have been spent around the world on getting computers ready for 2000. And there has been a lot of euphoria since the new year arrived without any major catastrophe.

Investors can rest assured that it will be business as usual for securities trading on Tuesday, Exchange President Vicharat Vichi-Vadakan said. But the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) said the business sector would not be out of the Y2K woods until all systems and records had been completely checked.

He praised the work done, saying it could be "a major success" but warned: "We are remaining vigilant at least until Tuesday, because many systems have not been tested in a live environment."

Myanmar's foreign trade drops

YANGON, Jan 2: Myanmar's foreign trade, including the border trade, totaled 2,429 billion US dollars in the first eight months of 1999, a 6.14 per cent drop over the same period of the previous year, according to the Central Statistical Organisation, says Xinhua.

Myanmar experienced a sharp drop of foreign investment mainly to the impact of the Asian financial crisis which has brought about a reduction of 70 per cent of investment from member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Shipping Intelligence

Table with columns: Berth No, Name of Vessels, Cargo, L. Port Call, Local Agent, Date of Leaving, Date of Arrival. Includes Chittagong Port and Vessels due at outer anchorage.

Asian stocks confident to witness bumper 2000

HONG KONG, Jan 2: Asia's leading stock markets today confidently pronounced themselves to be Y2K compliant and fully ready for what is expected to be a bumper year of trading, says AFP.

Most of the region's bourses, the majority of which do not resume business until Tuesday, spent the weekend carrying out simulated trading in a bid to guarantee that computer systems would not crash under the weight of a regular day's buying and selling.

There was a more cautious message from Australia, where the Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) warned that it was too early to say the Y2K spectre had been banished.

Predictions of cyberspace chaos proved as empty as the prophecies of Christian doomsday cultists in Jerusalem, leaving experts to question whether the \$600 billion price tag to immunize business and government against the Y2K bug was necessary.

IATA hails smooth millennium transition

MONTREAL, Jan 2: Aviation industry officials expressed satisfaction yesterday for a successful transition to the year 2000, with planes flying without incident, says AFP.

Pierre Jeannot, president of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), an association of airlines, said that the regional surveillance centers established with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), a United Nations organ, reported no year 2000 associated problems.



Filipino teenagers check their mobile phones for Y2K bug problems Sunday. Filipino teenagers are becoming hooked to mobile phone with the text messaging offered by mobile phone companies a big craze for the youth.

Advertisement for Gas Transmission Company Limited (GTPCL) in Bengali, including company details and a table of services.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Office of the Executive Engineer, Notice Inviting Tenders No 20/1999-2000. Includes tender details and contact information.

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice. Includes details about water supply system installation and contact information for AKM Zafarullah.

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice. Includes details about mechanical and electrical work and contact information for Iqbal Hossain Bhuiyan.

Russia sees new London Club talks in Jan. Includes details about debt restructuring negotiations.

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Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, L. Port, Local Agent, Cargo, Loading Port. Includes Vessels due at outer anchorage.

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, L. Port, Local Agent, Cargo, Loading Port. Includes Tanker Due.

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, L. Port, Local Agent, Cargo, Loading Port. Includes Vessels at outer anchorage.

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, L. Port, Local Agent, Cargo, Loading Port. Includes Vessels not ready.

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, L. Port, Local Agent, Cargo, Loading Port. Includes Vessels awaiting instruction.

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, L. Port, Local Agent, Cargo, Loading Port. Includes Vessels not entering.